

Chapter 461: Lustrous Starlight

Yang Chen was oblivious to matters of a maiden's heart. So, he didn't really pay much attention to the weird tantrum Zhenxiu threw out of nowhere.

As dawn broke and Yang Chen was about to head down for breakfast, he saw that Zhenxiu had already finished her porridge and was leaving for school. He thought that her temper had already abated, but he didn't expect Zhenxiu to roll his eyes at him when he tried to greet her and leave with her bag ignoring his entire existence.

Wang Ma who was carrying some food out smiled as she saw Zhenxiu when she left. She asked Yang Chen, "Young Master, why is Zhenxiu suddenly mad at you? Didn't she always listen to what you had to say?"

Yang Chen shrugged. "I'd like to know the answer to that too."

At that moment, Lin Ruoxi who had returned home after late night at work, descended. She was clad in fashionable black spring attire. Her white lace stockings wrapped around her white, luscious legs that were set in a pair of crystal-like high heels. She held a grey, diamond-infused bag in her hand and looked like a stunning fashion model on the streets of Paris.

She pushed Yang Chen aside out of habit and sat by the table. "People deserve to get treated based on how they behave."

Yang Chen almost fell straight to the ground. He gave his wife a troubled look and thought that his position within the house had always been getting lower as time passed, never higher.

Halfway through the meal, Lin Ruoxi said, "Did you mess up our working relationship with the Korean queen of the new generation, Yoo Yeonhee, yesterday afternoon?"

Yang Chen nodded with a bun in his mouth and hummed blurrily in agreement.

Lin Ruoxi gave Yang Chen a complicated look and said, "I didn't think that even you will have moments when you don't get along with beautiful women."

"Cough... cough cough..." Yang Chen choked as tears threatened to spill from his eyes. With a bitter laugh, he said, "My dear wife, I'm not a breeding pig you know. I can't do every beauty I see."

"A pig breeds with other pigs," said Lin Ruoxi with a furrow in her brow.

Yang Chen didn't understand why she bothered to argue about the semantics of it. He merely said, "Well, that's the gist of it. Yoo Yeonhee herself isn't a good person, so I can't be bothered to deal with her. She's free to decide what she wants to do. We don't need her anyway."

"You're now the director of a company. It's always better if you stay out of trouble. Fighting to a stalemate like this with others won't do the company any good," rebuked Lin Ruoxi.

Yang Chen furrowed his brow and guessed, "Did that woman cause any trouble for you?"

"That, she didn't." Lin Ruoxi finished her breakfast and wiped her mouth with a wet handkerchief as she said, "Yesterday night, Yoo Yeonhee's agency in Korea took the initiative to contact me in attempt to

resolve this matter peacefully . She will still play a role as a judge in Star of Yu Lei. I believe they don't want to give up the opportunity to have Yeonhee and Christen on the same stage. However, they were worried that you wouldn't agree so they contacted me instead."

Yang Chen broke into a smile. "Looks like the Koreans are pretty smart. If they really went ahead and contacted me, I wouldn't have agreed. Call me troublesome, but I'm not one to submit to harsh or soft methods."

"Keep your ruffian behavior to yourself. When will you learn to talk more seriously? Since I've already briefed you about it, go ahead and agree to it," said Lin Ruoxi insistently.

Yang Chen gave her a serious look and nodded. "Since you said it's for the company's benefit, I have no reason to refuse. After all, all this is yours and I'm only doing your work for you. You're free to decide what you think is better."

Lin Ruoxi furrowed her brow and said, "I was discussing it with you. It wasn't an order."

"There's no need to discuss. Small matters like this one, I'm sure you are able to handle it alone," said Yang Chen casually.

Lin Ruoxi was a little mad because of that statement. How is this a small matter? However, when she thought back about the matter few days ago with the swiss bank, it did feel like a small matter in comparison.

She gave the man who was enjoying his coffee a perplexed gaze. She shook her head and stood up to say, "Tonight, I will be bringing some of the higher-ups of Yu Lei to meet with the judges of Star of Yu Lei. Think about how you would meet Yoo Yeonhee again without making it awkward. Get the details from your subordinates. Don't forget."

Yang Chen froze. He didn't think he would have to entertain his clients tonight. Just as he was about to ask whether he could sit this one out, Lin Ruoxi had already left the house.

Half an hour later, Yang Chen drove to the company and entered his office. He saw An Xin, who had been absent for the past few days, sitting by her computer with her earphones on.

Yang Chen walked up to her. An Xin's gaze was glued on the computer screen as if something had caught her attention.

"What are you looking at? Your boss and man Yang Chen is here and you didn't bother to greet me. Your eyes look like they are about to pop out of your head!"

Yang Chen arrived at her side and saw a clear broadcast of the audition for Star of Yu lei.

What caught Yang Chen's attention was the fact that the one singing on stage wasn't anybody else but Hui Lin.

Given her personality, he would've expected her to contract stage fright from all the lights and cameras. Unexpectedly though, she seemed to be filled with an air of confidence during her performance.

Though she wore only a plain white floral dress, Hui Lin looked like a blooming gardenia flower. She wore a bright and charming smile on her pretty face. Even though Yang Chen couldn't hear her singing, he knew that she was doing a rather good job based on the expressions of the audience there.

Actually, those audiences were 'professionals' who were paid to attend. They were trained to show faces of admiration and excitement regardless of the person or act. However, they looked a little dazed during Hui Lin's performance, as if they had forgotten that they were paid to act their part. They were really paying good attention to the singing coming from the stage.

When Hui Lin's performance finally concluded, the stage quieted down before a round of thunderous applause rang out.

Following that, three famous musicians stood up in unison and clapped as they issued a pass for the elimination round.

Though Yang Chen knew that Hui Lin had passed the selection, he didn't truly realize the significance of the situation. It was obvious that Hui Lin was going to be famous in the future. After all, Star of Yu Lei was advertised by Christen and its viewership practically soared. The number of people watching the broadcast was definitely not a small one.

An Xin only took her earphones off after the broadcast ended. She had noticed Yang Chen standing beside her, but she couldn't bring herself to remove her earphones.

Poking her tongue out mischievously, An Xin said, "Darling, don't you want to listen too? Hui Lin's singing made me speechless. I was worried that she would be too nervous at first, but I didn't think that I was going to be more nervous for her than herself."

An Xin herself was an emcee of a few of the auditions. Even though not all of them were broadcasted live, there were quite a number that were. An Xin couldn't help but be a little excited about them, as she loved involving herself in the recording process.

Yang Chen shook his head. "There's no need to. I know she sang well. For someone of your tastes to listen to her sing live and listen to her once more during the recording, she must've done great. I'll definitely attend her performance during her elimination round."

"That's right. Even though the actors in Broadway might have better singing techniques than Hui Lin, their voices are not nearly as soothing as hers," praised An Xin.

Yang Chen suddenly thought about how he hasn't seen Hui Lin since the morning. "Where is she now?"

Surprised, An Xin said, "Hubby, don't you know that Hui Lin will be rehearsing with those other participants for the elimination round? She should have been living with them at the dorms, but she couldn't get accustomed to it, so I made some arrangements with the studio. Well, it's common for her to leave early and return late nowadays so it's no surprise that you didn't notice."

Yang Chen was struck with realization. Hui Lin had lived with Abbess Yun Miao in seclusion since childhood and the reason she wasn't nervous on stage was probably due to her deep infatuation and confidence in music. However, living with the other participants was probably something too far outside of her comfort zone to do.

An Xin excitedly said, "Many citizens have already become Hui Lin's fans. Look at this forum on Qiandu. Hui Lin's fans have already exceeded some of the more famous stars. I just realized that we have a rising star with us, a big one at that! It truly feels amazing just thinking about it."

Yang Chen couldn't hold back his laughter. He looked forward to seeing how a silly girl like Hui Lin would look when she actually grew into a superstar.

Even though many within the company were busy the whole day, there wasn't much an executive like Yang Chen could help out with. He had helped Wang Jie and Zhao Teng sift through two documents in the morning and had a meal with An Xin during lunchtime. After that, they had spent the rest of the day in his office napping.

He had faced many issues given the recent events these few days. Now that he had suddenly returned to his comfort zone, Yang Chen naturally wouldn't give up on his chance to enjoy.

An Xin, after having endured all sorts of hardship, had seen her figure slowly fill up once more. She felt soft and springy in his embrace just like fine cotton, soft and boneless. Yang Chen really wanted to hold her tight against his body.

After waking up from the nap, he felt completely re-energized. He then gave An Xin a strong kiss to wake her and got to business right away.

Within the small resting room, An Xin's moans began to resound and vibrate through the confines of the walls. She let Yang Chen go about whatever he liked even though her eyes were still a little groggy from sleep.

Most women would refuse to be put in such an embarrassing position. However, An Xin was one without such prohibitions and she was always immeasurably satisfied when he bedded her. Naturally, that didn't mean that An Xin would do it for just any man. Otherwise, he wouldn't have snatched her from the wedding.

It was only until An Xin's body completely melted into a soft puddle that Yang Chen left the resting room, satisfied.

Despite his frivolous exploits during the day and the gaming session with Yuan Ye during the evening, Yang Chen didn't forget his plans for the night. Wang Jie informed him of the location for the meeting. It was going to take place at Jade Clouds Plaza, the place which now belonged to An Xin's father. Yang Chen then asked An Xin whether she wanted to come along.

But after she heard that Lin Ruoxi would be attending as well, her face instantly turned pale and she shook her head fervently.

Even though Lin Ruoxi didn't refuse to interact with An Xin as per their agreement, An Xin on the other hand, was set out to avoid Lin Ruoxi as much as possible. Was this what Lin Ruoxi intended?

So, he set out for Jade Clouds Plaza with his two subordinates. To show that he understood the importance of the meeting, he even used the company's Lincoln car that was reserved for VIPs.

It was already night by the time he arrived at the plaza.

Unquestionably, it was an event that the media had been paying close attention to. After all, the world-class star Christen and many other famed celebrities and musicians were invited to the event. The participation of Yoo Yeonhee, who had been defeated by Christen at the Grammy's, brought some kind of tension to the atmosphere there.

Beside the blinding lights and the red carpet were many security personnel. Beyond them were reporters and paparazzi who flashed their cameras like there was no tomorrow.

The fan clubs of the stars were also there as well. Christen and Yoo Yeonhee had the most signs held up by their respective fans with many bright LEDs depicting various slogans. The large amount of people gathered here made spring in Zhonghai seem like summer.

Yang Chen was rather annoyed by all the flashing lights. He stepped off the car and brought Zhao Teng and Wang Jie into the great hall. They were led into the banquet hall by one of the staff members.

"Why do I feel like I've become a celebrity?" said Zhao Teng from behind.

"How does it feel?" asked Yang Chen with a smile.

"Not good. I don't understand why people would want to become famous."

Wang Jie nodded in agreement.

As the three of them talked, many others from the hall stepped forward to greet them. Those oddly dressed but good looking people were the judges and guests invited to join Star of Yu Lei.

Though Yang Chen didn't really know them, Wang Jie and Zhao Teng were there to entertain them. They were rather familiar with them as the people in charge and they quickly began to interact with the stars.

When he was asked who Yang Chen was, Zhao Teng introduced him to be the director of Yu Lei Entertainment. In other words, he was their superior.

At that moment, many of the famous stars started to doubt Yang Chen, who was dressed like the average passerby. He also didn't seem like anyone important in the white collar industry, much less someone from the fashion world.

Even so, they were still smart people who were looking to gain favor, so they had traded pleasantries nonetheless. After all, he was their patron and they were only entertainers no matter how famous they were.

Though he felt a wave of fatigue wash over him, he had no choice but to engage in idle talks with people he did not even know. He had done a lot less even for the people that he knew.

After a couple minutes went by, sharp cries rang out from the balcony outside the hall. Countless people started screaming again, and among the loudest cries were these words, 'Yoo Yeonhee, we love you!'

Chapter 462: Panda

Yoo Yeonhee's arrival seemed to be the highlight of the banquet. The sound of camera shutters filled the air, while the people inside felt the tremors of the fans stomping and yelling.

Yoo Yeonhee who walked out of a white BMW 747 looked like a European princess from the Middle Ages. She was dressed in a stunning handcrafted pink dress trimmed with flower laces.

It wasn't an overstatement to assume that these patterns could rival a dress embellished with crystals.

Yang Chen looked at the woman who was smilingly walking into the building while waving at her fans. He couldn't help but think, She really is quite impressive. She must be a born actress. Everyone will think she's a courteous and polite celebrity, and none would expect her to be the woman who put up an act in my office yesterday.

When Yoo Yeonhee walked into the hall, she maintained a faint smile on her face. Her behavior and posture appeared to be one of a noble. Many artists and musicians who had the opportunity to collaborate with her, came up to greet her.

Yoo Yeonhee's gaze turned a little unnatural when she passed by Yang Chen, but everything else remained normal. She even offered her slim and fair-skinned hand to Yang Chen. Smiling, she said, "Director Yang, here we meet again. I wasn't in a good mood yesterday. Please excuse my attitude."

This time, Yoo Yeonhee spoke Korean, which surprised Yang Chen a little. Humph. This woman is obviously trying to embarrass me, knowing that there isn't a translator here, he thought with a cold smile.

A few of the guests beside Yoo Yeonhee and Yang Chen noticed the unusual atmosphere. Out of curiosity, they turned to look at Yang Chen eagerly waiting for his response.

"Miss Yoo speaks fluent Chinese. I admire Koreans who can speak Chinese most. But your Korean could use a little work. Perhaps you should have paid a little more attention in your studies," Yang Chen replied in Korean.

After Yang Chen finished speaking, a weird expression appeared in Yoo Yeonhee's eyes. That was because Yang Chen had indeed spoken better Korean than her, a native. He sounded like he had grown up in Korea.

Before Yoo Yeonhee answered him, Yang Chen switched to another language and said a bunch of stuff that she failed to understand. At last, Yang Chen smiled as he waited for a reply.

Yoo Yeonhee was stunned. She had no clue what Yang Chen was talking about. It sounded a little bit like French or it could have been German, but could be Italian or Hungarian too... Yang Chen was sure that Yoo Yeonhee who had become a celebrity since she was around ten years old wasn't able to understand anything other than Korean, Chinese, and English.

Irritated, all Yoo Yeonhee could do was guess what Yang Chen had said. Judging from his expression, he should've said a welcome speech. Thus, she replied in Chinese, "Thank you."

A Taiwanese musician who was beside burst into laughter.

Yoo Yeonhee realized she had understood it wrongly. She then looked at Yang Chen who was shaking his head in a mocking manner. After that, Yang Chen turned around and walked away.

"What did Director Yang say?" another person who had heard the conversation asked the Taiwanese musician.

The Taiwanese musician joyfully looked at Yoo Yeonhee before explaining using a moderately loud voice, "I attended university in Sweden. I believe Director Yang spoke Norwegian earlier. Due to its similarity to Swedish and Danish, I could generally understand him. He was more or less greeting all the females in her family... Hehe... But our Miss Yoo is indeed generous. Even though Director Yang spoke in this unusual manner, she selflessly thanked him. I really have to learn from Miss Yoo."

The explanation made by that musician sent the surrounding people into fits of laughter. They were all aware that it was the queen herself who looked for trouble in that situation.

Yoo Yeonhee's face instantly heated up. Although she was well-known in the industry, these musicians were her seniors, most of whom had extraordinary backgrounds albeit most of their actions were performed behind closed doors. Furthermore, she wasn't in her own country, but China instead. She couldn't afford to piss off the others at will.

As a result, she chose to keep quiet for that matter. Acting like nothing had happened, she approached her close friends and started chatting. I have to heavily humiliate that fellow one day! she thought furiously.

Yang Chen on the other hand couldn't be bothered to ponder about her for too long. He had seen too many women like her before. In his eyes, she was no different from an immature child. If his behavior hadn't changed, there was no doubt that he would have given her a violent slap in an attempt to "cure" her. But that was all in the past. Today, he looked more and more like an old man who enjoyed the wind and tea. He couldn't be bothered by most things anymore.

Around ten minutes before the banquet started, shouts and screams could be heard outside again. Soon, even the engine sound of a supercar echoed!

The surrounding reporters and crowds started to get excited. A full-black Porsche 911 GT3 drifted into the road nearby before swaying its way into a parking slot in front of the building!

Most of the people there were astonished at what they saw. Such drifting skills belonged only in the movies.

The lady who walked down the car shocked the crowd more.

Dressed in a red-hot, tight-fitting leather jacket, a blonde lady with an incredible figure could be seen. Her curves were so flawless that one's veins would bulge. She wore a pair of colorful sunglasses on her perfect face. All she did was stand, and she managed to make the others feel bad about their appearances.

"My god! It's Christen!"

After the first one recognized the lady, there was a chain reaction in the crowd. They shouted excitedly, a lot louder when compared to Yoo Yeonhee earlier. The scene outside the building had completely lost control for her arrival!

Christen hadn't had her fun yet. Smiling, she pulled the zip of her jacket from top to bottom and removed it, revealing a shiny, black gown within!

The gown which revealed her shoulders and back truly displayed the international, goddess-like superstar. Christen removed her sunglasses and air kissed the crowd before speaking in English, "Thank you for the warm welcome. This performance is but a small gift for you all. I really like this country."

After she finished speaking, a few of her fans got too excited that they fainted.

The security guards outside the building raised their protective shields tirelessly to finally block the crazy fans from rushing into the venue.

The guests in the hall couldn't help but feel impressed at the kind of influence this superstar had. Her drifting skills couldn't be pulled off by just any female celebrity. To them, she wasn't just a celebrity anymore. She was the representative of an era.

Yoo Yeonhee paled as she received a glass of cocktail from a server. She used to think that she only lost in the Grammy's because she was an Asian, or Korean specifically. Tonight, she had truly experienced the real meaning of losing upon Christen's arrival.

I can never win against her... Yoo Yeonhee concluded powerlessly.

Christen's grand appearance had attracted the attention of all the guests. But she walked like nobody's business and ignored everyone who wanted to shake her hand including the well-known artists. Being stared upon by numerous sad and curious gazes, Christen walked toward a corner of the building.

Yang Chen wiped his forehead helplessly. That woman... Couldn't she just leave him alone and let him live in peace? He'd prefer if they acted like strangers. Did she like to push him into the spotlight that much?

Christen approached Yang Chen and snatched the cocktail in Yang Chen's hand before taking a sip smoothly. As if she was talking with an old friend, she said smilingly, "What is it? There are no reporters here. I won't bring you trouble. I'm just greeting you first since I'm closer to you compared to the others."

"I'll suppress any gossips myself. But do you have to let everyone look at the two of us like this?" Yang Chen rolled his eyes. "I sometimes think that you're no different from a thug."

"How am I supposed to maintain my young and wild heart if I don't act this way?" Christen asked. "Do you expect me to stay half-dead like the others old fellows?"

"Who are you calling old? You're not that young yourself," Yang Chen said with a laugh.

Christen gave him a discontented glance before walking elsewhere to talk with some of the guests she knew.

However, even if this was the case, a lot of people started making guesses. They didn't think the first man Christen walked up to was merely the director of an entertainment agency. Moreover, Yang Chen had indeed appeared overly calm and dull, as if he had known Christen for decades. Most men would quiver at the sight of this goddess, much less talk to her.

When the banquet was about to begin, a quiet and slim figure appear from another pathway of the venue. The guests whom she walked past were a little stunned at her appearance.

She wore a simple office attire. She had little to no make-up, and had no ornaments. It could be seen that she looked rather weak and exhausted, as if she had just finished work.

However, it was exactly because of these characteristics which allowed the lady to attract the attention of all the guests. As if she was a blossom quietly blooming in a winter night, even if she stood at a corner of the venue, her fragrance and appearance would still attract the gaze of multiple people.

The lady didn't mind everyone's reaction at all. She appeared to be searching for something. She swept her gaze across the venue for a while, before walking to a corner at last.

This woman was naturally Lin Ruoxi who had rushed over after finishing her work, while the direction she was heading to was obviously the place Yang Chen was standing at.

Yang Chen was wondering what she had to talk to him about. But he was sure that his fame would skyrocket after tonight. Christen just came to him a while ago, while the first person Lin Ruoxi looked for was him again. He felt no different from a panda at a zoo with all the eyes in the banquet on him!

Chapter 463: The Empresss Confidence

As Lin Ruoxi arrived before Yang Chen, her eyes looked showed that there was something that she wanted to say but didn't know how to get it out. She held back when she was about to speak and her cold face looked desperate.

Yang Chen wondered why she refused to speak what she had in mind. The strong and powerful woman didn't usually behave like that.

"There, there, everyone is watching us. Spit it out if you something to say," said Yang Chen with a smile.

Lin Ruoxi couldn't be bothered about the people who looked at them. She sighed, "Did you offend someone again?"

"What? Why would you think that I have? Don't you know who your husband is? I don't provoke others if they leave me alone. If others displease me... well, they won't have the chance to do so again," Yang Chen replied before shrugging his shoulders.

Lin Ruoxi frowned. "I hope that's the case, but what about Yan Buxue from the Yan clan?"

Yang Chen went blank. The Yan clan? Yan Buxue? Who are they? he thought.

"Who's Yan Buxue from the Yan clan?" Yang Chen laughed. "Are they famous? If so, why are they looking for me?"

Lin Ruoxi watched Yang Chen. Judging from his expression, it seemed like he really didn't know them. Lin Ruoxi said worriedly, "You really didn't know that the Yan clan is one of the four greatest clans in Beijing? They're much stronger than the Cai clan, and... the head of the Yan clan, Yan Qingtian, just defeated y—I mean Yang Pojun, and became the vice chairman of the military commision. He's the first vice chairman from the opposition since the establishment of the Republic."

Yang Chen was confused after listening to Lin Ruoxi's long and drawn out story. However, he was shocked to hear that Yang Pojun had failed in the election.

That was news Yang Chen was not privy to before this. It was also something he did not care about anyway. However, Yang Chen wondered if Guo Xuehua knew about it.

Yang Chen felt that as if he had no relations with Yang Pojun. The feeling was strange but Yang Chen didn't feel bad about it.

"I can tell that you really didn't know about this." Lin Ruoxi shook her head with distress. "The National People's Congress had announced the election results the day before yesterday. Yan Qingtian from the Yan clan joined the commission. It was indeed unexpected but the power wielded by the Yan clan was undeniably powerful throughout the years, so there weren't any objections."

Yang Chen hid his smile and said, "I don't know about the forces in Beijing, or the clans' influence within the country. According to what you've said, the Yan clan should be busy celebrating and building on top of their new good reputation. What do they have to do with me?"

Lin Ruoxi replied, "The Yan clan has two key figures. One of them is the head who had defeated the popular Yang Pojun and became the vice-chairman recently. He's in his sixties but he hasn't led troops in wars before. His success was all because of the Yan clan's achievements in the military defense and their contributions in astronomy as well as biochemical engineering.

"The other one is Yan Buwen, Yan Qingtian's grandson. Known as a genius in the scientific genius, Yan Buwen and Lee Dun from the Lee clan are known as the 'Beijing King Duo'. The Yan clan has dominated China's research in military science and biochemical engineering ever since the beginnings of the country. Yan Qingtian handed over his knowledge to his grandson Yan Buwen, allowing the latter to contribute in scientific research a lot more than his grandfather has. However, he has what one would consider a unique personality. He has never once accepted the awards given to him. He only concentrates in his own works and he's even rejected the Nobel Prize twice."

"Perhaps he just hates leaving the house. Science freaks all behave this way." Yang Chen found it interesting. He then asked, "What about Yan Buxue? Is he the elder brother or younger brother?"

"He's the younger one," Lin Ruoxi explained. "Yan Buxue is completely different from his elder brother and not in the good way too. He is a troublemaker and arrogant to boot. He used to wander around Beijing all day. I only found out recently that he was so hard to deal with when he came to Zhonghai."

Yang Chen expression changed. "He offended you?"

Lin Ruoxi shook her head. "No, he didn't, but he had his subordinates contact me again and again, saying that you disrespected him and demanded me to fire you."

"How could I disrespect someone I don't even know?" Yang Chen exclaimed.

Lin Ruoxi gazed upon the group of musicians nearby and gestured to Christen's direction. "It's because of her. Yan Buxue was captivated by Christen. He knew that Christen had come to China so he came all the way to Zhonghai to meet Christen privately, but his request was turned down by you. So naturally, he came looking for me to sort things out."

Yang Chen immediately realized that the problem lay with Christen.

"Are you guys talking about me?" Suddenly, Christen appeared alone next to Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi went silent, allowing Yang Chen to explain.

Yang Chen had no choice but smile. He knew that Christen must've heard their conversation. Her hearing wouldn't be affected by the noisy environment.

"What was it about Yan Buxue?" Yang Chen asked.

Christen chuckled. "There was a stranger who wanted to meet me but I didn't want to. I'm all alone in China after all, so I can't afford to offend anyone. The reason to my refusal is always 'Director Yang forbids me from doing so', as simple as that."

Yang Chen gave the woman a fierce stare. Everything that had happened was because Christen caused it in the first place.

After a brief thought, Yang Chen asked Lin Ruoxi, "What's the current situation?"

"I'm not sure. Yan Buxue's subordinate contacted me but I haven't given a reply. My guess is he'll be coming over to find me soon. The Yan clan's power is no joke. Compared to them, I am merely a businesswoman," said Lin Ruoxi calmly.

Yang Chen knew that Lin Ruoxi wasn't happy. It wasn't new for officials to bully businesspeople.

"Since he hasn't come for you yet, let's just focus on what we have here. The guest are all here already, let's kick off the banquet," Yang Chen said sleekly.

Lin Ruoxi nodded before walking over to inform Wu Yue to start the banquet.

After a short while, the hall went silent. Although Yang Chen was the director of the entertainment agency, Lin Ruoxi was the one who gave the opening speech.

It was at this moment, the majority of the guests realized that the mysterious and beautiful lady was the CEO of Yu Lei International. Most of them exclaimed under their breath as Lin Ruoxi was indeed much much younger than they had anticipated. Besides that, her temperament was more fit to a model. It was hard to imagine that she was a cunning businesswoman.

Yoo Yeonhee noticed that all the eyes were on Christen and Lin Ruoxi. She found it very humiliating.

She was always the center of spotlight, one who was always had everyone's attention. However, she was embarrassed by a scum and was contrasted with the two women, talking about being left cold-shouldered. The situation made Yoo Yeonhee's heart break. If not for her practiced composure, she would have left in a fit of rage.

Lin Ruoxi only said a few words before finishing her speech. For her, it was all just formality. The banquet was far less important than going back home to rest or continue her work.

Coming down from the stage, Lin Ruoxi went to the round table where Yang Chen and Christen were seated. She sat down on Yang Chen's right.

The core guest seated at this table were the heavyweights for the Star of Yu Lei. Excluding Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi, the two company representatives, the others were all influential and famous figures in the entertainment industry.

Yoo Yeonhee was arranged to be seated at this table as well, but she felt extremely uneasy on the seat as if she was sitting on needles. That was because she was facing the man and two women whom she was most unwilling to interact with, not to mention she had to act like nothing had happened.

The guests seated at that table were supposedly up-to-date in trends, so they chatted happily and wholeheartedly during the whole meal. All they talked about were music creations, opera performances, the current design concepts by luxury brands, the Spring fashion trend, etc.

Yang Chen didn't know much about those things and frankly didn't care too much for them either. That was why he had put his focus on the dishes before him.

Lin Ruoxi had a headache as she watched Yang Chen gulp down the abalone and make slurping sound when he drank his shark fin soup. She pinched his thigh, signalling for him to behave like a gentleman.

On the other hand, Yoo Yeonhee was talking about "high end" topic with a few senior musicians. She acted elegantly and smiled as they talked. The senior musicians were very pleased with her. They didn't even bother thinking on Yang Chen's unpleasant eating behavior.

As they were having their conversation, Yoo Yeonhee's bag caught a musician's attention. Curious, the musician asked, "Miss Yoo, is your handbag a Hermes Birken?"

Yoo Yeonhee was secretly delighted. She had purposely placed the bag on the table to draw attention, so she finally felt a sense of pride when it was mentioned.

However, Yoo Yeonhee didn't rush to show off. She replied subtly, "Yes, it is. The company I endorsed last year gave it to me as a gift."

"Miss Yoo's fame is incredible. Hermes seldomly looks for the endorsements of Asian artists. They must think that you're the most influential in Asia," complimented the senior musician.

Yoo Yeonhee shyly shook her head. "I believe that I was only lucky to have the opportunity."

"Luck had nothing to do with this. You are being modest, Miss Yoo. Since the founding of Hermes, they've had the privilege of purchasing leathers over other companies. Their bags are not of any ordinary quality. Speaking of Hermes Birken, there are many types of leather used. Which one is Miss Yoo's made of?"

Yoo Yeonhee exclaimed to herself, There's finally someone knowledgeable here. She replied with a smile, "It's made of crocodile leather."

The senior musician went blank before smiling. "It's truly rare. Hermes Birken is often out of stock while the ones made from crocodile leather are considered the classiest ones. Each bag costs at the minimum hundreds of thousands, not to mention one has to queue to make a purchase. I heard that even some European royals are in line for one. An old man like me had never seen one before. Miss Yoo, you have truly broadened my view."

Yoo Yeonhee suddenly felt that she had regained her confidence. She waved her hand in disapproval and said, "That's not the case." She then turned to Christen. "This actually isn't very impressive. Miss Christen is much more well-known than I am. I bet she has quite a few, while I only have one."

No one at the table was dumb enough to not realize Yoo Yeonhee's words were meant to taunt Christen.

It was well known that even if one had all the money in the world, they couldn't simply get their hands on one. The ordinary handbags made with sheep or cow leather were rare enough, let alone the superior crocodile leather. Besides, there were countless wealthy individuals and royal families in the world, making it more difficult to get one.

Christen may have made a glamorous appearance tonight, but no one would dare to say that she had a platinum crocodile leather bag similar to Yoo Yeonhee's. Everyone knew that Christen had never endorsed Hermes before, so there was a very low possibility that she would have one.

Although it looked like a child's play, or even a low-level mockery, it had undeniably caused Christen trouble.

Chapter 464: Surprisingly Practiced

Christen wasn't too surprised at her question. She smiled elegantly toward the people at the table before turning to Yoo Yeonhee. "I don't have a bag similar to Miss Yoo's. You're overestimating me. But I noticed that Boss Lin seemed to have one."

As she spoke, she turned her gaze to Lin Ruoxi who was beside Yang Chen. Smiling, she said, "I believe Boss Lin's handbag is from Hermes as well, isn't it?"

Lin Ruoxi was taking a sip on her red wine as she tried to come up with a way to deal with the Yan clan. She looked confused when Christen called her out, but soon understood what had happened. Nodding, she said, "You are not wrong, it is in fact from Hermes."

Yoo Yeonhee was immediately dissatisfied. To her, even if Lin Ruoxi owned a Hermes bag as well, it couldn't possibly be as rare as hers. Yoo Yeonhee was confident that her bag was unique in Zhonghai.

Being gazed upon by the others, Lin Ruoxi lifted her white handbag which she had placed on the ground.

They didn't think it was any good even if it was indeed by Hermes, as Lin Ruoxi placed it on the ground like nobody's business. Why Christen had asked Lin Ruoxi to show hers was beyond them. It was no different from humiliating the CEO in public.

However, when the bag was placed on the table, an informed person among the surrounding few quickly noticed something unusual about the bag.

The well-known producer took a deep breath as he reeled in shock. "This... Is that an inverted 'V' at the opening of the bag?"

"I think so... You're right," another producer answered as he had noticed something abnormal as well. "I remember this symbol represents something."

The producer giggled before remaining silent. He then looked at Yoo Yeonhee with disdain.

Yoo Yeonhee felt extremely uncomfortable throughout her body. To her, the white handbag wasn't the trending model, and even looked outdated. It wouldn't be anything impressive. It was placed on the

ground like a tool. However, it could be seen from the gazes of the others present that they were waiting on Christen for her explanation.

Christen saw that it was time to speak. She let out a naughty smile from the corners of her lips, but innocence filled her light blue eyes. "Among the Birkin bags from Hermes, the rarest material used isn't any crocodile skin, but the leather from pure, wild crocodiles. As wild crocodiles are incredibly difficult to catch, their skins are extremely rare, unlike the bred crocodiles which have a timed production. Therefore, every bag made with wild crocodile skin has an inverted 'V'."

The people present nodded their heads after her explanation. Having lived the life of an upper middle class person all their lives, they were well aware of it even though they have never actually seen one in person.

Yoo Yeonhee's face quickly flushed. She had the urge to leave the venue instantly!

Christen's words were no different from knives which were stabbing into her heart.

Lin Ruoxi didn't expect Christen to use her bag to criticize Yoo Yeonhee. Being the owner of the bag, she had no reason to worsen her relations with other celebrities, she was trying her best to do the opposite. However, the loss couldn't be recovered. All she could do was quietly put her bag back to the carpet.

"This bag actually isn't mine. My grandmother had used it many years ago before passing it on to me. It's really old already, Miss Yoo's looks much nicer than mine," Lin Ruoxi said with a vague smile.

Lin Ruoxi gave an excellent speech, but everyone was aware that Yoo Yeonhee hadn't retrieved her face.

[TL note: Read about face here.]

A bag made of the precious wild crocodile leather, although old, it was an antique and valuable collectible. That bag was possibly one of its kind in this world. Its true value was not measured in the hundreds of thousands or millions.

Lin Ruoxi placed such a valuable bag on the ground. Compared to Yoo Yeonhee who had placed hers on the table, it look incredibly ironic.

The comparison between bags was only a short drama of the table. No one was willing to linger in that topic so they moved on.

While the others were talking about other subjects, Yang Chen who had been enjoying the meal all this time had remained silent from the start. Except raising his glass to a few of the guests out of respect, he seemed to be unrelated with everything else.

When they once again talked about Christen, a musician asked out of curiosity, "Miss Christen, is it because of your association with Boss Lin that you decided to take part in the talent show organized by Yu Lei International?"

Actually, everyone had assumed it to be the answer to the question. Otherwise an incredibly busy superstar like Christen wouldn't have the time to be a judge of a new show in China. The only person who could possibly invite her over must be the beautiful, low-profile CEO.

However, Christen shook her head. Smiling, she said, "This is just my second time seeing Boss Lin. I only came for this event because Director Yang is my old friend. Am I right, my dear Yang?"

Yang Chen gave her a dissatisfied glance. Can't she just say yes? Why do I have to be involved? he thought. "That's right. We knew each other in America, but we weren't very close."

This time, no one believed Yang Chen's words. Not close? Why else would she help you then?

The people present started to look at Yang Chen with admiration once again. No one had expected the average-looking man to be the key character as all he did was eat and drink.

At this moment, Lin Ruoxi frowned and took a piece of wet tissue before stretching her arm to Yang Chen's mouth and wiping the oil around his lips.

"You're no different from a kid. Can't you eat properly for once? Like an adult would." Lin Ruoxi complained.

Yang Chen was first stunned, but he soon said using a voice that only Lin Ruoxi could hear, "Your movements are surprisingly well practiced. I haven't seen you do it before."

Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes at him and stepped Yang Chen's foot violently under the table.

Yang Chen acted like he was suffering from the pain, but it was because he was sure that women all hoped to see such an expression when they did that to a man.

The people around had naturally noticed their intimacy, but no one dared to ask despite their curiosity.

Yang Chen was all the more surprised. He didn't expect Lin Ruoxi to behave so affectionately in public. It was a day-and-night difference when he compared it to their relationship back then.

When he thought about it, the only reason was, deep down in Lin Ruoxi's heart, she had long recognized Yang Chen as her husband. At the same time, her man was more important than her position in the company or even the way people viewed them as a couple.

Yang Chen felt it rather sweet, but Lin Ruoxi who was beside him looked unaware. Perhaps, to her, all of these were nothing special. She had never cared a day in her life how she looked to the rest of the world.

The guests gradually left the venue, while the ones from Yang Chen's table were naturally the last to leave. When Yang Chen felt it was time to leave as well, he stood up and took his suit from the chair before giving Lin Ruoxi a signal.

"I'll ride home with you. We'll let Zhao Teng and Wang Jie take care of the extra-long Lincoln," Yang Chen said.

Lin Ruoxi didn't object his suggestion. She had stopped avoiding interactions with Yang Chen in public but even she herself didn't know why.

Christen naturally had a bunch of security to escort her, so Yang Chen didn't have to worry about her.

After shaking hands and bidding farewell with the producers, Yang Chen wanted to leave, but a shiny little object fell from his suit pocket.

Yang Chen slapped his forehead. It was the platinum crescent pendant given by Zhenxiu. Although he didn't wear it on his neck, he still kept it in his shirt pocket. Until now, it had fallen out twice already.

He bent down and picked up the ornament. Yang Chen wanted to put it back into his pocket, but Yoo Yeonhee who was also about to leave called out in surprise.

"This is..."

Yoo Yeonhee looked like she had witnessed something terrifying. She couldn't tear her gaze away from the crescent pendant in Yang Chen's hand. She quickly walked over to Yang Chen and asked nervously, "Director Yang, can you let me have a look at this pendant?"

Yang Chen thought gloomily, Wasn't this woman pretending I didn't exist? And didn't she leave without saying goodbye? Why is she back again, is my pendant really that special?

"This is a souvenir given by someone really important to me. I don't plan to show it to others." Yang Chen naturally didn't want to obey her.

Yoo Yeonhee finally noticed she had acted inappropriately. She couldn't help but bite her lip in anger while her face flushed red as she suppressed her anger.

"Since that's the case... Goodbye." Yoo Yeonhee gave her a furious glance before looking at Lin Ruoxi with a complicated gaze. She then left with her assistant.

After Yoo Yeonhee left, Lin Ruoxi sighed slightly. She approached Yang Chen and said, "It's not a big deal. Do you have to be this stubborn?"

Yang Chen shrugged his shoulder. He whispered to Lin Ruoxi, "Would I still be your husband if I'm not stubborn?"

Lin Ruoxi was too lazy to retort, so she turned around and left.

Yang Chen giggled before immediately following behind.

However, the two weren't aware that the first thing Yoo Yeonhee did was go to the toilet and dialed a number with her phone.

Not long after, the hoarse voice of a mature man spoke in Korean, "My daughter Yeonhee, aren't you busy with your concert in China? Why do you have time to call Father?"

Yoo Yeonhee was still agitated. She tried her best to lower her voice. "Dad, I... I seemed to have... seen the crescent..."

The man instantly became silent. All Yoo Yeonhee could hear was her own heartbeat...

After a long while, the man said, "Tell Dad in detail and Dad will take care of it..."

Chapter 465: Best Roommate

Being the crux of the issue, Yang Chen had no clue that the little ornament he possessed had drawn the attention of people who he has no ties with. In addition to that, he is also unaware of the problems that he may have to face in the future .

It was already late at night when he returned home with Lin Ruoxi's car. The weather was rather cold, while the lights inside the house had been switched off. Wang Ma, Guo Xuehua, and Zhenxiu had all gone to bed.

Stepping out of the car, the married couple made their way into the house. Lin Ruoxi took out the key before carefully opening the door.

Yang Chen switched on the lights upon stepping into the house. The damage caused by the Vietnamese mercenaries have been dealt with. The smell of fresh paint filled the house to the point of intoxication. It was, however, an extremely peaceful evening for the both of them.

Before walking upstairs, Lin Ruoxi suddenly stopped moving and turned around to look at Yang Chen with her watery eyes.

Yang Chen was following behind her. He revealed a smile when Lin Ruoxi looked at him.

"You're feeling really comfortable, aren't you?" Yang Chen asked.

"What?" Lin Ruoxi was confused.

"We left the house together this morning for work, attended a banquet at night together, and returned home together. You opened the door and I switched on the lights before we retreat to our rooms and sleep," Yang Chen said with a smile. He then sighed, "Except for the fact that we don't sleep together, we're no different from what people call an "actual" couple."

Lin Ruoxi blushed a little. She murmured, "Lame," before turning around and walking upstairs.

Yang Chen raised his brow and followed her from behind.

He then entered the independent washroom in his room and took a cold shower, even during this cold weather. To Yang Chen, taking a cold or hot shower didn't make a difference.

He wanted to lie on his bed, but suddenly noticed an unusual movement.

Yang Chen's figure flashed and appear at the balcony in the blink of an eye. Dressed in his loose pajamas, he then took another leap and arrived at the pebble walkway in his courtyard.

Yang Chen raised his head to look at the west of the courtyard, above the tall iron fences. Over there, a light silhouette flipped and landed on the ground, as if it was a pixie dancing away in the night.

Yang Chen's facial expression twitched. Smiling bitterly, he said softly, "Little Abbess Hui Lin, when have you gotten used to jumping over a wall to enter the house?"

Dressed in a set of tight-fitting, black sportswear and wearing a black cap, Hui Lin was standing in front of Yang Chen. She was first surprised, but soon understood the situation. Although she had formidable lightness skills, Yang Chen's detection skills were still far better.

Pouting her lips awkwardly, Hui Lin walked forward and said, "Brother Yang, I'm really not used to it." She appeared rather helpless in the dark.

"How so?" Yang Chen wandered.

“After attending the show Star of Yu Lei, I would get recognized on the streets very often. It’s so bad that it’s starting to inconvenience my daily routine. I’m afraid of letting those people know where I stay, so I have to look for an alternative to come home,” Hui Lin replied softly.

Yang Chen quickly understood that Hui Lin had gotten a little fame. He smiled and said, “Did you come home using your lightness skill for the entire journey?”

Hui Lin didn’t give it much thought, and nodded seriously. “Yeah, I chose a place with the least number of people. Although it’s slightly tiring, I feel that I’ve returned to the days when I was training in Mount Emei. I haven’t used my lightness skill in a long time. Brother Yang, do I have to move around this way in the future? It’s really tough to hide during the day.”

Yang Chen poked Hui Lin’s forehead. “Stop talking nonsense. Since you chose this path, you have to face the consequences of a superstar. Do you expect to be invisible after you finish singing? The company will get you a professional team in the future. Don’t turn into a heroine out of the blue. You really have to give up singing once you’re found out to be flying in the sky.”

Hui Lin widened opened her little mouth in shock. She instantly understood how serious the situation was, so she quickly nodded as she didn't hope to end her career, having taken merely the first step.

Hui Lin then thought of something and asked, “Brother Yang, if I really become very famous one day, will I not be able to come home everyday?”

Yang Chen didn’t expect her to ask such a question. But it was in fact the case. Nodding, he said, “That’s for sure. Have you seen any superstar go home every day?”

“Oh...” Hui Lin looked downhearted, as if she was struggling with something.

Yang Chen scratched her cheek lightly. Smiling, he said, “One has to experience loss after gaining. Whatever your decision, your elder sister and I will both support you.”

Hui Lin raised her head and blinked her eyes like a child. At last, she nodded and let out a smile which was forced but genuine.

The light of the stars shone upon the grassy courtyard in the chilly night while the greens swayed in the wind.

The next morning, when Yang Chen came downstairs, the two little girls Hui Lin and Zhenxiu were having breakfast together. Guo Xuehua who was currently watching the television seemed to have eaten already.

Wang Ma served a plate of freshly made pancake out from the kitchen. Yang Chen looked around before asking, “Wang Ma, where’s Ruoxi?”

Usually, Lin Ruoxi would be sitting there at this time, chewing her food slowly and rolling her eyes at him. However, she was nowhere to be seen today.

Wang Ma knew that Yang Chen would ask that question. She said with a smile, “Oh, Miss went to visit the neighbor after eating a little.”

“The neighbor?” Yang Chen frowned and suddenly felt a premonition.

“It’s Miss Rose’s home. Miss said she had moved in for so long, but she hadn’t properly conversed with Miss Rose before. Since she came for our rescue last time, Miss felt the need to say something.” Wang Ma held a strange gaze while she spoke. Back then, Yang Chen had announced his relationship with Rose before. Lin Ruoxi naturally didn’t go to visit Rose just to express her gratitude.

Yang Chen felt a complicated emotion in his heart. He had been hoping for Lin Ruoxi to get along with his other women and know each other. Now that Lin Ruoxi had taken the initiative to meet Rose, he was starting to see the flaws in that idea.

“I see... Alright, I understand now,” Yang Chen answered before sitting down to have his breakfast in distress.

Zhenxiu who was beside Yang Chen had been at odds with him recently. But she was having a surprisingly good mood this morning. Knowing that Yang Chen must be perturbed, she leaned toward him and whispered, “Brother Yang, what do you think Sister Ruoxi will talk about with Sister Rose? Will they talk about you?”

Yang Chen pouted his mouth and shot her an unhappy gaze. Seeing the gloating little girl, he said, “There are chive leaves stuck in your teeth.”

Zhenxiu pouted before making a silly face at him.

Guo Xuehua who was watching the news on the sofa turned her head around to look at her son for a while. Bitterness filled the corners of her lips while she shook her head.

At the same time, in the villa next door, Rose was only wearing a purple nightdress made of yarn, with her hair let loose. The perfect lines of her stunning figure could be seen even in her loose pajamas.

Rose smiled when she smelled butter toasts upon walking downstairs. She knew that her ‘best roommate’ Mo Qianni had prepared breakfast for her.

Since she started living with Mo Qianni, Rose felt that she was spoiled like a child. Mo Qianni would always make her breakfast. But she didn’t feel too disturbed by it at all, as Mo Qianni had to wake up and leave for work early in the morning. This could perhaps be the so-called sister-like close friend that she never had. Of course, the situation could be better if that friend of hers wasn’t also the lover of a certain someone.

When she reached out to the glass of room-temperature milk, Rose heard a ring at the door.

Frowning, Rose wondered who had come so early in the morning. She didn’t think her people in Red Thorns Society would disturb her at this hour.

Rose was too lazy to change her clothing. After all, it wasn’t as if she couldn’t stand a little chill anyway.. She then put down the glass she was holding and walked outside...

Chapter 466: Weird Woman

When Rose walked out of the house and noticed the figure standing outside, she instantly stopped moving. She couldn’t help but blink her eyes repeatedly to make sure she wasn’t dreaming.

Outside the old-fashioned, western-style, giant front gate made of steel, there stood a tall and slim lady wearing a white undershirt and a light blue outer coat coupled with a light brown skirt. The black stockings she wore revealed her flawless legs, while her posture made her look like a magnolia flower shining in the sunlight.

Of course, if it wasn't for her impeccable but cold face, Rose might feel admiration instead of anxiety.

Why did she come over? Rose thought.

Although they stayed next to each other, Rose's heartbeat quickened when Lin Ruoxi rang her doorbell.

Honestly speaking, Rose was less anxious even if there were hundreds of bloodthirsty men with knives standing at her door.

No matter what, Rose wasn't a coward. She walked forward and smilingly opened the gate. Looking at Lin Ruoxi's crystal-clear eyes, Rose made a gesture to invite her inside. "I'm glad that you're here, although I'm a little surprised."

Lin Ruoxi hummed in acknowledgement before walking inside and following Rose into the house, as if she was in contemplation.

"I only found out about it not long ago."

"Hmm?" Rose looked at Lin Ruoxi.

"I said I only discovered that you're my neighbor recently. Qianni didn't tell me about it," Lin Ruoxi said.

Rose was slightly stunned. She didn't expect Lin Ruoxi to say something so ordinary.

Smiling, Rose replied, "Oh, Qianni hadn't mention it as well. Why do I feel that Qianni is hiding it from us intentionally?"

Lin Ruoxi shook her head. "That isn't the case. I'm sure she just forgot about it. She's very busy these days. The company is facing some issues, and she's a really serious person. She's been helping me out all this time."

Rose was startled slightly at her words. She was merely joking, but Lin Ruoxi answered her questions so strictly and honestly.

She's such a weird woman, Rose thought. However, the initial uneasiness had completely dispersed.

When they walked to the living hall, Lin Ruoxi opened her mouth slightly in shock when she saw the breakfast on the table. "I didn't know you were having breakfast. I'm really sorry for disturbing you."

Rose smiled and answered, "Don't be, it's nothing. Unlike you, I don't work from nine to five nor do I manage a huge public company. I'm generally very free, I can eat and sleep whenever I want. I'm glad enough that you're willing to come over. Why would I be bothered because of the breakfast?"

"This is damaging to the body. We need to discipline ourselves when it comes to work and rest," Lin Ruoxi replied seriously. "Although I often stay up late, it is for your own good to stick to a regular schedule."

Rose was once again astonished. She couldn't figure out the logic in Lin Ruoxi's speech. Why is she giving me advice now?

It was quite laughable actually that the first person who was concerned about her working pattern wasn't her parents, seniors, relatives, or even her lover, but the woman in front of her who was supposed to hate her the most.

Lin Ruoxi thought Rose was displeased when Rose looked at her with a strange gaze. She sighed, "Did I cross any boundaries? I'm not trying to imply anything. I'm actually jealous of your freedom."

"Really? But why do I always feel that I should be jealous of you instead?" Rose said softly before mocking herself. She said to Lin Ruoxi, "Please have a seat. I'm not in a rush. I'll make you a cup of red tea."

Lin Ruoxi nodded, but didn't sit down immediately. She slowly walked around in Rose's spacious living hall, appreciating the sculptures and oil paintings found there.

The ground floor of the house was decorated differently in different sections. There were armors of European knights in the Middle Ages, oil paintings from the Romantic era, artworks by Impressionists, and some jade carvings.

When Rose delivered two cups of red tea to the coffee table, Lin Ruoxi sat down on the woven chair and said, "Thank you."

Rose asked, "Do you like them?"

"Ah?"

"These oil paintings and sculptures. If there's something you like, I'm more than happy to gift it to you," Rose said. "Of course, I'm not implying that you can't afford it yourself. I know that you're one of the wealthiest women in the world, but I'm not a huge fan of these things. They make the house ghastly, so I'll give them to you if you like. As far as I know, some of them are the creations of well-known artists."

Lin Ruoxi seemed confused. Frowning, she asked, "Why do you put them on display if you dislike them so?"

Rose smiled as she answered, "I'm not the one who got them. They're my father's collection."

Lin Ruoxi nodded and took a sip of the boiling-hot red tea. She hesitated for a bit before saying, "I have heard of your other identity."

Rose found Lin Ruoxi's shy look refreshing. The woman in front of her behaved like a little girl who was so innocent and clueless to the outside world. She looked nothing like the person behind a multinational corporate. When compared to Rose, Lin Ruoxi appeared more than ten years younger.

"Don't put it that way. I'm the head of an underground syndicate called Red Thorns Society, the largest gang in Zhonghai. To put it simply, I am what people call the boss of bad guys." Rose winked at Lin Ruoxi. "You inherited the legacy of a businessman from your grandmother while I was influenced by my father."

It was the first time Lin Ruoxi heard about it. She felt slightly surprised. "Uncle is one as well?"

Rose chuckled. "Yeap, he's even one of my enemies. But I sent him overseas after defeating him, so I'm not interested in keeping the stuff he left here."

Lin Ruoxi found it hard to accept. She got rid of her own father? They're even enemies in the underworld?

However, Lin Ruoxi excelled in making rational analysis after all. Although she was surprised, she quickly got a clue or two. She asked, "Those things are related to that man, aren't they?"

Rose sipped on her tea and stopped smiling. She nodded and said, "Yeah, you're right. If it wasn't for him, I would've left this world long ago."

Coldness appeared in Lin Ruoxi's eyes once again. "Did Uncle..."

"My father tried to kill me once, but he failed because Yang Chen intervened. He even got defeated by me at last. As a result, I became the only syndicate head in Zhonghai," Rose explained briefly.

Lin Ruoxi's hands which were holding the porcelain cup shivered a bit. Rose made it sound insignificant, but Lin Ruoxi was sure that it was not the case, far from it.

The father wants to kill his own daughter? The daughter defeated her father and sent him abroad? What kind of twisted few years it must have been.

The man had single-handedly made the gorgeous woman the head of Zhonghai's underground syndicate without his wife's knowledge. Lin Ruoxi felt rather bad in her heart. Being his wife, she had to make a deal to make him save Yu Lei International, but he had selflessly pushed the woman in front of her to where she was today.

However, Lin Ruoxi knew that it wasn't the time for her to get jealous, and she wasn't one to get jealous anyway.

"Other than getting to know you officially, I actually came today to thank you for saving me," Lin Ruoxi said gently.

"Don't thank me. I'm doing it for myself as well," Rose said. "I'll blame myself should anything happen to you. I'll be more sad if he is sad than if I were to die."

Lin Ruoxi held the tea cup forcefully with both her hands. Rose's words were just like sharp needles poking her heart. Rose was indirectly telling her that she wouldn't take a step back from the relationship.

However, in fact, even if Rose hadn't made the confession, Lin Ruoxi knew that she would never give up.

Lin Ruoxi let out an exhausted smile when she thought about it. "Let's not talk about him. We should talk about us. Do you know that my father tried to kill me as well? I was saved by that man, just as you have. But I have to say, I haven't been through as much as you. Although I find it comical, we're both people whom our family tried to kill."

Rose was stunned. The expression in her gaze changed repeatedly. At last, she sighed, "I didn't realize you were suffering all this time as well."

Lin Ruoxi put down the tea cup and stretched her slender arm out to Rose. Smiling gently, she said, "Nice to meet you."

Rose reached her arm out to shake her hand and felt rather warm. "Me too."

Lin Ruoxi wasn't a talkative person. After saying what she had in mind, she stood up and said, "I have to leave for work now, but please let us continue when I have the time in the future. We can even invite Qianni together."

"Alright. I'll send you off." They behaved like old friends instead of a wife and a paramour of her husband.

When Lin Ruoxi walked out the living hall, Rose suddenly said, "Take good care of yourself. You're the woman who is going to be by his side the longest after all."

Lin Ruoxi stopped moving. However, she didn't say a word nor did she turn around. She continued walking away.

At this moment, at the courtyard shone upon by the warm sunlight, Lin Ruoxi's figure was covered with a layer of thin golden light as she walked toward the gate. Aren't you the one instead? she thought.

Chapter 467: If I Had a Daughter

After having pondered many things over breakfast, Yang Chen couldn't imagine what Lin Ruoxi was going to say to Rose. So, he tried his best to not think about it.

He drove to the company building and took the elevator to his office. When the door opened after arriving at the office floor, a figure whom he hadn't seen in a while appeared.

Dressed in a formal suit, a high spirited An Zaihuan was standing by the window. He seemed to be in an immensely good mood while he hummed. On the other hand, An Xin the supposed secretary, was nowhere to be seen.

An Zaihuan quickly turned around when he heard the sound door open. Seeing that Yang Chen had arrived, he immediately revealed a sincere smile as if he was meeting his relative, causing the wrinkles on his face to appear.

"Director Yang, I've been waiting for a while." When An Zaihuan spoke, he bowed slightly.

Yang Chen found it funny. He lazily walked to his chair and sat down before inviting An Zaihuan to do so as well. "You're waiting for me in my office. Uncle An, is that not the least bit weird to you?"

"Yeah, yeah. My mistake. I'm a little nervous to have to disturb Director Yang so early in the morning," An Zaihuan said smilingly as he pulled a chair over before sitting down.

Yang Chen couldn't stand An Zaihuan's flattering attitude. Technically, this man was An Xin's father, which meant he was one of Yang Chen's father-in-laws. However, there was no way in hell that he would pay respect to this senior. At least, not to someone who was willing to sell his own daughter. Moreover, ever since he met him, he had never done anything of value before before.

Yang Chen felt that the man's greatest achievement in his life was giving birth to a great daughter.

“Now that Uncle An has taken over the Liu clan’s Jade Clouds Corporation, I’m quite sure that you must have a million and one things to do. You came to my office this early. Is getting nervous your only objective here?” Yang Chen asked straightforwardly.

An Zaihuan quickly shook his head. Being an experienced businessman, he could tell that Yang Chen didn’t have much to talk to him about. He said, “It can’t be said that I’m busy all day. While I do have work to do, it is usually the occasional thing or two. Many of the assets owned by the Liu clan are quite terrifying. After all, swallowing everything a decade-old major clan owned required quite some effort. Actually, I came with a question for Director Yang today.”

Yang Chen frowned. Why didn’t he ask An Xin to ask me instead? Is he trying to improve upon our relationship?

“It looks like something really important. Otherwise Uncle An wouldn’t have come over personally at this hour, am I right?” Yang Chen asked.

An Zaihuan smiled stiffly. Clenching his teeth, he spoke softly, “Director Yang, I heard that you were related to Liu Qingtian from Green Dragon Society.”

Yang Chen squinted his eyes. Quietly, he stared at An Zaihuan in an indifferent manner.

Liu Qingtian was naturally Liu Mingyu’s father whom he had met just a few days ago, another father-in-law of his.

The man who had been in Beijing for the majority of his life owned an underground syndicate called Green Dragon Society. Yang Chen had vaguely heard about it before, but he wasn’t interested in digging deeper into it.

Rose was partnering up with Liu Qingtian to expand their powers in the underworld, while Yang Chen didn’t ask about any information specifically.

Currently, Yang Chen felt confused when the seemingly unrelated An Zaihuan suddenly asked about Liu Qingtian.

An Zaihuan felt a chill up his spine when he was gazed upon by Yang Chen that way. He had long witnessed Yang Chen’s terror back in Hokkaido. If it wasn’t because he was completely helpless, he wouldn’t have showed up in front of Yang Chen. He was aware that Yang Chen didn’t find him pleasant. Yang Chen answered, “We’re related in a way. But more importantly, who told you?”

An Zaihuan sighed. Forcing a smile, he said, “I feel slightly guilty at how it happened. A while back, President Liu came looking for me. He hoped for the An clan’s financial groups to partner up with Green Dragon Society and Red Thorns Society. Of course, the partnership will only involve legal businesses.”

Yang Chen nodded. “It’s a good thing. There are certain things that underground syndicates can’t do publicly. To put it frankly, he’s just asking for your help in money laundering, while you benefit from the deal as well. What’s the matter then? Are you too afraid to accept the offer?”

An Zaihuan sighed. Smiling, he said, “To be honest, I was quite hesitant when accepting the offer. But the profits involved made my heart move.”

Yang Chen had more or less figured the situation out. The old fellow was willing to do anything one can imagine for money. It was just like he was eating the food from the bowl but staring at the pot.

The partnership between Liu Qingtian and Rose would allow them to condense their underworld powers in Zhonghai and Beijing, allowing them to take on even larger associations. The whole process wasn't cheap and required large amounts of funding from both sides. As a result, investing was the best choice.

However, neither Green Dragon Society and Red Thorns Society were financial experts. Hence, partnering up with a major financial group was their best choice. The incredibly wealthy An clan became their best target, not to mention the clan wasn't involved in the government at all.

Having lived for so many years, An Zaihuan was as cunning as a fox. He was aware that the money laundering business meant enormous amounts of profits. Of course, he didn't hope to let the thick, fat meat in his mouth fall.

However, he was faced with legitimate underground syndicates. If he had chosen to join the partnership, he would enter the blacklist of the government. Unlike Japan, the underworld wasn't legal. Unlike European and American countries, China had clear information about underground associations. If the government wanted them to die, all they could do was hide in holes.

More worryingly, would Liu Qingshan keep his promise in the partnership? Laws were just words on a piece of paper to these people. If Liu Qingtian were to betray him, the An clan wouldn't be strong enough to resist. "After meeting President Liu that day, I secretly sent someone to check his family background. I soon noticed that his daughter seems to have..." An Zaihuan's forehead exuded sweat. He then let out a stiff smile before continuing, "A good relationship with Director Yang..."

Yang Chen said, "No need to be so nervous. I'm not short-tempered. That's right, Mingyu is my woman. I've had a meal with her family before."

"Then, we..." An Zaihuan looked at Yang Chen with high expectations.

Yang Chen shrugged his shoulders. "I understand what you're trying to say. You may daringly partner up with Green Dragon Society and Red Thorns Society. I'll show up if anything goes wrong. But Uncle Liu isn't that kind of a person. He will never kill the hen to extract her eggs. Regarding Rose, you don't need to be worried as well. She's also my woman."

An Zaihuan widened his mouth in shock. He just found out that the president of Red Thorns Society was one of Yang Chen's women as well.

"What is it? Are you surprised?" Yang Chen asked with a smile.

An Zaihuan instantly shut his mouth before quickly shaking his head. He giggled before saying, "No, no no. It is normal for a man like Director Yang to have multiple wives. Only incompetent men would stay with one forever."

Yang Chen withdrew the smile on his face and gazed upon An Zaihuan coldly.

An Zaihuan felt his heart tremble. He didn't realize the mistake in his words.

"Uncle An, although I'm more horny and have a lot of women, I've never once felt that a man who stays with only one woman is incapable. An Xin is your only daughter. Are you so dense to feel that she is

better of with a man with multiple women? If I had a daughter, I'd definitely be dissatisfied if the man she sought wasn't faithful to her. Whether I can do something about it will have to depend on my competence. At the very least, I don't feel that praising this act is the right thing to do."

Speechless, An Zaihuan was stunned for a while. He had his head lowered in silence.

"You may feel that I'm acting noble. What I'm doing is the complete opposite with what I just said after all. Believe it or not, this is what I truly think," Yang Chen said and smiled. "I've finished saying everything I have in mind. I'll send you off if there's nothing else you need."

"Aye, you don't need to." An Zaihuan hurriedly stood up and waved his hand awkwardly. He then walked toward the door as he said, "I'll be fine leaving alone. Director Yang may continue with your tasks."

When An Zaihuan opened the door, An Xin who was dressed in an office attire was coincidentally on her way in.

The father and daughter stared at each other for a moment. An Zaihuan then turned his head away and tapped An Xin's shoulder before leaving.

An Xin entered the office and shut the door. Her fair-skinned face showed no emotions. After gracefully walking to the back of Yang Chen, she extended her arms and hugged his neck before leaning toward his face.

Yang Chen enjoyed the orchid-like scent. Taking a deep breath, he asked, "Why are you suddenly so artistic? This doesn't look like your style."

An Xin didn't laugh for the joke but bit her lips instead. She said, "I overheard your conversation earlier."

"Gosh, I didn't know the sound proofing was so poorly done here," Yang Chen said as he put up a gloomy act.

"Father had originally wanted me to ask you instead. I refused. On the contrary, I asked him to do it himself if he had the courage. I now feel that doing so is the right choice, otherwise I wouldn't be able to listen to what you had said earlier," An Xin said softly.

Yang Chen smiled and tapped An Xin's cheek.

At this moment, Yang Chen's phone which was placed on the table rang.

An Xin obediently let go of Yang Chen and delivered the phone to him.

However, An Xin revealed the look of a little vixen when she saw the name on the phone before looking at Yang Chen in a teasing manner.

Yang Chen rubbed his nose and picked up the phone. He then said, "Hi, Tang Wan, what's up?"

Chapter 468: A Fishy Sanatorium

From the other end of the line, Tang Wan sounded rather lazy and tired. "Why? Must I require an important reason to call? Can I not call just because I want to?"

“That’s not what I meant, you know that,” Yang Chen said helplessly, while having no idea why women always assumed the worst.

An Xin left the office as she did not want to intrude on their conversation.

“I get the feeling that you are not taking me seriously. Maple Group, my company, has been more than generous by providing Yu Lei with numerous venues to hold their auditions. Am I not considered one of the major sponsors for Star of Yu Lei? How dare you not invite me to the banquet yesterday!” Tang Wan complained.

Yang Chen laughed awkwardly. “There’s nothing to it, trust me. Those kinds of parties are not your scene anyway.”

Yang Chen was embarrassed to tell her that Lin Ruoxi was the sole planner for that event while he had basically no say in it. Lin Ruoxi had been against Tang Wan’s status after all.

Tang Wan remained silent for a moment before sighing deeply. She said, “Let’s get back to the matter at hand, there’s something that I feel is beyond my capabilities and I need your help for it. You seem to be the only person I can trust and I’m hoping that you could come over and share your thoughts on your opinion.”

Yang Chen wondered what could have happened to her after hearing the weight of her voice. Ever since he met her, except for the crisis in the bank, she had never shown weakness or fear. After all, how many things could truly pose as a threat or potential fear to her, a woman of great wealth and reputable name.

Without any further thoughts, Yang Chen asked, “What’s the matter? Where are you?”

“It’s very complicated; I will let you know more about it once you come over to Ivy Sanatorium at Dongsheng Road. It’s alright if you don’t know where it is, I can send my men over to pick you up,” Tang Wan replied.

Yang Chen didn’t know where the place was, but it wouldn’t be hard to find it using the GPS he had in this car.

Walking out from the office, Yang Chen briefly explained to An Xin and hurried over to the destination Tang Wan informed him on.

Yang Chen did not hesitate although the relationship between them had always been a little vague. Actually, the outcome of certain things appeared to be set already.

Following the GPS and driving for roughly about half an hour, Yang Chen pulled up into a quiet asphalt road.

There was a dense grove on both sides of the road, which helped give off the feeling that spring was here. There weren’t many vehicles on the road with the occasional cars here and there. From time to time, there were intersections along the road which mainly consisted of small museums and nursing homes.

After driving for several kilometres, Yang Chen drove into a relatively wide intersection road and at the end of the forest stood Ivy Sanatorium.

It was a small, clean and bright sanatorium but the environment there was extremely unique and elegant. Yang Chen felt that Ivy Sanatorium differed from the other ordinary nursing homes.

Yang Chen doubted that Tang Wan was recuperating in that sanatorium as it was a place for the elderly to stay in.

As Yang Chen got closer to the sanatorium, he was puzzled by what he saw outside the gate of the sanatorium. Besides having some luxury cars, there were another three police cars parked in there, completed with a few guards safeguarding the place.

Yang Chen went straight to the door upon arrival and he sensed something fishy going on.

Two stern-looking guards stepped forward to stop Yang Chen from entering. One of the them said, "I'm sorry, Sir. No one is allowed to enter the sanatorium at the moment."

"I am here upon request, a friend of Boss Tang." Yang Chen noticed that they were actually the police and it could very well be a criminal case that they were investigating.

The two officers shared a look before one of them took out his walkie-talkie and asked the higher ups for instructions.

After getting confirmation, Yang Chen was allowed to enter the sanatorium under the surveillance of a police officer.

Walking past the two corridors ahead, just when Yang Chen was starting to worry about Tang Wan's whereabouts, he saw a familiar figure coming out from a white building.

Tang Wan was dressed in a simple manner, with a lavender long sleeved shirt and white cropped trousers. The plain outfit that she wore made her look less formidable like the past whereas it emphasized on her charm and maturity, looking more like a real beauty.

Her pretty face seemed to be pale and worn out. She forced a smiled when she saw Yang Chen enter. Without that forceful smiled, she would have looked so gloomy and depressed.

"Thank you for coming over, I thought I would have to wait for quite some time before you came." Tang Wan smiled.

"What happened?" Yang Chen asked with a frown.

Tang Wan smiled palely, looking very weak. "Come with me."

As Tang Wan turned and led the way, Yang Chen followed and went into the white building.

Entering the corridor, Yang Chen could see the policemen in the room walking back and forth as if they were investigating something. Tang Wan slowly explained the history of Ivy Sanatorium to Yang Chen. Ivy Sanatorium was a small brand owned by Maple Group which was built to accommodate people in the southern area of the cities. Not many people were admitted as this nursing home was one which only had customers with high status and were famous such as old celebrities and politicians. The Zhonghai branch had around ten old men staying there. The sanatorium was complete with state-of-the-art facilities, and even some of the standard hospital equipment, including a surgery room and an emergency room should they ever require one.

While explaining, Tang Wan led Yang Chen to the second floor. Not far from them was a room cordoned off by the police, blocking its main entrance.

“Last week, my Grandpa was also brought here for recuperation,” Tang Wan said.

Yang Chen who was looking at the room surrounded by the police asked, “Your Grandpa? You mean the head of your Tang clan?”

Yang Chen remembered Tang Wan once said that the Tang clan was one of the four largest clans in Beijing. The master of the clan was her Grandpa, Tang Zhechen. However, Yang Chen found it strange that the master of the Tang clan was admitted into a nursing home.

“Yeah.” Tang Wan nodded. “Do you still remember that I was away for quite some time in the past two months? In fact, it was because of Chinese New Year, and the other reason was because of my Grandpa. He had some mental illness and was a little unstable. I was anxious so I came back to Beijing to assess the latest situation.”

“Is Master Tang having Alzheimer’s disease?” Yang Chen asked as he couldn’t hold back.

“If that was all, I wouldn’t have had to worry as much as I have.” Tang Wan slowed down her pace as she told Yang Chen about the origin of the story. Years ago, Master Tang started to space out and lose memories occasionally. In the beginning, everyone thought that Alzheimer’s disease was the cause. But later on, the same phenomena occurred much more frequently than a regular Alzheimer’s disease. This started to draw the attention of the people at home. That was the reason why Tang Wan started getting worried and returned to Beijing for more than two months, leaving her work aside.

Even after the medical check-up, the doctor failed to diagnose any illnesses besides Alzheimer’s disease. It was as if he fell insane out of nowhere.

The old man did not remember that he was ill, but he began to be grumpy, feel depressed and as a result, unwilling to speak.

A while back, the old man’s state of mind was in utter chaos which required someone to constantly watch him. There were times when he tried to jump off the building and bang his head against the wall. It was a miracle that he was still safe and sound. That could probably be credited to the people watching him

Due to the medical standard in the country, Tang Wan decided to hire a very well-known psychiatrist Professor Andre who graduated from John Hopkins University to treat her Grandpa.

Being one of the most reputable psychiatrist in the world, Tang Wan had to offer him a great amount of remuneration in order to persuade him for coming over for just one patient.

“As the Chinese saying goes, one does not wash their dirty linen in public.” Tang Wan smiled awkwardly as she added on, “I never mentioned this problem to anyone. I hope you can forgive me for not telling you.”

Yang Chen shook his head. “Of course I will. This is very normal for you to do so. Anyway, what did Professor Andre say about the medical checkup? And why is it that there are so many policemen roaming the place? What is happening?”

Tang Wan revealed pain and anger in her eyes as she twisted her eyebrows. "Professor Andre is a very splendid doctor. He figured out something was wrong right away and talked to me in private. He told me that he was planning to discuss about my Grandpa's condition with his foreign colleagues. However, a medical staff found Professor Andre dead in his room this morning."

While chatting, both of them had already reached Professor Andre's room. The yellow lining on the outside of the room barred them from entering. Several police were using some sort of apparatus to collect evidence as there was another big guy in a casual outfit observing the crime scene.

Yang Chen, in deep thought, asked, "Why did you invite me over then? Are you afraid at the idea of a possible threat to the Tang clan and you don't know who it is? So you thought of me as you dare not ask help from someone else. Well, it is fortunate for you that I am quite well versed with mysteries like this one."

"I have been developing the Tang clan's businesses in Zhonghai for quite a number of years and I do know a lot of people. Although I have a very broad social network, you are the only one that is good at solving cases like this," Tang Wan expressed.

"Even if someone else is good, I'm pretty sure they are still not on par with my ability," Yang Chen said. Tang Wan nodded silently before saying, "The police have been here all morning but are no better off than when they first arrived. The only thing they'd managed to gather was that Professor Andre was poisoned. What and how are still mysteries to the police."

"Also, our sanatorium is very strict in controlling the patients' diet. If Professor Andre ate something poisonous, the police would have been the first people to know. Why is it that the professor got killed right after he found out what was wrong with my Grandpa but not right after he came to the sanatorium? It's obvious that someone knew that the professor had found out something about the patient's condition and killed him. But how? The professor told me in private when he was still alive."

Tang Wan's eyes were full of resentment and frustration as she felt helpless at the situation.

Yang Chen thought for a bit before asking, "Where's the corpse?"

"It has been taken away by the police. Oh ya, if John Hopkins University knows about the death of Professor Andre in our sanatorium, there's no way for them to let this matter slide. No matter what, a lawsuit is inevitable. It is clear that the murderer isn't giving us anytime to rest," Tang Wan said angrily.

"Where did the professor tell you about the result of his findings on your Grandpa's illness?" Yang Chen questioned.

Tang Wan pointed directly at the room. "We were talking in the professor's room when he told me personally that there was probably still hope that my Grandpa could recover."

Yang Chen pouted his mouth as he looked across the room. The condition of the sanatorium was exceptional. Professor Andre's room was about 60 square meters with all kinds of equipment neatly arranged.

"Let me have a look inside, perhaps there could be some clues that only I would be able to find." While he spoke, Yang Chen bent down and got into the cordon before walking towards the room.

Just when Yang Chen was about to get inside the room, the big man wearing a casual outfit and a stern face stood in front of him with his thick eyebrows furrowing at the sight of his unwanted guest “Who are you? This is a crime scene, miscellaneous personnel are not allowed in here. Get out!”

Chapter 469: Traces

Looking at the guy standing in front of him who was a head taller, Yang Chen implicitly stepped back. “Officer, I’m a friend of Ms. Tang, I’m not a bad guy,” Yang Chen said in a polite manner.

Tang Wan who was standing behind stepped up. “Officer Gao, Yang Chen is my friend. He might be able to help out with the case, so if you would, please let him enter?”

The police officer with the surname ‘Gao’ clearly did not buy it. Locking his eyebrows, he spoke resolutely, “Chairman Tang, forgive me for being straight forward. The criminal police unit isn’t a part of your company. We are here to investigate the homicide case involving a well-known international scholar, which I might say, cause conflicts between countries. We have been more than generous as we promised not to disclose any information about the case to the public. If you insist on letting any Tom, Dick and Harry into our investigation and hinder the process, I swear on behalf as the captain of this unit, will not allow such a behaviour.”

Just when Captain Gao Xin finished his sentence and was about to throw Yang Chen out of the room, Yang Chen who was initially standing in front of him had vanished.

Gao Xin looked around as he wondered. When he turned around, he saw that Yang Chen had slipped into the room.

Yang Chen ignored Gao Xin as he wandered around the room occasionally taking mental notes of the things he saw. The other criminal police officers were looking at Yang Chen with a discontented look.

“Hey you! I warned you not to come into the room. It is a criminal offense to obstruct an ongoing investigation.” Gao Xin yelled.

Yang Chen had somewhat taken a liking to the big and tall police officer. The man was clearly an inflexible and stubborn workaholic, proven by his ability to obtain the rank of captain at a relatively young age.

“Captain Gao, please calm down. Come and have a look at this window. There’s something weird on it,” Yang Chen pointed to the big window in the middle of the room.

“Stop acting dumb. Can’t you hear that I’m asking you to leave the room?” Gao Xin groaned.

Yang Chen shook his head and sighed. Pointing at the bright and transparent window, he said, “Have a look at this. Do you see some sort of half-transparent glue by the crack at the left side of the window?”

“Are you testing me?”

Looking at Yang Chen who was ignoring him, Gao Xin burst into anger as he walked straight to him. He stretched out his pillar-like hand and tried to drag Yang Chen out of the room.

However, Yang Chen dodged it before Gao Xin managed to touch his shirt collar. Yang Chen appeared behind Gao Xin in a flash, causing everyone to be dazzled by his skill.

A hand from behind held onto Gao Xin's shoulder. Gao Xin was dumbfounded at the unexpected turn of events. Yang Chen applied a little pressure on his shoulder, causing his body to tilt uncontrollably before falling on the ground!

Yang Chen clicked his tongue and took a look at Gao Xin. "Look, Officer Gao, I admire you for being an earnest police officer. But please carel your recklessness. You can't possibly go up against everyone you dislike. You have to know who you're picking on."

Finishing his words, Yang Chen turned and walked to the window before stretching his hand outside and reaching into the tiny crack by the window side.

All the police officers who were in the room, including Gao Xin on the floor, were frozen into speechlessness. They knew Yang Chen who had revealed his skill was no ordinary man.

All of the police officers had received professional training before. Gao Xin who had more than ten years of experience dealing with criminals had met various highly-skilled individuals before. However, that was his first time meeting someone who could suppress him to the floor. Furthermore, Gao Xin was no slouch himself having obtained a black belt in judo.

Tang Wan who was standing by the door chuckled. The look of annoyance on her face that was caused by the stubbornness of Gao Xin had completely vanished.

Everyone was watching Yang Chen in a dumbfounded way as he peeled off the glue from the edge of the outer window. The turbid white glue was roughly ten centimetres long.

"I think the crux of the case is related to this glue," Yang Chen said with a smile.

The other police officers couldn't care less about how their captain fell to the ground. One of them asked, "What is that? Isn't that the glue used for immobilizing the window glass?"

"Of course not. Didn't you guys find out that the glue here is black in colour for some reason? Why would something like this be out here for no good reason?" Yang Chen said.

"There's nothing strange about it. Just ordinary construction garbage." Annoyed, Gao Xin's face was bright red. He got up from the ground and patted his backside.

Gao Xin was a little stubborn but he wasn't a fool. He knew that he couldn't deal with Yang Chen and could only watch as he did what he wanted.

Yang Chen waved his hand. "Officer Gao, if that's true, let's have your comrades from the research department identify it."

Gao Xin frowned. He signalled two of his subordinates to analyze the glue Yang Chen was holding. Looking at his eyes, he obviously didn't believe that there was something weird about the glue.

Two police officers stepped forward and received the item from Yang Chen. After examining the glue in detail, they found out something special about the glue. They immediately took a pair of scissors and cut open the glue. "What is this?"

The two police officers cried out. Even the rest of the police officers could tell that something was off with the thing.

Astonished Gao Xin asked, “What happened? What is in the glue?”

One of the police officers gave Yang Chen a strange look and then immediately took the smaller part of the glue that he cut open to Gao Xin.

Gao Xin took a closer look and discovered that the inconspicuous glue strip contained a slender silver-colored object with a metallic luster.

“What is this thing?” Gao Xin asked as he had never seen such a thing.

The other police officers shook their heads. Although they knew that the object was somehow as related as it was unusual, they didn’t know what it was.

“If I’m not mistaken,” Yang Chen took over the question and answered, “This should be a leading-edge technology pocket-based bug. This will allow its owner to listen to the conversations taking place nearby up to a certain area through the vibration of the objects around it. According to this model, this looks a bit like the MLK 760 used by the US military. This stuff isn’t obtainable by just anyone. Not even the black market has their hands on one of these. Not even the FBI has got anything close to this leading-edge technology. However, MLK 760 is a listening device exclusively used by the US military. I find it hard to believe that it’s appearing in such a place. It seems like that this bug has an upgraded placement method which can be used for eavesdropping in the rubber through the vibrations, making it easier to hide. I bet this is an upgraded version of MLK 760.”

Gao Xin was shocked by Yang Chen’s words. After a short while, Gao Xin snorted. “Are you certain of your words? A pocket-based bug? US military? Even the FBI? Are you saying that you know all these?”

“Haha. Of course I’m not a hundred percent sure of it. However, Officer Gao, you can check it out.” Yang Chen said with a smile.

“Captain, it seems to be like a listening device.”

One of the police officers brought over a long eavesdropping device searcher and scanned the silver-colored object. As expected, a subtle signal was transmitted from the device searcher.

Yang Chen clapped his hand and laughed. “This can basically be concluded that it’s a listening device. However, the MLK model is invented a year ago whereas your device searcher is made five years back. This would have made it next to impossible for you to have found it.”

Gao Xin snorted with his face flushing and turning pale alternately. “ You guessed it right, though I believe you were blindly guessing. If there’s nothing else, kindly don’t interrupt. We will deal with the crime scene. Regarding the listening device, the police officers will be investigating it.”

Yang Chen didn’t bother listening to him. Giving in some thoughts, he said. “The biggest advantage of the listening device used by the military is its small surface area which allows it to be easily hidden. However, the disadvantages are also very obvious—its limited signal transmission range, which is only a kilometer for the MLK 760. I guess even the modified version wouldn’t have a range that exceeded two kilometers. In addition to this sanatorium, there aren’t very many places that would constitute good hiding spots. I think if you search within two square kilometers, you might be able to find the equipment used to receive these signals. The people eavesdropping and their equipment could very well even be within this building.”

Gao Xin got inspired after hearing what Yang Chen said. He ordered a police officer in a low voice. "Get a few men and conduct a blanket search within a two-kilometer radius."

Upon receiving his superior's ordered, the police officer ran out quickly.

Gao Xin calmed down a little and gave Yang Chen a weird look. He was no longer trying to drive Yang Chen out of the room.

Yang Chen looked around again and did not find anything suspicious. He left the room and walked towards Tang Wan. Concerned, he asked. "You aren't harmed, are you?"

Tang Wan shook her head and smiled. "I'm fine. I got a few bodyguards protecting me in secret. What should we do for now? Or do we have to wait for the culprit to be apprehended?"

"We have to wait for the time being. There aren't many clues we have in hand. However, judging by the type of listening device that he is using, he mustn't be any ordinary man. I foresee large amounts of trouble headed your way," Yang Chen said.

Tang Wan laughed bitterly. Just when she was about to say something, there was a loud cry from the other end of the corridor. "Oh no, Elder Sister!"

A clear female voice with a strong sense of urgency came from the other end.

Yang Chen turned and had a glance. It was a young lady wearing a bright yellow dress with a shawl hair up on her oval-shape face. Her appearance was quite similar to that of Tang Wan, except that she had no makeup on and looked a little immature. However, she was considered to be quite a pretty young woman.

"Tang Xin, what happened? Did something happen to Grandpa?" Tang Wan asked anxiously.

The girl with the name Tang Xin should be Tang Wan's sister. Her breath was coming in gasps as she was running to Tang Wan. Her watery eyes were gleaming in tears while she said, "Elder Sister, Tang Huang is here. He visited Grandpa in his courtyard. Grandpa seems to have been stimulated by him and he is trying to smash his head into the wall again. He wanted to strangle me too, I'm scared."

Tang Wan's face turned pale. "Tang Huang? Isn't he in Beijing? Why is he doing here in Zhonghai? How's Grandpa's condition right now?"

"I don't know the reason for his visit. By the time I reached, the doctors and nurses were trying to protect Grandpa. If Tang Huang doesn't leave, Grandpa would never calm down, so I came running for you," Tang Xin said helplessly.

Yang Chen was confused. Who's Tang Huang?

Tang Wan tightened her eyebrows and glanced at Yang Chen with a weak look. "I know you have a lot of questions. Let's go together, I will tell you in detail."

Yang Chen naturally didn't reject her request. After all, he had gotten himself involved in the case already and had to take care of the trouble till the end. "Sure. I might be able to find some new clues by meeting the old man too."

Chapter 470: Do You Study Traditional Chinese Medicine

Yang Chen rushed to Master Tang's house with Tang Wan to hopefully try to understand the situation better.

Tang Zhechen had three sons and two daughters, while his siblings each had their own children. Tang clan had a huge family tree. At least that was evident.

Tang Wan was Tang Zhechen's eldest grandchild, a sister of the big mouth Tang Jue. On the other hand, the young girl Tang Xin was the only daughter of Tang Wan's third uncle, who happened to be the youngest in the clan.

Following Master Tang's retirement from the government, the Tang clan became the fastest-developing one among the four major clans. Being the eldest grandchild, Tang Wan had received the largest piece of the cake from Master Tang, being the sole inheritor of the maple Group.

However, Master Tang didn't pass all his authority to Tang Wan alone. He had handed over a large number of assets from the north and Beijing to his eldest grandson, Tang Huang, who was given birth to by his second eldest child.

These choices were the result of the faith he had in Tang Wan and Tang Huang and the potential he saw in them. He was giving these two grandchildren of his a test to judge who was more competent in managing a business before picking either of them to become the next master of the Tang clan.

It was exactly due to his act of mentioning the two possible inheritors that caused the clan to be unstable internally. There were people who were standing on Tang Wan's side, while there were others supporting Tang Huang. Moreover, a portion of the members were dissatisfied with Master Tang's arrangement and thus live their days attempting to cause harm to the Master.

The conflict within the clan had become more apparent after Master Tang aged.

However, Master Tang was helpless against this situation though he wanted to solve the issue. Just like the ancient times, problems would definitely arise when emperors handed their power over to the next generation. Not everyone could sit still and watch as the most distinguished title that they could achieve was passed to someone other than themselves.

"The reason I seldom return to Beijing is because, I hate to see the two-faced people from my clan and deal with their criticism and sarcasm. It is also not in my best interest to pick a fight with them. I thought I just had to take care of Maple Group's operations in the south, and Grandpa would make a wise decision. I just didn't expect Grandpa to end up this way. After Grandpa who was able to resolve various conflicts collapsed, a lot of unwarranted problems started arising from both sides," Tang Wan said as she walked with Yang Chen.

Yang Chen wasn't too surprised. It was common for such dramas to take place in major clans. "What's the guy Tang Huang all about?"

Anger surfaced in Tang Wan's elegant eyes. "He's a really capable manager, but I don't like him. It isn't because Grandpa has let him compete against me. I just despise his frivolous attitude. You'll understand soon enough..."

Tang Xin who was beside them said furiously, "Elder Sister, I feel that Tang Huang is the one behind Grandpa's sudden illness. It is obvious that he thinks Grandpa is bias and plotted this out of jealousy. He's the kind of person who will do anything to anyone for money."

"Tang Xin, it is not wise to conclude without proof. Regardless of how much we dislike him, we must not jump to the conclusion so quickly." Tang Wan shook her head and sighed.

Tang Xin pouted her lips but looked like she was confident with her statement.

After a short while, the three people came to a quiet courtyard. There was a clean and neat lawn planted with a few maidenhair trees. The courtyard looked like an old-fashioned siheyuan, but had a modern design. It oozed a sense of high-class aura. A private ward for the rich.

[TL note: A siheyuan is a historical type of residence that was commonly found throughout China.]

Upon stepping into the courtyard, Yang Chen heard a hoarse shout coming from a male.

"Lu—Lun! Lun, don't leave! Don't leave!!!"

A slender, white-haired old man dressed in a set of cotton pajamas could be seen being pulled by two tall nurses. However, he was still trying his best to rush forward to reach a man standing nearby, as if he had lost his mind.

That man looked like he was in his thirties. He wore a black casual suit. Having a tall and strong build, he had his hair combed neatly while the contours of his face were sharp, causing him to look really masculine. However, the disdainful smile on his face was detestable.

There stood another man and a woman behind him. Similarly dressed in white shirts and black suits, they appeared to be his assistant and driver.

"Tang Huang, do you think Grandpa isn't in a bad-enough situation already?!"

Tang Wan shouted at that man upon entering the place.

Tang Huang turned around and laughed when he saw Tang Wan. "I was wondering why the brat Tang Xin had run away. So she had gone to ask for help. Tang Wan, although you're my elder cousin, there's no reason to stop me from visiting my grandpa is there? I came here all the way from Beijing just to see how Grandpa is doing. Didn't you say you had invited a professional to treat Grandpa? Why is his illness more severe than ever? Just listen to whose name Grandpa is shouting.

Agony filled Tang Wan's eyes. Coldly, she said, "Mind your own business. Now that you've visited Grandpa, you may leave this place."

"Tsk, tsk. My great elder sister, why are you treating your younger brother who just wants to visit his senior this way? You could've at least asked me to stay for lunch or something." Tang Huang shook his finger.

At this moment, Yang Chen quietly and slowly walked to Master Tang who had not calmed down yet. Being gazed upon by the two surprised nurses, Yang Chen touched the back of the old man's neck lightly.

In the blink of an eye, the old man stopped shouting. He then blurrily returned to his wheelchair before falling asleep.

Tang Wan and Tang Huang who were in the midst of an argument, frowned as they looked at Yang Chen. Silence ensued.

Yang Chen raised his head with a faint smile. "Don't worry, I'm just letting him rest for a bit. He looked like he could use one. Let's have a rest ourselves as well, shall we? It's about lunchtime now."

Tang Huang looked at Yang Chen again with curious eyes. He smiled weirdly and said, "I had been wondering why Elder Sister hadn't found a man for so many years. So... it's because she likes young ones. Kid, do you study traditional Chinese medicine? Did you strike his acupuncture point?"

Yang Chen waved his hand. "Think whatever you want. Didn't you say you wanted to have lunch here? Let's go now."

Tang Huang let out a wicked smile. "Interesting. But I'm not in the mood for a meal anymore. Sigh... I lost my appetite after seeing my dearest grandfather like this. You should keep my elder sister company and give her consolation."

After he finished speaking, he turned to Tang Wan. "Elder Sister, I noticed that this place is much better than Beijing. The air is so fresh here. No wonder you have such a clear and moist skin. I think I'll stay here for a little longer and visit Grandpa more often."

Tang Huang then signalled the man and the woman behind before leaving without turning his head back.

Tang Xin stared at Tang Huang's figure when he left. She stomped heavily on the ground to express her anger and helplessness.

Tang Wan bit her lip quietly before approaching Yang Chen. "I'm sorry. He's always behaved that way, please don't get angry."

"I'm not mad of course. I can tell that he's a legitimate wicked man, but I find people like him more acceptable than hypocrites," Yang Chen said with a relaxed smile.

Tang Wan said, "Sigh, you've always been so carefree. There is no shortage of people like Tang Huang in the clan, while the hypocrites you so despise, are also all over the clan. That's why I can never be at ease. I had to spend a lot of effort to move Grandpa over to Zhonghai for treatment. I'm worried that Grandpa might be provoked by Tang Huang and the others and his illness will only worsen that way. Also, the relations in Beijing are overly complicated and messy."

Yang Chen nodded and walked around in the courtyard. Suddenly, Yang Chen stopped moving when he was beside a pillar.

The pillar was built using pure camphor wood which had cost a ton. There were even poetries in the form of Chinese calligraphy engraved on the surface making it appear rather classy.

Yang Chen didn't pay attention to the poetries. He reached his hand out and pushed the pillar with his finger. At last, he broke a small piece out...

Being stared upon by the others who were clueless, Yang Chen removed a small piece of wood from the pillar...

"This is..."

Yang Chen smiled. On the rear end of the wood piece, there was a glue-like substance, with a tiny silver-colored stick attached. It was the exact same thing Yang Chen had discovered in the late Professor Andre's room—a listening device.

Chapter 471: The Hidden Objective

"Although it's well-hidden, my eyesight would prove to be the better of the two," Yang Chen said as he giggled before winking at Tang Wan, as if he had won a hide-and-seek game.

Tang Wan rolled her eyes. "I can't believe you are still in the laughing mood. If even this place has a listening device, does it mean that my company, house, and other places are all bugged as well?!"

Yang Chen nodded. "It would not be too far off to think so."

Tang Wan took a painfully long deep breath. With high expectations, she asked, "You'll help me locate them, won't you?"

Yang Chen scratched his head. "I can, but even I will take some time. Let's have lunch first, I'm really hungry now."

Tang Wan was quite helpless towards that fellow's behavior. He somehow still had the appetite for lunch at this situation when something like this was going on.

Tang Xin who appeared to be surprised and curious asked, "Elder Sister, your friend must be a woodpecker in his past life. I'm impressed that he managed to locate it."

Yang Chen who had incredible hearing, almost fell down as a result. But Tang Xin's words managed to please Tang Wan, causing a smile to surface on her face.

Under Tang Wan's command, the two nurses sent Master Tang who was still asleep on his wheelchair back to his room.

Pain surfaced in Tang Wan's eyes as she watched them roll him away. "I can still remember the days when I was young and Grandpa was still in the standing committee, Grandma was still healthy and well. At that time, although Grandpa was a busy man, making me smile would be the first thing he would do when he got home. I used to feel that Grandpa was the greatest being in the world; there was nothing he couldn't achieve. As long as Grandpa was present, our Tang clan would be the most impressive one in existence. It felt like it was yesterday. Unfortunately, Grandpa isn't the same man he was. Not anymore."

Tang Xin's eyes turned water when Tang Wan spoke. "Elder Sister, let's not dwell in the past shall we. I'm going to cry again."

Tang Wan smiled apologetically. "Tang Xin, are you still staying to take care of Grandpa?"

“Of course. I only came here from Beijing to look after Grandpa. Elder Sister, you don’t need to stay here with me. You may go with your friend. I’ll be sure to take good care of Grandpa,” Tang Xin said obediently.

Pleased, Tang Wan nodded her head before glancing at Yang Chen and leaving the courtyard.

Yang Chen waved his hand to Tang Xin before following Tang Wan out. After catching up to Tang Wan, he asked, “Has Tang Xin always been responsible to take care of the old man? She looks so young. Ladies at her age would usually be out and about doing things. Why is she here instead?”

“It’s not me who asked her to do so,” Tang Wan said, dissatisfied. “Do you think I would force her to do this? She’s the only daughter of Third Uncle, also my most obedient younger sister. She has a kind heart and has clung onto Grandpa since young. Once the news of Grandpa’s sickness reached her ears, she has stayed by his side ever since. No one is able to pull her away from this.”

Yang Chen nodded as he understood the situation. “When I entered the courtyard earlier, the old man was shouting ‘Lun’ something. Who’s Lun? Is it possibly the nickname of Tang Huang? The two names sound so different.”

Tang Wan suddenly stopped moving and remained quiet for a bit. Softly, she said, “Grandpa was shouting my father’s name, Tang Lun.”

“Oh, it’s Uncle? Why did he shout Uncle’s name?” Yang Chen asked, confused.

Tang Wan turned her head away and replied gently, “I’d rather not answer that question. I don’t feel like talking about it.”

Yang Chen was surprised. He hadn’t seen Tang Wan want to avoid a subject this much before. He wouldn’t force her into doing something, so he chose to keep quiet.

However, Yang Chen just noticed that Tang Wan seemed to have mentioned her second and third uncles, while nothing about her parents was even remotely mentioned. Tang Tang also hadn’t mentioned her grandparents before which was rather weird.

Upon Yang Chen’s request, Tang Wan asked the employees in the sanatorium to prepare a hearty lunch. She also invited the police for the meal.

Gao Xin who hadn’t left yet brought a few of his subordinates and had their meals together with Yang Chen in the same room. He felt rather uncomfortable with all that has happened, so he quickly finished eating and continued his investigation work.

Tang Wan on the other hand had lost her appetite. Before Yang Chen finished eating, she couldn’t help but ask, “Yang Chen, I’m quite sure you know quite a few experts from your past, don’t you? Do you happen to know a doctor like Professor Andre who can treat Grandpa?”

Yang Chen almost choked on his food after listening to Tang Wan. Smiling bitterly, he said, “My dear Tang Wan, that professor just died just now, but you’re asking me to ask my friend. Isn’t it too ominous?”

"I—I don't wish to have to do this..." Tang Wan frowned. "But even the best hospital in the country failed to diagnose Grandpa's illness, let alone getting him treated. As you saw earlier, Grandpa isn't in a good condition now. I'm running out of options and the only thing left for me to do is ask you for help."

Having been an independent woman who seemed to have everything under control, she hadn't spoken in such a manner to Yang Chen before. Yang Chen wasn't used to the way she talked. Seeing Tang Wan's exhausted face slowly lowering, Yang Chen sighed and said, "I know someone in fact who's an expert in solving this kind of rare cases. But that person is abroad and may not necessarily be able to come to Zhonghai as of right now. Also, you'll have to take care of the logistics. I'll have a chat with that person and will give you an answer later."

Overjoyed, Tang Wan raised her head and said, "Really? That would be great. Which country is that professional from? Do you need me to send someone to pick them up? I'll ensure that the same thing would not happen again. I'll assign a large number of bodyguards to take care of your friend's safety."

Yang Chen smiled and answered, "I'll provide that. That person is rather special. You'll find out soon, in good time. It's best if you can finish your meal now. If this continues, I bet you'll collapse before the old man does."

Tang Wan too noticed that she was overly excited. Blushing, she displayed a little shyness on her elegant face before obediently moving her chopsticks.

After dealing with the matter at the sanatorium, Yang Chen followed Tang Wan to the headquarters of Maple Group as promised.

It was his second time coming to her office. Expectedly, he managed to locate a listening device beneath her office table. It was the exact same model as the one found earlier.

Tang Wan terrified, causing her face to turn cold. "Luckily there haven't been any industrial secrets recently. Otherwise the consequences would have been severe."

"I believe they're not trying to harm your company that whoever did this, is not out to harm your company. Anyone who has access to this type of listening devices wouldn't use them for this insignificant purpose," Yang Chen said.

As Tang Wan planned to bring Yang Chen to check her house, one of her assistants rushed into the office anxiously.

"Boss, a law firm just contacted us via the phone. They're extremely pissed after finding out of Professor Andre's death. They're now considering filing an international lawsuit to Maple Group. Boss, The Johns Hopkins University has had influence beyond what we could imagine. Lots of hospitals and well-known individuals are closely related to Professor Andre. If we don't find a solution to the problem soon, we'll definitely be targeted from all sides," the assistant said, worried.

Tang Wan had already been troubled by various headache-inducing matters. After listening to her assistant, she smiled coldly and said, "We'll face the lawsuit if they want to file one. Are we the ones who have poisoned him? Why blame the victims? Go and meet them with our lawyer. Use any means necessary to see that it gets done."

The assistant was a little stunned. He had never seen her employer this resolute before. But he dared not say a word so he chose to back off instead.

Yang Chen tapped Tang Wan's shoulder. "Don't dwell in it too much. They won't win the lawsuit."

Tang Wan looked at him doubtfully. "Why? They indeed have the ability to sue us. And if we fail to find out the reason, we'll likely be the one who loses."

"I said they won't win it no matter what. For only one reason—because I say so," Yang Chen said with a smile.

Tang Wan finally displayed a smile on her face. Rolling her eyes, she said, "Let's go to my house."

Yang Chen felt that he had become Tang Wan's temporary secretary today. He followed Tang Wan everywhere and obeyed the boss's orders.

When he came to Tang Wan's house, Yang Chen realized that although he had come here a few times before, this was his first time entering the place.

Tang Wan's warmly decorated living hall was filled with a pleasant fragrance. Since Tang Wan and her daughter Tang Tang stayed at that place, it was naturally clean.

Yang Chen looked around. "Tang Tang isn't home, is she?"

"Why? Do you miss my daughter already?" Tang Wan joked. "You're right, she isn't. The college entrance exam will be here in three months' time. I'll smack her ass into the next new year if she dares to skip school now."

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. "There's no need to be no strict, is there?. Tang Tang isn't a child anymore. Her maturity index has risen significantly over the past few months."

Tang Wan nodded and said, "I would've forgotten about it if you didn't mention. That girl has indeed grown up a lot after knowing you."

Yang Chen thought, That's for sure. She has experienced the edge between life and death before, let alone the two times when she left home.

After searching Tang Wan's living hall, Yang Chen went upstairs and walked around. Although the house had a complex structure, which made the locating of the devices relatively difficult, based on Yang Chen's rich experience, he managed to locate two listening devices from a lamp and a fake bouquet.

Tang Wan gazed upon the two little things that somehow ended up at her home. She couldn't help but murmur, "I don't have many visitors. Only a few of my employees have ever come here before. My daughter and I have stayed here all the time. Are these listening devices planted by a betrayer from my company?"

"I don't think so." Yang Chen tossed around the two tiny, silver-colored items. He said, "Your house isn't guarded very well and you don't exactly have very many security features to this place. A professional spy only needs seconds to break into your anti-theft door."

Tang Wan frowned. Confused, she said, "But if that person dares to kill using such an impressive means, why is Professor Andre the only target? The only outcome of his death is Grandpa's delayed treatment. No one from my clan is able to be benefited from this. My business also won't be majorly affected. What purpose do they have for doing all of this?"

Yang Chen contemplated for a while. Softly, he said, "If I'm not wrong, the reason that person has only killed Professor Andre is because they need to maintain the current situation in your clan. If the old man isn't able to recover, everything you own will be under his control. Regarding your Tang clan internally..."

"Conflict." Tang Wan also finally thought of a crucial point which she had almost missed. Surprised, she said, "They want the internal conflicts within the clan to intensify?!"

Chapter 472: Just like a Few Years Ago

After analysing the situation, not only was Tang Wan not able to relax, she felt even more worried instead.

What was the use of realizing the real motive of the culprit if there was nothing she could do to effectively stop the situation from worsening.

As long as Master Tang didn't recover, it meant the clan was left without a master. Tang Huang had even dared to provoke Tang Wan in Zhonghai, let alone the pile of mess he left behind in Beijing. Their minds weren't on the same page, causing the direction of the clan to go downwards.

When Yang Chen left Tang Wan's home, he had originally wanted to cheer up this pitiful woman. However, no matter how hard he thought about it, there was nothing he could say; all he could do was give her a hand. He believed that Tang Wan didn't hope to be seen as weak, so he chose to keep quiet.

It was dinnertime when Yang Chen reached home. He realized that he had been busy all day removing listening devices. He couldn't help but mock himself.

When the meal was ready, Yang Chen noticed that Lin Ruoxi wasn't at home where she would be in the past. Wang Ma seemed to have expected Yang Chen's question. Smiling, she said, "Miss is going to Miss Christen's place tonight. She said she wanted to have a discussion with her, so there's no need to wait for her to return."

Yang Chen initially thought that Lin Ruoxi was still working at her office. He was stunned into silence when he heard that she went to look for that crazy woman. Is she going to spill everything out of her mouth again? he thought. The more Yang Chen thought about it, the more Yang Chen felt that was very likely the case. However, he couldn't just stop Lin Ruoxi from meeting Christen. All he could do was sit and wait in anguish while secretly hoping that Christen wouldn't stir up any trouble.

Guo Xuehua noticed Yang Chen's look. She couldn't help but ask, "Son, why do you look so discouraged when Lin Ruoxi went to look for Christen. Is it very surprising?"

Yang Chen barely raised his hand to signal that he was fine. "I'm a little surprised indeed. Ruoxi seldomly chats with strangers after all."

"Why do you think she's chatting instead of talking about work?" Guo Xuehua asked.

Yang Chen was stunned a little. He then thought that it was very possible that it could have been for work instead. He might really have overthoughted.

After dinner, Yang Chen watched television with his mother and Wang Ma for a while before going to his room. It should be around noon in Europe now. So, he turned on his computer and logged into the video-call software which he often used.

After a short while, the red-haired Sauron appeared on the screen. Dressed in a black suit, the big guy solemnly saluted Yang Chen.

“Your Majesty Pluto, is there anything you require from us?” Sauron asked.

Yang Chen looked at Sauron’s attire and smiled. “I seem to recall you having a hatred for western suits. Why are you suddenly dressed so formally?”

Warmth filled Sauron’s eyes while a smile surfaced on his face. “I didn’t know Your Majesty still remembers that.”

“You’re my friend, and to be honest one of the very few that I have. I naturally will remember my friends’ habits,” Yang Chen said naturally.

“It’s because my daughter Isabella is having her wedding today,” Sauron said with a smile.

Yang Chen was surprised. He then laughed and said, “Isabella? The wild little cat? Who’s the groom then?”

Sauron looked displeased upon hearing the term ‘groom’. He snorted disdainfully before saying, “Unfortunately, the damn fellow is Makedon’s grandson.”

Yang Chen finally burst into laughter like a maniac while slamming his bedsheet. “Are you referring to Brewster, the one with a bucket-like figure?”

“Yeah, but I like to call that brat Wild Pig more,” Sauron said as he pouted.

Yang Chen found it heart-warming. Both Sauron and Makedon were his close partners, so Yang Chen was familiar with their families. Compared to the two, their families treated Yang Chen with less respect but with more intimacy, just like his own family.

Isabella and Brewster were both considered his juniors. Although they were around the same age as Yang Chen, he couldn’t help but feel contented when he was informed of their marriage.

“I’ll ask Ron to deliver a gift on my behalf,” Yang Chen said straightforwardly. “Sauron, you and Makedon have disappointed me so. Why didn’t you guys inform me about something so important? Am I not considered a relative of the two?”

Sauron felt moved and said, “Of course not. Your Majesty Pluto, if it wasn’t for you, my family and I would’ve been killed by the damn British military. It was you who had given me permission to live to this date, and allowed our family to live peacefully. You’re our most respected relative. Makedon and I didn’t tell you about it because we didn’t want you to travel all the way to Europe again. You should know that there will be major power shifts if you should so choose to return after only a year, which will only bring you trouble. We don’t hope to disrupt your life.”

“You don’t need to consider these problems actually.” Yang Chen smiled bitterly. “I’m going to Paris next month to attend a fashion week. Even if you and Makedon are concerned about me, I still have to visit Europe soon.”

Sauron instantly widened his eyes in shock. He was surprised that Yang Chen was going to attend such an event.

Yang Chen stopped mentioning about that and talked about the main subject. “Sauron, I actually need your help today to check something. It isn’t urgent of course. You may enjoy your daughter’s wedding first.”

“Your Majesty, please let me know what I should do.” Sauron recovered his strictness.

“I need you to check the American-made listening device MLK 760. See what sales channels it has had before, especially China. Please help me check if it has entered the black market at anytime,” Yang Chen said

Sauron frowned. “Your Majesty, I believe I have the answer to your question.”

“Oh?” Yang Chen frowned slightly.

“So this is what happened. We actually tried to purchase the MLK 760 from the FBI through a special channel, but failed. That’s because the model has been completely controlled by the military. If China wants to access something like that, the only way that it would even be remotely possible is if they formed a contract with the military,” Sauron said seriously.

Contemplation filled Yang Chen’s eyes. He nodded and revealed a smile. “Alright, that’s all I want to ask. You should attend Isabella’s wedding now. May you live in happiness.”

Sauron wasn’t the talkative type. After bidding farewell to Yang Chen, he exit the video call.

Yang Chen pondered for a while before calling another video address. He waited for more than five minutes before getting a response.

When the call got connected, a blonde lady dressed in a white royal lace dress appeared on his screen. The woman’s front and rear gave her a perfect figure. One’s blood vessels would dilate upon seeing her curves. She was none other than Jane.

Jane appeared particularly pleased to be contacted by Yang Chen. Excitement overflowed on her flawless face. She had her blonde and slightly curly hair combed behind her head, causing her to exude the elegant aura of a princess.

There was a sumptuous bed behind Jane. Bright light filled the room around her. This was, obviously, her room.

“My dear Yang Chen, what happened that has made you grace me with your call? I would’ve missed it if I didn’t come to my room to take my lovely hairpin,” Jane said with a smile.

Yang Chen admired her look for a while before saying, “If you’re dressed this way, you’ll attract all the attention from the bride Isabella.”

“Oh, you know?” Jane asked in surprise. “I thought Sauron and Makedon planned to hide it from you. Did your housekeeper Ron tell you about it?”

“I just found out just now, but it isn’t the point. I need your help for some other stuff,” Yang Chen said.

Jane pouted. “I knew you’d only find me when you need help. How boring. Alright, tell me what you want and I’ll go back to being the bridesmaid.”

Yang Chen let out a helpless smile. He then explained the illness Master Tang had and the series of events including how Professor Andre was killed.

“When it comes to the research of mental illnesses, I believe no one is better than you in the world. After all, you have managed to control the madness within me... So I think letting you treat Master Tang is the best and only choice. Of course, I know that you’re really busy dealing with your students and various research conferences. I don’t expect you to come over immediately. But if you’re unwilling to take up this task, you may send someone over whom you think is capable enough. I won’t mind,” Yang Chen said.

Jane looked a little saddened at the news. “Oh, Andre is dead... He was a good learner, albeit a little greedy. Don’t worry, Yang Chen. I’ll come over personally. I’ve finally got a chance to see you in China, why give it to someone else?”

Yang Chen smiled awkwardly. “I’m talking about something serious.”

“And so am I.” Jane winked with a smile. “I’ll purchase a flight ticket to China after attending Isabella’s wedding. You’ll have to pick me up at that time.”

“No problem. But after something so terrible happened to Andre, your safety is of utmost importance. I don’t wish for you to be harmed helping my friend,” Yang Chen said seriously.

“Won’t you be there as well? You’ll definitely protect me. Just like a few years ago when we met for the first time. Didn’t you guard me and my mother properly as well?” Jane asked as she felt nostalgic.

Yang Chen opened his mouth and wanted to say something, but decided to keep it to himself at last. Smiling, he said, “It’s impossible for me to be by your side at all times.”

Jane chuckled. “Don’t worry about it. I have my ways, as do you. Don’t you trust me? I’m one of the smartest women in the world.”

“Yeah, you’re right.” Yang Chen agreed and nodded. “You’re closely related to The Johns Hopkins University as well, aren’t you? Tell them not to make a big fuss about Andre’s death and stop them from filing a lawsuit. We’ll provide them with a satisfactory explanation in due time.”

Jane nodded. “I understand. Don’t worry, they have a lot of important partnerships with me. They won’t dare to disobey me.”

Yang Chen felt that there was nothing else he needed to be involved in after listening to her answer. In fact, he was just delivering the message along the way. He wasn’t willing to sit there and be a part of the whole journey.

The effort of helping Tang Wan wasn't worth mentioning to Tang Wan. However, to outsiders, this series of actions was an incredibly tough task.

After bidding farewell to Jane, Yang Chen shut down his computer, and felt silence in his dark room. He then had an idea in mind which made him slap his own forehead. He felt that he was becoming more and more stupid as time went by. Why would he pitifully lie in his own room when two of his women lived next door! Was it really difficult for him to leap over a wall?

As he thought, a naughty smile surfaced at the corners of Yang Chen's lips. He turned his head to look at the balcony...

Chapter 473: Helps Digestion

Within a presidential suite in the top floor of the Jade Clouds Hotel, the warm lights illuminated the Zhonghai-made goatskin rug on the ground whose intricate floral patterns resembled fresh flowers.

The faint fragrance of a women wafted through the air, mixed with the fragrance of green tea which was enough to rejuvenated one's psyche.

Christen was clad in a silver nightgown with her blonde hair let down. She looked like the masterpiece of a master sculptor, with each and every curve on her body accentuated perfectly to reflect her person.

She was seated in a soft leather chair with an intricate clay teacup covered with pictures of green clouds in her hand as she enjoyed the peace and quiet that the night brought. To top it all off, she was drinking a cup of tea which someone had delivered prior.

The room wasn't quiet because Christen was in the room alone. Instead there was another woman seated beside Christen that made not the slightest sound, much like a tranquil, gentle but firm lily.

Lin Ruoxi sat on a guest chair made of cloth with a cup of tea in her hands. However, she has yet to drink but one sip from her cup, and instead sat there in heavy contemplation.

After the two sat together in a long moment of silence, Christen seemed to no longer be able to stand it. She asked, "How should I address you? Boss Lin? Sister? Or simply Ruoxi?"

Stunned with her mouth half agape, Lin Ruoxi asked, "So you really are actually close to him, aren't you?"

"I guess you can say that. In fact, we've known each other for the past five years. However, he was only around 20 back then and hadn't lived for long. So, I guess you can say that we've known each other for a long time," mumbled Christen to herself.

Lin Ruoxi seemed a little confused at what she heard. What's with 'he was only around 20' and 'he hadn't lived for long'? Does she think she's some old granny? Christen should only be in her twenties, right?

However, Lin Ruoxi didn't ponder for too long. "I've never seen anyone who presented themselves as someone close to him before. You're the first to call him a friend."

When Christen heard that, she couldn't help but feel surprise. "Didn't he bring you to see his cursed bunch? Those people would be trampling all over each other to meet you. You are the wife he picked, after all."

"That bunch?" Lin Ruoxi probed, "What kind of people are they?"

Christen giggled and said, "I know... You've come today on a quest to understand what kind of man your husband really is. Perhaps you want to know about his past?"

Lin Ruoxi's cheeks flushed slightly red. She did indeed have such intentions. However, she didn't have a choice. It was too awkward for her to ask the man himself. Now that someone who knew him well had come to Zhonghai, Lin Ruoxi couldn't hold her curiosity and sought out Christen to ask her about it, despite how unusual Christen was.

Christen laughed really hard before she said, "You're blushing! You're actually shy! God... That boring fellow actually found himself such an interesting wife! It's no wonder he chose you to be his partner. You're far more interesting than Seventeen!"

Just as Lin Ruoxi was starting to get frustrated, she seemed to have caught that unique name. She looked up and asked doubtfully, "Seventeen? Who's Seventeen?"

This time around, Christen didn't laugh. Instead, she asked with shock, "You don't know who Seventeen is?"

"Should I? Who's that? Is that person someone important?" Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but ask.

Christen raised her brows before her perfect face donned a playful expression. "Tsk tsk tsk, he actually didn't tell you about Seventeen... The moment I met you, I thought the reason he chose you was that you kind of remind me of her in a way, all the way from your looks, vibe, and especially your gaze. It's like you're another Seventeen. Even though you're far more beautiful than her, I doubt that's the reason you caught his attention.

"I really didn't think that he wouldn't mention Seventeen to you before. Since that's the case, I won't talk about her too much, or he'll chew me out for being a gossip."

Lin Ruoxi fell into silence for a moment before she looked into Christen's eyes. "Tell me, please. I really want to know who Seventeen is. You have no reason to hide it, since you've already let it out. I doubt you're someone who can keep things in. It must be making you feel quite bad, having to hold back on talking about all that, right?"

Christen felt quite startled, before she revealed an annoyed smile.

.....

The door was closed with an audible click.

A slender hand felt for a switch near the wall. With a flick, the lights in the villa were switched on.

Under the warm glow, Mo Qianni removed her alluring black high heels and rubbed her sore legs with a sigh of relief.

The leg that was wrapped beneath the black-lace stockings were smooth beyond compare. Mo Qianni had one hand pushing against the wall with her body arched downwards in a rather inelegant posture. But since she was at home, she didn't really mind it.

Every time she got home from work, she felt a small inkling in her that told her she should be hating the job. She had even resolved herself to return home early and enjoy a meal at home many times but as usual, it ended up as just empty words in thin air.

Nowadays, living together with Rose made her realize that she might have masochistic tendencies. The abrupt rhythm of Rose's life was heaven and earth when compared to her own.

Then again, Rose had survived amidst rains of bullets and forests of guns. While Mo Qianni's job was tiring, her life wasn't endangered at the very least.

Mo Qianni finished rubbing her feet and removed her hair clip, letting her long, raven-black hair in the process. She then placed her handbag on a nearby wooden shelf and looked at the clock hanging on her wall. It was already ten thirty.

Not knowing whether Rose was already asleep, Mo Qianni sighed. Even though she technically had a roommate now, it was no different from living alone.

She made her way to the kitchen on the first floor and opened the refrigerator and got out some frozen food packed neatly in a container. She had intended to make some simmered dumplings and such, but she no longer had any energy left to make a full dinner.

Just as she was about to open the bag of frozen dumplings, Mo Qianni heard a familiar voice from behind. "You're gonna have frozen food instead of a proper meal?" said the voice in an oddly accusatory, but worried tone.

Mo Qianni turned backwards fiercely and saw that the bad man she hadn't seen for days was within a few feet away from her!

Yang Chen was wearing his cotton pajamas as if he was in the comforts of his own home, leaning lazily on the frame of the door, smiling at Mo Qianni.

"Y—you... why are you here?" she couldn't help but ask. Had it not been for her familiarity with his voice, she would've thought that a robber had broken in.

Yang Chen stepped forward and stretched both his hands out to pinch Mo Qianni's cheeks. "Little Qianqian, don't you think that now is the appropriate time to leap into your man's arms and say 'I've missed you!' or 'You frightened me!'? Why are you interrogating me so coldly from so far away?"

Mo Qianni rolled her eyes and patted on Yang Chen's chest with a mix of anger and laughter. "I may dabble in romance but I am far from a disgusting romantic. You only startled me, that's all. You can come and go all you want, I couldn't care less."

In fact, given Yang Chen's skills, Mo Qianni knew that there were numerous ways he could enter her residence.

"Well, they say that marriage marks the death of passionate love. Yet, why am I feeling nothing from you anymore even though we're not married?" said Yang Chen with frustration.

Mo Qianni snapped, "You disappear like that after a day or two and remain unseen for a week or more. Do you expect me to serve you every time I meet you like you are some emperor?"

Hearing how salty she sounded, Yang Chen hurriedly took a step back and tried to console her with a smile. "Well, I've been busy, you know. The things at Yu Lei are really giving me a huge headache. I'm not as capable as you, Little Qianqian, and I get worn out quicker than most when it comes to these things."

Mo Qianni humphed and smirked. "Is that it? I want to hear you praise me more."

Yang Chen said seriously, "Well, I won't beat around the bush. How about this? I'll make my beloved Little Qianqian a grand supper."

"Supper?" Mo Qianni looked around and said, "There isn't anything else but some boring frozen food here. Are you going to cook? If you are, I'm going to die of starvation before you even finish."

Yang Chen wagged his finger and said, "I'm not that foolish. Just wait here Babe. I'll be back."

After that, Yang Chen vanished out of the hall and left Mo Qianni alone staring from the kitchen wide-eyed.

After a few moments, Mo Qianni snapped out of her stupor. "What's that about supper?! He just disappeared!"

Seeing that the door to the hall had been opened, Mo Qianni had no choice but to swallow her frustration and go shut it. But just as she reached the entrance, Yang Chen appeared before her once more.

But this time around, he held two plates in his hands.

"Hehe, how's this? This is Wang Ma's spicy chicken and iron-plate-grilled beef. You know Wang Ma always cooks more than we can eat. We couldn't even get around to eating these dishes! I brought it here for you, so heat it up with your microwave and it's ready to be eaten," said Yang Chen gleefully.

Looking at the fragrant dishes before her, Mo Qianni swallowed audibly. She asked doubtfully, "Did you go back home to bring these dishes here?"

Only around ten seconds had passed, yet that man had managed to make a round trip from home and brought two dishes with him! Apart from the meters of distance he had to travel, he also had to go past the walls into his house!

Yang Chen nodded. He entered the house and put the dishes on the table. "Heat it up first. I'll get you some rice to accompany the dishes."

When he finished his sentence, he ran back again.

Mo Qianni's gaze followed Yang Chen outside and looked at the dishes on her table. It was like she was dreaming.

A complex feeling of warmth she found hard to describe rose in her heart when she thought about the food that appeared out of nowhere. Perhaps, only that unusual man could afford to do romantic things such as these.

Not long after, Yang Chen returned with a large bowl of rice and a plate of vegetables. He had wanted to go back to take more, but Mo Qianni stopped him. It was quite weird for him to travel so far just to get her some food when she thought about it.

After heating up the food, Mo Qianni started eating her not-so-suppery supper. Yang Chen on the other hand was watching her eat with an intense gaze as if he derived pleasure from watching her eat.

Apart from the ringing of the old-style clock in the hall, there wasn't any other noise. Though Mo Qianni was really hungry, she didn't make a sound when she ate. Instead, she felt a little annoyed and charmed at the same time, seeing Yang Chen watch her eat like that.

Some twenty minutes later, Mo Qianni tried hard to finish her second bowl of rice under Yang Chen's incessant pestering and even burped, much to her red-faced embarrassment.

Yang Chen then transported the dishes back to wrap up their meal. He didn't really worry about whether Wang Ma would be surprised by the vanishing food when she woke up the next day.

Mo Qianni thought that he wouldn't return after bringing the dishes back. Just as she was about to close the door, Yang Chen appeared in front of her once more.

"Y—you... Why are you back?" asked Mo Qianni with a pout.

Yang Chen smiled teasingly and asked, "Baby, are you full?"

"How can I not be? I ended up stuffed because of you!"

"Now that you're full, I'm sure you're feeling energetic again huh?" Yang Chen's smile turned more apparent by the moment. "Why don't we do some exercises to aid with the digestion?"

Chapter 474: You Should Continue

Mo Qianni finally realized his true intentions of coming over. Come to think of it, that might have been the only reason why he came!

"I... I want to sleep now." The mere thought of doing that made her feel like she's going crazy. She felt her legs soften as she said that and hurriedly tried to close the door.

However, Yang Chen wouldn't let that fearful rabbit have her way. He pushed hard and brought Mo Qianni's soft and firm figure into his embrace. He turned around and pushed her against a wall!

"You... Mmmmp!"

Just as she was about to say something, her mouth was sealed shut by Yang Chen's passionate kiss.

After being accosted so roughly and swiftly, Mo Qianni felt as if her very soul had been mesmerized by the man before her. She felt a little dazed and her fears had turned into raw passion.

Her breathing gradually got more ragged. Yang Chen's two hands had found their way underneath her clothes and stripped her of her tight-fitting blouse.

Mo Qianni's figure had always been voluptuous to begin with. Even though she was pushed straight against the wall, her rich and curvy figure was still presented in all its glory.

Yang Chen's hands caressed her sensitive spots all over as Mo Qianni's moans got more and more intense. Though she still tried to resist at first out of instinct, her resistance soon became part of their saucy foreplay.

When Yang Chen's hands crept into her black-lace underwear, Mo Qianni's body arched back greatly. She grit her teeth tightly when her sensitive thighs were touched and closed her beautiful eyes, the sight of which caused Yang Chen's eyes to grow more bloodshot.

"Qianqian... You're beautiful..."

"Mmmmf!"

There were no words that needed to be said. Mo Qianni was already in cloud nine. She was already inexperienced to begin with and Yang Chen didn't get to see her often, being so busy with his usual tasks. Her long-dormant body had already been ignited by Yang Chen and there was no turning back.

Yang Chen didn't strip the miniskirt Mo Qianni wore off. Instead, he pulled her pantyhose straight down to her knees, exposing her luscious legs.

Yang Chen flipped Mo Qianni and pulled her back against his chest while she laid flat against the wall. Pushing the miniskirt up, Yang Chen rubbed her tight bottoms that looked so fair under the light. He reached one hand out to the lump of softness on her chest and used his other to rub her mysterious spot.

"Ah... Don't..."

However, it only made him become more pumped than before. Even though it wasn't their first time doing it together, he still felt an indescribable sense of satisfaction when he did it with this fine beauty.

Perhaps because he usually wasn't able to spend passionate moments with his lovers often, he was always passionate during the times that he was able to.

Yang Chen himself was wearing a set of simple cotton pajamas, so there wasn't a need for him to remove a belt. He stripped rather quickly and after seeing that Mo Qianni had already melted into a puddle of water, Yang Chen no longer teased the helpless woman.

In a quick breath that was followed by a moan of relief, the two had finally become one.

Mo Qianni felt like like she was a lone boat out at sea and Yang Chen was a raging storm that was making her dance to his tune. Her figure swirled nonstop in the storm and sunk deep into the ocean.

At first, Yang Chen had pushed the helpless woman against the wall. But as it got more intense, the two of them moved the battlefield to the dining table, sofa, and even on the stairs.

After one wave of attack after another, Mo Qianni could no longer tell how many times she had climaxed. All she knew was that her man had limitless energy and seemed to want to bore her body hollow. No matter how much she tried to keep up, he didn't seem to be slowing down at all.

Some time later, the man who pressed against her body began to slow down his movements. He looked at her with his breath in odd intervals.

Her eyes teared up slightly from the effort with her face still flush red from her climaxes.

"You darned man... You have finally decided to stop. I was on the brink of falling apart..." complained Mo Qianni powerlessly.

Yang Chen snickered and shook his head. "Qianqian, believe me, this isn't even half of what I am capable of. But, it looks like someone's already back."

Mo Qianni stiffened and thought of something all of a sudden. She turned to look at the entrance. Before anyone noticed, a woman clad in a purple suit entered. It turned out to be Rose, who had returned from her meeting who knows when standing at the entrance and looking at the two with a half smile.

"Nooooo!"

Mo Qianni finally noticed how awkward it truly was and squealed. She clasped Yang Chen tight and buried her head into his chest, not daring to move one bit.

She had thought that Rose was sleeping upstairs. Though she was worried that she would startle her at first and cause Rose to find out about what they were doing downstairs, she no longer thought as much when she felt the rush build up. Yet, Rose wasn't even home like she originally thought! She had just returned!

Rose tried to stifle a laugh. She looked sneakily at Yang Chen as she walked past the two of them and coughed audibly. "I swear I didn't see anything. You may continue."

After that, Rose put her hand against her mouth and slowly went upstairs, in an incredibly obvious effort not to laugh.

Mo Qianni was already going to cry. At that moment, her two jade-white thighs were being held by Yang Chen's hands as she hugged onto his body like a koala bear. Her whole body was dirty and when she looked back, the trail of evidence that they had left behind was extremely evident.

For her to be seen by Rose in such a state, she would no doubt become a laughingstock for her in the future.

Even though both of them had slept in the same bed with Yang Chen before, the current situation was far more embarrassing and extraordinary than before!

"It's all your fault! You can't be here!" Mo Qianni bared her fangs and bit down on Yang Chen, leaving behind two rows of cute teeth marks. She pouted and said, "I'll become her laughingstock from now on. Are you satisfied?!"

"Ack, Qianqian, how could you bite me? Are you a little puppy or something?" Yang Chen laughed and found it rather interesting as Mo Qianni usually didn't behave that sassily.

Mo Qianni merely pouted and didn't say anything else.

Yang Chen shook his head exasperatedly. "What are you afraid of? I'll just drag Rose downstairs and have her strip before you and do her a few times on the stairs as well. Even out the playing field abit, no?"

Mo Qianni's eyes flashed before she glared at Yang Chen and said, "You're really turning into a tyrant as each day passes, for you to still be able to think of things like that."

"Since you still have the energy to talk back, I don't think you're satisfied yet," said Yang Chen with a smile, before he started moving right after he finished his sentence.

Mo Qianni's face paled and she was pushed down again after her futile attempt at resistance.

A dozen of minutes later, Yang Chen finally stopped altogether, satisfied that he had unloaded his stock after quite a while.

Mo Qianni still glared at Yang Chen with contempt and said, "You're going to drag Rose down, right?"

After kissing her on the cheeks, he said exasperatedly, "I didn't think Qianqian would be so mindful of Rose. I bet that you'll hold it against me for life if I didn't show you her shameful side today as well."

"Hmph, I'm not as bad as you," Mo Qianni said stubbornly, "I'm only doing this out of camaraderie. Since she's also your woman, she deserves equal treatment."

"Tsksk... So this is how women honor camaraderie," said Yang Chen, feigning seriousness.

Mo Qianni pretended to not have heard anything and gave Yang Chen a push as she said teasingly, "Quick! Don't let Rose escape!"

Yang Chen pinched her on the nose and called her stubborn before he went to the second floor with a loud laugh.

Rose had long heard their conversation from upstairs and knew that there was no way she could resist. However, she didn't want to be pressed against the stairs like Mo Qianni, so she quickly positioned herself between the blankets and pretended to rest.

Yang Chen was obviously aware of what she was planning. But his appetite was already whetted. Now that Mo Qianni was already that worn out, he couldn't bring himself to do her any longer. However, Rose had much better endurance, so there's no way he'd let her escape.

Switching on the lights in Rose's room, Yang Chen pulled the blanket off Rose without hesitation.

She had already changed into her silken pajamas. Blocking the light and pretending like it was too bright for her eyes, she groggily said, "Hubby, I'm already tired... I'll get back to you tomorrow..."

"Rose my dear, no director would hire you to play an acting role even if it is just a second-rate role," said Yang Chen with a shake of his head.

Rose knew that any further attempts would be futile, so she sat up solemnly and said, "Hubby, do you know what I did today?"

"What?"

"I was talking to Green Dragon Society's Liu Wingshan about the expansion of the Minnan area. The An family has already agreed to be our partner and we plan to start negotiating with some of the triads over at Minnan during the next month," said Rose seriously.

Shrugging, Yang Chen said, "Alright, noted. Now, let's get to business."

Seeing Yang Chen about to jump her, Rose knew that there was no use avoiding it. Even though she didn't necessarily hate doing the deed and even rather liked it, she didn't want to be seen by Mo Qianni. So, she said with a flushed face, "Hubby... Wait... Let's... let's just stay in our room, alright? Don't... Don't go down there..."

Yang Chen's hand had already landed on Rose's soft hips and gave it a soft pinch. Because she trained in martial arts, Rose's body was built quite well, firm and supple.

"No problem. Let's do it here. After all, that rascal had already come up because she could no longer wait downstairs," said Yang Chen as he motioned his head to the door.

Rose shifted her gaze to the door and was startled at the revelation. She saw that Mo Qianni, who had a cloak around her, was already breathing hard at the entrance of her room, waiting to watch a good show.

Before Rose could do anything else, Yang Chen already pinned her down impatiently and stripped off her pants before throwing her purple underwear to one side.

The mere thought of how Mo Qianni was going to witness the whole thing caused Rose to cover up her embarrassed face with both her hands. She didn't think that Yang Chen would go all out right from the start and raise both her legs to his own shoulders before piercing it in!

"Ah!"

She couldn't help but cry out in surprise, having been penetrated all the way before she prepared herself.

"Hubby... go lighter!"

"Haha, Qianqian is already standing there impatiently waiting for our show to begin. We have to get in position."

"Don't worry! Hubby, do your best! I think Sister Rose is rather enjoying it!"

Sensual moans resounded throughout the dark night all over the house...

Chapter 475: Long Time No See

The night of debauchery didn't make Yang Chen forget about the work he had due the next day. It wasn't just a normal work day, but instead the day when Hui Lin would be participating in the selection match of the top three of Star of Yu Lei.

Nowadays, Yu Lei's reputation had grown considerably. After all, the country in which it operated in had a population that made up a quarter of the world's total population. People loved to talk, especially during their meals, and Star of Yu Lei had been making the front page news in recent times. Lin Ruoxi even spent a large amount of money to set up their very own corner in lots of fashion magazines.

In some sense, it was her way of caring for her little sister. After all, even though Lin Ruoxi supported Hui Lin's choice of becoming a star, she still didn't want any negative publicity to reach Hui Lin's ears. Money was still the answer in the confusing and convoluted entertainment world.

Having such a personage watching the show coupled with her own beauty and stunning voice, Hui Lin had earned the attention of many and didn't seem to be one to go down easily.

It was only Yang Chen's second time at the studio. Back then, he had come with An Xin and only had time to take a rough look around the place. But now, he was at the backstage with some of the producers and staff from the TV station, watching the rehearsals patiently. He intended to stay all the way until the show ended.

Even though the ones in charge in the TV station weren't familiar with Yang Chen, they were soon notified that he was one of the top executives in Yu Lei from Zhao Teng's introduction. To those normal staffers, Yu Lei International was not unlike a mothership in which they placed all their hopes and dreams in. Those billions of yuan in investments were no joke. So, they held Yang Chen in a position that rivaled a deity and made sure that he had everything he needed to feel at home.

When the performance started, Yang Chen sat quietly in his VIP booth with nobody else but Zhao Teng and Wang Jie. Not a single one of them said a word.

After the show host finished the introductions, the ten remaining Star of Yu Lei contestants were sent on stage. The judges for this elimination match was Yoo Yeonhee and two other famous musicians.

"Is Miss Yoo going to be the judge for the final match too?" asked Yang Chen to Wang Jie, seemingly having thought of something.

Wang Jie was rather surprised. Since she had tagged along by Yang Chen's side for quite some time, she more or less understood what he intended. With a smile, she said, "She won't be. We don't need that woman with Miss Christen here."

Yang Chen was quite satisfied with this answer. Actually, he believed that Yoo Yeonhee would've long been dismissed from the panel if he had his way with things.

All of a sudden, the entrance of his booth was pushed open. Yang Chen was shocked because the one who came in wasn't someone from the station, but rather Lin Ruoxi, who was dressed in a white-lace dress.

It was a rare thing, seeing her out of her usual work attire. Her casual attire made her seem like she was going to take a walk by the Spanish-coast-like beaches of Zhonghai. A waft of soothing jasmine fragrance filled the room announcing her entrance.

Wang Jie and Zhao Teng nervously stood up and greeted her. "Good day, President!" After that, they gave each other a look before leaving the booth sensibly.

Lin Ruoxi merely gave a curt nod and waited for the two of them to leave before slowly walking to Yang Chen's side. She pulled a rattan chair towards her, placed her bag on the rug and arranged her hair before she sat down.

Yang Chen looked at her elegant movements and felt the tingling sensation grow stronger by the minute. He really wondered whether his wife was secretly cultivating to be an immortal. At this point, he would even be surprised if she suddenly ascended to become a fairy

"I didn't think someone as busy as you would find the time to attend," said Yang Chen with a smile. He actually wanted to ask what she talked to the crazy woman, Christen, about, but he later thought against it. If Lin Ruoxi wanted to talk about it, she would. If she didn't, she would just respond to him coldly leading him nowhere.

Lin Ruoxi gave him a look without saying a single word. But the meaning behind her gaze was clear: 'Since even you are here, I have to be here as well.'

Yang Chen shrugged. The two of them actually understood each other quite well. He instantly understood what she was trying to convey and said nothing more, save for a bitter chuckle.

The performance soon began on stage. The ten female contestants sang competently and looked brilliant. The tension they had with one another was also quite pronounced. Even the so-called 'besties' didn't hold anything back when it came to the competition.

Everyone was aware that Christen would be the judge for the finals, which would make the ratings for that episode shoot through the roof. Becoming one of the top three meant rising to an unimaginable amount of fame in an instant. Had it not been for the fact that already established singers couldn't participate in the match, there wouldn't be a chance for fledgling stars like them.

When Hui Lin got on stage, the audience got even more worked up. It was quite apparent that the support Hui Lin got was far beyond anyone's expectation.

When Hui Lin and another contestant were being rated, only Yoo Yeonhee gave the other contestant a high score.

Lin Ruoxi furrowed her brow slightly at the sight of that. She was obviously not satisfied with Yoo Yeonhee's actions.

"It seems that the woman has something against us. Even though she knows that Hui Lin will enter the final round, she's still pulling stunts like this one. She knows that we're watching from here, so she wants to displease us," said Yang Chen.

Lin Ruoxi nodded, agreeing for once with what Yang Chen said.

Yang Chen merely yawned. To be honest, he wasn't really interested in shows such as these. Had it not been for his promise to Hui Lin that he would be there to watch, he wouldn't have been willing to come.

When Yang Chen was about to say something else to Lin Ruoxi to stave off his boredom and use the chance to improve their relationship, a rather uncomfortable atmosphere could be felt from outside the booth.

Yang Chen creased as he turned back to see the door of the booth being pushed open.

Lin Ruoxi noticed that Yang Chen wasn't looking quite right and faced in the direction he was looking. When she saw the person there, even she was surprised. There was a look of slight panic in her eyes.

The one who came was clad in a low-collared, purple sheepskin shirt and a pair of tight-fitting jeans. He seemed to be dressed really energetically. Coupled with his manly face, he would no doubt make many a girl turn their heads. "Apologies. I seem to have interrupted the quality time you two were spending. Long time no see, Brother, Sister-in-law."

Yang Lie wore an insidious smile with a hint of darkness in his eyes that seemed like an endless well of ink.

Yang Chen knew that at some point in his life, he would once again be reunited with this man. However, he didn't think that their reunion would be that soon.

Back then, he only knew that Yu Jizi brought Yang Lie back to Kunlun to recover. Now, it seemed that he had healed up. It almost seemed like he had relied on some kind of precious medicine that even raised his power by a level.

Yang Lie's power back then could only compare with the likes of Sky Dragon in the Yellow Flame Iron Brigade. But now, it seemed like he could be considered among the strongest agents in the world.

Naturally, that level of ability was still far from the Xiantian realm.

When he heard Yang Lie call him 'brother' and Lin Ruoxi 'sister-in-law', he didn't feel anything. Lin Ruoxi on the other hand blushed slightly. Even though she was aware that Yang Chen's relationship with him wasn't that good, she was technically still his sister-in-law.

However, Lin Ruoxi soon realized that Yang Chen didn't look too pleasant."

"It wasn't that long. At least, I felt it was rather short," said Yang Chen calmly.

Yang Lie shrugged and snickered. "Is that so? Naturally, you don't think that it has been that long because you're all standing. I, on the other hand, felt like dying when I was still bedridden."

"If you're here to talk about what happened, then I suggest you make your leave now." Yang Chen didn't really want to butt in those matters. Yang Lie's appearance had disrupted his pleasant state of mind.

Even though his training in the martial realm kept on rising, his mental training was only at the level of a young man in his twenties.

"I'm here to see the woman I love. You don't have to avoid me like this, you know," mocked Yang Lie.

Yang Chen stomped and squinted. "Don't even think about using Hui Lin to get stronger. If I find out that you did anything to her... I'll see to it that you be sent back to your bed. I can just as easily do that as I can let you rise up from your bed again."

"Are you threatening me?" said Yang Lie solemnly, no longer smiling.

"I'm only telling you the truth," said Yang Chen, before he turned to leave the room.

Yang Chen had a hunch that Yang Lie's appearance in Zhonghai wasn't just because he wanted to see Hui Lin. When he thought about the election, a troubling thought entered his mind. Seeing Yang Chen

leave, Lin Ruoxi also stood up. She wanted to face Yang Lie alone and felt quite bothered by how she was somewhat afraid of that man. It was as if she was facing a panther that was crushed beneath a stone that could break free at any time to bite into the innards of any enemy.

"You will definitely regret it. He can't make you happy," said Yang Lie with a laugh all of a sudden.

Lin Ruoxi, who was about to leave the room, stopped. But she didn't turn back.

Yang Lie turned around and teased, "He will... bring you to ruin with him..."

She took a deep breath and felt her heart calm down. Looking back, she smiled nonchalantly and said, "Is that really so? But before I met him, I've already been ruined a number of times. So really, what's the worst that could happen."

When she finished, Lin Ruoxi left the booth.

Yang Lie heard the sound of the door being shut and touched the round table beside him gently.

Bam! He let out a pained growl and the wooden table was powdered after enduring that rampant force, leaving nothing but a bunch of sawdust on the ground.

Chapter 476: Three Decades of the Eastern River

After exiting the studio, Yang Chen stood in the middle of the parking lot staring straight up into the sky. He saw only dark grey, with not a trace of blue.

A rushed set of footsteps could be heard approaching him from behind, causing his lips to curve into a smile. He turned around only to see Lin Ruoxi, who had also left.

As she was walking rather quickly, her hair flew all around her flushed face. Upon seeing Yang Chen's weird expression, she was surprised to notice that she was worried whether Yang Chen had suffered any shock from their encounter just now. Her rushing revealed her obvious intentions.

"You... what are you laughing at?" said Lin Ruoxi, trying hard to assert some calmness.

Yang Chen didn't break her facade. With a soft sigh, eh said, "I don't think I'll be able to stay for the rest of the show. Hui Lin's competition will be over soon anyways, so congratulate her on my behalf. I have to rush to take care of some urgent matters."

After some silence, Lin Ruoxi nodded. "Alright."

With a smile, Yang Chen said, "As expected of my obedient wife."

Lin Ruoxi gave him a blank look without saying anything. Seeing how Yang Chen could still make that kind of joke, she was reassured that he was alright and was thinking straight.

Yang Chen did in fact not plan on doing anything insane. He had only thought of how Yang Lie probably didn't come to Zhonghai alone. Otherwise, that would be a little too reckless of him. After all, the last time he came alone, he was pummeled half to death. The fact that he had dared to come and take the initiative to provoke Yang Chen meant that he probably come with someone backing him up.

And the only one who could afford to support Yang Lie was none other than Yang Pojun.

Yang Lie probably believed that Yang Chen would hold back before Yang Pojun. He probably wasn't aware of what happened back then in the army camp. Yang Pojun on the other hand probably wouldn't have mentioned that he had failed to kill Yang Chen even with a firearm.

According to that logic, Yang Pojun probably wasn't with Yang Lie. Where would he be then? As he ran through his train of thought, Yang Chen drove his beloved car back home quickly. If his predictions were right, the first thing Yang Pojun would do after his long hiatus since losing his election was to meet Guo Xuehua.

After all, Yang Pojun believed that the reputation of his family was of paramount importance. However, the mistress of the family, Guo Xuehua, was living away from the family, and that was probably something he couldn't bring himself to accept. At the very least, he would want to ensure that Guo Xuehua was not living with the sin that he had antagonized in the first place.

When he arrived at the quiet residence, his car slowly stopped outside the house. Yang Chen got off the car and instantly saw an ink-green car stopped outside the gates.

Fortunately for Yang Chen, he saw Yang Pojun and his two guards get off their military-use jeep.

Yang Pojun wasn't clad in his usual military attire. Instead, he wore a normal jacket, making him look far less intimidating than usual. It appeared that the loss he suffered after the election was quite a blow to the man who was for all intents and purposes a worshipper of power.

When Yang Chen saw Yang Pojun and his guards getting off the car, the latter also saw Yang Chen getting off.

Biologically speaking, the two of them were father and son. However, not a trace of joy from meeting a family member could be seen on either of their faces. They looked rather cold instead. There was even a trace of anger on Yang Pojun's face.

Yang Chen stepped slowly to the entrance and blocked in front of Yang Pojun. Glaring back at Yang Pojun, he didn't speak a single word.

Though Yang Pojun was exceedingly angry at how Yang Chen didn't take him seriously at all, he knew that there was no way he could force the young man to go his way. With a grimace, he said, "You have no reason to prevent me from visiting my wife."

"You failed during the elections. You should be well aware that she doesn't wish to see you since she didn't bother to make a visit," said Yang Chen plainly.

"You..." Yang Pojun held his words back. He really was quite angry that Guo Xuehua didn't bother to even visit him given his predicament, so he couldn't hold it in anymore and decided to find out for himself what was the reason for her lack of visit.

Yang Pojun gripped his fist tightly and said, "I can go anywhere and see anyone I want. You can't stop me."

"This is my house. I can choose who is allowed to enter and who isn't," Yang Chen talked back.

"Your house? Hmph," Yang Pojun snapped, "Is this really yours? The last I checked, all the things you own actually belong to Lin Ruoxi."

"Lin Ruoxi is my woman, so all that is also mine," said Yang Chen without a single care in the world. Though he wasn't afraid of using his fists, he was also not afraid to probe further using only his mouth. His biggest virtue was how shameless he was.

Yang Pojun obviously couldn't stand how shameless Yang Chen's words were, but he was too preoccupied with thinking of how Yang Chen would be coincidentally there right when he visited. If Yang Lie hadn't gone there, Yang Pojun wouldn't have had to deal with Yang Chen there. The thought of that infuriated him greatly.

But now that he had come, there was no way he was going to just turn back. If he did that, he might as well have just knelt down and wiped the floor with his face!

Yang Pojun glared at Yang Chen angrily and stretched his hand out to a guard beside him.

The guard took out a mobile phone and handed it to him.

"Whether I meet her isn't something you can decide," said Yang Pojun as he started dialing.

Obviously, he had already gotten the number for the house before he came.

Yang Chen smirked before he raised his hand and flicked in the direction of the phone.

Fwap!

The phone was knocked away by a mysterious force before it fell to the ground and smashed into pieces!

Yang Pojun and his two guards exuded cold sweat at what they just saw. They weren't able to respond to that at all!

Yang Chen's casual flick infused with True Qi was only child's play for him, but that was something Yang Pojun and his guards couldn't do even on their best days! Even though they knew that the nation had some martial arts experts, those people were hard to track down and even harder to convince.

They imagined that if Yang Chen had aimed his flick at their brain or some other body part, couldn't he just kill them in the blink of an eye?!

Back then when they were at the army camp, Yang Pojun had already witnessed Yang Chen's abilities. Yet, he was once again terrified at the display of sheer power that was displayed.

"You... you think I'm afraid of you just because you're good at martial arts? Any martial arts expert is nothing but cannon fodder when faced with a whole army!" roared Yang Pojun.

Yang Chen shrugged and said, "You're free to think what you wish. I was just thinking whether I should burst the tires of your car if you don't buzz off this instant."

Yang Pojun pointed his finger straight at Yang Chen without being able to say anything. He was so mad that he was turning pale.

At that moment, a white limousine drove in from a corner not far away. That was one of the rarest cars in the whole of China and it wasn't as common as it was in other western countries.

When the limousine stopped beside Yang Pojun's military jeep, the older man's expression turned heavy all of a sudden.

Yang Chen had not the slightest idea who had come. But to him, it was all the same. Whoever who tried to cause trouble for him and his family would be kicked to the curb without exceptions.

Two bodyguards dressed in suits stepped off the limousine quickly and opened the door at the center.

A young man dressed in a white Armani suit and wearing a pair of pink-black Gucci sunglasses with oiled hair stepped out of the car slowly with a cigar in his hand.

Behind him came a grey-haired, wrinkled old man dressed in a butler's uniform. He lowered his head and appeared to be really respectful.

"Oh my, just look at who these people are... Isn't that Commander Yang? The one who lost both his wife and the elections with a bastard child to boot?"

The rough voice of the young man made him sound like a male duck quacking. However, his words only made Yang Pojun's veins pulse with anger.

Yang Chen furrowed his brow. That man's tone of speech indicated that he completely disregarded Yang Pojun, who was a powerful general in the army and headed the Yang family, one of the four great families in China. Even if Yang Pojun lost the elections, he wasn't someone anyone could insult just like that.

Additionally, the young man was aware that Guo Xuehua had left Yang Pojun. The 'bastard child' he mentioned was also without a doubt Yang Chen.

It now seemed that the affairs of the Yang family couldn't be kept under wraps for some reason. At the very least, some of the elite probably knew about it already. Yang Pojun's lost election probably had something to do with it.

"Yan Buxue, the reason the Yan family is what it is today was because of your grandfather, Yan Qingtian and your brother, Yan Buwen! Do not antagonize me any further, or I'll shoot you dead!" snapped Yang Pojun in a hoarse voice.

Yang Chen was struck with realization. That fellow before him was probably the one who kept sending Christen flowers and asked to meet her, Yan Buxue, the second young master of the Yan family.

According to Lin Ruoxi, the Yan family's reputation was definitely not inferior to those of the four great families. After Yan Qingtian was elected as vice chairman of the military commission, his family's might soared. Like the elite families of China often proved, it seemed that for every talented man like Yan Buwen, there would be a stubborn young master like Yan Buxue.

His sudden appearance there was probably due to Christen pushing responsibility to Yang Chen for refusing to meet Yan Buxue. The reason for his visit might have been to deal with Yang Chen.

Though Yang Pojun threatened to shoot him, if he really could, there wouldn't be a need to say that in the first place.

The words uttered by Yan Buxue was reason enough for Yang Pojun to shoot him.

Even though Yan Buxue was a good-for-nothing, it was apparent that he wasn't without his smarts. He knew that Yang Pojun wouldn't dare to do anything to him, so he laughed and said, "Commander Yang... You want to kill me? Alright! Why don't I get my brother to lend you a nuke to do so? Hahahaha..."

Yang Pojun's expression turned even sourer, but he wasn't able to say a word in retort.

Yang Chen was already feeling a little bad for Yang Pojun. After all, that man is a big figure in his own right, but he wasn't able to fight back even though he was being humiliated. It was apparent that the power struggles in politics was cruel even to the toughest of people. Even though the Yang family had a huge figure like Yang Gongming backing it, that wasn't enough to ensure those below him could do whatever they wanted without repercussion.

Even Yang Pojun had to endure being humiliated by Yan Buxue, not to mention Yang Chen, who had an even lower status.

Three decades of the eastern river, followed by three decades of the western river. The passing of time ensured that no single family or faction can reign supreme forever. As the leader of a family, there must be many occasions when he has to do something underhanded to maintain his reputation... thought Yang Chen as he watched. But he wasn't aware that Yan Buxue was already bored at toying with Yang Pojun and was looking at Yang Chen.

"Oh? Your pathetic face looks rather familiar... just like Old Yang here... Are you that bastard child of the Yang family that gained some reputation in Beijing recently?" asked Yan Buxue as he checked Yang Chen out.

Chapter 477: Everything Is as Simple as That

Yang Chen looked up and grinned at Yan Buxue's frivolous expressions.

"Bastard? Who are you referring to?" Yang Chen asked.

Yan Buxue raised his brows and started laughing as he pointed at Yang Chen, as if the whole situation before him was extremely comical.

"Of course, I'm referring to you. Are there any other guys here besides you? What else..."

Yan Buxue couldn't finish his words... "Ahhh!"

A loud scream echoed like a howl in the deep forest. At the same time, Yan Buxue was sent flying like a missile, drawing an arc in the air as he fell to the back of the Lincoln extended door.

Blood could be seen splashing in the air as the man slammed into the car. A few drops of blood fell onto the face of his two bodyguards.

"Second Master!"

When everyone came back to their senses, Yan Buxue had already spat blood and white foam, with both his eyes turning slightly white. His body then slipped onto the ground while leaning against the Lincoln. In front of the door, there was an obvious sunken imprint left on it.

“Yo—you...how dare you beat our young master!” The old butler was furious as he saw his master got beaten up. He didn’t have the time to think about why he couldn’t see how Yang Chen did it, but instead jumped to the first thing that was on his mind, to protect the dignity of the clan.

Yang Chen rubbed two of his fingers from the right hand. A moment back, all he did was moving forward while exerting some skills using two fingers on Yan Buxue’s body. If it wasn’t for that, his body would have been crushed by Yang Chen. Although he looked a little miserable, he only suffered from slight bleeding and pains in his chest. It didn’t deal any extensive internal injuries.

“Since you called him the ‘second’ master, I couldn’t resist not making him ‘uh’,” Yang Chen said with interest.

[TL note: Second (èr) in Mandarin is pronounced as èr which is similar to how a person sounds when beaten.]

Yang Pojun and the others who were standing at the side trembled as they saw Yang Chen who had sent Yan Buxue flying in a flash without them noticing.

Putting aside Yang Chen with such shocking skills, Yan Buxue was from a formidable clan. He was the second master of the Yan clan which was one of the most powerful clans in China.

Isn’t he afraid of getting himself into trouble?

Yang Pojun’s facial expression was inexplicably complicated. Honestly, he was hoping to see the second master of the Yan clan, Yan Buxue, who did all kind of bad deeds get beaten up badly. However, now that he got beaten up by Yang Chen, things weren’t exactly all okay with the world.

The Yang clan was still one of the four major clans because of the existence of Yang Gongming. In fact, in recent years, Yang Gongming had gradually faded out from the public which had caused the newly established Yan clan to attract more attention than the Yang clan. The truth was, many parties spoken or unspoken, had already disregarded the Yang clan as one of the main four.

Although Yan Buxue was arrogant, he didn’t dare to provoke him. He dared to taunt Yang Pojun because he naturally knew that Yang Pojun wouldn’t go against his clan for the sake of this matter.

Yang Pojun didn’t dare to fight back but he was not a petty man either. After all, it wasn’t a big deal to have a little private talk with him. There wasn’t a need to muster large forces as Yang Pojun would just appear petty.

At that moment, Yang Pojun didn’t dare to lay a finger on him. However, it ended up that Yang Chen sent him flying in an instant.

If Yang Chen had nothing to do with the Yang clan, it wouldn’t be a problem for Yang Pojun. Instead, he would have been enjoying the little show that was displayed before him. However, in the eyes of the outsiders, Yang Chen was definitely a part of the Yang clan. Although Yang Chen hadn’t been officially recognized as a member of the clan, the highly ranked individuals had long started seeing him as one. As a result, the issue about Yang Chen who had just beaten up Yan Buxue would become an issue for the Yang clan.

“Pu—pull me up...”

Yan Buxue slowly found out that he was only slightly injured. Although he had spat out blood, he could still talk. He ordered his man to pull him up as his body was sore.

As the old butler and another bodyguard lifted Yan Buxue, he spat out some more blood while his eyes were a little red. He stared at Yang Chen and took a glance at Yang Pojun's pale face. He snorted coldly. "Oh well, well... Don't think that you'll be fine after this... Since you don't dare to fight against our clan, ask this bastard—"

Slap!

Yan Buxue was forced to take back his own words!

Upon hearing that loud slap, Yan Buxue crashed into the door behind from the side of his body!

Out of nowhere, Yang Chen stepped forward once again and pushed the old butler and the bodyguard to the ground before giving Yan Buxue yet another slap on his left cheek!

Yan Buxue was stunned. Even he couldn't comprehend why he was whacked twice in a row now.

The old butler and the other two bodyguards were shocked by the speed of Yang Chen and dared not move an inch as a result. The remaining bodyguard's legs trembled in fear. As a former member in the special forces, they were well aware that the man who was in front of them was someone they couldn't touch!

Yang Chen did not step back after giving Yan Buxue a slap. Instead, he walked to the front and bent down before grabbing him by the collar of his Versace shirt.

Yan Buxue who was dumbfounded got held up by Yang Chen. Blood could be seen by his lips as he watched Yang Chen in a sluggish manner. He couldn't say a single word.

Shaking his head, Yang Chen gave a faint smile and said. "I know that you must be very mad right now. I know that you must be so angry that you want to cut me into thousands of pieces. I know that you must be puzzled, confused and even surprised. Why did I hit you twice now without saying a single word?"

"I can tell you that I don't give a damn to neither the Yan clan nor the Yang clan. They're nothing in my eyes, trust me. I only beat you because of what you said. I gave you a chance to redeem yourself but you had to go and make me want to beat you up again.

"Everything is as simple as that. Believe it or not, in the end you still have to believe what I said. In short, I whacked the crap out of you and what can you do about it?"

Yan Buxue paled hearing what he said. There was a smile on Yang Chen's face, but the terrifying, ink-like luster in his eyes made Yan Buxue feel suffocated.

Unwilling to lose, Yan Buxue forced his mouth open, revealing his white teeth stained with blood. he puffed. "You... you'll... you'll regret it... Our Yan clan is not a clan that a bastard like you can—"

Slap! Slap!

Two clear slaps were once again delivered to his face. However, this time his cheeks swelled up to the size of peaches!

Yan Buxue was dumbstruck as he stared directly at Yang Chen, who was close at hand. He couldn't even think about why he was struck once again.

"Tsk, tsk." Yang Chen shook his fingers as he spoke with sympathy, "I've just told you the reason you were whacked but you still refuse to learn. Isn't that the people from Yan Clan are engaged in scientific research? Why do they have pig-like brains like yours?"

Yan Buxue was filled with anger and wanted to curse a few more times. However, he could feel the pain on his body while his cheeks were burning hot. His cowardice got the better of him as it suppressed the idea of doing so...

"Why are you silent now? Don't you have anything else to say?" Yang Chen looked at Yan Buxue in enjoyment. He threw him back onto the floor as he didn't want to waste anymore energy on him.

Turning around, Yang Chen glanced at Yang Pojun who had been standing beside in silence. "You won't be able to enter this place unless someone from the inside wants to meet you. I'm going back to my home now. Do whatever you want, I couldn't be bothered in the slightest, trust me."

Yang Pojun wasn't irritated this time. Coldly, he said, "You're the one who has beaten Yan Buxue up. It's got nothing to do with Yang Clan. Hereby, I'll clarify that you and the Yang clan are unrelated."

Yang Chen couldn't help but laugh as he found it ridiculous. "Who said that it was you, Commander Yang who had whacked Yang Buxue? As I mentioned earlier, both the Yang and Yan clans mean nothing to me. Why would I rely on such weakness to protect me? Keep that pathetic self-conceit to yourself and stop thinking so highly of yourself."

"You..." Yang Pojun was speechless before his face flushed and paled. Indeed, Yang Chen stated that he had nothing to do with the Yang clan, but Yang Pojun was too worried to be involved in the fight with the Yan clan. He couldn't hold back but spit out those harsh words.

Yang Chen no longer paid attention to those people. He would adopt appropriate measures to deal with the problem, regardless if it was Yang Pojun or Yan Buxue. There would always be a solution to a problem. He didn't want to worsen his mood further.

Taking out the keys, Yang Chen opened the iron gate and suddenly sensed something. Frowning, he looked at the visual doorbell device on the wall by the iron gate... He sighed before entering the house and locking the gate again.

Yang Pojun stood outside of the gate, staring at Yang Chen walk inside while his tightly clenched fists were quivering in anger.

On the other hand, Yan Buxue who was unconscious, was being carried into the car by his bodyguards. The old butler quickly took out his cellphone to schedule an emergency medical treatment.

Yang Chen wasn't in the mood to keep thinking of the situation. As he walked into the house, he saw what he was expecting. Downhearted, Guo Xuehua sat on the sofa quietly while her body shivered slightly. It was obvious that she had just finished crying.

Yang Chen opened his mouth but he didn't know what to say. Upon coming home after the incident, he found out that the visual doorbell device was turned on. He recalled that the device was installed during

the renovation of the house back then so that they could communicate with guests from the inside of the house.

Guo Xuehua who was hiding in the house had probably witnessed what had happened outside the house just now.

Yang Chen walked slowly to Guo Xuehua's side and sat on the sofa. He hesitated for a bit before saying, "You've heard everything, haven't you? There's no need to stay in this state. This matter doesn't mean much to me. I only did so to ensure your life will be kept far from troubles."

Guo Xuehua lifted her head, revealing little crow's feet on her face. Her tears flowed while her red eyes were filled with regrets and grievance.

"Yang Chen, that man's conscience has been eaten by a dog. I no longer have faith in him... It doesn't matter if he refuses to recognize you. Mom will always be your mom. No matter who it was, if Yan Buxue, Yan Buwen, Yan Qingtian or even the entire Yan clan decides to come after you, Mom won't let you face them alone," Guo Xuehua said in a solemn and decisive voice and wiped her tears.

Yang Chen pouted and smiled. He reached out his hand to pat her shoulder...

Chapter 478: The Woman of the House

Yang Chen wasn't planning on returning to work after having gone through all that has happened. Wang Ma went out to shop, so only his mother was left in the house. Yang Chen accompanied Guo Xuehua on the couch watching television and chatting about topics that they have never had the time to talk about. Soon, dinner rolled around.

When Wang Ma returned from buying groceries the same time Zhenxiu came home from school. These days, Liu Minghao had been harassing the girl so often that she started to harbour thoughts of leaving school. Yang Chen also stopped joking about it with Zhenxiu. He didn't think he would be able to live comfortably if he really pissed the former 'bad teenager' off.

Yang Chen and Guo Xuehua naturally wouldn't mention about Yang Pojun's arrival in the morning. They didn't feel the need to let others find out about something that didn't concern them too much.

Lin Ruoxi came home slightly earlier than before. Although she didn't voice out, she knew that something must've happened at home. However, being thoughtful about it, she chose to remain silent. Since it looked like nothing much had happened, she acted accordingly.

The dinner table was filled with hearty dishes which held mouth watering fragrances. It was rare for the family to gather together for dinner, so the meal was rather joyful.

While eating, Guo Xuehua suddenly thought of something. "Eh, I almost forgot. How did Hui Lin's competition go today? Based on her voice, she must've entered the finals, hasn't she?"

Lin Ruoxi smiled vaguely. Nodding, she said, "Yeah. I watched the entire show on the television. She'll compete in the finals in a few days time to fight for top three."

"Does she need to fight? Sister Hui Lin will be the champion for sure," Zhenxiu said with a smile.

“If I have to say, getting a position is not that big of a deal. It must be exhausting for Hui Lin to stay busy outside alone. She hasn’t returned for dinner for quite a while already,” Wang Ma said with sympathy.

The few ladies then revealed similar expressions. Evidently, though they were glad for Hui Lin’s success, they had much rather she did not have to suffer in the process.

Yang Chen minded his own business as he ate. He felt a little sympathetic as well. He recalled the past when he first came, there were only Lin Ruoxi and Wang Ma. Today, Zhenxiu, Hui Lin, and Guo Xuehua had joined, causing the family to now hold six members. He felt that he could now truly call his life an average one with all its ups and downs.

After dinner, Zhenxiu helped to wash the bowls and chopsticks before quickly going upstairs. The college entrance exams were coming after all. She could be considered the busiest in the house. Although her diet and living conditions were much better than before after moving into this house, she still slimmed down a little.

Lin Ruoxi on the other hand spoke with Guo Xuehua for a while before returning to the study room. Although it was brief, she still showed a willingness to build on her current relationship with Guo Xuehua. If not, she wouldn’t have wasted her time on this.

Yang Chen was wondering why his wife had never taken the initiative to exercise. All she did was work while sitting, but she didn’t seem to be gaining weight.

As the midnight approached, Yang Chen returned to his room and wanted to take a shower, but his handphone started ringing.

Yang Chen frowned upon seeing the number. It was dialed from abroad. When he picked up the call, what happened next was indeed what he had expected. “Yang Chen, I arrived at Japan already. I’ll reach Zhonghai tomorrow,” Jane said in Japanese from the other end of the phone.

Yang Chen raised his brows. “I’m quite sure I told you not to rush over. But why are you transferring flights in Japan? Do you have to accomodate the airline’s schedule?”

“Of course not. I just have something to take care of over here which will be of help to the patient you want to get treated in Zhonghai,” Jane said cheerfully.

Yang Chen didn’t plan on asking too many questions. Although he wasn’t dumb, understanding Jane’s ways were far beyond his simple comprehension. She wouldn’t answer a lot of his questions anyway, so he had to wait for the outcome to reveal itself before realizing her formidable foresight.

“What time will you be arriving at the airport? I’ll be coming to pick you up myself,” Yang Chen said.

“Really? I thought you’d let me arrange my transportation myself. It’s nine in the morning tomorrow at Zhonghai International Airport. See you there,” Jane said happily.

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. This woman would only reveal such a tone which matched her age at situations like this one. He wondered if he should feel honored or not.

After the call from Jane, Yang Chen didn’t intend to sleep immediately. He walked out of his room as he wanted to walk around in the courtyard downstairs after ending the call.

Suddenly, Yang Chen noticed that the lights in Zhenxiu's room were still on. Sighing, he felt that being a student wasn't easy, as Zhenxiu had to revise at this hour.

As he pondered, being the elder brother, he felt that some encouragement from him was necessary. Yang Chen then walked to Zhenxiu's room and knocked on her door.

A short while had passed but there was no response.

Yang Chen hesitated for a bit before twisting the door knob and entering the room.

Dressed in a blue pajamas with cartoon characters, Zhenxiu was indeed in the room. She was seated on the chair by the study table, while only the table lamp was on.

"What is it? Are you so immersed in your studies that you can't hear a knock at your door anymore?" Yang Chen smiled and walked forward.

Zhenxiu shot up in her chair in surprise. Anxiously standing up and turning around, her watery eyes were wide open, staring at Yang Chen cowardly.

"Br—Brother Yang... you... why did you suddenly..."

"I knocked actually, but there wasn't any response after a long while. I thought something happened to you," Yang Chen said as he looked at Zhenxiu who seemed nervous. Curious, he asked, "Did something happen? Why do you look so strange?"

Before Zhenxiu answered, Yang Chen noticed the things on the study table which made him instantly burst into laughter.

Zhenxiu immediately blushed out of shyness when her personal matter was seen by Yang Chen, causing her to pout her lips and stomped on the ground angrily.

A bunch of papers were scattered on Zhenxiu's table. More surprisingly, there were seven to eight paper-folded frogs placed on top. Evidently, Zhenxiu didn't notice Yang Chen's knock earlier because she was too immersed in stacking frogs!

"I didn't expect my sister to have this habit. So you're stacking frogs instead of studying this late at night." Yang Chen walked over smilingly and took up a frog. He acted impressed as he praised, "Oh, not bad at all! I think this frog looks rather like you."

"It looks more like you! I hate you!" Zhenxiu furiously snatched her frog back. Pouting, she said, "Brother Yang, you're the worst. Who allowed you to enter a girl's room at will?!"

"Hey, don't get mad for real. Isn't it just stacking frogs? I know that you're stressed out for your studies. Relaxing yourself a little is great. But why are there just frogs on your table? Can't you fold something else?" Yang Chen giggled.

Zhenxiu turned her head away in a shy manner. She murmured, "I—I only know how to make frogs..."

Yang Chen laughed yet again after listening to her. He had always found the kid more mature than others. Apparently, she actually had an extremely childish side.

Enraged, Zhenxiu forcefully pushed Yang Chen out before slamming the door!

Yang Chen was in a great mood, so he wasn't annoyed at being pushed out. He wanted to tease Zhenxiu again, but he heard certain movements coming from the courtyard.

"Yet another weirdo..."

Yang Chen sighed before his figure flashed and directly appear downstairs.

He opened the door and just as expected, Hui Lin utilized her lightness skill to leap into the house and head toward the balcony of the second floor.

Dressed in a black windbreaker, Hui Lin who looked like a spy saw that Yang Chen opened the door downstairs and gave her a weird gaze. Just like a wronged child, she fumbled her hands together as she slowly made her way to Yang Chen.

"Brother Yang, I... I just didn't want to disturb you guys," Hui Lin said softly.

"How many times have I asked you to walk in from the front gate? You're becoming a superstar, not a thief. Are we still your family if we're afraid of getting disturbed?" Yang Chen advised as he signalled Hui Lin to quickly enter the house.

Hui Lin stuck her tongue out and felt relieved when she knew that Yang Chen wasn't going to blame her for that. After entering the house, she complained slightly, "Actually, I didn't intend to do so. The paparazzi are so annoying. They were following me anywhere regardless of what I did, so I couldn't help but use lightness skill to shake them off."

"Why do you have to hide from them? You're not doing anything illegal at the end of the day," Yang Chen said.

"B—but... I feel very pressured. After my competition today, I wondering if I should listen to Grandma and help her take care of the Lin clan in Beijing. It might suit me more..." Hui Lin muttered with her head lowered.

Yang Chen was a little shocked. "Are you backing off?"

Hui Lin was afraid to look at Yang Chen. Biting her lip, she said, "I... I know that I'm useless. I didn't know what being famous entailed... But I... I'm really tired, and I'm not used to it at all... Brother Yang, am I really cowardly and useless that I'm considering to back off when it just started..."

In the dimly lit living hall, Hui Lin raised her head and revealed a helpless and pathetic expression.

Yang Chen stopped smiling. He extended his right arm to lightly pat Hui Lin's forehead and moved her hair gently with his thumb. "No one can be strong forever. Everyone will have their weak moments. As long as you dare to face the issue and weakness, it means that you're strong. You didn't fail. To gain strength, one must first experience weakness."

Vitality recovered in Hui Lin's watery eyes. After a long time, she asked, "If everyone is weak occasionally, how about Brother Yang? Isn't someone like Brother Yang supposed to always be fearless?"

Yang Chen pouted his mouth as he looked troubled. Sighing, he said, "Me? Haven't you noticed that I'm always afraid of your elder sister? I still sleep alone in my own room after all this time..."

“Pff!” Hui Lin burst into laughter after listening to him. At last, she even started tearing a little.

On the second floor, the door of Lin Ruoxi’s study room was pushed open. Dressed in silk pajamas, Lin Ruoxi held the rail of the staircase with her arm, looking at the two from above with her ice-cold face.

“It’s midnight already. Are you guys still making jokes instead of going to sleep?” Lin Ruoxi asked with her brows furrowed.

Yang Chen and Hui Lin felt a chill up their spines while their smiles froze.

“Ahem, ahem. Erm... I came down to have a glass of water. I’ll go back to sleep now.” Yang Chen signalled Hui Lin with his gaze before quickly rushing upstairs.

Hui Lin was a little embarrassed as well. Blushing, she had her head lowered before following behind him.

After the two closed their doors, the coldness on Lin Ruoxi’s face slowly faded. In the dark, Lin Ruoxi sighed slightly, but a warm smile could be seen at the corners of her lips.

Chapter 479: Wronging an Honest Man

The next morning, Yang Chen didn’t head to his office directly. He had made a promise to pick Jane up from the airport yesterday. He felt the need to be sincere so he went there slightly earlier to wait.

Yang Chen arrived at the arrival hall for international flights at the airport and sat alone on a chair, looking around while yawning. Around one and a half hours later, he finally noticed a figure emerging in the crowd.

Dressed in a light brown knitted sweater and a pair of black skin-tight jeans, Jane had a pair of huge sunglasses on, while her amber hair was as eye-catching as the brightest silk.

Even though more than half of her face was covered, it still didn’t stop the passersby from staring at her. However, no one dared to get close to her, as if she was a goddess whom no one was willing to disrespect.

Jane didn’t bring much with her. All she brought was a small, seamlessly woven leather bag by Prada which she carried on her back. That ordinary-looking bag was actually a luxury which the manufacturer was only willing to craft for people with a high social status.

As if they had a connection, upon exiting the passage, Jane directly walked towards the corner where Yang Chen was waiting without hesitation.

Smiling, Yang Chen stood up and said, “Although I am aware of your mental prowess, how are you able to tell where I was seated?”

“It’s simple. I just had to analyse your living habits to determine the way you choose a place,” Jane said lightheartedly and joyfully.

Yang Chen knew that it was the case. He didn’t have the courage to continue talking about the subject. “Didn’t you bring anyone with you?”

“I did. But that person had arrived before me,” Jane said with a smile.

Yang Chen was a little stunned. He then revealed a helpless smile. "So you went to Japan to find her."

As he spoke, Yang Chen turned around. Not far from behind, a charming lady with an incredible figure dressed in an office attire walked over.

"Master, Miss Jane, the car is ready." The lady bowed down a little. Her posture was as elegant as a European housekeeper.

That woman was none other than Hannya who had submitted to Yang Chen. Yang Chen allowed her to stay in Japan to do her own thing. Although he technically owned Yamata Sect, he had given up its domineering name. As it was now no different from a business organization, Yang Chen wasn't bothered to take charge of it.

However, just because Yang Chen didn't plan on using these resources didn't mean Jane wouldn't.

In Asia, there was no better power than Yamata Sect. Thus, before coming to Zhonghai, Jane went to Japan first to look for Hannya, and let her become her 'guardian'. It was indeed the most appropriate choice.

The task at hand could procure some rather dangerous situations. Although Jane didn't feel like she would be at risk because Yang Chen would be accompanying her, she didn't want to rely on him for protection all the time. Hannya who excelled in operating in the dark appeared much more suitable.

Hannya naturally wouldn't reject such an opportunity to get closer to Yang Chen. It was clear that although she wanted to please Yang Chen as much as possible, in his eyes, she and Yamata Sect were certainly insignificant things. Compared to Jane, Sauron, Makedon, and Edward, she was a new sprout in the circle whose presence didn't matter.

Thus, Hannya immediately agreed to follow Jane to China. After Noriko Okawa had been killed, Hannya who was used to serving a master needed a new master. Where most people loved their freedom, she was terrified at the idea of having nothing to and no one to serve.

"A car? Forget about it. You don't need to prepare anything extra, I'm just bringing you guys to see my friend's grandfather. We'll go there with my car," Yang Chen said.

Hannya held the exact same expression and nodded her head.

Jane was all the more pleased with the arrangement. She didn't plan on letting Hannya serve her nicely. She just wanted a bodyguard who could protect her in the dark.

Yang Chen came to the parking area with two eye-catching women. After boarding his M3, they headed to Ivy Sanatorium.

Yang Chen had informed Tang Wan in the morning already, so she was there to wait for Jane's arrival.

In Yang Chen's car, Jane talked about what had happened during the wedding. After Sauron and Makedon became relatives by marriage, they argued about what the surname of their grandchildren would be. They even started fighting after getting drunk, causing Jane to burst into laughter.

Yang Chen scratched his head in distress. "In my absence, they must've fought a lot, haven't they?"

“They’re never serious when fighting. And they are more or less equivalent to each other when it comes to their fighting abilities, not to mention they have aged significantly. All they do is bluff about how impressive they are,” Jane said before pouting, “How boring.”

“They’re the veterans of British Secret Service and Israel Mossad, but you’re making them sound like troublesome children,” Yang Chen said with a smile.

“In your eyes, other than the god-tier people, isn’t everyone else a troublesome child?” joked Jane.

Yang Chen smiled in silence. In his mind, when he recalled Ling Xuzi from the organization called Hongmeng who was able to ignore space methods at will, he held great confusion while anticipating what the future holds for him... Although he had never felt that god-level powers were unparalleled, as some were stronger than the others among the Twelve Olympians, when he first witnessed someone who had truly exceeded the god tier, he had craved to reach that level one day.

However, Yang Chen knew that it wasn’t reachable just by cultivating tirelessly.

One’s ability to reach that level highly depended on fate and understanding. No matter how hard one cultivated, there would be no progress if one failed to comprehend the meaning within.

It would depend on Yang Chen himself to see if he was fated to get hold of that level.

Jane noticed that Yang Chen had fallen into contemplation so she kept quiet. Her intelligence allowed her to know when to speak and ask in addition to when to keep her mouth shut.

Hannya who was seated at the back was silent for the whole journey. However, her mind was filled with questions as well. She found it unbelievable that Yang Chen was just driving an ordinary BMW, and he was talking with Jane in such an approachable manner.

Is it possible that gods are really just people?

After close to an hour, they finally arrived at Ivy Sanatorium. Once the three exited the car, Tang Wan brought a few of her people outside to welcome the visitors inside.

Tang Wan seemed to have paid close attention to how she dressed. She wore a dark green vest with a violet silk shirt on the inside together with a grey skirt. A pair of laced stockings wrapped around her beautiful and firm legs, while her elegant, mature face was sufficient to move any man’s heart.

Jane looked at the gracefully approaching Tang Wan and secretly pinched Yang Chen’s arm. Using the Hebrew language which only Yang Chen could understand, she said, “This isn’t just your friend. She’s obviously your treasure. Even I have the desire to have a taste of her fresh meat.”

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. Am I that greedy? he thought. Using Hebrew, he replied, “You may help yourself with her meat. I myself have not even touched one strand of hair from her head.”

“What are you guys muttering about?” Tang Wan asked as she frowned. She then generously offered her hand to Jane with a smile. Using English, she said, “You’re welcome, Miss Jane. I’m Tang Wan, a friend of Yang Chen. I’ve long heard of your numerous miraculous science researches. I’m glad that you can come over to treat my grandfather.”

Jane smiled cheerfully and shook her hand. Using Mandarin, she said, “You don’t need to speak in English. I’m honored to meet you as well. You’re very beautiful, just like my mother. Of course, I’m certainly not referring to your age, but just just expressing my praise honestly.”

Tang Wan was a little surprised for how straightforward Jane was, but she could tell that Jane wasn’t joking about her as she felt that she should have a similar age with Jane’s mother. “I have a daughter as well, but she isn’t nearly as beautiful as Miss Jane.”

Jane opened her mouth slightly in shock. “I find it hard to imagine.”

After speaking, Jane threw Yang Chen a weird gaze. What she wanted to say was obvious—so Yang Chen had changed his taste to mothers and daughters... Yang Chen couldn’t express his resentment so he wasn’t bothered to explain himself.

Regarding Hannya, although Tang Wan was astonished by how extraordinary the assistant looked, she felt that Hannya could just be Jane’s assistant, so all she did was nod with a smile. All she had in her mind was to have Jane take a look at her grandfather’s illness.

The few people followed Tang Wan inside Ivy Sanatorium and came to Master Tang’s courtyard. Seated on a wooden chair, he was currently being fed by two nurses. He didn’t look like he wanted to eat, but was humming an old classic song played on the radio instead.

Tang Wan’s eyes turned slightly red when she witnessed her grandfather’s behavior. But she didn’t allow the tears to exit. Forcing a smile, she said to Jane, “My grandpa has been sick for a few months already. His condition is very volatile and fluctuates very frequently to put it lightly. In the past, it has caused him to act out in aggression to the people surrounding him. Miss Jane has a highly respected identity. If you’re faced with a difficult situation, you mustn’t force yourself, or... our Tang clan will be too sorry to you.”

“Grandpa, what song are you singing? Can you tell me about it?” Jane asked gently after leaning over.

Master Tang didn’t have a reaction at first and was still humming away. He then suddenly raised his head before shouting in astonishment, “Ah! Yellow-haired monster!!! Monster!!! Save me!!! I don’t want to be eaten by a monster!!!”

As he shouted, he jumped off his chair and ran behind it, shrinking his body over there as he didn’t dare to raise his head.

The sudden change in situation shocked the people present. Jane didn’t expect this to happen. She stood back up with her brows furrowed, as if she was pondering over something.

The two nurses immediately went over to the old man, but he appeared extremely afraid. He refused to let go of his hands which were hugging the chair.

Jane shook her head before sighing. Walking outside the courtyard, she said to Tang Wan, “Old Man’s condition is severe. I need to analyse certain details carefully. If necessary, there are also a few tests that I may need to run. May I ask if you have a lab here?”

Tang Wan quickly answered, “There is. The equipment and facilities here are very complete. If you need anything, please don’t hesitate to ask.”

“Then I’ll start working now. This situation will only be more difficult to deal with as time passes. Please ask someone to lead me to the lab,” Jane said seriously.

Tang Wan was naturally happy about her decision. But she couldn’t be at ease about her grandfather, so she had to send an assistant to follow Jane and Hannya.

Yang Chen bade farewell to Jane as he didn’t plan on following her. He knew that Jane wouldn’t hope to be disturbed when working.

After Jane left, Tang Wan daydreamt for a little while standing. A while later, she raised her head and joked to Yang Chen, “You’re indeed impressive. You have managed to sleep with a genius scientist.”

Yang Chen was expecting her to say something else. He almost fell head-down after listening to what she said. As if he was going to cry, he touched his face and said, “Is that all you guys are able to talk about? You said I slept with her while she accused me of sleeping with you. I haven’t slept with either of you before. You guys shouldn’t wrong an honest man!”

Chapter 480: Why Are You Here

Yang Chen’s explanation was disregarded quickly. Disbelief filled Tang Wan’s face, as if she firmly believed that Yang Chen must’ve done something inappropriate before. “You don’t need to tell me about it. I’m not your wife, so I won’t mind if you and Miss Jane are beyond friends.”

Yang Chen knew that any further clarifications would only make the matter worse, thus he helplessly switched a subject. “Tang Huang, hasn’t looked for your trouble recently, has he? Didn’t he say he was staying in Zhonghai?”

Tang Wan obviously frowned a little upon hearing that name. However, she shook his head and said, “He’s not the kind to stir up unnecessary trouble. Although he has indeed been staying in Zhonghai, he’s just having fun all day in famous clubs and wandering around. But the situation in the clan is worsening each day. If Grandpa doesn’t recover soon, it’s only a matter of time before the clan collapses.”

At this moment, the girl Tang Xin whom Yang Chen had met last time rushed out from a building nearby. She ran towards Tang Wan and panted heavily. “Elder Sister, I heard there was a new doctor for Grandpa. Where is he?”

Tang Wan looked at Tang Xin with dissatisfaction. “Stupid Kid, didn’t I ask you to eat first? Why are you so nervous?”

Tang Xin looked wronged and wanted to say something. She then turned to Yang Chen and asked doubtfully, “Aren’t you the guy who came last time? Are you possibly the doctor?”

“It’s not me. I would’ve checked the old man earlier if I was.” Yang Chen waved his hand. He found this younger sister of Tang Wan rather interesting.

Tang Xin was confused and blinked her huge eyes blurrily.

Tang Wan sighed, “I know that you’re concerned about Grandpa, but you shouldn’t run out in the middle of your meal. The doctor has left for the lab, you’ll meet the person in due time.”

Tang Xin said anxiously, "I'll go over there now. I'm the most knowledgeable about Grandpa's conditions."

After speaking, before Tang Wan could stop her, Tang Xin sped towards the laboratory.

"You really have a devoted younger sister," Yang Chen said with a smile.

Affection filled Tang Wan's face. "Tang Xin is more than ten years younger than me. If I compare our age, she's just like my daughter. I like her a lot."

Yang Chen nodded with a smile in silence. Anyone would feel this content to have such a younger sister.

Although Yang Chen had reached the sanatorium not long ago, he didn't plan on staying for long. He suddenly thought of something else he had to deal with, so he quickly bade farewell to Tang Wan.

Jane had the protection of Hannya, in addition to her highly intelligent self. It wasn't so easy for the people who wanted to do harm to the Tang clan to hurt her.

Although Tang Wan was reluctant about Yang Chen's departure, she wasn't a clingy little girl. Knowing that he had something to do so he couldn't stay for lunch, she allowed him to leave.

Yang Chen naturally wasn't heading to his office. These days, as Star of Yu Lei approached the finals, there was basically nothing which had to be done by him as the director, not to mention the fact that he did not want to be cooped up in an office all day.

Yang Chen was reminded of the group of new recruits for Dragon Group training by the sea of Zhonghai. Although he had passed the tutoring responsibility to Sea Eagles, he still held the chief instructor title. Ignoring the fact that he had taken a hands-off approach, it wouldn't be nice if he ignored them completely.

After driving for half an hour, Yang Chen came to the training camp.

Cai Yuncheng might've informed the checkpoints already. Yang Chen wasn't interrogated at all when he drove in. He directly drove towards the innermost base with no interruptions.

After he got out of the car, he walked on the cement pathway which was repaired recently to the small buildings in the base.

When he came earlier, there was only some simple lodging built at that place. They had evidently improved the place a lot. More than ten houses of different sizes were now there.

When Yang Chen took a closer look, he noticed that no one was at the training camp, while no one was training by the beach. He couldn't help but look at the time on his phone. He then realized it was lunch time already.

Expectedly, it only took him a few steps for Molin to notice his movement. Molin could be seen walking out from a relatively larger building. When he noticed it was Yang Chen, he quickly rushed over and bowed to him slightly.

"Your Majesty, I didn't think you would come at this moment. Sorry for coming late," Molin said with a smile.

Yang Chen waved his hand. "This is called a spot check. I'm here to evaluate the work you have done with these children."

"To be honest," Molin said before waving his hand, "I didn't fancy this task much in the beginning. But I've grown quite attached to it now. Earlier, I found it hard to train my teammates, possibly because they were already skilled. But these new recruits only require the slightest tip to improve significantly, which has given me a sense of achievement as the instructor."

Yang Chen smiled and said, "Don't get blinded by the current situation. You're still aware that these people are just rookies. Your true task isn't to train them. Raising the power level of yourself and your teammates is the key. Of course, it's another story if you can make them equally as competent as the ordinary members of Sea Eagles."

Molin hurriedly shook his head. "Your Majesty Pluto, please don't joke like that. It isn't possible within a few months' time. Their foundation alone has an overly large gap. I don't think any of them can reach the level of Sea Eagles even if I devote five years of my time to them."

Yang Chen was aware of this fact as well. He couldn't help but laugh when Molin shook his head in such a terrified manner.

Molin seemed to have noticed that he had been tricked. He awkwardly scratched his head but couldn't do anything about it, as Yang Chen was the master of his master.

"Are all the members eating there?" Yang Chen pointed at the building Molin came out from.

Molin answered, "You can say so. But... one of them isn't."

"Hmm?"

Molin hesitated for a while before leaning towards Yang Chen to say softly, "She's rather special. I heard she's the daughter of General Cai, so I didn't restrain her too much. She has trained alone at the practice room when we're eating every time. I have advised her not to push herself that much as training in this manner won't yield great returns. But she refuses to listen to me, and there's no rule that requires all members to eat, not to mention she's General Cai's daughter, so I stopped pushing the matter and left her to her own devices."

Yang Chen immediately realized whom Molin was referring to. Who else would it be except Cai Yan?

It was crazy enough for that woman to join the Dragon Group Recruit camp. But she was even unwilling to eat now? Just because Yang Chen said he couldn't accept her love back then?! Did she have to torture herself like that?!

Yang Chen got an intense heartache and fury instantly. Frowning, he asked, "Which practice room is she in?"

Molin noticed the change in Yang Chen's expression. He quickly pointed at a building nearby. "It's the practice room at the corner. She always trains there during lunchtimes and breaks. No one will disturb her, since she'll request for a sparring session to anyone who goes there. To be honest, General Cai's daughter isn't exactly terrible at what she does. But unfortunately, no matter what amount of effort she

puts in, it's still very difficult for them to get a breakthrough to stand among the best in the world, but she's considered the top in Dragon Group Recruit."

Yang Chen felt all the more displeased after listening to Molin. He was well aware of Cai Yan's ability. It was already a huge miracle that she managed to join this team. Now that she became one of the best, it could be seen just how much effort she had put into training.

Yang Chen dismissed Molin and walked to the practice room alone.

Before he reached there, he heard smacks coming from the room. Yang Chen deduced that it was the sound of raw and unrestrained power.

Yang Chen hesitated outside the door for a bit before pushing it open and looking inside with a complicated gaze.

"Didn't I say I don't want to eat?!" Cai Yan yelled upon the door was opened.

Dressed in a white martial arts uniform, Cai Yan had her hair tied up, standing at the center of the practice room hitting wooden poles and punching bags.

Cai Yan's face was red when looked from the side. Sweat made some of her black hair stick to her face. She was heavily panting, and a blazing fire could be spotted in her eyes, flooded with determination and resolution.

"Who told you that by skipping meals, you will become stronger?" Yang Chen asked.

Cai Yan was dumbstruck when she heard that voice, as if she was struck by lightning. Her body stiffened, causing her to stop all her movements.

After a long time, Cai Yan turned around and stared upon Yang Chen who was slowly approaching. Her body shivered while she failed to speak a word.

Finally, when Yang Chen arrived in front of Cai Yan closely, he stared at her black and reflective eyes. Their gazes were filled with complexity, causing too many unforgettable memories to surface.

Due to intense exercise, Cai Yan's chest moved up and down. The woman drenched in sweat was just like an exhausted leopardess, looking beautiful yet pitiful.

Finally, Cai Yan couldn't stand Yang Chen's stare anymore. She opened her mouth to ask, "Why are you here? You shouldn't be here, you know?"

Yang Chen remained standing in silence. Before Cai Yan could react, Yang Chen launched an extremely precise suplex on her, heavily slamming her on the ground, causing her to face the ceiling...