

## Chapter 861 - If You Became Bald

### **If You Became Bald**

After contemplating for a while, Yang Chen asked, "Darling, is being with me really all that stressful? Please be honest."

An Xin blinked a few times. "Stressful? Of course, it is."

Yang Chen's face fell. "I see. I suppose Ruoxi isn't the only one who feels that way."

"Hmm? Why would Sister Ruoxi be stressed? She's already your legal wife. As your lover, I worry about you being with other women and whether or not you remember me." An Xin was filled with jealousy. "If I were to be with you every day, I wouldn't need to stress."

Yang Chen was puzzled at her reply. "Was that what you meant by stress?"

"What else?" An Xin got confused.

Yang Chen smiled. "You silly woman, why wouldn't I spend time with you? You never call me when you're busy. And it's not like you don't know how free I am."

An Xin stuck out her tongue. "Hehe, hubby you haven't told me. What were you referring to?"

Yang Chen said, slightly embarrassed by it, "Ruoxi told me earlier that she feels pain from the fact that we come from two separate worlds. So I don't know what to say to her. I thought you would feel the same."

An Xin tilted her head in confusion at first but she giggled afterwards. "Hubby, did she really say that?"

"Yeah... more or less. It's more complicated," Yang Chen said in frustration.

An Xin chuckled and pecked his cheeks.

"How is that stressful? Men are supposed to be stronger than women. I don't know about others but I definitely want my man to be the strongest one of all. It's not like I'm his opponent, so why would I be stressed? It's fine as long as your feelings for me are genuine," An Xin said nonchalantly.

Yang Chen was unconvinced. "Really?"

An Xin nodded. "Yeah. Think about this, I might not be filthy rich but my family's net worth is in the billions. Why would I want a guy who only has a hundred million? It's not that I'm materialistic, but we wouldn't have anything in common. Average people have to take everyday expenses into account. But here we are spending millions on cars and mansions like it's nothing. Money is just a number. They live in two different worlds which is why they can't be together. But you're rich and powerful, stronger than me, that's why I feel comfortable with you."

Yang Chen was still not buying it. "No way... then why did you agree to follow me when you first met me? You didn't even know what kind of person I was."

An Xin felt shy. "Actually... if you didn't show me how powerful you were...I don't think I would have agreed to be with you."

“What?” Yang Chen widened his eyes. “Are you asking for a spanking?”

“Hubby don’t be angry!” An Xin covered her butt. “It’s not that I’m being shallow. You wouldn’t have saved me if I was. It was destined to happen. Plus, if you had less money than me, wouldn’t you be completely dependant on me?”

Yang Chen thought about it and felt that it made sense. If he wasn’t strong enough, Lin Ruoxi would’ve died ages ago. He couldn’t have saved her from the pub back then. It was better to be taken by him than to be raped by a bunch of people.

As cruel as it sounded, it was the reality of it.

*So why did she suddenly talk about being unworthy! What nonsense!?* he thought.

Yang Chen felt much better and continued to ask, “Then darling, tell me, are you okay with me killing people?”

An Xin hesitated before answering with a soft voice, “Killing isn’t right but I know you have your reasons for it. I can understand if you killed someone to protect us. It’s not like you do it for sport. You only do it when provoked”

Yang Chen thought she was too cute!*She’s right, it’s not like I started it first. If they hadn’t messed with my life and my friends, I wouldn’t have done anything. What other reason would I have to go to Russia and kill a whole family for? My methods may have been cruel but it was necessary.*

An Xin caressed his cheeks. “Plus, I know you hate killing people too. You wouldn’t have tried to lead a peaceful life otherwise. But certain things are inevitable. I just hope for you to be happy when you’re with me.”

Yang Chen grinned suggestively. “Darling let’s do it again as a reward for you.”

An Xin tried to hide as she chided, “I want to continue sleeping, I’m tired!”

“You won’t be sleepy later.” Yang Chen licked his lips.

An Xin shook her head and punched his chest while pouting. “I deserve to have my own rights, even as a lover!”

Yang Chen gave in eventually.

He sat up to let An Xin lie on his lap, “Alright you can sleep. I’ll take you out for lunch when you wake.”

An Xin relaxed and nodded. Her eyes closed and she went into deep sleep minutes later out of exhaustion.

Yang Chen caressed her hair.

An Xin’s breathing settled into a rhythmic pattern. “Hubby... if you keep stroking my hair like that I’ll turn bald...”

“I’ll leave you if you become bald,” Yang Chen joked.

An Xin pouted. “Don’t leave me... I’ll still love you even if you become fat and old...”

Yang Chen's hand paused when he heard that, his eyes filled with affection.

An Xin woke up several hours later. It was already twelve in the afternoon.

An Xin decided to skip work since Yang Chen said they would go out for lunch together. It's not like anyone could control her.

Yang Chen became her only 'family' ever since she had a falling out with her real family.

Yang Chen had already texted Guo Xuehua to inform them that they didn't have to wait for him. He took An Xin out to a restaurant for lunch after she got ready.

Although he was worried about Lin Ruoxi, he knew that the best remedy for many things was time. So he tried to talk about the interesting experiences he had encountered overseas, as an attempt to get closer to her.

They walked around the mall hand-in-hand. As they passed the cinemas, An Xin said, "Hubby, Spider-Man 4 is just released, isn't it? Let's go watch it!"

Yang Chen frowned. He was never really a fan of sci-fi action movies. His life was more interesting and filled with real-life people with superpowers.

"What's so interesting about watching a guy swing here and there? If you want I can carry you and fly." Yang Chen wasn't amused.

An Xin pouted. "Oh... Do you think I'm childish?"

Yang Chen was stunned for a while and replied, "No, let's go watch it."

"Hmm?" An Xin couldn't understand why he changed his mind.

Yang Chen explained. "I always force my opinion on you guys. You reminded me how hurtful my actions can be. That's why I want to take the initiative and do things that you guys might enjoy. I'll watch Spider-Man with you and then I'll watch Korean dramas with Ruoxi at night when I get home. That way you can say that we have more in common."

An Xin beamed and kissed his cheeks. "That's great, but don't turn into a sissy from watching Korean dramas!"

Yang Chen smiled and said nothing. He had An Xin wait for him while he queued up for tickets.

Because the movie was a new release, many people were already waiting in line for the movie. Yang Chen wasn't in a hurry anyway so he just stood and waited.

Suddenly, he saw a familiar silhouette that he had almost forgotten from the corner of his eye...

Chapter 862 - Do You Like Her

### **Do You Like Her**

He looked over and saw a lady wearing a light pink skirt standing in front of a bakery. Below her slender calves were a plain pair of sneakers. Although she wasn't dressed to the nines, she was still attracting the gazes of passersby.

Yang Chen sucked in a breath. Maybe it was because he had an intimate experience with her that her perfect figure had caught his attention with just one glance.

Yang Chen realized who it was when he took a closer look at her face!

*Xiao Zhiqing? Why is she here?!*

Yang Chen never dreamt that he would ever run into her again after their last meeting.

His head started to pound when he saw her there in Zhonghai.

She was different from the other women in his life. Her existence itself screamed trouble. If she wasn't one, she wouldn't have held on to the Nine Yin Meridian and went on a crime streak across the States.

Yang Chen didn't ask anything because he didn't want to be involved, which was why he took her but never kept her. After all, they were both trying to trick each other and in the end, she lost. Also, Yang Chen didn't want to have a lover who was as unpredictable as her.

He helped to save her life and that was kind enough of him. He didn't owe her anymore.

But her sudden reappearance really gave him a headache.

*What if she came to find me? What would happen then? I have enough problems as it is. With her to deal with, I will die,* he thought.

An Xin stood in front of him and asked, "Hubby, why are you in a daze?"

Yang Chen was startled and tried to hide the truth. "Nothing, I'm just waiting for my turn."

"But it's already your turn." An Xin squinted her eyes. Yang Chen just realized it was already his turn and others were looking at him with impatient eyes. Xiao Zhiqing disappeared out of nowhere too!

Cold sweat formed on Yang Chen's forehead and he hurriedly bought two of the most expensive tickets.

An Xin caught on and teased him. "Hubby, I knew it. You were looking at the beauty with the attractive legs, weren't you? Do you like her?"

Yang Chen denied it. "How can that be? I'm not like that. It doesn't matter to me if she's pretty."

Yang Chen felt embarrassed after saying that so he faked a cough and feigned innocence.

An Xin rolled her eyes cutely. Although she loved him a lot, it was times like these where she couldn't help but roll her eyes.

Yang Chen was relieved. It looked like Xiao Zhiqing didn't see him. Perhaps it was all just a coincidence and he was making it up in her head.

After they were done with the movie, Yang Chen brought her to eat her favourite food.

Although she had a small appetite, she could defeat Yang Chen when it came to eating ice cream.

They went to an ice cream shop called Berthlon which was opened by a Frenchman. An Xin was eating a colorful fruit-flavoured ice cream when she asked Yang Chen, "Hubby, guess who owns this ice cream shop?"

Yang Chen tried to stifle his laughter when he saw her ice cream moustache. "Could it be you?"

An Xin was shocked. "How did you know that? I just opened this! I own a majority of the shares but my friend runs the operation."

Yang Chen was actually just guessing but played along. "You really love eating this so much? But I never knew or heard of you thinking of owning an ice cream shop."

"Hehe," An Xin said excitedly. "I had my first taste of this ice cream back in my days as a stewardess. I craved it so much but I couldn't get it in Zhonghai so I approached their company about a new business venture here in Zhonghai. How is it? It tastes better than any ice cream you've ever tried, doesn't it?"

Yang Chen nodded along. He wasn't all that interested in desserts after all.

An Xin's eyes were shining. "Hubby, did you know that I didn't dare to eat ice cream because I was afraid I couldn't control myself? But now that you told me that I can maintain my figure by training, I'm not afraid anymore! I also know that you will treat me if I fall sick, won't you?"

Yang Chen's eyebrows twitched when he heard this, but he went along with her and shook his head. "If it makes you happy."

An Xin was so excited that she got out of her seat to kiss Yang Chen.

"Hey! You crazy vixen, there's ice cream on your lips!" Yang Chen rubbed his cheeks in exasperation.

An Xin giggled. "My breath smells like ice cream now, do you want to make out? It's sweet..."

She licked the cream on her lips and winked, trying to seduce him.

Yang Chen was aroused by her so he grabbed her into his lap and kissed her.

Happy times always pass so quickly.

He had to say, he felt happiest whenever he spent time with An Xin. She was the happiest and the most carefree out of all his ladies.

Once An Xin had her cravings satisfied, they decided to depart from the place

She still had to take care of the piling files since she skipped work. Yang Chen rushed back home too after dropping her off at her house.

He wanted to talk to Lin Ruoxi and besides, Zhenxiu's results were out. He had to know if it was good or bad since he was the one who made her continue her studies.

Yang Chen prepared himself for the worst. If she failed, he'd have to buy a place for her at a good university. Money talks, after all.

Yang Chen could already hear the chatter the moment he stepped into the living room.

Guo Xuehua waved at him when she saw him. "Son come over! We have good news!"

Yang Chen breathed out in relief. It looked like Zhenxiu did well in her exams.

Lin Ruoxi was already home and was sitting on a single-seater couch. She averted her gaze away from Yang Chen and her smile dimmed when she saw him.

“You got accepted?” Yang Chen asked with a grin.

Zhenxiu’s face was flushed with excitement. She nodded in response to Yang Chen’s question.

Yang Chen pinched her cheeks out of habit. “Why are you crying? You got accepted. Wouldn’t you have fainted then if you got rejected?”

Zhenxiu wiped her cheeks in embarrassment and pouted. “I don’t know why ...”

“Don’t say that,” Guo Xuehua chided. “Do you know which university she got into?”

Guo Xuehua announced it before Yang Chen could even guess. “Zhonghai University! She got accepted with the same marks as Tang Tang! Top ten in the whole of Zhonghai!”

Yang Chen was surprised to hear that.

He wasn’t surprised when Tang Tang got accepted since she was already smart like her mom Tang Wan. It was more impressive to know that Zhenxiu got in with her hard work.

But it was understandable since she worked really hard for it.

He thought, *?No doubt from the Korean lineage, looks like genes do matter huh.*

Zhenxiu lifted her head and said to Lin Ruoxi earnestly, “Sister Ruoxi, can I work at Yu Lei International after I graduate? I’ll study very hard for it!”

Lin Ruoxi was startled too. But she smiled quickly in response. “Of course you can. You can apply to work at the headquarters with a degree from Zhonghai University. I can’t wait to have you.”

“I’ll work hard to repay you. I owe a lot to you...” Zhenxiu was filled with confidence. She had changed into a new person now that she proved her capability through the college entrance exam.

Lin Ruoxi sighed. “Silly girl, this again? I’m not the only one who helped you. Plus, did you think I ask you to stay because I wanted you to repay me?”

“That’s right.” Yang Chen was filled with jealousy. “I wonder who saved the delinquent from a cliff.”

Zhenxiu puffed her cheeks. “It was Sister Cai Yan, definitely not Brother Yang.”

“Ouch... you ungrateful child,” Yang Chen chided and pretended to twist her ears.

Zhenxiu hid behind Guo Xuehua while complaining. “Aunt Guo, look at Brother Yang! He’s bullying me again! He’s so mean to me! Hey, you just said a few days ago that you wouldn’t call me a kid anymore!”

Chapter 863 - Tell Me

**Tell Me**

“Men are unpredictable!”

Yang Chen yelled and went behind Guo Xuehua to pinch Zhenxiu's nose which made her jump up to bite him in return.

Guo Xuehua rolled her eyes at her childish son.

Guo Xuehua and Wang Ma looked at each other, eyes filled with relief.

"Sir, don't tease her anymore. Why don't we go out for dinner today to celebrate?" Wang Ma suggested.

"Sounds great," Guo Xuehua agreed. "We can invite Cai Yan, Tang Wan, and her daughter Tang Tang. Oh ya, Yang Chen please invite Rose, Qianni, An Xin and Mingyu too, the more the merrier."

Guo Xuehua then realized the error in her words. Lin Ruoxi was still listening in!

She was too caught up in the moment that she had forgotten about her daughter-in-law.

Guo Xuehua asked Lin Ruoxi sheepishly, "What do you think Ruoxi? Or should we celebrate on our own?"

Lin Ruoxi gave a faint smile. "You're right Mom, let's invite everyone else. I'm okay with it."

Guo Xuehua was happy to hear this but at the same time it was weird for her to be so easygoing.

Yang Chen knew what was going on. Lin Ruoxi had completely given up!

If it was in the past, Yang Chen would've been happy because he wouldn't need to quarrel with his wife about other women.

But now, Lin Ruoxi had lost her confidence because of all the incidents that happened which made her change her attitude.

It only made him feel worse!

Since it was decided, Guo Xuehua called the ladies herself. No one dared to reject her invitation, even An Xin delayed her work for this.

But when she was calling Liu Mingyu, Zhenxiu reminded them not to let Liu Minghao join.

When it was all settled, Yang Chen drove them up to the restaurant they booked. It was a recreational place owned by Lin Ruoxi.

The restaurant was built on a man-made lake and was flanked with floor-to-ceiling glass windows. Looking through it, they were able to enjoy the night sky and its reflections on the lake.

The atmosphere started to heat up when the ladies arrived one by one.

Tang Tang was talking to Zhenxiu non-stop from the moment she arrived. They were the same age after all so they had the most in common. The ladies felt as though there was a generation gap between them for being in their thirties.

It didn't feel awkward since they met recently during the cloning incident.

The whole atmosphere was peaceful as everyone chatted away.

Yang Chen was surprised by the fact that other than his mother, Tang Wan was the most popular one among the ladies.

It might have been due to Tang Wan's age and experience. Because of that she gained admiration from the ladies easily.

Plus, since An Xin, Liu Mingyu and Mo Qianni were all in the corporate world, they were very interested to get guidance from her.

When it came to business, Tang Wan wasn't actually all that much better, compared to Lin Ruoxi. Comparably, their methods were completely different. Tang Wan preferred to do things steadily whereas Lin Ruoxi liked to take risks and jump into opportunities.

On the other hand, Cai Yan had a lot to talk about with Rose since they were more interested in training. But when Rose told her about the time under the thundershower and how she figured out her own path, Cai Yan kept pestering her which made Rose feel annoyed. She even talked about the underworld just to distract her.

From the surface, it looked like they were being friendly with each other, but Yang Chen knew better. Their smiles had hidden intentions.

Lin Ruoxi didn't join them since she wasn't good at conversations. Instead, she helped to order the dishes and sat next to Guo Xuehua when she was done with it.

Lin Ruoxi kept quiet the whole time, only speaking when she needed to. Others weren't bothered since they were familiar with her personality.

Yang Chen watched over her but he didn't say anything.

Dinner concluded at around 10 o'clock and everyone left to their own respective houses.

Yang Chen drove home and before they stepped into the house he called out for Lin Ruoxi.

"Ruoxi, don't go in yet. Let's go for a walk."

Lin Ruoxi was about to follow Guo Xuehua into the house but she stopped midway in hesitation.

Zhenxiu was already inside and she giggled. "Go, Sister Ruoxi. It's rare for him to do something so romantic like walking under the moonlight together."

Guo Xuehua seemed to have realized what was going on and she patted her back. "Go, remember to take the key with you, I'm locking the door."

Lin Ruoxi nodded and walked towards Yang Chen.

Yang Chen held her hand and walked towards the garden near the villa.

The moon and stars were shining over them as they walked on a pebble-covered path.

Yang Chen kept quiet for a long time, his eyes filled with deep thoughts.

Lin Ruoxi felt a mixture of emotions in her heart when Yang Chen didn't let go of her hand and grasped it tightly.



“Don’t you have something to say...” Lin Ruoxi couldn’t help but ask.

Yang Chen breathed out and smiled. “Zhenxiu really appreciates you huh.”

Lin Ruoxi gave a tight smile. “Hasn’t she always been obedient?”

“There are plenty of people who appreciate you too.”

“Who?”

“Your subordinates, your workers, the owners of the companies that you bought over... and many more,” Yang Chen said slowly.

Lin Ruoxi looked at him in confusion.

Yang Chen turned around, “Madam Lin Ruoxi, my dear wife... your net worth might not be as much as mine, but you’re stronger than me. You not only earn yourself but help others follow in your path.”

Lin Ruoxi let out a faint smile. “You don’t have to console me, I’m fine. Plus, I did everything I could to save the company my grandmother left to me. I wouldn’t consider that great.”

“History can show us your true value and how great you are, not measured by the money you earn, but if you’re a selfish sly businesswoman or a great one. I believe history will choose the latter.” Yang Chen winked at her.

“You don’t have to say all this just to make me happy, I’m not a kid, I know what I’m doing,” Lin Ruoxi said softly.

Yang Chen turned around to face her and said with a stern voice, “You say that you’re always worried about me and in pain for me. You tell me you know what you’re doing. So then why do you make me worry in turn? I’ve been thinking about it all morning. Even when I was out with An Xin, all I could think about was you. I was worried if you had lunch, worried if you were too tired, worried if you would cry alone in your office. Was that what you meant by knowing what you were doing? You don’t want me to stress you out and I don’t want that either. But you’re starting to make me feel anxious. I’m your family and your husband. Honesty is a must if we are going to make this work. If you really think of me as your husband, then tell me what’s wrong! What is stressing you out about this? Tell me you need me!”

Chapter 864 - Never Wilt

### **Never Wilt**

Lin Ruoxi’s eyes turned red and her lips curled into a strained smile.

“What’s wrong with you? Everything is fine, isn’t it? I won’t quarrel you and I wouldn’t be bothered by your other lovers. We can live together peacefully. Isn’t that what you want?”

Yang Chen shook his head firmly.

“While I do hope that you can all get along, I will not wish for it at the cost of your happiness! I want you to get along with them, not forcefully, but sincerely!”

“I... I’m not.” Lin Ruoxi bit her lip and lowered her head.

Yang Chen cupped her face and forced her to look into his eyes.

“Lin Ruoxi, ask yourself this. Why do you work so hard? Why did you choose to take over Yu Lei? Answer me!”

“Why...” Lin Ruoxi mumbled to herself.

Yang Chen took a deep breath and said, “To me, you’re a flower that will never wilt. Even if you’re thrown into a mud you’ll still live! Your petals are vibrant and full of life. A true flower is more precious than a fake one no matter how small or how frail it looks. You work so hard to support thousands of people and their families. You’re constantly putting yourself at risk because of this. Some don’t understand and they hate you for it. You could have quit your job and rely on a man to take care of you. Why do you still take up such a stressful position? Answer me!”

Lin Ruoxi looked at him in a daze, her eyes brimmed with tears.

“I...” Her voice was trembling.

“Let me answer it for you,” Yang Chen said gently. “It’s because you’re Lin Ruoxi. You have to prove that you are alive. You’d rather live your life of passion than give up and live one out of luxury. You’re such a dumb woman yet I’m still so attracted to you! Do you know that?!”

Lin Ruoxi shed her tears and Yang Chen could feel the cold water droplets landing on his palms.

He wiped it off for her and smiled. “Do you remember the time when you asked me to save my mom?”

Lin Ruoxi nodded slowly, not knowing what to say.

“I was in so much pain at that time. I felt like I was drowning and there was nothing around me to stop that. If you weren’t there to save me and pull me out of the sea, I would’ve lost my mom. It might be true that I don’t need your money or status... But, you gave me the courage to face my fears. You reach out to the deepest parts of my heart. That’s why you’re so precious to me.”

Lin Ruoxi looked into Yang Chen’s eyes. “Is that all true?”

“Do you know how waders migrate?” Yang Chen smiled.

Lin Ruoxi shook her head, unable to understand what Yang Chen was trying to say.

“Waders migrate as a couple. When one gets tired, they will rest in the wings of its partner. For a husband and his wife, it’s normal to face difficulties because of us being from separate worlds like two parallel lines intersecting with each other.”

Yang Chen pushed his forehead against hers and rubbed her nose with his.

Lin Ruoxi flushed when she could feel his hot breath on her face.

“Then... can I still throw tantrums at you? Can I ignore you and the other vixens?” Lin Ruoxi whispered.

Yang Chen looked at her weirdly but he nodded eventually. “I don’t particularly fancy that idea but... you can do as you like. And even if you ignore me, I will still stick my hot face onto your cold butt.”

“That’s disgusting.” Lin Ruoxi pouted.

“Hey, are you saying my face is disgusting or your butt is? Oh wait, of course, my face disgusting, your butt is the best,” Yang Chen said with a serious face.

Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but chuckle at his words. “When did you become so shameless?”

“So have you snapped out of it?” Yang Chen was delighted.

“Kinda...”

“What do you mean kinda, just tell me yes or no,” Yang Chen asked, exasperated.

Lin Ruoxi blinked and cocked her head. “That depends on my mood...”

Yang Chen was stupefied. “That's a yes then.”

Lin Ruoxi kept quiet.

Yang Chen saw it was getting late so he told her, “Why don't we go back now? You should rest early.”

Lin Ruoxi didn't move, She grumbled and said, “You wanted to go for a walk but we only walked a little bit.”

“But we're fine now aren't we?” Yang Chen giggled. “Do you want to have supper then?”

She shook her head. “That's fattening.”

“Then what do you want to do?” Yang Chen felt troubled.

Lin Ruoxi lowered her head and muttered, “Why can't you accompany me for a walk when you can accompany An Xin for a whole day?”

Yang Chen winced, not knowing that she was upset about it but from the looks of it, she must have felt better than before.

“Then why don't I give you a piggyback up the hill and watch the stars?” Yang Chen suggested.

Lin Ruoxi's eyes brightened. She was a closet romantic after all.

But it was still awkward for her to get on Yang Chen's back. “Why do I need you to carry me? I can just walk myself.”

Yang Chen felt bittersweet that she was still shy about it so he said to her, “My fair lady, why don't you give me the honor of carrying you...”

Lin Ruoxi giggled. “Alright, I'll let you carry me.”

Yang Chen let out a breath, seeing that he managed to cheer her up and continued to walk up the hill while carrying her.

The wind caressed them as they walked. The atmosphere felt sweet and they whispered, not daring to disturb the serenity.

It wasn't difficult for Yang Chen to carry Lin Ruoxi up the hill, but it was hard not to be aroused by her plump chest rubbing against his back.

Lin Ruoxi pretended not to know anything but if Yang Chen had turned around, he would've seen her blushing face.

She couldn't help but moan a little when her chest kept rubbing against his back.

Yang Chen could tell she was trying to hold back, only then he realized she was much more sensitive than he thought. "You can moan if you feel good. There's no one here anyway and there's nothing wrong for your hubby to listen."

"Who said I wanted to moan?" Lin Ruoxi defended herself.

Yang Chen sighed. "Wait a while more. The present I have prepared for you will be ready around the end of August. After that, I'll bring you to a good place to have our wedding ceremony. I'll definitely make up for all the intimate times that we missed. It's hard for me to hold back too."

Lin Ruoxi's eyes were watery. She was feeling expectant yet confused. "I thought you would lose control once I agreed to sleep with you? So why are you holding back?"

Yang Chen grinned. "Why, impatient much?"

"No... I'm not." Lin Ruoxi turned red. She only dared to ask this because he wasn't facing her. She stuttered, "I was just curious."

Yang Chen contemplated for a while before saying, "Maybe... maybe because I care about you too much... so I get cautious when it involves you. I don't want to have any regrets when the time does come."

Lin Ruoxi smiled softly when she heard his simple explanation.

Chapter 865 - Wild Battle

### **Wild Battle**

The night temperature fell quick but Lin Ruoxi felt exceptionally warm on Yang Chen's back.

Because of that, Lin Ruoxi had fallen asleep somewhere in the middle of their journey to the top of the hill.

But in her defense, it was hard not to do so as the cool breeze on his warm back made her very drowsy. She felt as though she was being cradled and rocked rhythmically to the bounce of his steps.

Yang Chen gave an empty laugh when he realized it and resorted to carrying her back down the hill.

He chose to lift her at his front so that her chest wouldn't keep rubbing against him. He wouldn't have been able to hold himself back otherwise. She was just that attractive.

Yang Chen took off her slippers and placed her on the bed when he reached home. Before he left, Yang Chen pecked her forehead as a good night kiss.

Lin Ruoxi didn't manage to get any amount of good sleep in the last few days due to Jane's incident and not knowing how to deal with Yang Chen.

Exhaustion washed over her like a wave and she slept soundly, freed from her troubles.

Yang Chen took a cold shower when he returned to his room.

But before he could lie down on his bed, his phone rang.

He picked up his phone and realized the call was from Tang Wan.

“You heartless man!”

Tang Wan’s complaints were heard the moment he answered the call.

Yang Chen’s lips tightened. “Darling, what happened? Did Tang Tang upset you?”

Tang Wan grumbled. “You can accompany An Xin in the day and carry your wife up the hill but you don’t have the time for me? Ask yourself, when was the last time you accompanied me ever since you got back from Beijing?! Do you think I’m an easy target just because I keep quiet about it? Why don’t I visit every day and piss your wife off!”

It dawned on him when he heard her complaints. She must have seen him carrying Lin Ruoxi up the hill.

That was understandable since their villa was right behind the hill.

Yang Chen laughed awkwardly. “Wan Wan, don’t be angry. You know how insensitive I can be at times. Plus I was worried that you would be awkward with me since Tang Tang was around.”

“Stop trying to find an excuse. If you really cared about Tang Tang being around, you wouldn’t have courted me, would you?” Tang Wan huffed. “Thank god I don’t need a man to pay my bills, so don’t find me ever again! We’re done!”

She hung up immediately after saying that.

Yang Chen got nervous when she said that. He thought, *?She’s obviously throwing a tantrum, looks like any woman would feel insecure.*

Yang Chen wouldn’t let them be done for real. He knew that Tang Wan definitely didn’t mean it.

So he jumped off the balcony after throwing some clothes on.

Wasn’t this a perfect chance for a surprise attack since she hadn’t fallen asleep yet?

When he got to Tang Wan’s villa, just as he predicted, her room was still brightly lit!

Yang Chen smirked, as expected of Tang Wan for calling him over in such a special way.

It took a while for someone to answer the door after he rang the doorbell.

“Why are you here, didn’t I say we’re done?” Tang Wan stood by the door with a poker face.

Yang Chen didn’t reply. Instead, he stared at her sleeping gown which separated him from her body!

The gown flaunted her curves which were clearly visible under the thin layer of cloth. Her milky-white skin shone under the moonlight, seducing him alongside the amorous vibe that she was emitting.

“What are you looking at? Why bother looking at me when you have a hot wife at home?” Tang Wan said snidely, yet she couldn’t help but blush under his gaze.

Yang Chen licked his lips and said to her, ignoring her bitter tone, "Come on, I'm already here so stop acting like a kid. Where's Tang Tang? Is she asleep?"

Tang Wan caught on quick. "Tang Tang slept ages ago. Are you here just to do that kind of thing? When was I acting like a kid?"

"That's the only thing I can do with you other than eat supper since it's already so late. But you're already curvy enough so supper is out of the question. Why don't we do some exercise?" Yang Chen moved in closer to her. He couldn't get enough of her fragrance.

Tang Wan stepped back instinctively, feeling slightly nervous. "You... Don't act hastily, I'm still mad at you!"

"We can still do it even if you're angry." Yang Chen giggled and pulled her into his arms.

"Ah!"

Tang Wan couldn't help but moan when his hands caressed her body. Her body tensed and every part that he touched felt hot.

"Yang Chen you... you big bully! You're only here for this and leave me after that. Am I just a plaything to you?" Tang Wan struggled to break free.

Yang Chen nibbled on her earlobe. "Don't be angry, I'll make sure to let you know next time no matter what, alright?"

"That's better..." Tang Wan wasn't really angry. She was just throwing a tantrum just so that he would pay attention to her.

Tang Wan was already submitting herself to him. At first, she would still struggle to express her annoyance but when Yang Chen snuck his hands under her gown and fondled her breast, she relaxed into him and allowed him to do as he pleased...

Her cherry lips pressed against his neck, leaving her marks everywhere.

Her body had been resculpted under Yang Chen's care and training so now she had a seductive mature body yet it was filled with energy like a young lady!

Yang Chen twirled her around in excitement and pushed her down on the sofa!

Her sleeping gown rolled up her legs as she wrapped them around his waist.

"You... you're so shameless. First it was the kitchen, now it's the living room..."

Tang Wan huffed with a flushed face.

"It's not the same. I mean if you'd like, we could also have a wild battle W!on the grass outside. It's not like anyone could see us," Yang Chen whispered in her ears.

Tang Wan whimpered and struggled to break free. She might not be young but she wasn't experienced, so how could she win over him?

Yang Chen snickered and made his advances after taking off his clothes!

Moments later the room was filled with Tang Wan's excited shrieks and Yang Chen's heavy breathing! Somehow they had changed their location upstairs and continued their lovemaking session on Tang Wan's bed.

Once a woman of her age got aroused, it was like unleashing Pandora's box!

Who knew that she could act so crazy underneath her cold and rational appearance!

It was as though she was caught in a typhoon, sinking inside a pool of wildness. Only Yang Chen could save her from her loneliness by penetrating her!

It was bound to be a long and sleepless night for both of them.

Chapter 866 - I'm Not Washing Them

### **I'm Not Washing Them**

Their lovemaking session lasted till the early break of dawn. Her chest seemed to have grown in size from the continuous stimulation that she had endured.

Her face was flushed and she moaned continuously but it wasn't enough to express what she was feeling on the inside.

Yang Chen kept penetrating her, which made her body feel as though she was a boat floating on rough waves!

Tang Wan couldn't even remember how many times she had reached climax, each one more intense than the one before!

She could feel fluid flowing out of her, which showed how excited she was. In fact, it was the best lovemaking session she had ever experienced.

She was accepting Yang Chen with her own wholeheartedly.

But Tang Wan felt slightly disappointed that Yang Chen was still taking the lead. She wanted to know what it would be like if she took charge for once.

So she flipped their roles around and pressed on Yang Chen's chest to keep him down. "I want to be in the lead this time. Play dead and don't move!"

"Can't I touch you?" Yang Chen pointed at her sensitive spot.

"No!" Tang Wan yelled. "You can only move when I say so."

Yang Chen smiled lightly as he thought, *Well, what's the harm? I'm not tired but it's an enjoyment to watch her performance.*

Tang Wan straddled him and he went straight into her. She felt as though her soul was being ripped from her body and tossed into the atmosphere!

Tang Wan couldn't help but shudder and fell on top of Yang Chen's broad chest!

"How much more can you take?" Yang Chen teased her and twisted his waist slightly.

“You... I told you not to move! Also, never ask a woman if she can continue!”

Yang Chen almost cracked up. *Wasn't that meant for guys?*

Tang Wan grumbled internally. *Dammit, did it grow bigger? Just how much can this man take?*

But she couldn't be bothered anymore, so she moved according to how she felt and the rest of her body followed...

Her flexible body was finally showing its true abilities as she twisted around. Slowly, she could feel herself entering into another realm. It was a beautiful and exciting one, causing her to fall deeper and deeper into it.

But at last, Yang Chen growled and shot his load inside her. Tang Wan moaned, unable to control herself. She shuddered while holding her breath, her face filled with an expression that looked like a mixture of pain and bliss.

Tang Wan rested her head on his chest while reeling in the last few moments of pleasure that she was able to endure. She could barely calm herself down. It was as though that blissful feeling was imprinted into her mind and she found herself being uncontrollably obsessed with it.

Moments later, Yang Chen sighed and caressed her hair. He felt warmth at his chest when he looked at her flushed cheeks.

Tang Wan opened her eyes and looked at Yang Chen with an affectionate gaze. He was greater than she thought. He was not only a skilled cultivator but a master in bed as well.

She might not be very experienced at this but she could fulfill her curiosity by reading it online. Through that, she knew that not all women would reach orgasm during lovemaking, but she did every time she was with Yang Chen. This fact alone was attractive enough, let alone that Yang Chen was her lover.

“Satisfied now? You're not angry anymore right?” Yang Chen kissed her forehead while smiling.

Tang Wan chided and bit her lip while giving him a flirtatious look. “I'll tell you when I've calmed down.”

“You look tired so why don't we rest now? It's already late!” Yang Chen caressed her hair and told her.

“Hmm...” Tang Wan twisted her body and moaned suddenly. It was a long one and completely seductive!

“What's wrong?” Yang Chen was startled.

“Your... your thing... It's still inside me, and... it got bigger!” Tang Wan was about to cry as she stuttered with a flushed face.

Yang Chen sighed. “It's your fault since you didn't take it out earlier.”

“What should I do then?” Tang Wan couldn't think straight so she didn't realize how dumb she sounded!

Yang Chen laughed wickedly in response. “Well, we better take care of it shouldn't we?”

“Oh!”

Obviously Yang Chen wouldn't listen to her and minutes later another session had started.



The next morning, Yang Chen opened his eyes while lying on Tang Wan's bed. The room was filled with the intoxicating scent of their lovemaking session.

Yang Chen felt so energized after having a good sleep.

He licked his lips when he smelled something tasty coming from downstairs. It seemed like Tang Wan had gone down to cook lunch.

Yang Chen ran downstairs excitedly after putting on clothes just in time for Tang Wan to exit the kitchen wearing a pink apron. She was carrying two dishes into the dining hall.

Tang Wan blushed as though she was reminded of the crazy night from yesterday, but decided to pretend like it was nothing and motioned toward Yang Chen. "Go wash your hands and have lunch, I made chicken soup."

Yang Chen went behind her and chuckled while saying, "I'm not washing them."

"Why not?" Tang Wan turned around in confusion.

"Because there is still the milky scent of your body on them." Yang Chen smiled suggestively.

Tang Wan's ears went red too and she yelled at him while pinching his waist. "Pervert!"

Yang Chen burst into laughter. He was not aware that Tang Wan had a weakness for teasing. This was a different side of her, a starking contrast from her usual generous appearance.

Tang Wan relaxed after a while and sat down on the table. She served rice with a chicken drumstick for Yang Chen and they enjoyed their lunch together.

"Where's Tang Tang?" Yang Chen asked curiously.

Tang Wan gave him a look. "Look at the time now. Yuan Ye picked her up hours ago. They are so lovey-dovey now and I bet she can't wait to get married even before she graduates from university."

"That's not surprising since Yuan Ye loves her so much that he would die for her. He's rich, handsome, and has a great personality to boot. A man like him will be welcomed anywhere. Sigh... my cousin is great like me except for the fact that he's not really a philanthropist," Yang Chen said boldly without a hint of shame.

"Cough!"

Tang Wan choked on her food. She covered her mouth in annoyance, trying to clean the mess. She looked over and scolded him. "Can you not be so shameless at the lunch table?!"

Chapter 867 - Cutting the Abdomen

### **Cutting the Abdomen**

Yang Chen stroked his face and grinned like an idiot. "Alright, let's eat, let's eat..."

Tang Wan was annoyed yet amused by the fact that he could proclaim himself as a philanthropist. They continued to have their lunch when suddenly, Tang Wan gasped. "Oh ya, my grandfather asked me to thank you and I forgot about it."

“Thank me? For what?” Yang Chen scratched his face with his chopsticks. “I don’t remember lending him any money.”

Tang Wan rolled her eyes. “What made you think we need your money?”

Yang Chen was puzzled. “Then what is it?”

Tang Wan explained to him. “Didn’t you wipe out the Yan clan? Don’t even try to deny that. Even though it wasn’t officially reported, I managed to piece information here and there. No one else but you could do this, plus things were quiet before that because of the Yan clan too.”

Yang Chen straightened his posture when he heard this. “And what does this have to do with the Tang clan?”

Tang Wan further elaborated. “Don’t you remember, your father... Oh, I mean Commander Yang. He participated in the election for the Central Political Bureau and lost. You were one of the reasons he lost to the Yan clan. But of course, it was mainly because the genius Yan Buwen had contributed a lot to the country. The Central Committee and the army wanted to secure the Yan clan’s status so they gave a seat to them.”

Yang Chen still couldn’t understand how it tied in. “What does that have to do with the Tang clan?”

“Wait for it.” Tang Wan took a sip of the soup. “Because you killed Yan Qingtian, the seat was left vacant. It was impossible for the bureau to re-elect someone so our clan was chosen to replace the seat after a meeting with the four dominant clans.”

Yang Chen asked with curiosity, “The Ning clan didn’t object? The rest of the Yan clan must have interfered with the decision.”

Tang Wan smiled. “Normally, each clan would take up two seats in the bureau but because we weren’t doing so well politically, we only got one seat whereas the Ning clan got three seats and the rest got two seats each. It was sufficient for the Yang and Li clans to have two seats since they were more influential in the army but we were different. We were already in a disadvantageous position yet we only got one seat...”

“Hold on, if that’s the case, to whom did the Yan clan’s seat belong to? The Yang clan or the Li clan?” Yang Chen asked.

“The Yang clan of course.” Tang Wan smiled, feeling slightly embarrassed. “I remember telling you this before. The biggest problem faced by the Yang clan is their lack of inheritors. Other than you and Yang Lie, only Yuan Ye was next in the bloodline. Commander Yang only has a few cousins working in a bureau. Originally, Commander Yang was supposed to replace his relative but it was taken from him by Yan Qingtian. That was how the Ning clan got three seats, whereas the Li clan had two seats. Our clan had one seat and your clan had only one seat too. Now that Yan Qingtian died, there’s an empty seat available. It was supposed to go to the Yang Clan but seeing as though you were the one to finish off their clan, they thought it was inappropriate to do so. So after the discussion, the seat was given to the Tang clan since we have always been neutral. My uncle took the seat and he’s positioned as the vice premier and the member of the Standing Committee. It’s a fresh start for us to recover our political status.”

Yang Chen smirked. "It's no big deal. I'm not bothered by it so there's no need to thank me. I didn't kill the Yan clan to receive this kind of gratitude."

Tang Wan sighed. "You might not be familiar with it but getting into the Standing Committee comes with great power, especially the decision-making power in important events. Looking at the current economic market in China, there's no doubt that we can gain an overwhelming amount of profit easily, which is why this is important to all the other clans. I know that you couldn't be bothered by this but the people who run our world sit in those positions. One can never go against a country head-on unless they have nothing to lose."

Yang Chen kept quiet for a moment and said with a bitter smile. "I know what you're trying to say. I might have wiped out the Yan clan but Yan Buwen is still alive. I can't have my subordinates track him down because of his abilities. Yet I am not entirely sure I would be able to kill him the next time I meet him. If he's alive, he would do anything to take me down. By then, Hongmeng might believe that my existence is a threat to the citizens of China. I might be fearless but those of you around me, including you, have your own lives. I can't risk upsetting the lives of those people around me for my own personal gain. So I need to be strong enough to face the upcoming challenges."

Tang Wan beamed. "I'm glad you understand, but it's best for you to return to Yang clan as soon as possible. It might not be easy for you to take over as the head of the clan because of Commander Yang and your brother Yang Lie, but once you do you'll have full authority over the army. Then you won't be that threatened in the political world."

Yang Chen nodded. He actually thought about something else. If Ning Guangyao was willing to accept Lin Ruoxi as his daughter and realize his mistakes, it would've been advantageous to them. Especially since the Ning clan had the strongest influence in the political world. But Yang Chen gave up on this idea when he remembered how cold-blooded Ning Guangyao was in Beijing during their last meeting.

He'd rather not hurt Lin Ruoxi just to gain support from them.

Suddenly, Yang Chen's phone buzzed in his pocket. He picked it up and realized it was a call from Lin Ruoxi.

*Damn, did Ruoxi realize something was up since I did not turn up for breakfast?*

Yang Chen signaled Tang Wan to keep quiet before answering the phone. "Ruoxi, why did you call me?"

Lin Ruoxi sounded as though she was suppressing her anger. "I don't care if you go out to sleep with another woman but why aren't you here for the party?! If you don't want to work just tell me! I can just hire someone else to replace you! Stop pissing me off!"

"Party?" Yang Chen was puzzled. "What party?"

"Are you... are you serious? It's a gathering party for the entertainment media. It's fine if you missed the seminar but how could you be absent to greet the guest?! How would the media and celebrities view us?!" Lin Ruoxi yelled.

Yang Chen scratched his head. "What are you talking about? This is my first time hearing of this!"

“Nonsense! Didn’t you hire Hannya to be your secretary? Did she not tell you?” Lin Ruoxi questioned in annoyance.

“Hannya?” Yang Chen slapped his forehead, “Oh right, I skipped work yesterday but she didn’t call me either.”

Lin Ruoxi didn’t know what else to say so she just yelled at him, “Just come over immediately!”

Yang Chen thought his eardrums were about to explode. He didn’t know she could be so loud since she always sounded so soft and gentle.

Yang Chen was left clueless. He did not even manage to get the name of the location!

Having no choice, he called Hannya.

She picked up immediately. “Master, what are your orders?”

Yang Chen wasn’t used to hearing this so he clicked his tongue and said, “Hannya, President Lin said I missed a seminar today, and a party? What’s going on?”

Hannya responded immediately. “It’s a project organized by Yu Lei, a seminar with the entertainment media with regards to the future collaborations. It started this morning with a party during the break and the seminar will continue till six in the evening. Lastly, an evening party was organized to wrap things up. It’s mandatory for you to attend as the director of the entertainment branch company.”

“Then why didn’t you tell me yesterday?!” Yang Chen exclaimed.

Hannya lowered her voice. “Please forgive me, Master. I thought you were busy so I didn’t dare to bother you...”

Yang Chen was about to go crazy. How did Noriko Okawa even train her to become a slave like this? They were only talking through a phone call and she was already this scared.

Yang Chen didn’t dare to blame her, afraid that she would cut her own abdomen.

When he got the address, Yang Chen bid Tang Wan goodbye in a hurry. She was understanding about it since she was also a businesswoman.

Yang Chen had to do his job since it was his responsibility, also because Lin Ruoxi had a strong compassion for work. If he delayed it any further, he might as well have cut his own abdomen right there and then!

Chapter 868 - Nodding and Shaking the Head

### **Nodding and Shaking the Head**

Despite all the anxiety bottled within himself for a punctual arrival, he quickly returned home to grab a tuxedo before heading towards the venue of the party. Nonetheless, he was already noticeably late.

Watching the dispersing foreign crowd and their staff, Yang Chen painstakingly facepalmed, as he awkwardly held onto his phone before he dialed Lin Ruoxi’s number.

Before the phone could connect, the call was hung up immediately!

Yang Chen was stiff and immensely uneasy, once again in the realization that he messed up big time. The only remedy he could think of was to dial Zhao Hongyan's number. She was Lin Ruoxi's right-hand woman. He was certain that she was by her side.

After a long, hesitant delay, Zhao Hongyan ultimately picked up. "Is there anything, Yang Chen?"

Yang Chen chuckled. "Quit beating around the bush, where's Ruoxi?"

What came right after was a raspy voice from a close distance. "Hongyan, hang up. We have better things to tend to!"

Zhao Hongyan, caught in the middle, could only fake a laugh. "Yang Chen, there will be more guests coming by later this afternoon. Go to the meeting hall now alright, your seat has been vacant the entire morning now."

Finally getting a grasp of where he was needed, Yang Chen then proceeded to inquire about his whereabouts from several passing staff but eventually making his way to the center convention hall.

Right at its core was an enormous, circular table more or less fully occupied by men and women in a variety of clothing and outfits. Yang Chen recognized none of them.

Lin Ruoxi sat at the far end by a commanding position, shifting her gaze at her husband anxiously barging into the scene. He even grinned stupidly at her! She suddenly wished at that very moment that she had no ties to that revolting man.

Just the night before, she perceived a change in his attitude. But less than a day later, he was back to his impulsive, ignorant self.

Yang Chen adjusted his slightly disarrayed tuxedo, disregarding the scornful looks from across the room.

Nonetheless, once he made himself comfortable and sat down, a quick glance instantly brought about a distasteful frown.

In a sky-blue Armani suit and a tie, resonating a vibe nothing less of suave and masculinity, was Li Jianhe from the class reunion!

Li Jianhe seemed to be in a rather jolly mood as he engaged Yang Chen with a smile. "Director Yang has finally arrived I see. I was about to say how much a pity it would be if I didn't get to meet you again."

After picking up on Yang Chen's title of 'director', as called by Li Jianhe, everyone finally took to realize that the corny-looking fellow who came late was actually the director of Yu Lei Entertainment.

Yang Chen squinted his eyes without a word before he focused his gaze on Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi seemed rather nervous, afraid that Yang Chen would misunderstand. She quickly clarified, "Mr Li is here as a representative for BMW's Asian division, which explains his attendance today."

Yang Chen gave a rather unenthusiastic glance at Li Jianhe before he smiled relaxedly. "Oh I see, but I guess introductions aren't necessary. My memory is rather bad after all, I can't for the life of me seem to remember him."

“Mr Yang must be joking.” Li Jianhe awkwardly smirked. Nonetheless, with Yang Chen’s superior background in mind, he had to swallow his pride as he gracefully added. “Don’t mind if I reintroduce myself. I guess we did meet once before Mr Yang, at President Lin’s campus reunion.”

Yang Chen was hardly bothered by his remarks as he turned towards a fat, bald, middle-aged man by his side. “Nice haircut you have there sir. I’ve always wanted to shave my head bald, but my wife wouldn’t let me. It sucks to be born with this simple face of mine. But I guess she’s right, if I actually did shave, I guess only nuns would fall for me.”

The intentional change of conversation blatantly left Li Jianhe hanging, as he froze to his spot.

The bald man replied in a deep, growling tone as he burst into laughter. “It gets pretty hot these days. The bald head really comes in handy. Oh yeah, Director Yang, I heard you’re President Lin’s husband, aren’t you? Your lasting and affectionate relationship sure is an envy to us all, but President Lin is also renowned to be a perfectionist.”

Everyone else started giggling at their seats. As people in the business, they knew right off the bat what Li Jianhe’s goal was. Despite his aggressive approach, he ultimately fell flat, which indirectly gained praise for the Yang couple.

Lin Ruoxi was rather unprepared for the fiasco, as she cleared her throat before announcing the commencement of the meeting.

Li Jianhe sat idly by his seat, with an unwavering smile, like a man behind a mask.

It was instead Yang Chen who was comparatively reckless and impudent. People started gossiping about how mismatched he and Lin Ruoxi were.

But obviously, it was nothing but factless assumptions.

As the meeting progressed throughout the afternoon, lines after lines of business terminologies were passed from one end to the other, which unsurprisingly led Yang Chen catching himself dozing off from time to time. It was only until Hannya arrived at the venue did she record important notes on Yang Chen’s behalf.

At long last, dusk crept up to the party and the meeting had finally come to a close. The crowd subsequently dispersed to their own five-star accommodations courtesy of Yu Lei International, awaiting nightfall for the most crucial event of the entire schedule. It was at the banquet when the A-listers finally made their appearance.

Lin Ruoxi shook hands with the most significant of the meeting guests, and only after did she ultimately depart from the venue herself. As host, courtesy was one thing she would not slack upon.

Yang Chen carefully waited by the side as Lin Ruoxi went through her formalities. He was preparing himself to shower her with songs of praises. But after Lin Ruoxi assigned several tasks to Zhao Hongyan, she made her way straight towards the VIP waiting room.

Yang Chen frustratedly tailed behind her as they both entered into her private break room. Lin Ruoxi, on the other hand, gave no attention to him as she hurried into the fitting room, carefully swapping her work attire for an adequate ball-gown.

Yang Chen who was left in the dust sat dispiritedly by the couch, moaning and yawning on what he should do next.

After some cold, hard contemplation, Yang Chen turned to Lin Ruoxi in the fitting room. “Wifey, why aren’t you talking to me? Are you still mad? I mean I did say I would do anything to break the ice, but I didn’t mean you should test that out!”

His remarks prompted hardly any response from the fitting room, not until three long minutes later, a tiny peep crack revealed from within as the door creaked open.

The first to follow was a crystalloid pair of red heels paired to a fair, supple pair of legs, before Yang Chen’s eyes were blessed with a breezy lace dress, elegantly shielding much of her poignant legs as it shied away from the limelight.

Barely half of Lin Ruoxi’s silhouette made its way past the door, but Yang Chen was mortified beyond belief.

Her tiny waist paired with those voluptuous curves made for curvature resembling that of Greek goddesses. The vibe she resonated with was unparalleled to anything he had witnessed before.

In the eyes of the beholder, she was akin to that of the holy mother, sacred and pure, while simultaneously eluding a tinge of exoticism.

Lin Ruoxi noticed Yang Chen’s bewitchment as she was filled with glee, but nonetheless still kept a sense of caution as she confronted from mere embarrassment. “How do I look?”

Yang Chen stiffly nodded, before he then shook his head.

Lin Ruoxi frowned upon his mixed response. “That’s it? What’s that supposed to mean?”

“A nod is when you’re pretty, a shake of the head is when...” Yang Chen took a huge gulp before he continued, “Is when it exceeds what could possibly be defined by the word ‘pretty’...”

Lin Ruoxi let out a sigh of relief. Her silky-smooth hair fluttered ever so slightly in the wind as she hop-skipped her way out of the fitting room. She then took an elegant spin as the fabrics on her body glided with the air like an orchid blooming in full glory, the air scented with sweet jasmine.

“There’s going to be a good number of A-list celebrities attending tonight. There will be some renowned directors and writers, even an internationally acclaimed legend would be in attendance today.

“That is why as host I need to at least put in some effort to look presentable. I might not be from the entertainment industry, but I have Yu Lei’s image on my back, and I have to be nothing but stunning today.” Lin Ruoxi took a deep breath.

“It might be slightly tight by the waist but there isn’t time left for me to fit into another, besides, I’ve spent the better half of this afternoon deciding on this dress—Ahh!”

Lin Ruoxi’s sudden shriek was from Yang Chen’s impulsive embrace as he clung onto her body!

“What... are you doing?! You’re messing up my outfit!” Lin Ruoxi perplexingly pushed Yang Chen’s face away.

But Yang Chen, on the other hand, was unfazed as he went straight to her fair, alluring neck and gave it a few smooches. "Darling, I think you should get a new dress. I'm worried about those superstars out there who would be intimidated to hell with how stunning you are right now!"

Chapter 869 - Heaven

## Heaven

"Pfft, stop spewing your nonsense here. They are veterans in this field. They have graced red carpets across the globe with their superstar charisma. If I could play on an even field with them, I would be more than satisfied." Lin Ruoxi glared at her husband before breaking free from his embrace.

"Well if anyone dares to say that they look better than you do, I'll gauge their eyes out!" Yang Chen promptly replied.

Lin Ruoxi softly jabbed Yang Chen's chest in response. "My god, can't you speak like a normal person?"

"I'm kidding, I'm kidding. Oh yeah, one more thing. You ain't mad at me anymore, are you?" Yang Chen chuckled.

Lin Ruoxi gave him a half-hearted glare before she shook her head. "It's not the first time something like this has happened. I have to get used to it eventually. I can't help myself but get mad at you. But, it'll probably take a while before I can finally truly put everything behind me. Besides, you saw Li Jianhe in attendance but didn't question me about it. Since you trust me so much, I got to learn to let go too, don't you think?"

Yang Chen brightly grinned to her explanation. "Oh, I never thought you'd think I was being generous. If the bastard even had the slightest sketchy thought about you, I'll snap his neck, so I wasn't worried at all."

"You..." Lin Ruoxi clenched her teeth as she turned away, disgusted by his constant gory mentality.

Yang Chen giggled with a bright smile as he held her by the shoulder with a solemn look on his face. "Frankly though, we might not have been married long but our marriage has gone through more than most couples can say. Many things which were once mountains are nothing more than molehills now. I'm glad we compromised."

"Wow, don't you dare act all smug on me. I didn't even get to interrogate you yet! Where on earth were you spending the night before?" Lin Ruoxi confronted him.

Yang Chen took a woeful sigh as he started contemplating his options.

Lin Ruoxi then promptly raised her back heel and stamped right onto Yang Chen's leather shoes!

"Hey! Wifey you're breaking it!"

Lin Ruoxi brutally taunted, "Oh so the shoes matter more than your feet now, don't they?"

Yang Chen shook his head. "Of course... I wouldn't feel any pain..."

"You!" Lin Ruoxi slammed her foot down even harder the second time.



Yang Chen quickly understood that it was her way to vent her frustration. He smiled bitterly and cried from the 'pain'.

Only then did she finally nod in satisfaction. "You deserved it."

The rare chit-chat between the couple was inevitably cut short as the gala was about to start. According to schedule, as host, Lin Ruoxi was to officiate the event with a timely speech.

Originally, as newcomers in the entertainment industry, it would be a daunting task to invite A-list celebrities and international megastars to even bat an eye on an event like this.

But with a slight push from Yang Chen by inviting the biggest names of the fashion industry, Yu Lei Entertainment had quickly gained a foothold among the world's leading names.

After all, it was a dream of many celebrities to collaborate with one of these internationally renowned designers.

At a gathering of this scale, it naturally attracted a frenzy of entertainment reporters as they flooded the heart of Yu Lei Convention Centre.

Nonetheless, as the CEO of the organization, Lin Ruoxi had a custom passageway towards the heart of the action.

As soon as she made her way into the banquet hall, Zhao Hongyan who was closely monitoring the flow instantly signaled the background staff to stop the music, and ready the stage for Lin Ruoxi's inauguration speech.

Close to a hundred guests in attendance quickly noticed the music fading as they reactively turned towards the massive stage.

Under the focused spotlights, Lin Ruoxi took a deep breath and walked towards the center.

As the snow-white dinner gown graced the stage, glistening in focused lights, the bearer herself, an elegant yet commanding presence, made the center stage her home. She faced the multitude before her. The atmosphere was dead silent.

Big-name actors and actresses, renowned directors and conglomerate leaders, that were just moments ago jolly and frigid were now focused beyond belief, solely upon the leading woman herself.

The flamboyantly dressed female celebrities were instantly denounced by the blinding presence that was Lin Ruoxi!

This commanding presence was not one built only upon her divine appearance, but accompanied by elegance from her adolescence and total confidence from within.

Caught in the crowd were Li Jianhe and Shen Yaxin who were glowing with a range of emotions ranging from jealousy to anger.

Even those who had had the privilege of seeing Ruoxi in her prime were still shocked into speechlessness.

As the crowd feasted their eyes on the spellbinding Lin Ruoxi, notable directors mesmerizingly watched in hopes that they could nab her for their next casting. She would be an instant hit!

But the aspirations were quickly brushed off with the reminder that Lin Ruoxi was herself an uber-successful entrepreneur sitting on a net worth of tens of billions.

Celebrities, no matter how bright they shone or how quick they would leave impressions in the minds of many, at the end of the day they were only just entertainers. The people who pulled their strings in the background were the real stars.

Even in today's day and age, men with true power and wealth would never bat an eye upon the celebrities adored by the majority. Fame and the lack thereof was but a Sunday afternoon game for the powerful.

Lin Ruoxi participating in the entertainment world would be like a puppeteer relegating herself to the finite realms of puppets.

Back on the center stage was Lin Ruoxi, slightly nervous as she became the heart of the attention. She summarized her speech into a few short points in hopes of leaving the stage as soon as possible.

That was exactly what she did. After a brief speech to inaugurate the event, she hastily made her way off the stage, albeit in a professional manner.

Even then, many who were immersed in her divine beauty forgot the simple etiquette of clapping after her speech.

Nevertheless, the hectic mishmash of a day had finally come to a fruitful end.

After she left the stage, she demanded Yang Chen to accompany her as they met with crucial business partners and big names from the media.

Yang Chen might not be the most attentive, but Lin Ruoxi still wished for the man to put more effort into potential future endeavors, and not spend much of his time lusting over other women.

Yang Chen paid close attention to Lin Ruoxi's demands, following her closely as she interacted with a variety of successful people, most of whom he was not familiar with. They engaged in small talk as he fulfilled his role in boosting Lin Ruoxi's status in their minds.

Right at that moment, a fifty-year-old man with a ponytail, escorted by an elegant, poised woman dressed in a fiery-red low-cut gown, made their way to Lin Ruoxi.

"President? Lin, we met six months ago, you still remember me?" The man engaged in an inviting tone.

Lin Ruoxi had a glow in her eyes as she hurriedly introduced. "Hubby, this is the acclaimed director Yu Shuo. Our promotional video was shot by him. The video even went on to win the best promotional video in the country. Just this year Director Yu won Best Director in both the Cannes and Tokyo film festivals. He's one of the most sought-after in Hollywood right now."

"Oh President Lin, stop flattering me. I wouldn't have done all of that if it weren't for the leaders and my business partners," Yu Shuo humbly replied.

Yang Chen, however, was rather flabbergasted that the modest-looking fellow was actually an acclaimed director of his own right. Even as someone unfamiliar with the entertainment industry, he understood the significance of receiving key awards at a major film festival.

“I wonder if I’m unworthy of your attention, Ms Lin. Are you just going to be chatting with Director Yu?” joked the exquisite woman in the red dress by his side engaged her with a smile, in a bold, feminine tone.

Lin Ruoxi, without a slight change in emotion, replied, “Why would I? I was just going to introduce you to my husband. Hubby, this is Ms Lu Yao, I’m sure you are familiar with her work.”

Yang Chen took a quick glance at her and came to the conclusion that she seemed familiar. “I feel like I’ve seen you somewhere in the news...”

Lu Yao was slightly displeased but kept her smile intact. “I understand that Mr Yang has a wide connection. I suppose it is possible for people to fly under your radar.”

Lin Ruoxi subtly pinched Yang Chen by the waist, agitated by his brutal honesty. “Ms Lu Yao is the biggest female singer of the year, crowned as the queen of the college movie festival. She has even received the platinum award from Hong Kong and Taiwan.”

Yang Chen responsively slammed himself at the head. “Oh, I know you. You have that one song called ‘Without You in Heaven’ right?”

Lu Yao finally cracked a genuine smile as she coyly added, “Oh it turns out Mr Yang has heard of my song, but I suppose young men like you probably wouldn’t appreciate it as much. Its original audience was targeted to young women.”

That was clearly formal talk. But Yang Chen, however, took it rather serious as he replied, “Oh well, I really didn’t like it. The melody was decent, but your pitch wasn’t clear. If it were Hui Li—sorry... Lin Hui, it would have sounded much better.”

Chapter 870 - The Cranberries

### **The Cranberries**

That outrageous remark left Lin Ruoxi and even Director Yu Shuo frozen stiff.

Lu Yao’s face darkened as she immediately put on the phoniest smile in existence. “Ms Lin Hui does have a melodious voice. I must admit that I am a big fan of hers. But I also must say that everyone brings their own distinct flair to their performances. For you to quickly denounce my song would be wildly misjudged, don’t you think? Besides, all we ever heard was Ms Lin Hui’s pre-recorded music in the studio. Who knows how she would really sound on a real stage.”

Lu Yao was frank with her statement, but after Yang Chen’s indifferent remark, it was not hard to comprehend.

Yang Chen casually brushed it off. “That’s true. But don’t be offended Ms Lu Yao. I am blunt and straightforward to a fault. If you don’t believe me, you can always turn to my wife. Isn’t that right, Ruoxi?”

“What?” Lin Ruoxi instantly snapped out of her position.

“About me being a straightforward guy.”

“Oh, right... Oh, what?!” Lin Ruoxi reactively sealed her lips as her face turned bright red, eager to flee from the scene right that instant!

*What is this idiot talking about?! Wasn't I reassuring the fact that Lu Yao is a worse singer than Hui Lin?!*

Unsurprisingly, Lu Yao was already clenching her teeth and seething from her nose!

Director Yu Shuo who was paying close attention tried his best to contain his laughter before he sniffled. “You’re hilarious Mr Yang. Lu Yao here is a platinum artist and a box office queen. There is no question about the talent she possesses. We were just discussing if we should collaborate for my upcoming movie.”

Lin Ruoxi brilliantly adapted to the change of topics as she quickly added, “Can we expect an instant classic coming our way soon, Director Yu? Would you mind to share a sneak peek into your next venture?”

Director Yu smiled as he replied, “It’s not a mystery anymore at this point. What I have in mind is a mystical themed film focusing on China’s very own fantasy and mythologies. It would revolve around deities and vigilantes, something akin to the popular fantasy martial arts genre.”

Not too long ago, Lin Ruoxi would have no idea nor would she have any interest in fantasy and mythology.

But these days, after Yang Chen exposed her to the world of refining and cultivation, she had finally batted an eye on the vast expense of the martial arts world, which was why she was less surprised at the thought of the concept.

Yang Chen, however, bluntly replied, “Could it be about demons eyeing to feast on the classic monk Tang Sanzang? If that’s the case, I think Ms Lu Yao is a perfect fit, just like that spider demon from the Journey to the West saga!”

“Mr Yang could very much be praising my looks resembling that of a supernatural being, or that my personality reeks of a demon,” Lu Yao ominously rebuked.

Lin Ruoxi had been hinting Yang Chen with pinches on the back, each time harder than the last, stupefied at her husband’s petty feud against Lu Yao. She was sure that this was the first time they would meet.

Yang Chen burst into laughter. “Well for that, you have to go back and talk to your father figure, if he indeed has chosen you for the special something hiding within your core.”

His statement was as baffling as anyone would have expected.

Lu Yao’s pupils reactively dilated at his proclamation, as her face paled even further. “Well what a peculiar remark you just made, Mr Yang. I don’t think I understand any of it.”

Yang Chen vaguely grinned. “That’s fine, as long as I do.”

Lin Ruoxi and Director Yu Shuo were caught in the middle as they stared blankly at the other two.

Lu Yao was visibly shaken as she attempted a departure from the hostile party before a certain presence stopped by.

It was Zhao Hongyan alongside several Caucasians as they stopped before Lin Ruoxi.

Zhao Hongyan, as a member of the public relations department, had a rather good grasp of English as she seemed to get along well with the men and women dressed in rock-and-roll themed outfits.

“Ma’am.” Zhao Hongyan introduced with a smile, “This is the Irish band Cranberries who are currently on their world tour stop in Zhonghai. Their lead singer Ms Dolores wanted to express their gratitude towards our assistance for their tour in China and insisted on an audience with you.”

Before Lin Ruoxi could say her greetings, Lu Yao on the side started screaming like a fangirl.

“Oh my god! Ms Dolores and the Cranberries?!”

Lu Yao was rather shell-shocked as she engaged them in English. “Hi, let me introduce myself. I’m Lu Yao, and it’s a pleasure to meet with you guys.”

Ms Dolores, the woman with platinum blonde hair seemed to be rather taken aback by her outburst, but still kept her courtesy as she replied, “Nice to meet you. It’s our first visit to China so do forgive us if we aren’t too familiar with the people here.”

Lin Ruoxi never neglected her role as host as she instinctively started a simple round of introduction within the circle, including Lu Yao’s background, while also expressing her gratitude towards the Cranberries.

Even though Lin Ruoxi wasn’t too accustomed to their music, she would still instantly recognize a well-beloved rock band.

The Cranberries might not be universally renowned, but their talent and charisma on stage were well acknowledged by their fans.

And to collaborate with an international group of this caliber sure was the main aspirations of many in China. It would boost their international fanbase, which explained Lu Yao’s excessive reaction towards their surprise appearance.

Lu Yao seemed to have quickly wiped her mind clean of her previous fussing with Yang Chen as she giggled merrily whilst expressing her love of the Cranberries.

“Ms Dolores, you have no idea how much I love your music. I spent my college years listening to your music. Your lyrics truly get me. I was desperately trying to attend your concert here in Zhonghai but was devastated to find out that the tickets were all sold out,” said Lu Yao.

Ms Dolores and the other members were all smiles hearing from Lin Ruoxi that Lu Yao herself was also a well-off singer, and as formalities went they had to give her an adequate response.

“Ms Lu Yao, if you are looking forward to our concert, you can just drop by and we would have our organizers arrange a special seat for you. If we have the opportunity in the future it’d definitely be our

pleasure to work with you. We never collaborated with anyone from China, and if there was gonna be a first we'd like it to be you," Dolores replied.

Lu Yao gleefully added, "There's this saying in China, to 'seize the moment', and since there are a crowd of musicians and investors here in attendance tonight, alongside a top-notch stage, it'd be of utmost pleasure if I could perform a song with you guys. Would you accept this as a request from your biggest fan?"

Anyone present knew right away what her motive was. Lu Yao was utilizing this opportunity to build a connection with the Cranberries. If the results turned out to be favorable, she could actually snag a collaboration with international megastars, propelling her to heights only dreamed of by some people.

Nonetheless, to evade any suspicion that she was manipulating the Cranberries as a jumping board, she had to first prove to a global audience that she was capable enough.

Dolores and the members went into discussion, and after a quick negotiation with their manager, they thought it was worth a go.

After all, Lu Yao has proven herself on the national stage and had already built a loyal following within the country. If they were to jointly perform on a Chinese stage, the prospect of gaining further coverage and supporters within China was a win-win situation.

They then turned towards Lin Ruoxi, the host herself to see if she could make it happen. Unsurprisingly, Lin Ruoxi welcomed the idea that the rare occasion the Cranberries were there in the country she managed to invite them to perform at her event. It was also a win in her books.

To invite international heavyweights to the event was one thing, but to host a performance was a whole new level of success.

To top it off, Lin Ruoxi even made Zhao Hongyan invite some of the better-behaved media personnel to enter the venue as a perfect opportunity for positive branding.

Swiftly after, Zhao Hongyan got the backstage crew to tune the sound system, before making an official statement that the Cranberries and Lu Yao were going to make a cross-border collaboration.

It didn't take long before the crowd started cheering and applauding as they were filled with anticipation for the impromptu performance.

Lin Ruoxi efficiently made a series of arrangements. Right after, she turned irritably at Yang Chen before she ranted, "What are you up to again this time? Did you really have to pick a fight with her? I know she might not mean much to you and maybe she really wasn't as good as Hui Lin, but you could've kept it to yourself. She has a reputation as well."

Yang Chen curled his arms around her shoulder. "Relax, nothing will happen. The only reason for my reaction was because of my disgust for her..."

"Why?" Lin Ruoxi was intrigued.

Chapter 871 - Take Her Around

**Take Her Around**

Yang Chen pouted coyly. "I'm not telling you. But you can bet that mentioning her 'father figure' here would terrify her."

"Father figure? As in her parents?" Lin Ruoxi was baffled. "Why would that terrify her?"

Yang Chen however casually shrugged as he brushed it off. "Babe, I assure you that there are some things better left unknown. There are things... filthy things which plague this world..."

"Acting all mysterious, fine keep your secrets..."

And at that moment, the crowd faded into silence.

The Cranberries and Lu Yao took the center stage, as the lights dimmed and focused onto them.

The music started playing. It was their well-known classic 'Dreams'...

Dolores, the main vocalist of the Cranberries, was undeniably an inspiration to many global superstars. Many would try to imitate her style.

"Oh, my life is changing every day. In every possible way..."

The melody of the song left some people frozen in awe. Even some of the older fans started humming along.

And right when Dolores brought the first verse to a close, the comparatively silent Lu Yao harmonically picked up where she left.

Lu Yao's pitch was a little scruffy, which was exactly what had brought Yang Chen to criticize that her voice wasn't clear. But it was that husky voice that brought an entirely authentic take to the long-time classic.

Lin Ruoxi brought herself close to Yang Chen's ear as she whispered, "I think she's pretty good. You shouldn't have been so quick to diss her."

Yang Chen murmured in response. "All I said was that she wasn't as good as Hui Lin. I never said she was bad. Besides, if Hui Lin was on that stage right now, I'm pretty sure she'll do better."

Lin Ruoxi was dumbfounded. "You talk as if she's your own sister but you never call her. You never bother to check up on her well being."

"Is that so?" Yang Chen scruffed the back of his head, a long pause ensued before he gave a belated reply, "It just never occurred to me. But I heard that she will be in Zhonghai this month for her tour right? I'll take her around more often then."

Lin Ruoxi sighed lightly. "You really think so? She's a megastar now. Do you know how many people religiously follow her these days? Her official website has ten million visits every single day. There's no doubt she'll be recognised the moment she steps out of the house."

The idea of that slipped past Yang Chen as he grumbled. "Well then she has to start cross dressing to avoid getting recognized on the streets."

Lin Ruoxi reactively knocked her husband with her elbow. "What exactly goes in your head?!"

Yang Chen, however, was proudly smiling at his own wacky idea.

Moments after, Lu Yao's joint performance with the Cranberries had come to a successful close. The crowd went wild with cheers and claps. Even the staff members couldn't help but appraise this bewildering collaboration.

Dolores was in full praise as she hovered over the mic. "Ms Lu Yao sure stands by the title as China's very own queen of pop. You sure have a captivating voice."

Lu Yao by her side smiled broadly as she humbly brushed it off. "All I had was the passion to perform with someone I admire very much, and I'm genuinely grateful for your acknowledgement."

The crowd was not keen on calling it a day as they applauded and demanded.

"Ms Dolores, I'm a huge fan! Can we have more?"

"C'mon Ms Lu Yao, how about an encore?"

The Cranberries were left in a dilemma. They were worried at this rate that they would have to perform their entire concert right there.

Lu Yao, on the other hand, shifted her focus towards Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi, before she snarkily declared, "President Lin is our main host for this evening. For someone this strikingly beautiful, I'm sure her voice is also just as captivating. Why don't we invite her onto the stage and perform a song of her choice?"

As soon as her sentence ended, the crowd applauded in unison.

Many were still at awe at her enthralling entrance earlier that day, but as the main host of the event, they were uncomfortable keeping their gaze glued on her.

The proposition of Lin Ruoxi singing on stage left the crowd in major anticipation. Despite the full comprehension that singing was not her greatest strength, nobody could resist the thought of her returning to stage once again!

And with that request, many people turned their heads in anticipation.

But the idea had left Lin Ruoxi petrified!

*SINGING?!?* she thought.

Lin Ruoxi caught herself in the nick of time before her body gave in from shock!

Nervously clenching onto Yang Chen's arm, Lin Ruoxi was running through all possible options to keep her cool. Her hands were running with sweat.

Yang Chen quickly frowned at the sight. It was obviously a nasty revenge scheme from Lu Yao. Even though it was not known to the public that Lin Ruoxi could not keep the notes at the right keys, but a follow-up gig after the likes of a Lu Yao-Cranberries collaboration was undeniably a deathtrap!

The stark difference between preceding and superseding performers would instantly be a massive killjoy to the audience!



Notwithstanding the fact that labeling Lin Ruoxi's singing as 'bad' would be a gross understatement!

God was always fair when creating mankind. With every point he placed into her business acumen, he took away an equal share from her musical prowess.

Lu Yao knew that if she were to go head-on with Yang Chen, all outcomes were bound for her demise. It would serve her better if she instead focused her attacks on the vulnerable people close to him.

Lin Ruoxi was terror-stricken, as she helplessly stared at Yang Chen, pleading with those pitiful eyes.

Yang Chen pouted as he offered, "How about... I sing in your stead?"

Even if he was no more than an amateur when it comes to singing, he was heaps better at it than Lin Ruoxi was. Plus, this act was a no brainer for him. He had to stand up for his wife.

Lin Ruoxi stared at her lifesaver as she vigorously nodded.

If she could have prevented that in any way she would have already done it, but the entire audience was filled to the brim with VIPs and highly ranked officials. As host, the least she could do was to curb her fear and end the night on a high note. If she were to leave the situation awkward, not only would it be a huge blow on her pride, her reputation would sink into the dirt.

That was why there was no reason for her to opt-out of doing this.

Yang Chen cleared his throat before he proclaimed, "Why don't I stand-in for my wife tonight? My wife isn't feeling too well tonight, as evidenced by the prompt speech earlier. Would all of you be so kind as to accept the 'offer'?"

Following Yang Chen's words closely, the majority of the guests knew it couldn't be pressured, especially when Lin Ruoxi did not look at all pleasant. They decided to let it go this time.

Nonetheless, there were still many with vast anticipation to see Lin Ruoxi back on stage and were in strong denial of this substitution.

Li Jianhe and Shen Yaxin amidst the crowd were seen with smirks. As close friends at one point of Lin Ruoxi's younger years, especially Shen Yaxin who was her classmate, they were quick to realize the problem.

Yang Chen noticed the situation turning for the worse and was plotting to create a diversion from the fiasco on stage. But what was holding him back was the aftermath of a commotion towards the future of Yu Lei Entertainment.

And right at that moment, a sweet, rejuvenating voice resonated from the back.

"My brother-in-law isn't the best of singers, why don't I come on instead?"

She might still be shielded by the curtains, but that voice kept many turning to the backstage with anticipation.

What followed was a slim, young woman, dressed in a white laced one-piece dress, making her way from the backstage.

“Isn’t that Ms Lin Hui?”

“It’s she, isn’t it? She looks way prettier in person!”

“Oh my god, my wife and I listen to her music every single day!”

“So that’s why Ms Lin Hui signed with Yu Lei Entertainment. Turns out she’s the CEO’s sister? Now that you told me, they look kind of similar...”

“Ms Lin Hui, I love you!!”

The crowd went wild as they quickly recognized Hui Lin!

Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi were both caught off guard. They never expected Hui Lin to have returned to Zhonghai this quickly!

“When did this kid come over?” Yang Chen took to ask.

At that point, Lin Ruoxi had completely forgotten about the anxiety she felt just minutes ago. “I’m sure she came back early to avoid the media from stalking her whereabouts. Look, these people all know Hui Lin. Just a simple proof of how famous she is.”

Hui Lin stood confidently at the center stage. Her face was still sweet and endearing, but this time with the experience, maturity, and elegance of her time away.

Resembling a naive child leaving home for the first time, her return as a blinding superstar adored by millions made it even more triumphant.

Chapter 872 - Ode To My Family

### **Ode To My Family**

Yang Chen licked his lips as he proclaimed, “Wifey, look at that kid Hui Lin. The last time we met in Beijing, she was more akin to a college girl. But now, she seems more like the elder sister than you!”

Lin Ruoxi instantly raised her guard. “Don’t even think about it, or else you’re done!”

Yang Chen cringed as he slapped himself on his face. “I wouldn’t dare to touch her even if I’ve ever thought about it.”

“What?! You’ve actually thought about it?!” Lin Ruoxi shot him a soul-piercing gaze.

“It’s just an expression...” Yang Chen was as stiff as a rock as he frantically denied any involvement.

“Let’s just pay attention to her performance.”

Lin Ruoxi sniffled with the remainder of her fury, as they both turned towards the stage in anticipation of Hui Lin’s performance.

Hui Lin gave the audience a quick bow and gave a friendly nod to Lu Yao who was making her way off stage. Lu Yao felt slightly awkward at her sudden appearance but nonetheless gave her a brief acknowledgment.

Face to face with Dolores of the Cranberries, Hui Lin was rather nervous, but with decent English, she mumbled, “Ms Dolores, I’ve been a big fan of yours and the band since I was a child. Would you mind if I stand in for my sister for your next collaborative performance?”

Dolores was rather baffled to know that there was a young woman in her early twenties who had grown up with her music. They had debuted in the early nineties.

“Sure. Looking at everyone’s response, I’m guessing you’ve made a name for yourself in China, haven’t you? Now tell me, what song should we perform?”

Hui Lin lightly bit on her lower lip as she murmured, “My favorite song ‘Ode To My Family’.”

Dolores was caught off-guard that Hui Lin would choose that song. “This song can be pretty hard to maneuver, especially in a live setting. Plus, wouldn’t it be a little depressing for an event like this one?”

What she was trying to hint was to dissuade Hui Lin from biting more than she could chew. After all, even the original singer of the song knew it was difficult to perform.

Lu Yao on the sidelines quickly added fuel to the fire. “Ms Dolores, well you might not know this, but Ms Lin Hui was deemed one of the best singers of her generation. I’m sure she would nail it.”

Even though Hui Lin’s music was released all across the planet, she was still new to the game. With Lu Yao’s convincing at play, however, Dolores made up her mind and nodded without further questions.

Hui Lin, however, was rather awkward as she murmured, “Actually... I... only know the lyrics to this song. I’m not too familiar with the others. Please forgive me.”

Dolores instead gave her an encouraging smile, before she quickly set the tempo with the rest of the band.

The crowd quickly fell back into silence, all with a certain anticipation of Lin Hui’s live performance.

Hui Lin retrieved the microphone from Dolores like a baton and turned towards the anticipating crowd. She cracked a broad smile before turning towards Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen with a longing gaze.

As the music started playing, Hui Lin sealed her bright pupils, as she immersed herself in the rhythm...

“Du du du du... Du du du du...”

“Understand the things I say... Don’t turn away from me... Cause I spent half my life out there...”

The lyrics of the song brought about a set of emotions as every word hinted towards the waves of perception. It never once failed to pull the heartstrings of the mesmerized audiences.

Naturally high octaved, Dolores took multiple transformations in her pitch before she could express the emotions of the song. But Hui Lin brought a whole other experience to the song!

Hui Lin decided to go against unnecessary glamor but her own crystal-clear pitch, and every note she hit was from the most genuine of emotions.

It was a magical moment for every single person immersed in the flow, for it was no longer a stagnant enunciation of lyrics, but a spiritual connection as one with the audience.

Every single person who was caught up in anticipation and curiosity had gradually been brought to a realm, away from the performers, away from who and where they were.

Scenes of families, past and present flashed through their minds as they reminisced about their lives.

As the music ultimately came to an end, and the lights went back up, not a single person clapped.

As the crowd stared blankly at Hui Lin, their minds were still off somewhere in their dreams. It took about ten seconds before the first person shouted his praise, which erupted into a wave of cheers and applause!

Although there were only a few hundred people present, it felt like the roar of thousands!

The reporters handpicked by Lin Ruoxi manically ramped on their clicks, in hopes to capture the clearest shot of the main event of the night!

Dolores was genuinely moved as she enthusiastically approached Hui Lin. "Ms Lin Hui, I know this might sound a little sudden, but I feel obliged to make this request. Can you please be our performing guest at our upcoming concert? It would be highly acceptable if you would like us to play at your concert as well.

"But what I wish for the most is for us to collaborate on a new song! Your voice has stood out as the best I have heard in a while! I personally never fail to give credit where it's due, notably to the ones that utilize their voice to narrate life's beauty through music!"

At that moment, many fans were simultaneously showering her with praises. Even the corporate leaders couldn't help but compliment Hui Lin's angelic voice.

Director Yu Shuo stared affectionately as if he had found the answer to his prayers.

At the corner of the stage stood Lu Yao, her face pale as a sheet. She did not expect the situation to derail so far off course and ruin her plans!

Nobody that night would remember her performance. Hui Lin had snatched the limelight from the palms of her hands and she single-handedly gifted her the stepping stone to international glory!

From that point onwards, Christen would no longer be the only international superstar to be affiliated with Hui Lin!

What's worse, she could tell, however reluctantly, that Hui Lin was indeed far superior in the vocal department!

With no intention to stand idly by any longer, she shunned out the confused stares from the crowd as she rushed off stage and straight towards her dressing room via the backdoor!

Noticing that scene, Lin Ruoxi frowned as she leaned towards Zhao Hongyan by her side. "Hongyan, I need you to check on Ms Lu Yao. See if she's feeling alright. I don't think she's in a pleasant mood at the moment."

Zhao Hongyan nodded in agreement before she promptly departed the banquet hall.

Lu Yao might have lost her shine tonight, but she was nonetheless still an A-lister in her own right. Lin Ruoxi had to ensure that she left with a decent experience.

Back in the banquet hall, Hui Lin was caught between decision-making as she had no clue as to how she should reply to Dolores' generous offer. It was only until her manager rushed onto the stage was she finally 'rescued' from the awkward situation she was in.

After bidding a good appreciating farewell with the most passionate of fans and guests alike, Hui Lin finally made her long-awaited stride towards Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen.

Reunited with Lin Ruoxi after a long separation, Hui Lin instantly came up and embraced her. Her tears were rolling in those bubbly eyes of hers. "Sis, I've missed you so much."

Lin Ruoxi carressed her on her silky smooth cheeks. They were as close as blood sisters despite not actually being so. "I'm always calling, aren't I? Why does it feel like you've never seen me for years."

"But it's clearly different talking through the phone," Hui Lin coyly rebuked.

Yang Chen faked a cough or two before he responded, "Hui Lin, I'm sure you know that I might be the solicitor of your great music career, so how about you give your patron his hug too?"

Hui Lin instantly changed her tone as she confronted him. "Brother Yang never even bothered to call despite your promise."

Yang Chen scruffled himself on the chin as he murmured under his breath, "Erm... did I promise her that? I had too much to handle these past few months. Oh yeah, who's that new manager of yours? Didn't I exclusively arrange an international team in your service? Were you not satisfied?"

Hui Lin quickly shook her head in denial. "No, it's not like that. I just thought everyone was being held back by myself, so I sent them back to Europe last month. I can handle it on my own now. My current team is more than adequate to assist me. They are plenty helpful and caring."

Yang Chen did not care as long as it suited Hui Lin's preferences, but something else instead perked his interest. "Have you just arrived? Why would you come here?"

Hui Lin awkwardly replied, "I was worried that the reporters would catch up to me at the airport. I also wanted to stay home for a few more days, so I came back early. Besides, I heard of the news of the Cranberries' concert here in Zhonghai, so I stopped by to catch the heat... Nothing wrong with this right?"

"Of course not, I couldn't wish for anything more but for you to be here. My god, I was terrified," answered Lin Ruoxi, relieved.

Hui Lin nodded with an enchanting smile, glad that she made it back in the nick of time.

Just when everyone was in a jolly mood discussing Hui Lin's divine performance, Zhao Hongyan, who was originally sent to check on Lu Yao, came frantically running from a distance!

"President Lin! President Lin! Bad news!"

Visibly shaken by witnessing certain terror, Zhao Hongyan was seen frantically running on her heels. She looked like a crazed woman but did not seem to care about her appearance.

Chapter 873 - Ghost in the Room

## **Ghost in the Room**

People started staring at them in bewilderment.

“Hongyan, calm down and tell us what happened...” Lin Ruoxi’s face darkened.

Zhao Hongyan bit her lip and shuffled closer to Lin Ruoxi. She choked up and said, “Lu Yao... she’s... she’s dead!”

Lin Ruoxi froze. Her eyes widened with disbelief!

“How could this be? D—dead?”

Yang Chen heard what happened and immediately went into deep thought. He wrapped his arms around Zhao Hongyan’s shoulders and said, “Tell me what happened in detail.”

Tears pooled in her eyes and she shook her head vigorously. “I... I don’t know. I walked in and I saw her... She was covered in blood.”

Suddenly, high pitched shrieks were heard from the back!

A few waitresses ran into the hall while screaming, “There’s a dead person here! Lu Yao’s dead! She’s dead!”

The hall turned into a complete mess as people started panicking at the revelation.

Everyone looked towards Lin Ruoxi, seeking for a confirmation.

But they soon realized it was true when they saw her stiff and pale expression! There really was a dead person here!

Rich people were more often than not afraid to die. They were afraid to give up the possessions that they had worked for!

Some of the investors even threw their wine glasses away and tried to flee. They couldn’t be bothered to care about what really happened and only wanted to leave this place!

On the other hand, the reporters saw the commotion and quickly ran to the scene of the supposed crime!

The celebrity Lu Yao was dead. She was seen fine not five minutes ago but was now deemed dead! What better news would they receive than this?!

The whole situation fell out of control in a short moment and Lin Ruoxi stared at the crowd while grinding her teeth. She wasn’t familiar with situations like this, let alone dealing with it. So she looked at Yang Chen helplessly.

Yang Chen narrowed his eyes and said, “Contact the police and have them keep everyone in order. I’ll check out the place. Ruoxi, take care of the commotion here and I’ll settle the rest.”

Lin Ruoxi nodded firmly and brought Zhao Hongyan up onto the stage. It would be easier to give out orders using the microphone.

Hui Lin wasn't afraid of things like this but she knew something was wrong. "Brother Yang, is there anything that I can help with?"

"You're a public figure so it would be best if you stayed out of it. Take your manager and return home first..." Yang Chen told her.

Hui Lin had no choice but to leave the place with her workers since Yang Chen didn't need her help.

Yang Chen then made his way to the back and brushed past the reporters. But no one saw him because of the commotion.

After a turn at the corridor, Yang Chen was already in front of the door that had a card that wrote 'Lu Yao'. The door was slightly ajar, most probably because Zhao Hongyan was too shocked to close it.

Yang Chen walked into the room after confirming that the coast was clear.

He locked the door from the inside and began his inspection.

The design in this lounge had a classic but luxurious theme, probably because it was designed for VIPs. But the design was the last thing that he was there to examine. Lu Yao's dead body was his primary concern.

She was still wearing the fiery red dress but had splashes of blood littered all over it!

There was a striking red wound on her neck, one that sliced through her carotid artery. Her face was completely twisted and her eyes were wide open.

Yang Chen looked around and saw the handle of a fruit knife sticking under the sofa.

Just when he was about to take a closer look, someone knocked on the door loudly.

"Open the door! Open the door! We're reporters and we have the right to know the truth!"

It would seem that the reporters had found their way to the room.

Yang Chen frowned and with a mischievous glint in his eyes, he opened the door.

The moments he opened the door, he was greeted by camera flashes!

Yang Chen had already anticipated this but he took a swift glance at all the cameras in the room...

"Boom!"

A series of explosions resounded throughout the room. One by one, the cameras exploded in the hands of the reporters!

Although he wasn't planning on using his cultivation, Yang Chen was left with no other way to deal with the reporters.

And with that, all the photos went down the drain.

The reporters looked at each other in shock.

Yang Chen said with a mysterious voice, "As you all can see, Lu Yao died in a miserable way and I suspect that there's a ghost in the room. I wanted to take a photo earlier but my phone exploded too. You guys must have seen something like this before right?"

It sounded very superstitious and the reporters wouldn't have bought such a far fetched story. But how else were they going to rationalize their cameras exploding in their hands?

They gulped nervously. The whole incident was mysterious enough and now that their cameras were ruined. It was obviously time to leave. After all, what was the point of writing news articles if there weren't any photos to back themselves up?

"What the heck! This is crazy!"

The reporters couldn't help but curse. They threw their ruined cameras and ran out hysterically.

The remaining reporters saw what they did and joined them too, realizing that their lives were more important than this.

Yang Chen guarded the room until Lin Ruoxi came over with the person in charge.

"Did you call the police? We need to run some tests on the things here..." Yang Chen said.

Lin Ruoxi nodded and looked into the room. She didn't dare to stare too long at the corpse. it was still unbearable for her although she had seen a few just by being with Yang Chen.

She sighed and said worriedly, "Things are going to get worse. Based on her popularity, the whole of China would know that she died at one of Yu Lei's events."

Yang Chen sneered. "Isn't that what the murderer wants?"

Lin Ruoxi thought about this too and she held her forehead. "I can't think of anyone who would kill Lu Yao just to take us down. Plus the guards said they didn't see anyone suspicious so how did the person do this without being caught on camera?"

"It'd make sense if he wasn't human," Yang Chen said with a detached tone.

Lin Ruoxi widened her eyes and whispered, "Are you saying that it might be the work of those that cultivate? The ones you mentioned?"

Yang Chen shrugged. "Don't think so. He's not that skilled. I'm not sure so let's wait for the detectives to run some tests. Anyway just relax, we can only find out the truth to prove our innocence in murder cases like this."

Lin Ruoxi had no choice so she could only try to calm the others down and wait for Yang Chen to take care of things. No matter how tough she appeared to be, she was still an ordinary human.

Minutes later, Cai Yan showed up with a group of policemen.

She only made eye contact with Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi briefly before ordering her subordinates to lock down the site and start the search for evidence.

Immediately after that, Cai Yan questioned according to the protocol. "Who's the first eyewitness?"



Zhao Hongyan raised her hand. "I am... I was here on President Lin's orders to check on Miss Lu Yao, but all I saw was her corpse..."

"Did you see or meet anyone suspicious on your way here?" Cai Yan questioned.

Zhao Hongyan tried to recall but she eventually shook her head. "I only saw a few waitresses but they only came to check up on me since I was startled. Other than that there wasn't anyone suspicious."

Cai Yan then summoned the waitresses and questioned them. But her results seemed to indicate that there was nothing fishy about them.

One of the investigators came up to her and reported his findings. "Chief Cai, we speculate that Miss Lu Yao died from excessive blood loss due to a knife cut across the carotid artery. The murderer slashed through her neck repeatedly, indicating grudge or revenge. As for the time of death, we estimate thirty minutes or so ago. The suspected murder weapon is the fruit knife under the sofa. But weirdly, there was no sign of struggle on Miss Lu Yao."

Yang Chen asked from the side, "She might have sustained other wounds. Did you guys manage to find any?"

Chapter 874 - My Order

### **My Order**

The investigator glared at him. "We will undertake further investigation once we return. Plus, unless you have something to share, her cause of death is quite clear."

Yang Chen didn't bother to reply. He would have taken matters into his own hands if the murder had not been leaked.

Cai Yan looked at him apologetically and gave orders to the investigators. "Bring the evidence back and analyze them. I want a detailed report by noon."

The investigator nodded and left with his assistants.

Cai Yan walked to Lin Ruoxi and held her hand. "Don't worry, Ruoxi, I'll solve the case as quickly as possible. I'll stop the reporters from spreading the news so that they won't alert the public. I'll take care of things here so go back with Yang Chen first."

Lin Ruoxi smiled forcefully "Sorry for troubling you again. This incident might damage our reputation and further collaborations with the entertainment industry. Contact me if you need my help and I'll do my best."

Cai Yan combed her short hair with her fingers and grinned confidently. "We've been friends for so many years. Don't you trust me?"

Lin Ruoxi nodded and gazed at Yang Chen. "Well, it's hard to say. Ever since this guy showed up, you've been losing my trust."

"Ah..." Cai Yan blushed and lowered her head in embarrassment.

Yang Chen pretended to be busy with the case and feigned ignorance.

Lin Ruoxi gave him a look of resignation and giggled. "Alright, I was just joking. Call it a lame attempt at lightening the mood. She was still alive before that and now she's dead at our party which is terrifying."

Cai Yan exhaled in relief and nodded in understanding. "Then you two should return first and wait for my call."

Zhao Hongyan asked from the side, "Chief Yan, can I go back too?"

Cai Yan shook her head. "No, Hongyan. I need to take your statement so you have to follow me back to the station. I'll arrange someone to send you over and you can leave when you're done."

After everything was settled, Yang Chen brought Lin Ruoxi home and Zhao Hongyan, together with the waitresses, proceeded to the police station.

Back at home, Hui Lin had already explained to the others what had happened at the party since she came back earlier. Because of that, no one was in the mood to welcome the two back.

They got out of the sofa immediately when Yang Chen returned with Lin Ruoxi.

"Seriously, how could this happen? She was a famous celebrity and we just watched her movie a few days ago. If the news gets released tomorrow, wouldn't that ruin Yu Lei's reputation?! Could this be the work of her enemies? Or her competitors?!" Guo Xuehua asked.

Lin Ruoxi shook her head. "I have no idea... The police weren't sure how she was killed either. Yanyan is investigating the case and I'm sure we'll get the results soon."

Yang Chen had some ideas but he knew now was not the right time to offer them up. Instead, he turned towards Lin Ruoxi and said, "Ruoxi, why don't you go up and rest? I bet you're tired so take a shower and sleep, I'll take care of the rest."

Lin Ruoxi frowned. "How can I do that, what if they need me later to answer some questions? I still have to wake up for it."

At this moment, Lin Ruoxi's phone rang and it was from Cai Yan.

"Yanyan, are the test results out?" Lin Ruoxi asked hurriedly.

On the other side of the phone, Cai Yan sounded reluctant. She sighed and said, "Ruoxi, don't be shocked by what I'm about to say. I had the investigators re-run the tests and they got the same results..."

The moment she announced the results, Lin Ruoxi exclaimed in shock.

"W—what?!"

Lin Ruoxi's eyes widened in disbelief.

Everyone held their breath and Wang Ma asked nervously, "What happened? Miss, hurry up and tell us!"

Lin Ruoxi took a deep breath before hanging up. She touched her hair while saying, "Yanyan said... that they found fingerprints on the knife that was used to kill Lu Yao. The fingerprints belonged to Hongyan."

“Hongyan?!”

They exclaimed, knowing well that Lin Ruoxi’s new assistant was Zhao Hongyan.

Yang Chen stroked his chin and said, “It’s getting more and more interesting. It seems our opponent is not as weak as I thought...”

Lin Ruoxi yelled in exasperation, “How can you still smile?! How can it be Hongyan? I was the one who asked her to check on Lu Yao. Plus, what motive would she have to kill her?!”

Yang Chen smiled faintly. “I know, but I can’t very well panic now can I....”

“Don’t panic yet. I’m sure it’s a mistake. Maybe Hongyan touched it by accident?” Guo Xuehua tried to console her.

Lin Ruoxi nodded and told Yang Chen, “Yanyan wants me to go over to take my statement and also ask me some questions. I need to bail Hongyan out too. She must be innocent.”

“By yourself?” Yang Chen rejected her idea. “No way, I’ll go with you. I need to confirm some details too.”

Lin Ruoxi didn’t know what he wanted to confirm but she wasn’t against it. She had planned to bring him along anyway.

Yang Chen drove her to the police station and they reached within thirty minutes.

Cai Yan was already waiting for them at the entrance and she said to them on their way inside, “The tests showed that Hongyan is the only one who has touched the knife. It was also confirmed that the knife was the murder weapon since we found traces of Luyao’s blood and flesh on it. Hongyan is in a sticky situation now.”

Lin Ruoxi said hurriedly, “Yanyan, I was the one who asked her to go over so how can she be the murderer? It’s a coincidence!”

Cai Yan let out a wry smile. “I know it’s weird. If she wanted to kill her, she would have worn gloves or created an alibi. Also, they had no relations with each other previously and it was their first time meeting each other. After considering all the possibilities, we called you over to provide a couple of statements as well...”

Rage surfaced on Lin Ruoxi’s pale face. “Did you think it was my order? Does that even make sense to you?!”

“Don’t get worked up yet.” Cai Yan explained to her, “It’s not up to me to make conclusions. Lu Yao’s family and her company had already gotten involved. Plus, my superior officer has sent some experts over and they predict that this was first-degree murder.”

“First-degree murder?! By Yu Lei or myself?!” Lin Ruoxi scoffed.

Yang Chen beckoned Cai Yan to stop anything that may provoke Lin Ruoxi any further. She was already frustrated from this incident and he didn’t think she could bear to be accused of murder!

Cai Yan realized things would only get more complicated if she continued, so she kept her silence and brought them over to the meeting room.

A few middle-aged men were seated at the table and they were looking at the paper in hand. A handful of policemen stood beside them with a respectful posture.

Zhao Hongyan was still wearing her gown as she sat there with a teary face, her eyes showing resentment. The makeup on her face had become a mess.

Lin Ruoxi's eyes reddened at the sight of Zhao Hongyan. She rushed forward and grasped Zhao Hongyan's hand. "Hongyan, are you okay?"

Zhao Hongyan lit up when she saw Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen. "President Lin, you're finally here. They're accusing me of murdering Lu Yao! I didn't do it! I really didn't do it!"

"Silence! What's with the commotion?! Why would any murderer admit that they murdered someone?" a bald, middle-aged man said with a raspy voice.

## Chapter 875

### Beggar

The menacing man left the already-traumatized Zhao Hongyan cowering by Lin Ruoxi's warmth.

Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but turn towards that man. Glaring at him dead in the eye, she said, "Is this the standard of a public servant? What proof do you have to label my assistant as a murderer?!"

The bald man frowned his bushy brows and glanced towards his colleagues by the side before they all burst into laughter.

"You're the CEO of Yu Lei International, aren't you? The host of tonight's gala?" the man scornfully interrogated.

Lin Ruoxi brazenly ignored his inquiry as she reached into her handbag, retrieved a paper towel, and slipped it into Zhao Hongyan's grasp. "Dry your eyes. Your face is pretty messy right now from all the crying. Calm down, I'll make sure to get you out unscathed."

Zhao Hongyan tearfully glanced at her boss as she held onto the paper towel tight, drying the tears off the edges of her eyes.

"Hey! I'm talking to you! You hear me?!" The bald interrogator exploded.

Cai Yan by the corner had enough as she frowned at the overreaction. "Detective Wang, Ruoxi is my childhood friend. She might be a little cold but she means no offense. I hope we can all sit down and settle this in a peaceful and civil manner."

"Officer Cai, we have pretty much come to the conclusion here." Detective Wang proclaimed, "We can almost certainly confirm that the murderer is this Zhao Hongyan. The mastermind could very well be her superior Lin Ruoxi!"

"Your baseless accusations are utter garbage. Is this the best garbage you worthless people can come up with?" Lin Ruoxi rebuked.

“Worthless?” Detective Wang stared square-faced at Lin Ruoxi, before he blurted, “I, Wang Gang, have been serving as a detective for the last three decades. As the security bureau’s specially assigned detective, I’ve seen a hundred cases of this sort! This case has all the evidence we need, and no one but Zhao Hongyan here could be the murderer!”

“Is that so? Well, then I’m genuinely curious Detective Wang, as to what evidence you have discovered thus far?” Yang Chen who was by Lin Ruoxi’s side all this while, finally took to himself to question the detective’s rambunctious antics.

Wang Gang scowled as he boisterously replied, “From the data we’ve gathered, there’s a CCTV placed above the crime scene, and throughout the entire incident only Zhao Hongyan was caught at the scene. Secondly, the fingerprints on the knife were a perfect match.

“Third, before Ms Lu Yao’s death, she had zero signs of resisting, and the biggest possibility for that is because she felt no hostility towards Zhao Hongyan.

“Besides, Zhao Hongyan had no explanations for the reason her thumbprint was on the fruit knife, which meant she clearly miscalculated and was exposed by the waitress, which was why she didn’t wipe her prints clean in the first place!”

Lin Ruoxi frowned as she turned towards Zhao Hongyan, “Hongyan, why are your fingerprints on the fruit knife?”

Zhao Hongyan vigorously shook her head in denial. Choking from tears and anxiety, she replied, “I... I don’t know, President Lin. I’ve never touched the knife, I swear!”

Yang Chen hinted for her to loosen up, before he remarked, “So, Detective Wang, if it really was Hongyan who did it, what was her motive?”

“I went through the details. Lu Yao, in the recent Mandarin Music Awards, was the biggest competitor to Yu Lei’s current top star, Ms Lin Hui.

“Not to mention Lu Yao’s multiple attempts in trying to derail Lin Hui’s reputation in the media. Tonight at the ball, Lu Yao and Lin Hui both performed a song with the Cranberries, which was obviously due to their positions as rivals.

“And at the same time, Director Yu Shuo was scheduling his upcoming film and was contemplating between Lu Yao and Lin Hui. I can certainly believe that it was in Yu Lei International’s interest to end her life!” Wang Gang blatantly stitched everything together for an explanation.

At this point, Yang Chen frustratedly sighed.

Wang Gang, however, was displeased by his lack of enthusiasm as he confronted, “What? Is the evidence too vague for you to believe? There’s a motive, evidence of DNA and object alike!”

Yang Chen shook his finger in disapproval. “First off, don’t you think it’s weird that if Yu Lei International actually planned the act of vengeance ahead, why would they choose the night of the grand ball to make the move? Besides, if killing Lu Yao was their final motive, why not hire a contract killer to do the job? An assistant who was not careful enough to put on gloves would have not been Yu Lei’s first choice.

“Also, do you really think we’d need to kill off Lu Yao just to remove competition off Lin Hui’s back? When it comes to popularity, they aren’t even on the same playing field!

“I’m aware that in terms of location, alibi, and fingerprint evidence, the outcome sure looks inclined towards Yu Lei and Hongyan. But such obvious mishaps from the murderer could not have come as a better gift from the murderer. If you take these dumb pointers as solid evidence, then even a street beggar could be a detective too!”

“You... What did you call us? Beggars? Are you insulting my prowess?” Wang Gang furiously rebuked.

Yang Chen’s face went bleak before a strong pulsating jolt of energy forced down on Wang Gang and his associates! Just a tiny portion of his aura was enough to scare them shitless!

“What... what are you doing?! Don’t you dare! We’re specially assigned by the national security bureau!” Wang Gang blurted from terror.

Yang Chen grinned ominously as he declared, “Alright, I’m feeling rather obedient these days and my wife told me that I should always be the bigger person and never resort to violence. But the lot of you are testing my limits, so I would like to kindly ask if you could be more respectable, responsible, and considerate towards my wife. The next person who yells, I will make sure that they would never be able to whisper again.”

The obvious threat against the police was in a thick, unsettling tone, and would normally trigger a response, but instead had let to the loud and brazen officers to quickly nod in unison.

Watching how Wang Gang and his associates fall into place, many policemen were terrified but was also exhilarated to see them cowering down.

The detectives sent by the headquarters under the excuse of being assigned by the government, bullied their way in the police station. It was safe to say that the policemen were not fans of these detectives.

Cai Yan might be the daughter of the great Cai clan, but was nonetheless unknown to most, notwithstanding her background was strictly limited to military forces.

Lin Ruoxi saw Yang Chen coming to her defense and was instantly reassured. Her heart was oozing with a warm, fuzzy feeling. Despite his usual annoying and brash antics, he was always reliable at critical moments like this.

Many a time, a woman might need just a reason to hate a man, but the opposite was nevertheless also true.

Before long, everyone turned towards Yang Chen as they awaited his decision for their next move.

Yang Chen turned towards Cai Yan. “Yanyan, where’s Lu Yao’s body? There is something I need to confirm for myself.”

Cai Yan was baffled but quickly obliged as she said, “I’ll take you to her at the forensics department. She might need to be taken to the morgue soon though, the hot weather rots bodies quicker.”

Yang Chen nodded before he turned attentively towards Lin Ruoxi. “Keep her company. When the lawyers get here, request for bail. Call me if there’s anything.”

Lin Ruoxi clearly had no disparity as she had no interest in dead bodies nor the morgue. She then hastily dialed up Lawyer Zhang's number.

Following Cai Yan closely, Yang Chen came to the autopsy room at the core of the police station.

Inside, the forensic specialist had already departed and Lu Yao's dead body lay stiff on the operation table.

Under dim operational lights, on the cold and shiny slab of metal, Lu Yao's corpse was still and unmoving. She was covered with a thin sheet of plastic.

Yang Chen slowly made way towards the corpse, flung the plastic cover open, and exposed Lu Yao's body to the cold air.

Even though she knew full well that it was a corpse lying lifelessly before them, but now that she was alone with Yang Chen with a nude body lying bare, Cai Yan was rather embarrassed. "Forensics declared the cause of death as broken veins, and the wound was... brutal. But you're here so I suppose there might be a different reason that you're suspecting?"

Yang Chen shook his head. "No, what killed her really was the fruit knife. But there might have been something else on her body besides that wound."

Whilst explaining himself, Yang Chen reached out his hand and went caressing the flesh between her legs.

Cai Yan took a breath of disdain before she held onto Yang Chen's hand. "Why... do you have to touch her there?"

Yang Chen was dumbfounded but burst into laughter after realizing what she was thinking. "Yanyan, even if I was horny, I wouldn't do anything to a dead body now, would I? I just wanted to know if there was another wound."

"Another wound?"

Cai Yan was baffled but still decidedly went with Yang Chen's reasoning as she nagged, "Why would the wound be in such a position..."

"Exactly because nobody would expect a wound to be incurred there, which is why I decided to come inspect the body by myself, but due to the sensitivity of the particular region... I had to wait till everyone was gone before I can come over."

Yang Chen slowly explained while simultaneously steered Lu Yao's lifeless pair of legs apart, for enough light to radiate into the inerts of her thighs...

Cai Yan was less convinced after his reasoning, but out of curiosity decidedly snuck a peek.

Just when Cai Yan's gaze fell in between Lu Yao's thighs, around the edges of her inner thigh from the boundaries of her pubic region, Cai Yan's pupils widen from shock!

There were two miniature bloodstained holes in the shaded regions, without detailed examination one could easily miss such a key evidence! Nonetheless, whether it was affiliated with her death was yet to be determined.

“This...”

Yang Chen’s expression brimmed. “How’s that, you see it?”

“Yeah...” Cai Yan nodded before she lifted her head, “The thing is, what sort of injury is this? It seems like a snakebite, but the marks are slightly wider apart than the usual snake...”

Chapter 876 - You’re the Only One in My Heart

### **You’re the Only One in My Heart**

Yang Chen sighed before he tapped Cai Yan on the head. “You little idiot. Those are vampire bites! They call themselves the blood race. Back then, I told you that there are multiple incredibly strong, hidden powers in the world. And among them are the two divisions of the blood race. I’ve actually met them back in the day.”

Cai Yan squirmed where she stood. “Don’t vampires suck blood from necks? Why would they bite... such revolting areas...?”

Yang Chen proceeded to explain with a sinister grin. “That was just a rumor spread by the blood race to conceal their identities and habits. Blood tastes different when extracted from different parts of the body. While the neck generally is the most common spot, it is also too obvious to the naked eye.

“But the arteries in the insides of the thigh, however, are where the blood is the sweetest and most sumptuous! The blood race are already well-akin with perversion and sensuality, so for them to snuggle below a woman’s skirt where the arteries pump fresh blood, was an intriguing and convenient region to feed on. Not to mention the robust aroma of feminine hormones...”

“Ugh, disgusting!” Cai Yan had chills through her spine at the thought of such revolting actions!

Yang Chen had his moment annoying his lover. He thereafter panned out the plastic wrap over the corpse, before accompanying Cai Yan out of the forensic room and back to her office.

Lin Ruoxi was waiting for their return as she hurriedly brought herself to enquire about any crucial findings.

Yang Chen quickly asked, “Where’s Hongyan?”

“She’s with Lawyer Zhang handling the bailout procedures. He said that she should be allowed to leave here without a hitch since the evidence was inconclusive.

“I’ve paid Lu Yao’s family five million yuan in emotional distress severance. They should leave us alone, and as long as we keep them at bay, her company would not try to pick a bone with us,” Lin Ruoxi explained.



“Five million?! A court settlement would have been much much cheaper! Not to mention the fact that you ain’t even related to this!” Cai Yan exclaimed. “Ruoxi, why did you pay so much? Lu Yao is a big star. Her insurance companies are going to pay them a big sum of money. This is the worst kind of extortion!”

Lin Ruoxi bitterly explained, “She died at our event, there’s no debating that. Plus, five million isn’t much for peace of mind. Naturally, if they were to further spread false rumors about us, we would halt the funding instantly.”

Cai Yan came to understand her reasoning. “Y’know sometimes I feel like you’re too soft. Did Wang Gang and his men give you a hard time?”

Lin Ruoxi pouted at Yang Chen before she added, “Those thugs seemed to be genuinely terrified by this brat over here. After you left, they gave some spiel about investigating the crime scene and left immediately.”

“How was I a brat? That was a heroic act I did there,” Yang Chen grumbled.

Cai Yan, however, clapped enthusiastically as she exclaimed, “Oh my, what a surprise! Those people are the most incompetent detectives I’ve ever seen. It seriously baffles me how they managed to shit talk their way through the field all these years! If it weren’t for the federal bureau in their defense, I would’ve kicked their hinds and sent them scurrying a long time ago!”

Lin Ruoxi giggled. “Alright Yanyan, why don’t we talk about what you found out in the forensics room? My only wish, for now, is for this to be settled and dusted as soon as possible. Our US stocks are declining because of the incident.

“Besides our own associated media coverage, there have only been rumors all over. ‘Yu Lei has been undermining their competitors’, ‘President Lin masterminded the execution of a rival superstar’. These were but some of the headlining titles that were spread.”

Yang Chen was somewhat dispirited as he blabbered, “This case might be easier investigated than to conclude I reckon...”

Eyeing Lin Ruoxi’s confused gaze, Yang Chen summarized their findings from the beginning.

Upon the revelation that the murderer might be a vampire, Lin Ruoxi felt like her head was about to explode!

Yang Chen then said, “Ruoxi, you remember how I acted all hostile to Lu Yao even though we’ve just met?”

Lin Ruoxi nodded as she perplexed, “You’re saying you knew she was tied to the blood race at that moment? Oh right, you mentioned something about her ‘father figure’ and her expression instantly changed. Does her relationship with her father figure have anything to do with the blood race?”

“It isn’t a normal relationship,” Yang Chen explained. “I could sense the presence of the blood race encompassing her. It wasn’t too overbearing per se, but she sure was in line to become one of them.

“And in the process of being a member of the blood race, more commonly known as ‘initial embrace’, which putting it simply is the process of letting a man of the blood race consume a large amount of a

mortal's blood, regurgitate, then inject the fused blood back into the body of the mortal they've been feeding on.

But due to the difference between our physiques with Caucasians, the blood does not fuse uniformly. A brash attempt in an 'initial embrace' would result in the failure of complete blood circulation through her heart.

That said, she most likely was still in the first stage. A lowly flesh slave, a sacrificial lamb devoting her blood to her vampire overlord. That would explain her lack of abilities but strong scent."

"What you're implying is that... Lu Yao wanted to be a vampire? But why?" Cai Yan was dumbfounded by the concept of vampires in her head.

Yang Chen shook his hands in denial. "You gotta understand that the greatest trait of the blood race is their immortality and their inability to age. Those alone are exceptionally appealing to the likes of young, gorgeous women with no intention of losing their beauty and allure.

"Besides, the blood race is hardly as obscene as what humans picture them to be. Other than a few who have grown tired of their everlasting vigor and wanted to mess around, the rest of them pretty much keep to themselves.

"What I am most curious about is why one blood race member has murdered Lu Yao. Was he the one she had succumbed to? If he was, then what would his motives be? If otherwise, then there's proof that there is a significant presence within our vicinity."

Lin Ruoxi analytically contemplated, before she proclaimed, "And how does any of that prove that her murderer was indeed a vampire? If it was, he wouldn't need a fruit knife to do it, would he?"

Yang Chen snapped his fingers. "Good question, Ruoxi. And it was because of that fruit knife that I can confirm someone from the blood race is responsible for her death. Think about it, where was the wound of the fruit knife?"

After a moment of contemplation, Lin Ruoxi's eyes glowed from enlightenment. "I got it! He used the fruit knife to hide the wound lying close to the artery, which in turn kept the bite wounds shielded by a grotesque demolishing of the scar!"

"Exactly. Usually, with makeup applied over the neck, a concealed wound could easily be identified by the forensics team. But this time the culprit utilized a trick of pure genius, and would've gotten away with it until their overconfidence took over because they left the hidden scar between her thighs." Yang Chen let out an accomplished smirk.

"If that's the case, then why were Hongyan's fingerprints on the fruit knife?" Cai Yan enquired.

Yang Chen replied, "The blood race has been effortlessly preying on humans due to their pre-existing ability to induce hallucinations.

"Hongyan must have been mind-controlled the moment she barged into the dressing room and did as she was instructed to. She picked up the fruit knife, threw it on the couch, and only came back to her senses once the man was gone.

“As such, Hongyan has effectively become the scapegoat, and all crimes have been transferred into the hands of Yu Lei International.”

Lin Ruoxi and Cai Yan took a glance at one another, seemingly grasping the situation through each other.

“You’re horrible! If you knew all this while that there’s something off about Lu Yao, why didn’t you tell me upfront?! If you paid slightly more attention then she could’ve made it through tonight!” Lin Ruoxi vented her frustration on her husband as she smacked him on the back.

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. “I mean... Dear, people everywhere have dreamed about becoming a member, even if they were a lowly flesh slave. There really wasn’t anything extremely obnoxious about her presence, besides her self-centered personality. Wasn’t that why you were furious in the first place? Not like you care if she’s still alive...”

“Besides, you’re the only one in my heart, there isn’t any space left for other women...”

“Pfft, that has to be the most blatant lie I’ve ever heard!” Lin Ruoxi aggravatedly rolled her eyes on him. Nonetheless, to hear that remark right next to Cai Yan left her feeling rather accomplished.

As for Cai Yan, listening to Yang Chen blabbering nonsense by her side, she couldn’t help but give him a tight pinch on the waist. Knowing full well of her position as the third wheel, that was the furthest she could go to vent her anger.

Yang Chen simultaneously cackled at Lin Ruoxi’s coy reaction, while comforting Cai Yan on the back of her hand, trying his best to curb the ambers on both ends. *“If only dealing with relationships was as easy as dueling monsters and beasts...”* he thought.

The causation and evidence might have been concluded, but those were just the beginning of their problems.

“Who can this man be, to first murder Lu Yao, then frame our company?” Lin Ruoxi frustratedly asked.

Yang Chen gave it a thought. “That’s the part where we have to find the culprit, then everything will fall into place.”

“Yang Chen, I’m sure you have a plan like you always do, don’t you?” Cai Yan enquired with anticipation.

Yang Chen awkwardly replied, “I would’ve already done it if I could. At my best, I would definitely be able to track their scent. But the problem is that I don’t know where to start. The blood race are able to dash from place to place quicker than the human eye can see. Finding him is like finding a needle in a haystack. Even if I’m a deity, I wouldn’t know where to start!”

Lin Ruoxi was rather dispirited as she proclaimed, “If even the likes of you have exhausted all ideas, there is no chance for us to find the murderer. We can’t just start a press conference and tell everyone that the killer was a vampire, but we can’t track him, can we?”

Yang Chen blinked, before he cracked a devilish smile. “Rest assured, I might be out of ideas, but that doesn’t mean we’re helpless. You gotta know that the blood race have six restrictions. This individual from the blood race has obviously broken the ‘seclusion’ rule, so the blood race will have to deal with that themselves. Wouldn’t that make things so much easier for us?”

## Chapter 877 Hypnosis

Yang Chen saw this as a simple matter. It didn't matter if the vampire was a member of Savath or Camarilla. He just needed him dead. Getting the Venture clan to send someone over and take care of it should suffice.

Venture was a royal clan among the thirteen clans and also the leader of the Camarilla. This little favor of his was nothing. After all, he had saved Sargeris and Lilith's lives back then.

Yang Chen emailed Lilith using Cai Yan's computer.

He didn't dare to call her due to their past intimacy. If Lilith were to say anything inappropriate, it would've upset Lin Ruoxi and he would have to beg for mercy again.

Yang Chen figured that Lilith would reply as soon as she got the notification. He was sure that the Venture clan would make the right move.

After taking care of this, Yang Chen left with Lin Ruoxi and Cai Yan. Zhao Hongyan had already been released on bail and was waiting outside with the lawyer.

Zhao Hongyan looked terribly distraught and Lin Ruoxi felt sorry for her. "You worked hard today and no one could have predicted this. I'll have someone send you home. Rest well."

Zhao Hongyan let out a forced smile. "It's fine. I waited here because I wanted to say thank you. I've caused nothing but trouble tonight. I feel so useless."

"No, you're not. I wouldn't have hired you if you were. Don't overthink it. Let me call a chauffeur for you."

"No, it's really fine. I don't want to trouble you further." Zhao Hongyan wiped her tears and said, "I can take a cab home myself. You guys should get some rest. We still have to deal with the media tomorrow."

Having said so, Zhao Hongyan picked up her dress and walked out of the police station after tossing a glance at Yang Chen gratefully.

"Sigh, life's been hard on her. She's a divorcee and she has to juggle between family and work life. Ruoxi, you should really give her a promotion." Cai Yan puffed her cheeks.

Lin Ruoxi gave her a side-eye. "Her salary is much higher than yours."

Cai Yan stuck her tongue out. "I know you're the kindest, hehe..."

Yang Chen's eyes sparkled for a second and he smiled, as though nothing had happened. "Let's hurry back too, Mom and the others would be worried."

Lin Ruoxi was fine with it, but she had to discuss the incident with the lawyer and how they should deal with future legal matters first. Finally, they left the police station after bidding goodbye to Cai Yan.

The city was still calm at night since the news of the murder wasn't widespread yet.

Twenty minutes later, at the corner of an old street in Zhonghai, a cab was seen to be making a stop.

It wasn't hard to hail a cab since cabs were always around in a big city like Zhonghai.

Zhao Hongyan got off the cab after paying and walked home. She didn't want to wake her family up so she asked the cab driver to drop her off somewhere further away.

Her house was situated near the old town so other than the high school students who would show up in the morning and afternoon, no one else was really there after ten at night.

Her mind was filled with thoughts and she was starting to get light headed from it. Everything that happened today was overwhelming, she only wanted to sleep and forget about it.

Zhao Hongyan stopped walking when she reached under a streetlight. There was a shadow of a person in front of her.

Zhao Hongyan lifted her head numbly and looked at the person who was blocking her way.

It was a tall, disheveled Caucasian man, dressed in a black t-shirt with black jeans.

The man hovered over her since he was much taller than her. His eyes were hollow like a deep empty pit of despair...

Without knowing why, Zhao Hongyan dropped her handbag and walked in front of the man.

"Tell me your name," the Caucasian man spoke in Mandarin with a husky voice.

"Zhao... Hongyan..."

"What's your job?"

"The CEO's assistant... at Yu Lei International..." Zhao Hongyan answered with a dazed facial expression, her lips curled into a blissful smile as if on cloud nine.

The man squinted his eyes and his face shook...

Suddenly, he opened his mouth widely and bared his fangs!

With a loud rip, Zhao Hongyan's dress was torn apart. He threw away the cloth and her legs were exposed in the air!

Her smooth legs shone under the light as if seducing him to devour her.

The man licked his lips as he squatted down, placing his head in between her thighs.

The only thing covering her crotch was a pair of pink lace panties and he could see a few hair strands peeking out of her panties.

His nostrils flared and he took in a deep breath...

The man moaned from her scent. It was a mixture of her sweet body odour and perfume which drove him crazy.

Zhao Hongyan stood there, unaware of what was about to happen. Her eyes were dull and unresponsive.

After sniffing her scent for a while, the man's eyes glinted and he opened his mouth to puncture her blood vessel!

It was at this exact moment, someone landed a blow on him and he flew meters away under the impact!

BOOM!

A loud noise was heard as he crashed onto the ground!

But before he could retaliate, a man in a white shirt appeared next to him and kicked him once again!

BOOM!

This time, the vampire rolled fifty meters or so across the street and slammed into an old church!

Although the impact was very strong, he recovered quickly since he was a vampire. He regained his strength and bared his fangs while shrieking, "Who's there?!"

Yang Chen stood next to Zhao Hongyan with hands in his pockets. Zhao Hongyan was slowly recovering from the hypnosis.

"Are you alright?" Yang Chen asked with a smile.

Zhao Hongyan was shocked to see him but she screamed seconds later when she realized why it felt cold down there!

"Ah!"

She ran away from Yang Chen and hid in a corner with her arms around her knees.

Yang Chen felt bad for her. He didn't intervene earlier because he wasn't a hundred percent sure of the circumstance. If he had shown up earlier, she wouldn't have lost her dress.

The vampire ran towards Yang Chen with his fingers curled into claws. He was clearly aiming for his eyes!

Yang Chen was unbothered by his attack.

He didn't even bother removing his hands from his pockets. With a light leap, he kicked the vampire in rapid succession!

BOOM BOOM!

Both kicks landed on his chest and his heart was almost crushed under the force!

The vampire spat out blood and rolled on the ground, unable to get up due to his injuries.

Yang Chen walked to him and stepped on his chest while grinning. "Sadly, I'm not a vampire so I can't hypnotize. I can only question you in the easiest and most brutal way. Alright, why don't you tell me your name and where are you from, Mister Vampire?"

Chapter 878 - You Are A Good Man

### **You Are A Good Man**

"Who... who are you?" The vampire groaned in agony.

Yang Chen kicked him harder and he groaned louder.

Yang Chen's face was ice-cold. "I'll be asking the questions here. Failure to answer is automatic grounds for death. I will personally crush your heart into bits.

The man glared at him ferociously and bared his fangs but Yang Chen was not affected by it.

Yang Chen exerted pressure like a mountain. One-step and the vampire was hardly able to breathe!

So he chose to compromise by retracting his fangs. "I'm Mourinho."

"Nice name, which generation and clan do you belong to?" Yang Chen asked.

A tinge of hatred flashed through his eyes. "I don't know about the generation and I don't belong to any clan."

Yang Chen was taken aback but he recovered quickly with a laugh. "You're a peasant? What's the term for it... hmm... let me think, caitiff?"

"I don't like the term but you are correct," Mourinho said with a gruff voice.

Yang Chen was now interested. "I heard the peasants were those who were chased out of the clan or those who were turned without the elderly's permission. It must have been hard to live without support. Did you come to China because you couldn't stand it anymore in Europe?"

Fear was evident in Mourinho's eyes. "I... I was captured and brought here..."

"Captured?" Yang Chen was surprised, "By who?"

Mourinho looked at him. "You're very strong and I know I won't stand a chance against you. But could you let me know if you're going to kill me before asking all these questions? I don't want to waste my energy on answering if I'm going to die eventually."

Yang Chen scratched his head. "You're a smart vampire. Alright, I won't kill you if you answer all my questions."

Having said so, Yang Chen lifted his feet to let Mourinho stand up.

Mourinho's wounds had already recovered, thanks to his self-healing ability. But he stayed still and brushed off the dust. Escape wasn't an option.

"So now, answer my question. Who captured you? Why did you try to kill Zhao Hongyan? Did you kill Lu Yao?" Yang Chen said.

Mourinho was dumbfounded at first and he exclaimed, "What!? Kill Lu Yao?! How's that possible! I was avenging her!"

Yang Chen was puzzled. "Explain."

Mourinho frowned. He seemed to have realized something too. "I don't know how to answer the first question, but I know the person who captured me was Chinese. I and a couple of other vampires were brought to a lab after being caught. I think they were after our blood, and there was one time they drew a large amount of blood from me and thought I was dead. So they buried me underground and I got

away. For the second question, as I said before, Lu Yao was my lover and I was trying my best to turn her. But I heard that she was killed by a woman called Zhao Hongyan which was why I tried to kill her!"

Yang Chen was suddenly reminded of something. *?Lab?! Could it be Yan Buwen's Biochemistry lab?!*

It did sound plausible for him to carry out experiments using vampire blood.

The reason he chose the peasants was probably because no one cared about them and their existence wasn't recorded.

No wonder the clones created by Yan Buwen had great self-healing abilities. He must have extracted them from another species.

Yan Buwen was surely a tough opponent to beat!

Yang Chen frowned. "You're too careless, you could've used hypnosis to question Zhao Hongyan if she really killed Lu Yao. I can tell you for sure that it wasn't her but another vampire. Zhao Hongyan is innocent."

Mourinho widened his eyes in shock. "Really?"

"Your life lies in my hands. Why would I lie?"

Mourinho contemplated for a while and nodded. "I trust you. The powerful ones tend to have their own principles. I know I'm weak compared to you but can you find the bastard for me? I want to crush his heart with my own hands! Lu Yao might not be my woman yet but she was mine!"

Yang Chen asked curiously, "Why did you choose her? She obviously wanted to be a vampire just to retain her youth."

Mourinho's gaze softened. "She took me in during my worst times. She wasn't afraid of me. When I sucked on her blood, her gaze was so gentle and warm... It doesn't matter if she didn't love me. The warmth I felt from her was more than anything I had experienced in a hundred years..."

Yang Chen let out a deep sigh. Humans might believe that vampires were cold lifeless corpses. But underneath that icy cold body was a heart beating harder than most people could say...

Yang Chen kept quiet for a while before saying, "Mourinho, find the other vampire who's still lurking around in Zhonghai. Your vampire senses are much better than mine. If you find him and fail to take him down, inform me immediately at the Xijiao Villas. Of course, if you die I'll avenge you."

Mourinho's face was stern and he nodded grimly before vanishing into thin air.

Yang Chen let out a breath before turning around and walking towards Zhao Hongyan.

He bent down in front of her and said with an apologetic voice. "I'm sorry for scaring you, I realized he was following but I was hoping to get more evidence and there were too many people at the police station so I just let it happen."

Zhao Hongyan looked up while trembling. Her face was stained with tears and with red eyes, she said, "Tell me... tell me it was a dream."



Yang Chen shook his head. "It wasn't a dream. The murderer was a vampire and the person we met just now was also a vampire. You were hypnotised when you 'committed' the crime. You have to know that all this exists outside the movies you watch. Much of the common knowledge we have now used to be strange in the past. Don't worry, I'm here and I'll protect you."

His voice was clear and steady which made Zhao Hongyan feel that nothing really mattered.

Zhao Hongyan wiped her tears and asked, "Yang Chen... are you always this good to women?"

Yang Chen was dumbfounded. "Come on, don't tease me. I'm always begging for my wife's forgiveness from flirting with other women."

"No..." Zhao Hongyan shook her head and giggled. "Every other woman except your wife will say that you are a good man."

Yang Chen rubbed his chin awkwardly, unsure of what to say. *?Is she saying women are naturally attracted to me??* he thought.

He then slapped his forehead when he saw that Zhao Hongyan couldn't get up. She was hugging her bare legs so Yang Chen suggested, "Why don't you wear my pants? It's dark anyway, no one can tell you're wearing a guy's pants."

Yang Chen unbuckled his belt and took off his pants, leaving only his boxers on.

Zhao Hongyan watched him take off his pants and she started to sobbed yet again when he handed her the pants.

Yang Chen was completely dumbfounded. *?What's the problem now??* he thought, confused.

"Uh... Did I surprise you by taking off my pants? You should've said it earlier, I'll wear it back so don't cry!" Yang Chen's head throbbed and he stood back up to wear his pants.

Just when he was about to do that, Zhao Hongyan stood up suddenly!

She couldn't care less about the fact that they were both half-naked and the only barrier between them was only their underwear! Teary-eyed, Zhao Hongyan hugged Yang Chen tightly, her arms around his neck. In the next moment, she moved her head to position her soft lips on his...

Chapter 879 - Gain an Extra Piece of Meat

### **Gain an Extra Piece of Meat**

The kiss happened so quickly that Yang Chen was caught unprepared!

Yang Chen could only feel her face against his own. Her tongue was like a snake, slowly slithering its way into his mouth.

Time passed in silence.

Yang Chen gripped her arms and pushed her away. He asked in shock, "Hongyan, what are you doing?"

Zhao Hongyan didn't answer. Instead, she closed the distance around them by wrapping her bare legs around Yang Chen's thighs.

Yang Chen could feel her legs touching his skin, luring him in.

But he pushed her away immediately and yelled at her, "Are you crazy?! Wake up!"

Zhao Hongyan froze and looked up at Yang Chen with a ghastly smile.

"So I'm crazy?"

Yang Chen reflected on it and realized that he was slightly too harsh on the poor woman. "I'm sorry. I'm not angry at you, I was just caught off guard—"

"Yes!" Zhao Hongyan shrieked, her voice spread through the night sky.

"I might be going crazy!"

She sobbed and fell into Yang Chen's arms.

This time, he didn't dare to push her away. Her cry sounded painful and it ripped its way into his heart.

Zhao Hongyan was left sobbing like a helpless child. She curled up into Yang Chen's shirt and gripped onto it like there was no tomorrow.

"Somebody explain to me why I'm like this... Why does misfortune follow me around...What sins did I commit in my past to deserve this? Why must the heavens treat me this way..."

Yang Chen sighed and stroked her back stiffly.

But his attempt at consoling her made it worse as Zhao Hongyan sobbed louder. Any louder and the neighbors would start to file noise complaints.

It took her a few more minutes to calm herself down and she looked up to Yang Chen with glistening eyes.

"Feeling better yet?" Yang Chen asked.

Zhao Hongyan croaked out in a pitiful voice, "Yang Chen, am I a worthless and pitiful human being?"

Yang Chen sounded annoyed at her question. "This again? Didn't I already tell you that you're a wonderful woman? You're my first friend in Yu Lei. I know things are tough for you right now but trust me, everything will get better."

Zhao Hongyan shook her head, her lips curling into a bitter smile. "I'm used to it. Did you know? When I married my ex-husband, I thought that if I worked hard enough, his family would accept me. But I realized that life doesn't go the way you want it to despite all the effort you put in to change it. Some people are just impossible to please and I have to accept that. If you weren't beside me when I was wrongly accused, beaten, and divorced, I wouldn't know what kind of a person I would become. I'm really grateful to you and President Lin for helping me get past my hardships. I thought that I could start a new life... even if I had to repay my debts by working and also help my family business. Though I was always busy and barely had any time to eat and sleep, I didn't think it was tough because it was my new shot at life..."

Yang Chen lowered his head. He knew how difficult it was for her before she voiced it out to him. She had to juggle between taking care of her family, sick father and her job. But yet, she had no one to lean on for support.

Zhao Hongyan continued on, "But no matter how hard I try to prove that I'm a victim and that I'm innocent, they still think I was the cause of my divorce. I don't have time to date, let alone getting married. They think I have a sugar daddy so I don't need to remarry. Why is it my fault that we were divorced? Is it because he is richer? Does that mean he's more cultured?"

"Why didn't you tell them the truth? The Yu clan are the ones who mistreated you." Yang Chen tried to suppress his anger.

Zhao Hongyan let out a pained smile. "The truth? They don't care about the truth. They care only about gossip. That's how society works. People get pleased by witnessing the misfortune of others. My marriage doesn't even concern them. But they seem to enjoy watching marriages fail, as if they'll gain an extra piece of meat and stacks of cash."

Yang Chen was speechless.

Zhao Hongyan looked up and wiped her tears. "I don't get it, my life was already hard enough as it was. Why did I have to be accused of murder? I can't imagine seeing the news of me being accused of murder in the newspaper tomorrow. What would become of me then?"

Yang Chen frowned. "If that's the case, don't stay here. I'll tell Ruoxi and buy you and your family a house somewhere else. If you don't want to use our money, treat it as a loan then."

Zhao Hongyan shook her head. "There's no need for that. I finally understand that some people are destined not to feel happiness in life. You should stay away from me, just like how you rejected my kiss earlier. I was being crazy and disrespectful. How could I disrespect President Lin after all the things you two did for me? I'm really thankful that you pushed me away. I must have been crazy for wanting to kiss you. Just forget about this. Treat it as a revenge from me since you used to tease me all the time back then."

Having finished her little rant, she walked up and picked up her handbag. With a smile on her face, Zhao Hongyan waved at Yang Chen and said, "Bye, I'm going back first."

Yang Chen's heart wrenched upon seeing her walk away with just her underwear. Her shadow looked extra lonely under the streetlight.

He gritted his teeth and shouted, "Hongyan!"

Zhao Hongyan trembled and looked back with watery eyes, "Yes?"

Yang Chen hesitated and asked with a bitter smile, "You... Are you okay with walking back like that?"

A look of disappointment flashed through her eyes, but she tried to hold her smile. "It's fine, they're all asleep now so I just need to be quiet. Plus, the worst is yet to come. I might as well get used to the humiliation."

Yang Chen didn't know why but he thought that the night sky could swallow her whole, engulfing her in sorrow and pain.

Zhao Hongyan bit her lip and nodded. She continued her way back home with heavy steps. Tears were falling off her cheeks, as though she was bidding him farewell forever.

*I knew it, I should've ended all these thoughts that will never come true. I'm a nobody and will only bring trouble to others so how can I even think about this...?* she thought.

Just when Zhao Hongyan was about to speed up her pace after taking a deep breath, a shadow loomed over her!

Her heart skipped a beat and she looked up stiffly...

"Yang Chen, what are you..."

Expressionless, Yang Chen stood in front of her and stared right at her eyes.

He didn't utter a word. Instead, he threw his arms open to hug her tightly!

The next thing she knew, his lips were already over hers!

Chapter 880 - If I'm Really Wicked

### **If I'm Really Wicked**

Yang Chen pushed his tongue into her mouth!

Zhao Hongyan felt her entire body being drowned in complete and utter passion.

Her mind went blank and she could only moan in response.

The kiss lasted for two minutes and Yang Chen broke the kiss just as Zhao Hongyan started gasping for air.

He stared right into her eyes.

"If you thought that you're worthless and unwanted because I pushed you away and rejected your kiss, do you still think that now?!"

Zhao Hongyan was stunned, staring at his enraged face.

Yang Chen cracked his neck and pulled her into the nearest alley!

In a twist, he lifted her hands above her head and pushed her against the wall.

Their bare legs were rubbing against each other as they were only in their underwear.

Zhao Hongyan didn't struggle and stared at him with watery eyes.

Yang Chen said with a raspy voice, "If I had known that the woman whom I saved from the Yu clan was an unworthy woman, I would have never saved her. Zhao Hongyan, if you really think that your life is hopeless, let me know right now. I will end it for you. Make no mistake, taking the life of another means nothing to me. By tomorrow morning, you'll be a woman who's been accused of murder. No one would believe that a vampire was the one who did it. Lu Yao's fans will treat you like the enemy. They will harass you to no end. Everyone will give you dirty looks on the street when you leave for work and you might even lose your job because you're a murderer. What's the point of living? How about dying now?"

His words were like a dagger, stabbing right into her heart.

Zhao Hongyan's heart wrenched. She took a deep breath before closing her eyes shut.

Soon, she opened her eyes and looked at Yang Chen with a complex gaze.

"Yang Chen... if I'm really wicked to the core yet I don't wish to die soon, can you not kill me..." Zhao Hongyan whispered.

Yang Chen said coldly, "That depends on how wicked you are."

Zhao Hongyan showed a seductive smile, advancing closer to Yang Chen. She kissed his chin and licked his beard stubs with her soft tongue.

"What if I say that I want to seduce you even if I know I'm betraying President Lin..."

The atmosphere around them rose by several degrees.

Yang Chen felt the air around them pump adrenaline into him.

Zhao Hongyan seemed to have let go of everything and succumbed herself to lust!

At that moment, all she wanted to do was make love to the man in front of her. Morals and dignity all went out the window!

What would morals and dignity do for her if the world was crumbling down around her?

Instead of wallowing in self-pity and giving in to her sorrow, she chose the craziest way to express her true desire!

Even if she would be cursed and be cast aside by others, she had no regrets for following her heart!

Slowly, she rubbed her legs around Yang Chen's thighs. The smooth sensation stimulated his brains, arousing him.

She paused for a moment as she slithered her legs close to his crotch.

Zhao Hongyan's face was flushed and her heart was racing a million miles per hour. She became more brazen under the stimulation of the strong pheromones oozing out of Yang Chen.

"You're already so aroused. I can feel it getting bigger," Zhao Hongyan whispered raspily with a proud expression as she bit her lip.

"How daring of you."

"I was always daring." Zhao Hongyan licked her lips and looked at him suggestively. "I just wasn't bothered to seduce a married man like you."

"Are you challenging me?" Yang Chen smirked.

Zhao Hongyan cocked her head and said softly, "I guess."

It wasn't his first time touching her legs. In fact, he had touched them once over her black stockings when they were still working together at the public relations department.

But at this moment, she was seducing him with her legs willingly.

Yang Chen didn't think he could withstand it any longer. Their passionate kissing had sent him over the edge of no return.

Yang Chen told himself that he couldn't reject her... if he did, she would have thrown herself off a cliff and be completely devastated!

He knew clearly that he couldn't resist the temptation!

In the next second, he growled and went for it!

He left marks on her face and his hands went down her body, fondling her chest and butt...

Zhao Hongyan whimpered in response. It was music to his ears.

Finally, Yang Chen wasn't satisfied with just kissing and touching anymore.

He turned her around and had her lean over the wall!

All of their senses were heightened in that tight space!

Zhao Hongyan understood his actions instinctively and she moved her butt closer to his crotch.

She was already drenched from the arousal.

Since the only barrier between them was their underwear, things were much easier.

Yang Chen found his target clearly even though there was barely any light!

Zhao Hongyan trembled when he pushed himself into her, showering her with his passion. She almost fainted from the long-forgotten pleasure!

Their lovemaking session lasted for an hour before Yang Chen carried Zhao Hongyan back into her room.

Yang Chen giggled as he stared at Zhao Hongyan who seemed to have lost all of her energy. "How's that? I could have lasted longer but I let you go because it was getting late. So, do you still dare to challenge me?"

Zhao Hongyan was a mess. Her underwear was missing and her body was covered in marks.

She snorted. "I was just thinking about how I should continue to 'challenge' you without my boss finding out."

Yang Chen was surprised before he smiled bitterly. "You really are a wicked one."

"No one appreciated it when I was being a docile woman so why should I care about being a wicked woman when I'm already accused of murder?" Zhao Hongyan closed her eyes and laughed.

Yang Chen sighed. "Alright, don't overthink it. I'm going home now. They're going to get worried."

Zhao Hongyan hummed and whispered when he walked near the door, "Thank you..."

Yang Chen waved his hands without turning back before he vanished in the night sky...

At the same time in the Magdeburg Catholic church which was situated near Elbe River, Germany, a man stood under the golden cross.

It was around evening in Germany and the church looked especially still from the empty benches.

He was wearing a black suit with red tie. He looked as though he was in his thirties but his deep gaze revealed experience that only came with age. His face was pale and charming yet intimidating.

He stared at the sculpture of Jesus for a long while and grinned wickedly. "Sneijder, why bother hiding in front of Jesus?"

The next second, a bald Caucasian man in a suit got down on one knee beneath the stairs.

"Your Royal Highness, I've received news that might be related to Count Drogba," Sneijder said emotionlessly.

The man turned around and asked, sounding interested, "Oh, has the kid finally appeared?"