

Chapter 171 - Get Used To It

"It's perfect." He said.

"Okay..."

"My parents want me to bring you home for lunch. Are you willing to go with me?"

Li Lanni found him comical. He was asking whether she was willing when she was already in his car and they were already on their way? "What if I said I'm not?"

"If you're not, we will go somewhere else. I can bring you home when you want to go." He looked serious about it, as though if she said that she wanted to go back to Li Yuming's, he would turn back.

"Just kidding. Of course I'm willing to go." She laughed before he could make a U-turn. She had missed Madam Ji and the old master too. "It's just..."

This was the first time meeting his parents when in an actual relationship with him and she was a bit nervous.

He understood this and kissed her cheek for reassurance. "It's alright. You just have to be yourself."

He was now glad that they had pretended to be engaged before. She had met his parents and contrary to their previous prejudice against her, they now liked her. It would be one hell of a task of she was meeting them for the first time and they really disliked her, considering how their relationship was just starting to bloom.

They stopped by a gift shop. Unlike the last time, Li Lanni now knew their preferences so she easily chose a watch for the old master and a necklace for Madam Ji.

They arrived at the Old Ji mansion half an hour later.

"Lanni's here!" Madam Ji exclaimed when she heard her son's silver-white sports car drive in. She pulled the apron off her and rushed out like an excited child.

Old Master Ji went out in anticipation too.

As soon as Li Lanni was out of the car, Madam Ji rushed to take her hand. "Lanni, you are finally here. Come on in."

"Hello aunty, uncle." Li Lanni greeted them modestly.

Old Master Ji was yet to have the chance to say anything when Madam Ji pulled Lanni into a hug. "Oh Lanni. It will not be too long until you have to call me mother." Wen Lin pulled her into the house enthusiastically.

"Did I just get ignored?" Ji Xiehan, whose hands were outstretched to hug his mother, was speechless. No one even said a word to welcome him!

"Get used to it, son. I got ignored too." Old Master Ji knew it was going to happen more often.

In the living room, Li Lanni showed her gifts to Wen Lin.

"You didn't have to, dear. It's already enough that you are here." That was what Wen Lin said, but her hands quickly reached for the pearl necklace. She ran her fingers over the small, fine, snow-white pearls. One look and she knew that it must have cost a dime. Not that the price mattered, she would appreciate it even if it wasn't costly. "But isn't this type of model for young women? Old hags like me would look weird wearing such necklaces."

"What are you saying aunty? If I didn't know you were Xiehan's mother, I would think you were his sister instead." Li Lanni said, and she meant it. Wen Lin had taken such good care of herself that she looked at least ten years younger than she really was.

Which woman didn't like to be complemented for looking young and beautiful? Wen Lin was even happier, soon dragging Li Lanni to the kitchen with her so they would chat more in the absence of the father-son duo.

"And we got ignored again." This time, Old Master Ji was the one who complained.

"Get used to it dad."

They really needed to, because for the rest of the time including when they were eating, Wen Lin hogged Li Lanni all to herself, completely forgetting all about her husband and son.

"I was asking, am I even needed here?" Ji Xiehan finally complained, earning a glare from his mother.

"You punk! Are you really being jealous of your fiancée? I've been with you for almost three decades."

"Of course I wouldn't be jealous of her. I'm jealous because of her." He mumbled.

"You bad son. Are you jealous of your parents now?"

Li Lanni found him childish too and laughed at him. Who on earth gets jealous of his own parents?

After the meal, Madam Ji had something to ask Li Lanni. She took her hands to nervously ask, "Are you very close to Jiang Xingyu?"

"I'm training at Star Art International so he's technically my superior." Well, that and the fact that he could be her brother-in-law.

"Just that?" Wen Lin seemed conflicted. "A friend of mine seems to have seen you at his house."

"Huh?" Li Lanni was puzzled for a moment before it dawned on her. That must have been her sister.

However, she couldn't say this out so she just coughed and dismissed it. "Your friend must have seen wrong."

She was right. Except, neither the friend nor Wen Lin knew about Xia Luna.

Wen Lin frowned and shrugged it off too. "That must have been the case. Don't think too much of it. I just wanted to ask you before coming into any conclusion.

Even so, she had a slight frown on her face. The first time must have been a coincidence.

The second time, however, she was passing by the Jiangs' when she clearly saw her playing around with Madam Jiang.

That was still alright, considering how much Madam Jiang had always wanted a daughter and how much she liked Li Lanni. However, why would Li Lanni be playing around with Jiang Xingyu as well? Jiang Xingyu even kissed her and she didn't look displeased at all - or at least she didn't act so. In fact, the whole scene looked like a mother playing with her son and her daughter-in-law. It sounded odd, but that was the vibe she got from them.

Jiang Xingyu wouldn't secretly fool around with his best friend's fiancée, right? Even if he could, considering how beautiful Li Lanni was, there was no way his mother would let that happen, right?

After hearing Li Lanni's answer, Wen Lin felt like her intelligence was being insulted.

Li Lanni clearly felt that Wen Lin's temperament towards her had changed since she asked that question. It had gone back to the initial awkwardness.

Ji Xiehan knew that if he tried to say anything, it would only make the situation more strange than it already was.

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"The person my mother's friend apparently saw, that was your sister, right?" Ji Xiehan asked when they were on their way out.

"I guess so. She is getting more careless by the day." She would have a word with her later. It was still alright if people saw her and thought that she was Li Lanni. However, if someone happened to see both of them at different places in a short span, that wouldn't be funny.

"My mother doesn't mean any harm." Ji Xiehan stated.

"I know." She bit her lip, looking at him. "Her opinions just change too fast. She has no sense of trust. One only needs to say something with a little semblance of evidence for her to be convinced.." If not, she wouldn't have been deceived by Ji Feifei for so long.

"Let's not talk about them anymore." Ji Xiehan was slightly uncomfortable about it. He loosened his tie a little as he wondered whether to drive her back home or go somewhere else to spend more time together. Guessing that she might need time to decide what to pack for their vacation and she might not have enough time the next day, he decided to drive her back home.

"Later, I would like you to meet my aunt too." He said after a short spell of silence.

"Your aunt?"

"Yes, my paternal aunt. I lived with her for the better part of my life. She's like a third mother to me. Of course I will let her meet the woman I love."

Li Lanni knew a little about Ji Xiehan's aunt. "I'll be glad to meet her. Will we have to go to Australia?"

"Not necessarily. She likes travelling when she's free and might come to B City soon. But if you want to go to Australia, that's good too."

"We can go the next time we plan to go on vacation. I've never been to Australia before."

Instead of answering, Ji Xiehan leaned in and kissed her lips.

Li Lanni's eyes bulged. "We're on the road, Xiehan."

"It's a red light."

And he took full advantage of it, kissing her until the cars behind them honked to remind him that the light had turned green. He stole a few more kisses before driving off again.

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As soon as they arrived, Li Yuming teased her daughter endlessly.

"A certain someone won't spend much time at home since she's now someone's girlfriend."

"Don't be jealous now, mom." Li Lanni laughed.

"Where did you go today?" Li Yuming asked, and Li Lanni explained how she had gone over to the Old Ji Mansion.

"About your sister..."

Li Lanni knew Li Yuming was about to say bad things about Xia Luna and she was not ready to hear it yet. "Can we talk about it later?"

Li Yuming sighed. She didn't want to say bad things about Xia Luna either. After all, she was her daughter too. However, that didn't mean she could let the Xias use Lanni. Nevermind. She would talk about it once Li Lanni returned from her vacation with Ji Xiehan.

Later.

Li Lanni looked through her closet, picking what she wanted to pack for their vacation. She packed a few pants and tops, a few simple dresses and nightwear.

She thought about all the places they could go. What if they went to the beach? She should pack a swimsuit or two just in case, right?

She picked a blue one with matching sarong. Her cheeks flushed at the thought of it. Was she really ready to let Ji Xiehan see her in such revealing clothes? She could bet he would not be able to control himself. If that led to something else, would it be too soon?

But then again, it was never too soon for anything, right? As long as they both wanted it and were ready for it - and she was.

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Monday.

The couple had chosen to go to Germany first.

They arrived in Berlin at 4pm. They were tired so they directly went to the hotel.

A beautiful dark-haired woman welcomed them with a bright smile. "Are you on your honeymoon?" This hotel was quite popular among young couples and especially among newlyweds, so it was no surprise that she would make such an assumption when she saw a young couple.

"Uhm..."

"Yes." Ji Xiehan quickly interrupted before she could say that they were not.

Li Lanni shot him a look.

"No wonder you look so deeply in love!" The woman gushed in her German accent. She went ahead to ramble to Li Lanni. "Your husband is so handsome and you are so beautiful! You are definitely the loveliest couple I've seen today.

If you want, you can come over and I'll tell you a few tricks. There's also a store that sells beautiful and sexy lingerie on the seventeenth floor." Although the last two statements were meant to be whispers and she had even covered one side of her mouth and spoken closer to Li Lanni's ear, the words were loud enough for Ji Xiehan to hear.

"Thanks for the advice. We might need it later." He shamelessly said, earning a slight stomp on his foot.

Once they left the reception, she berated him for lying to the kind-hearted woman. To which he shrugged like he had not said anything wrong. "Aren't we on our honeymoon? We just started dating. There's no rule that only married couples can go on a honeymoon, is there?"

Li Lanni rolled her eyes. "You and your forced logic." She dragged him to the elevator so she wouldn't have to hear any more of his nonsense.

"We are staying in the same room?" Li Lanni expressed her shock, seeing that he only had the key to one room.

He grabbed her waist as a response, kissing her ear lightly. "You don't want to share a room with me?"

"It's not that I don't want to, but..." her voice trailed off in her nervousness.

"Are you scared that I will do something to you?"

The elevator arrived with a ding. Ji Xiehan dragged her with him to the room and opened the door with his right hand while the left still held her waist.

"I'm... not scared." She stuttered as they entered the huge room.

He kissed her neck and lingered on it a little. "I think you are."

He laughed at her uneasy expression. "You can relax, my love. I will not do anything to you." He kissed her forehead. "Not unless you want me to."

Li Lanni's cheeks flushed. "Let's just rest first. I'm tired."

"You don't want me to do anything to you yet?"

Li Lanni ignored him and headed towards the bed. But once she took a clear look at the bed, her cheeks flushed.

Was this a wedding suite by default?

On the bed was a sea of red roses and a few little boxes slotted between them. Were those...! Li Lanni swallowed. Surely, they couldn't be what she thought they were, right?

Chapter 173 - Special Messages

"Are those..." Li Lanni couldn't even bring herself to say it out aloud.

"Condoms? Yes they are." He shamelessly completed the statement.

Li Lanni glared at him. How could he be so blunt about it? "Was that your arrangement?"

Ji Xiehan went forward and picked one of the little boxes, holding it up to scrutinize it exaggeratively. His eyebrows knitted. "This is not my size so no. But if you want me to make arrangements..."

"Stop talking about it already!" Li Lanni was embarrassed. "Let's just rest."

"Mmh." Ji Xiehan pulled the cover off the bed, sending all the flowers and little boxes flying. He gaped as they covered her frame on their way to the floor. "That was so beautiful. I should have taken a picture."

"You want to take a picture of me with condoms flying all around me?"

Before he could make another lewd statement, she flopped onto the humongous bed, stretching her limbs. "I'm so tired."

She was just about to close her eyes when she felt a weight pressed down on her body.

"What are you doing?" She was startled when Ji Xiehan pressed on top of her and started trailing his hand down her body.

"Aren't you tired? I'm giving you a special, loving massage."

Shivers ran down her spine as his finger came into contact with the skin of her collarbone. She swallowed. "Then give me an actual massage."

"Sure." He kneaded her shoulder slightly and her body stiffened.

Lowering his head, he kissed her lips. She hugged his neck, deepening the kiss as Ji Xiehan grinded his body against hers. He slid his tongue between her lips, exploring her mouth.

He only stopped when they were both out of breath, kissing her neck. He licked and sucked down to her collarbone at the same time that he reached behind her back to unzip her dress. He slid it over her shoulders and off her hands, revealing her pink lacy bra. He swallowed, his manhood stiffening further at the view of her perfectly sculptured fair breasts peeking through the lacy material.

She unconsciously reached to cover her chest with her hand when she saw him staring, but that only made it more alluring, his adam's apple bobbing as he swallowed.

He gently but firmly pulled her hands off her chest and put them on his shirt instead. She started to fumble with his buttons as he gently took one of her breasts out of the bra and into the palm of his hand. It felt warm and soft, he couldn't help kneading it gently. She threw her head back, biting her lower lip to prevent a moan from escaping her lips as he fondled the softness of her breast. Her nipple hardened stiff as he pressed it gently between his thumb and forefinger.

He lowered his head and took it into his mouth. She let out a low moan, her toes curling from the waves of pleasure. He sucked on one nipple as he reached behind her back to unhook her bra. He took the other breast in his hand too, giving both of them attention. His tongue trailed down to her midriff.

Then he felt no more movement from below him. He looked up curiously and was surprised to see her eyelids closing.

Did she just fall asleep while making out with him? He looked down at his disheveled clothes and at the bulge below his belt.

Resisting the urge to wake her up so they could continue what they had started, he covered her, took a change of clothes from his luggage and went to the bathroom.

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Being extremely fatigued from the long flight, Li Lanni only woke up two hours later.

"Are all the pillows so warm and comfortable around here?" She mumbled in her sleepy daze, grabbing onto the said pillow and snuggling it to her face. She took a long sniff when the familiar scent wafted into her nostrils. "It smells so nice too."

"That's my chest." Ji Xiehan cleared his throat.

Li Lanni rubbed her eyes with her fists, the sleep fading off in a flash. She looked down at the chest she was snuggling with no ounce of restraint and pulled back like she had touched a hot piece of metal.

She glanced at his firm chest and abdominal muscles that he had left bare for display and gulped. "Is.. is that how you sleep?" She asked in a soft voice.

"How?"

Was this man really feigning innocence right now? He knew what she was talking about.

"Like this..." she pointed at his bare chest, his abdomen that was heaving at his every breath and at the boxer briefs that were the only piece of clothing on his body. She quickly tore her gaze away when she saw a swell growing in the boxer briefs that she had just pointed at.

"Do you sleep au-naturel?"

Ji Xiehan swept his gaze over her body. "What do you think?"

"That's not how you slept... uhm... the last time we slept together."

Ji Xiehan chuckled and ran a hand through his black hair leisurely. "You wanted me to sleep this way; au naturel?"

Li Lanni widened her eyes. "What? No! You're twisting logic again, that's not what I meant."

Her flushed cheeks looked extremely cute. Ji Xiehan couldn't help but wonder how one girl could manage to blush so many times in a span of only a few hours. One only needed to tease her a little and her cheeks would be red like ripe apples.

It gave him the urge to tease her a little more. "Honey, you can tell me anything, you know. If you want me to sleep the way I usually do (In my birthday suit) I'll gladly do so."

He grabbed her by the waist, making her fall over his body. She nervously balled her fists, not knowing where to put her hands. With a laugh, he pulled her head closer to whisper in her ear.. "We can also finish what we started earlier... or we could start over."

She didn't have the chance to protest before he pulled her hands apart and they landed right smack on his abdomen.

The last two times they shared a room, he was quite reserved, bathing and changing in a different room. A while ago, he was on top of her so she didn't get to see it clearly. This was technically the first time she was seeing his chest. She couldn't help lingering her gaze longer, pressing the firm cube-like muscles beneath her hand. Seeing that he did not mind it, she trailed lower, tracing the well-sculptured V-line with her fingers.

She had tried to imagine his body through his suits a few times but no matter what kind of picture she made in her mind, it paled in comparison to the real thing. He must have worked out a lot to obtain such a seductive body. She sneaked a few peeks at the generous bulge below but quickly glanced back at his chest.

Ji Xiehan placed his hands behind his chest, enjoying the chills as Li Lanni mindlessly caressed his body. He had not deliberately worked out so he would obtain a seductive body to lure women. But seeing how she was almost drooling at what she was seeing, it was like a trophy for all his hard work. The little man in his briefs could agree with him.

Unknowingly, Li Lanni's hand trailed to a region that shouldn't be touched. "Ji Feifei is so bad at painting." She said in annoyance.

"What about her?" Was she seriously bringing up another woman?

"She painted her imagination of your shirtless body before. The real deal is a million times better."

He laughed, his muscles vibrating slightly under her touch. Before she could ask what he was laughing at, he held her body and suddenly flipped so she was under him again.

She yelped in surprise. Was he really going to continue...

His kiss answered her. He grabbed her hands and put them above her head, knowing fully well that she wanted to continue touching his body.

'How mean...!' she thought, but she still let him do as he pleased. He held her hands in place as he torturously ran a hand between her breasts.

At that moment, her stomach growled.

He let go, and she laughed. "How embarrassing. I think we should eat first."

Ji Xiehan realized he was hungry too. "There are a few restaurants on the seventeenth floor. Do you want to eat German cuisine?" He suggested.

"Of course. How can I be to Germany and not eat German cuisine?"

Ji Xiehan could agree on this too. He had been to several countries, and he didn't have any food allergy - at least none that he knew of - so whenever he visited a new country, he would get a taste of their cuisine. He knew just the kind of food to recommend to Li Lanni.

Once they had decided, he went over to his luggage to take clothes to wear.

He decided to wear jeans but just when he pulled it out, he saw small packets below it. He knew instantly what they were. He was not embarrassed about it but Li Lanni was.

"You..."

"It's my father." Ji Xiehan sighed, wondering what the old man was trying to imply by slipping protection into his twenty seven year old son's luggage. "Did he think we needed all these? It's not like we are rabbits."

"That's your main point?" Li Lanni didn't know what to do about him.

When she opened her own luggage, she was even more speechless. There was unfamiliar lingerie on top of her other clothes. No need to ask. Her mother must have slipped those there.

Ji Xiehan saw the face she was making and understood instantly. He wrapped his hands around her. "Aunty Li wants us to make kids fast too?"

Li Lanni swatted his hands away. "Go and dress up." What kids?

Ji Xiehan dressed up right there, as though putting his body on display for her to see.

She straightened her dress too, intending to take a bath later.

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On the seventeenth floor.

By the time they got to the restaurant, it was already 9pm. Obviously, Ji Xiehan was to blame for the delay. He kept hugging and kissing her, even pressing her against the wall so he could tease her a few times.

It was not like she hated it, though. On the contrary, she liked it just as much as he did.

Because the restaurant manager was used to having customers drop by at odd times. 9pm was still early, so there was still plenty of fresh food.

Ji Xiehan passed Li Lanni the menu first.

"Sauerbraten?" Li Lanni rattled off some of the dishes in fluent German.

"Ich hoffe, sie sind so lecker, wie sie klingen." [1]

She was shocked by her own words. Her eyes flew wide open. "Did I just... speak German?"

Ji Xiehan reached to pat her head across the table. "You're full of surprises. I'm not shocked."

"What do you mean you're not shocked? I'm flabbergasted!"

Ji Xiehan laughed at her slow brain. "You must have learnt it before and only needed something to help you remember."

"That must be the case..." There was no other explanation to it. But why would she learn German? There was nothing wrong with learning a foreign language but why German?

Li Lanni went ahead to try out the dishes. Indeed, they were delicious.

"Eat more. You might need the energy for the exercise we will do later." He added more meat onto her plate.

Li Lanni ignored the second part and focused on the first. "You are not worried about me gaining weight? Don't most men want their girlfriends or wives to keep slim?"

"That's other men." Ji Xiehan stabbed a piece of roast meat with his fork and brought it to her mouth. "Not me. I will still love you even if you become fat and look like a bloated ball."

She slapped his shoulder. "Who did you just say looks like a bloated ball?"

Ji Xiehan burst into laughter. "Who said that? I only said I would still love you if... hey, stop hitting me." He grabbed her hands and effortlessly held them together. "Your..."

Li Lanni didn't hear the rest of his statement. Her eyes narrowed as she looked at the entrance. "What is she doing here?"

Chapter 175 - This Is Not A Coincidence

"This is not a coincidence." Li Lanni narrowed her gaze at the incomer.

Feng Ci walked in boldly in her short, tight dress whose length ended right below her butt. Her cleavage was revealed too, making Li Lanni frown a little. "That dress could fit in my wallet."

Feng Ci sashayed over and slumped her butt right next to Ji Xiehan, adjusting her position so her breasts were more exposed for him to see. She was shamelessly seducing him! She even tried to grab his arm, intending to rub her chest against it and looked displeased when he evaded her touch. "Xiehan..."

"My fiancée and I are having a private conversation. Miss Feng, if you'll excuse us." Ji Xiehan coldly dismissed her.

"But Xiehan, I came to speak to you too. I heard you are in Berlin too, so I came to say hi."

Li Lanni almost rolled her eyes at the side. Was that how people say hi? More like she came to force herself onto Ji Xiehan. Could she get any more fake? This was no coincidence. She obviously found out about their vacation and deliberately followed them. What level of stubbornness did a woman need to cling onto a man who didn't like her?

Li Lanni continued eating as though the intruder was part of the air. Of course she was not going to lose her appetite because of some clingy fly. Seeing that she was not in the least bit affected by Feng Ci's intrusion, Ji Xiehan continued to eat too, ignoring the woman beside him.

Once they were done, he smiled at Li Lanni who was opposite. "My love, are you full? Let's go and talk in our room instead. We can have our dessert delivered there too." he lowered his voice to add, "Or we could be each other's dessert."

"Okay." Li Lanni stood up and hooked her arm around his.

"We're on the seventeenth floor." He seemed to remember something.

"And?" She threw him a questioning look.

"The receptionist said that the lingerie store was on this floor, didn't she?"

When she ignored him, he pinched her waist slightly. "Honey, are we really not going to take a look?"

She shot him a glare to which he responded, "Won't you try them on for me, honey?"

Li Lanni jabbed his abdomen. This was a public restaurant, didn't he realize? There was barely anyone in the restaurant at the moment, but it was still embarrassing to talk about lingerie within other people's earshot. She was about to berate him when she realized what he was doing. Those words were meant for Feng Ci's ears.

As expected, the latter was about to explode from anger and jealousy. Why were they talking about such things? She was still hoping to separate them before their relationship became too strong.

She had used so much effort to find out their whereabouts and cancelled everything on her schedule just to follow them. Now, after all that hard work, she finds out that they might have already started having sex?

If eyes could stab, Li Lanni would have hundreds of flaming daggers in her back already. Feng Ci's lips twitched in disdain. How dare that woman sleep with her Xiehan?

She crossed her arms and harrumphed. Judging from Li Lanni's age and her innocent look, she was probably a dead fish in bed. 'Wait until I get you back, my Xiehan. I will show you what real pleasure feels like.' She thought.

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Ji Xiehan managed to drag Li Lanni to the lingerie store. Actually, she also wanted to wear something seductive for him. If possible, she would wear a different set of lingerie for him every day of their vacation.

She ignored her slight nervousness and picked a black lacy set, holding it against her body as though picturing how it would look on her.

"You have gotten bolder, haven't you?" Ji Xiehan gulped, also picturing how she would look in the two piece lingerie she was holding.

"We are the only ones in the store right now so why not?"

"Right." Ji Xiehan swallowed and also looked through the rows of sexy lingerie, some of which were practically nothing.

Li Lanni looked through the rows too and saw one that she loved the most. That was the most seductive piece of lingerie she had ever laid her eyes on. Usually, she wouldn't even think of buying such a set but thinking about how Ji Xiehan would go crazy seeing her wearing it, she wanted it.

"What are you looking at?" Ji Xiehan tried to follow her line of sight but saw nothing strange.

She swiftly stood in front of him to block his line of sight so he wouldn't ruin the surprise by seeing what she was intending to wear later. That was right. She was going to wear it for him later. It was a bold idea

that she could not imagine herself doing before – but which woman did not want to see her man pleased by her body and looks?

Just then, Ji Xiehan's phone rang.

"It's my mother." He said to her before picking the call.

"Hello mo..."

"You punk! Have you arrived in Berlin? I told you to give me a call once you arrive." The holler invaded his ears as soon as the call connected.

"I forgot." He said genuinely.

"Then you must be having a good time." Madam Ji sounded happier. "Is Lanni doing fine? Please help me say hello to her."

Before he would suggest that she say hello to Lanni on her own, Madam Ji interrupted. "I will not distract your lovey-dovey time anymore. It's very late over here. I'll go back to sleep."

Ji Xiehan had to chuckle at that. Did she wake up in the middle of the night to give him a call?

Once he was done speaking to her, he turned to find that Li Lanni was already at the counter. Seeing him approach, she grabbed the plastic bag and turned to him.

"Are you already done?" He asked. That was fast.

"Yes, let's go."

"can I have a look?" he tried to take the bag from her hand.

"Of course not!" She swatted his hands away and dragged him out of the stoor and into the elevator, pinning him against the mirrored wall.

Of course, she wasn't strong enough to do that so effortlessly – it was only because he let her. "I meant to ask you this. Why is that woman here? I know she couldn't find out your schedule so easily."

Ji Xiehan chuckled at her serious expression. "What can she do?"

"It's not funny." She narrowed her gaze dangerously.

"The best way to make her give up completely is to let her see that we will never be together. Only then can she stop pestering me." He explained as they left the elevator and entered their room.

It just had to be at that moment that they saw the said invader leaning against the door of the room next to theirs.

"What? You think only you can book a room in this hotel? It does not belong to your family, you know." She glared daggers at Lanni.

Lanni scoffed and entered the room with Ji Xiehan. That woman was dead set on seeking attention. Arguing with her was only going to waste her time.

Ji Xiehan ignored her too, making Feng Xi so angry that she stomped her way to the reception.

"I want a copy of the key to room 3507." She threw a card across the desk, demanding in a commanding tone.

The receptionist crossed her arms. "Not happening."

No one liked rude customers to begin with, and it was already bad enough that this woman did not even have a basic sense of courtesy. Earlier, she had sauntered in, spewing rude words whenever things

didn't seem to go her way, and she had relented because it was her role to make the customers comfortable.

Now she was here to demand access to another room? Never mind that the couple in 3507 was her best couple so far – and a very polite young woman and her equally kind husband. Even if the couple wasn't that lovely, she would never go against her work ethics and give in to such a demand.

"What did you just say? Do you know who you are speaking to?" Feng Ci hollered, threatening to cross over the desk and rip the receptionist into pieces.

"I said, I will not satisfy your demand." Before Feng Ci could say anything else, she added, "It does not matter who you are. In this hotel, you are just a customer like any other. We have every right to terminate your stay if you continue to cause trouble."

Feng Ci would have thrown a tantrum, called her father and had him deal with the receptionist then sauntered off to another hotel. However, this was where Ji Xiehan was staying. There was no way she could leave. She could only change her tone and nicely ask.. "Could you give me a copy of the key? I will pay whatever price you ask for."

Chapter 176 - Is He Really A Man?

Feng Ci left the reception with a satisfied grin on her face.

That woman had refused to relent no matter what she offered. Who was she acting all righteous for? She would deal with her later.

It was not that she was at a loss—she, Feng Ci, was never at a loss. She just didn't want to let the receptionist off. What would that say about her pride? But in actual fact, she should thank her. Because of her adamant refusal, she had thought of a better plan to get closer to Xiehan.

She went to her room, ordered for a few adjustments to be made to suit her comfort then went to the bathroom. She added rose petals into her water and soaked for half an hour. She only left the tub when she was feeling calm enough and changed into a beautiful nightgown.

"How can any man reject a woman like me? I'm so beautiful." She gushed as she looked herself in the full length mirror. No matter what pose she made, it showed just how beautiful she was. Her body was too perfect to be turned down by any man. Was Ji Xiehan blind?

An idea struck her mind. Perhaps she should make him a little jealous? That might just ignite the feelings she knew must be hidden deep in his heart. After all, that was the nature of many men—they would not know just how much they love a woman until they lost her.

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Room 3507

Unaware of what Feng Ci was thinking of her new boyfriend and not caring about it either, Lanni dragged him all the way back to their room.

As soon as the door shut, Xiehan pinned her against it and pressed his lips onto hers. He kissed her slightly roughly and impatiently, and it was not long before he started tugging at the zipper of her dress. "I've been waiting to do this for ages."

"It was just two hours." Li Lanni laughed as she gently pushed him off her.

"Honey..." He spoke up to complain.

"I'll take a shower first." She pressed a tiny peck at the corner of his mouth as though to pacify him.

"But I don't mind." Their lips connected as soon as he grabbed her and pressed her back against the door.

Lanni had to use up a fair amount of restraint to push him away again. "But I mind."

Before he could continue, she made a beeline for the bathroom, and then suddenly rushed back for something.

She picked the plastic bag she had dropped on the floor when they started kissing. "Be good, I won't be long." She said both to him and the little man that was already awake in his pants then rushed back to the bathroom and shut the door.

Ji Xiehan went to sit on the bed, slight disappointment creeping in. He had wanted to take a peek at what she had bought when she went to the bathroom, but then she remembered to take it with her. She was being so mysterious. Just what was it?

He lay back on the bed to wait for her to finish her bath. While he was still waiting, his phone rang.

The caller ID gave him a bad premonition. Why the hell would Feng Ci be calling him at this time of the night? Without thinking, he hung up. It rang again just a few seconds later. He wanted to ignore the call or simply hang up again, but he had a nagging feeling. What if it was something important? He hesitantly received it.

"Help me!" Feng Ci cried. Ji Xiehan heard nothing else before the line went dead. That was strange...

He had a sudden thought. Had she been attacked?

This was a foreign country and Feng Ci probably knew no one but him here. Besides, even if she knew anyone else, it was late at night and he was closest to her. If anything happened to her, she would logically think of him first.

He was not heartless enough to ignore anyone's call for help even if he disliked that person. He looked in the direction of the bathroom. Lanni was still bathing, so he grabbed his phone in case she looked for him, and left the room.

...

He rang the doorbell twice but there was no response. He tried to push it a little and it opened.

"Ah—!" A muffled cry for help resounded from the bathroom, followed by a series of clatter.

Ji Xiehan's first reaction was to rush over in panic. Alas, as soon as he entered the bathroom, something tripped him and the next thing he knew, he had fallen on top of Feng Ci.

"Are you crazy?" He hollered, quickly getting up and glaring at the woman on the floor.

She had tears in her eyes as she sniffled. "I hurt my leg while leaving the bathroom. The walls are sound proof so no one would hear me, so I could only call you."

Ji Xiehan turned and left the bathroom, leaving the room without checking whether her leg was indeed hurt. It couldn't be real anyway. How would she explain tripping him? That she was on the floor and it was her fault for not seeing her?

Indeed, that was how Feng Ci was going to explain it. She was not even hurt to begin with. That was part of her plan. She had lain on the floor and called him. She knew that he was not cruel enough to ignore a call for help. Taking advantage of this, she faked a situation that would make it sound like she was in danger.

Heaven knew how delighted she was when she heard the door open. However, she did not hear the sound of rushed footsteps as she had expected. She grabbed a bottle of essential oil and screamed before smashing it onto the floor.

As expected, he rushed in and she was prepared for this. She was also prepared for how she would explain the whole situation. Once he took a glance at her legs, he would not care about it being an obvious lie. Because he would lose control of himself.

Her nightgown was short and sexy with red little flowers covering some of the parts revealed by the lacy material. With her position on the floor, she was even more alluring. No man would be able to hold back. Besides, the material of the night gown was so delicate that it tore as soon as Ji Xiehan fell on top of her.

The bang of the bathroom door brought her back to her senses. He left? He actually walked out? How could he not even spare her a glance? She rushed out of the bathroom just to see him disappearing out of her room.

"Is he really a man?"

—

Ji Xiehan had never been so angry in his life. How could that woman trick him into her room? He had thought that no matter how crazy time had turned her, she would never fake an emergency.

Then again, he was the stupid one. He knew that she was insanely set on seducing him yet he went to her room and right into her trap like an idiot. He really wanted to bang his head on something.

Lanni was drying her hair when he walked in.

"There you are. I was wondering where you went to this late."

Ji Xiehan sat on the bed and contemplated. If he told her the truth, she would probably be mad at him.

"Did something happen?" She was concerned when she saw his nervous look.

"I went to Feng Ci's room just now."

Lanni's eyes flew open. "You did what?"

"She tricked me." Ji Xiehan explained; disgusted by what she did. He went ahead and explained exactly what happened, not leaving out anything.

Just when he thought she was going to get angry, she jumped onto him, hugging his waist. "Thank you."

"T-thank you?" Why would she be thanking him? Shouldn't she get mad at him, hearing that her boyfriend just went to another woman's room?

"Thank you for telling me the truth." She met his gaze seriously. "Many men would have chosen to give an excuse, knowing that the woman would be jealous or upset."

He held her closely. "I was about to do that too, honestly."

Lanni was not surprised by that. If she was in his shoes, who knew what she would have done. "But why did you change your mind?"

"Because my love, I don't want to ever lie to you." Because once a small lie is told, one might have to lie again to cover it up. He wanted their relationship to be built on full trust.

Lanni pulled away from him with a snicker. "You say you have never lied to me? Then what about those sly methods you used to get me engaged to you, do you think I never found out?"

Ji Xiehan coughed.. He couldn't deny that. But, "Honey, whatever a man does to gain the interest of the woman he loves should be excused as long as he doesn't go overboard, don't you think?"

Chapter 177 - He Should Have Expected It

—

Lanni did not know how to refute that. He was seriously going to say anything to defend his moves in the past. But thinking about it, she had been avoiding him every chance she got. Perhaps he really should be excused for resorting to using sly tricks, especially since they proved to be effective.

"What are you thinking so hard about?" His voice jolted her out of her thoughts as his hand made a beeline for her neck. He started caressing it in slow circles but just when he was about to kiss her, she suddenly stopped his hand.

After having been interrupted so many times in a row, such a move was frustrating to Ji Xiehan. However, the last thing he wanted was to make her uncomfortable so he obediently stopped before giving her a questioning look.

Lanni was unable to meet his gaze, looking elsewhere as she said, "I'm sorry, I... we can't do this."

His eyebrows formed a frown. Why? Wasn't she willing to do it earlier? Did he do something to upset her?

Seeing that he was puzzled but didn't look like he was going to ask, she offered an answer. "When I went to the bathroom earlier, I realized that my period came. What a bummer." By the end of the statement, her voice was so tiny that he almost couldn't make out what she was saying.

When he understood what she had just said, he felt bummed too. What awful timing. He was a bit familiar with women's cycles thanks to his habit of trying to learn a little bit of everything, so he guessed that it had probably been triggered by her sudden change of environment. He should have expected it.

"How long is it gonna take?" He couldn't help asking.

"One week at the very most." Surprisingly, she was not embarrassed to talk about this with him.

"A whole week? Seven damn days? One hundred and sixty-eight freaking hours?"

Lanni burst into laughter. "I didn't know you were the type to curse too." She crawled off his lap and sat on the bed beside him. "Don't be dramatic. I said one week at the very most."

"That doesn't sound any better." Ji Xiehan was still gloomy. But it was already here and there was nothing they could do about it; and running the red lights was definitely not something he could opt for.

To avoid making her uncomfortable, he hugged her, understanding. "It's already late. Let's go to sleep."

Lanni nodded and lay down on the bed. She was also disappointed about not being able to seduce him in her new lingerie. However, they still had six days. She could still do it later. They would also have to go to the beach later.

Ji Xiehan quickly got ready for bed, turned off the bedside lamp and pulled her into his arms. She snuggled comfortably, trying not to blush at the feeling of his still stiff manhood poking at her backside through their clothes. He tried to ignore the feeling too, concentrating on rubbing and patting her tummy instead.

"What are you doing?" She asked with a chuckle at his antics.

"I'm rubbing your stomach so you won't feel any more pain." He answered in all seriousness.

"Eer... who told you I was feeling pain?"

He paused to shrug even though he was behind her and she couldn't see him. "I don't know... don't women always feel pain during that time of the month?"

Li Lanni had to smile at that. How caring...

She turned and wrapped her hands around his neck, using instinct to find his lips and kissing them lightly. "Thank you... but it's just like any other day for me."

"Oh." He responded, but still continued to rub and pat her stomach when she turned. She let him do as he wanted, snuggling comfortably in his arms.. It was not like she minded a little more doting.

Lanni was comfortable, but a certain someone wasn't. She had almost forgotten about this until the poking became more intense and he slipped to the bathroom, probably thinking that she was already asleep.

When he came back, he naturally hugged her and tried to fall asleep. But it was not long before he slowly slipped off the bed again. Lanni felt uncomfortable thinking about it. Was he going to spend the whole night in the bathroom—probably taking cold showers?

Without thinking about it, she grabbed his arm and yanked him back to the bed. He was caught offguard, thinking that she was asleep and not expecting her to suddenly pull him so he fell right back onto the bed.

— —

Borrowing the light seeping in through the curtains from outside, he was able to see her and he frowned suspiciously when she suddenly crawled over his body. "What is wrong?"

All the confidence suddenly gone, Lanni was embarrassed about what she had suddenly thought of doing. Where did she get such a sudden wave of boldness? She stammered, "I... we don't have to actually have sex to relieve the tension."

Ji Xiehan instantly understood what she meant. She wanted to please him with her hands or do it orally? His manhood responded before he did by hardening further than he had ever thought possible, threatening to burst through his pajama pants.

His voice was hoarse when he spoke. "My love, you don't have to."

"I know." The boldness was suddenly back, and Lanni did not feel an ounce of nervousness when she stated, "But I still want to it."

She covered his lips, shoving back the words he was just about to say. He relaxed to enjoy the moment—he badly wanted it.

Lanni boldly took the lead, kissing him as her hands caressed his neck, down his chest and abdomen through his clothes. Her right hand trailed even lower, finding his crotch and grabbing it through his pants.

She almost covered away when she felt a man's member for the first time she could remember; but when he groaned in pleasure, she gently rubbed it with her palm. All she was doing was from instinct and what she had read, heard or watched—she didn't have actual experience and was a bit clumsy at it—but it was enough to set his body ablaze.

Her fingers fumbled for the buttons of his pajama shirt and she slowly unbuttoned it, without breaking the kiss. He freed his hands from her hair, letting the shirt slide off his hands when she tugged on it.

Her hands hugged his back and caressed it as she broke the kiss and stole a brief glance at him. Seeing the lustful look all over his face, she gave a slight smile in satisfaction and kissed his chest.

As soon as her hot, wet tongue got into contact with his skin, Ji Xiehan had to stop himself from reaching a climax. He uncontrollably held down her head, wordlessly demanding for her to kiss her way lower.

Lanni satisfied his wish, kissing his perfectly defined abs that were heaving to the rhythm of his panting. He held his breath as he felt her go below his belly button.

She held her breath for a brief second then pulled down his pants and boxer briefs at the same time. Her eyes almost went wide when it sprang free, precum glistening at the tip of it from excitement and anticipation. It was bigger and harder than it had looked and felt while in his pants. She took it in her palms, rubbing its tip then gently caressing its length as she slowly lowered her head.

"Honey..." he groaned when she kissed his balls, teasing them with her tongue.. She rubbed its length in her right hand, her left hand circling its tip.

Chapter 178 - I Should Have Done This Already

His groans of pleasure, laced with the natural scent of his body, enticed her to go further. She gave his balls a slight suck, driving him close to his climax before she suddenly stopped.

His shaft was now rock-hard and warm in her palms. She kissed her way up its length. She flicked her tongue against its tip before twirling it as far as it could go around his shaft.

Just when the anticipation was about to make him explode, she finally took him into her mouth. She tightened her lips around him, her hot, wet tongue gliding lower than her lips could reach at the same time that her hands caressed the base of his manhood.

He held ran his hand up her back and it was not long before he felt his climax building up. "Honey, I'm close..."

She was yet to have a chance to react when he felt a chill down his spine and it just burst out, catching them both offguard.

"Are you alright?" He asked after a short while. After all, not every woman would be comfortable with what had just happened.

"Yes." She managed to say. Just a little sore but alright nonetheless.

He pulled her into a hug. "That meant a lot to me."

She smiled against his bare chest. Seeing how happy he was after his release, she wouldn't mind doing it again. The two of them cleaned up and went back to bed, snuggling against each other each with a satisfied smile.

The next day.

Ji Xiehan was the first to wake up. He gently pulled himself away from Lanni before heading to shower and ordering breakfast afterwards.

Lanni woke up to the alluring aroma of the food that the hotel staff had just brought in. She stretched her limbs and swung her legs off the bed lazily.

Seeing that she was awake, Ji Xiehan walked over to her and kissed her cheek. "You're awake just on time. I ordered breakfast."

Lanni hugged his neck and kissed his cheek. "I'll go freshen up for breakfast."

With that, she headed to the bathroom. She was done in a few minutes and they started eating together.

Halfway through their breakfast, Ji Xiehan's phone rang again. No one needed to ask to know who was calling.

Ji Xiehan swiped his screen without thinking and the phone stopped ringing.

"You hung up?" Lanni asked in surprise.

"Yes—and blocked her too. I should have done this a long time ago."

"I'm glad you realized that. She is hell bent on distracting us."

"It's my fault. I thought she would give up once it was obvious that she cannot separate us."

"She will probably only give up when we say our vows."

"Vows?" His eyebrows wiggled.

"Yes, wedding vows...you know, when we get married. If..." she was unable to finish her statement. Their relationship had just begun and it was probably too soon to even think about the future. Besides, it would be so embarrassing if she was the only one thinking of a future together with him — and judging from his surprised look, that seemed to be what was happening.

Of course, that was not the case. He had always thought of her as the woman he wanted to marry. He was just shocked that she was of the same opinion.

"You may be right. In that case, we should get married sooner so she gives up sooner."

Lanni scrunched her brows. "I didn't say that so you could tease me."

"Why can't I tease you?" he grabbed her waist to tickle her a little. She was too adorable. How could anyone not want to tease her? He only let go when she was out of breath from laughing too hard.

Once they were done having breakfast, they went to have a walk and shop around a little. Their initial plan was to go for a swim but they had to change that in the last minute.

"There's a famous mall for women just a few streets ahead. Do you want to take a look? We can shop for nice clothes and you can even get presents for Aunty Li and Luna."

"You are very familiar with Berlin?" she couldn't help but observe. He knew almost all the nice places.

"Yes. I frequented here after my high school. I wanted to study in a University here."

"Then why did you change your mind?" Li Lanni knew that he had completed his university education in the US.

"No special reason. I just realized I wanted to go to the US instead."

"I see." Li Lanni wanted to ask a little more, but their cab had arrived so she saved the questions for later.

"Welcome sir and miss." A salesgirl politely greeted them and welcomed them into the mall, before asking if they were looking for anything specific.

"Thank you. We are just looking around. Please don't mind us." Li Lanni replied, flashing back an equally bright smile.

Using the arrows, Li Lanni found the sections she was looking for. She looked around before picking some of the things that interested her.

"Xiehan, this necklace would look perfect on Aunty Wen, don't you think?" She pointed at a diamond necklace through the glass display case but when she lifted her gaze to look at him, she saw someone else and froze.

This woman was everywhere! Why did she follow them here as well? Feng Ci sauntered into the mall like she owed it, her golden-colored dress clinging to her body so tightly that she could only take small steps in her skyscraper high heels.

Only that this time, her arm was intertwined with that of a young man. He looked obviously younger than Feng Ci, and her high heels made him appear a few centimeters shorter as well. One wouldn't call them quite the match. That was the point—Ji Xiehan would be jealous if he saw her with another man, but he would be angry if the other man was not even good enough for her. That would trigger him to confess to her and make her break up with him.

That was not the only reason for choosing a younger man, however. It was also because a younger man would be easier to get rid of. She could always tell him that she realized he was too young for her.

Seeing Ji Xiehan's subtle frown, she was even more confident. Her mission had been accomplished. As for Lanni's slight change in expression, she assumed that was her being happy that her love rival was now taken.

'You will not be happy for much longer, Lanni.' She thought as she walked over to them.

"Xiehan, you are here too. What a coincidence." She habitually wanted to grab his arm, which he evaded yet again.

To mask her embarrassment, she went ahead to introduce him.

"Mark, this is Xiehan — the childhood friend I told you about. Xiehan, this is my boyfriend, Mark. We just started dating." She ignored Li Lanni, who was happy to be ignored. She did not want to be associated with Feng Ci's friends anyway.

"Oh, is he?" Ji Xiehan mocked, knowing fully well what her real intention was. "You look perfect together."

Feng Ci wanted to explode but she kept a happy façade. "I knew you would be happy for me." She turned to Mark before she could explode into flames of anger. "I saw a really beautiful bra the last time I passed by here. I hope it has not been taken yet, let's go and check it out...Mark?"

She was curious that her fake boyfriend had spaced out but when she realized what he was looking at, she wanted to gorge his eyes out. Why the hell was he looking at Li Lanni? What was so good about that b*tch?

Chapter 179 - Jealous?

In annoyance, she dragged Mark away before he could do something that would embarrass her.

"What do you think you are doing?" she could be heard hollering as soon as she thought she was far enough.

Lanni simply laughed at them. "I bet she was trying to make you jealous."

"Oh."

She tilted her head to look at him curiously. "Oh? That's all you're gonna say?"

"What else am I supposed to say, my love? That I'm jealous? Well, I'm not." He countered, not caring that he was being so brutally honest.

"I don't understand why such a beautiful and smart woman would be so lost in love that she would go crazy from the obsession." It was meant to be a mumble, but it was loud enough for Ji Xiehan to hear.

"Smart?" He frowned, wondering whether his girlfriend's definition of the word was different from everyone else's.

"Not my words! People say she's smart." She quickly shrugged, making Ji Xiehan chuckle.

"It's just to satisfy her pride." He said as a response to her curiosity. In actual fact, Feng Ci was beautiful, talented and basically what any man would hope for —before she got angry. Once she lost her temper, all the so-called smartness would go down the drain at a super speed.

If he had never met Lanni, perhaps he would have ignored all this and chosen to be with her considering their past friendship. He might have even married her if she truly loved him. However, what she felt was far from love. At first, she tried to be with him because her parents wanted her to. When she realized that he had no interest in her, she became obsessed with the intention to make him love her just to satisfy her pride. Who would want that?

"Let's go somewhere else. I've got everything I wanted." Lanni urged, the enthusiasm in her voice slightly faded.

"Are you and Mark familiar with each other?" He suddenly inquired, making her stop in her tracks with a puzzled expression.

"How did you come to such a conclusion?"

"From the way he was looking at you..." As a man, he knew that Mark was not looking at Li Lanni because he was fascinated by her. It was the gaze of someone who had finally seen someone he had not seen in a long time.

"I've been meeting so many weirdos lately. He's just one of them." Lanni dismissed with an indifferent shrug.

—

Later, Ji Xiehan and Lanni went back to their hotel room.

Their stay in Germany would have been perfect if Feng Ci did not follow them. Although they were trying to ignore her presence and they still enjoyed the few minutes that she did not appear before them, it was still apparent that their vacation was nothing like they had expected.

While they ate dinner that evening, Ji Xiehan brought the train tickets he had booked for France. He passed them to her with a grin. "I wanted to surprise you so I didn't tell you this before. We are changing plans so Feng Ci doesn't follow us."

"That's a good idea." Li Lanni agreed, hoping that they would have an actual good time in France.

At the same time, in the next room.

"Hello...what?" Feng Ci exclaimed when she heard what her father just said. "No way dad!"

"I'm being serious." Old Master Feng said on the other end. "You better get back home right away."

"But dad, I'm still executing my plan. I even got a little closer to Xiehan." Technically, she was not lying. Their rooms were only separated by a wall. Her father couldn't hear any of it.

...

The next day, the couple went to France as planned. The weather was nice and so was the view from their hotel room.

"This is parfait! Nothing can go wrong now." Li Lanni exclaimed in excitement as they entered their room. Everything about it was romantic — and it was not just about the red curtains or the wine at the bedside table — even the very air had the scent of love in it. Or maybe it was just because she had heard the news that Feng Ci had gone back to Country C.

That was right. Feng Ci had in fact taken the first flight back. Heaven knew why, but it was none of Lanni's business. As long as she was out of their way.

At that moment, Ji Xiehan's phone rang. He signaled to her that he was going to pick it before going to the window.

It was brief but when he was back, Li Lanni felt something was off.

"Is something wrong?" She asked.

Ji Xiehan looked like he had lost half of his life. "My father just called."

"And?" She felt something bad coming.

"Something seems to have happened at the company. I may have to hold a video conference, or several of them." He replied, unsure of whether he would be able to solve the issue that way. After all, he was hundreds of miles away and he didn't even know what the problem was all about. Could he really solve it on a video call?

He doubted that...

Li Lanni clearly saw the doubt in his eyes and knew what he was thinking. The best way was probably to go back home so he would actually find out what the matter was and how to solve it. However, he must be afraid to ruin her holiday so he didn't want to end it prematurely.

She wrapped her arms around his neck in a hug and kissed his cheek slightly. "Xiehan, I know what you should do."

"But honey, this is our first vacation together. And I suggested it to calm your mind."

Yeah, that. She had almost forgotten how uneasy she had been before Ji Xiehan suggested going on a vacation.

" But even then, "Xiehan, it doesn't matter. We have many more chances to spend time together. On the other hand, the company might suffer humongous losses if we do not go back."

Ji Xiehan hugged her. She was right. Indeed, they wouldn't have called him if the matter wasn't serious and judging by Old Master Ji's tone, something must have gone terribly wrong.

Hence, just like that, they took the earliest flight out of France.

Chapter 180 - Surprised

B City—the day before.

Xia Luna had been working harder ever since it was confirmed that her father would wake up soon. She knew that no matter how many people thought she was really guilty of stabbing Li Xiyang, her father would always trust her.

Even so, it would be nice if he had little to worry about once he woke up. Who knows, his health might even get much better and he could be just like any other person.

However, there was a problem. Li Xiyang was now on the lookout and the initially hard task was now even harder. Should she really consider talking to Madam Jiang's detective friend? 'No way. I cannot let a man be the one to solve my problems.' She thought, shaking her head at the fact that she had even considered that option.

She stood up from the chair and groggily stretched her limbs. She had been awake for the last at least twenty four hours and now she was so tired that she could drop right onto the floor and sleep.

She was just about to drag her tired body to sleep when she got a notification from her phone.

"You must be kidding me." She muttered when she saw the message from Jiang Xingyu. Why would he text her so urgently and what did he mean by [Something went totally wrong]? What happened?

She dialed his number and called him.

As soon as the call connected, his worried voice came through the speaker. "It's my mother. She..."

"Hello?" Xia Luna glanced at her phone. The call had been hung up all of a sudden.

'What happened to Aunty?' She wondered, the sleep fading off her eyes in a flash. Without thinking about it, she grabbed her bag and rushed all the way to the Old Jiang Mansion.

Seeing that the guards refused to let in a young 'man' without permission from the master or madam, Xia Luna grabbed her phone and called Jiang Xingyu. The idiot actually refused to pick her calls.

In utter annoyance, she called Madam Jiang who was surprised but rushed over to meet her.

"Huh? Where's Luna?" Madam Jiang mumbled once she reached outside. Then she glanced at the young 'man' at the side curiously. He looked too young to be Jiang Xingyu's friend. "And you are?"

"Aunty, it's me." She said in her usual voice, startling Madam Jiang. Why was Luna wearing male clothes and covering her face? But remembering that she was living in disguise, she was no longer shocked. She hugged her and pulled her into the house.

"What a brilliant surprise! Please come in."

Xia Luna followed her and sat on a couch then studied Madam Jiang worriedly. "Aunty, are you alright?"

"I'm more than alright — I'm jubilant! It's not every day that my favorite girl comes to see me."

Xia Luna felt something wasn't right. Didn't Jiang Xingyu say that something was wrong with his mother? No wonder that idiot refused to pick her call when she called again earlier.

She was just about to rant about him when she heard his excited voice from the door. "Mother, I took the day off just to spend time with you. You are very happy to see me, right?" He walked in, looking surprised when he saw Xia Luna next to his mother. "Eh? No wonder you did not miss me in the slightest. Your Luna is here. Oh I'm heartbroken." He exaggeratedly clutched the left side of his chest.

"You are surprised to see me?" Luna asked, her expression turning cold.

"Of course! Hahaha... I'm surprised but I'm happy at the same time." He scratched his head.

"Oh really." She crossed her arms against her chest. "I am surprised to see you too." She emphasized the last syllable, glaring daggers at him.

"Eer... why does this feel like a battlefield?" Madam Jiang was dumbfounded.

"That's because he called me, telling me that something happened to you." Xia Luna mercilessly exposed him.

Madam Jiang frowned at her son. "How could you do that, you useless son? You made my Luna so worried!" At that, she grabbed a sandal and charged towards her son.

"Mo...mother, wait! You misunderstood. Ah—not my head!" Jiang Xingu tried to dodge as his mother used the sandal to smack his head, not in the least worried about humiliating her own son.

"I will beat your head. I will even smack your face! How dare you lie to Luna?" Madam Jiang did not pause her beatings.

"I didn't lie! She misunderstood me!" Jiang Xingyu defended himself as he tried to get away.

"Explain." Madam Jiang demanded without any intention to stop beating up her son.

Hence Jiang Xingyu could only explain while trying to shield his head from the sandal. "I was about to say that you missed her when my phone went dead. She is the one who misunderstood me."

"Is that so?" Madam Jiang stopped beating him up, and he grabbed the opportunity to flee.

Xia Luna could only accept his explanation. Indeed he had only said "It's my mother ❖❖❖. It was she who had assumed that something had happened to her and run over worriedly. Even so, "You tricked me." She smacked his shoulder.

He glanced back at her gently, his expression full of love. "If I didn't trick you, I wouldn't ever get to see you again."

"Ah, I see what's happening here. I guess I'm not needed." Madam Jiang flashed them a smile then went up the stairs, humming happily. So it was because her son had missed her future daughter-in-law. Since that was the case, she should not bother them. It would be even better if they spend the whole day together and got closer to each other.

"Where are you going?" Jiang Xingyu asked when he saw her heading for the exit.

"I'm leaving." She didn't have any business here and she was too sleepy to argue with him.

"Xia, could you stay a little longer? I promise I will not bother you.." He grabbed her hand to plead.