

Chapter 511 - The Return Of Xiehan (2)

Xiaomu clung onto Xiehan and hugged his neck, her eyes begging for kisses. He chuckled and pressed his lips against her soft face, which made her giggle happily and clumsily smack her lips against his face.

"So your uncle is more popular now." Lanni pretended to be jealous as she looked at them while driving.

"Don't be jealous. It's inevitable that the little angel would like me more. I'm very handsome, after all." Xiehan grinned happily.

Xiaomu didn't know a thing of what was going on around her, nor why the duo was laughing. When she set her eyes on Lanni, she excitedly held her small arms for a hug. "Momma!"

Xiehan facepalmed. "This is why I thought she was our daughter." If his ears hadn't failed him, he had heard the little girl mumble to Lanni while calling her her mother.

"She will notice the difference when she is older." Lanni smiled and turned to ask, "Are you disappointed?"

"Disappointed?" He did not understand.

She nodded. "That she is not our daughter."

Xiehan laughed. "What's there to be disappointed about? We can just steal her away. I can't swear that I didn't have such a thought." How was it fair for Xingyu to have a child this adorable?

Lanni laughed too, she loved Xiaomu and Linhou very much.

"Where are we going?" He asked out of the blue.

"Where do you want to go?" She threw a question back at him, as a way of evading the question since she did not want to ruin the surprise.

"I don't know. Anywhere you want to take me." He stated.

She peeked at him teasingly. "Then sit back and wait for me to take you wherever I want."

He was speechless, but she had a point. It didn't matter whether she answered him or not, since he wouldn't have anything against it anyway.

Hence, she brought him to a grand Hotel, to a hall that had been decorated specially for him. His family and friends were all dressed up as they waited to welcome him back.

"Welcome back!" They all cheered as soon as they saw him walking in through the door with Lanni and Xiaomu.

"Xiehan!" Wen Lin was so emotional that she was about to burst into tears as she finally hugged her son again.

"I'm back, mother." He patted her back before hugging his father.

"I heard all about your hard work at the Island. You have been helping to keep the company on track too, despite being so busy. I'm proud of you, son." Ji Huifen proudly patted his son's shoulder.

"It's because you, mother, Uncle and Aunt taught me well." He did not take all the praise to himself. Besides, it was true that he had received a lot of guidance from them.

"That's a sweet tongue. And you have become more handsome. No wonder Lanni is so smitten." Xinghe stepped forward to embrace him.

"I'm not smitten." Lanni denied, but it only gave the others something to laugh at. They could clearly see it from her eyes just how happy she was to have him back. Her eyes could barely move away from him for a second.

"Welcome back." Luna gave him a friendly hug with Linhou in her arms.

Xiehan thanked her and picked Linhou up. "You have grown up. I almost missed your childhood."

"You are not too late." Xingyu patted his back. The kids were only toddlers and were in their most active phase, which was the most thrilling.

Xiehan kissed Linhou's cheek, earning a scream from Xiaomu when she saw her favorite uncle kissing another baby. The adults burst into laughter while Xiehan carried Xiaomu. "I'll kiss you too." He pressed his lips against her forehead.

Placated, she pushed her brother away from Xiehan.

"What a jealous child." Li Yuming chuckled at her cute granddaughter, and hugged her grandson so he wouldn't be sad about his sister's character.

"Where is Xiaoshi?" Xiehan asked when he noticed his cousin's absence. Han Xichen wasn't present, and it made him question whether they had gotten married and gone on honeymoon together.

He wouldn't be surprised, since Xiaoshi was pregnant when he left.

"She's inside." Ruby led him in, where Xiaoshi was placating her baby who was about to go to sleep.

"Shishi?" He was pleasantly surprised.

Han Xichen greeted him while Xiaoshi turned with a smile. "Meet your niece, cousin. Her name is Yue." She was proud to say her daughter's name. She and Han Xichen had registered their marriage before their daughter was born, and it was the happiest year of her life. Even though her father was still in jail and her mother was often in Australia and only came to visit her once in a while, she had found a family in the Han family.

"Are you happy?" Xiehan asked her, not because he suspected that his cousin was unhappy, but he simply wanted to make sure.

"I couldn't be happier." She smiled and gently handed the baby to her cousin.

Xiehan didn't want to interrupt the girl's sleep so he gently rocked her with a happy smile. The evening was already emotional even though it had only just begun.

After partying all evening, Xiehan went back to his mansion with Lanni accompanying him.

As soon as they entered the house, she wrapped her arms around him. "I couldn't wait to be alone with you."

He kissed her lips deeply. "What would you like us to do now that we are on our own?"

"Everything." She whispered and pressed a kiss against his neck.

She felt herself float as he carried her in his arms. "Aren't you tired?" She asked as she wrapped her arms around his neck.

"Not too tired for a 'welcome party'." He laughed.

Chapter 512 - The Return Of Xiehan (3)

He kissed her lips gently, savoring the taste he had missed for so long. He kissed her jaw as he held her, gently running his hand down her back.

Her fingers caressed the back of his neck, driving him on edge with impatience. Desire raged through his very being but he slowed down, worshipping her body instead.

He lay her on the bed under him, while supporting himself on his elbow. He gently caressed the side of her face and neck, kissing her hair.

"I missed you so much my love. I missed touching your skin like this." He whispered as he ran his finger along her shoulder.

"I'm all yours now." She hugged his neck and closed her eyes as she felt him unbutton her dress one button at a time. He was driving her on edge with desire, but at the same time not giving in to what he knew she had missed.

He peeled their clothes off torturously slowly as he kissed and caressed every inch of her skin.

Her skin was on fire under his touch, which he cooled down temporarily with his kisses.

Just when she thought she would burst into flames with need, he parted her legs and positioned himself between her thighs, gently claiming her amid her moans of pleasure.

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When Lanni woke up the following morning, Xiehan was scribbling down on a piece of paper. He seemed unsatisfied with what he had written, he tore the sheet of paper on which he had written off the stack and crushed it into a ball with a frown. He then started scribbling anew.

"What are you doing?" She asked, chuckling with interest and whatever got him so serious.

"Planning our wedding." As he spoke, he cancelled out what he had written and crushed it too.

"What?" She was flabbergasted by what he had just said.

He turned to pull her onto his lap, hugging her while pressing his lips against her neck. "Do you think it's too soon to discuss it?"

In response, she shook her head. "You caught me off guard but I've never been readier." She turned to hug him before looking at his list. "My love, we can simply hire a wedding planner. Doing it on our own can be distressing and we may forget some important details." She suggested.

"Yes we will. But I'm writing a list of the things you write so the wedding planners have to consider them while organizing the wedding." He answered, and she glanced at the list to realize that they were indeed all the things she liked.

"Are you a worm in my stomach? You know everything about me!" She exclaimed at the accuracy of the list.

He tightened his arms around her. "We have been dating for so long. How useless would I be to not know what you like and don't like?" He countered. If he didn't know such a basic thing as her dislikes, he might have long made a mistake and lost her. Besides, he loved her so much that he loved the process of getting to know her.

"Honey, it's our wedding—not just mine." She remarked as she cancelled out the things he wasn't particularly fond of from the list. While it was often said that a wedding was a woman's great day and that everything should be perfect for her, she hoped that Xiehan would enjoy theirs just as much as she did.

"Xiehan?" She realized that he seemed to be uncomfortable with his breathing hitching, so she turned to check on him.

"I'm alright." He croaked. Before she could ask what was wrong, she felt the boner stiffening behind her back and poking her, making her eyes go wide.

"You are sitting on my lap. Naked." He explained.

Her cheeks burned as she realized just how relaxed she was to be naked around him. She would have hidden away in the past, but she now slipped off his lap and grabbed her nightdress. "I'll get dressed."

"It's too late." He snatched the nightdress from her hand and threw it aside, and pinned her under him.

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It was only much later that they resumed the wedding plans. They brought over a few wedding albums to get an idea of what they wanted.

Xiehan saw a dress that made him smile and marked it. "This dress would... what's wrong my love?" When he looked up, he met her blank gaze, as though she was deep in thought.

She smiled as she pulled herself out of her trance. "I'm so excited, Xiehan. I finally get to be your wife."

"It's about time it happens. Come here." He pulled her into his arms to continue looking through the album together.

"Who do you want as a best man?" She asked curiously. Would he choose Xingyu? She wasn't sure if it was possible to be each other's best man.

"That would be either Xingyu or Lin Jian." He answered. "Or Han Xichen. I have quite a few choices. You, on the other hand, should be more worried about your maid of honor." He teased her. Luna and Xiaoshi were both married.

"Then it would automatically be Xiao Yu." She had already had this discussion with Cheng Yu. Besides, there was no written rule that the maid of honor had to be unmarried, was there?

"Speaking of them, should we call them over? They can help us out with a few details." He suggested.

It was almost as though their friends had been waiting to be summoned. As soon as Lanni called Luna gave her a call, she came rushing over along with her family and the rest of their friends.

"You two are planning your wedding?" She asked when she arrived to find the couple sitting in the sitting room with wedding albums sprawled across the table.

"Wedding!" Yelled Xiaomu, mimicking the interesting word that her mother had mentioned.

Lanni stood to pinch her cheek gently. "Yes, my cutie. You will get to eat your favorite cake. Because your favorite is also your aunt's favorite."

Linhou, who was on his father's lap, looked at Xiehan curiously.

"Will they come too?" Xiehan asked as he picked the boy to hold him. He hoped this cute duo would be allowed to attend the wedding.

"Of course they are coming." Luna decided when Xingyu let her decide. "They will love it and besides, their aunt will kill me if I hold them back."

Lanni nodded in agreement. "Of course I would kill you. We will have little Mumu wear the same dress as mine and she will get to be my little flower girl as Linhou becomes the ring bearer."

These were the words that Cheng Yu heard as soon as she arrived, and she was baffled.

"Uhm....a two-year old ring bearer?" She held back a laugh as she sat on the couch next to Lanni.

"What's wrong with my son's age?" Luna complained, pretending to be offended.

"Nothing. He'll make an adorable ring bearer and his aunt will be proud of him." Lanni believed that the little boy was smart enough to know what he was supposed to do. Not to mention, they still had enough time before their wedding to teach the twins what to do.

"Yes, if he does not eat the rings before the ceremony." Lin Jian joked.

Cheng Yu tried not to laugh when she thought about it. That did sound like something Linhou would do.

"That's mean." Luna frowned.

Lin Jian wanted to defend himself but when he received a glare from Jiang Xingyu, he conceded. "It was only a joke. I'm sorry."

How could he forget that the wife-protecting devil was still here? Sheesh!

"What were you saying about my son?" Luna took advantage of Xingyu's doting to make things difficult for Lin Jian for a little bit.

"He is absolutely intelligent and adorable! There is no little boy in this world that would make a better ring bearer than him."

"Enough brown nosing." Luna had heard enough and her ears stung.

"How do you think he would have managed to get together with Ruby if he wasn't a brown noser?" Lanni teased him, making the others burst into laughter.

Chapter 513 - Filling The Void

"Congratulations on finally managing to get Ruby." Xingyu patted Lin Jian on the shoulder. "Did Xiehan give you the standard warning for brothers already? Do I need to say it on his behalf?" He teased Lin Jian.

The latter frowned as though he had received a huge blow. "I know, I know. I will not dare to do anything to hurt Ruby and if I do, you will beat the hell out of me."

"Don't tease my future brother-in-law." Xiehan spoke up for Lin Jian.

"You finally called me that! You finally acknowledged me." Lin Jian would have clung to Xiehan to hug him if the latter didn't glare at him. Never mind. As long as there was no one opposing their relationship. Ruby placed her fair palm on the back of his hand, making his heart melt in joy. "Why don't we grab some drinks to celebrate?"

"Of course we should. But let's do that after getting together the details of Xiehan's wedding." Xingyu grabbed his tablet to continue ticking out whatever he thought Xiehan would like.

"We should hire an agency." Cheng Yu suggested. It would be much easier than trying to work out all the details on their own.

"Xiehan and I are already looking into wedding planners." Lanni smiled as she held Xiehan's arm. She smiled gently when she saw a beautiful gown. It's design was simple for the most part, aside from the diamonds embedded along its hem. She imagined herself wearing it and Xiehan's reaction seeing her in it.

"Hold on, Lanni. Are you choosing your gown with Xiehan beside you?" Cheng Yu widened her eyes when she recalled what she heard before. "Isn't it bad luck for the groom to see the gown before the day of the wedding?"

"Not necessarily." Luna shook her head with a shrug. "According to our wedding planner, the main point is to give the groom a beautiful surprise. Speaking of wedding planners, we should hook you up with some of the planners we found when planning our wedding." She suggested to Lanni.

"If you think she did a perfect job at our wedding, we could simply give you the contact number of our wedding planner." Xingyu added.

"Why don't you simply connect us with your wedding planner?" Lanni decided after seeking Xiehan's opinion.

"Honey, do you still have her contact details?" Xingyu asked, and Luna nodded.

"Yes. Here." She took out her phone and searched for the telephone number, which she gave to Lanni.

"Why would you keep the contact details of your wedding planner after the wedding anyway?" Lin Jian mumbled with a chuckle to tease Luna yet again.

"Because my sister is still unmarried, you idiot." She rolled her eyes at him.

"Honey, she is scolding me again." Lin Jian looked at Ruby to complain.

Ruby, who was too busy checking out venue design examples, rolled her eyes at him. "You deserve it."

Everyone burst into laughter at Lin Jian's expense.

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Meanwhile, in Li Yuming's villa.

Li Yuming hummed as she arranged fresh flowers in a pot. When she was done, she double checked whether the floor had enough padding to ensure no one got hurt if they fell. She checked the edges of furniture too, and when she was certain that it was all safe, she opened a bag she had brought and took out a myriad of toys which she arranged on the floor.

She then brought snacks and placed them on the table, making sure to put more of them into the blue bowl for Linhou—so he would be too full to snatch his sister's snacks. She laughed just at the thought of it.

The last time, the little boy had grabbed Xiaomu's fair little hand and put it in his mouth, which ended in the girl screaming her lungs out.

"You are happy." A voice came from behind her. She paused what she was doing and turned with a smile.

"Neil. My grandchildren will come back soon. I'm making arrangements for them." She went over to meet him. "Have a seat. Are you hungry? I'll bring you something to eat."

"I would like a glass of chilled water." He requested with a smile, and she brought him the water in a flash then sat beside him.

"Artificial sand?" He looked at one end of the living room, where there was a large tub full of what looked like sand but was whiter and looked finer.

"Linhou likes playing with sand." She explained. "However, he gets his whole body dirty if we let him play with sand so we use this instead. It's actually made of plastic and will not stick on his clothes."

"That's a smart option." He had to admit. If only he knew about it when Ruby was a child. He didn't want to think about his daughter's muddy face, hands and clothes, and the fact that she would always cry to get away with playing in the dirt.

Li Yuming chuckled. "I think it gets more fun with each new child. You discover new tricks to counter their naughtiness. I don't know if I'm being selfish, Neil. I still hope for Lanni's and Xiehan's children."

He patted her shoulder when he heard her words. One might expect her to be satisfied since she already had an adorable pair of twin grandchildren but he didn't think so. He patted her shoulder. "You aren't selfish. You should in fact hope for more children—our children."

She was taken aback by the sudden change of topic. "Neil, you know that I'm too old to have kids."

"Who said that? Everyone would believe me if I told them that you are in your twenties." He checked her out with a wink.

"You flatter me too much." She laughed.

He smiled along, looking at her beautiful face. "Yuming, I wouldn't like to steal Xiehan's and Lanni's thunder but..."

"But what?" She probed when he stopped.

"Would you like to go on a date with me, my love?" He asked

"I'm preparing for my grandchildren." She would have loved to go but she wanted to receive the duo as soon as they returned with their parents.

"We don't have to go anywhere. We can have lunch on the patio." He suggested when he realized that he was also looking forward to playing with the duo. Xiaomu especially liked him and would always give him a bright, toothless smile that melted his heart.

She liked the idea so she agreed. Since it was on short notice, he didn't have enough time to prepare too much; he could only order flowers and cook. His cooking skills had improved tremendously in the past two years so when he finally laid the table at the patio, it was enough to make Li Yuming swallow her drool at the sight.

"You are getting better in the kitchen." She complimented honestly when she had a taste.

"In other aspects too." He joked.

She chuckled and focused on his food, only to catch him staring at her wordlessly. She looked up questioningly.

"I love you so much, Yuming." He took her hand and kissed her knuckles.

"I love you too." She confessed.

He was taken aback by her words and it took a while for him to register them, then he smiled. "It's the first time you said that despite all the months we have been seeing each other."

"I wasn't certain before." She explained truthfully. "I didn't know whether I really wanted to leave the past behind and move on. I was still afraid but now I'm certain that I want to be with you, Neil."

Neil gazed at her deeply. He felt as though the empty part in his heart had finally been completed. He pressed her palm against her cheek.

Neil withdrew his hand and sighed helplessly.

"Is there something wrong?" She asked, knowing that he must be thinking about something that made him restless.

He shut his eyes when he thought about it. "I'm not certain what Lanni and Luna would think of me, having me as their step father." He confessed. She had told him about what happened to Xia Hanchen and how he turned out to be a traitor, so it was certain that Lanni and Luna would be wary of him. Not to mention, if Linhou and Xiaomu didn't like him as their grandfather, it would be even harder to be with Li Yuming.

She burst into laughter which confused him. "What is so funny?"

"You are overthinking." She snickered. "Why would my daughters have opinions against who I decide to be with? Unless they think you will hurt me, they will have no reason to be against our relationship. Besides, Linhou and Xiaomu are the cutest."

He nodded in reassurance. "Do you think we should tell them?"

"Let it unfold naturally." She smiled. She didn't want to steal the limelight from her daughter's wedding.

When they were done having lunch, they went back to the living room to finish up the arrangements for Linhou and Xiaomu's visit.

"Does she like dolls? It's not too late to buy her some." Neil recalled when he noticed that there was no doll among the toys. "I can get her a long-haired one with pretty clothes. Most little girls like those."

Li Yuming opened a box and took out a doll. "I will never be able to get her out of my hair if I don't give her a pretty doll to play with." She laughed.

"You thought of that." Neil nodded in approval. "How about cute ribbons?"

"You prefer girls, don't you?" Li Yuming observed. He was more keen on pleasing Xiaomu than he was with Linhou.

He scratched his head after being exposed. "Not exactly. I just find them cute and besides, I know how to interact with little girls. I have never been close to a little boy before." He admitted.

"Linhou is not hard to get along with. You only need to give him something to munch on." She patted him.

"Grandma!" A cute voice filled the air.

"Mumu is here!" Li Yuming rushed to the door excitedly and picked up Xiaomu who was in her mother's arms. Xingyu came in after them, holding the sleeping Linhou.

"Hello, mother." Luna hugged her and looked around in awe. Li Yuming had gone out of her way this time. She must love the twins the most.

Xiaomu's eyes brightened as soon as she saw all the toys in the living room. She wiggled out of her grandmother's arms and grabbed a toy car, placing it in her mouth.

"Mumu, that's not food." Luna laughed and hurriedly took the toy car out of her little hand. "This is a toy car. Let me teach you how to play with it."

"She sees her brother play with it. I'm sure she simply wants to tease him for wanting to eat her hand." Laughed Lanni, who had just arrived with Xiehan.

"Xingyu's kids are foodies." Xiehan laughed at his friend.

The latter glared at him fiercely. "So what if my kids are foodies? I can give them all the food they want to eat."

"The problem is that they don't want food. They will simply eat anything they set their eyes on and that will soon include the walls of your house." Lanni teased along.

"So what? We can buy another villa then. Right, my love?" Luna countered.

Xingyu hummed in agreement. "We are yet to see your children. Who is to say that they will not eat you as soon as they are born?"

Li Yuming's stomach almost hurt from laughing too much. The kids were too cute. "I'll put Linhou to sleep." She took the boy from Xingyu and rocked him when he stirred in her arms.

"Uncle Neil, you are here too." Luna greeted the man who looked like he wanted to shrink into the couch and make himself invisible.

"I dropped by to discuss something with Yuming." Neil explained awkwardly. Although Li Yuming had reassured him that Lanni and Luna would have nothing against him, he was still nervous to meet them. Luckily, they were all friendly to him and so were Xingyu and Xiehan.

Li Yuming was quite lucky, he thought. She had two beautiful daughters, sons-in-law who loved her daughters and cared for her, as well as a pair of adorable grandchildren. However, he was even luckier to have her by his side.

When Li Yuming returned, she served everyone snacks as Xiaomu played around.

"I have something to tell all of you." She started. "Actually, Neil and I have something to tell you."

"Is it good news?" Xingyu teased.

"That depends on you." Li Yuming smiled. "The thing is, Neil and I are together now."

"Congratulations, mom." Lanni was the first to hug her tightly and kiss her on the cheek.

"I think you are a match made in heaven." Luna commented before congratulating Li Yuming as well.

"... Congratulations." Xiaomu mumbled the word everyone was saying as she held a doll.

Luna chuckled and pulled her over. "Congratulations. Tell Grandpa Neil Congratulations." She urged her towards Neil.

The girl must have found the word too difficult to remember, she simply held her doll out to Neil.
"Grandpa Neil."

"My granddaughter is so smart." Li Yuming kissed the little girl's face. When the girl went to play in the artificial sand, she asked, "When are the two of you holding your wedding?"

"Next year in August." Lanni replied as she fondly held Xiehan's hand.

"We don't want to rush it." Xiehan added as he held her waist. "We contacted a wedding planning agency earlier and besides, we want Linhou and Xiaomu to be old enough to make a cute appearance at their aunt and uncle's wedding."

"How about you register your marriage first?" Li Yuming suggested. "If you don't want to, there is no rush for that either. You can register it on your wedding day."

"We will think about it." Lanni smiled at the idea. "What about you? When are you holding your wedding?"

"What are you talking about?" Li Yuming was baffled.

"Aren't you? The two of you look so cute together and I could be your maid of honor." Lanni laughed after successfully teasing her mother.

"You naughty child. What will I do with you?" Li Yuming shook her head.

"I'm not naughty. I just love you too much." Lanni laughed.

"Lanni is right. How about we help you plan your wedding too, mother?" Luna asked seriously.

"Or we could have a joint wedding." Xiehan suggested.

"I've heard of joint weddings featuring siblings, cousins or friends...but a mother and her daughter?" Xingyu shook his head.

"There isn't a rule against it." Lanni shrugged.

"While that is true, Neil and I haven't discussed marriage yet." Li Yuming smiled.

"You will be the first to know when she says yes to me." Neil teasingly added, making Li Yuming widen her eyes at him.

"Can you not? I'll go and check on Linhou." She disappeared after giving a random excuse.

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Neil left in the evening but Lanni, Luna, Xingyu and Xiehan stayed over for the night after Li Yuming's persuasion.

It had been long since Xiehan entered Lanni's room, it felt surreal when Lanni dragged him upstairs.

"What are you thinking about?" Lanni cocked her head at him curiously.

He pulled her into a hug. "The first time I came here, you didn't want to see me. You viewed me as a pervert you disliked."

She frowned at the memory he had suddenly brought up, then her cheeks stained red. Hadn't he forgotten about it? That was so long!

As though reading her mind, he nibbled her ear with a gentle laugh. "How could I forget all the snarky comments you threw at me? Those are part of our beautiful memories."

"Are you a masochist?" She regarded him in surprise. Who would think of slaps and snarky comments as beautiful memories?

He smiled and stroked the side of her face. "What I mean is, my love, I cannot choose to remember the good times and forget all about the bad times. Because the tears and pain are what made us stronger."

"Xiehan..." She could only kiss his lips. She had never thought of it this way.

Chapter 515 - Marriage (1)

"Honey, would you like to register our marriage?" He asked as he wrapped his arms around her waist.

"What do you think of the idea?" She pushed the question back at him.

"I've been ready since I met you." He kissed her lips. He had pursued her to be his girlfriend while knowing that she was the only one he wanted to take as his wife, it was only a matter of doing it sooner or later.

"Then I'm ready." Her heart fluttered at the thought of it. Was she really going to become Mrs. Ji?

"Then let's go." He took her hand and led her through the door.

She pulled back with a laugh. "Why are we rushing? Aren't you going to let me have a bachelorette party at least?"

His gaze narrowed. "And let your crazy friends invite strippers to perform a dance for you?" He was not going to let anyone seduce his wife-to-be. "Of course, if you really want a party, we can have one tonight. I will be your stripper and dance all night if you want me to."

She tried not to imagine him performing a strip dance. "I'll take that as a promise. Don't go back on your word later."

She sounded like she was having too much fun with this. Did he dig himself a pit? He smiled at her dotingly. As long as she was happy.

Just like that, he drove to the civil affairs bureau. The process was much shorter than she expected, and she blinked.

"So, I'm your wife now?" She held two small booklets and raised her eyebrow at them.

In response, he grabbed her waist and kissed her deeply. "And I'm your husband. It's too late to sneak away from me—just in case you were planning to do such a thing."

"Luckily, I wasn't planning that." She kissed him back and securely kept the red booklets. "You cannot sneak away either."

The civil affairs building was full of kissing couples who had just gotten married. Xiehan held his wife's hand and led her towards the car.

"This isn't your car." She was shocked when the white sports car was suddenly replaced by a ferrari.

He reached into the car and took out a bouquet to give to her. "This is my present to you, Mrs. Ji."

"Thank you, my love." She didn't expect him to prepare it so soon. "You are already the biggest gift."

"Is that how you thank your husband? Verbally?" He looked deflated.

She shook her head helplessly. "You are still a swindler who takes advantage."

"So, are you going to let me take advantage?" He gazed down at her.

"You can take advantage as much as you want." She tiptoed and locked their lips. This was not their first kiss but she felt her body melt from the kiss. It was much sweeter and she couldn't help craving for more. Was it because he was her husband now and she was certain that he was truly hers?

"Damned that Luna." She harrumphed when she pulled away.

"Why is it suddenly about Luna?" He did not understand.

"She is so evil! If she told me that marriage felt this nice, we would have gotten married two years ago." She childishly complained.

Xiehan chuckled at her twisted way of thinking. "It doesn't matter. Aren't we married now, wife?"

She threw herself into his arms. "Can you call me that again?"

"Wife." he whispered in her ears. "Wife, would you like to have dinner with your in-laws tomorrow? Mother will be overjoyed to see you."

She nodded with a smile, before he drove back to Li Yuming's villa.

"Where did the two of you run off to?" Li Yuming asked when they returned.

Lanni excitedly threw herself into her arms. "Mom, I'm so happy!"

"Mother, we are back." Xiehan smiled happily.

Li Yuming's eyes widened when she finally caught their hint. "You got married!"

"Congratulations!" Xingyu stood to pat his friend's shoulder. "We have to drink some wine to celebrate."

"Let's drink till we drop!" Luna announced and hugged her sister to congratulate her.

"You kids have fun. I will take care of my grandchildren." Li Yuming promised as she pulled Linhou and Xiaomu to her.

"Sounds like a blast!" Luna winked and kissed her children's foreheads. "My darlings, mommy and daddy are going to have fun. Stay with grandma, okay?"

"Let's call the others too." Lanni took her phone to invite her friends.

Within an hour, they all gathered at Neon Bar. They had booked a private VIP room so no one would interrupt their fun.

"You traitor. How could you get married in secret?" Cheng Yu jokingly reprimanded her when she arrived with Cedric.

"Right? Now we can no longer steal their limelight by registering our marriage before them." Cedric complained.

"You wanted to do that?" Lanni was amused, and Cheng Yu facepalmed.

"Forget him. He is always thinking nonsense." She giggled and sat on the fluffy couch. "Congratulations. I had prepared this for your wedding." Cheng Yu handed over a gift box.

"I prepared something for you too." Xiaoshi took out a small box just as she arrived, hand in hand with Han Xichen.

"Thank you so much, Shishi." Lanni hugged her tightly and received the gift.

"Congratulations on finally becoming Mrs. Ji. I'm sure Xiehan is on the verge of exploding in joy." Han Xichen gave Lanni a small box and teased Xiehan while at it. "If you want, I can secretly give you his silly childhood pictures."

"I'm still your cousin-in-law." Xiehan threatened jokingly.

"Lanni will still love my cousin after seeing them." Xiaoshi laughed.

Lanni chuckled. She actually wanted to see the pictures. However, she would tease him later so she was looking forward to that instead.

"Ruby and Lin Jian aren't here yet." Xingyu observed.

"And that's supposed to be a new thing?" Luna rubbed her forehead.

"Let's wait for them. I will open my gifts while at it." Lanni reached for the boxes.

"Uh... wait..." Cheng Yu tried to stop her, but it was too late.

Lanni had already unwrapped the box and it burst open, pouring all its contents... innumerable small boxes of durex as well as a bottle of lubricant.

"Xiao Yu's gift...of course it would be this kind of thing." Her face reddened as she tried to force them back into their original box as everyone burst into laughter at her clumsiness.

Lanni pulled Xiehan's jacket off him, sending the others reeling in laughter.

"Are you going to do it now? Then I should cover my boyfriend's eyes." Cheng Yu teased and placed her hand over Cedric's eyes.

"Shut up." Lanni glared at her and took Xiehan's jacket with the intention to shove all the condoms into the pockets. When she was finally done, she was suddenly skeptical about opening the other presents.

"Open mine. I promise it is not that kind of thing." Xiaoshi muttered.

"I don't trust you." Lanni harrumphed.

"But I'm so cute. I don't make fun of people that way." Xiaoshi pretended to be sad about her distrust.

"If it is..." Her words drowned when she opened Xiaoshi's present. It was actually... a red thong and a matching bra. She hid them away in disbelief. "Can I kill you?"

"Why are you shy? It's not like you don't use that kind of thing." Xiaoshi burst into laughter after successfully pranking her.

"You guys are lively." Lin Jian arrived with Ruby in tow, wearing a couples outfit and carrying identical gift boxes. "Are we late?"

"Not at all. The fun has just begun." Luna tried to steady herself as she wiped her eyes which had welled up from laughing too hard.

"We randomly grabbed this. Congratulations, brother and sister-in-law." Ruby presented hers and Lin Jian's gifts to Lanni.

Traumatized, Lanni accepted the gifts but quickly hid them away to open later. She didn't dare to look at Xiehan after all the pranks.

"Let's play a game." Lin Jian suggested.

"No! I don't trust you." Lanni dreaded. Lin Jian was too naughty and the so-called game might just be his way to endlessly prank and tease her and Xiehan.

"I will suggest a game then." Luna grabbed the chance. "How well do you know each other? We are all paired up tonight which is perfect. I will write a random set of questions then we will spin a bottle. Whoever the bottle faces has to answer a question about their partner. If they cannot answer it, they will do a dare or drink. "

Chapter 516 - Wedding Night (1)

Lanni looked at her sister skeptically. Although Luna wasn't one to play dirty tricks, no one could be trusted tonight. They all seemed to have ganged up to make fun of her and Xiehan.

"Don't give me that look. You can spin the bottle." Luna waved her hands to signify that she was innocent. "If you want, I will not touch the bottle. Just in case you think I will deliberately target you."

"I see. But I would like to change the rules. Whoever spins the bottle gets to ask the question. Whoever answers the question takes the next spin." She suggested.

"As for the answers, to confirm their credibility, it has to be written down by whoever the question is about." She added after thinking about it.

This was more fair and less likely to be rigged, so the others agreed. Lanni twisted the centre of the bottle against the table and let it spin, crossing her fingers.

Luck was on her side because the mouth pointed at Luna.

"I knew you would aim at me." Luna freaked out, making everyone laugh at her expense.

"What is Xingyu's favorite color?" Lanni asked with a laugh.

"Seriously? You wasted a good chance!" Lin Jian lamented. What kind of absurd question was that?

Luna thought hard about it. "Does he have a favorite color though? I don't think he does..."

"Are you going to answer the question or not?" Lanni pressed, knowing that Luna might get a clue if she delayed for long.

"None." Luna answered.

"What did Xingyu write?" Lanni looked forward to the answer.

"I don't have any particular preference." Xingyu raised the tablet where he had written a neat [None].

Lanni sulked in defeat.

"You asked a question that doesn't apply to my husband. We pass." Luna winked and hugged Xingyu, then looked at Lanni meaningfully and spun the bottle.

"That's foul!" Lanni exclaimed when it pointed at her.

"Whatever. What would make Xichen want to divorce you?" Luna asked with a chuckle.

Was she seriously asking about divorce on their wedding night?

Lanni glared at her and waited for Xiehan to write his response before answering, "Nothing."

"Oh that was so obvious." Cheng Yu was awed at their sweetness when Xiehan presented his answer. Of course, if he wrote down that there was anything that could make him divorce Lanni, she would beat the crap out of him.

This time, the bottle pointed at Ruby when Lanni spun it.

"You're my sister-in-law, right?" Ruby winked at Lanni, trying to earn an easier question.

Lanni wasn't planning to make things difficult for her. "Why did Lin Jian stop playing around?"

"Because I will beat him up!"

The room roared in laughter.

It was Lanni's turn again after a few more spins.

"What part of Xiehan's body turns him on the most?" Lin Jian asked.

Lanni felt her mind explode. Lin! F*cking! Jian! "Why does everyone get mild questions while I get the most difficult?" She slumped onto Xiehan's chest and pretended to faint.

"You are married but you don't know that?" Cheng Yu taunted her on purpose.

"Right? I thought you would have explored each other's body." Xiaoshi and Xichen joined them in making her blush.

"Shut up, okay!" Lanni almost exploded in embarrassment.

"What's it gonna be?" Lin Jian supported his stomach from laughing too hard.

"I'll drink. That's too explicit." She reached for the shot glass and downed in a gulp.

"Aww bummer." The women groaned in disappointment, making Lanni speechless.

It seemed as though luck was playing games with her. A few spins later, it was her turn yet again.

"What's your best position?" Xiaoshi daringly asked, making Lanni's eyes bulge. Was she still the innocent Xiaoshi? She didn't look like the kind to ask such a question.

Sensing her gaze, the drunk Xiaoshi, who had downed many glasses from being unable to answer many of the questions, burst into laughter. "What's with the look? If you can't answer this, you can do a dare instead. The dare is to take off your bra. Either that or drink."

Lanni speechlessly clung to Xiehan's arm when she saw that everyone was actually looking forward to her answer. "Honey, they want me drunk." She complained coyly.

"We'll drink together." Xiehan picked the shot glass and downed it on her behalf.

"Sheesh!" What a random display of affection. They were newlyweds, so everyone let them off.

"Cedric, what hobby of yours annoys Xiao Yu the most?" A drunk Ruby asked when it was her turn—even though the bottle had only spun a little and pointed back at her. But they were too drunk to notice it so Cedric answered the question anyway.

"Clinging to her. She pretends to be annoyed but she secretly loves it." After answering, Cedric downed the alcohol meant for forfeit.

"Aww! We are so sweet!" Cheng Yu drunkenly drawled.

Xiehan looked at the situation speechlessly. When he felt a slight weight on his shoulder, he looked to find that Lanni was drifting to sleep. "You guys go ahead. I will take my wife home." He stood and carried her in his arms.

"Why do you need to go home when we are in a hotel? Here." Xingyu threw a card at him.

Xiehan thanked him with a smile and carried Lanni out.

"I'm going to be an aunt!" Ruby exclaimed excitedly, then her head landed on Lin Jian's shoulder when he pulled her gently.

"Why don't you be a mom instead?" He lowered his voice to whisper to her. "If we start now, our baby might be older than Xiehan's and he will be much cuter."

"Really?" Ruby's eyes brightened when she heard that she could have a baby cuter than Xiehan's.

Lin Jian scratched his head awkwardly. He was just kidding. It seemed like she really was drunk. He didn't mind having babies with her, though. On the contrary, he would be overjoyed.

Xiehan placed Lanni down and helped her stand when they reached the presidential wedding suite that Xingyu had prepared for them.

Her legs felt light when she tried to make a step.

"Don't move." He swiped the card to open the door and carried her in.

She wobbled to stand before him and when he supported her, she patted all over his chest and abdomen.

"Honey, what are you looking for?" He chuckled at her drunk dramatics.

"Your tie, so I can grab it." She slurred.

He smiled dotingly and placed his tie in her small palm. Sure enough, she clumsily pulled at it to make him lean over.

"I want you in my room...and in my bed." She looked up at him seductively.

Her voice and eyes—paired with the fact that they were in a romantically decorated wedding suite—set his body ablaze. However, he gently pushed her to sit on the bed and pulled away from her. "You are drunk."

He shouldn't take advantage of a drunk woman. Not even if it was his wife.

"You are drunk too. And we are married." She circled her arms around his waist, blowing hot air onto his stomach.

"Honey, being married does not..."

"Mr. Ji, are you insane? A beautiful woman is sitting on your bed and she's drunk. Aren't you going to take advantage of her?" She lay on the bed and pulled him over, interrupting his words.

Seeing as he was merely staring at her speechlessly with a conflicting gaze, she pushed him over and crawled onto him. "Okay since you don't want to take advantage of me, I will take advantage of you."

He chuckled. Take advantage of him, she said?

She shied away when he laughed. "Will you... will you sue me?"

He held the back of her head and kissed her lips softly. "Mmh. I will sentence you to a lifetime imprisonment in my life."

"Then I better not waste this chance." She clumsily fumbled with his shirt and managed to open one button, then leaned down to kiss his chest.

Seconds passed and she was yet to raise her head. She wasn't doing anything either. He checked on her suspiciously, only to find that she had blacked out at some point and was now in deep sleep.

He poked her face and pinched it gently. "You turned me on and fell asleep, leaving me no choice but to take a cold shower on our wedding night. I will punish you for this, my wife."

Chapter 517 - Wedding Night (2)

The next morning, Lanni woke up to Xiehan's intense gaze on her.

"Good morning, husband." She was already getting used to the word but she felt butterflies in her stomach just saying it out aloud. She could finally confirm that she was not dreaming. She was really married to Xiehan now. He really was her husband.

He silently stared down at her, making her cock her head in curiosity. "Why are you giving me that look? And, husband, why do you look unhappy?"

He finally leaned down and kissed her forehead. "I'm still trying to process this surreal dream."

It turned out, he also felt like it was a dream. It was one thing to be in a relationship, they had been together for more than three years after all. Being engaged was no huge deal either—at least not compared to this. And the fact that their marriage almost seemed to have dropped out of nowhere made it feel like an illusion.

"Say that again." He whispered against her forehead as he kissed it.

"Uhm... what?" She didn't know what he was talking about so she blinked and stared at him. She was so beautiful when she did that that it made him want to kiss her.

"What did you call me just now?" He looked at her intensely. "Call me that again, wife."

"Husband." She whispered. Her heart picked up its pace and she wrapped her arms around his body to rest against his chest. He pulled her to sit on his lap but tilted her body before she could rest her head on his chest.

"You do know that I'm your husband, huh." He spanked her backside.

"What was that for?" She looked up to complain even though it didn't hurt. On the contrary, as crazy as it sounded, she enjoyed being spanked by him.

His palm landed on her butt again. "My naughty wife left me..." He didn't complete his statement and grabbed her hand instead, which he slid down his body to his crotch.

His bulge felt harder than ever under his pajama pants. She swallowed and let out a silly chuckle when she recalled her drunken dramatics from the previous night. She really did tease him.

What was worse, all he could find the previous night was a flimsy nightdress that did almost nothing to cover the parts of her body that needed to be covered—and he had to watch her rolling around in bed in that and not touch her because she was asleep.

"Is it funny?" His voice was hoarse as he guided her small palm to rub him.

"Why didn't you take advantage of me?" She asked through a smile as she gently stroked him. The shorts were not thick so she could feel the heat as his manhood twitched in his pants from her touch.

He frowned, his eyes darkening at her question. These were the very words she had said the previous night, asking him to 'take advantage of her' and later asking to take advantage of him instead when he turned her down for being drunk.

He flipped her to lie on the bed and hovered over her while locking her thighs between his. "You will pay for teasing me."

"I don't think there is any rule against a wife teasing her husband, though." She gave him a sly smile from under him, her eyes passionate. It made him look forward to how they would look with him pounding into her. She was definitely driving him crazy.

He grabbed her hands and pinned them above her head. "Teasing him, leaving him hard and falling asleep only to wake up and tease him again, that should be illegal." He looked down at her.

"Sue me." She teasingly challenged him.

"Trust me, I would do that—if there wasn't a much better way to deal with it."

Tracing a finger down her face, he couldn't tear his gaze away from her eyes. Something seemed to have changed in the way she looked at him. Aside from the obvious desire in her eyes, she loved him more than she did a day ago—he knew it because he felt the same way.

She lifted her head and met his lips just as he lowered his head to kiss her. He tasted her lips softly before taking her lower lip between his. She felt a current in her stomach as he sucked on her lip in slow, torturous movements.

A small moan escaped her lips when he pulled away to let her breathe. She was out of breath, her eyes glazed as her chest rapidly rose and fell.

Lowering his head, he kissed the side of her neck. One hand held her wrists together as the other explored her body that immediately reacted to his fingers. She had missed his touch just as much as he had missed caressing her. Her skin was slightly reddened from the heat she felt underneath it. He stroked her through her nightdress but there wasn't much difference between her wearing the flimsy lacy dress and wearing nothing. When she parted her legs, he caught sight of her lacy thong that had an embroidered rose at the centre. It was equally flimsy and the wet patch at the centre drove him crazy with want. Sliding down and holding her by the sides of her waist, he lifted her legs and buried his head between them.

She moaned and grabbed a fistful of his hair when she felt him push her thong aside and his hot, wet tongue, flicked her core.

Her toes curled as in pleasure from every flick of his tongue. She was on edge sooner than she expected and she threw her head back, not trying to fight back the climax that was rapidly building up.

When he stopped and raised his head, she couldn't help it.

"Xiehan," She whispered his name.

He kissed his way up her body as his hands caressed her hungrily. Pausing, he grabbed the edges of his pajama shirt and tugged it over his head to toss it away, before he undressed her.

He was out of control and her thong ended up receiving the consequences of his wrath.

"Wife," He called her softly.

"Take me..." She pleaded in response, her breath hitched as her body trembled slightly.

"Not just yet, Mrs. Ji." He pecked her lips before kissing her jaw. He licked and sucked his way down her body, teasing her stomach and making her moan in need. Just when she thought he was about to go down on her again, he paused.

He was deliberately torturing her! Seeing the grin on his face, she knew that she was right.

"What was that again?" He looked down at her teasingly. "About teasing your husband?"

"Are you punishing me?" She asked through lustful eyes.

His response was flipping her onto her stomach and spanking her backside. Her hand flew to her mouth in embarrassment but it was too late to stop the moan that escaped her mouth. She didn't dare to look at him. How could she be so shameless?

He stroked the inner side of her thighs and slid a finger into her out of the blue. He knew she would be wet from her trembling legs but he didn't think she would be this wet. He cursed as his own desire spiralled out of control. He thrust his finger into her faster, enjoying seeing the side of her face flush from the intense passion. Just as she neared her release, he stopped and peeled his boxer briefs off.

She felt his hot body on hers and quivered. He reached to the night stand with one hand and took what she guessed must be a condom. She heard the soft tearing sound of a wrapper and soon after, she finally felt him entering her body.

"Ah... Xiehan!" The pleasure was almost too much for her to take. He kissed her neck and back and pinned down her wrists as he held her waist with one hand. He eased his length into her and pulled out halfway before slamming into her with more force. She gyrated her hips to meet his thrusts as she shut her eyes to feel every wave of pleasure.

Chapter 518 - Wedding Night (3)

After an intense climax, Lanni buried her head into Xiehan's chest and didn't want to move an inch. Their bodies were covered in a thin layer of sweat as they tried to still their breaths.

He gently stroked her body. "Honey, what do you want to do today?"

"Does lying in your arms and lazing around all day count?" She nestled further in his embrace, earning a doting smile.

"Of course. I'll order snacks, drinks and prepare movies for my little wife who wants to be a bed potato all day." Holding her with one arm, he reached for his phone so he would place the orders.

"I want to be a bed potato every day." She kissed the side of his face before burying herself back in his arms.

"You can." He returned the kiss to her temples.

She shut her eyes for a second as though she was in pain, and his hands flew to her temples to massage them. "Does your head hurt? You drank quite a bit last night."

"No, I'm perfectly fine. I'm just a little tired." She slurred.

"That's a relief." He held her closer to him so she would be more comfortable.

"Can I go back to sleep?" She closed her eyes.

"Of course." He kissed her forehead and went ahead to order the snacks.

Meanwhile, in Xingyu's villa.

Luna paced for the umpteenth time, making Xingyu grab her midway. "Luna, what's wrong?" He looked at her in concern.

She let out a long sigh

"I've been trying to make this software as a wedding gift for Lanni. It's taking more than usual." She briefly explained.

"Uh... okay." He frowned. If the software was taking long, why wasn't she in the study, but restlessly pacing the living room instead? He placed a hand behind her knee and another behind her back, lifting her off the ground without another word.

"Huh? What are you doing?" She shrieked when she suddenly felt her body floating.

"Carrying my wife to the bedroom so she remembers that rest should be part of her work." He headed for the bedroom, leaving her no room to argue about it.

"Xingyu," She called his name while holding his neck.

He ignored her and pushed open the bedroom door using his elbow.

"Daddy?" Exiting the room, Xiaomu looked confused. Why was daddy carrying mommy?

Xingyu entered the room and placed Luna on the bed before picking his daughter up. The little girl had no one to play with since Linhou had fallen asleep, so she sought her father to play with her. It took a while to pacify her and when he returned to Luna's side, he let out a breath.

"I still think we should hire a nanny."

Luna looked stunned for a while. She opened her mouth and no syllable left her lips for a moment. It took about a minute to gather her words. "Xingyu, I can take care of our babies just fine. I'm not going to work anyway. We don't need a nanny."

His brows furrowed.

"I'm telling you the truth. It was harder to take care of them when they were younger and needed more attention." She added in an attempt to convince him.

His frown deepened. "When they were a few months old, all they needed was to be fed, put to sleep and kept clean. They would be sleeping most of the time and if they weren't, they were pretty much calm as long as you were in the room."

"Xingyu," She didn't like where this was heading.

"They were little angels. But they morphed into little devils as soon as they learned to crawl around and grab everything they could—Mumu tossing them around and Linhou putting them in his mouth."

"Did you just call our kids devils?" She burst into laughter and soon realized that she was the only one laughing. He was dead serious.

"Don't change the topic. Come here, my love." He pulled her into his arms.

She interrupted him. "It's really okay. When I'm tired, I can send them off to her grandparents or Lanni's. Your parents, my mother and Lanni love them very much. They would be excited to take care of them for a day or two."

That was true. Li Yuming and Xinghe would often take turns bragging to each other about spending some bonding time with their grandchildren. Lanni loved them too, and she would often drop by with snacks and toys and bug Luna to let her take them away for a while.

Even so, he still thought there was more to it.

"Are you afraid of hiring a nanny?" He asked, hitting the nail on the head. She looked shocked, probably not having expected him to figure it out.

He stroked her back. "Is there something I need to know?"

"I'm just... more comfortable taking care of my own babies. I can quit my job for a while and take care of them full time. When they are old enough, I will go back to work." She almost pleaded, even though she only spent a few hours working from home.

"That has never been the point, Luna." His gaze on her intensified.

When she didn't say a word for some time, he stood up. "It's alright. I will do my best to help you out." He promised, even though he was already doing his best. However, taking care of twins had never been easy, especially now that they were in their active phase. It was no wonder she was overwhelmed. Besides, she had insisted on handling all the household chores on her own as well in the name of having new hobbies and wanting to be a stay at home wife and mother. Did she want to fall into depression before she realized that it was taking a toll on her?

Perhaps he should put his job on hold and stay at home too, at least until they started going to school.

"Xingyu, you are mad at me." She slid off the bed and circled her arms around her so she wouldn't leave.

"No, I'm not." He insisted, but she knew him better than to believe him. She knew that she had been unfair to him...

She sighed helplessly. "We had a nanny before, right? The one I fired soon after our wedding."

"I had a feeling it was something to do with her." He turned to face her.

Luna nodded guiltily. "I didn't want to tell you because you would be worried but..." She let out a breath. "She tried to steal Linhou. I later learnt that she was obsessed with him because her son died soon before she came to work for us."

"And you told me about it two years later after incessant probing." He looked at her sternly.

"Xingyu, she was recommended to us by your mom. I knew that you would blame mother for it. I didn't want to create unnecessary trouble." Her eyes drooped.

His fists clenched. "Where is she? Where is that b*tch?!" He fumed.

"I don't know. I already fired her and sent a warning to her agency in case she tried to do that to another family but..." She shut her eyes. "I can't trust nannies anymore. If anyone took my babies away, I would die."

Chapter 519 - Wedding Night (4)

"Where is she?" He once again asked, unwilling to let the matter go. How could he simply forget about a woman who tried to steal his son away?

Luna patted his arm to calm him down. "It doesn't matter anymore. I told her agency about her obsession so they would help her seek treatment."

He frowned at her. How could she be so lenient?

Knowing what he was thinking, she sighed. "We can't blame her, Xingyu. It was wrong of her to want to steal a child but the cause of it was not her fault. She lost her child. Anyone would go crazy if that happened to them. Anyway, she will not do it anymore so let's not waste our time on her, okay?"

He could only nod and let the matter be. After all, nothing good could come out of him finding the woman anyway.

She was relieved, but he cupped her face in his hands and looked into her eyes. "I would prefer it if you told me something immediately. I'm pretty certain that mother would never deliberately hire a psycho for her grandchildren, which is why you should have told me. I wouldn't pick a fight with her."

"I'm sorry for not telling you sooner." She admitted that she was in the wrong. If he had guessed that something was bothering her long ago, then it meant that he had been worried for her all along. It was definitely not fair.

Seeing her cling onto his arm and admit her mistake, he couldn't bear to say anything mean. His heart softened as he rubbed her head. "What will I do with you?"

Late in the afternoon, Xiehan beckoned Lanni over to the couch where he was sitting.

"Come here, my love." He said. She slid off the bed and walked over, taking her place on his lap.

"Are you bored?" She asked. It would not be a surprise, considering they had been lying around in bed all day. She had thought that they would go out for fun but they were too tired so they spent the whole day in the room, ordering food when they were hungry and watching movies when they wanted to.

"We still have something exciting to talk about." He held her back.

"What's that?" She looked up curiously. Hadn't they already talked about pretty much everything that needed to be mentioned?

"Kids." He grinned.

"What?" She was taken aback by the sudden topic.

He smiled and nuzzled his head in the crook of her neck. "I mean, we are married now... I was wondering if you would ever be interested in having babies." He paused, questioning himself when she remained silent for longer than it could possibly take to think about it.

He had seen her interaction with kids in the past, and her overflowing love for Linhou, Xiaomu and Yue. He had thought that it was because she loved kids. Could he have misunderstood the situation? Was it only because they were the children of the people she cared about?

Unaware of what her husband was thinking about, Lanni finally processed his words and was excited. "Yes! Is there anyone who doesn't want little cuties? Uhm... there are people who don't want kids but anyway, I would love them. Of course, it depends on your opinion too."

He was relieved as he kissed her. "I wouldn't say no to an adorable little angel with our combined genes. It would be the epitome of beauty and cuteness."

"Aren't you narcissistic?" She playfully jabbed him. In response, he stuck his nose in the air.

"Of course, I'm very awesome. If not, I would never be able to settle down with a woman this perfect."

She smiled. She would never get enough of his flattery. "You flatter me too much."

"You better get used to it because I'm amazed every time I see you." He kissed her yet again, then asked the other question in his mind. "How many kids would you want?"

"Just one or two. The more kids we have, the harder it would be to give them equal attention." She explained, and he agreed with her.

"What about pets?" She asked when he nodded.

He thought about it. "I don't dislike animals. If you love them, we can adopt some. Speaking of which, do you want to move in with me right away or after the wedding?"

"Uhm..." She pondered with her finger on her chin and looked up at his side profile. "Is it shameless to move in right away?"

he chuckled, once again delighting in the fact that they were thinking of the same thing. "Not in the slightest. You are my wife."

She looked relieved. "Then I'll need some time to cancel the lease on my apartment and get my things ready."

He pinched her ears. Was she forgetting that she now had a husband and no longer needed to do everything on her own? "I had a word with your landlord. We will drop by to gather your belongings and we can go after paying my parents a visit."

She chuckled at how fast he had handled it. It turned out, he had been certain from the word go that she would agree to move in with him soon. But when she heard the last part of his statement, she was surprised.

"We are going to visit your parents right now?"

"We should, because we got married before the wedding. It would make them overjoyed to find out that you became their daughter-in-law sooner than it was initially planned." He explained and pushed a strand of her hair behind her ear. "But we can do that tomorrow. I'm busy right now."

"Busy with what?" She looked up at him curiously. Hadn't he taken time off work?

In response, he pushed her to lie on the couch and kissed her tummy. "Busy making love to my wife."

Chapter 520 - Meeting The Family

"I'm glad that you finally became part of our family." Wen Lin hugged Lanni tightly when the duo broke the news of their marriage over dinner the following day. They had asked their friends to not say a word of it to the Ji family so they wouldn't ruin the surprise.

Ji Huifen held an envelope to her. "Here's a little token. Welcome to the family, daughter-in-law."

"Thank you." Lanni smiled. Although Ji Huifen said that it was a little token, Lanni would later discover that the content was anything but. It was the ownership papers for a few properties owned by the Ji family, which had now been transferred into her possession—and that was not even part of the hefty dowry that was waiting in store.

Ji Huifen looked happier than usual. Not only was his biological daughter back, but he had a daughter-in-law now. He couldn't help wanting to strike up conversations with Lanni. "When will the two of you have kids?"

Xiehan facepalmed while Wen Lin glared at him. "You old man, our son just got married. Don't make it sound like our daughter-in-law is a baby making machine of some sort."

"I didn't mean it that way." Ji Huifen caughed awkwardly. "I was wrong."

Lanni chuckled. She was certain that he really didn't mean for it to sound that way.

Xiehan smiled at his parents' little war. "Now that we are on the topic of kids, Lanni and I have something to tell you."

Wen Lin looked over excitedly. "Are you expecting a baby? If yes, I'm going to dance for the rest of the evening."

Although he did not voice it, Ji Huifen looked like he would be dancing the night away alongside his wife. Lanni nervously looked over at Xiehan, who placed a hand on her knee. He smiled to reassure her that it would be alright.

"No, we are not expecting a baby yet." He grinned at his parents' disappointed expressions at his words. "But when we do, we would like to give our first son or daughter the surname Li."

Wen Lin and her husband felt as though they had been through a roller coaster, while Ruby felt bummed that she was not becoming an aunt any time soon. Lanni had been bragging about being an aunt endlessly ever since Luna found out that she was pregnant.

"This is what you wanted to talk about?" Wen Lin asked when she calmed down.

"Yes." Xiehan nodded while holding his wife's left hand under the table.

Ji Huifen studied their expressions to gauge whether they were serious about the bombshell they had just dropped.

The couple exchanged glances before Wen Lin looked at her son and asked, "Why? Your surname is Ji. Why would you give your child a different surname?"

A second after she asked, she caught sight of the nervousness in Lanni's eyes and figured it out. "Is it because of Li Yuming?"

"It was my idea." Xiehan took the blame when he realized that his parents were probably not going to welcome the idea, even though it was what Lanni wanted.

Of course, Wen Lin figured out the truth pretty fast. "I don't know why you would want to do that..."

"In honour of Aunt Li. She deserves it." He interrupted his displeased mother.

"Well, that or whatever other reasons you may have." With the way she was looking at Lanni, it was obvious that she knew what the real reason was. "Xiehan, your child will bear your family's surname. Otherwise, how the hell are you going to explain in future that your child's surname is Li when yours is Ji?" She expressed her disapproval.

"Xiehan," Lanni shook her head at him so he would stop talking but he paid no heed.

"That it's his mother's surname. What's so strange about that? It's a common thing these days." Xiehan countered.

"Just because it is common doesn't mean we have to do it. It's complicated as hell! And do you know what's even more complicated? It's the fact that Li is not even his mother's surname. I mean, logically, your wife's surname is Xia." Wen Lin glared at him.

"Mother!" He roared. That was Lanni's sore spot. Xia Hanchen was long dead but it didn't change the fact that Lanni had once wanted to change her surname to Xia, only to realize that she was part of a scheme. Saying it out loud was like poking at a scar that was yet to completely heal on the inside.

"While I don't like the idea of it, Lanni and Xiehan have every right to name their child as they please." Ji Huifen finally chimed in.

"Yes." Wen Lin did not deny it. "But I'm not going to sit back and watch my grandchildren take another family's surname."

"It's the blood that matters." Lanni finally spoke.

"That's the exact reason why you shouldn't be worried that the Li family bloodline will go extinct. You are related to her after all. Xiaomu and Linhou are related to her and so will your child. If she is the only

person left in the Li family, nothing will change even if she were to adopt a dozen sons and name them after her relatives."

"Okay, that's enough." Xiehan shut his mother and held his wife's hand. He had been naive to think that his parents would agree.

"I have an idea that everyone will be satisfied with." Wen Lin spoke again.

Lanni had a bad feeling and although Wen Lin could feel her son's warning eyes, she spoke anyway. "Why don't you have your sister rename her kids to Li Xiaomu and Li Linhou?"

Lanni remained silent but her hand had clenched into a tight fist under the table.

"That was an awesome way to welcome your daughter-in-law home. My wife and I will take our leave now." He took her hand as he stood, the sarcasm in his voice apparent.

"Please stay the night." Ji Huifen didn't wish for the newlyweds to leave with such tension. It would be much better if they calmly discussed this matter and reached a peaceful conclusion.

"My wife and I would like to be alone tonight." He placed a hand gently on the small of her back and led her out without saying goodbye.

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"It's okay, my love. We are the ones who get to decide on this, not them." He patted her back in the car.

This was exactly what he had said when they discussed it earlier—he didn't find it necessary for his parents to have a say about their future children's names. She had only thought that it would be respectful if they sought their opinion. The result was ironic.

"And to think she passionately welcomed me into the family a moment ago. I almost thought she really liked me." Lanni finally expressed her opinion. "If I liked someone, even if that person were to make a

suggestion I found insane enough to qualify for the mental asylum, I would not be rude about my comments. She really didn't have to drag Luna into this."

She looked up at him, he was silently gazing at her. "I'm sorry. She's your mother after all, and I don't intend to have a feud with your family. Especially not this soon."

He kissed her lips, interrupting her mid speech. "What did I just say, honey? Our kids' names are totally up to us. Even if we have eight kids and name them after the planets, no one has a say in it."

"That's scary." She laughed.

"Naming after planets?" He chuckled. "I don't want to imagine having a son called Earth either."

"Not the planets. Eight kids." She blushed just thinking about it. "Where would they all live?"

He poked her flat tummy. "Right here. After that, they will live in our mansion. We can move to a bigger mansion if the space feels crumbled."

She burst into laughter. He was not actually considering it, right?

As if reading her next concern, he added, "We can have them in pairs. Four pairs isn't impossible. Or trios. Triplets for the first two times and twins for the last. Actually, quadruplets is a thing too."

"Xiehan!" She smacked his chest. "Those who didn't know would think that I'm your enemy and you were trying to kill me!"