

## Crippled 71

### Chapter 71: Apology

"It is not too late to make up for the time you missed in college," Ji Yan looked down, and his long eyelashes blocked his eyes. Then he continued, "you don't have to worry too much. If you feel embarrassed about going back to school, we can employ a home tutor for you."

It was not advisable to join the Grade 12 class in the middle of the year. There was something he was more concerned about right now. Ji Yan clenched his fist and hid his emotions. He did not wish to let her go to school, especially when she would need to leave the house for hours every weekday. Occasionally, he would think of restricting her freedom and locking her up, keeping her to himself.

However, he could not.

Ji Yan knew that once he kept her imprisoned, Shen Hanxing would no longer be happy. He would even lose her more. To have Shen Hanxing forever, he had to learn to restrain himself, control himself, and give her some freedom and a more relaxed environment.

"I'll consider about it," Shen Hanxing was tempted. She grabbed the book and touched it. Then she said softly, "Give me some time to think about it."

It was not a small matter to return to school and participate in the college entrance exam. The Ji family's banquet began.

Countless luxury cars stopped outside the Ji family's villa. Wealthy and famous people came to attend the banquet. They were well-dressed. Paparazzi were outside, waiting to record the first-hand news.

Shen Hanxing had a makeover that day. The bright red silk gown fit her body well, revealing her beautiful curves. Ji Yan customized the jewelry she wore on her neck, which matched the outfit well.

The dress covered her body, only revealing a part of Shen Hanxing's arms. She was dignified and elegant, but her eyes showed an extraordinary charm that only belonged to her.

Wei Yong looked at Shen Hanxing in amazement when he saw her. As he handed over the gift, he smiled and praised, "You astonish me every time I see you, Mrs. Ji."

Wei Ling followed behind Wei Yong. He was not as active as his usual self. He handed over a gift and said politely, "I was ignorant back then. Please forgive me, Mrs. Ji."

The two brothers' attitude was surprisingly good. Shen Hanxing knew that the two of them were probably putting on an act in public. It proved that the relationship between the Wei and Ji families was not like what the rumors had been spreading. She smiled and took the gift. "I welcome the two of you on behalf of Ji Yan. Please come in."

Coincidentally, a waiter passed by with a plate of desserts. Shen Hanxing beckoned the waiter and handed the plate of dessert to the Wei brothers. "Try it. The new dessert recipe the chef made is not bad."

Wei Yong was a little flattered. He felt that there was something wrong with him. She would make him feel awkward every time Wei Yong confronted her. Yet he had to come and admit his mistake. That was fine. However, he could not understand why he felt flattered when Shen Hanxing asked him to have some dessert.

Wei Yong took the dessert plate from Shen Hanxing. He picked up a piece of dessert with his hand and put it into his mouth. He nodded and said, "It does taste good."

"Please feel free to have some more if you like it, President Wei," Shen Hanxing's eyes were curved.

Her eyes were sparkling like starlight, and her smile was sweeter than the dessert in his mouth. Wei Yong felt his soul was a little absent-minded. He was momentarily lost in thought as he watched Shen Hanxing slowly walk away. He did not notice that the guests around him were gossiping about him. His face showed an unreal dreamy feeling.

The guests around him even suspected if he was Wei Yong. The Wei Yong was called the great white shark of the business world. He was always ruthless and would go head-to-head with Ji Yan when they met in the business. They were business rivals. However, Wei Yong was like a cute and tamed tiger in front of Shen Hanxing. They could not understand why he was so flattered when Shen Hanxing invited him to taste the dessert.

It shocked most of the guests around them.

"Why are you still staring at her? She's already gone," Wei Ling looked at his brother with disdain, then reached out to take the dessert on Wei Yong's plate.

"Is it that delicious? I want to try it too."

Slap!

Wei Yong mercilessly slapped his stupid brother's hand away, and his eyes widened. "Go get it yourself if you want to eat. There are plenty on the table!"

"Why aren't you letting me take it? You don't like desserts," Wei Ling widened was angry and retorted, "besides, Mrs. Ji said that this dessert is for the two of us to taste. You can't keep it all to yourself"

"I have never said I don't like desserts. Don't tell me you know me better than I do?" Wei Yong kicked Wei Ling and continued, "What are you doing here arguing with me? Get lost. Stay away from me."

## **Chapter 72: Another Apology**

"Are you despising me? Why don't you take a look at President Ji and his wife?" Wei Ling muttered and looked at Shen Hanxing's back enviously. He said unhappily, "Look at Ji San's sister-in-law!"

Ji San and Wei Ling were on the same starting line, and he was even a little better than Ji San in everything. But now, Ji San was always boasting that he had a great sister-in-law.

What an annoying brat!

Wei Yong smacked his lips. He was also envious of Ji Yan. Ji Yan could not walk, yet Ji Yan could marry such a beautiful wife. Wei Yong wondered why he was not as lucky as Ji Yan.

Today might be the day Shen Hanxing would receive plenty of gifts. Wei Yong and Wei Ling had sent gifts earlier, and after that, Aunt Ji came with the Cheng family's siblings.

Cheng Songyang purposely chose the time when everyone had arrived to attend the banquet. He stopped Shen Hanxing and said, "Hello, cousin sister-in-law. Nice to meet you. I'm Cheng Songyang."

Shen Hanxing knew him. He was the temporary CEO of the Ji Corporation.

"I was busy a few days ago. I only heard the news yesterday about Cheng Liu misbehaving at Old Master Zhuang's banquet," Cheng Songyang smiled bitterly. He looked like an older brother who had a headache because his younger sister was not sensible. He apologized, "We lost our father at a young age. Mother and I couldn't help but spoil my younger sister a little. She became straightforward and insensible. After I found out, I scolded her. Now she knows her mistake, and she came to apologize to you today."

Cheng Songyang lowered his voice deliberately. The people around him heard him. They looked at him with a hint of admiration. Although the business world was a place where benefits were the priority, it was always pleasant to work with a person with a good character. There was no need to worry about being stabbed in the back.

"I know Cheng Liu did something wrong. Mother favors my younger sister, so you may inevitably have a bad impression of my mother. It's our fault as an elder for not teaching Cheng Liu well," Cheng Songyang had a pair of beautiful eyes. His eyes were extraordinary. They looked like a combination of peach blossom eyes and Phoenix eyes. His long eyelashes were thick, and his pupils were of light color. When he looked at others, his gaze was affectionate.

"I'm here to apologize. May I know where Ji Yan and Ji Qian are? Cheng Liu and I want to apologize to them in person to show our sincerity," Cheng Song-yang looked at Shen Hanxing sincerely.

"I see," Shen Hanxing looked at him and smiled, "we're a family. There's no need to be so serious over such a

trivial matter."

Cheng Song-yang's mother, Ji Mei, was reluctant to apologize, but Cheng Songyang had scolded her. When she spoke, she had a smile on her face. "I was also muddle-headed at the time. I only cared about my child and scolded you before understanding the situation clearly. I'm sorry. Please forgive me."

As an elder, she had already lowered herself and apologized. If Shen Hanxing continued to blame Ji Mei for it, the others might think Shen Hanxing was a mean woman.

"Auntie, there is no need to apologize. Everything is forgiven and forgotten," Shen Hanxing casually glanced at Cheng Liu, who had her head lowered. Cheng Liu gritted her teeth and felt everyone's gaze pierce her body like a knife, making her feel ashamed.

It was all because of Shen Hanxing and Ji Qian. She would not have to face this embarrassment if it were not because of those b\*tches. Her eyes were red because of hatred as she cursed Shen Hanxing and Ji Qian.

Seeing that Cheng Liu did not speak for a long time, Cheng Songyang whispered, "Cheng Liu."

Ji Mei's face froze, and she hurriedly tried to smooth things over. "This girl is embarrassed." After saying that, she pulled Cheng Liu's skirt and gave her a look. She pretended to scold her, "You don't even greet your cousin-in-law when you see her? Is this how I usually educate you?"

Cheng Liu, who hated Shen Hanxing, finally calmed down slightly. She knew that she had to do as her brother asked. If she messed up, her brother would not let her off. Cheng Song-yang was the pillar of support in the family. All the good life she had now came from Cheng Songyang, so she decided not to anger her brother.

Moreover...

She only needed to hold back her anger for a while. They would be able to cheat everything from Shen Hanxing soon. When the Ji Corporation was under their control, she would chase Shen Hanxing out of the Ji family. She wanted Shen Hanxing to go back to the slums and live in poverty. With that in mind, the hatred in Cheng Liu's heart subsided slightly.

"Cousin-in-law, I've realized my mistake," Afraid that her eyes would reveal the hatred she felt, Cheng Liu, lowered her head. She pretended to sob as she spoke, "I am sorry I did not protect Qianqian back then. I want to apologize to Qianqian today."

Chapter 73 Reluctant

"And Cousin Ji Yan," Cheng Songyang added smiling, "It's my fault for not being considerate enough. I should apologize to him in person."

"Is not convenient for Mr. Ji to come out. There's no need to trouble him with such a small matter," A thought flashed through Shen Hanxing's mind, but she remained emotionless. Then she said calmly, "I'm sure you can understand, Mr. Cheng?"

Cheng Songyang looked at Shen Hanxing's face as if he wanted to see through her thoughts. Anyone would have goosebumps under such a gaze, but Shen Hanxing was very calm. She was still emotionless as she raised her hand to call the waiter over and ordered him, "Go and call Miss Ji to come out."

"Sister-in-law, did you call me?" Ji Qian rushed downstairs excitedly. When she saw the person standing in front of Shen Hanxing, her smile froze, and she rolled her eyes.

"Sister-in-law, I suddenly remembered that I have a friend waiting for me. If you don't have anything else you want to say, I'll go and meet them first," Although Ji Qian wasn't smart, the previous incident was enough to teach her a lesson. She knew that some sisters were insincere.

She was the fourth heir of the Ji Corporation. In addition to Shen Hanxing's current reputation in the socialite circle, many socialites could not speak to Shen Hanxing directly. So, they tried to get to know Ji Qian first. Therefore, Ji Qian was still the center of attention. Before Shen Hanxing called her, she

boasted about Shen Hanxing to the other socialites. She didn't want to be interrupted by the Cheng family.

"Wait," Shen Hanxing patted her hand and said meaningfully, "Aunt Ji and Mr. Cheng brought Cheng Liu here to apologize. You're involved, so you should hear it."

Cheng Liu's eyes instantly turned red. Ji Qian, who was born into a wealthy family but lived like a fool, always looked down upon her. Now that she had to apologize to Ji Qian face to face, she was reluctant to do so. She clenched her fists tightly.

Seeing that she did not speak for a long time, Ji Qian's patience had come to its limit. "Are you going to apologize or not? You're wasting my time."

Ji Mei's face turned gloomy. But when she thought of her son's advice, she could only smile apologetically. "Qianqian, your cousin cried for a long time after she went back and felt sorry for you. She realized her mistake."

She pushed Cheng Liu. "Xiao Liu, didn't you say that you wanted to apologize to Qianqian when you were at home? Why aren't you saying anything now?"

Even her mother wasn't helping her!

Cheng Liu felt wronged. Why couldn't her mother understand how she felt? She couldn't help but think in her heart. They were all family. Even Shen Hanxing protected her sister-in-law, yet Cheng Liu's mother only knew how to force her to apologize. The awkward situation made Cheng Liu extremely embarrassed. She couldn't help but blame her mother in her heart.

"Xiao Liu," Cheng Songyang raised his hand calmly. His large palm gently held Cheng Liu's shoulder and pressed twice in a place that others could not see. There was a gentle smile on his face. He looked like he was reminding her gently, "What did I say to you before you came? If you admit your mistake, then you are a good sister. Be good and apologize to Qianqian."

He looked like a good brother who taught his sister to be nice.

However, Cheng Liu felt a chill run down her spine. When she thought of what happened in the office, she could not help but tremble. She did not dare to hesitate anymore. "Qianqian, I'm sorry. It's all my fault. I shouldn't have accused you without any reason. It's all my fault. I should have trusted you and protected you."

"I wasn't gloating. I was afraid that you would anger Old Master Zhuang..." Cheng Liu lifted her head. Tears streamed down her face. She was already sad enough and did not need to put on an act. Her face was pale, and she sobbed, "It's my fault for handling things the wrong way. Please forgive me, okay?" Ji Qian gritted her teeth. She could feel the gazes from all directions. According to the rules of the upper-class society, Cheng Liu had already apologized to her face-to-face. She should be magnanimous and forgive her. After all, blood was thicker than water. A socialite who did not hold grudges and was magnanimous was qualified. She would be a perfect woman to marry.

But why? She was reluctant to accept that apology!

Although Cheng Liu appeared sincere on the surface, Ji Qian knew Cheng Liu did not realize her mistake. Ji Qian was not a fool. Chen Tingting's apology was not from herself. Regardless of whether Cheng Liu was the one who instigated this, the true self that Cheng Liu showed made Ji Qian realize that she could not trust Cheng Liu. She wanted to break off her relationship with Cheng Liu if she could.

#### Chapter 74 The Theory of the Victim Being Guilty

Ji Qian recalled how Cheng Liu had been affectionate, considerate, gentle, and kind to her. If all of those were Cheng Liu putting on an act, then Cheng Liu might be a difficult person to trust. She was like an ungrateful viper, waiting in the dark for an opportunity to come out and bite her.

However, Ji Qian felt she could not embarrass her sister-in-law, nor could she embarrass the Ji family. "Qianqian."

Shen Hanxing gently held Ji Qian's tightly clenched fists and asked gently, "Are you willing to accept her apology? There's no need to think so much about it. Just tell me what you really think."

Ji Qian felt wronged, and her eyes reddened. She subconsciously shook her head. "No, I'm not willing to accept her apology." Only Ji Qian knew how terrifying everything she had experienced in the Zhuang family was to her and how helpless and hopeless she felt when she was accused and suspected by everyone.

So why should she forgive the culprit? Should she do it just because the culprit apologized insincerely? Could Cheng Liu's apology erase all the grievances she had suffered?

Ji Qian didn't want to forgive Cheng Liu even if others would say that she held grudges. She wished that she would never see Cheng Liu again.

Ji Mei and Cheng Liu's faces turned gloomy. Even Cheng Songyang, who had been smiling, frowned.

"This..." Ji Mei forced a smile. She looked at Ji Qian as she blamed her, "Qianqian, there's no overnight feud between sisters. Xiao Liu already knew her mistake. You should forgive her. Don't let others think that our family is a joke."

"What joke?" Shen Hanxing sneered as she looked around. She was obviously a young and beautiful girl, but when she glanced at them, they could feel the warning look in her gaze. Everyone subconsciously avoided it.

"I would like to know, why would we be a joke? May I know which law states that others must forgive someone if they apologized?" "Hanxing, how can you say that?" Ji Mei could not laugh anymore, her tone filled with anger and disdain. "You just married into the Ji family, and before that... you were from that kind of background. I know that you lack the guidance of elders, so there are some things that you don't understand. Listen to me, don't be too calculative in everything. After all, we are family. Moreover, you also know Xiao Liu's character. Although her words are unpleasant to hear, she has a good heart. Why can't you be magnanimous and forgive her?"

This time, Ji Mei had learned her lesson. She did not mention that Cheng Liu was still young and a child.

"What is my background?" Shen Hanxing's beautiful eyes filled with doubt, "does my background have anything to do with what you said? So, what if I grew up in the slums? I still understand the most basic

principle of not forcing others. Since when did forced forgiveness become popular in this society? Do you mean the victim should forgive me, and I won't need to go to prison as long as I bring some gifts and apologize to him? Can I still point at the nose of the victim and say, why are you so calculative if the victim doesn't want to accept my apology? Can I tell the victim that I've already apologized? Can't you forgive me for killing someone?" "Shen Hanxing, don't go too far!" Ji Mei was furious, "you're talking about some other thing!"

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"Oh, is that so?" Shen Hanxing shrugged. "I'm sorry, Auntie. I'm not a good talker, but I have a good heart. Don't be calculative with me."

Ji Mei was speechless.

Shen Hanxing tilted her head. "Why? Are you displeased with what I said? You look like you want to be calculative with me?"

Ji Mei gritted her teeth. "No, why would I argue with a kid like you?"

"Tsk, you hate me so much that you wanted to kill me if you could, yet you are pretending to be magnanimous. Are all the people in the upper-class society so fake?" Shen Hanxing shook her head. "That's why I don't like your upper-class society. I'm a stubborn and protective person. I don't want to comply with the rules of your upper-class society, and I don't want to mistreat my sister-in-law because of the so-called rules."

Shen Hanxing straightened her back. Her gaze was sharp as she said firmly, "The child of the Ji family has no reason to be wronged and forgive others, just so that the person who apologizes can feel at ease. We, the Ji family, will never do such a thing to harm ourselves."

The ones who should be upset and repent should be the perpetrators, not the victims like them.

Ji Mei felt that her head was about to explode from anger. Her fingers trembled as she stuttered, "You, you..." However, she could not say anything about it.

Chapter 75 Then Kneel

"Cousin-in-law, what do you want me to do?" Cheng Liu did not wipe away the tears on her face. She suddenly raised her voice and said, "I know my mistake. Your slap already made me realize a long time ago. If Qianqian is still unwilling to forgive me, do you want... do you want to force me to kneel?"

The three of them knew how to put on an act. Unfortunately, Shen Hanxing did not fall for it. "Okay, then you can try kneeling."

Cheng Liu immediately froze.

Ji Qian, who was behind Shen Hanxing, was overjoyed. She stuck her head out. Then she said excitedly, "If you want to kneel, then kneel. No one will stop you." No one had expected such a reaction from them. Cheng Liu immediately found it hard to regret now. She felt that everyone's mocking gazes were about to drown her.

No one was looking at Cheng Songyang. At this moment, his cold gaze landed on Cheng Liu, warning her. Things had already come to this point. If Shen Hanxing and Ji Qian were not satisfied with their mother and sister, they would only be more humiliated today and become the laughingstock of the upper-class circles.

Cheng Liu gritted her teeth. In her heart, she hated Ji Qian and Shen Hanxing more and more. She made up her mind and wanted to kneel.

“Let’s make this clear,” Ji Qian reminded her. “you’re the one who’s willingly kneeling. I didn’t force you, nor did I say I’ll forgive you if you kneel. Don’t force me to forgive you just because you knelt.”

Ji Qian was a prideful person. Instead of giving an annoying vibe when she said that, she looked straightforward and cute.

“That’s right. If apologizing is useful, then why do we need the law?” Shen Hanxing nodded in agreement. “Whether you forgive or not is entirely up to you. No one can force you to do anything you don’t want to do.” Cheng Liu didn’t know whether to kneel or not. She maintained her slightly bent knee posture, neither kneeling nor standing up. She was so angry that her entire body was trembling.

“Since you refuse to forgive, then forget it.” A hint of viciousness flashed across Cheng Songyang’s eyes.

O!

Then, he sighed helplessly. “Cheng Liu was the one who made a mistake. An apology is to express the attitude of our Cheng family. I hope that you can see that Cheng Liu has changed a lot. She won’t make the same mistake again.”

“So you aren’t going to kneel?” A hint of disappointment flashed across Ji Qian’s face. She wanted to see Cheng Liu, who liked to pretend, kneel in front of her and apologize. She might even let someone take a photo of it. When she was in a bad mood, she would take a look, and perhaps her mood would instantly elevate.

“Forget it. If you’re not going to kneel, then don’t kneel.” Ji Qian waved her hand in boredom. “Sister-in-law, I’ll go find my friends if I am not needed here anymore.”

“Okay,” Shen Hanxing nodded. After Ji Qian left, she nodded slightly at the three Cheng family members as she said, “Auntie, if there’s nothing else, I’ll proceed with what I have been doing just now. There are other guests who I need to attend.”

With that, she turned around and walked into the crowd.

Cheng Songyang stared at her back, the corners of his lips slowly rising, revealing an excited yet determined smile. Not only did Shen Hanxing’s performance not make him angry. Instead, it made him feel the excitement of hunting. He felt his blood boiling as he planned on how he could make this fiery rose his.

He wanted to pull out the thorns on her body bit by bit and make her submit to him. He wanted to make her beg and cry under his body. Just thinking about that scene excited him.

Cheng Liu did not know what was in Cheng Songyang’s mind. She complained, “They are too much! I must make them pay the price! I must make them kneel in front of me and beg



me!”

She had never been wronged like this since she was young! “Xiao Liu, don’t worry. Mom and brother will avenge you,” Ji Mei’s felt sorry for her daughter as she hugged her in her arms and comforted her, “wait and see. They won’t be happy for long.”

After all, the status of the Ji family was there. There were not many guests that needed Shen Hanxing to entertain them. What was surprising was that the Zhuang siblings also came over with gifts.

Old Master Zhuang only had two sons. The eldest son and his wife had died in a car accident a few years ago, leaving only their children, Zhuang Yu and Zhuang Hengyu. Zhuang Hengyu’s dream was to become a doctor with superb medical skills. He was not interested in business. On the contrary, Zhuang Yu was rather talented in it.

“Mrs. Ji,” Zhuang Yu was not old and was lively. When she saw Shen Hanxing, she approached her enthusiastically and said, “long time no see.”

Shen Hanxing had a good impression of the Zhuang family. Zhuang Yu was young, but she was thorough in handling matters. She would be a powerful woman in eth future.

“Previously, grandfather’s attitude was rude when his beloved orchid was damaged. I hope Mrs. Ji doesn’t mind,” Zhuang Yu handed over a gift and explained with a smile, “now that grandfather has calmed down, he specially asked us, siblings, to come over and apologize. I hope Mrs. Ji and Miss Ji Qian can forgive us.”

Chapter 76 I Like Mrs. Ji So Much

Hiss...

The guests couldn’t help but gasp.

Just what kind of background did Mrs. Ji have? Didn’t they say that she came from the slums? Her biological father only had a little money and didn’t have much background. How could Wei Yong and Zhuang Hengyu, Wei Yong’s younger brother, not be angry after being beaten up and the Zhuang family’s orchid being destroyed? Their attitudes were more and more cordial and low.

The crowd began to wonder if Shen Hanxing had some powerful family background.

Those deep in thought were already thinking about whether there was a conspiracy. Zhuang Hengyu was the eldest grandson of the Zhuang family, and Wei Yong was also the person in charge of the Wei Group. The three big shots of S City gathered and got along harmoniously. Were they going to make some big moves? Or did they think that Ji Yan was ill recently, and the business world was in turmoil, so they wanted to unite and suppress some other enterprises who had plans on making moves?

It seemed that they still had to observe and be humble.

At the same time, their attitude toward Shen Hanxing became more and more cautious, and they did not dare to look down on her anymore.

To show that she was not stalling, Shen Hanxing would take photos of the orchid every day and send the treatment methods and changes of the orchid to Old Master Zhuang’s assistant. Her attitude was

sincere, and she was not perfunctory in her treatment of the orchid. Most importantly, the orchid had indeed improved. Any flower lover would want to befriend someone who could nurture and treat the flower. The level of patience and skills that Shen Hanxing had shown in nurturing flowers was enough to make Old Master Zhuang think highly of her.

Old Master Zhuang intended to amend their relationship at the Ji family banquet. When he thought of his previous inappropriate actions, he called for his two grandchildren to come and apologize on his behalf of him. His attitude was sincere.

"It's nothing," Shen Hanxing smiled and said, "The Ji family is also responsible for this matter. It's understandable for Old Master Zhuang to lose his temper in desperation. There's no need to apologize."

Ji Yan's leg had improved. He was only waiting for the wound to heal before he started to recuperate. Shen Hanxing's attitude toward the chief surgeon, Zhuang Hengyu, was good. Both parties intended to come into contact, so the atmosphere was naturally harmonious. In just a short while, Zhuang Yu was shamelessly putting her arm around Shen Hanxing's arm. "Mrs. Ji, I'm the same age as Ji Qian. Can I call you sister-in-law too?"

"If you want a sister-in-law, ask your brother to get married soon. Why are you snatching my sister-in-law away?" Coincidentally, Ji Qian, who happened to pass by, was angry when she heard those words. If they weren't in a banquet, she wanted to go up and pull Zhuang Yu's hand away. Many people were snatching her sister-in-law from her every day!

Zhuang Hengyu, who didn't expect that Ji Qian would drag him into the situation, had a helpless expression. "I'm sorry, you don't have a sister-in-law because I am useless."

"No." Zhuang Yu stuck out her tongue mischievously. "I don't want a sister-in-law. I want a sister-in-law like Mrs. Ji."

After saying that, she suddenly realized that her words were ambiguous. She blushed embarrassedly. "I'm sorry, I didn't mean that. I just like Mrs. Ji so much."

Zhuang Hengyu also felt a little awkward. He subconsciously touched the tip of his nose and could not help but look at Shen Hanxing.

"Many people like my sister-in-law," Ji Qian did not notice anything weird. She pouted and mumbled, "No matter how much they like her, she is still my sister-in-law."

She knew everyone was talking about her sister-in-law. When those socialites chit-chatted with her, they would talk about her sister-in-law. They envied her for having such a beautiful and valiant sister-in-law!

It was so annoying because everyone was coveting her sister-in-law.

Ji Qian held onto Shen Hanxing's other arm in displeasure. After looking around, she asked, "Sister-in-law, where's my brother?"

She wanted her brother to come out and show everyone Shen Hanxing belonged to him. So no one would snatch her sister-in-law anymore.

"He is resting in his room. Why are you looking for him?" Shen Hanxing's eyes flashed and asked softly.

Now was not the time for Ji Yan to show his face. If they wanted to find the rat hiding in the dark, they had to be more patient.

"It's nothing. I'm just asking casually," Ji Qian waved her hand and then said, "sister-in-law, please continue attending to the guest. I'll bring Miss Zhuang to meet my friends."

Ji Qian did not want to let Zhuang Yu have much contact with her sister-in-law to prevent Zhuang Yu from snatching her sister-in-law away.

Just as Zhuang Yu was about to reject her, Ji Mei walked over from not far away. "Hanxing, it's good that you're here. I have something to tell you."

After Ji Mei came, Zhuang Yu couldn't stay by Shen Hanxing's side anymore. She could only leave with Ji Qian. Zhuang Hengyu also left that place.

Shen Hanxing picked up a glass of fruit wine and took a sip. "What's the matter, Auntie?"

Chapter 77 Is This Enough?

This glass of fruit wine was a specially concocted cocktail. The taste of the orange blended well with the wine's fragrance. Its fragrance was rich, without the excessive acrimony of alcohol. It had a smooth texture and a sweet, tasty taste.

Shen Hanxing drank it in one gulp and picked up another glass. Her alcohol tolerance was not bad, and this cocktail did not have any alcohol content, so it would not be a problem for her to drink a few more glasses.

Ji Mei saw Shen Hanxing's actions and couldn't help but look at her in disdain. As expected, she was unpresentable and short-sighted. One glass of wine was enough to stun her, and she drank one glass after another as if she had never seen anything good before. It was so embarrassing.

However, it was great that Shen Hanxing was green and inexperienced. She could easily fool her.

"Hanxing, I am looking for you to talk to you about something. It's a great thing." The smile on Ji Mei's face bloomed. She clapped her hands exaggeratedly and said, "I heard that you opened an investment company?"

"Yes," Shen Hanxing remained expressionless. "I don't understand these things either. It's all handled by the assistant I employed. I heard that this thing has a quick return. The return can be several times higher if you invest in the right project." She laughed and revealed a slightly greedy expression appeared on her face. "No one would complain about having too much money, right?"

Ji Mei became even more excited. It was good that Shen Hanxing was greedy! Most of the girls who married rich people had the same thought. They held a pile of money in their hands and dreamed of doubling it. In the end, all the money went into her pocket.

"It's good that you have such an idea. I feel it's good to invest," Ji Mei said with a smile. "We women, although we can enjoy life by marrying into a good family and not have to worry about living a wealthy life. We still have to have our own money. For example, I have invested in quite some projects, the most of which..." She looked left and right and whispered into Shen Hanxing's ear as if she was talking about a confidential matter. "It has increased by ten times! Do you know what this means? You invest one

million into it. In the blink of an eye, it has become ten million!” “Heh, you’re bragging so much,” thought Shen Hanxing

Shen Hanxing’s eyes were cold. But she did not show her disdain. She asked with great interest, “Really? My assistant said that the projects I’ve invested in recently wouldn’t be able to return money for a while. What are you investing in, Auntie? Introduce them to me.”

“This...” Ji Mei looked troubled. “This is Auntie’s way of making money. From a certain point of view, it can be considered a trade secret.”

“Auntie, we’re family. Blood is thicker than water,” Shen Hanxing pretended to be anxious. “I’m your niece-in-law. This matter is between you and me. No one else will know about it.”

“Sigh...” Ji Mei pretended to be persuaded and lowered her voice, “alright, I am only telling you this for the sake of our family. Please don’t let it get out.”

After Shen Hanxing nodded, she continued, “The business model in the country has already been fixed. We have to invest in foreign trade if we want to make money.”

Ji Mei analyzed mysteriously. “In terms of making money, of course, there is no lack of foreign exchange. I know of a foreign trading company. The company’s prospects and market are good, and they are preparing to inject capital in the next few days. If we succeed, we can at least earn this amount!”

Ji Mei proudly stretched out her palm and flipped it.

Shen Hanxing’s eyes lit up. She asked anxiously, “Really? Then Auntie, can you let me invest with you? I want to invest with you.”

“Erm...” Ji Mei pondered and finally said, “alright, the funds here are already full. But of course, I’ll have to help you as your aunt. Tell me how much money you have, and I’ll bring you along to invest.”

There was nothing such as easy money in this world.

High rate of return? It was impossible the investment rate would be ten to twenty times the money invested.

Shen Hanxing sneered in her heart. She put on a convincing look. “Ji Yan gave me 50 million in start-up capital.”

She proudly took out a black card. “If this is not enough, I have the black card Ji Yan gave me.”

Ji Mei’s breathing almost stopped.

Ji Yan was generous to Shen Hanxing. He gave her 50 million and even gave her an unlimited black card.

A short-sighted fool with a huge amount of money was like a child carrying a gold brick across the street. Don’t blame others for snatching it.

Ji Mei was greedy. She nodded without hesitation. “That’s enough. It’s enough. Let’s make an appointment. I’ll take you to sign the contract.”

Ji Mei was not worried that Shen Hanxing would be able to see through her trap in the contract. She could even fool those upper-class ladies with her tricks, not to mention a country bumpkin like Shen Hanxing. They were still in the dark, waiting to split the money.

Chapter 78 Did You Drink?

"But..." Shen Hanxing hesitated and said, "Auntie, I'll tell you the truth. Please don't laugh at me. It is the first time I've spent so much money. I'm uncertain. Why don't you take me to the company to take a look before investing?"

A petty and cautious fool!

Ji Mei cursed in her heart and hesitated a little. That foreign trade company was almost an empty shell. To suck more blood from the Ji Corporation and rationalize the money she had swindled. The company had become a tool for her to launder money. There were too many loopholes in the company, and it was not suitable to visit.

However, thinking of the 50 million and the quota of the black card, Ji Mei hesitated. In the end, greed had gained the upper hand. What would a young lady who had not graduated from high school know? The company was full of trusted confidants as long as they worked together to fool Shen Hanxing. They would be able to scam some money from Shen Hanxing.

With that thought in mind, Ji Mei nodded and agreed, "Alright, but only you and I can know about this. Don't tell anyone else, not even Ji Yan."

She was afraid that Shen Hanxing would get suspicious. Ji Mei added, "I'm telling you so much because I like you. A woman has to have some private money to protect herself and not reveal it even to her husband. A woman can only rely on herself, understand?"

"I understand, Auntie," Shen Hanxing nodded, looking touched, "Auntie, you are so nice to me."

"Silly child, we are all family. Of course, I am nice to you."

The two of them looked at each other and smiled. The atmosphere was harmonious and loving. However, Shen Hanxing explained everything to Ji Yan after that. Ji Yan was instantly angry. "I have underestimated her in the past." He used to think that his aunt was greedy and snobbish, coaxing the Ji family to pay for the Cheng family. The Ji family did not lack money, so he was too lazy to care about this in the past. However, he did not expect the Cheng family would get greedier. Their hands were stretching out longer, and their actions were more intolerable.

"She's not the one I'm afraid of," Shen Hanxing picked up a grape and threw it into his mouth. She said with a smile, "All of your aunt's schemes are superficial, and I can deal with them with ease. However, that Cheng Songyang, I can't see through him." Ji Yan's eyes were dark, and he had a sharp gaze.

"People can pretend for a while, but they can't pretend for the rest of their lives. They will eventually give themselves away."

Seeing that he knew what he was doing, Shen Hanxing felt more assured.

Shen Hanxing held her forehead with one hand, and her whole body was emitting a lazy aura. Her face was slightly hot. "I want to go to that foreign trade company. If I remember correctly, that was distributed by the old master when he was still alive, right?"

"You know about it?" Ji Yan was a little surprised.

"I accidentally saw it on the documents," Shen Hanxing curled her lips into a smile. That night, she put on bright red lipstick. She squinted her eyes lazily to match the red dress. She lazily leaned against the sofa. Under the warm light of the room, she looked dazzling and beautiful.

Her every frown and smile were flirtatious. However, she did not know what a beauty she was. Her body leaned slightly towards Ji Yan. Her voice was a little hoarse, "The company has something to do with him, right?"

She raised a finger and pointed upwards.

Ji Yan was even more surprised. He realized that Shen Hanxing was even more sensitive than he had imagined. Seeing Ji Yan's expression, Shen Hanxing smiled. "Are you surprised? Actually, you don't have to be surprised. Our slum is also very chaotic. It's not much better than your upper-class society. No matter what kind of forces are involved, they all want to get involved. All kinds of connections are complicated. I know these things very well."

Old Master Ji assigned that foreign trade company to Ji Mei was probably to separate that company from the Ji Corporation so that no one would notice that something was wrong. They were businessmen unwilling to apply for bankruptcy even though they lost money every year. They were all profit-oriented businessmen, so there was no need to use the pretense of being sentimental. Why would they spend so much money on foreign trade companies every year if there weren't some discrete reason?

Her intelligence was beyond imagination.

However, Ji Yan didn't have the time to be surprised and didn't have the time to care about these things. As Shen Hanxing leaned over, the cold fragrance on her body and the scent of wine assailed Ji Yan's nostrils. Before Ji Yan could react, he suddenly reached out and grabbed her cold fair wrist, gently rubbing it twice.

After Ji Yan came back to his senses, he looked at the wrist in his palm. He didn't take his hand back, but his gaze became deeper. He stared straight at Shen Hanxing. "Did you drink?"

Ji Yan's voice was pleasant to hear, and he deliberately lowered it, making it even more magnetic. It was as if there was a small hook hanging on it. It circled her ear, making her ear feel itchy.

## Chapter 79 Arranged Marriage

Shen Hanxing subconsciously rubbed her ears. When she realized what Ji Yan had asked her, she made a hand gesture as she said, "I only drank a little."

She used to drink a lot in the slums, but all she drank was beer. She had never drunk anything like cocktails. So, she did not know that although the fruit wine she drank had a sweet taste, she could easily get drunk. She had drunk many glasses in a row, so it was normal for her to get drunk. She felt herself floating. Ji Yan in front of her had also turned blurry. Shen Hanxing covered her reddened face with a

smile, feeling a little funny. She smiled embarrassedly and said, "So I'm drunk. No wonder I feel lightheaded."

Ji Yan's eagle-like sharp eyes were on her body. From top to bottom, her hair to her eyes, the tip of her nose to her red lips, filled with the fragrance of wine. His eyes outlined her inch by inch, and he looked like a predator looking at his prey. "Yes, you are indeed drunk." Shen Hanxing was less vigilant when drunk than when she was awake. She laid lazily on the sofa. Her cheeks were flushed red. She looked charming and naive, as her body exuded an astonishing allure.

The red dress enhanced her beautiful appearance. Her skin was as fair as snow. Her eyebrows and eyes were as beautiful as a fairy from a painting.

Ji Yan's Adam's apple moved slightly. Not only did he not let go of her hand, but he even turned his wheelchair and moved closer to her. "Am I beautiful?"

Shen Hanxing seemed to have noticed Ji Yan's gaze. She chuckled. There was no need to dodge. Instead, she placed one hand on his wheelchair and bent over slightly. The smell of alcohol mixed with the cold fragrance on her body, turning into an even more alluring fragrance that filled his nostrils.

At that moment, she lowered her head, the tip of her nose against his, but she refused to close her eyes, staring straight into his pupils. To be honest, Ji Yan was more handsome than all the men she had met. His cheeks were not as sunken as before because he had taken good care of himself. His jawline was smooth, and every single part of him was not perfect.

"Very beautiful."

Ji Yan's voice was extremely hoarse. He raised his hand and pulled off the hairpin of her hair. Her long, ink-like hair instantly flowed down, covering her graceful curves, but it did not completely cover them. It was faintly discernible, like a demon that sucked on human essence.

Shen Hanxing chuckled, held Ji Yan's face, and gently kissed him.

By the time Shen Hanxing appeared in the hall again, the slight tipsiness had dissipated. She tied up her long hair again, and her lips, which had been smeared with lipstick again, were a little swollen.

Alcohol and lust could mislead anyone!

Thinking of all the things she had done through the tipsiness, Shen Hanxing's ears flushed red. She did not dare to touch those beautiful and delicious cocktails again and only took small sips of orange juice.

"Hanxing."

Lu Shaoyang was wearing a white suit. He looked like a depressed little prince. He stood two steps away from her and looked at her.

Shen Hanxing frowned. She did not want to see him.

"Hanxing, I'm sorry. I came back late," Lu Shaoyang's chest felt stuffy. He had only gone out of town to deal with the company matters. When he returned, he received the news that Shen Hanxing had returned to the country and married into the Ji family.

"It has nothing to do with you. You don't have to say you're sorry," Shen Hanxing looked away and said, "we've already settled everything. We had annulled our marriage arrangement when my mother passed away."

Lu Shaoyang and Shen Hanxing had an arranged marriage when they were still kids. They did it when Shen Hanxing's mother, Qiao Wei, was pregnant. Qiao Wei had long known that Shen Hanxing's father, Shen Yong, was unreliable. So she wanted to give Shen Hanxing a guaranteed life. However, not long after her death, the Lu family came to cancel the marriage. Shen Hanxing, who had grown up with Lu Shaoyang, had also been ruthlessly thrown abroad by Shen Yong.

To Lu Shaoyang, Shen Hanxing would always be that fair and cute little sister. Aunt Qiao held his hand and said to him, "Hanxing will be your wife from now on. You have to treat her well, understand?"

Therefore, Lu Shaoyang had always believed that Shen Hanxing was his wife since he was young.

But now...

"Hanxing, I know you hate me, but I..." Lu Shaoyang looked regretful. He had resisted when they annulled the marriage arrangement, but he was so young. A child would never be able to defy his parents.

"Mr. Lu, I think I've made it clear that there is no relationship between us," Shen Hanxing looked at him coldly, "I'm Mrs. Ji now. Your actions will cause me trouble."

"Hanxing, how did you become so..." Lu Shaoyang did not understand. In his impression, Shen Hanxing was still that fair, cute, and obedient little girl.

"Isn't it normal for people to change when they grow up?" Shen Hanxing interrupted him without hesitation, "Please step aside."

#### Chapter 80 Don't Go if You Don't Like

She had already used her best attitude to talk to him. But unfortunately, Lu Shaoyang did not think so. He looked at Shen Hanxing sadly. "No, you shouldn't have become like this."

He wondered if Shen Hanxing had become arrogant because she was rich now.

Fortunately, Shen Hanxing did not know what he was thinking, or else she would have been so angry that she would have beaten him up.

At this moment, she was in a pretty good mood, but she could not be bothered to say anything to him. "I don't want to see you again. Please don't disturb me in the future. For the sake of our friendship in the past, you won't want me to have a falling out with you, right?"

After saying that, she turned around and left.

She did not expect Lu Shaoyang to be so persistent. He took a step forward and grabbed her. He thought he was being kind and persuaded her, "Hanxing, you can ignore me, but I can't just ignore you. I've seen what happened today. In the future, don't be so aggressive with the Ji family. I don't know what kind of life you had before and what habits you've picked up."



He paused, and he continued, "But you have to know that Ji Mei is Ji Yan's family. You don't have to offend Ji Mei for the sake of Ji Yan's siblings. In a big family like this, Ji Qian and the others are illegitimate children. They don't have any status. No matter how well you get along with them, it's useless. It's better to have a good relationship with Ji Mei."

Shen Hanxing almost laughed when she heard that. She wondered if her attitude was so good that she gave him the illusion that he could judge her and teach her what to do.

"What the heck does it have to do with you about how I get along with the Ji family?"

"Wh... what?" Lu Shaoyang was stunned.

He could not believe that Shen Hanxing was using vulgar words on him.

Shen Hanxing spoke coldly, "Are you trying to teach me what to do? Do you think you have the right to do so? Drink some juice to clear your head."

She did not stand at the ceremony. She raised her hand and poured more than half of the juice in her hand onto Lu Shaoyang's head.

Lu Shaoyang's body trembled. He felt disappointed as the coldness from the juice struck him.

"Don't appear in front of me again. Don't think I won't beat you up," Shen Hanxing put down the cup and sneered, "what a self-centered man! I don't want to see you again."

A person like him would only understand how much Shen Hanxing hated him if she broke his leg. If the Lu family had not been so ruthless in their actions back then, her mother might have died in peace. They rushed to the hospital bed to break off the engagement before her mother died, making her mother worry about her life even before she died.

"You..." Lu Shaoyang felt a sharp pain in his heart.

Before he could do anything else, a hand suddenly reached out from beside him. "Didn't you hear Hanxing say that he doesn't want to see you? Get lost."

Xiao Yu coldly pushed him away. His eyes filled with disgust. He had always despised this incompetent young master who pretended to be affectionate.

"What took you so long?" Seeing Xiao Yu, the smile on Shen Hanxing's face became more genuine. She asked with a smile, "Where are Han Yin and Chu Feng?"

"They went to look for Ji Qian," Hearing Shen Hanxing's voice, the expression on Xiao Yu's face softened. "I came to say hello to you first."

Lu Shaoyang's eyes were red. He gritted his teeth and said, "Xiao Yu, this has nothing to do with you. Go away!"

"Don't make me beat you up!" Xiao Yu shot Lu Shaoyang a cold glance. "Can you stop thinking of using your fist to settle everything?"

Xiao Yu froze when he heard Shen Hanxing's words. Shen Hanxing ignored Lu Shaoyang and dragged Xiao Yu to a corner to lecture him. Lu Shaoyang stood there in a daze after they left.

They did not notice that there was a flashing light in the corner. After a while, someone ran out with a camera excitedly.

For this banquet, the Wei Corporation and the Zhuang family had released a smokescreen, causing many of the eager companies in the business world to settle down gradually. Even the other members of the Ji family had also experienced Ji Yan's power. Most of them wanted to get the favor of the Ji family. Shen Hanxing had received many invitations during this period because of that.

"This is the so-called madams' social life, right?" Shen Hanxing patted the stack of invitations on the table as she lamented.

Shen Hanxing got invitations for afternoon tea, golf, SPA, horseback riding, and gatherings. There were countless of invitations.

"Don't go if you don't like it," Ji Yan looked at her intently, "I don't need my wife to help me socialize and make connections."

His voice was calm, but it carried a strong sense of confidence and certainty.

Ever since the kiss in the middle of the banquet, an inexplicable feeling had gotten between them.