Elite Doting 161

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 161: A Fearful Xuxu Was Adorable

Slam!

He had barely finished his sentence when he was punched brutally in the face.

Yan Rusheng parted the crowd with his hands. After he pushed the rest of the people to the side, everyone was huddled together, and suddenly there was an empty space around him.

His malicious-looking eyes were glaring at the shameless man who had molested Xuxu. His eyes had a dangerous gleam.

"Who are you? Why did you hit me?" The man touched his face with one hand, and he used the other to point at Yan Rusheng who was closing in on him. He began to retreat, and his legs started trembling.

"It's Third Master Yan from Flourish & Prosper..."

"It's really him! He looks exactly like the photo, it must be him."

There was a long pause...

Someone recognized Yan Rusheng, and they started making a commotion excitedly.

The lecherous-looking man couldn't back away anymore, but his trembling body was still trying to retreat.

"Don't assume that I'm afraid of you. I'm going to report this to the police."

Yan Rusheng sneered coldly, "Before the police arrive, let me maim both of your hands."

His good-looking lips twitched ruthlessly, and his hand hooked around the man's arm and twisted it.

There was a loud 'crunch!', and a second later, the man's bloodcurdling screams echoed loudly in the elevator.

Yan Rusheng didn't give him a chance to catch his breath before he proceeded to hook around his other arm.

"Ah Sheng, don't!" Wen Xuxu cried out anxiously, blurting out the intimate nickname she'd concealed deep in her heart. She realized almost immediately and corrected herself. "President Yan."

If this matter was escalated and brought to the police's attention, it was still relatively easy to handle. The troublesome part lay with the media since they would definitely blow up what happened.

No matter what, it would affect Yan Rusheng and the company.

Yan Rusheng looked at the petite hand clutching his arm, and an affectionate smile flitted briefly on his face.

"Don't be afraid."

Xuxu held her breath when she heard that gentle and deep voice.

"Ahhhh...." The lecherous-looking man tried to sneak an attack on Yan Rusheng by kicking him when he wasn't looking.

But before he could, Yan Rusheng had noticed it.

Yan Rusheng didn't twist his arm this time around; he broke two of his fingers instead.

Everyone in the elevator witnessed Yan Rusheng's violent and unfeeling actions, and they all shuddered and broke into a cold sweat.

This person had ruthlessly broken that man's arm.

That lecherous-looking man gave a shriek and lost consciousness.

The elevator reached the ground floor.

Everyone scrambled to leave, and the people bumped into Wen Xuxu and almost tripped a few times.

Everyone in the elevator left, leaving her, Yan Rusheng and the unconscious man on the floor. She felt helpless.

She had no idea what to do.

Somewhere above her, Yan Rusheng's gentle voice was heard. "Wen Xuxu, you don't seem to be as tough as I thought."

Earlier on, she had blurted 'Ah Sheng, don't!' with a tinge of fear. At the precise moment he heard her, a special and familiar feeling had struck him.

He thought that a fearful Xuxu was... adorable.

When she corrected it to 'President Yan', it was the first time he had ever regretted something so much. He had regretted how he'd warned and forbidden her on that island from calling him by that nickname.

His voice carried a hint of warmth, just like an intoxicating vintage wine.

Xuxu was slightly startled as she lifted her tiny face. She stared at Yan Rusheng's gorgeous countenance which seemed to resemble an exquisitely sculpted masterpiece by God.

The corners of Yan Rusheng's lips curled with a warm and vibrant smile. His peach blossom-shaped eyes were slightly arched, holding a rare tenderness.

Against the bright lights in the elevator, Xuxu's soft face was even rosier than usual—as enticing as a ripe apple.

As Yan Rusheng stared at her, his Adam's apple bobbed slightly.

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 162: How Could You Tell That I Want To Kiss Her?

He couldn't help but lower his head and inch slowly towards Xuxu's alluring face.

A strong and familiar scent floated towards her and Xuxu could only retreat backward until she had reached the wall of the elevator.

Her burning palms were pressed against the cold surface. Her palms started sweating, and it heated up the area that she touched.

Her cheeks seemed to be ablaze as his fiery gaze was fixated on her face. It was so hot that she felt like placing her face against the cold surface of the elevator too.

Young Master Yan suddenly pressed his palms against the elevator and confined the tiny woman standing in front of him with his hands.

This action stunned Xuxu as she peered upwards with an innocent and helpless look on her face.

Oh my god!

That expression was way too seductive, and Young Master Yan couldn't help but move closer to Xuxu's lips. At the same time, his mind began racing for an excuse to give after the deed was done—in order to preserve his pride he would explain that he didn't mean to kiss her.

Should he say that she had seduced him?

Nah, she would definitely deny it.

"Young man, that guy has already fainted from the pain. If he's dead, you'll be executed. Hurry up and save him first, leave the kissing for when you get home."

An elderly lady's kind voice called out from outside the elevator.

She broke Young Master Yan's train of thought and destroyed that beautiful and alluring moment. Both of them were jolted back to reality.

"Why would you think that I wanted to kiss her?" Young Master Yan turned around to glare at the elderly lady with her 'kind intentions'.

"I merely caught a whiff of something sweaty, and I suspected that it was coming from her! I just wanted to confirm it by smelling her."

It was too embarrassing. He didn't even get what he wanted, and he'd already been humiliated.

That elderly lady was disconcerted by Yan Rusheng's yells. After a long while, she responded with an "Oh!".

As she turned around to leave, she mumbled under her breath. "He was gutsy enough when it came to beating up that guy. Why is he refusing to admit it when he obviously wants to kiss that girl?"

Young Master Yan had an exceptional sense of hearing, and he heard everything the elderly lady had mumbled to herself. He felt even more exasperated.

Why are the elderly so annoying nowadays?!

Xuxu slid down the wall, and she slipped out under Yan Rusheng's arms.

She kept her back to him, and her cheeks were flushed crimson. Her heart was beating so wildly against her ribcage; it seemed that it would jump out at any minute.

Earlier, she'd thought the same thing that elderly lady did. The thought of him wanting to kiss her was so wonderful that she could hardly contain herself.

She had almost closed her eyes in anticipation of his kiss.

Thankfully, that elderly lady's timely intervention spared me from this guy's ridicule and contempt.

As she thought of this, she lifted her arm to smell her armpits. It seemed like there really was an odor.

But it was getting hot recently, and wasn't it normal to sweat a little? She didn't believe that he never sweated at all.

Xuxu felt indignant as she thought of his accusation. She felt like shouting, 'Yan Rusheng, your body stinks as well!'

He had humiliated her in front of so many people.

The surgeon and nurses came to move the lecherous man to receive surgery. Yan Rusheng briefly explained the situation to them.

When he turned around, Xuxu was gone.

He dashed outside and stood at the main entrance of the hospital. His eyes darted around searching for that tiny figure.

There were throngs of people, but she was nowhere in sight.

He was getting anxious yet furious at the same time.

He had dealt with the guy on her behalf and stayed back to handle the situation. And this woman didn't even bid him goodbye and just left. How ungrateful was she?

But he... he had disappointed himself since he was still worried about her.

There were a lot of foreigners in the vicinity around her grandfather's clinic. She was so dumb, what if she met some punks or criminals?

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 163: Your Worries Are Unnecessary

'You damned b*tch. Are you trying to seduce guys by wearing this outfit in the elevator?'

The words of that lecherous man suddenly echoed in his ear, and he couldn't help feeling worried again. He quickly took out his car keys and hurried to the parking lot.

F*ck! Which idiot came up with that b*llshit rule about wearing tight-fitting clothes to work?!

...

At the clinic.

Wen Xuxu sat on the deck chair which her grandfather had brought from his village. She was holding a plate of pan-fried buns, and her lips were smeared with traces of grease.

Every time she finished one, she would lick her fingers with relish as though she didn't want to waste a single bite.

Jiang Zhuoheng descended the stairs with a glass of milk when he caught sight of her licking her fingers. He furrowed his eyebrows and patted her lightly on her back. "Don't do that, it's dirty. Here, have some milk."

He placed the glass of milk on a stool and dragged another over to sit beside Xuxu. He watched her closely with interest as she devoured the food hungrily.

Xuxu glanced at him and paused before offering him one. "Try one, it's delicious."

"What's so good about junk food?" Jiang Zhuoheng looked at the pan-fried buns with slight disdain.

"How are pan-fried buns junk food?" Xuxu rolled her eyes at him and stuffed one into her mouth. She couldn't fit the whole bun in, and the sauce started leaking from her mouth and rolled down her chin.

Jiang Zhuoheng hastily wiped her mouth with tissues and said reprovingly, "Wen Xuxu, can't you learn to eat more gracefully?"

"But I'm not graceful by nature," Xuxu protested as she snatched the tissues away from him. She stuffed another one in her mouth to spite him.

Oh great, now her mouth was puffed up like a huge bun. There wasn't any space left inside her mouth, and she had trouble chewing.

She tried to swallow the food slowly, but she ended up... choking.

She blinked her eyes and hurriedly spat out the food.

"Haha..." Jiang Zhuoheng started laughing at her bad luck. He patted her back and offered her the milk. "Quick, drink this."

Xuxu gulped down the milk, and after a while, she gradually started feeling better.

Her eyes were glistening from all the choking, and her face fell when she realized that Jiang Zhuoheng was still snickering. "Jiang Zhuoheng, I almost choked to death, and you're still laughing at me."

"Sorry, I'm in the wrong. Carry on eating," Jiang Zhuoheng apologized as he held the plate of buns in his hands. He placed one near her mouth and said, "You haven't had dinner so you should eat more."

He looked at her with his slightly arched phoenix-like eyes, and his smile was filled with affection and tenderness.

Xuxu abruptly realized how close he was when she felt his warm breath on her face.

She was slightly startled by the realization, and she hesitated between letting him feed her or receiving the bun with her hand instead. Their eyes stared at each other, both lost in their own thoughts.

Yan Rusheng, your worries are unnecessary!

The man standing outside the door mocked himself after hearing the laughter inside the clinic. He withdrew his gaze and walked back to the black Mercedes.

"Ah Heng, thank you." Xuxu smiled as she received the bun from Jiang Zhuoheng.

She thought her actions seemed natural, but to Jiang Zhuoheng, he could sense something else.

"Xuxu, it's your birthday next week."

Mustering his courage, he opened his mouth to speak. The expression in his eyes still flickered from a lack of confidence.

Xuxu paused her chewing and replied softly, "Ah Heng, I often questioned myself. What's so good about him? He has a bad temper, and he's in love with someone else. Do you ask yourself the same question? What's so good about Wen Xuxu even though she's still thinking about another person?"

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 164: I Won't Be Able To Stay With Him Till He's Old

Jiang Zhuoheng smiled and shook his head gently. "I'm willing to because you are Wen Xuxu."

Xuxu stared at him intently. "Ah Heng, this might sound a little conceited, but you're too good for me. I'm not worthy of your love."

Her eyes started to well up with tears, her expression full of sorrow and melancholy.

"Give me a chance, and give yourself a chance." Jiang Zhuoheng gripped her hand and placed it on his chest. He was sincere and firm as he pressed on. "I'm not going to force you to make a decision. I've waited for three years, and I don't mind continuing to wait."

Sigh. Xuxu sighed lightly. "Ah Heng, if I can give you a complete... perhaps I'll be able to live with a clear conscience. But I..."

But her current self was unworthy of his love.

Hearing this, Jiang Zhuoheng's expression froze. "Xuxu..."

He looked at her sorrowful face, and he was at a complete loss.

He had always wanted to ask her: why did she give up the chance to study abroad in Country Y? Why wasn't there any news of her in school in the three years that he was away?

He wanted to probe further; to ask if there was another reason.

This question had been bugging him for three years, and he finally seemed to have found the answer tonight.

As he reorganized his thoughts, Xuxu's exhausted voice sounded once more. "You're the one person in my life that I never want to lose. Even more than him."

If they had crossed the line and gone beyond their friendship, everything would no longer be the same.

She added, "I won't be able to stay with him until he's old, but that person can't be you either."

These few days she had been playing with the notion of wearing the white princess dress on her 25th birthday. But every time she delved deeper into her thoughts, she hesitated and gave up.

The relationship between them should remain pure.

There was very little that she could afford to lose anymore.

Jiang Zhuoheng squeezed her hand. "Xuxu, don't pressure yourself."

Others might not understand her but he could. They'd both been playing a role for the other.

Because this person is Xuxu, so I won't give up, he thought to himself.

•••

Before the sun rose the next day, Xuxu had already reached the hospital.

She was holding some breakfast in her hands as she walked to her grandfather's ward.

The door of the ward was ajar. She glanced inside, but to her surprise, her grandfather was nowhere in sight.

A cleaner was tidying the ward, and Xuxu walked towards her. "Auntie, may I know where is the patient in this ward?"

Grandfather had just undergone surgery yesterday, and he couldn't move around. So he couldn't have gone to the toilet or taken a stroll.

Where did the old man go? She got more anxious at the thought.

The cleaner replied, "They transferred him to a deluxe suite last night."

Transferred? Deluxe suite? Who transferred him?

Xuxu quickly called Qi Lei.

Qi Lei informed her about the new ward, and she rushed there without delay.

Before she reached the ward, she could hear the old man's resounding and loud voice.

"I'm not playing with you anymore. What's the point if you keep giving in to me?"

When Xuxu heard her grandfather's voice, she heaved a sigh of relief.

Then she heard another familiar voice coming from the ward.

"Grandfather, when did I give in to you?"

His jovial voice was mixed with a subtle trace of exhaustion.

Xuxu widened her eyes in surprise and hastened her footsteps. The suite was clean and spacious, and her grandfather was lying on a huge and comfortable bed. He was lying sideways with a chess set in front of him. Apparently, the outcome of the chess game was clear.

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 165: It Was Bad Judgment Alright?

Jiang Zhuoheng sat beside the bed as he smiled helplessly at the old man.

Xuxu was about to step foot into the ward when Qi Lei came out of the bathroom with a basin of water.

He didn't notice Xuxu had arrived as he walked towards the bed. He said casually, "Grandfather, Sister Xuxu just called saying that she couldn't find us in the original ward."

"What?! That lass is here?" The moment the old man heard that Wen Xuxu was around, he seemed like a mouse who had just spotted a cat. He hastily lay down properly on his back. "Hurry and put away the chess set, she will nag me non-stop if she sees it."

After he instructed them, he closed his eyes. But he thought of something else and added, "If she comes, tell her I'm still resting and ask her not to bother me."

Qi Lei put the basin on the cupboard beside the bed, and Jiang Zhuoheng scooped out a towel. He stole a glance at the old man who was pretending to be asleep. Smiling slyly, he asked, "Didn't you keep nagging me, asking why she wasn't here yet? Now that she's on her way, you don't dare to see her anymore?"

After he said his piece, his eyes darted towards the door and his sly smile widened.

"She nags too much," the old man grumbled as he kept his eyes closed.

"Then I shall nag at you properly today." Wen Xuxu put on a false pretense as she strode towards him sternly.

The old man's eyelids twitched, but he refused to open his eyes.

Xuxu chuckled when she saw him. "Alright, don't do it next time. The doctor says you need to rest well. You're already so old, don't you wish to recover soon and walk by yourself in the future?"

Then she glanced at Jiang Zhuoheng. "And you! His accomplice!"

"I..." Jiang Zhuoheng was about to explain when the 'fast asleep' old man suddenly coughed twice.

Young Master Jiang clammed up, and he was left with no choice but to admit that he was an accomplice.

Xuxu certainly knew that the old man had forced him to play chess.

She didn't probe further and instead asked Qi Lei to join them for breakfast.

So after Jiang Zhuoheng had sent her home yesterday, he returned to the hospital to settle the transfer of wards. And he'd even stayed overnight to accompany Grandfather.

After Xuxu heard what Qi Lei said, she couldn't help but sigh heavily in her heart.

After breakfast, the nurse came over to check on her grandfather and to change his drip.

After the nurse left, the old man waved his hands at Wen Xuxu and Jiang Zhuoheng. "Alright, time to leave and do what you're supposed to do."

He frowned at them as though he was frustrated by their presence.

Jiang Zhuoheng glanced at Qi Lei and couldn't help worrying.

After some consideration, he said, "Grandfather, I'll hire a caretaker for you."

Old Wen heard him and snapped, "I'll be happier if you can get me a companion!"

There was a long pause...

"Don't mind him, you should go to work first." Xuxu turned to face Jiang Zhuoheng. "I've applied for leave today, and later I'll let Qi Lei head back to rest."

She had barely ended her sentence when the old man interrupted. "Aren't you quitting in a few days' time? You shouldn't be taking leave then. If not, Wang Daqin will chew me out for being troublesome and holding you up."

There was a long pause...

Grandmother wasn't that callous. In fact, he was the one fabricating her words.

The old man didn't wait for Xuxu to reply and continued, "You're so clumsy and so clueless about everything. If you were to take care of me, I might die sooner than expected. Go back to work and earn some money to support me instead."

Only two people in the whole world would complain that she was clumsy. One was Yan Rusheng; the other was this old man.

Those who said that Wen Xuxu was clumsy had bad judgment alright?

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 166: The Company Has Abolished The Rule

She knew that the old man was afraid that she would watch over him strictly, which was why he wanted to chase her away. She was determined not to let him have his way. "Grandfather, I'm staying here today no matter what you say."

"If you send Qi Lei back, what do I do if I need to use the toilet?"

The old man questioned her in a huff.

"Hmm!" Xuxu was stumped for words. If Qi Lei wasn't around, what would she do indeed?

Qi Lei interjected, "Sister Xuxu, you should go to work. I slept well last night since Brother Ah Heng stayed with Grandfather for the whole night. Later I'll take a nap when Grandfather is asleep too."

"Mmm... Alright then." Xuxu pressed her lips. "I'll pop by after work."

The old man seemed to be fine and other than chatting with him, there was nothing much she could do for him.

But apparently, the old man didn't want her to stay as well.

She instructed Qi Lei, "You must immediately update me with any news, alright?"

Before Xuxu closed the door behind them, she glanced at her grandfather with a worried look.

Jiang Zhuoheng said reassuringly, "Don't worry, I've already reminded the staff. They will take special care of him."

"Ah Heng, thank you," Xuxu thanked him softly.

They both left together.

It was half-past ten when Xuxu reached the office. Several colleagues were huddled closely together and seemed to be discussing something.

"What are you all talking about?" She looked at the group of people with a smile as she walked towards her desk.

The crowd immediately gathered around her desk. "Sister Xuxu, we can start wearing pretty outfits to work in the future."

After hearing this, she stopped and looked at them curiously. "What do you mean?"

A plump colleague replied gleefully, "We just received a notice saying that the company has abolished the rule of wearing standard work attire to the office. In the future, we just need to be presentable."

Xuxu asked in surprise, "Really?"

According to her understanding, wearing the standard work attire had been a company rule for years. Why was it abolished all of a sudden?

"Look how happy you are. Seems like you're happier about this than meeting your idol," joked another colleague as she teased the plump lady.

"For skinny girls like you, it doesn't really matter. But to plump girls like me, this is a huge blessing. You have no idea how uncomfortable it is to wear tight-fitting clothes to work every day."

Xuxu didn't really listen to the rest of the conversation. She lowered her head and stared at her outfit.

She couldn't help thinking about what the lecherous guy had said in the elevator yesterday.

'Aren't you trying to seduce guys by wearing this outfit in the elevator?'

Did Yan Rusheng...

But even if she were the reason, it wouldn't be just for her sake alone. He must have been thinking for the safety of all the female employees in the company.

Anyway, wasn't she supposed to leave soon?

Wen Xuxu curled her lips as she mocked herself for reading too much into it.

Besides having lunch together, Wen Xuxu and Yan Rusheng didn't interact much.

After work each night, Xuxu went to the hospital to have dinner with her grandfather. Jiang Zhuoheng would pick her up after work at around 8 p.m. to send her home.

They repeated the routine for the next few days; she would head to the hospital in the morning, then to work, and then back to the hospital in the evening. Then Jiang Zhuoheng would fetch her after leaving work and send her home.

Occasionally they would have dinner together.

Tonight, she was back home earlier as Yan Rusheng watched her draw the curtains by the window. Her silhouette changed from clear to blurry.

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 167: Pretending To Be Classy

Yan Rusheng had no idea why he had this insane urge to come here every night. Jiang Zhuoheng would send her back home, and he would only catch a glimpse of her alighting from the car.

But if he didn't see this scene every day, he would feel frustrated.

He would be anxiously wondering if Jiang Zhuoheng had gone up with her, and what they were doing in her apartment and so on.

He lit a cigarette, and he forgot all about it until it burnt his fingers. He threw it away hastily.

He lifted his head once more, and the lights were switched off in that apartment on the seventh floor.

He pressed the ignition button, and the black Mercedes gradually disappeared into the darkness.

...

Wen Xuxu could sense that Young Master Yan was feeling troubled these past two days. He didn't even bother finding trouble with her.

And he seemed to be avoiding her on purpose. She wondered if she was imagining things.

He'd also ordered his assistant to brew coffee for him these past few days instead of her.

It was almost noon. Xuxu propped a hand against her cheek as she stared puzzledly at the closed door to the President's office.

"Xuxu."

Hearing a familiar voice in front of her, she quickly reeled in her thoughts. She stared in astonishment. "Young Master Ming."

Ming Ansheng wore a black shirt, and he seemed more mature and collected as compared to his usual self when he was partying and having fun.

"I came here to settle some stuff. Since it's almost lunch time, I wanted to look for you and Third Yan." He smiled as he walked towards her.

Since he was Wen Xinyi's cousin, Xuxu had a hunch that Wen Xinyi would be going too.

"Since you're here to look for President Yan, I won't be joining you guys today."

Having lunch with friends should be pleasant. But she didn't particularly feel like watching Miss Wen as she put on her fragile facade.

"It's rare for me to pop by and you still want to reject my lunch invitation." Ming Ansheng raised his eyebrows disapprovingly. "Why? Are you afraid that I'll ask you to foot the bill?"

Xuxu denied it, quipping in a half-joking, half-serious manner, "That's not true. It would be my honor to treat Young Master Ming."

Ming Ansheng shrugged. "Tsk. Don't be so pretentious. I know you'd never agree so easily."

Although she wasn't born with a silver spoon in her mouth, she possessed the nobility and dignity of a daughter from a wealthy family.

And she seemed to be unfathomable and distant at times.

She was the shrewdest, most courteous woman he had ever met, and she always had a superficial smile that was difficult to read.

Xuxu smiled. "Young Master Ming, you think too highly of me."

"How's your progress with Ah Heng?" Young Master Ming suddenly became nosy.

The change in topic was really...

Xuxu was dumbfounded for a moment before she recollected herself with a smile. "It's still the same between the two of us."

Ever since Ah Heng came back, everyone was concerned with one question—will she get back together with Ah Heng?

She didn't want to explain to anyone about Ah Heng and her.

And there was no need to explain to anyone about their relationship.

Ming Ansheng pressed on, "I heard that he's choosing a ring."

Xuxu was slightly startled by his words, but her smile didn't falter. "Young Master Ming, the minute you started gossiping, your demeanor and airs of a young master just vanished."

Ming Ansheng leaned carelessly against Xuxu's desk with his hands stuffed in his pants. He looked more like a delinquent.

"Why should I pretend to be classy and refined? I'm not Third Yan."

His tone sounded utterly disdainful.

Xuxu was unable to restrain a smile.

She thought in her heart, 'Young Master Ming is really brilliant and brutally honest.'

"Ming Ansheng, is your company going to collapse soon?"

Suddenly a cold voice was heard from the President's office.

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 168: If She Knew...

Xuxu's heart shuddered with fear.

Fortunately, she didn't agree with Young Master Ming's last sentence.

Ming Ansheng's face turned pale when he heard his voice but quickly recovered himself. He spoke lightheartedly, "Didn't I say I was here to ask for a meal? Why are you cursing my firm?"

Yan Rusheng looked at him coldly, "Since you're so free, I thought your company must have collapsed."

He turned around and went back into his office.

"I'm here to have lunch with you!" Ming Ansheng trailed after him and yelled. He turned towards Xuxu. "Miss Wen, the great beauty, do me a favor and join us later."

Xuxu smiled and agreed to his invitation.

She would look snobbish if she rejected him again.

Today, she wore a pair of sapphire blue tight-fitting pants which lengthened her already-long legs. She paired it with a white chiffon shirt. Her outfit was both adorable and work-appropriate.

She walked beside Yan Rusheng and listened to him chatting with Ming Ansheng.

As usual, Yan Rusheng wore a white shirt with black pants, befitting his demeanor and sense of class as the President.

Xuxu was starting to wonder if Wen Xinyi would be absent from this lunch when she saw her waving at them in the restaurant.

"Brother Sheng, this way," Wen Xinyi beckoned with a slender hand, and she wore a cheerful smile on her face.

The instant she saw Wen Xuxu, her mouth twitched noticeably with jealousy.

Xuxu noticed the change in her expression as she followed after Yan Rusheng.

The classy western restaurant still had plenty of empty tables before noon.

The trio sauntered towards Wen Xinyi and their table. Without hesitation, Ming Ansheng sat down promptly next to Wen Xinyi.

Their table was by the windows and Xuxu saw that Yan Rusheng didn't intend to sit inside. And so she took the liberty of taking that seat.

The moment she sat down, she smiled at Wen Xinyi who was sitting opposite of her.

Wen Xinyi's eyes clouded with jealousy for a moment, but she still managed a small smile.

She wore an emerald-green, puffy-sleeved shirt, and her long, straight black hair fell past her shoulders. Her bangs touched the tips of her eyebrows, and she looked bashful and demure as she faintly smiled.

Xuxu had no idea how Wen Xinyi managed to act with such confidence.

Wasn't she a little afraid that she would relay what she'd said to Yan Rusheng?

Or did Wen Xinyi think that Yan Rusheng wouldn't believe her words?

Or perhaps... she knew that she wouldn't mention anything?

"Xinyi, what did you order?" Ming Ansheng asked Wen Xinyi.

"I'm not sure what you liked, so I haven't done it yet," Wen Xinyi murmured softly, and she passed the menu to Yan Rusheng. "President Yan, please order."

When she looked at Yan Rusheng, her delicate face instantly flushed crimson.

Yan Rusheng peered at the menu, and without a word, he pushed it towards Wen Xuxu.

He's pushing me towards the depths of fiery suffering!

Xuxu lamented deeply in her heart as she flipped the menu. She glanced at it for a minute before she told the waiter. "Two sets of medium-well classic steaks. For the desserts, we'll have them without cream or jam."

She passed the menu to Ming Ansheng after ordering.

"Without a doubt, Xuxu is still the one who understands you the most." Ming Ansheng received the menu as he casually directed the words at Yan Rusheng.

But these seemingly casual words had caused tidal waves to surge in the hearts of the rest.

Yes, he had admitted long ago that Xuxu was the person who understood him the most in this world.

But her understanding of him excluded his inner feelings and sentiments towards her.

If she knew, how would she react?

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 169: Why Must It Be Wen Xuxu?

She would definitely ridicule him by saying, "Yan Rusheng, you've fallen for me despite always mocking me for being stupid, clumsy, and silly."

She would probably add on "Aren't you supposed to be devoted to Fang Jiayin?" or "It's only been three years, and your love has wavered already?"

So why did it have to be Wen Xuxu? Lately, he'd been asking himself that repeatedly. If he really wanted to have a change of heart, he could have chosen any of the numerous women he'd had flings with. But why must it be her?

Anybody else but Wen Xuxu. Then he wouldn't feel so conflicted and reducing himself to such a pathetic state.

Yan Rusheng lowered his head, and his thick eyelashes blocked the wild and raging emotions in his eyes. He needed to restrain himself.

Wen Xinyi held a fork as she gritted her teeth with fury. She glared vehemently at Xuxu with jealousy and envy.

Jealousy exploded inside of her the moment she saw Xuxu sitting next to Yan Rusheng.

She had to get this woman away from Yan Rusheng. She should be the one with the most compatibility with him.

In the future, the person who understood him the most would be her as well.

Miss Wen vowed to herself in her heart but she was unaware that her desires and thoughts were reflected on her face, Her delicate face was enveloped by jealousy, and it made her look chilling and hateful.

Xuxu witnessed everything, and she remained unperturbed as she replied to Ming Ansheng. "Doesn't your secretary know what you like to eat? If she doesn't, then you should fire her for being incompetent."

She'd put on a false pretense, but to Yan Rusheng she seemed perfectly composed.

It was merely because she was his secretary, that's why she understood him so well. Everything about him from his habits, temper, and preferences.

He meant nothing to her in her heart.

Yan Rusheng's expression fell once again.

Fortunately, there was Ming Ansheng who managed to liven the atmosphere with his wit and humor.

"Xinyi, Xuxu is a girl with rare talent. I can't compare to her sometimes." Ming Ansheng glanced at Xinyi with a smile. "If you want to stick around Yan Rusheng, you'll have much to learn from Xuxu."

He had spoken earnestly.

Wen Xinyi heard his advice and her expression changed subtly.

She smiled and nodded. "Brother Sheng, you're right. Grandmother Yan did say I have a lot to learn from Sister Xuxu. I was planning to treat her so that I can win her over."

After she spoke, she looked at Wen Xuxu with a bright and seemingly innocent smile.

Xuxu replied calmly, "Miss Wen studied abroad, and she's quite knowledgeable. It's too modest of her to say that she wants to ask me for advice."

"Sister Xinyi, what I've said is true." Wen Xinyi pouted with her rosy cheeks. She had successfully maintained her pretense of a well-behaved and sensible little girl.

Her behavior today was a far cry from how she'd threatened and warned her the other day.

Xuxu sniggered in her heart. If possible, she didn't really want to label this delicate and pretty girl as a white lotus who seemed pure on the surface but was twisted and dark on the inside.

She pressed her lips tightly and kept quiet. She wore a fleeting and faint smile which seemed to keep others away.

Wen Xinyi was unhappy when she saw her smile, and a glint of hatred flashed in her eyes.

She turned to Ming Ansheng and pouted with woeful-looking eyes. "Brother Sheng, it seems like Sister Xuxu is rather unwilling to take me in as her disciple."

Without waiting for Ming Ansheng to respond, she smoothly switched the topic. "But I can understand why. Sister Xuxu and Brother Heng are currently dating. Couples who are in love are usually busy."

She then acted as though she'd suddenly recalled something. "Oh! I overheard you talking to grandfather yesterday that Brother Heng was choosing an engagement ring?"

Hearing her words, Yan Rusheng paused from cutting his steak.

He slowly lifted his head to look at Xuxu.

Xuxu turned towards him at the same time.

Eyes meeting, they gazed at each other as their deep, complicated feelings began overflowing from inside. The two of them had always concealed their real emotions from each other.

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 170: Never Resort To Dirty Tricks

They gazed at each other for what seemed like half a century.

"Wen Xuxu, it seems like your long wait has finally paid off." Yan Rusheng broke the silence first as he curled his lips without any emotion.

It was hard to tell if he was mocking or teasing her.

Regardless of the reason, her heart still sank with a heavy thud.

Xuxu frowned as she slowly looked down. Her fingers had turned cold because... they were connected to her heart.

She quietly took a deep breath to readjust herself. She smiled and replied, "Miss Wen, it looks like you're very interested in me."

It's not that she didn't know how to pretend or act, she just couldn't be bothered. But if someone wanted to challenge her, she definitely wouldn't disappoint that person.

She saw Xuxu with that innocent smile on her face, and Wen Xinyi's expression changed immediately. She stole a glance at Yan Rusheng guiltily.

Yan Rusheng was concentrating on cutting his steak with his cutlery. He was the epitome of grace and elegance as his hands, with its clearly-defined knuckles, cut the steak.

He was used to cutting the steak first before eating it.

He had developed this habit because of Wen Xuxu. When she was young, she liked to peel off the skin of the melon seeds before she enjoyed them.

She still had this habit now.

Someone once said that a man is his most charming and attractive when he's focused on doing something. It was precisely what Yan Rusheng was doing right now.

It rekindled her jealousy, making Wen Xinyi even more desirous to possess him,.

"I merely heard Brother Sheng and Grandfather talking about it." She looked at Wen Xuxu with a child-like and bashful smile.

She paused before continuing, "When you get married to Brother Heng, I'm willing to be your bridesmaid."

Xuxu answered with a smile. "If that day really comes and Miss Wen is willing, it would be my pleasure."

The gentle tone in her soft voice was like a feather teasing and tickling Yan Rusheng's heart. He was about to explode.

He wanted to yell, "Wen Xuxu, I dare you to try and marry Jiang Zhuoheng. You're mine!"

But he knew he could never say these words in this lifetime.

He could only wish that his feelings for her were an illusion. And he prayed that they would vanish soon.

Of course, this lunch wasn't pleasant.

They left the restaurant, and Xuxu walked ahead first. Ming Ansheng and Yan Rusheng were discussing the stock market with Wen Xinyi listening intently to their conversation. Occasionally, she would interject and agree with what Yan Rusheng had said.

Yan Rusheng had only briefly expressed his opinion, and Wen Xinyi had bashfully become smitten with him for a moment.

Ming Ansheng smiled and said teasingly, "Xinyi, everything that Yan Rusheng says is correct, am I right?"

"Brother Sheng, you're so annoying." Wen Xinyi lowered her head shyly, and she turned red.

Her thoughts were too obvious, and Yan Rusheng was beginning to feel annoyed with her. He hastened his footsteps and walked ahead.

He stuffed his hands into his pockets, and he seemed distant.

Ming Ansheng stared at his back, and his eyebrows were knitted with worry.

"Brother Sheng, what are you looking at?" Wen Xinyi saw that he was gazing at Yan Rusheng in a daze and she waved her hands in his face.

Ming Ansheng withdrew his gaze and told her seriously. "Don't try to use any connections around Yan Rusheng. You have to learn from Wen Xuxu. And never resort to dirty tricks, especially around Yan Rusheng."

He knew quite well that Yan Rusheng would never accept Xinyi. But Grandfather and Xinyi were still adamant.