

Elite Doting 201

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 201: Roses Are A Must

Wang Daqin spotted her ring the minute she got in the car. Immediately she became even more downcast.

“Sigh, Third Yan is such a disappointment.”

She berated him as she placed Xuxu’s hand in hers. She touched the ring lightly and stroked the diamond, then said with contentment, “But I know Ah Heng is a good man. Even though I feel regretful that you didn’t end up with Xiaosheng, but at least you’ve found a good partner to spend the rest of your life with. I can rest easy then.”

Xuxu smiled without a word.

The car moved steadily on the road. She wasn’t aware where they were headed to, but she was certain the old madam had made prior arrangements.

The intensity of the rain fluctuated throughout the day.

Yan Rusheng was bothered by the rain, and he couldn’t set his mind to do anything.

‘Third Yan, today is Xuxu’s birthday. Ah Heng’s family will be joining the celebration this evening. I’ll be representing Xuxu’s family tonight, so I’ll leave it to you to decide if you’re attending.’

Grandmother had called an hour earlier, and her words echoed in his ears.

He held a cup of bitter coffee in his hands as his thumb stroked the rim of the cup absentmindedly. His fingernails gleamed under the light as though they’d been polished with wax.

He had a faraway look in his eyes which resembled black jade. The whole city seemed to be shrouded with gloom as the rain poured down from the heavens. It reflected his current emotional state.

‘The bride and groom may now exchange the wedding rings.’

‘You may now kiss the bride...’

It was strange, but the more you tried not to think of something, the more it haunted and pestered you.

The storm grew heavier as the rain lashed against the window panes. The sound of the raindrops seemed to be goading his heart as it throbbed in his chest.

Finally, he couldn’t take it any longer and stood up.

Knock knock knock.

Suddenly, someone knocked.

Yan Rusheng was arranging the important documents on his desk when he heard the knocking on his door. He responded curtly, “Enter.”

His assistant Qiao Jian entered.

"President Yan, the PR department has just delivered the latest proposal, and they urgently require your approval."

Qiao Jian reached Yan Rusheng and handed him the document.

Yan Rusheng received it and scanned through it briefly. After swiftly signing his approval, he passed it back to Qiao Jian. "I'm leaving first. Don't let anyone enter my office."

"Noted." Qiao Jian obeyed and was about to take his leave.

Yan Rusheng suddenly stopped him. "Qiao Jian."

"Yes, President Yan?" Qiao Jian turned around slowly, looking ready for his instructions.

"Hmmm, what are the things needed to profess your love for someone?" Yan Rusheng quickly blushed, and there was an uneasy expression on his face.

Usually, he was the one being courted. It was the first time he'd tried to rack his brains to please a woman.

Other than the fact that he couldn't put aside his pride, he was a little lost.

Qiao Jian glanced at the boss's blushing face, and he felt the urge to tease him.

But he didn't have the courage. "Roses are a must."

"Roses?" Yan Rusheng frowned and repeated uncertainly. "What's the probability of success if I use roses?"

Does that stupid woman even like roses? If she likes it, I can damn well give her an entire rose manor.

Forget it, he'd just use a bouquet for this occasion.

Qiao Jian was perplexed. "President Yan, I thought you already selected wedding rings with Secretary Wen?"

Why did he need to profess his love? Furthermore, he was still worried about the probability of success?

Without waiting for Young Master Yan to reply, he continued, "I know, President Yan. You must be planning a proposal. Then you'll definitely need a bouquet of roses."

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Chapter 202: This Must Be A Nightmare

Qiao Jian had barely finished talking when Young Master Yan's face turned as black as the bottom of a saucepan.

"Get out." He shot a murderous glare at Qiao Jian and pointed at the door.

Qiao Jian was secretly praising himself for his quick-wittedness when the boss snapped at him in anger. It frightened him out of his wits, and even his facial muscles twitched in shock.

Without a second thought, he spun around and bolted for the door, instantly disappearing like a wisp of smoke.

Yan Rusheng took out his wallet from the drawer and opened it. He retrieved the purple plastic ring.

His gaze landed back on the photo in his wallet. The playful woman was on his back, and she was smiling as happily as a kid.

He stroked the photo tenderly, his mouth twitching. Suddenly, he spoke in a malicious and tyrannical tone, "Stupid woman, I don't care if I have to snatch you away."

...

The car stopped outside Beautiful Metropolis Hotel, and the valet rushed forward hurriedly to greet them.

Xuxu got down first. The rain hadn't stopped, so she opened an umbrella to support the old madam as she got off the car.

The chauffeur rolled down the window and waved at the valet. "I'll park the car myself."

In order not to hold up the vehicles behind him, he drove away immediately.

All the cars had their headlights on due to the heavy rain. After the chauffeur drove away, Xuxu held onto Wang Daqin as they headed inside together. She gestured at the white car behind them to signal them to stop for a while so that they could cross over.

Without warning, a black car suddenly overtook the white vehicle, and the dazzling headlights shone mercilessly at them. Instinctively, Xuxu used her hand to cover her face.

At this moment, a pair of hands pushed her away forcefully. "Xuxu, get away!"

She propelled forward by a few steps and fell to the ground. Before she had any time to react, an ear-piercing screech filled the air; it was the sound of wheels being rubbed against the ground.

There was a loud bang, and the black car smashed headlong into the hotel's marble pillar.

"Old Madam!"

The scream seemed to pierce through Xuxu's heart, and the echoes lingered on for the longest time.

"Grandmother!"

She spun around wildly and seemed to have entered a nightmare.

The old lady who had always comforted her since she was a kid was lying in a pool of blood. She scrambled to reach her, then gripped her hand and put it on her face. "Grandmother."

Wang Daqin's fingers lightly tapped Xuxu's eyes, and her lips were moving. It seemed that she had something to say.

"Grandmother, this must be a nightmare. It's a nightmare. We're going home, once we get back home, the nightmare will be over."

Xuxu wept as she wrapped her arms around Wang Daqin.

"Miss, the ambulance is here."

Suddenly Xuxu felt that her arms weren't holding anything anymore. She turned to see Grandmother lying on a stretcher.

She was jolted back to her senses. "Grandmother..."

A scream filled with agony and grief penetrated the air, and it seemed to shake the entire capital city as well.

"Grandmother, nothing can happen to you. We're supposed to go on a vacation." Xuxu threw herself at her grandmother and clenched her hand tightly.

She saw that her eyelids were fluttering as she moved her lips. She put her ears close to her mouth.

"Grandmother, what do you want to say? I'm here, I'm listening."

"Xuxu... Rusheng..."

Wang Daqin eyelids fluttered for the last time before closing peacefully, as if all had been settled.

...

Xuxu didn't let go of Wang Daqin's cold and frigid hands. No matter what anyone said, she couldn't take in a word.

The doctors wanted to cover the old madam with a white cloth, but she didn't allow them to.

She knelt beside the bed, and her tears were gushing out endlessly like a spring.

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Chapter 203: You Owe Her This Final Wish

"Grandmother!"

Yan Rusheng dashed frantically into the icy-cold mortuary and witnessed the old lady lying there in a serene state. He stared blankly at her, utterly dumbfounded.

After some time, he regained his footsteps and moved forward, one step after another.

The bloodstains on the old lady's face had already been properly cleaned off, but as Xuxu was reluctant to let go of the old lady's hands, the hospital staff weren't able to put on burial clothes for her.

Staring at grandmother's headful of gray hair that was tainted with streaks of blood, Yan Rusheng fell to his knees.

His eyes were welling up with tears.

She had raised and groomed Yan Rusheng—a man who was widely acclaimed by all.

Yet, he hadn't been there at her final moments; he wasn't there when she left with so much pain and suffering.

'You rascal. Get married and grant me a great-grandson, then my life will be complete.'

"Isn't your life complete only after you get to cuddle your great-grandson?" He knelt down and inched towards the bedside, his eyes bleeding with pain as the tears just poured out.

This was the first time he'd broken down from grief.

The hospital chief who had been standing by the side hesitated for a moment. With light and quiet footsteps, he walked towards Yan Rusheng. The hospital chief looked at him and pointed to Xuxu. "Third Young Master, please persuade the Miss. A further delay... any further delays wouldn't be good."

Having heard this, Yan Rusheng slowly shifted his gaze to Xuxu's hand which was grasping tightly onto Wang Daqin.

Their hands holding onto each other... His eyes flinched for a moment.

All of a sudden, he reached out and grabbed hold of Xuxu's wrist.

Xuxu looked at him. She shook her head and pleaded sorrowfully, "Don't... don't... don't separate me from Grandmother."

She knew in her heart that this was the last time Grandmother would hold onto her hand.

The sight of Grandmother's warm and gentle hands holding onto Xuxu and saying, 'Our Xuxu is the most well behaved and obedient', would never happen again.

The sight of Grandmother's warm and gentle hands hugging Xuxu and saying, 'Don't be afraid. Grandmother will stand up for you', would never happen again.

The sight of Grandmother's kind and pleasant face smiling at her and saying, 'Xuxu, I've prepared your favorite dishes. I'm waiting for you to come back for dinner', would never happen again.

Yan Rusheng pretended that he couldn't see her tears nor hear her gut-wrenching sobs, and he coldly turned his head away in a detached manner.

At the same time, he forcibly pulled Xuxu's hands away from Grandmother's.

"Ah...!" Xuxu couldn't hold it in any longer, and her grief poured out in a flood of uncontrollable emotions. She got up and leaned on the corpse that had now turned frigid. "Grandmother, I was wrong, I was wrong."

She shouldn't have been born on this day. She shouldn't have celebrated her birthday.

She should have stopped her from going out in this pouring rain.

Her gut-wrenching sobs echoed in the room, and the sound could tear a person's heart. The medical team also broke out into silent sobs.

"Missy, please restrain your grief."

Clearly, Xuxu had lost control of her emotions. The staff pulled her away immediately.

However, she still adamantly refused to let go of those hands.

"Wen Xuxu!" Yan Rusheng yelled at her. He bent down, scooped her up and carried her out.

He placed Xuxu down on a chair by the front door. Xuxu turned around and leaned back, continuing to bawl her eyes out.

Her wails could be heard throughout the hospital.

“Wen Xuxu, there is only one path ahead of you.”

Yan Rusheng’s harsh and cold voice could be heard. She raised her head slowly, her eyes filled to the brim with tears.

“Marry me.” Yan Rusheng looked at her coldly.

His pursed lips moved slightly, and he spilled out these two words without a trace of emotion.

Xuxu was startled.

Once more, Yan Rusheng said to her with a trace of coldness, “Remember this. You owe her this final wish.”

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Chapter 204: My Woman

“Understand.” Xuxu nodded her head without a trace of hesitation.

‘Xuxurusheng’. These were Grandmother’s last words in this world.

As Yan Rusheng had said, this was Grandmother’s last wish. There was no way she could ever repay what she owed Grandmother.

She was also not in the position to reject, nor did she have the grounds to. She should be grateful to Yan Rusheng, grateful to him for giving her a chance to make up and repay for this loss.

So even if he didn’t bring this up, she also wouldn’t have the audacity to wish for something that overstepped one’s boundaries.

That very night, all the members from the Yan family rushed down to the capital city.

The sound of wailing echoed throughout the night. Everyone’s heart-wrenching sobs tore through Xuxu’s heart. She remained seated in the same posture, without moving an inch.

At some point, the tears stopped. Or perhaps, the tears had run dry, leaving only a tear-stained face.

“Xuxu, go back and rest.”

The eldest daughter-in-law, Jiang Qinglian, kept vigil through the night, her voice hoarse from crying. She walked over to Xuxu and wiped her tear-streaked face with a handkerchief. “Don’t be sad. Grandmother was already aged, and it was only a matter of time, just...”

Her voice broke, tears gushing out from her eyes once more.

If only she hadn’t met with such misfortune and left in this way.

Yan Rusheng also kept vigil for the night. Without a wink of sleep, coupled with excessive grief, he looked dreadfully haggard.

He came out and walked straight to Xuxu, disregarding Jiang Qinglian. He bent down and grabbed Xuxu by her arm, dragging her up. “Wen Xuxu, let’s go.”

Xuxu's hands were icily cold, and at that instant when his hand touched hers, he was overwhelmed with compassion. He shifted his hand down a little and wrapped it around hers.

"Third Yan, where are you bringing Xuxu to?"

Seeing Yan Rusheng's forceful behavior, Jiang Qinglian feared that he would vent his anger on Xuxu because of his grandmother's death and turn aggressive. She caught up to them immediately.

Yan Rusheng ignored her and pulled Xuxu downstairs with swift steps.

"Third Yan... Third Yan..."

Jiang Qinglian's anxious shouts could be heard.

Xuxu didn't want to worry the elders and thought of turning back to reassure Jiang Qinglian. But Yan Rusheng didn't give her the opportunity and dragged her downstairs with one breath.

A car was waiting at the entrance.

After going down the flight of steps, he opened the car door and was about to shove Xuxu inside.

"Third Yan. Xuxu."

A familiar voice could be heard coming from the side. Yan Rusheng's chilly breath turned colder.

He grabbed Xuxu's hand even tighter, fearing that if he loosened his grip, she would escape and run into the arms of someone else.

He turned and looked in the direction of the voice and gave a sharp warning. "Jiang Zhuoheng, don't ever show up in front of my woman again."

'My woman'. He'd raised his voice as if he was taking an oath.

Jiang Zhuoheng, who was standing a few meters away, was stumped for words. He gazed at Xuxu who seemed to have been forcibly pulled into Yan Rusheng's embrace.

Xuxu lowered her gaze slowly and pursed her lips as if tacitly agreeing.

Without waiting for a further reaction from Jiang Zhuoheng, Yan Rusheng shoved Xuxu into the car and quickly got in after her.

The car door closed with a '*bang!*'.

"Start the car," Yan Rusheng instructed the chauffeur, unable to tolerate a further delay.

The car moved off and reached the intersection ahead. It made a turn and drove past Jiang Zhuoheng.

He closed his eyes slowly. He knew that after tonight's brief encounter with Xuxu, it was no longer possible to be with her.

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Chapter 205: Marriage Comes Only Once In A Lifetime

Perhaps, from the moment the accident took place, all of this had been destined.

...

"The bride and groom, please put on a wide smile. Marriage comes only once in a lifetime."

In the Civil Administration office, the photographer from the photo studio was unaware of the situation and felt anxious when he saw the expressions on Yan Rusheng and Xuxu. He especially wanted to say that 'You look like you're here to attend a memorial service rather than a marriage registration'.

Exactly. The bride's eyes were red and swollen, and she was clearly overwrought. Obviously, she had bawled her eyes out.

As for the groom, he looked as if he'd just come out of an ice house. His expression was frozen still as if he was suffering from facial paralysis.

Furthermore, both of them were so distant from each other.

Marriage comes only once in a lifetime...

When Yan Rusheng heard this statement, he subconsciously raised his hand and placed it on Xuxu's shoulders.

His large and thick palm was warm to the touch, and her body stiffened awkwardly.

There were no changes to their expressions, and they remained distant. The photographer shook his head in disbelief. " *Sigh*. Let me remind you again. This is a wedding shoot. When I press the shutter, this image will be printed on your wedding certificate, and it will be there forever."

He decided not to waste his breath anymore to persuade the couple to smile or to stand closer. So he aimed and press the shutter.

The camera flash flickered after which he signaled to Xuxu and Yan Rusheng with an 'OK' sign.

Before he could even retract his hand, a satisfied smile could be seen from the corners of his mouth. "This is more like it. You both look so good together, and you're even lovelier when you smile."

The photographer lowered his head to look at the photo he'd taken of Xuxu and Yan Rusheng, all while sounding like a broken record.

Yan Rusheng and Xuxu were puzzled by the photographer's words.

Yan Rusheng only felt that he was such a nag and an eyesore.

It wasn't until they both received their marriage certificates that they fully understood the meaning.

It turned out that both of them happened to smile at the same moment.

This was because... this image would be printed on their marriage certificate forever.

Now bearing a different status, Xuxu showed up at Wang Daqin's funeral which was being held over three days. As the granddaughter-in-law, she knelt at the funeral hall together with Yan Rusheng for three days and three nights.

During these three days, she stared fixedly at Wang Daqin's portrait. It was as if she was replaying an old movie. Memories of grandmother—dating back to the day Xuxu was brought to the Yan's family—came flooding back to her mind.

Tears streamed down continuously.

Just before Wang Daqin's body was cremated, Xuxu could bear it no longer and collapsed.

She must have slept for a long time. The moment she opened her eyes, she felt as if the world was spinning. This uncomfortable feeling took a while to subside.

Where was she?

Staring at the room which looked familiar yet somewhat unfamiliar, Xuxu's head cleared up immediately. She sat up with a grunt and shook her head which was still spinning. Her gaze swept through the entire room once more.

Why was she lying on Yan Rusheng's bed?

"Grandmother?"

At the thought of Grandmother, she lifted the blanket and got down the bed, her feet bare. With a heavy head and a weakened body, she was in a state of disequilibrium and nearly took a tumble. She staggered a few steps before stabilizing herself.

At once, she opened the door and ran out, still barefooted.

"Grandmother." She ran on and on towards the staircase. In the brightly lit hall, many people were seated on the sofa, and all were dressed in black.

Xuxu's heart sank to the floor. She held onto the staircase handrail to support herself and then sat on the stairs, motionless.

This is a dream. This is not a dream.

She tilted her neck and leaned her head against the metal railing. Her eyes were rapidly filled to the brim with tears once more.

Was Grandmother really gone?

"Xuxu."

Mu Li's gentle and soothing voice could be heard coming from below.

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Chapter 206: Bear My Children

Wen Xuxu opened her eyes and looked over. Mu Li stood below the staircase wearing a black dress, looking up at her with her head raised.

Within a span of a few days, this elegant and beautiful-looking Aunt Mu seemed to have rapidly aged.

Feeling guilty, Xuxu cried hard. "Sob..."

She buried her head between her legs, completely unable to accept the truth of Grandmother's demise.

It had happened too unexpectedly, and it was all because of her. It was utterly impossible for her to allay her guilt.

"Xuxu, don't cry anymore." Mu Li went upstairs and sat beside Xuxu. Feeling sorry for her, she gave her a hug. "Grandmother doted on you the most. If she saw you in this state, she'd be heartbroken."

As she said this, tears also fell down her cheeks.

She had always been proud of her mother-in-law, Wang Daqin.

Not only was she a successful career woman in the corporate world, but she was also a virtuous mother-in-law who had built a harmonious household.

Two sons, two daughters-in-law, and three grandchildren. Yet, there were no tussles among the family members nor did any of them vie for power and inheritance.

Choking with emotions, Xuxu shook her head. "Grandmother is gone. I'm the cause of her death."

"Accidents are always unexpected. Don't reproach yourself." Mu Li wept and said, "You've always been a filial child. In the future, lead a happy life with Xiaosheng."

Now that the two children were finally together, the old lady should have passed on with no regrets.

However, having come together this way, she couldn't help but worry about their marriage life ahead.

"Aunt Mu Li!" Xuxu buried her head in Mu Li's bosom and wailed.

Back then, when her parents had suddenly passed away, she was still ignorant about human relations and the ways of the world. But now, she was well aware of the pain and grief one felt when a close family member departed.

Lightly pushing Xuxu away, Mu Li went on to wipe off her tears. "Don't cry anymore. Third Yan left to send your grandfather home, and he should be back soon."

Having said that, Yan Rusheng's towering figure could be seen coming in from outside.

He was also dressed in black. As he entered through the door, he caught sight of Mu Li and Xuxu sitting at the staircase; Xuxu was sobbing hard like a child.

Without changing his shoes, he walked directly to the staircase.

He went upstairs and noticed that Xuxu was curled up tight and barefooted. She looked so small and pitiful, and he couldn't bear to scold her.

"Xuxu, Third Yan is back." Mu Li gently patted Xuxu on her back and turned her head towards Yan Rusheng. "Have you sent Xuxu's grandfather home?"

"Mm," Yan Rusheng replied with a nod. He reached down and lifted Xuxu from Mu Li's arms.

With his back facing downstairs, he gave out a command with a trace of coldness. "Send up some porridge."

After that, he climbed up the stairs and carried Xuxu into the room, laying her down on his bed which was full of his scent.

Just when he was about to withdraw his arms from her, Xuxu grabbed them without warning. She looked at him with tears in her eyes. "Yan Rusheng, we..."

Yan Rusheng interrupted her before she could finish. "We're already married. You're now Yan Rusheng's wife. You must bear in mind that you're already a married woman and your husband is Yan Rusheng."

He paused for a moment and continued, "This is now your permanent home. However unwilling, you'll have to share the same bed with me and bear my children."

His voice was cold, and his words served as a warning to her.

Devoid of any trace of warmth and emotion.

When Xuxu heard the word 'children', her face turned as white as a sheet, and she clenched her fingers subconsciously.

Yan Rusheng could clearly sense her unusual behavior and looked down at her tiny hand which was still gripping his arm. "Why? Are you not willing?"

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Chapter 207: A Post-Wedding One Year From Now

"Nothing." Xuxu shook her head lightly and then nodded. "I understand."

She released her grip and withdrew her hand slowly.

Knock knock knock.

Knocking sounds could be heard coming from behind. Yan Rusheng turned around and took a glance at the door which was left ajar. As instructed, the servant brought some food up.

When the servant walked over, Yan Rusheng extended his hand and said, "Give it to me."

With both hands, the servant presented the bowl to Yan Rusheng with a humble nod. "Third Young Master, I'll take my leave."

The servant left the room and closed the door lightly.

Yan Rusheng looked at the bowl of porridge. It was a bowl of bird's nest porridge that he'd instructed them to prepare earlier.

He stirred it lightly, scooped out a spoonful and brought it towards Xuxu. "Open your mouth."

His tone was still as cold as before.

Xuxu was startled and looked at Yan Rusheng without moving her mouth.

"Can't get used to me feeding you?" Yan Rusheng raised his eyebrows. His words were filled with a tinge of ridicule. "Or do you prefer to be fed by Jiang Zhuoheng?"

Xuxu shook her head and hurriedly wiped away her tears. She stretched out her hands to take over the bowl. "I'll help myself."

Perhaps Grandmother's sudden demise had numbed her grief-stricken heart, but she actually showed no traces of sadness or emotion towards Yan Rusheng's mocking ridicule.

Yan Rusheng didn't make things difficult for her and passed the bowl to her.

The temperature of the porridge was just right. Xuxu lowered her head and ate, one sip after another.

You have to eat, you have to take care of your health, you have to... bear children.

At the thought of having children, her hand trembled briefly and her thick eyelashes fluttered slightly like a pair of butterfly wings. She kept the mouthful of porridge in her mouth before letting it slowly slide down her throat.

"I've already discussed the wedding details with your grandfather. We'll hold a post-wedding ceremony one year from now."

After a period of silence, Yan Rusheng suddenly opened his mouth to talk again.

He stood up as he spoke. Out of habit, he stuffed both hands into his pockets, indicating that he was about to leave.

Xuxu paused. With lips pursed, she answered lightly with an "Mm."

Her obedience and submissiveness left Yan Rusheng even more annoyed. He suppressed his anger and turned around to go.

When there wasn't any trace of desire, there wouldn't be a need to pursue. This goes to show that she didn't have the slightest trace of feeling for him.

'Old Mrs. Yan's Sudden Demise—Third Young Master and Childhood Sweetheart Registered Their Marriage'.

This piece of news occupied the headlines of every major newspaper for almost a month before eventually dying down.

However, this pair of lovers—who in the eyes of the public, had finally gotten married—had been sleeping apart for a month.

For one whole month, Yan Rusheng had been sleeping in the guest room while Xuxu slept in Yan Rusheng's bedroom.

After Wang Daqin's funeral, the rest of the Yan family members who were men of position, all left one after another.

Mu Li stayed on for the longest period of time and had just departed on Monday as she had pressing matters to attend to at the university that she was teaching.

The huge dining table was now left with only the two of them. Yan Rusheng had hired a nutritionist who would prepare a variety of delicious and nutritious dishes for Xuxu.

They sat down facing each other, appearing to be strangers and not making any eye contact.

Aunt Zhang stood by the side and looked at them. Her thoughts subconsciously traveled back to Wang Daqi. She gave a snuffle, and her eyes turned red.

She rubbed her eyes and sighed. If only Old Madam were still around, this dining room would be filled with life and laughter.

These two children would definitely be bickering and refusing to submit to each other.

After Yan Rusheng finished his meal, he dropped his chopsticks, wiped his mouth and stood up to leave.

Xuxu saw that he was about to step away and mustered her courage to speak, "Come back to your room to sleep tonight. I'll sleep in my usual room."

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Chapter 208: Are You Prepared?

Yan Rusheng halted his footsteps for a moment when he heard Wen Xuxu. He balled his hands into fists before he turned around to look at her. He replied, "Wen Xuxu, I'm simply giving you time to adjust to your new life and for you to recover your health. I don't intend to sleep in separate rooms for long."

His lips curved with a faint cynical smile. "Or are you trying to remind me... that you're ready to make a baby with me?"

A tinge of mischief was mingled in his tone.

Xuxu's face blushed red immediately, and the redness spread down to her neck. She bent her head nervously and stuffed a piece of beef into her mouth, chewing it vigorously to hide her awkwardness.

As Yan Rusheng watched her, his heart involuntarily softened.

"That's *our* room."

His declaration was a significant and sobering reminder to her. He marched out of the dining room with big strides.

Xuxu raised her head in time to catch a glimpse of Yan Rusheng as he turned around a corner. Her face was still crimson as she frowned.

Aunt Zhang spoke up again, "Miss, you should eat more. The more chubby and plumper you are, the better."

The old servant heard Yan Rusheng saying 'make a baby' earlier, and she was overjoyed. Her grief had turned into happiness in a split second.

She hurriedly scooped more rice into Xuxu's bowl.

Xuxu was speechless. "..."

After dinner, Xuxu entered Grandmother's bedroom as usual. There was a familiar smell of ointment that still lingered inside.

Every time she took in this scent, she felt a stinging sensation at the tip of her nose.

Grandmother's belongings were either packed or thrown away. Only two photos still remained on the headboard. One was a picture of Yan Rusheng and Xuxu when they were kids, the other was a graduation photo taken when she got her Masters.

"Sigh." She sat in front of the desk for a while and sighed mournfully before leaving the room.

She peered at the floor with puffy eyes as she walked out of the room. Coincidentally, Yan Rusheng was just leaving his study as well.

But Xuxu didn't notice Yan Rusheng as she shut the door silently behind her.

Yan Rusheng was about to walk towards her when his phone rang.

He sneaked a peek at Xuxu before returning to his study.

The cellphone was on his desk, and after glancing at the screen, it made him narrow his malicious-looking eyes.

He answered the call and placed it by his ear.

A person spoke up on the other line. "Third Yan, I've checked the background of the culprit. He's a fugitive on the run, currently wanted by the public security bureau of Cheng Zhou City for committing robbery and murder. Before the accident happened, he deposited half a million yuan into his wife's bank account."

When he heard this, Yan Rusheng turned livid as he pressed his fingers on the table. His fingernails left scratches on its surface.

"Alright, I got it," he responded coldly. "Help me check on a person's whereabouts a few days before the accident too..."

...

After Xuxu took a hot bath, she put on a bathrobe and walked out of the bathroom barefooted.

She caught a whiff of tobacco and furrowed her brows. Before she even had the time to think, a familiar face appeared right in front of her.

Yan Rusheng leaned lazily against the door frame. The top buttons on his white shirt were unfastened, and the shirt was hanging loosely on his body. His muscular chest was revealed as he held a lighted cigarette in his hand.

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Chapter 209: I Won't Leave

Xuxu was caught off guard, and she stood frozen in front of him as he stared at her with his languid and deep eyes.

Her heart skipped a beat in that split second.

She stood barefooted as she stared at him blankly.

Both of them were just inches apart, and Yan Rusheng peered closely at her palm-sized face. He could even see the pores on her skin.

Xuxu clenched her bathrobe nervously as she felt the chilliness on the floor spreading from her feet. After being barefoot for too long, she began to stand on the balls of her feet.

Yan Rusheng didn't seem to realize that she was actually nervous as he locked his gaze on her face.

He seemed to be searching for something.

Xuxu got more uneasy and finally spoke up, "Why... why are you here?"

This was his room. Isn't it normal for him to come to his room?

She felt stupid after asking the question, and she scolded herself silently.

Yan Rusheng took a puff and didn't answer her. Then he threw her a question as the wisps of smoke circulated the air. "Wen Xuxu, I'd really like to know how long it'll take for you to forget a person."

His handsome face was shrouded by the thick and gloomy smoke.

His deep eyes appeared to be rippling lightly with certain suppressed emotions, almost seeming to resemble fear.

Xuxu was worried that something terrible had happened. She ignored his question. "Did anything happen to you?"

"Wen Xuxu, in this lifetime, you belong to the Yan family. Even if you die, your spirit will still belong to the Yan family." Yan Rusheng flicked the cigarette away and stubbed it with his toes. His hands forcefully pinned Xuxu against the wall. She didn't have the chance to react as he pressed his lips roughly against hers.

His breath had the scent of tobacco and a hint of fresh mint. Coupled with his kiss, it assailed and engulfed Wen Xuxu completely.

All this happened without warning and she couldn't even catch her breath.

She had a hunch that he was feeling troubled tonight; something must have happened.

He was still fine during dinner and had acted normally.

In a short span of time, Xuxu could feel Yan Rusheng's breathing becoming deeper. Her heart had melted with his touch, and she couldn't bear to push him away.

She raised her hands subconsciously and embraced his waist.

He could feel her delicate and soft skin beneath that bathrobe. His body gave an involuntary shudder, and he increased the intensity of his kiss the next moment.

Her heart and person, he wanted it all.

Wen Xuxu... is mine.

"Unless you chase me away, I won't..." Xuxu finally had the chance to speak up as Yan Rusheng moved his face away. Her voice was reduced to a whisper. "I won't leave."

She had said the same words to another guy a few days before. *How ironic and ridiculous*, she thought to herself.

But this time around, she really had no other way out. Despite not knowing what would happen in the future.

Unless Yan Rusheng chased her away.

She felt extremely guilty for giving Ah Heng hope and yet letting him down once again.

Yan Rusheng heard her confession, and his actions paused in surprise. He gradually turned his head and watched the tiny face which was flushed red from his kisses.

Her words reassured him beyond anything else as though she had given him a tranquilizer.

He didn't try to kiss her as fiercely as before. Instead, he quietly embraced her and rested his head lightly on her shoulders.

The words echoed in his mind once more— *Unless you chase me away, I won't leave*.

Xuxu could feel that he was drained. "I can go back to work if you let me."

[Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife](#)

Chapter 210: It's Inconvenient Today

Since Grandmother was gone, she wanted to share his burdens.

"I'm taking a shower."

Yan Rusheng didn't answer her question. Instead, he straightened his back and went to the bathroom.

He closed the bathroom door and shortly after, the sounds of splashing water were heard.

Xuxu grew nervous as he'd always used the bathroom in the guest room these past few days. He slept in the guest room as well, but today... he came back to his room. And...

She touched her lips which still seemed to burn with his residual passion from earlier on. Her hands were damp with cold sweat.

She changed into her pajamas and went to the balcony. She took a seat on a deck chair and gripped the cup of warm milk to warm her hands.

How should she tell him?

"Time to sleep."

She heard Yan Rusheng's deep voice, and it sounded... annoyed?

Xuxu mumbled softly, but she didn't stand up. She began to drink the milk slowly.

She didn't dare to look back.

She heard his footsteps coming towards her, and her heart was in her mouth. She gulped the milk nervously as she tried to calm herself down.

"Are you waiting for my invitation?" She heard Yan Rusheng's voice above her.

"Yan Rusheng, I... It's inconvenient today." Xuxu rose and finally managed to answer him.

Her tone and the expression in her eyes were sincere and honest.

The corners of Yan Rusheng's mouth twitched. "How is it inconvenient?"

If it weren't for the fact that he'd caught a glimpse of the trash can earlier on and noticed how she was covered from head to toe, he would have suspected that she had intentionally made up an excuse to reject him.

"I-I'm..." Xuxu blushed in embarrassment, and she began to splutter. "In Biology, we learned that every month, a woman has to... *cough...*"

She held on tightly to her pajamas as though it was a life-saving straw.

Regarding this intimate topic, Miss Wen was still rather conservative and bashful.

Yan Rusheng observed her shyness, and it made him rather pleased and gleeful.

"Continue. What happens every month?"

He had no intention of letting her off the hook so easily. Tonight he had mustered his courage to enter their room, but to his dismay, it wasn't the right day.

Xuxu lowered her head, and her scarlet face turned a few shades redder. She spoke in a hushed tone, "My menstrual period is here, so... can you please wait?"

Furthermore, she wasn't ready as well.

Yan Rusheng's face fell. "Wen Xuxu, in your eyes, what kind of a person am I?"

If he knew that it was inconvenient for her, would he force her?

Was he that heartless and cold-blooded?

Xuxu was terrified by the sudden shift in his mood. She couldn't comprehend why he'd turned cold.

She lowered her head even more and didn't utter another word.

She used to be so full of pride in front of him. She never gave in to him and neither did she fear him. But now she didn't deserve to anymore.

She was afraid that he might chase her away in a fit of temper. She feared that due to her carelessness, she would lose the chance to repay Grandmother for her kindness.

It wasn't enjoyable squeezing a soft tangerine.

Yan Rusheng felt that Wen Xuxu was like a soft tangerine right now. She used to be as proud as a peacock, and he was frustrated by the change in her personality.

Now that she'd 'softened' and allowed him to prod and squeeze her in any way he liked, he was even more irate.

He didn't want her like this. But they had come this far, and this might be the only way to make her stay by his side for the rest of her life.

"Go sleep." He watched her in silence for a long time before giving up. He should give her more time to adapt.

As time passed by, she'd be able to adapt to her new identity as Yan Rusheng's wife.