

## Elite Doting 261

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

#### Chapter 261: Pay With Her Life For Committing Murder

“What did you say?” After a long period of silence, Xuxu finally opened her mouth. Her neck was tilted to one side, and her body trembled briefly. Her crystal-clear eyes suddenly froze with a layer of bone-chilling grimness.

She clenched her fists tightly, and a murderous aura sprung up from within her.

Ming Zhongsheng—the all-powerful man in the business world—was filled with traces of fear, and he fought hard to compose himself. “Xinyi was arrested after Wang Daqin’s funeral. Didn’t Third Yan tell you about it?”

He was still brooding over the fact that Xuxu didn’t know the truth of Wang Daqin’s death.

Yan Rusheng had gone to great lengths and sought help from his contacts just to suppress this matter and prevent it from leaking to the media.

But Ming Zhongsheng had had his misgivings. Back then, when Xinyi had merely pulled a prank on Xuxu to scare her, Yan Rusheng chased her out of Flourish & Prosper which eventually became high-profile news that spread like wildfire.

But this time, a life was lost. Xinyi had caused the death of his grandmother. Yet, he handled it with so inconspicuously. Other than letting Xinyi suffer and being tormented in jail, he didn’t divulge any further details to the public.

Otherwise, even if Ming Zhongsheng exhausted all his connections, it still wouldn’t be possible for him to suppress this matter.

Having a murderer in the Ming family, they would inevitably be at the receiving end of various public opinions and condemnation—such a scandal would greatly impact their family.

It also wouldn’t be possible for him to help Xinyi even with his connections.

“Chairman Ming, your granddaughter is a murderer, yet you still have the gall to come and plead with me.” Xuxu’s lips quivered as she continued coldly, “She’s nothing but vicious and deserves to be hacked to pieces.”

Ming Zhongsheng had a sinking feeling that Xuxu would react aggressively towards him, but she did not. There was only a murderous aura encircling her as if she was about to explode with rage.

“She doesn’t deserve to be forgiven. But her actions were only because Third Yan was too heartless, which drove her to commit such a grave mistake.”

At the mention of Yan Rusheng, Ming Zhongsheng couldn’t restrain his emotions and started getting worked up.

In his heart, Yan Rusheng had destroyed his granddaughter—his only beloved granddaughter.

“She’s already an adult.” Xuxu suddenly stood up like a volcano that had just erupted and the vehicle jolted. Bending down, she leaned towards Ming Zhongsheng. There was a flash of coldness in her eyes as she gnashed her teeth. “She has to pay with her life for committing murder.”

She straightened her back and was preparing to leave.

Suddenly, Ming Zhongsheng begged her, “Please persuade Third Yan to let Xinyi off. I will send her overseas and forbid her to return to this country again.”

Xuxu didn’t turn back to look at him. With a voice filled with ice, she replied without hesitation, “As long as I’m still alive, I’ll make sure Wen Xinyi pays for it with her life.”

When Ming Zhongsheng heard this, he lost all hope.

They were indeed brought up by Wang Daqin. Regardless of which aspect, this stupid lass and Third Yan were so astonishingly similar.

Where matters of the heart were concerned, there was no leeway.

Both appeared to be noble and virtuous and so icily arrogant. No one would be able to discover their weaknesses.

It would be so difficult to deal with such people.

No wonder Wang Daqin wanted to keep the girl by Third Yan’s side. With her assisting him, Flourish & Prosper would undoubtedly head towards a glorious future.

Ming Zhongsheng had already known that it was hopeless to beg Xuxu to persuade Yan Rusheng, but he couldn’t bear to see his granddaughter spending the rest of her life in jail. He knew that there was no way to conceal the truth forever, and that it would all come to light one day.

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#### **Chapter 262: Don't You Care About Your Life?**

Wang Daqin was an influential person in the business world. If the cause of her death were made public, it would inevitably cause an uproar.

Should that happen, Bright Vision’s reputation in the business world would go downhill.

So, he must not let it happen.

He stared at Xuxu’s back with his turbid-looking eyes and spoke sincerely, “The Yan and Ming family have maintained close ties for many years, and Wang Daqin and I have had countless business dealings with each other. Her death has certainly brought me a lot of grief and guilt.”

His voice was choked with emotion. “Xinyi is not a murderer and didn’t plan on killing anyone. She was just filled with hatred for Third Yan for his heartlessness and wanted to vent her anger, which resulted in this horrific accident.”

Xuxu turned her head upon hearing this and frowned coolly. “Having said all this, you just wanted to tell me that Yan Rusheng was the real cause of my grandmother’s death, am I right?”

Ming Zhongsheng didn't deny it because this was his exact sentiments. If Third Yan hadn't gone overboard, none of this would have happened.

Third Yan didn't feel that he was in the wrong and had pushed all the blame to his granddaughter. This was something that Ming Zhongsheng couldn't take lying down.

By any means possible, he must save Xinyi.

He stared at Xuxu, his eyes full of schemes. "You married Third Yan out of guilt, but he doesn't have you in his heart. His girlfriend is currently overseas, but she'll be coming back soon. Do you want to end up dumped by him after you bear him a child?"

"Ha!" Xuxu snickered, her lips curling into a cynical smile. "I finally know why after all these years, Bright Vision is still inferior to Flourish & Prosper. This is because, compared to my grandmother..."

She paused deliberately and then continued word-by-word. "You... fall... far... short..."

After dropping that statement, she turned and got out of the luxurious vehicle, not giving a damn about Ming Zhongsheng.

Her steps were firm and heavy.

She strode on, one step after another. As she walked down the busy road, the sounds of ear-piercing horns came from both directions.

As she reached the side of the road, she suddenly stopped in her steps. She looked at a car that was fast approaching her and ignored the angry honking of its horn.

*Knock me down. Knock me down, so I no longer have anything to do with him again.*

"Wen Xuxu, what are you trying to do?!"

All of a sudden, a familiar figure flashed in front of her face. He yelled at her as he pulled her into his embrace.

It was Ah Heng, who had never before lost his cool with her.

Xuxu saw that he'd turned pale with fright and broke into laughter. "I was just lost in my thoughts. Why are you so anxious?"

She spoke calmly as she withdrew from his embrace.

She owed him too much and had failed to live up to her promise. She didn't deserve to let him dry her tears again.

Since she wasn't dead, then she'd better live her life well.

*Why did he cruelly keep the truth from me? Was it to make me live in guilt in the Yan family?*

Grandmother saved her life. Even if she had to work her fingers to the bone for the Yan family, she would do it without a word of complaint.

Jiang Zhuoheng looked at the playful-looking Xuxu and thought of her disheartened look from earlier. She could be so adorable and yet so hateful.

*Forget it. Since you don't want to say anything and don't want me to know, I'll pretend not to know.*

"Next time, pay attention when you're crossing the road and don't space out so much. Don't you care about your life?"

His tone was filled with his usual affection and tenderness, mixed with a tinge of regret.

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#### **Chapter 263: She Wasn't That Afraid Anymore**

Earlier, he'd been so terrified and shocked to see her standing motionless by the road. Her face looked like she was seeking death. When he dashed over, he had the crazy thought that if he didn't manage to pull her back in time, he would die together with her.

"Why are you here?" Xuxu changed the topic as she walked towards her grandfather's clinic.

Jiang Zhuoheng strode beside her and said, "I'm here to visit Grandfather. It's been days since I last saw him."

Xuxu's mood lightened up considerably as she chatted with Jiang Zhuoheng. And she gradually forgot that she'd tried looking for death just minutes ago.

"Crap!"

She could hear her grandfather's voice even before she entered. Xuxu grinned while thinking of the unfortunate person who was being 'duped' by her grandfather to play chess together with him.

Old Wen had the title of 'Chess King' in the vicinity. No other chess-lover in this area could beat him.

So to play chess with him would be to look for trouble intentionally.

Xuxu saw the elderly man who was playing chess with her grandfather and smiled brightly at him. She greeted him, "Grandfather Zhang, you're here to play chess with my grandfather again."

"Xuxu is here." Grandfather Zhang nodded with a bright smile as well, and his gaze landed on Jiang Zhuoheng who stood beside Xuxu. "And Xiao Jiang is here as well, it's been a long time."

Startled, Xuxu turned to Jiang Zhuoheng. "Do you know Grandfather Zhang too?"

Jiang Zhuoheng smiled mysteriously but didn't reply.

"You've been doing quite well, I suppose." Xuxu clenched her fist as she punched him lightly on his shoulder.

She knew what had happened even without him saying anything. He probably dropped by a lot after she got married to Yan Rusheng.

Her heart was filled with an explicable gratitude.

But the more he did for her, the deeper her feelings of regret and guilt towards him.

“Alright, alright. Stop killing all my soldiers. My army is almost defeated and you’re still being so callous.”

Old Master Wen ignored his pleas as he continued to destroy all his pieces till he was left with just a ‘knight’ and two soldiers. Without checkmating the king, he merely hopped around with his ‘knight’ to prolong the other man’s suffering. Grandfather Zhang nearly flipped over the chess set out of sheer frustration.

After Grandfather Zhang left, Jiang Zhuoheng took over and accompanied Old Wen for a game.

Both of their skills were on par but the old man constantly kept protesting. Xuxu leaned back on the rocking chair, and at times she would peek her head out from the book to uphold the peace.

She saw how her grandfather would grab Jiang Zhuoheng’s hand and try to wriggle his way out using his age to his advantage. He would also lecture him affectionately, acting like his elder or a grandfather.

The expression in her eyes turned thoughtful. If it weren’t for the accident, would she have such a cozy and comfortable life with him right now?

Her phone rang with a text notification.

Xuxu snapped out of her musings and glanced at the screen. The text was from Yan Rusheng.

She could read the entire message from the screen. “I’m going to Country Y for a business trip. Stay at your grandfather’s place for the next few days.”

She averted her eyes from the screen after reading the text, covering her face with her book.

*‘... he doesn’t have you in his heart. His girlfriend is currently overseas, but she’ll be coming back soon. Do you want to end up dumped by him after you bear him a child?’*

Ming Zhongsheng’s words echoed in her mind once more.

She didn’t forget that the old man had selfish motives. For Bright Vision and his granddaughter, he would have investigated both her and Yan Rusheng’s private matters.

Fang Jiayin should be coming back soon...

But she wasn’t that afraid or worried over her impending return. At the thought of them possibly flaunting their love right in front of her, her heart didn’t ache as much as it did before.

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#### **Chapter 264: Sad And Dreary**

Qi Lei came back on Friday, with his suitcase bursting to the brim with local products from his village. Wen Daozheng started feeling sentimental as he looked at the items Qi Lei brought back with him, sighing deeply as he fiddled with them.

Xuxu knew that her grandfather missed his old village dearly. Other than her, all of his family and relatives had been born there... and had died there as well.

For the sake of Xuxu, he came to this foreign city at his advanced age. It wasn't easy for him to adapt to the city life.

She stared at the old man and said half-jokingly, "Grandfather, a few days ago, I read online that our hometown has become more well-developed and it's really beautiful now. If we can't make a living in the city anymore, we can return to the village to open a TCM clinic."

Without waiting for the old man's reply, Qi Lei cheered in approval as he unpacked his stuff. "Sister Xuxu, that's a great idea! I can continue to be Grandfather's apprentice then."

He had barely finished his sentence when the old man woke up from his reminiscence. He chided her, "That's none of your business."

Then he gave Xuxu a stern glare. "A married girl is like spilt milk—it can't be retrieved. Where do you think you're going to? Flourish & Prosper isn't better than a TCM clinic?"

He put down the local products and pressed his hands down on the stool next to him to support his weight. He tried to get up slowly.

Xuxu and Qi Lei saw him struggling and rushed forward to help him. With one person on each side, they supported him back to his wheelchair.

"As the saying goes, a fallen leaf will return to its roots one day." Xuxu poured some water for her grandfather and gave him a sentimental smile as she passed him a glass of water.

Grandfather felt that her sentiments shouldn't belong to someone of her age and it somehow felt like she'd gone through many hardships in her life. He gripped her hand—it was rather heartbreaking to think of this. His large, wrinkled hand patted her hand tenderly. "I'm getting old. It's fine if you want to go somewhere else, just don't leave me behind."

Xuxu could feel her eyes brimming with tears and her nose getting stuffy as she spoke in a hoarse voice. "I'd be struck by lightning if I ever left you behind."

Grandfather smiled and released his grip.

He turned to Qi Lei. "A few days ago, our neighbor Aunt Liu said that she has someone to introduce to you. You're in luck, young man."

Hearing this, Qi Lei instantly turned red. He shook his head bashfully. "No... I'm not in a hurry."

Then he looked up at Xuxu nervously.

Xuxu teased the young boy, "Young man, it's always a good thing to meet someone new. Why are you looking at me? Are you so excited that's why you've lost track of your direction?"

Qi Lei turned even redder as he scratched the back of his head. He smiled shyly. "Nothing... nothing much."

Xuxu saw his bashful expression and decided to stop her teasing.

*Sigh, he's still so shy even after living in the city for almost three years.*

...

On Saturday, Xuxu and Zhou Shuang agreed to visit the orphanage together. Zhou Shuang came to pick her up, carrying a light piece of luggage in her hands. She was planning to head back to the Yan's mansion after their trip to the orphanage.

Yan Rusheng was going to be away for three days and other than the text he sent the other day, they hadn't contacted each other since. It was as if they weren't husband and wife.

Getting off a loop, the car traveled smoothly on a wide road in the suburbs. The trees that lined the road had withered leaves that constantly fell, making everything seem sad and dreary.

*Somewhere far away, the seasons should be changing as well.*

The car stopped outside the entrance of the orphanage. Xuxu opened the door and got down first to walk to the car trunk. "Shuang, open the trunk."

"So you're both here?"

Xuxu heard a familiar voice and spun around. "Ah Heng?"

Jiang Zhuoheng wore a black set of casual sportswear, which served to elongate his figure. His good-looking face seemed to glitter brilliantly as beams of sunlight danced on his face.

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#### **Chapter 265: I Don't Even Have A Man**

He walked casually towards Xuxu, a faint smile playing around his mouth. "Why are you so surprised? Are you so doubtful of my kindness?"

Xuxu quickly shook her head. "I'm not doubting your kindness, I'm just surprised that you had the time."

And it was so early in the morning.

If she didn't go to the orphanage, she probably would have just woken up by now.

She peeked at the rising sun and suddenly realized that she had gotten lazier. Her biological clock had always worked well when she was younger. But now, she needed an alarm clock just to stop her from sleeping until noon.

She felt that after moving to the Yan's mansion, she was somehow sleeping longer and the quality of her slumber had improved.

Jiang Zhuoheng raised his brows. "It's Saturday today, so why wouldn't I be free?"

Zhou Shuang got off the car and saw the two of them chatting away happily. She said reproachfully, "Are you two here to chat?"

In the midst of her sentence, she had reached them and was opening the car trunk with gusto. The trunk was filled with clothes and presents stuffed in various bags for the children.

She reached for two heavy bags and passed them to Jiang Zhuoheng. "There you go. Today we'll leave all the heavy labor to you."

The bags were filled to the brim with clothes, and she had struggled to carry them—Jiang Zhuoheng received the bags and hauled them away with ease.

“Naturally, I should contribute my strength when I’m with the ladies.”

He smiled lightly in a refined and gentlemanly manner.

“You are indeed promising, and someone worthy to be taught.” Zhou Shuang nodded, apparently pleased with him. Then she passed another bag to Xuxu.

Seeing this, Jiang Zhuoheng stopped her. “Leave it there—I’ll come back for the rest of the bags.”

He then hastily darted towards the orphanage.

Zhou Shuang’s hand hovered in mid-air as she watched Jiang Zhuoheng leave. She sighed ruefully and said, “Sigh, he’s such a good man. But why doesn’t he like me? Why does he like being tortured?”

“Are you sure it wouldn’t be torture for him if he started liking you?” Xuxu raised her eyebrows and pretended to be skeptical. She looked at Zhou Shuang and continued, “You’re so valiant and strong; a weaker guy would die at your hands from all the bullying.”

She sized up Zhou Shuang from top to toe with a meaningful glance.

Zhou Shuang noticed Xuxu’s gaze resting on her chest, and she hurriedly covered it with her arms. She glared resentfully at Xuxu as she frowned. “Hey Wen Xuxu, you have such evil thoughts!”

Xuxu retaliated by feigning innocence. “How am I evil? You’re the evil one.”

“Tsk. I don’t even have a man, and I’m a prim and proper maiden. Why would I have evil thoughts?” Zhou Shuang raised her eyebrows wickedly. “But you’re different... how far have you gone with Yan Rusheng?”

She didn’t bother to wait for Xuxu’s reply and carried on speculating. “You guys have been married for nearly three months, am I right? That guy might be arrogant and full of himself, but as long as he’s a normal man, he should have his desires. For instance, in the middle of the night...”

Xuxu furrowed her brows tightly as her expression darkened...

She really wanted to strangle this nonsense-spewing woman.

Zhou Shuang wisely stepped back but continued to tease Xuxu relentlessly, her mouth moving like a damaged tap that wouldn’t stop.

Jiang Zhuoheng heard Zhou Shuang from afar, and he paused in his tracks.

How far had they gone?

Actually, he already knew that it was impossible for him and Xuxu. He was mentally prepared to envision Yan Rusheng and Xuxu starting a family together.

He began to step forward... and every step seemed to tread on his own heart. It was heavy, sad, and painful.



## Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

### **Chapter 266: The Boss Was In A Bad Mood Right Now**

It had almost been a month since Xuxu's last visit and the children rushed towards them happily as if the ladies were their own family members.

Previously, Xuxu came with Zhou Shuang. This time around, there was a tall and handsome big brother accompanying them. And they even brought more presents with them. Everyone was cheering and yelling happily to express their keen excitement.

...

"Hurry up."

The black Mercedes S600 sped all the way from the airport.

The gorgeous guy sitting in the front passenger seat had eagerness written all over his face as he urged the chauffeur to speed up.

After urging him once more, he tilted his head down to look at his cell phone's wallpaper. A woman's peaceful sleeping expression tugged at his heartstrings.

*That callous, stupid woman didn't even contact me throughout the four days I was gone. She didn't even reply when I put aside my pride to let her know I'd be away for the next few days.*

Nevertheless, he was still anxious to return home as swiftly as possible, and this thought plagued him relentlessly throughout the entire trip. It even kept him sneaking glances at her aloof-looking face.

His trip was originally planned for a week, but he shortened it to four days.

So he didn't inform her beforehand. He had promised to make a trip to the orphanage with her on Saturday. So he had specifically chosen this return flight so that he could get to the orphanage before she did.

With this thought, he looked behind him at the seats filled with bags of toys and snacks he had bought overseas.

*Since she likes children, I'll have to pander to her liking.*

He thought that they would be able to dispel their misgivings in this way.

It was autumn, and orange leaves were falling everywhere. They reached the suburbs in the capital city, and occasionally he would spot farmers harvesting their golden crops. He saw such lovely and charming sights all around him.

He rolled down the window and spotted a courtyard right ahead of them. He could hear the children's joyful laughter from a distance.

It lightened his mood considerably, and his heart unconsciously filled up with hope.

*This is going to be a wonderful day!*

The car stopped slowly outside the entrance of the orphanage. Yan Rusheng peeked his head out of the car and spotted a Land Rover.

He seemed to have seen Zhou Shuang driving this car before.

*Are they already inside?*

He pushed the door to exit from the car and informed the chauffeur, "Bring in the things from the car."

After instructing him, he walked eagerly towards the orphanage's rusty doors.

"It's Sister Xuxu's turn!" the children shouted. "Brother Ah Heng will carry Sister Xuxu across the river!"

Yan Rusheng stopped abruptly as his face fell. He was a few steps away from the door when he abruptly remained rooted to the ground. His eyes traveled to the source of the ruckus.

A group of children was standing at the playground in the middle of the courtyard. They were all holding hands as they queued up in a procession. Everyone was watching the man and woman standing in front of them.

The man and woman stood facing each other, smiling helplessly, not knowing what they should do next.

He turned around coldly and walked back to the car.

"President Yan..." The chauffeur was holding the bags as he trailed after him. He stopped midway through his sentence when he saw him walking back.

He was terrified when he chanced upon Yan Rusheng's expression as he swept past him. There was a chilly and aloof aura emitting from Yan Rusheng which seemed to assail his senses.

His instincts warned him that the boss was in a bad mood right now.

Yan Rusheng got in the car and slammed the door.

The chauffeur hurried back and dumped the bags in the back seat. Then he hastily went back to the seat and started the engine. But he didn't drive off immediately.

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**Chapter 267: We Are Husband And Wife**

The chauffeur looked at Yan Rusheng with an expectant expression.

"Drive," Yan Rusheng instructed him coldly.

The children's laughter invaded his ears mercilessly, and he closed the car windows to shut out the noise. As the car left the orphanage, he didn't turn to look back at all.

...

Zhou Shuang sent Xuxu back home and dropped her off outside the entrance of the courtyard. It was already late in the evening as the children had refused to let them leave earlier on.

She stood outside the courtyard and peered at the mansion. She was rather startled to see that the lights in the study on the second floor were still lit.

*Did he come back?*

“Miss, welcome home.”

Xuxu was still staring into the distance when the butler opened the doors and greeted her warmly with a smile.

She snapped out of her thoughts and nodded politely at the butler, then walked towards the courtyard.

It had been a week since she left the place, and a strange and unfamiliar feeling crept past her as she stepped into the courtyard.

Standing in the middle of the courtyard, she scanned her surroundings. She thought rather mockingly to herself that this grand mansion and everything inside it truly didn't belong to her.

*So unfamiliar... isn't this how I'm supposed to feel?*

She strode towards the house that had provided her with warmth but had also given her sorrow.

“Miss, you're finally back.”

Xuxu changed into her bedroom slippers and had just entered the living room when she met Aunt Zhang coming down from the stairs.

Aunt Zhang looked at her with knitted eyebrows, a worried expression on her face.

“What happened?” Xuxu paused for a second before she guessed what the problem was.

Yan Rusheng must be back and had thrown a tantrum when he saw that she wasn't home yet.

“Third Young Master is back, and he asked if you came home these few...” Aunt Zhang stammered and then stopped half-way. Xuxu knew that she was worried.

She smiled and reassured her, “I got it, don't worry.”

She went up the stairs and headed towards the room that she used to stay in when she was younger.

She decided to take a shower and change her clothes for now.

She didn't plan on leaving the room, so she locked the door before entering the bathroom. Since she didn't bring a change of pajamas into the bathroom, she went back into the bedroom wrapped in a towel.

She opened the door and walked out, and as she turned around... a terrified expression crossed her face.

“You...!”

She opened her mouth, but before she could utter another word, a towering figure had appeared right in front of her. His strong arms were wrapped tightly around her tiny body.

Without giving her a chance to react, they both collapsed on the soft bed.

Xuxu caught a whiff of alcohol and frowned as she turned her face away. “Yan Rusheng, what are you trying to do?”

She gripped his shoulders nervously as she tried to push him back, struggling to escape.

“We’re husband and wife, so what do you think I’m trying to do?” Yan Rusheng narrowed his eyes wickedly as he stared at Xuxu. His lips curled into a contemptuous smile. “Tonight, let me see how pure you really are.”

With that statement, he lowered his head and forcefully pressed his mouth against Xuxu’s alluring rosy lips in a domineering way.

The scent of blood spread through their mouths.

But he didn’t stop—instead he became more aggressive as he grabbed the towel and pulled it away from her body.

With the towel gone, he lowered his head to admire her alluring figure.

“No...!” Xuxu frowned as she cried out desperately. She tried to push away this man who seemed to have lost his mind. “Yan Rusheng, please, I beg you! No, please don’t!”

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#### **Chapter 268: You Should Atone For Your Sins Together With Me**

“No...” Xuxu frowned as she cried out desperately. She tried to push away this man who seemed to have lost his mind. “Yan Rusheng, please, I beg you! No, please don’t!”

The more she begged him not to and the more she resisted, the more incensed Yan Rusheng became. His mind was swirling with images of her smiling at Jiang Zhuoheng at the orphanage today.

He was close to exploding with jealousy.

*Why did I have to fall in love with Wen Xuxu? Why is she always so icy and cold with me? Why did she have to smile at another man?*

Xuxu was raining random punches everywhere on his body, so he decided to grab both her hands. He clasped her hands together securely and fixed them above her head.

...

He wasn’t in the least bit gentle towards her.

“Ahhh!...” Xuxu screamed in pain as her tears rolled down desperately.

The moment he realized that he wasn’t her first man, Yan Rusheng exploded with jealousy and lost his last shred of sanity.

“Jiayin...”

Suddenly, she heard him muttering another woman’s name in her ear.

*Oh!*

Xuxu felt like her heart was being pierced by thousands of arrows and the pain was agonizing.

Her tears dampened the bedsheets, and she couldn't stop sobbing. Her eyes were filled with deep despair.

After all these years, what she received in return was this humiliation.

...

Yan Rusheng carried Wen Xuxu into the bathroom and placed her in the bathtub. He adjusted the water temperature and soon warm water gushed out and filled the tub.

He stood beside the bathtub wearing his bathrobe and peered down at her from above.

From the beginning until now, she had remained in such a state—sobbing and looking completely distressed.

His ego and pride had never suffered such a crushing blow before in his entire life. Yan Rusheng had always gotten what he wanted, with the only exception being her.

Earlier, when he had entered her body, he saw the look of despair and pain in her eyes, and it stabbed at his heart mercilessly, destroying his pride and dignity.

At that moment, he was certain that she must be thinking of someone else. So in the heat of his jealousy, he said Fang Jiayin's name to spite her on purpose.

What shocked him greatly was her response after she heard him uttering Jiayin's name. Her reaction was so intensely violent that he was pleasantly surprised for a moment.

It even made him forget his jealousy and disappointment that he wasn't her first man.

But he was jarred back to reality in the next moment. As the proud Wen Xuxu, she lay beneath a man and was being treated as another woman; how humiliated she must have felt.

"You should have known that this would happen someday from the moment we got married. So Wen Xuxu, don't try and pretend to be a victim." His voice was cold, devoid of any warmth. "Even if you're unwilling, you still need to fulfill the initial purpose of this marriage."

Incredibly, she curled her lips into a smile that was full of mockery.

She raised her head and peered at the man who towered over her like a divine being. Her voice was equally cold as she said, "Yan Rusheng, you should atone for Grandmother's death together with me."

Her words froze Yan Rusheng's expression and even his entire body.

He nodded slowly after comprehending her words fully. His voice was hoarse and weak.

*It's a good thing that she understands!*

She said they should atone for their sins together, so it meant that she didn't intend to leave. As long as she stayed by his side, it didn't matter how she felt about him.

After Yan Rusheng agreed, he turned around to walk out of the bathroom. Xuxu heard the door close shut almost immediately.

### Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

#### **Chapter 269: It Couldn't Thaw Her Stony And Frigid Heart**

Her words froze Yan Rusheng's expression and even his entire body.

He nodded slowly after comprehending her words fully. His voice was hoarse and weak.

*It's a good thing that she understands!*

She said they should atone for their sins together, so it meant that she didn't intend to leave. As long as she stayed by his side, it didn't matter how she felt about him.

After Yan Rusheng agreed, he turned around to walk out of the bathroom. Xuxu heard the door close shut almost immediately.

She raised her head as she slipped down slowly, allowing her body to be submerged in the water.

No matter how warm the water was, it couldn't thaw her stony and frigid heart.

*Yan Rusheng, let's atone for our sins together.*

...

After that day, Xuxu moved back to her own bedroom. And Yan Rusheng didn't step into her room at all.

During mealtimes, they sat across from each other as usual, but there wasn't any interaction between them.

Xuxu was aware that he was slightly obsessed with cleanliness. How would he be able to accept a blemished woman as his wife?

She resumed her normal routine; going to work, going home after work, and continuing her responsibilities as his secretary.

They went to work and went home together every day. No one suspected that something was wrong with them...

Even Zhou Shuang, who was Xuxu's only close friend in the capital city, was kept in the dark.

On a Sunday afternoon, Xuxu was preparing some materials at home for a meeting the next day. Suddenly she received an urgent call from Zhou Shuang informing her that Tiny Stars Orphanage was in trouble.

She hung up and left immediately in a cab, leaving her work half-finished.

Xuxu saw Zhou Shuang's car parked outside the orphanage. She hurriedly knocked on the doors, and the guard opened them immediately when he saw her.

Several people were standing in the courtyard, including the matron and Zhou Shuang. She didn't recognize the rest of them.

A lady wearing a black dress with long permed hair was facing the matron.

The matron's usual benevolent expression was replaced by anxiety.

Xuxu strode over to them hastily and overheard their conversation.

"The children are already used to living here. Where can we move to on such short notice? Besides, there are too many children."

Matron Huang furrowed her eyebrows tightly as she watched the children, a look of affection in her gaze. Countless pairs of innocent black eyes were peering at them curiously from the windows.

She really couldn't bear to leave them.

The middle-aged lady in the black dress raised her head. "Matron Huang, when we signed the contract all those years ago, I leased this place to you for two decades. At the time, I wanted to support your aspiration and passion, so I lowered the rental fee. But now, the government is taking this piece of land back, and we have no way of opposing them. If I were to empathize with you, then who will empathize with me?"

She spoke sharply and heartlessly.

Zhou Shuang, who was standing next to Matron Huang, couldn't control her temper any longer. She gestured at the children and raised her voice at the middle-aged lady. "You have children as well! They're well-fed and taken care of. But how about these kids? What should they do now?"

The middle-aged lady turned her head to face Zhou Shuang and sneered with contempt. "Young lady, you're wrong about that. Since you're so kind-hearted, why don't you use your house as an orphanage to shelter these kids?"

"Alright, I'll do that!" Zhou Shuang blurted out. She was the type of person who could do anything once she lost her temper. She turned to the matron. "If they force us to leave, then we'll leave. I'll find a suitable place for the kids."

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

#### **Chapter 270: Re-sell It To Me**

Zhou Shuang stared ruthlessly at the middle-aged lady and gritted her teeth. "The twenty-year lease hasn't expired yet. I'll see you in court for breach of contract."

Matron Huang held on to Zhou Shuang's hand, her eyebrows knitting from apprehension. "Miss Zhou, I've set up this orphanage for more than ten years. This place..."

Xuxu slowed down her steps and stared at them—she seemed to know what was going on. She assumed that Matron Huang couldn't bear to leave this place. Furthermore, it wasn't easy to relocate to a new place since the resettlement would involve various procedures and administrative work.

Zhou Shuang had only said it in a fit of anger. The children wouldn't be able to get used to living in a bustling city.

Over here, the huge land allowed them to rear poultry and plant vegetables. This helped reduce their expenses, and the children would get to eat fresh and healthy food. Secondly, the air here was fresh as the place was far from the city, and it provided a peaceful environment for the children's education.

Xuxu interrupted Matron Huang's conversation. "Zhou Shuang, stand aside."

She shot a disapproving glare at her friend and shifted her gaze to the middle-aged lady. Xuxu smiled faintly at her. "Sister, how may I address you?"

Before the middle-aged lady could answer, Matron Huang introduced her. "She is Madam Wu, the daughter-in-law of Professor Wu. She is the one who leased out this piece of land and the entire orphanage to me."

Xuxu smiled at the middle-aged lady again. "Hello, Madam Wu."

Madam Wu smiled suspiciously at Xuxu, scrutinizing her for a long period of time. There was still a trace of doubt in her eyes. "You are?"

The look on her face seemed to suggest that Xuxu looked familiar to her, but she couldn't recall who she was.

"I am Wen Xuxu. Perhaps Madam Wu may have seen me in the newspapers or online." Xuxu smiled and sounded exceptionally confident in her reply.

One couldn't help but respect her.

"You're... Wen Xuxu, Flourish & Prosper's Third Madam Yan?" Madam Wu's jaw dropped, and she stared at Xuxu with a look of astonishment in her eyes.

Xuxu calmly nodded her head, her attitude humble. "Yes."

Madam Wu turned to look at Matron Huang disapprovingly. "Matron Huang, what is the meaning of this?"

She assumed that Matron Huang was using her connections to get the upper hand.

Xuxu could see right through her thoughts and explained lightly, "Madam Wu, please don't be mistaken. I came here to visit the children and coincidentally, you were discussing about the land lease. Since I've overheard your discussion, I couldn't look on without saying a word."

She paused and continued, "I overheard that the government is taking back this piece of land at a high price. May I know how much the government is willing to pay?"

After hearing Xuxu's explanation, the fury in Madam Wu's eyes vanished, and she raised three fingers at Xuxu. "Thirty million yuan."

Xuxu was in shock. *This piece of land is worth thirty million yuan?!*

Even though this place was remote and far, it was still part of the capital city where land prices were extremely costly. If the developer commercialized this piece of land, it would certainly be worth it.

She maintained her smile. "Before the government acquires this land, could you resell it to me?"



Zhou Shuang, Madam Wu, and Matron Huang were all startled.

“Hey, Wen Xuxu! It’s thirty million yuan!” Zhou Shuang shrieked and pulled Xuxu to one side.