

Elite Doting 381

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 381: You Don't Have To Worry About Us

Ha, was she begging him?

Yan Rusheng smirked coldly.

Hearing no response from Yan Rusheng from the other line, Muli sounded anxious. "Third Yan, what happened to Xuxu?"

She was anxious, and it had caused her to raise her voice. Yan Rusheng on the other hand had increased the volume of his receiver giving Xuxu—who was only a few steps away—a chance to hear their conversation clearly.

She wasted no time and shook her head at Yan Rusheng right away.

She didn't want Aunt Mu Li, who was overseas, to worry about her.

They had already spared her from most worries, but when she found out about their arguments, she had been calling them every night.

Furthermore, she had already tendered her resignation over there and planned on coming back to the country.

It was all because of them!

Yan Rusheng replied calmly, "She's alright. We just got home."

Xuxu heaved a sigh of relief and gave him a look of appreciation.

But Yan Rusheng couldn't be bothered as he had no intention to inform Mu Li right from the start.

He was her flesh and blood and he clearly knew that she would worry if she found out. So how could he bear to tell her the truth?

It's only this dumb woman who didn't trust him.

He lowered the volume of the receiver and Xuxu could no longer hear what Mu Li was rattling about over the phone.

She raised her feet and was about to head upstairs.

Yan Rusheng called her all of a sudden. "Wen Xuxu, come to the phone."

Xuxu replied 'Oh' and retracted her footsteps. She reached for the phone and answered, "Mother..."

Since young, she was used to calling her Aunt Mu Li. Now that she had to address her as 'Mother', she felt a little awkward.

Each time she had to call her 'Mother', she found it hard to say it out loud.

Madam Mu Li's deep sighs could be heard over the phone. "Xuxu, can you reconcile with Third Yan? I know that he's the one at fault and I've been calling him every night to reprimand him."

Hearing this, Xuxu had the urge to tell her that the ball wasn't in her court and it wasn't up to her to decide on the reconciliation.

Then who has the authority to decide? It seemed that it wasn't Yan Rusheng either.

That's the reason why each time the word 'reconciliation' was mentioned to her, she had no idea where to begin.

She was really clueless where to start.

She pressed her lips together and remained silent.

Mu Li let out another sigh. "That boy always makes me worry. I've decided to purchase an air ticket for tomorrow's flight. When I'm back home, I'll teach him a good lesson and take him in hand."

Xuxu got anxious. "No, Aunt... Mother. We are getting along very well. You don't have to come home."

Because of them, she had already tendered her resignation to the university.

Being a teacher had always been her dream. If it wasn't because grandmother gave up her retirement and Yan Rusheng took over the company at a young age, she wouldn't be able to pursue her ambition.

She was already filled with guilt and if she continued to wear herself out because of them, Xuxu wouldn't know how to face her.

Mu Li spoke in a serious and earnest tone. "Silly child. There's nothing more important than you and Xiaosheng. Seeing the two of you in this current state, I can't set my mind at ease too, so it's better for me to come back and take a look at the both of you."

Xuxu sounded anxious. "But I don't want you to come back. You don't have to worry about us."

She didn't want her beloved Aunt Mu Li to give up her passion because of her.

"We have always been like this." She added. "Since young, we have always been bickering with each other and couldn't see eye to eye."

Refusing to hear what she was saying, Mu Li continued talking. "I will purchase an air ticket and fly back tomorrow. I'll accompany the both of you for a few days and then return to school for a meeting the following week."

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

Chapter 382: Spicy Pickled Fish Noodles

After hearing what she said, Xuxu was more adamant not to let her come back. "It's much of a rush and stressful for you. Please don't put yourself through so much trouble. I'll pass back the phone to him, okay?"

The flight home would take more than 20 hours. It would be too exhausting for her.

"Then you must give me your word that you'll have a good talk with the Third Yan, okay?" All of a sudden, Mu Li no longer sounded eager to return.

Xuxu reluctantly responded with an 'Okay'.

She had no choice even though she knew that Mu Li was resorting to desperate measures, just in case she really does come back.

She was definitely capable of suddenly appearing in front of her and Yan Rusheng.

So, she would rather not take the gamble.

"Our Xuxu is still the most obedient." Mu Li laughed joyfully. "Go take a quick shower. I'll communicate with the both of you via video call in a while."

Communicate with them via video call...?

Without giving a second thought, Xuxu replied swiftly, "I've not taken my dinner. Let's have the video call tomorrow instead."

Perhaps, communicating with them individually via separate video calls would be even better.

"I missed both of you too much, so please let me have a quick look at you," requested Mu Li. There was a trace of melancholic longing in her voice.

Xuxu didn't have the heart to reject her because when she said that she missed them, she's definitely not faking it.

She nodded her head and answered lightly, "Okay."

Her tummy was rumbling after she ended the call. She placed her hand over her tummy as she looked at the clock in the living room. It was already past 11 p.m.

She had yet to have her dinner.

Just then, the meticulous Aunt Zhang walked out of the dining room and she saw how Xuxu had shown her hunger through her actions. She made a quick guess that she was famished. She then smiled at her. "Missy, Young Master had instructed me to cook spicy pickled fish with handmade noodles and it is almost ready."

Spicy pickled fish with handmade noodles?

That was her favorite noodles. But was it really Yan Rusheng who had instructed it?

If someone else had told her, she would have believed right away. But since it came from Aunt Zhang's mouth, inevitably, she would have her suspicions about the old lady's motives.

Xuxu frowned and looked at the elderly lady's pleasant smile. Only by scrutinizing her, would she be able to detect if there were any traces of craftiness & hidden agendas in her smile.

She thought, if it wasn't the old lady who had updated Aunt Mu Li on a daily basis, given that she's in Country Y. then how could Aunt Mu Li be so well-informed about the details of hers and Yan Rusheng's life?

But she understood that the elderly lady meant well, otherwise she wouldn't have been so worried for them.

"Let me get changed first before eating."

After that, she shuffled on her feet and moved towards the staircase.

Once upstairs, she hurriedly removed her tight fitting clothes and changed into comfortable home wear. She felt more relaxed after that.

She went downstairs and headed straight to the dining room.

When she set foot on the dining room, the first thing she saw was a man slurping on his noodles—it astounded her.

"Why was he eating noodles too?"

"Missy, quickly come over and have your noodles before it turns lumpy." Aunt Zhang carried a piping hot bowl of noodles out from the kitchen and greeted Xuxu when she saw her.

Xuxu looked at her and nodded. "Oh, okay."

She walked over and sat facing Yan Rusheng.

Be it day or night, they had always been sitting in this manner at the dining table, facing each other and eating their meals without uttering a word.

"There were some leftover noodles and Third Young Master suggested to cook spicy pickled fish to go with it." Aunt Zhang served the bowl of noodles and placed it in front of Xuxu. She specifically stressed that it was Yan Rusheng's idea to cook spicy pickled fish noodles.

She was obviously hinting to Xuxu that he was accommodating her.

Xuxu pursed her lips. This old lady must have been instigated by Madam Mu Li.

In the past, she would only stand by and looked on anxiously. But now, she had the courage to take actions.

Yan Rusheng stopped eating for a moment and glanced at the old lady who was cunningly smiling.

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

Chapter 383: Wasn't He Accommodating Enough?

It was the elderly lady who said that there were some leftover handmade noodles, and she also decided to cook spicy pickled fish noodles. Also, she had added that if he was really hungry, he should just put up with it this time.

So how did he ended up accommodating Wen Xuxu?

He ignored them and ate his noodles in low-spirits.

Xuxu, on the other hand, finished her bowl in no time.

She pulled some tissue and dabbed her mouth. She then said to Aunt Zhang, "Aunt Zhang, you should rest. It's getting late and you should take care of your health."

Aunt Zhang answered from the kitchen. "Okay, I will. I will rest in a bit."

"I'm going back to my room first, rest early."

Xuxu informed her and turned around to leave. After taking a few steps, she stopped abruptly.

She stood there stiffly as a thought came up to her mind. When she turned around, she saw Yan Rusheng who had just finished eating. She gave a faint smile and said, "Thank you for tonight."

She was grateful to him for bailing her out from the police station.

And even more thankful that he didn't tell Aunt Mu Li what had happened.

She said her piece and was about to continue walking forward when Yan Rusheng spoke. "If the police station didn't call to inform me, you... would you have still contacted me?"

Or would she choose to remain detained than to seek help from him?

Or perhaps if the police haven't informed him, then would she have called for Jiang Zhouheng?

Regarding her minor accident this morning, didn't she remain silent throughout their journey?

Xuxu lowered her head and fell silent. Her silence answered his question.

Yes, if the police haven't informed him, she wouldn't have called him.

If only the dynamics of their relationship hadn't changed. If only he had never given her warmth. If only... Fang Jiayin didn't reappear.

But alas, there wasn't any *ifs*.

She had gone back to the initial phase of their marriage by pretending to be his wife-in-name, with no feelings involved.

She would try to be independent. But if she can't, she told herself that, as long as she tried her best, she would be able to.

In this case, she wouldn't have to depend on him. And in the next time she was in trouble, she wouldn't feel helpless or disappointed when he wasn't around to hold her.

And... she wouldn't mind the fact that he used his power and influence to protect and shelter her, he had already done the same thing for another woman anyway.

Finally, she realized how greedy she was. She couldn't stand the thought of a different woman occupying even a tiny spot in Yan Rusheng's heart.

Yan Rusheng, on the other hand, clenched his fists as he tried his best to suppress the raging and violent beast inside of him.

He knew he would be appeased if she just softened the look in her eyes, but no, even until now, she simply refused to yield to him.

Xuxu didn't halt as she turned around to stride out of the dining room.

After she left, Aunt Zhang came out of the kitchen. Yan Rusheng's back was facing her so she didn't see the terrible and furious expression he had on his face.

She walked towards him and said earnestly, "Third Young Master, Madam said that a man should give and take. A man should give in to a woman and furthermore, she is your wife. There's nothing to be ashamed of."

She stood beside him and when she glanced at his face, the old lady was alarmed and terrified by his expression.

She clammed up and proceeded to promptly removed her apron as she left the dining room. Yan Rusheng was left alone.

He took out his cigarette case and began smoking. Aunt Zhang words echoed once more in the empty room.

Wasn't he accommodating enough? To his own wife?

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

Chapter 384: This Matter Seemed Grave

Had she ever considered herself to be the wife of Yan Rusheng?

When she took contraceptives, did it ever came to her mind that she was actually killing their child?

If she didn't want kids now, she could have told him. He would be willing to wait. But why did she have to hide it from him?

It was because her heart doesn't belong to him. So she couldn't trust him with anything or at any time!

...

Xuxu went back to her room and fretted over the request that Mu Li had made, she had wanted to do a video call with both her and Yan Rusheng.

She deliberated for some time before making up her mind to send her a text. She told her that Yan Rusheng was still having supper and she was simply too tired to wait for him.

She didn't wait for her reply and switched her phone to silent mode. She then threw her phone aside and covered herself with the blanket.

She slept soundly till morning. The thrilling adventures she had yesterday with Zhou Shuang drained her thoroughly exhausted.

Xuxu took a quick glance at the time and was shocked—it was already past 9 a.m.

The only thing on her mind right now was that she was late for work.

She hasn't been late in quite a long while.

She hastily washed up, skipped breakfast and bolted out of the house.

Actually, there really wasn't a need for her to rush. Even if she didn't go to work for a day, no one would dare make a fuss or dock her salary.

But then again, she believed in being disciplined and setting an example for all the employees.

So as long as there weren't any special or urgent situations that cropped up, she would always reach work on time.

Since her car was still at the repair shop, she could only flag a cab. It was only after 10 in the morning that she reached the office.

The moment she entered the building, she could feel that something was amiss.

Everyone seemed to be extra careful and the atmosphere was tensed.

The ominous gut feeling she had intensified since the office seemed extremely quiet. Even the sound of keyboard typing seems muffled and careful.

"What happened?" she asked as she strode across the office.

Wang Xiaoya—the source of the latest gossips in the office—scurried towards her. "Sister Xuxu, have you seen the news today?"

"Today's news?"

Xuxu frowned and thought to herself. Was she on the news again? Was the paparazzi alerted to the speeding incident yesterday?

But Yan Rusheng already settled it yesterday, surely it couldn't have leaked.

Or perhaps Yan Rusheng and Fang Jiayin had another scandal?

But somehow, her instincts told her that it seemed like a grave matter.

In the midst of her suspicions and guesses, she reached her desk.

Wang Xiaoya went back to her desk and passed her the newspapers. "Sister Xuxu, take a look at this. I wonder which immoral media outlet reported this."

"What was the news exactly?" Xuxu received the newspapers and started reading.

The headlines wrote, *'Third Master Exchanged Wife for a Billion-Dollar Contract'*

In utter shock, her eyes widened and a gasp escaped her mouth as she read the headlines. She immediately darted her eyes to the photo below.

It was a photo of her and Charles having dinner at the World Trade Center, and another with them caught entering the Beautiful Metropolis Hotel together.

Then she proceeded to read the contents of the article.

'According to a reliable source, Third Young Master's childhood sweetheart had offered herself to Charles, the youngest son of Princess Lu Fei of Country Y in exchange for a billion-dollar contract. Charles is also acting as the CEO regarding the contract that they've signed. Third Madam Yan was caught

entering a hotel with Charles a month ago. And recently, they were caught having dinner at a specialty restaurant located in the World Trade Center. Their dinner lasted for nearly three hours.'

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 385: I'll Go This Time

'Other than that, rumors are rife that their marriage was being forced upon by the Yan family to fulfill the final wishes of Flourish & Prosper's ex-chairman Wang Daqin. According to a reliable source, Wen Xuxu was fostered by the Yan family and brought up as their future daughter-in-law but apparently, Third Young Master's heart wasn't with her. With his old flame's return, it seemed that their marriage is falling apart. There has been a conjecture that besides getting the contract for the company, the young madam had done this on purpose to seek revenge upon her husband for having a fling with his old flame.'

Xuxu finished reading the entire article and she was livid. Her fingers were clenched tightly together as a result. Her whole body trembled as she crushed the newspapers.

Her bright eyes looked like tiny consolidated fragments of ice—piercingly cold and sinister.

Wang Xiaoya was alarmed by the look on Xuxu's face and she shuddered uncontrollably.

This wasn't just about her scandal with Charles. Someone was intentionally plotting to sow discord between her and Yan Rusheng. They wanted to bring down Flourish & Prosper and to tarnish Yan Rusheng's reputation.

Fury blazed inside of her as she threw the crushed newspaper into the trash can.

She pulled her chair and sat down.

She switched on her computer and then said to her assistant sitting opposite to her, "Mi Ling, get me some water."

"Yes, right away." Her assistant stood up instantly and received the cup from her hands.

Xuxu leaned against her chair and held a pen in her hand. She was in deep thoughts, trying to guess who the culprit behind this article was.

It's true that the media loves spinning stories. But they wouldn't have dared to publish an article like this without taking ethics into consideration.

She thought to herself, if Yan Rusheng read this article, he would even be angrier than she was.

But will he believe her?

Yan Rusheng's male secretary brought a document to Xuxu and said, "Sister Xuxu, the marketing department sent this document and they need President Yan's signature."

Xuxu's thoughts were interrupted by his voice and she threw a fleeting glance at the document in his hand. She lifted her head and told him. "You can bring it in. There isn't a need to report to me in the future regarding such matters. You're his secretary so you should report to him directly."

She wasn't his secretary anymore. She had no official job title and that was the reason why she didn't want her own office.

She just wanted to stay and share his workload with him.

There was nothing personal about this decision.

"Noted," he answered and turned around to walk to Yan Rusheng's office.

Xuxu changed her mind abruptly and called him back. "Wait, I'll go this time."

She rose from her seat and took the document from the secretary.

She walked to Yan Rusheng's office and knocked on the door.

"Enter," sounded a chilling voice from inside the room.

Xuxu held her breath and turned the doorknob, she could hear that he was talking on the phone.

When Yan Rusheng saw Xuxu, he then said to the person on the other line, "If there is nothing else, I'm hanging up."

He ended the call and placed his phone on the desk. He glanced at her with a distant and rigid stare.

Xuxu walked to his desk and passed him the document. "The marketing department needs your signature for this document."

"Did you meet Charles yesterday?" Yan Rusheng received the document and asked Xuxu as he flipped the pages.

His head was lowered and she could neither see his face nor his eyes. She had no idea what was on his mind right now.

He was calm, collected and sounded aloof. There wasn't any trace of emotion in his tone.

At this moment, Xuxu became apprehensive and fearful. She knew him too well to know that this matter had indeed crossed his boundaries.

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

Chapter 386: Surrounded By Reporters

She had no idea how he would react. But she believed that he could definitely tell that this news article wasn't purely just a scandal.

But she wasn't entirely certain that he would believe her.

She fell silent for some time before nodding her head. "Mm."

Yan Rusheng's hand, which was holding the pen, paused for a fraction of a second before signing the document swiftly. He passed the document back to Xuxu. "You may go."

He didn't even look at her.

He was mad at her!

He didn't believe her?

Xuxu received the document and left, feeling disappointed.

For she had initially come in to sound him out regarding the article and to check if he believed her.

...

The entire building seemed to be overcast with ominous gloomy clouds, and the atmosphere seemed strained and tense everywhere.

Everyone in the company seemed to have left work on time today.

Xuxu didn't have the mood to stay back after work hours and like everyone else, she packed her belongings and left on time.

It was sunny and cloudless during the morning but the weather changed without any warning in the afternoon. Just like how Flourish & Prosper was today.

She was wearing a dark red down jacket with a hood. After she got to the entrance, she put on the hood over her head.

A blast of wind brushed past her when she exited the building. It made her flinch and cross her arms tightly.

She descended the steps and walked towards the road, planning to flag a taxi.

Suddenly, several reporters jumped out from behind the shrubs and bushes, and a few more from behind the pillars.

They converged towards her and stood in front of her to block her way. Everyone was holding a recorder as they mercilessly fired questions at her.

"Third Madam Yan, do you have anything to clarify regarding the online and newspapers articles of you and Mr. Charles this morning?"

"Can you update us on what you and Third Master have in mind regarding your future plans?"

"A source has stated that you started an intimate relationship with Mr. Charles because you were jealous of Third Master and his old flame. Is that true?"

"Third Madam Yan, can you please elaborate more?"

Several cars were parked at the lot outside the entrance and more reporters came tumbling out. Xuxu was caught off guard and soon, she was surrounded by them.

As the reporters bombarded her with harsh and cutting questions, she couldn't face them calmly no matter how mentally strong she was.

She furrowed her eyebrows in anger as she stared at them. She didn't answer any of the questions.

“Third Madam Yan, don’t you have anything to clarify? We’ve been waiting for hours and we didn’t see Third Master coming out. Is your marriage with him as bad as what the rumors had described? Is your marriage on the verge of breaking apart?”

“Yes, yes, Third Madam Yan, please tell us more.”

They relentlessly pushed their recorders towards her mouth as dozens of eyes gawked at her.

Xuxu felt that her brain seemed to be exploding as she surveyed them in circles.

Flourish & Prosper’s security guards were already trying their best to evacuate the reporters.

But the reporters were relentless and determined. They refused to budge and continued to stick closely to Xuxu.

Xuxu scanned her surroundings once more and she accidentally caught sight of the building’s revolving doors. Her heart tugged painfully as she froze.

A tall figure stood there silently watching and observing everything through the glass.

She smirked coldly to herself and retracted her gaze from him instantly.

“Leave me alone.” Xuxu stared coldly at the reporters in front of her.

Her words were like numerous sharp swords—cold and piercing. The reporters felt a sense of foreboding.

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 387: Missed A Chance To Save The Damsel In Distress

But they still didn’t bear to leave.

“Third Madam Yan, please say something.”

“Get lost.” Xuxu stared fiercely at the reporter who had just opened his mouth. She said rather threateningly, “I’m not a celebrity who needs to maintain their image or reputation. If you continue to block my way, don’t blame me for being nasty.”

She stretched both of her hands and pulled apart two persons in front of her. She paved a way for herself in the midst of a crowd of reporters and charged forward.

Her warning left the reporters hesitant and no one dared to block her way anymore.

She wasn’t a celebrity so she didn’t need to take care of her image, neither did she need fans to protect her. Even if she called the security guards to beat them up, no one would be able to accuse her of being snobbish, neither was she afraid of losing fans.

Yan Rusheng’s eyes were fixed on a tiny figure that seemed to exude determination and tenacity.

If she had gazed at him for a second time, he would have gone out to save her.

But she didn’t.

And she seemed undaunted by them.

....

Xuxu finished dinner and went to the living room instead of her room. She held a bowl of fruit and sat on the sofa as she watched TV.

Today she came home early and it wasn't time for her drama yet.

She watched the news for a while before deciding that it was too boring. She switched channels randomly from advertisements to cartoons and back to the news again.

"Recently, Flourish & Prosper's President, Young Master Yan was caught in countless scandals. Everything seemed to resemble the storyline of an idol drama. He was caught in yet another predicament before the previous scandal had passed. Today, it was revealed that Third Madam Yan was photographed entering a hotel with Charles. He is the youngest son of Country Y's Princess Lu Fei. They were behaving intimately in public. At the same time, news of the Third Young Master's old flame was brought to light again. And this person was none other than Fang Jiayin who was in a car accident outside the Capital City Musical Theater recently. And Third Young Master was seen defending her at the scene. Early this morning, several reporters were seen waiting outside her apartment."

The screen switched to a scene whereby Fang Jiayin had just come out of her apartment and was surrounded by reporters.

She was wearing a white coat and her long straight hair tumbled loosely.

Her beautiful face registered shock and surprise when she saw cameras and recorders being shoved to her face. The reporters swarmed towards her as she tried to retreat.

She was wearing heels and she almost stumbled as a result.

Apparently, she didn't expect this situation to happen at all.

"Miss Fang, do you have anything to comment regarding Mr. Charles and Third Madam Yan?"

"You're labeled as a mistress, do you feel aggrieved?"

"Miss Fang, since you have returned for good, do you intend to reconcile with Third Young Master?"

There was a long pause...

Without ceasing, the reporters attacked her with questions, just like the situation that Xuxu had encountered earlier that evening.

Fang Jiayin retreated all the way back to her apartment entrance.

The panic and shock didn't fade from her face as the camera flashes continued to flicker on and off. She seemed so lost and fragile and in need of protection.

Xuxu leaned on the sofa and stared at the screen. She had a rather bitter smile on her face.

"Yan Rusheng, you've missed a chance to save the damsel in distress."

"Everything is untrue. Why should I care at all."

Fang Jiayin finally broke her silence. Even though she sounded annoyed, her voice was still soft and she didn't sound fierce at all.

She stretched her hands to push the reporters away. "Please go away."

She didn't manage to do so, and so she decided to push her way forward. She bent her head and her hair covered her face.

Even Xuxu couldn't bear to see her in such a sorry state.

"Seems like their marriage is falling apart. What are your views?"

The reporters didn't give up.

Elite Doting Marriage: Crafty Husband, Aloof Cute Wife

Chapter 388: They Could Only Go Through Them

Finally, Fang Jiayin ran out of patience and lifted her head to glare at the reporters. She said sharply, "No one here is qualified to judge or comment about their marriage. Even if this is part of your job, please speak appropriately and take note of your accusations."

She took out her phone from her bag and raised her voice. "If you don't leave me alone, I'm calling the police."

They heard her threat and finally, the reporters gave up and let her leave.

Then the TV screen returned to the studio once more. Xuxu turned away from the screen and then proceeded to pick up another slice of fruit.

Suddenly, she felt a cold and ominous aura from her back. She turned around feeling uneasy.

A towering figure stood silently behind her. Her heart gave an involuntary jerk and suddenly a pang of guilt struck her.

But she was just watching the entertainment news, so there was nothing she should feel guilty about...

Yan Rusheng tilted his head downwards and stared at her with an aloof expression.

He watched her intently without a sound and a plethora of emotions could be seen in his eyes.

Xuxu was no longer interested in watching the drama, so she put the remote control down. She held the fruit bowl in her hands and stood up.

Yan Rusheng broke the silence and said, "My mom just made a video call and she is looking for you."

Xuxu asked, "Where?"

Yan Rusheng replied lightly, "In the study."

"Okay." Xuxu nodded and walked in the direction of the staircase.

Aunt Mu Li must have seen the news and she was sure that she would believe her.

But the news may have made Aunt Mu Li worried.

She reached the second floor and the door of the study was ajar. Xuxu entered and walked towards his desk.

Yan Rusheng's laptop was switched on and she glanced at the screen. A beautiful face appeared on the screen.

She gave her a dazzling smile and waved happily at the screen. "Aunt Mu Li."

Mu Li heard how Xuxu addressed her and she lifted her brow, looking unhappy. "Huh?"

Xuxu instantly corrected her mistake. "Mother."

She still wasn't used to addressing her as Mother and often forget.

"Where is Yan Rusheng?" Mu Li was scanning the entire room to look for her son.

"Hmmm..." Xuxu was about to reply that he was downstairs when Yan Rusheng appeared at the door.

He entered the room and closed the door after him.

She turned her head back to the screen and said, "He is here."

"I saw the news today. Don't be too hard on yourself." Mu Li sighed heavily and continued, "Zhang Kailong just called your dad. You should be aware that both of you are representing Flourish & Prosper. Get along well and live in harmony and don't give others a chance to pressure or attack us."

Xuxu was startled and alarmed when she heard that the Board of Directors had contacted his parents.

But she knew that since they didn't dare to approach Yan Rusheng, they could only go through them.

This matter had concerned the reputation of Flourish & Prosper and the impact was significant. The Board of Directors would definitely not idle and do nothing to salvage the situation.

Mu Li spoke again. "From tonight onwards, both of you are not allowed to sleep separately. Do you understand?"

The moment Xuxu heard her, she turned to look at Yan Rusheng instinctively.

Yan Rusheng remained impassive and the expression in his deep eyes was unfathomable.

Hmph. She only thought of him when she couldn't handle his mom. Only then would she willingly push the decision-making to him.

To his surprise, Mu Li turned to look at him as well. "Yan Rusheng."

He heard his mother's summon and Yan Rusheng immediately bent his back so that his face could appear on the screen. He said with a stoic expression, "What?"

Mu Li frowned with displeasure. She chided him, "What's with your expression? Did you forget what I've told you earlier on?"

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

Chapter 389: Strictly Observed Each Other's Boundaries

“Professor Mu, any other instructions from you?” Yan Rusheng remained indifferent and his outstretched hand was already holding the mouse. “If there is nothing else, I’m ending the call.”

“Hold on.” Mu Li commanded him in an unquestionable tone. “To make sure that both of you will be sleeping in the same room, I’ve decided to leave this video call active. Move your laptop to your bedroom now.”

Xuxu was dumbfounded.

She would be monitoring them? Why did Aunt Mu Li have to take such drastic measures?

Yan Rusheng frowned, “Don’t be ridiculous.”

“Your dad was just discharged from the hospital. Do you want him to get admitted again?” Mu Li had an ugly expression on her face right now.

Unexpectedly, Yan Rusheng became frustrated as well. “How do we sleep with the video call on?”

Mu Li deliberated for a while and agreed silently as well. She decided to forgo that idea and instead came up with something else instead.

“Then give Xuxu a kiss in front of me right now. That will be sufficient to satisfy me.”

She raised her cup to take a sip of water while she stared intently and patiently at Xuxu and Yan Rusheng.

“If you’re not afraid of developing a sty in your eyes, then do as you deem fit.” Yan Rusheng gnashed his teeth with determination as he glared fiercely at his mother.

He turned to face Xuxu and he cupped her tiny face with both hands. The next second, he swooped towards her swiftly.

What happened?

Xuxu widened her eyes in shock and was momentarily paralyzed.

This fellow was being serious! And he really kissed her in front of his mother!

After overcoming her shock, she began to push him away, hitting him wildly on his chest.

But Yan Rusheng had used a hand to press her down forcefully and she was totally helpless against him.

Upon witnessing this intimate and passionate behavior between her son and his wife, Mu Li began to blush. “Oh dear. This son of mine is really shameless.”

After chiding her son, she ended the video call promptly.

Yan Rusheng immediately relinquished his grip on Xuxu when the call ended.

His action was too abrupt and thorough, and Xuxu’s body felt empty in an instant. Her heart felt like it was being emptied as well.

‘Since you don’t want kids, I won’t touch you in future.’

He had vowed that he would never touch her again.

In reality, this was what she had wanted, wasn't it?

Now they had set up boundaries between them, and both have strictly observed their respective boundaries.

Xuxu lowered her head, walked past him and left the room.

However, the consequences of the scandal with Charles had a far more significant impact than she could imagine.

...

On the next day, after lunch, she received a call from the authorities in Haicheng city. She was told to make a trip there to discuss the relocation of the orphanage. They were starting to hunt for investors and they needed to settle this matter soon.

She had completely forgotten about the orphanage during the busy period.

After hanging up, Xuxu informed her assistant and hastily left for Haicheng city in her car.

When she reached her destination, a young man wearing a suit came forward to greet her. He bowed and said, 'Mrs. Yan, you're here. District Head Jia has instructed me to receive you.'

"Thank you," Xuxu replied politely and followed him up the stairs.

She didn't know whether this sudden relocation matter had anything to do with the rumors about her strained relationship with Yan Rusheng.

Previously, the authorities in Haicheng city were always very polite and patient with her. They had promised that they would wait for the other areas to confirm about their relocation first before they discuss with her regarding Tiny Stars Orphanage's relocation. It had only been less than a month and they were getting restless.

Humans were all realistic in general. There was indeed a vast difference between having a powerful backer and having none.

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

Chapter 390: Not Within Flourish & Prosper's Considerations

"Mrs. Yan, this way please." The young man led the way and knocked on the District Head's office door. He bowed slightly once more and gestured her towards the door.

Xuxu smiled at him and thought to herself, *"At least their intentions weren't so obvious."*

"Alright, my guest is here and I have to hang up."

A middle-aged man, who was obviously balding, was sitting on a desk that was located by the windows. He still had his grip on his phone when Xuxu entered the room. He greeted her and promptly ended the call.

He rose and smiled graciously at Xuxu.

"Mrs. Yan, you're here. Please take a seat." He turned to glance at the young man standing by the door. "Xiao Zhang, brew some tea."

Xuxu waved her hands to reject him. "District Head Jia, there is no need to make such a fuss."

After briefly exchanging pleasantries, they walked to a vintage-looking black couch and sat down.

Xuxu had taken some time off from work and she had left abruptly earlier on. Hence, she didn't beat around the bush as time was rather tight for her. "District Head Jia, previously I thought that the investors would only come in next year?"

He seemed rather awkward and explained. "That's true but I've received orders from my superiors that this relocation matter had to be settled first."

Xuxu could tell that he was indeed in a difficult position.

Orders from his superiors...

That should be the city government.

Who could it be? Who was the person trying to put pressure on her, more so, creating hurdles by taking advantage of her current strained relationship with Yan Rusheng.

But she didn't have time to guess the identity of the culprit at the moment. The most important thing was to settle Tiny Stars Orphanage's relocation.

After briefly deliberating, she smiled at District Head Jia. "This news came too abruptly and I have no time to prepare for it at all."

Although she knew that the orders had come from his superiors and it had nothing to do with him, she wanted to attempt finding a way to resolve this problem.

It was already winter and if the kids had to relocate as soon as possible, it would be too tough and harsh on them.

"This relocation has to happen sooner or later." He was quite apologetic as he explained, "I understand that Mrs. Yan is concerned about the children. But if the government is attracting investors to invest in a project, they won't change their plans just because of an orphanage."

Xuxu nodded. "Yes, I understand this very well."

She paused before deciding to change her approach. "But there hasn't been any cases of an immediate relocation without giving ample notice. It's rather unreasonable, and not to mention, this is an orphanage with children we are talking about."

She stated the facts hoping to gain his sympathy. If this didn't work out, she would have to use a *'stronger'* approach.

"Yes." He nodded. "This is indeed quite rushed but I'm merely following orders."

"I just wanted to ask if your superiors are from the city government?" Xuxu probed.

She was quite sure about it but she wanted to confirm her suspicions before she could approach the right person.

He laughed loudly. "I will not hide from you. Indeed, this is a direct order from the city government. Before the end of the year, the relocation has to happen."

Without waiting for Xuxu to reply, he consoled her by saying, "Actually, you don't have to be too worried, Mrs. Yan. If Flourish & Prosper manage to successfully bid for this project, then you wouldn't face any issues at all."

"Flourish & Prosper?" Xuxu smiled lightly and shook her head. "It's not within Flourish & Prosper's considerations and we have no intention of joining the bidding."

Even though this piece of land was located at a strategic position, Flourish & Prosper is currently in the midst of planning a few major projects with some still at the initial stages.