

Elite Doting 761

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Chapter 761: Any Sum That You Want!

Although Jiang Qinglian knew that Fang Jiayin was obviously trying to drive a wedge between her and Yan Rusheng and to use it to her advantage, her words still seemed to affect her on a subconscious level.

It had never crossed her mind that Wen Xuxu would be so nice to Su Yue and even gotten so close to Su Yan to an extent that she would work for him.

"Xuxu, have you forgotten how I have treated you ever since you entered the family," Jiang Qinglian thought to herself.

Fang Jiayin curled her lips in satisfaction and nodded smugly. "Madam Yan is truly kind and magnanimous. It's indeed admirable. Please have a safe journey back. By afternoon, you'll probably receive news of how your precious son had fabricated the entire scandal that took away four lives. This matter affected Flourish & Prosper's reputation, so I wonder what kind of punishment he will receive? Your grandson is about to arrive, and it's a pity he will have a father who is in prison..."

Every word sharply pierced through Jiang Qinglian's heart and all her worries seemed to convene. Her *unborn grandson, her precious son..* . what would happen to them?

She took a deep breath and glared bitterly at Fang Jiayin. "What do you want?"

Fang Jiayin continued speaking in a casual tone which made her even angrier. "Nothing much. Yan Rusheng treated me so callously, but I'm no pushover so I won't take it lying down. Since both families are getting along so well, I shall attack the second master of the Yan family to serve as a warning."

She sipped her coffee with grace and refinement.

Her beautiful face seemed so cold-blooded, foul, and even hateful.

Jiang Qinglian furiously gnashed her teeth. "You!"

But she had nothing to retort for she knew that Fang Jiayin wasn't bluffing her. Since the latter knew of the truth behind the coastal county project and even the existence of Wang Bin, she must have figured out everything.

Even if she doesn't know Wang Bin, she could still report to the police the facts she knew.

They only had two options right now; the first option was for Runan to surrender himself. Second, they could find Wang Bin and seal his mouth and quickly find connections to end the case with the authorities.

She couldn't let anyone report to the police. Just like what Third Yan had said, they should be proactive instead of being passive.

Fang Jiayin's voice drawled lazily while Jiang Qinglian's thoughts whirled rapidly. "Actually, there are only a few who knows the truth behind the scandal. The only witness is Wang Bin, and he kept this secret even from his family. But I still found out by accident."

Jiang Qinglian immediately spoke. "I can give you money. Any sum you want."

But it was clear that Fang Jiayin's motive wasn't money.

"Money?" Fang Jiayin failed to conceal the smirk on her face and looked as though she had heard a funny joke. "Madam Yan, do you really think I'm doing this for money? Why would I need money right now?"

Jiang Qinglian pressed her lips and didn't dare to ask what Fang Jiayin was up to.

She knew that Fang Jiayin must have wanted something from her and it would be difficult. And it would force her to do so under such circumstances.

Silence fell for a while before Fang Jiayin spoke. "It's simple. Just put this into Wen Xuxu's food or drink and I'll help you seal Wen Xuxu's mouth forever. No one in this world could prove that your son was the mastermind."

She took out a small medicine case and there was a white pill inside.

It stunned Jiang Qinglian as she eyed the medicine with wariness. "What's... what's that?"

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Chapter 762: Really Furious!

Fang Jiayin eyed the medicine case and flashed a cold smile. "Let's use Wen Xuxu's unborn child in exchange for Second Young Master's freedom. I think this would be a worthy exchange."

She tightly clenched on the medicine case, hatred was all over her face.

Jiang Qinglian's eyes widened in shock. "You want me to harm Xuxu's child?!"

No, she could never do that and she wouldn't.

Fang Jiayin knew that Jiang Qinglian wouldn't initially agree, so she smiled. "They can always have another child, and I just want to vent my anger right now."

She continued, "If it wasn't for Yan Rusheng and Wen Xuxu, I wouldn't have to make such a thorough investigation of Flourish & Prosper's project. And I certainly wouldn't have known it was your son who had planned the downfall of Flourish & Prosper."

So she was trying to blame Wen Xuxu and Yan Rusheng. She knew the truth because of them.

Jiang Qinglian shook her head. "No matter what you say, I can never do that."

She repeatedly told herself that Fang Jiayin's words must not affect her. She was too scheming and vicious.

Fang Jiayin shrugged. "Then there is nothing more left to discuss. Please tune in to the news tonight. Yan Rusheng had gotten me on the headlines every other day, this will be a gift to him."

She rose and walked gracefully towards the door. As she strode past Jiang Qinglian, she glanced at her. "You've sacrificed so much for the Yan family, what did you get? Your husband's betrayal, his mistress' children entering the family and they even have such remarkable achievements."

Her words stabbed her like a sword, right through Jiang Qinglian.

She inhaled sharply and narrowed her eyes at Fang Jiayin. "Are you sure you can seal Wang Bin's mouth?"

Fang Jiayin curled her lips into a confident smile. "I promise you, as long as you do what I say."

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"Aunt Zhang, where is First Aunt?"

Xuxu reached home and combed the entire house but didn't see Jiang Qinglian anywhere. She glimpsed Aunt Zhang downstairs and hurried towards her.

Aunt Zhang replied, "First Madam left for C city after breakfast this morning."

It startled Xuxu. "She went back?!"

"Yeah." Aunt Zhang nodded. "She should be at the airport by now."

"Why would she leave so soon?" It perplexed Xuxu as First Aunt didn't even inform her. Seems like she was really furious that she didn't come home with Su Yue yesterday.

She hastily dialed Jiang Qinglian's number.

The line went through after a short while, and Jiang Qinglian answered, "Xuxu."

Xuxu anxiously asked, "First Aunt, why did you go back so soon? You should have informed me, I can send you there."

She felt sorry towards First Aunt.

She hardly made a trip back home, and I left her alone. Furthermore, this was such a tough period for her.

Jiang Qinglian responded in a soft tone. "Xuxu, I originally prepared to leave today, but I couldn't bear to leave you so soon. We haven't had a good chat this time around because of your Second Brother. So I've decided that I'm going to stay and leave a few days later."

"That's great!" Xuxu beamed. "Then let's have a feast tonight. It has been some time since we dined out."

"Alright."

"I'll go to work now and come back early tonight."

"Mm."

Xuxu hung up, feeling cheerful and dialed Yan Rusheng's number.

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Chapter 763: Sister Xuxu, Don't Worry

Xuxu spoke as she walked. "Tonight let's bring First Aunt out for a meal. Do you want to choose a restaurant or I decide? We need to choose a superb one."

"Of course, she stayed behind because of me. She said she would leave a few days later."

"Alright, see you tonight."

...

"Stupid woman, look how happy you sounded."

Yan Rusheng affectionately looked at his phone before stowing it away.

Qiao Jian walked in and saw his expression. The first thought that came to his mind was, *'What a love-struck fool. A completely smitten and love-struck fool.'*

"President, this parcel is for you."

Qiao Jian strode towards Yan Rusheng's desk and placed it on top.

Yan Rusheng vaguely grunted in response. Qiao Jian turned around to leave when Yan Rusheng called him. "Qiao Jian."

"President, anything you would like to instruct me?" Qiao Jian promptly answered.

Yan Rusheng replied, "Make a reservation for a private room at Jiangnan River Delta for tonight."

He needed to seize this opportunity to perform well in front of her so he could completely win her over.

"Noted." Qiao Jian nodded and smiled. "President, do you need a bouquet?"

Judging from Yan Rusheng's smitten expression earlier on, Assistant Qiao had a hunch that the reservation at Jiangnan River Delta was for a dinner date with the lady boss.

"Bouquet of flowers?" Yan Rusheng frowned, deep in thought. But tonight, they were eating with First Aunt, so flowers wouldn't be too appropriate for the occasion.

He waved to dismiss Qiao Jian. "There isn't a need, you may leave first."

Qiao Jian bowed and turned around.

Once the door was closed, Yan Rusheng was about to stretch his hand to reach for the parcel when his cell phone rang.

He glanced at the screen and turned solemn right away. He answered, "Hello."

"President Yan, we have found out that Wang Bin's grandson had gone missing since last night after school. He was only sent back home at dawn this morning."

Yan Rusheng narrowed his eyes with a piercing look in his eyes. He deduced that something was amiss and his body instantly became stiff. "Have you found out who abducted him?"

"Not yet. Strange enough, Wang Bin's family didn't report this to the police."

"Got it. Find out who's behind the kidnapping of Wang Bin's grandson today."

He hung up and quickly dialed another number. "Find Wang Bin right away. I foresee that someone already had their attention on the coastal county project and they are conducting investigations in secret."

After giving some brief instructions, he hung up and dialed Yan Weiye's number.

"Someone already had their attention on the coastal county project. There is no time for Yan Runan to hesitate any longer. We will still have a way to help him after he confessed to the police," he spoke, authority was all over his voice.

Yan Weiye heard him and became anxious. He had always trusted Yan Rusheng's capability.

So he would do whatever Yan Rusheng told him to.

After making the calls, Yan Rusheng placed his phone down and settled himself back on his chair. He tapped his desk with his fingers unconsciously, apparently deep in thought.

From the moment he struck, he knew that a war was inevitable.

Whatever that was supposed to come would come, eventually.

But this mastermind...

...

"Qi Lei, did you go to my place? Did Su Yue eat lunch?"

After the shoot ended in the afternoon, they went for lunch at a restaurant. Xuxu was worried about Su Yue and gave Qi Lei a call.

Qi Lei smiled as he answered, "I'm here to deliver the food. Sister Xuxu, don't worry."

Xuxu heaved a sigh of relief. "Okay, sorry to have troubled you."

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Chapter 764: I Should Peel an Apple for You

"It's no trouble at all," answered Qi Lei as he bashfully shook his head. They briefly chatted before ending the call.

He turned around towards the balcony and Su Yue was sitting there. She was eating the lunch he had brought. Even when she ate, she hardly made any sound.

It was afternoon, and the sun was blazing. Although it wasn't hot, the sunlight was rather blinding. Qi Lei deliberated for a while before walking over to her. "Su Yue, I think you should go to the dining table and have your lunch, it's too hot here."

Su Yue had her head bowed and continued to eat her chicken wings as though she couldn't hear him.

Qi Lei didn't know her at all and he was rather upset. "This little lass. Ignoring me when I'm talking to you."

He muttered to himself as he strode across the balcony and sat on Xuxu's swing chair. He folded his arms as he lightly rocked back and forth, and at the same time, he watched Su Yue with intent.

Su Yue ate none of the rice. Instead, she was devouring the chicken wings. She ate all five of them.

After eating, she licked her fingers.

Qi Lei noticed her and his mouth momentarily twitched. Should he feel proud? His cooking was fantastic.

His mouth curled upwards in satisfaction and pride.

Su Yue suddenly looked at him. "The chicken wings are really yummy. Do you have more?"

Sauce and chicken grease smeared her mouth, but it didn't seem too dirty on her clean-looking face. She looked rather adorable, and for the first time in his life, Qi Lei felt helpless.

No wonder Xuxu had reminded him several times to bring her lunch. She was already 18 years old and even if she couldn't cook, she should be able to order food for herself.

But this young lass doesn't talk easily to strangers.

He had been learning traditional Chinese medicine from Old Master Wen for three years, and he had read quite a lot of medical books. He had come across Su Yue's symptoms before.

When she was too focused on something, she would unconsciously ignore or neglect other things she felt was unimportant. She would be too immersed in her own world, even in a noisy or crowded environment.

So, she had never answered him properly ever since he arrived hours ago. She would merely respond with a vague hum.

Now it seemed like she was another person when she asked for more chicken wings.

Qi Lei thought to himself and smiled. "Yes, I'll get you more."

He had brought plenty of dishes over for Xuxu to eat in the evening as well.

Qi Lei came out of the kitchen with a plate of chicken wings. He walked past the sofa and took tissues along with him to the balcony.

"Wipe your mouth." He passed Su Yue some tissues.

Su Yue extended her hand and stared at Qi Lei—it had startled him. She didn't even blink as she gazed at him in silence.

Qi Lei was a shy person by nature, and he felt awkward when Su Yue stared at him. He blushed.

He frowned and questioned her, "What are you looking at? Your mouth is really dirty."

Su Yue finally received the tissues and soundlessly dabbed her mouth. She took the plate from him and ate.

Qi Lei pursed his lips helplessly and caught a glimpse of the fruits on the coffee table. He asked, "Do you want fruits? I'll peel some for you."

Without waiting for Su Yue to respond, he sighed and muttered, "I should peel an apple for you, just in case Sister Xuxu blames me for not taking good care of you."

He walked towards the sofa, picked up an apple and saw a knife lying beside the fruits.

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Chapter 765: Do You Know How to Play Card Games?

"Do you know how to play card games?" Su Yue suddenly turned and stared at Qi Lei with an innocent expression embedded on her face.

Qi Lei momentarily froze before turning towards Su Yue. He lifted his eyebrows and asked apprehensively, "You mean... card games?"

Su Yue nodded. "Yes, the card game where someone gets to be a host."

"Oh!" Qi Lei understood what she meant. "I know how to play it, but why are you asking me?"

Su Yue grinned. "Let's play."

Under the sunlight, she was so tiny that it seemed to have enveloped her entirely. The smile on her exquisite-looking face bloomed like a beautiful and delicate flower.

Her smile had Qi Lei awestruck, it was only when he had blushed that he finally snapped out of his reverie. It was the first time he had ever seen such a beautiful smile on a girl.

He stuttered. "The... card game? But there is only two of us."

"We can still play." Su Yue excitedly nodded.

She bent her head and gobbled down the rest of her rice.

Qi Lei was still feeling light-headed as though he was floating in mid-air.

Both of them... could play?

Qi Lei spent an entire afternoon with Su Yue. Since it was just the two of them, they still dealt cards for three players, with Su Yue representing two players.

Qi Lei didn't know how he had spent the hours, but it felt as though the entire afternoon passed by sleepily.

Su Yue could tell that he wasn't really invested in the game, and so she brought up an idea. She suggested, "Let's add stakes."

Qi Lei's mouth twitched. "Stakes... What stakes?"

Was she trying to gamble with money?

He didn't bring any money with him. Even if he did, he wouldn't gamble with a young girl like her.

"If one of us loses, we remove a layer of clothing," Su Yue quipped. She pressed her palms against the table and stood up. She limped to Xuxu's room.

Qi Lei called her with haste. "Hey... Su Yue..."

However, Su Yue ignored him and came out of the room after some time. Numerous layers of clothing covered her, and it made her look bloated. In her arms were more clothing.

Qi Lei's mouth continuously twitched. "What... are you trying to do?"

Su Yue casually answered, "Your clothes aren't enough so you need more."

She walked to Qi Lei and passed him the clothes.

'Sigh!'

He thought, *"Su Yue, don't you know how expensive your third sister-in-law's clothes are? Some of them cost a hundred thousand yuan. Is this really a good idea?"*

"Aren't you afraid of arrogant Third Brother?"

Qi Lei stared at the clothing, apparently dumbfounded.

But he knew that a person like Su Yue hardly had anything they like. So, it was quite a surprise that she would be so obsessed with a card game. More so, the penalty was quite perverted, and he thought the game wasn't particularly interesting. It was rather childish, actually.

He sighed. Sister Xuxu had instructed him to take good care of her, so making her happy should be one of his priorities.

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The shooting ended at about half-past six. Xuxu took a taxi to the restaurant. Jiangnan River Delta was a grand and exotic-looking Chinese restaurant which served signature dishes.

The waiters warmly welcomed her the moment they saw her.

"Hello."

Xuxu told the waiters the private room number, and one of them led the way.

She whipped out her phone and was in the midst of dialing Yan Rusheng's number. She wanted to ask if he had fetched Jiang Qinglian when a call interrupted her.

Ming Ansheng was on the other line, and she stared at his name with a frown. Why would he call her?

She answered, "Hello, Ming Ansheng."

Ming Ansheng spoke, "Are you at home with Su Yue? I have some Chemistry books for Su Yue and I'm on the way to your place."

So that was the reason he had called. "I'm not at home, but Su Yue is."

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Chapter 766: Ah Heng

“Alright, I’ll pass it to Su Yue.”

“Sure.” Xuxu readily agreed without thinking. “Bye.”

She ended the call and dialed Yan Rusheng’s number. She followed the waiter up to the stairs to the second level and saw that the whole place was bustling with customers.

It was a lavish and extravagant restaurant. And as expected, all the customers were of wealthy or influential statuses.

The lighting was warm and dim with a rich brown carpet covering the floor. A traditional Jiangnan folk song played in the playground, completing the perfect ambiance.

When she got through Yan Rusheng’s line, a familiar and soothing ballad entered her ears.

‘It’s a pity love isn’t a few drops of tears, neither is it a few love letters...’

The caller ringback tone he had used had dumbfounded Xuxu for a while. She snapped out of her trance a brief moment later.

She grinned to herself. When did that fellow have the interest do such stuff? Didn’t he always regard such trivial stuff with disdain?

He had always grumbled that it was ridiculous, childish and boring.

The song ‘Love letter’ chorus was looped several times, and when he didn’t answer right away, Xuxu almost hung up.

Yan Rusheng’s pleasant voice sounded after a few rings. “Xuxu.”

Xuxu asked, “Have you fetched First Aunt?”

Yan Rusheng quipped, “I’ll be there in a moment.”

“Okay, I’ll wait inside the private room.”

Xuxu hung up as she reached the second level.

They walked through the lobby before making a turn. Then, the waiter led her to a private room and stopped outside.

“Third Madam Yan, this is the room President Yan has reserved.”

Xuxu wasn’t in the least surprised that the waiter had recognized her. She entered the room with the waiter behind her. He served a cup of water before leaving.

Xuxu put her bag down but didn’t sit. She poured the water away and disinfected it with boiling water first before pouring herself another cup. She walked to the windows and peered down.

The streets were already twinkling with bright neon lights, and it was bustling and crowded.

Xuxu gazed into the distance as she watched the scenery in a stupor.

Suddenly her phone rang and disrupted her. She turned around to get her phone which was on the table. She took a glance at the screen.

Jiang Zhuoheng!

Ah Heng? She picked up the call with haste. It had been some time since she had last contacted him.

“Hello, Ah Heng.”

Jiang Zhuoheng’s gentle voice sounded. “Which private room are you in?”

It puzzled Xuxu. “Huh?”

She didn’t understand him.

Jiang Zhuoheng answered, “I’m at Jiangnan River Delta, too.”

“You are here as well?” His response surprised Xuxu. She then turned to the entrance. “Give me a second, let me check.”

She didn’t notice the private room number earlier on.

She spoke as she walked towards the entrance.

“No need...”

The door swung open and both of their voices overlapped. A tall man stood outside with a gentle and warm smile on his face, and it made Xuxu feel as though an instant wave of sunshine welcomed her.

She put down her phone and smiled at him. “You already knew I was inside this room.”

Jiang Zhuoheng put down his phone too. “I wasn’t sure.”

“Are you alone?” Xuxu asked.

But it was quite unlikely he would be alone in such places.

Jiang Zhuoheng wore a dark plum suit with a white shirt underneath, and he had paired it with a dark red tie, too.

His face had always been gorgeous, but his choice of clothing made him look even more beautiful. He stuffed his hands in his pockets and took a step forward. He then leaned lazily against the door frame.

Only a step had separated him from Xuxu. He peered down at her with a tender smile.

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Chapter 767: Fated

Xuxu frowned. “Why? Why are you looking at me like that?”

Jiang Zhuoheng slightly lifted an eyebrow. “Aren’t you inviting me into the room or going to ask me if I would like to join you?”

He would always feel better when he looked at her face.

Everyone said that time would wash away everything, including forgetting a person. But it was all a lie. Or perhaps it was only effective for *'patients'* with *'mild symptoms'*. As for himself, he should be beyond cure.

Even though they met in kindergarten or even if they haven't met each other in years, every time he saw her he would still feel the same way.

Just by the sight of her affected him, no matter how hard he tried to suppress himself.

Her every frown or a smile had become the deepest longing in his heart.

Occasionally, he would wish that he could capture her expressions with a camera. Then in the deep of the night, when he is alone, he could look at the photo to ease his desire for her.

He had rooted Wen Xuxu in his heart ever since they were kids. But what else could he do now?

He had always questioned himself, why he had to fall so deeply in love with her...

Xuxu playfully pursed her lips. "It would be my pleasure if you would do me the honor."

In front of Jiang Zhuoheng, she would act like how she always does in front of her grandfather. She could reveal her real personality without a care in the world.

Jiang Zhuoheng smiled weakly, but he didn't respond. He sized her up from head to toe and with an affirmative tone, he said, "You've gained weight, at least 5 kg."

Xuxu glared at him. "Why must you remind me of my sore spot!"

She had indeed gained weight, nearly 6 kg.

Jiang Zhuoheng gave her a fond smile and continued, "You should eat more, then little Third Yan would be chubby and cute."

His eyes were twinkling. He seemed sincere and earnest just by the look on his face and in the way he sounded.

Jiang Zhuoheng's words gently tugged on Xuxu's heart. Her smile became tender and gentle.

She slightly turned as she gestured inside. "Ah Heng, join us for a meal."

Jiang Zhuoheng remained rooted to the spot and declined. "I am..."

A pleasant and sweet voice interrupted him.

"Ah Heng."

It startled Xuxu when a tall and slim woman appeared before her. The girl wasn't extraordinarily beautiful, but her gracefulness had eclipsed her beauty.

She wore a dark wine-red dress with sleeves ending at her elbows, and it seemed that she was wearing a couple-outfit with Jiang Zhuoheng.

Xuxu smiled and nodded. "Miss Hu."

Hu Xiaoxiao was dumbfounded when she saw Xuxu. She only managed to react after a brief moment. "Hi Xuxu, it has been a while."

She wound her arm in fluid motion around Jiang Zhuoheng's arm.

Xuxu briefly glanced at their interlinked arms. A mixture of complicated emotions surged in her heart, but her facial expression remained impassive. "Yeah."

She had no idea what her feelings were. It could be sorrow or just an overwhelming feeling.

She wasn't greedy, but she felt that her childhood friend Ah Heng seemed to drift away from her.

She knew that eventually, they would lead their own separate lives.

Hu Xiaoxiao's eyes darted around the empty room before looking at Xuxu. "Are you here with Yan Rusheng?"

"Yes, and with my First Aunt too," Xuxu answered politely. "Would you like to join us?"

Hu Xiaoxiao gently waved her hands. "No thanks. My parents and Ah Heng's parents are here with us."

Xuxu didn't insist as she had asked her out of courtesy. "Then, perhaps next time."

"Sure." Hu Xiaoxiao nodded and glanced at Jiang Zhuoheng. "Let's go, they are waiting for us."

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Chapter 768: There is No Need for Such Deep Lingered Affection

Jiang Zhuoheng didn't look at Hu Xiaoxiao but instead threw a longing gaze at Xuxu.

He spun around, swiftly pulled his arm away from Hu Xiaoxiao and strode away without a word.

Hu Xiaoxiao gave Xuxu a smile before turning around. Xuxu returned the smile as she watched Hu Xiaoxiao trailing behind Jiang Zhuoheng.

She leaned against the door frame and gazed at Jiang Zhuoheng and Hu Xiaoxiao's diminishing figures. Gradually, she fell into a deep reverie.

As a person goes through life, they would constantly gain things. However, they would lose some others that were important to them along the way.

Wasn't it normal?

'Ah Heng, you have to be happy.'

Jiang Zhuoheng strode ahead in huge steps while Hu Xiaoxiao struggled to keep up with him. After turning around a corner, she burst out. "The reason why you suddenly changed the dinner venue was because of Wen Xuxu, am I right?"

Jiang Zhuoheng didn't halt his footsteps but threw a fleeting glance at the woman beside him. He coldly said, "Since you know the answer, why did you even ask?"

Indeed, he had caught a glimpse of Xuxu earlier on while he was in the car. He saw her entering Jiangnan River Delta and an impulse to change the venue seized him.

Actually, he just wanted to see her—even if it's just a brief encounter or just to hear her voice in person.

Hu Xiaoxiao continued in an unyielding tone. "There will always be one person you can never have in this lifetime. But you can simply just occasionally reminisce about her. There is no need for such deep lingering affection."

Jiang Zhuoheng finally halted his footsteps, and his hands were clenched tightly into fists.

'There will always be one person you can never have in this lifetime....'

He didn't respond and moved forward in big strides.

He suddenly unbuttoned his jacket, removed it, and carried it in his hands.

Hu Xiaoxiao observed him and peered quietly at her own dress. Her expression darkened.

...

"What are you looking at?"

Xuxu was deep in her own thoughts when an exceedingly familiar voice extricated her from her daze. "You didn't make a sound. Almost scared me to death."

She spun her head and chided the man gazing at her.

Yan Rusheng wound his hand around her waist and counterattacked. "If you weren't thinking of something that you were trying to hide from me, why should you be scared?"

"I can't be bothered to talk to you." Xuxu rolled her eyes at Yan Rusheng and turned her head to peer around. "Where is First Aunt?"

Yan Rusheng answered, "She spotted a stall selling boiled pear soup and insisted on buying."

Then he led Xuxu into the private room.

Xuxu's eyes lit up with happiness. "I love boiled pear soup."

Yan Rusheng frowned. "Really?"

Xuxu pouted and felt upset. "Look at you. You don't even know what I like to eat."

She tilted her head to gaze at Yan Rusheng's good-looking face. She suddenly tightly hugged him.

"What happened? Did you witness something inappropriate for children just now? Is that why you hugged me the instant you saw me?" Young Master Yan didn't admit that he received a benefit in a way, and instead teased her. He then tightly wound his arms around her in an embrace as well.

He lowered his head to give her a peck on her lips.

"Stop it. First Aunt will be here at any moment." Xuxu's face was as red as a tomato, and then she bolted towards the table. She hastily sat down.

Yan Rusheng dawdled towards the table and sat next to her. He then spoke with a solemn tone. "Regarding the coastal county project, someone else is investigating. I reckon that the news will break out soon."

Xuxu became anxious. "What should we do? What if Second Brother is exposed and apprehended? Would it aggravate his crimes?"

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Chapter 769: Don't Let Someone Get a Handle on Him

Yan Rusheng fell silent. It was exactly what worried him the most.

It was only after a long while that he spoke. "It depends on Yan Runan now."

He had made his stand clear when he called First Uncle earlier that afternoon, and he had conveyed a clear and ringing message.

If Yan Runan didn't have any self-awareness, then he needed to shoulder the consequences by himself.

After all, his original intentions were hard to forgive.

Yan Rusheng was level-headed and rational, but Xuxu couldn't be like that. She grabbed him tightly. "Ah Sheng, let's inform First Aunt now."

They needed to persuade First Aunt to talk to Second Brother so he could confess to his crimes. Then they would think of a way to save him and eliminate the possibility of being manipulated.

Yan Rusheng narrowed his eyes with a cryptic expression. "She might already have known."

Xuxu was shocked yet puzzled. "Why would you come to that conclusion?"

If First Aunt already knew, why would she still have the mood to have dinner with them?

Yan Rusheng gazed at Xuxu and instead, he asked, "At this crucial point, would she still have the time to bother about you?"

"Do you mean..." Xuxu widened her eyes as suspicions crept inside of her. However, she couldn't be entirely sure.

"I'm only guessing." Yan Rusheng threw a look at the entrance. He then said in a hushed voice, "Wang Bin's grandson went missing last night and they found him just this morning. His family didn't report it to the police, and the boy came home by himself."

It shocked Xuxu, and she began to comprehend the whole situation in a new light. "So, someone already knew the truth behind the county's project, and they are searching for evidence right now? If you drag Liu Changfu down along with the others, they might use this evidence to make demands with you."

She was calm as she analyzed it in a clear and logical manner.

"Smart." Yan Rusheng pinched Xuxu's gently cheeks and gazed at her with affection and admiration.

He always had a woman by his side who was intelligent, and their hearts were linked as one. Even he envied himself.

Xuxu furrowed her eyebrows. "Then, in that case, First Aunt..."

She didn't complete her sentence when Yan Rusheng interrupted. "Let's observe the situation first. She must be confused and flustered right now. If not, she wouldn't have doubled back after knowing the truth instead of going back to Yan Runan right now."

Xuxu nodded. "Yes, if we keep heaping advice on her right now, she wouldn't be able to listen to a word and it might even backfire."

She hopelessly sighed. "I really hope that Second Brother will understand this and won't let anyone get a handle on him."

The truth will prevail eventually.

Yan Rusheng pressed his lips as complex emotions swirled around in his eyes.

Xuxu watched him and fell silent too. She stretched her hand towards the teapot and disinfected his cup. She then poured tea for him.

"Xuxu."

Jiang Qinglian finally arrived. She was wearing a smile as she walked in.

She must be exhausted these few days as her smile seemed rather weak.

She held two bags in her hands, and then she closed the door behind her.

"First Aunt." Xuxu stood up.

Jiang Qinglian grumbled with a smile. She sighed. "There was such a long queue at the shop that my legs nearly went numb. Young people these days refuse to queue up."

She passed a bag to Xuxu.

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Chapter 770: Who Said She Wasn't Feminine or Charming?

"Thank you, First Aunt." Xuxu received the bag and peered inside.

Jiang Qinglian held her hand and walked towards the table. "This is boiled pear soup, and it nourishes the lungs. I remembered that you loved it when you were a child. But I'm not sure if the taste is still the same."

Xuxu smiled. "Grandmother's boiled pear soup is still the best."

She bowed her head and fell silent.

She tightly clenched the handle of the bag as her long curled eyelashes fluttered. Sorrow, anger, and longing rapidly washed over her.

Jiang Qinglian watched Xuxu, and she was lost in her thoughts for a moment. She broke into a smile and patted Xuxu gently on her back. "Grandmother dotes on you the most. You and Third Yan are so loving now. She would be pleased and happy to know."

Xuxu couldn't suppress her emotions any longer and her eyes became red. She rubbed her belly and with sorrow lacing her voice, she said, "If only Grandmother was still here."

The old lady's deepest wish was about to be fulfilled.

If Grandmother was still around, all these wouldn't have happened. First Uncle wouldn't have brought Su Yan and Su Yue back.

But even if they entered the family, with Grandmother around, she would be able to handle the situation.

The more Xuxu thought about it, the more she missed Wang Daqin. It overwhelmed her and soon her tears fell.

Yan Rusheng saw her and a crease appeared on his forehead. He strode quickly towards Xuxu and gently wiped her tears away. "No wonder the books warned that pregnant women are melancholic and get emotional easily."

He held her hand and led her to her seat.

Jiang Qinglian watched Xuxu and Yan Rusheng. She was frowning while her hands were clammy. She was restless.

"Don't turn my son into a crybaby." Yan Rusheng pulled a tissue and dabbed at her eyes as he teased.

Both of them were like children right now; innocent, bright and warm like a ray of sunshine.

Jiang Qinglian gazed at them and entered a reverie.

"Stop nagging at me." Xuxu rolled her eyes at Yan Rusheng and turned towards Jiang Qinglian. She beckoned at her. "First Aunt, come and sit down."

"Oh." Jiang Qinglian jerked. She wore an uneasy smile. "Okay."

She walked to Xuxu and placed the soup on the table before settling down.

"Let me taste this soup." Xuxu began to remove the cover of the container. The container took the form of a pretty little glass vase and it looked exquisite.

She really liked it.

Most women usually like dainty and pretty stuff. Why didn't he notice that Wen Xuxu was like an ordinary woman who also liked such? Now that he observed her closely, he quietly chided himself for complaining that Wen Xuxu wasn't feminine at all. Who said she wasn't feminine or charming?

From top to toe, it displayed her charm!

Yan Rusheng's eyes followed Xuxu and fell on the container. The soup was of a light beige color, and it seemed milky and concentrated.

Jiang Qinglian's eyes darted furtively to Xuxu's belly which was hardly showing. She had her hands clasped together tightly. It was clear that she was quietly struggling.

“I can use this container as a vase and put a rose inside,” Xuxu exclaimed.

She spun her head and beamed at Jiang Qinglian. She took a straw and put it inside the container.