The Days of Being in a Fake Marriage with the CEO #Chapter 61 - Confirming with Their Gazes - Read The Days of Being in a Fake Marriage with the CEO Chapter 61 - Confirming with Their Gazes

Chapter 61: Confirming with Their Gazes

Suddenly, Mu Huan could smell a burst of aroma.

"This is the smell of the beggar's chicken! The beggar's chicken here is extremely delicious! The boss is very headstrong. He will sell it only when he feels like it. Since the start of last year, he has been opening the store less and less frequently. This is a rare opportunity. We should quickly go get one to savor!" Mu Huan tugged at Bao Junyan excitedly, hoping to buy a beggar's chicken.

Bao Junyan: "..."

Didn't they just eat?

"Quick! If we go late, not only would we have to queue, but there might not even be any left!" Mu Huan pulled on Bao Junyan and began to run.

Bao Junyan was a little surprised as he looked at her behaving like a running athlete. Her strength and speed did not seem like those of someone who had just started training.

When Mu Huan and Bao Junyan arrived, only one person was queuing at the beggar's chicken stall. The aroma earlier was from when the boss had opened the cover for the customer who had ordered the beggar's chicken. That customer was first, and Mu Huan was next in line.

"Hubby, this stall's beggar's chicken is extremely delicious. Would you like to have a taste?"

"Sure." Bao Junyan couldn't help but want to try the delicacies she mentioned when he saw how bright her face shone every time she talked about different cuisines.

"Then we shall have two!" Mu Huan had always wanted to eat an entire beggar's chicken on her own. Therefore, she did not allow anyone to share it with her.

"We just finished our meal," Bao Junyan reminded her.

"Seafood hotpot cannot fill our stomachs for long. And this beggar's chicken is stuffed well. Most of our food will have been digested by the time we get home, and it will be just the right time for us to eat."

While Mu Huan and Bao Junyan were exchanging words, a long queue formed behind them.

"I told you that you would have to queue if you were late!" Mu Huan commented excitedly.

Bao Junyan looked at her expression, the corners of his lips curving up slightly.

After buying the beggar's chicken, Mu Huan thought of a delicious ice cream shop around the area. However, there would probably be many people queuing at this time right now, and she did not dare to let Bao Junyan accompany her to wait in line.

Just when she had decided not to eat it, Bao Junyan received a call. It seemed like it was an important work matter and he needed to talk for a long while.

She instantly informed Bao Junyan of her intention happily and went to queue for the ice cream.

As she stood in line, Mu Huan heard a loud disturbance and turned her head around instinctively.

However, turning her head had been a bad mistake!

The person leading the uproar was a huge hoodlum that Mu Huan had offended during one of her cases.

The hoodlum looked over just as she turned around to stare. When their gazes met, the hoodlum confirmed that she was the foe he was looking for.

The hoodlum led a group of underlings and walked over ferociously.

Witnessing the situation, Mu Huan turned around and ran!

After running a few steps, she turned back around as she suddenly recalled that Bao Junyan was still waiting for her. If she ran away just like that, there was no way she could explain the situation to him later.

Seeing her turning back around, the hoodlum initially thought that she was planning to fight with them. Therefore, he seized a rod by the side and swung it.

Mu Huan avoided the rod and ran toward the alley as she decided to take a detour to find Bao Junyan.

When he saw that she was running away, the hoodlum shouted instantly, "Chase her! Chase that woman and kill her!"

A group of people ran into the alley after her.

When Mu Huan reached Bao Junyan, panting heavily, he had just ended his call. "What's wrong?" he asked after seeing her drenched in sweat.

"I..." Just when Mu Huan was about to speak, she heard a loud string of curses.

When she thought about how the group of men was about to catch up to them, she panicked and tugged Bao Junyan harshly into a dark alley. Without waiting for Bao Junyan to say something, she stood on her tiptoes and kissed him.

The tall and well-built man was completely taken aback.

Chapter 62: Couldn't Control Myself

After hearing that the foul-mouthed voices had gone farther away, Mu Huan released her grip on Bao Junyan.

Bao Junyan lowered his head and looked at her with deep, unpredictable eyes.

"That... That, I...." Mu Huan forced herself to calm down. "I forgot to ask what flavor of ice cream you wanted, that's why I came running back... After I saw you standing there looking all so... handsome... I... couldn't control myself..."

Bao Junyan stared at her speechlessly.

The way he looked at her left Mu Huan with goosebumps.

She didn't know if he was looking at her this way because he had sensed something amiss or if it was because of something else.

"I'm sorry... I... You... Do you not like this...?

"Next time, I... I wouldn't do this again... I'm sorry..." Mu Huan lowered her head and released him as she tried to move farther away from Bao Junyan.

And yet, just as Mu Huan was about to move, she was held by his large hand and pulled fiercely into his embrace.

With his other hand, he raised her chin, forcing her to look directly at him.

As she matched Bao Junyan's dark, deep gaze, Mu Huan became even more nervous. "Hubby, I..."

He still didn't say a word as he continued to stare at her.

Just as Mu Huan was wondering in dread if things were over for her, he lowered his head and said, "Since you wanted to kiss, then kiss me properly."

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The hoodlum who did not manage to catch Mu Huan after running for a long time believed that she couldn't have gotten so far. However, he still had not caught sight of her. Therefore, as he turned back around, he just so happened to encounter the scene before him. Due to their positions, Mu Huan was blocked by Bao Junyan's tall and huge figure completely.

He yelled out a curse and left.

Their vulgarities caused Bao Junyan to regain his senses as he realized that it wasn't right to do it here.

"Let's go home." His voice was lower than usual as he said that.

The next day, Mu Huan came to a conclusion after having two experiences. To deal with the shrewd, hypocritical man, all she had to do was kiss him on the lips.

Just as Mu Huan was getting ready to get to work after they ate, she received a call from Matriarch Mu, who asked her to head over to the Mu family's house.

Mu Huan informed Li Meng of it before heading over.

The moment she stepped into the house, she could sense the depressing atmosphere in the household. The corners of her lips curved up as she walked in happily.

Matriarch Mu was sitting at her main seat with her eyes closed, resting while twirling a string of Buddha beads in her hand.

Mu Huan felt that it was useless for her Grandma to pray to Buddha or burn any incense as she had done too many shameful deeds.

When she heard the sound of footsteps, Matriarch Mu opened her eyes. That gaze filled with weathered hardships was astutely terrifying.

"Grandma, did you ask me to come over so that you can pay me the ten million dollars?"

They wanted to give her 20 million dollars to drug Bao Junyan, did they?

Come on! Give her the money!

Suddenly, Matriarch Mu stood up and walked toward Mu Huan. "What ten million dollars?"

"Didn't you say that you would give me ten million dollars first if I agreed? Why are you going back on your words now?" Mu Huan raised her eyebrows.

In the next second, Matriarch Mu sent a harsh slap across her face, causing the corner of Mu Huan's lips to bleed.

Chapter 63: So What If You Knew?

Mu Huan's gaze swiftly turned cold.

Just as Matriarch Mu had raised her hand to slap her a second time, Mu Huan grabbed her wrist roughly and said with an icy gaze, "Grandma, if you want someone to respect you as an elderly, please conduct yourself with dignity first!"

"Why? Are you unable to hit me even though you want to? Hit me, then!" Matriarch Mu said with a stern voice.

"Grandma, I am saying this again. Do not go overboard!"

"You're the one who went overboard, Mu Huan! I've never been ruthless toward you because you are my biological granddaughter, yet you are unable to tell good from the bad. You are so wretched!" If it wasn't for the fact that Mu Huan was still useful, Matriarch Mu would have really wanted to beat her to death.

Mu Huan was taken aback.

"Did you think that everything will be fine as long as you sent those videos and photographs to Mu Weiguo? All I had to do was inebriate him and he immediately divulged everything!" Even after Matriarch Mu found out that it was Mu Weiguo who had sent those videos and photographs, she did not believe that he had the intellect to plot against Bai Xuexian. Therefore, she made use of his weakness toward alcohol and got someone to find things out from him using a bottle of wine. That's how she learned about everything.

A look of realization flashed across Mu Huan's eyes. It turned out that Matriarch Mu had figured out the truth. It was no wonder she was so angry.

Even though she knew that her grandma would be suspicious, she never thought that her grandma would figure out that she was the one behind this so quickly. However... "So what if you know about this?"

"You...!" Matriarch Mu almost couldn't catch her breath due to her anger.

"Grandma, although I have no idea what bargaining chip you have in your hands that made you think that you will definitely be able to have Mu Kexin marry Bao Junyan, I know now that no matter what that chip is, you will never be able to matchmake them together."

Grandma would have to take care of Mu Kexin if she was unable to find a husband.

"You wretched, evil creature!" Matriarch Mu yelled furiously.

"If I am an evil monster, then what about you?" Mu Huan sneered in response.

Matriarch Mu was ready to explode. "Guards! Guards!"

"Why is Grandma shouting for someone? Do you want to get somebody to beat me up?"

"You wouldn't know what fear is until I beat you half to death today!"

"Does Grandma still think that I am young and weak? That I will just take your scolding and beating?" Mu Huan laughed coldly.

"Mu Huan, don't forget that your granny is in my hands!"

"I didn't forget. It's because my granny is still here that I still came. That's why I am still willing to talk to you amicably. If anything happens to my granny, what do you think I will do?"

"You…"

"After this issue with Bai Xuexian, have you not realized yet that I am no longer like how I was in the past? If any one of you dare to touch my granny, I will return a tooth for a tooth!

"Therefore, Grandma, you shouldn't be thinking about how badly you could treat my granny. Rather, you should think about how well you can take care of her such that she

lives to a hundred years old. This way, you will always have a weakness of mine and can continue to make use of me. If not, you can forget about even using me. I will be the sharpest knife that will destroy this Mu family! I will ruin the family property you value the most, as well as your precious grandson!"

"Mu Huan!" Matriarch Mu bellowed.

At this moment, she finally realized that the woman before her was no longer that tenyear-old girl who would cry and beg her whenever she was beaten or threatened.

"Grandma, I will say the same thing once again. If you want the Mu family to be well and your grandson to be fine, then let my granny be alright! Do not use her as a threat whenever you want! Of course, I will still do everything that you ask of me."

Chapter 64: You Have to Save Dad!

Mu Huan knew that she couldn't anger Matriarch Mu completely. If she was reckless, she would not be able to withstand her with her current capability.

She needed to use both the carrot and the stick.

"Also, Grandma, I know that you have always wanted Mu Kexin to marry Bao Junyan because of your baby grandson. Even though I am not close to him, he is ultimately my little brother. As long as Grandma treats my granny well, I will do more than Mu Kexin would, but never less."

Matriarch Mu felt that Mu Huan would not do as she said.

But...

She was aware that it was as Mu Huan had said. Now, no matter what bargaining chip she had in her hand, she was never going to be able to matchmake Mu Kexin with Bao Junyan. Therefore, she needed to use Mu Huan from now on.

So even if she didn't want to believe her, she could only choose to believe Mu Huan and calm down from her fury.

But she was not delighted in the slightest bit.

Therefore, when Mu Huan released her hand, she still delivered two harsh slaps across Mu Huan's face.

Mu Huan knew that Matriarch Mu needed to vent her anger. Thus, she did not hold her back.

Her fair and tender face had turned swollen and red from the three vicious slaps.

"You'd better do as you said you would. If not, do not blame me for being heartless! Even if you are no longer how you were when you were young, if I wanted you to have nowhere to go, you can forget about staying alive!" Matriarch Mu sneered.

Mu Huan lowered her head. "I know."

All the harsh words she said earlier was to let her grandma know what the consequences of touching her granny were. She wanted her grandma to realize that she should absolutely not touch her granny, especially over the anger she was feeling right now.

It was not because she was strong enough now. Therefore, she could only bear with it as Matriarch Mu vented her fury.

"You have to ask Bao Junyan to attend my birthday feast, as well as to get him to prepare generous gifts!" She wanted to use Bao Junyan to regain her dignity.

"Yes."

"Get out!" Matriarch Mu was annoyed if she had to look at Mu Huan for another second.

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Mu Huan came home with a swollen face. Mu Dongsheng, who had been waiting by the door, instantly went forward. "My poor baby girl, it must have hurt!" he said with a face full of heartache.

Mu Huan raised her head to look at him.

Mu Dongsheng reached out with a sweet in his palm. "Be good. Here's your favorite sweet. It won't hurt anymore after you eat this."

Mu Huan's eyes began to turn red as she stared at the sweet in his hand.

When she was young, no matter where she fell or what she cried over, her dad would always magically present her with candy to coax her.

Even though she felt it wasn't good that her dad always listened to her grandma, she always thought that she had the best dad in the world.

But now...

"Dad, be direct with what you want to say. You are terrible at acting affectionate." Now, he only showed his fatherly love whenever he needed her help for something.

Sometimes, when she looked at him, she wanted to ask why things had turned out this way. He treated her so well and loved her so much when she was young. He always said she was his most beloved baby and princess.

Did he only treat her well because it was a request from Grandma?

But every single time, she controlled herself as she refused to destroy the fond memories she had from when she was young.

After all, those beautiful times were all that was left in her life.

Mu Dongsheng seemed to never know what awkwardness was. Every time he was exposed by Mu Huan, he would reveal his true intentions as if it was nothing. "Xiao Huan, you have to save Dad! If you don't, there's no way I can continue to survive!"

Chapter 65: I Am Your Biological Father!

"Save you? How do I save you?"

"Five million! As long as you give me five million, you can save your dad! If not, my hands and legs will either be chopped up or your grandma will banish me to the countryside. Xiao Huan, you have to save me!" Mu Dongsheng said with a pitiful face.

"Five million?" Mu Huan wanted to laugh herself to tears. "If I had five million yuan, would I still be in this state right now? And yet you want to ask me for five million?!"

"You don't, but Bao Junyan does! To him, five million is just a piece of cake. You just have to act coquettishly and you will be able to get it from him!" Mu Dongsheng obviously knew she didn't have the money.

"Act coquettishly and I'll get it?"

"Yes, yes. All you need to do is act coquettishly!" Mu Dongsheng nodded vigorously.

"What do you take Bao Junyan for? A fool?" Just because she was acting adorable, he would give her five million yuan?!

"An old man will become a fool if he meets a young lady. If I had a young girlfriend, I would think of every single way to give her anything she wants. What more Bao Junyan, who is rich?! To him, five million is not even worth anything!"

Mu Huan looked at him silently.

"Xiao Huan, Dad only wants you to ask Bao Junyan for five million. I am not asking you to earn five million yuan. You wouldn't even do something so simple for me? I am your biological father!

"Bao Junyan is so wealthy. It wouldn't be an issue at all to ask him for that little amount of money!"

"No matter how rich he is, it is still his money! What right do I have to ask others for money, and for an amount like five million yuan?!"

"What do you mean 'what right do you have'? He slept with a fragile and lovely woman like you. What's wrong with asking for five million yuan from him? Did I raise you just for you to sleep with him for nothing?"

"We are lawfully wedded!" That was the duty of a husband and wife!

"You are no longer young, but why are you still so foolish? What did you think a 20-year-old woman would marry a 30-year-old man for? Of course it's for his money! If you married him not for his money, then what else did you marry him for? Nothing?"

"If I married him for money, then what have I become? A woman selling her body?" Mu Huan's pride and self-respect had allowed her to get into an arranged marriage only for survival, but never to use her body for money.

"Don't make it sound so nasty. You originally married Bao Junyan to bring some benefits to the Mu family. Now, I am only conveniently asking you to help get five million yuan! Why are you like this? What's wrong with helping your biological father?"

"Why am I like this?" Mu Dongsheng's words left Mu Huan's heart icier than ever. She was rendered speechless and could only repeat his words.

A biological father who not only knew this was a pit of fire but also wanted to push his own daughter into it, and then create benefits for himself over her burning body. What else could she say?

"That's right! You did those things for your grandma even though I asked you not to. Asking for some money is really something simple!" Mu Dongsheng felt that Mu Huan should not reject him. She was now Mrs. Bao, after all. What was wrong with asking for some money for her father?

Although Mu Huan spoke to her grandma in that manner, she never planned to gain anything from Bao Junyan for the Mu family. Even if she had no alternatives, she would

think of a plan in order to counteract. She absolutely did not want to owe Bao Junyan anything.

Asking Bao Junyan directly for money was out of the question.

"I will not help you. You can forget about it." She did not want to say anything else to her father.

Seeing that Mu Huan was about to leave, Mu Dongsheng grabbed her arm. "Xiao Huan, you cannot reject me and not care about me! I am your biological father!"

Chapter 66: This Is Called Happiness?

Mu Huan looked at him silently for a moment before suddenly asking, "What do you need five million yuan for?"

Mu Dongsheng thought this meant that she wanted to help him. "I went overseas with my friends a while back to gamble, and I lost a few rounds. Originally, your grandma said that she would give me five million after I've persuaded you to agree, and I would then be able to fill the gap. Who knew that you would cause such a problem and send your grandma into a violent rage? Why would I dare to still ask her for any money now? If not for that, I wouldn't be asking you to get the money from Bao Junyan in the first place."

Until the end, Mu Dongsheng seemed to be blaming Mu Huan. If she had not tarnished Bai Xuexian's reputation and destroyed Matriarch Mu's game, things wouldn't have come to this.

"You lost five million?"

"I had times when I won as well, but you know you can never keep winning in such things."

Mu Huan suddenly lost all control and grabbed Mu Dongsheng's arm. "You can go overseas and lose five million yuan, yet you refused to lend me fifty thousand in the first place?! You just watched them destroy my entire life?!"

Previously, she'd tried to find an excuse for him and convinced herself that it was as he said. It wasn't that he didn't want to help her; he was just helpless. However, what was this now?!

He dared to lose five million vuan but didn't want to lend her fifty thousand?!

"Xiao Huan, this is different. No matter how much I lose, your grandma would only think I am a failure and send me to the countryside to reflect. But if I go against her, she would take my life! You know I already have a son, so the Mu family now has a successor. Your grandma no longer needs this useless son of hers."

"Take your life? You really think Grandma would take your life?"

Mu Dongsheng: "..."

Alright, he was exaggerating a little. No matter how useless her mother thought he was, she would never take away her only son's life. But even then, he did not dare to oppose her!

"Xiao Huan, there's no meaning behind what we are saying anymore. Also, how is this ruining your life?! It's great that you married Bao Junyan! Bao Junyan is handsome and rich, and he dotes on you. All the clothes you are wearing now are branded. Your life is going to be a wonderful one as you are living in the lap of luxury. It isn't ruined—you are profiting from a disaster! Stop thinking about the past!"

"Profiting from a disaster? Grandma is holding Granny against me, so I can only listen to her instructions obediently like a dog, doing whatever she asks me to do. This is called happiness? Look at my face. Do you really feel this is a blessing?" Mu Huan pointed at her face.

Mu Dongsheng could not bear to look at her red and swollen face.

"Xiao Huan, don't make it sound so nasty. You have to think about it this way. Your grandma is your elder. It is a must for you to be filial and obedient to your elders. As long as you are obedient and do whatever Grandma asks you to, you wouldn't have to take any beating."

He had told her very early on to be like him. Be obedient and let Grandma do whatever she wanted to do, and things would be fine. Yet, she had to create such a problem.

"I should just do whatever she asks me to do? She asked me to drug Bao Junyan, and I did. Forget about her letting me live a good life with 20 million yuan. She will only think of ways to put me in a tight spot and repeatedly use me over and over again until I am useless to her!"

Mu Dongsheng: "..."

This was a possibility.

But...

"Xiao Huan, no matter what, things are already this way. Kexin can never marry Bao Junyan, so you have to keep being Mrs. Bao and be used by your grandma. Since that's the case, you can just conveniently lend your dad a hand! I am your biological father, after all!" Mu Dongsheng reinforced his identity as her dad once again.

Chapter 67: Let Me Stay with You for Two Days, Please

"I'm your biological daughter! Why are you doing this to me?! Why do you have to do this to me?!" she said, uncontrollably lambasting her father.

Her biological father could watch others bullied, beaten, threatened, tortured, and even drugged. Now, he wanted her to prostitute herself so she could earn some money for him to pay his debts.

He's my daddy! My very own father!

"Your dad here knows he's useless and despicable, but I didn't want this to happen either! I wanted to protect you, and wish I had the ability to do that! But whatever I can do, I'll do my utmost best for you! Look, every time you quarrel with Kexin, I always side with you..."

She looked at him and started to smile. Her smile broke into a chuckle before it turned into a sob. Soon, she was crying helplessly. "Dad, sometimes I wish for you to drive a knife through me instead. You can finish me off..."

Or, perhaps, she wished that he could be more heartless or ruthless, so she could give up on him once and for all. Then she would not be hurt by him, over and over again.

"What nonsense are you spouting? Why would I do that to you? You're my daughter!"

She sobbed and laughed as she looked at him. And it was in this manner, crying and laughing intermittently, that she finally let go of his arm and walked away.

Mu Dongsheng wanted to stop her. He wanted to beg her to help him but, somehow, his feet stayed glued to the ground. Never had he seen his daughter behave like this before. She had been a strong and stubborn girl up to now.

Sometimes, it did not take a lot for a father to hurt a child. All he had to do was to give her love and hope, and then build her anticipation, before mercilessly destroying all that he had built within her heart.

The worst was how the pain was still not sufficient for the child to let go. With that little love inside her heart, she could not put down their fetter even if she wanted to. And so, she had to bear with his betrayal time and time again.

The summer night was unpredictable indeed. The bright and sunny sky was suddenly covered by dark clouds and raging wind, hinting of an approaching thunderstorm.

While pedestrians were busy looking for shelter, she continued to wander aimlessly on the pavement.

She had been hardworking and motivated all along, but even the most positive person would have their downtime, too.

And right now, she was just too tired and burned out.

She had tried her very best to live life the way she ought to, but it seemed like a futile attempt now.

Droplets of rain fell heavily and speedily on her. The large droplets slapped relentlessly on her face, making her red and bruised face even more swollen.

Still, that did not stop her from moping around on the street like a soulless ghoul. So much so that the harried passersby could not help stopping to take a second look at her.

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The thunderstorm in summer passed as quickly as it came.

After the rain, Li Meng was about to go out of the house to look for food when she saw her bestie looking drenched and despondent outside the door.

Mu Huan's face broke into a smile when she saw her.

"What happened? Who hit you?!" Li Meng's eyes instantly rimmed red upon seeing her ugly and swollen face.

She knew the answer after she asked, though. There were only two people who could hit her—Bai Xuexian or her grandma.

"Can I stay over with you for two days? I cannot let Bao Junyan catch me looking like this." If the man were to see her in this state, he would jump. He would take these punches personally. It would be terrible if he was antagonized.

"Then how are you going to explain your disappearance to him?"

"I don't know if he would believe me if I were to tell him that my good friend fell out of love again," she commented with a laugh.

"Look at your face, you look terrible when you smile! Stop laughing!" Her bestie hurled her into the house.

Chapter 68: I Cannot Bear to See You Leave

After she got into the house, she took a shower and changed her clothes before she could finally take a seat on the sofa. Her bestie went to retrieve two ice packs from the fridge to apply on her bruises.

"Your grandma is a formidable demoness! Most women at her age are either sick or amiable old ladies. But she is still going strong at her age, and she's merciless when it comes to hitting her granddaughter." By now, Li Meng was really disgusted with the old lady.

"Well, she was already heartless when she hit her own son, not to mention me."

"How can there be such a grandma in the world...?" Her bestie's voice trailed off, having no words to describe her feelings.

"What should I tell Bao Junyan to convince him to let me stay away for two days?" She was more concerned about this matter right now.

"If you were aware of this problem prior to this, then why didn't you try to avoid the situation in the first place? Who could have hit you if you meant to run?!"

"How could I have avoided it? If I didn't let that old woman vent her frustration, she might take it out on my granny," she retorted with a pout.

Her friend was about to say something when she realized the truth in her words. What if that demoness really went after the granny?

A man truly cannot have any kind of weakness. If her friend did not, with her capabilities, she would not have had to bear with such humiliation!

"I have to say, though, my grandma has always been careful. When I was little, she would not allow my stepmother to hit my face in case others found out about the abuse. But she really lost her cool today. The fact that Mu Kexin cannot marry Bao Junyan must be a terrible blow to her!" This thought cheered her up very much.

"It would be good if this blow was heavy enough to knock her out so she can't cause any more trouble to you," her friend said.

"Well, she may want Kexin to marry Bao Junyan for the sake of her precious grandson, but the person she loves most is herself, after all. She won't be easily defeated. If not, the title of the thousand-years' demoness will not be befitting for her!"

Her bestie had to agree. "She's a true-blue demoness!"

"Ay, let's not talk about this now. Come and brainstorm with me. What should I say to convince the man to let me stay over at your place for two days...?" This was getting to be a major headache!

"How about telling him that I tried to slit my wrist because of family problems?" Li Meng reckoned a tough, sad story would probably be able to earn a few days' absence without incurring any suspicion.

"What if he decides to come and see you?" She had told her husband that Li Meng was her very best friend. And for her best friend, he would likely pay a visit as a courtesy if he were to find out that she had attempted suicide. That would spell trouble!

This plan was too risky!

Her friend had to agree with her after thinking it through. "But I doubt he's gonna believe you if you tell him that your best friend is brokenhearted. I mean, we were having such a good time with the seafood hotpot..."

"How about other friends falling out of love?"

"I think this excuse can work only once. You're gonna arouse his suspicion if you use the same excuse again!"

"I think so too." That was the reason she hesitated on this matter.

Just as the two of them were mulling over the best excuse to use, Bao Junyan called.

The girl immediately signaled her friend to keep quiet.

"I need to make an urgent trip to the UK. I'll return about three days later."

The girl brightened up instantly at his message. Heaven was on her side!

"Hubby, please go ahead and get busy!"

The man asked, "Are you that happy to hear that I'm going away?"

Hearing her exuberance, it sounded to him like she was going to send him off with firecrackers and cheerleading. "That's not true..." She hastily muted her tone. "Hubby, I can't bear to see you go!" "That's good to know. Come back and pack your stuff. You're leaving with me," he told her. "What?!" Chapter 69: I Will Be Good "What?!" What is this?! "Hubby..." "Yes?" "Hubby..." "Yes?" "Hubby..." Her voice became more pleading and petulant at each turn, until his lips hooked into a smile. "Yes?" "I, er..." "What is it?" "[..." "You don't want to go?" "It's not that... I... erm, school is about to start soon, and also, my grandma's birthday feast is coming up soon. I have to help out at home..." She was glad that she need not face him directly or she would definitely be exposed through and through. "You found a good excuse." He could not help praising her.

Was he exposing her?

Just when she felt cornered and was desperately trying to find some justification for herself, the man commented, "Be a good girl and do what you need to do at home."

Her eyes lit up. Will this do, too? Quickly, she nodded in acquiescence. "I'll definitely be a good girl!"

"Alright." The man hung up the call after that.

PA Wang was dumbstruck by what he had just heard.

Was CEO trying to humor his wife just now?

I didn't know the President could be this patient!

The girl collapsed on the couch with relief after putting down the phone. "What a scare!"

"Hey, I can see that Bao the Lord dotes on you! He gave in to you despite knowing that you were lying!" Her friend had nothing but praise for him. It looked like he had won her over.

She got up from the sofa. "I have to say that he really is good to me."

Her friend reacted instinctively. "Then you have to hold tight to him!"

"Ha... ha..." The girl could only laugh dumbly in response.

This was when Li Meng recalled the unfortunate situation her bestie had been ensnared currently. With a tinge of sorrow, she changed the topic inadvertently. "I'm feeling hungry now. What about you? What do you want to eat?"

"I want to enjoy good food today. Only food can comfort my hurting heart." She was the kind whose appetite remained good regardless of the circumstances she was in. In fact, food was the motivator for her.

"What do you want to eat? It's my treat today!"

"Let's have stewed goose! I was thinking of checking out the stewed goose in that famous store!"

"Can you still go out looking like this?" Her friend glanced at her swollen face.

"Call to reserve a table first while I apply a cold compress. We can go over once the swelling subsides."

"That's a good idea."

At the restaurant, Mu Huan received a call from the lead host while eating.

Once dinner was over, they headed straight to the meeting place to see him.

He was concerned at once when he saw her. "Your face..."

The girl replied with indifference, "It's nothing much. This is minor."

"A friend told me that my boss is looking for me now so I want to leave this place tonight." Although the clubhouse owner suffered a few strikes this time, he remained powerful. Thus, he wanted to leave before it was too late.

"I've arranged for someone to prepare your passports. The money is ready too, although it isn't much..."

"I know you did your best. Besides, you've helped me so much so I shouldn't take your money in the first place. But I really need some quick cash now, so just pretend that I'm borrowing the money from you for now. I'll return it to you one day!" With her help, he and his sister managed to escape safe and unscathed. To be honest, he felt bad about taking her money, but he promised himself he would return double the sum to her one day!

"You can repay me when you make it rich one day. But don't push yourself too hard, it's not easy making a living overseas. It's more important to take care of your sis and yourself!"

He looked at her, full of gratitude. The girl standing before him was also having it tough, but that did not stop her from being kind to them.

Chapter 70: Were You Happy These Last Few Days?

After sending off the lead host and his sister, she became a pauper overnight.

"I'm feeling the pinch now..." she uttered mournfully while clutching her chest.

My money! Oh, my money!

Her bestie did not have the heart to chide her further. "How about I soothe your pain with some ice cream?"

She lifted her head with a piteous look. "I want two!"

Li Meng could not bear to look into her bruised and swollen face. "I'll get you two."

As she enjoyed the ice cream her friend got for her, she felt her pain slowly dissolving away.

"I'm gonna work harder from today onwards!"

"How much more do you want to do? Other than when you're sleeping at night, you're working the whole time." Her friend rolled her eyes.

"Sigh. If only there're 48 hours in a day," she lamented.

"Even 48 hours wouldn't be sufficient for you."

Right at this time, Wu Xingye called. "I have an assignment here that pays well. Since I can't do this alone, do the two of you want to join in?"

"Definitely! Wait for us, we'll be there soon!" After she put down the phone, she dragged her friend along enthusiastically.

The moment Wu Xingye saw her face, he threw her a surgical mask. "You better cover your face to avoid ruining our reputation."

Her mouth twitched. "What kinda comment is that?!"

...

By the time the man had returned, her face was cleared of all marks. Due to her diligent cleansing and maintenance, her small face shone and was even more translucent and rosy. She looked better than before.

"You look like you've enjoyed yourself when I wasn't around."

She was absolutely glowing.

She was indeed happy these last few days. Not only did she manage to avert a crisis with him, she had accepted a big assignment while at her poorest. A big sum of money would come her way after the mission was accomplished.

Furthermore, she'd had ample sleep without him around.

Nevertheless, his tone spelled danger.

"How is that possible? Look at me, look at my eyes. Can you see the dark circles around them?" Standing on tiptoe, she lifted her small face for him to examine.

He closed in on her for a better look but could not find anything. All he could see was her glowing, translucent cheeks.

"I didn't sleep well at night." Her demeanor looked as if she had it terrible every night because he was not around.

He glanced at her without a word.

She was elated. Am I safe now?

"Hubby, are you hungry? Do you want me to cook noodles for you?" She activated the virtuous wife mode.

Staring at her, he replied with a pensive and mesmerized look, "Okay."

"I'll go and cook for you..." Before she could finish her sentence, the man went to sweep her up in his arms.

She could not help stammering under his watchful, blazing eyes. "Don't... you want me to cook for you?"

"Eh, I'll bring you to the kitchen."

. . .

The next day when she woke up, she could not help thinking that she was the losing party in this marriage. It required so much of her energy and physique!

"If only we were living during the imperial days..." she muttered under her breath as she sat up on the bed.

But quickly, she changed her mind. "No, no... ancient times won't do..."

"What is it about ancient times?"

A male voice suddenly boomed beside her, which startled her so badly that she pulled the cover over her head and burrowed between the sheets.

Why was he still here?!