

FMH Marriage 1091

Chapter 1091: Furious

The elder's tone was incredibly solemn. No one at the table dared to say a word. Even if Ning Yaohua and Ning Yaobang were miserable that another person had suddenly appeared for the inheritance, they could not say anything either.

Ning Qiutong was not one to mess with. If the shares fell into her hands, it would be extremely difficult to get it from her. Worse still, if she had intention to fight for the rights to inherit the company, that would make things harder...

Ning Yaohua and Ning Yaobang both looked like they were about to face a huge adversary while Ning Tianxin seemed absent-minded. Only Ning Xi was the most relaxed at the table.

Ning Qiutong was taking in everyone's reactions...

"Okay, Lawyer Cai, please announce the will!"

The moment he said that, everyone found themselves sitting up straight.

The lawyer flipped the document in his hand and started to read, "The Will of Mr. Ning Zhiyuan. Due to his old age and his concern that he might suddenly fail in health, to avoid any dispute over his inheritance, he has written this will and his assets are as follows: Ning International Private Limited Company's 51% in shares, foreign trust funds..."

After the lawyer listed out the elder's assets, he started to go into the distribution of it. "The three estates and two shop lots in Imperial as well as the foreign trust funds will go to the granddaughter, Ning Xueluo!"

"What!? Are you crazy?! To give an outsider this much inheritance!" Ning Yaobang was the first to slap the table and stand up. He could not believe that the old man had given half of his stable property to Ning Xueluo, a granddaughter who was not even blood-related. Also, that foreign trust fund was not a small sum of money.

"What outsider? Xueluo is my daughter, Brother-in-law. Do you need me to repeat it for you?" Zhuang Lingyu asked with a sharp look.

"Daughter, my ass! She's just a country girl you had carried home wrongly. My two other blood-related daughters aren't allowed to be present today, so on what basis can your outsider get our Ning family's inheritance?!"

"On the basis that she was raised by me myself! We don't even know which cheap woman gave birth to your daughters, so on what grounds can they appear here to tarnish our Ning family?"

...

Opposite her, Ning Xi, who maintained the attitude of a third party, had a sudden change in expression. The unyielding attitude of a mother protecting her daughter from Zhuang Lingyu took her by surprise.

Hmph! She had long told herself that Zhuang Lingyu was just a stranger to her, yet why had her heart still experience inexplicable pain when she watched her protect Ning Xueluo so fiercely?

Ning Xi closed her eyes lightly and soon returned to normal moments later as if nothing had happened.

No one had noticed Ning Xi's subtle change in emotions. No one but Ning Qitong beside Ning Xi who was taking everything in.

This child... It had only been a few years since they met, yet she had changed so much. Not just in terms of looks, but more so her temperament. She was far calmer and more mature than those her age. There was not the faintest shadow of that weak girl from many years ago...

At the table, Ning Yaohua, Zhuang Lingyu, and Ning Yaobang were turning the room upside down with their argument.

At last, the elder had to knock the table harshly to quiet them down. "Everyone, shut up! Xueluo is indeed not blood-related to us, but humans are living things and we cannot be merciless. She has been my granddaughter for more than 20 years, so I consider these my dowry for her! No one is allowed to say another word!"

Ning Yaobang slapped a fist on the table in fury.

Chapter 1092: Didn't Even Get Half A Share

Zhuang Lingyu scoffed as she consoled Ning Xueluo by patting the back of her hand, "Don't worry, Mother is here. No one can bully you!"

"Mother, thank you..." Ning Xueluo teared up as she lay in Zhuang Lingyu's embrace. Her eyes caught Ning Xi's and there was an undoubted sneer in her eyes.

After the momentary dispute, the will announcement resumed.

The remaining funds and property had been evenly divided among a few people. Ning Xi had received a property in City C too. City C was where her foster parents lived and where she had grown up for the past 18 years. The elder had really put thought into this arrangement.

After that was done, the most important part remained — the company shares!

This was also the reason why Ning Yaobang had refrained from causing a ruckus. The shares were the most important portion.

At that moment, Ning Xueluo looked slightly nervous. She had observed the elder's attitude towards her earlier. In terms of shares, he would not treat her unfairly, would he?

The lawyer flipped the page then continued to read aloud, “Ning International Private Limited Company. With a total of 51% in shares, the distribution is as follows: Ning Yaohua 15%, Ning Yaobang 6%, Ning Qiutong 10%, Ning Tianxin 10%, Ning Xi 10%! End of announcement.”

The instant the lawyer finished, the study room was pin-drop silent.

The end?

The sharing of the will had ended?!

After the distribution of shares had been announced, Ning Yaobang breathed a sigh of relief. Even though Ning Yaohua had 15%, on his side, he and Tianxin would have a total of up to 16%, which was exceeded Ning Yaohua’s portion by 1%, so how could he not be happy?

Even though Ning Xi had received 10% as well, based on her bad relationship with the other side, she would definitely not give up her shares to Ning Yaohua!

However, he did not expect that Ning Qiutong would get as much as 10% too. As the elder’s biological son, he himself had only gotten a mere 6%, so it made him a little sulky.

On Ning Yaohua’s face was a complicated expression as he looked towards Ning Xi. Even he could not help but affirm that experience counted. The way it was distributed was really...

It had completely tied everyone to each other. No one could influence anyone.

The first person to say something was Zhuang Lingyu. “You’re done reading? What about Xueluo?”

As much as Ning Xueluo had been holding it in, she could not help but turn pale at that moment. She never would have thought that the elder had not left any shares for her!

Was this a way of him slapping her before the entire Ning family? Even with Su Yan present!

How could she remain honorable when she married into the Su family?

Earlier, he had even pretentiously said some things about values and family ties...

This goddamn old man! How cunning of him!

Ning Yaobang scoffed, “Hasn’t all that should be given been given? What more do you still want? Sister-in-law, let me advise you that as a person, you shouldn’t be too greedy!”

“Well, you can’t just leave Xueluo out. Not even a percent of the shares! What is this supposed to mean? Isn’t Xueluo part of the Ning family? Even you said so yourself, Father. Humans are living beings and we cannot be merciless. Xueluo has, at least, been your granddaughter for so many years. You make us disillusioned by treating her this way!” Zhuang Lingyu said this in outrage.

“Huh...” Just as Zhuang Lingyu was expressing the injustice of the situation, a soft peal of laughter was suddenly heard from a corner.

Zhuang Lingyu immediately looked crossly at Ning Qiutong. “Qiutong, just be upfront if you have anything to say. There’s no need to be peculiar!”

“Since you said so yourself, then let me be straightforward.”

Chapter 1093: Stabbed In The Heart

Ning Qitong straightened up slightly, then looked at Zhuang Lingyu squarely. “Sister-in-law, you say that Uncle made you disillusioned when you’re the one who’s sorely disappointing!”

“What are you saying?” Zhuang Lingyu frowned.

“It’s fine if the outsiders don’t know, but everyone sitting in this room is very clear that Ning Xueluo is just an adopted daughter while Ning Xi is your biological daughter. She’s the one who’s blood-related to the Ning family. Is it wrong for Uncle to distribute his shares to Ning Xi?”

“I never said that it’s wrong for Father to give Ning Xi his shares. That’s his right. I’m asking about the reason Xueluo gets nothing!” Zhuang Lingyu replied.

Ning Qitong jeered, “Well, then, let’s talk about why the shares aren’t distributed to Xueluo! Ning Xueluo is just an adopted daughter that we carried home wrongly from the hospital, yet she has enjoyed a life of luxury for 18 years that should’ve belonged to Ning Xi. After the truth was revealed, she didn’t return to her original home and biological parents. Instead, she remained in the Ning family and held the name of a lady of the Nings. She even used this identity to get a good match to Su Yan!

“On the other hand, Ning Xi who is blood-related to the Ning family wandered afar for 18 years and lived 18 years of poverty. When she had finally been found by the Ning family, she could only continue with the title of an adopted daughter. The things that should’ve been hers were taken away. Even the servants can bully her and call her a wild chicken and bumpkin!

“And all this while, what have you two done as parents? You took the side of the outsiders and criticized her for being vulgar and tacky! What rights do you have to criticize and scold her? Have you raised her or taught her at all?

“Do you think you’ve completed your duty as parents just by bringing her home, giving her food to eat and clothes to wear? To have such cruel parents like the two of you, you might as well have just let the child continue to live in the countryside and know nothing! That’s better than losing faith in humanity and being stabbed in the heart by her own parents!”

When they heard this, the table was dead silent. No one said anything.

Ning Xueluo felt herself stiffen. Even Ning Yaohua and Zhuang Lingyu’s faces clouded as they kept silent. The elder looked at Ning Xi while his expression was full of guilt. Su Yan had balled his hand into fists...

Ning Xi sat there quietly, her eyes full of mixed emotions as she looked at Ning Qitong beside her. She had long been numb and was used to the indifference from this circle. She never would have thought that...

Ning Qitong could actually disregard everything but she had said these words to defend her...

All of these...were words that no one had ever said on behalf of her...

Ning Qitong paused, then her sharp gaze cut to Ning Xueluo. "Uncle has given Ning Xueluo those assets. It's enough for her to marry gloriously and live in luxury for the rest of her life. Since she's just a village girl who's eaten from the Ning family, lived with us and held the title of a lady of the Ning family, what else are you unsatisfied about?"

"Tang Xueluo, I have to ask you one thing. What else are you dissatisfied about and what qualifies you to even hanker after our Ning family's shares?!"

When she heard Ning Qitong's every word, especially hearing her address her as "Tang Xueluo", Ning Xueluo's shoulders shook violently and her fingernails stabbed into her own palms. She had lowered her hateful face at this point, and in the next second, she got up and ran out the door...

When Su Yan saw that, he quickly chased after her.

"Ning Qitong, you're too much! Even if you're a part of the Ning family, this is our family matter and you have no right to intervene! Don't spew nonsense here when you don't know anything!" Zhuang Lingyu was instantly riled up in anger when she saw her daughter run out after being deeply hurt.

Chapter 1094: Switched Lives

Ning Qitong sneered, "Hah, I don't know anything? I wonder who's being blind. Let me advise you to clearly see the kind of thing that's sitting beside you every day! Don't wait till you get bitten to death. You're attracting that wolf to your home and you still aren't aware!"

"Ning Qitong! I'll tear your mouth apart! I raised my daughter myself. You have no say about the kind of person she is!" Zhuang Lingyu was so agitated that she wanted to walk over but Ning Yaohua held her back.

"Hahaha...I think Qitong is quite right! I've told you, Sister-in-law, you two treat this outsider like a gem. Your IQ and logic are a little hard for me to comprehend!" Ning Yaobang was enjoying the good show.

"Shut up, Ning Yaobang! I think you're just envious!" Ning Yaohua roared back.

The two sides started to quarrel and the situation was chaotic...

The old man massaged his temples and did not have the energy to care about their arguments. He just allowed the lawyer to help him up to walk out of the room...

At the same time, in the Ning family's courtyard, Ning Xueluo had run straight to the woods and was crying loudly in sorrow as she leaned on a tree.

Su Yan stood behind her and carefully pulled her into his embrace. "Don't be sad. Auntie Qiutong's words are a little harsh, but that's just her personality, don't take it to heart..."

"How can I not take it to heart!? She made me sound utterly horrible as if I robbed everything from Ning Xi! I'm also my mother's daughter! I've been in the Ning family since I was born and have been Ning Xueluo for 18 years. When you suddenly tell me that everything I have isn't mine and that my parents aren't really my parents, does she really think I felt good about it?"

"Why did she say I robbed Ning Xi!? Wasn't it she that suddenly appeared to rob me of everything? Grandfather repeatedly said that I'm his granddaughter too, yet he treats me like this. Maybe he did not treat me as a part of the Ning family at all!" Ning Xueluo was incredibly emotional as she blurted all of this out.

As Su Yan listened to Ning Xueluo's words, he was suddenly tongue-tied.

Had Ning Xueluo had cried to him about this before, he would have definitely supported her unconditionally and be on her side.

However, now...perhaps it was because he was not sure about his feelings towards Ning Xi...or it could be the things Ning Qiutong had said earlier...

He suddenly felt like Ning Qiutong was not wrong...

All of this should have belonged to Ning Xi!

Ning Xi was born to be the lady of the Ning family, yet because of a confusion, their lives had been switched...

Ning Xueluo did not know what Su Yan was thinking about at the moment. She was weeping in his embrace, "Bro Yan...what to do? What should I do? How can they treat me like this?"

Su Yan patted Ning Xueluo's shoulder and said gently, "Xueluo, didn't you say it before? You don't even want everything from the Ning family. We can rely on ourselves and you're already doing excellently right now, so why should you care about these mere worldly possessions?"

"That's not the same! Why should I let go of the things that should be mine?!" Ning Xueluo yelled out in the moment of agitation.

When he heard this, Su Yan's expression instantly changed into disapproval. "Xueluo, how can you say that? That should be Ning Xi's...or did you really want to fight for the Ning family's inheritance?"

Ning Xueluo almost exploded at the first half of the sentence but she was instantly clear-headed when Su Yan finished his sentence!

Chapter 1095: A Beautiful Past

Damn it! She was too emotional and had accidentally blurted that out. No matter if it was Su Yan or Zhuang Lingyu or Ning Yaohua, if it was something she liked, she would get it. She could not show that she actually coveted the Ning family's inheritance...

Thus, Ning Xueluo revealed a hurt expression and quickly covered up, "Bro Yan, how can you say that about me? If I really wanted the Ning family's assets, would I need to work so hard? I'm just feeling very sad. I always thought of myself as a part of the Ning family and I prioritize the Ning family for everything, yet it turns out that they had always treated me as an outsider! And there's you too, Bro Yan, I want to marry you grandly. I want everyone to say that you married a good wife!"

Su Yan's expression softened when he heard this. "Xueluo, I understand where you're coming from, but you don't have to worry. If you're Su Yan's woman, no one will dare say you aren't good enough. You don't have to worry about being scorned when you marry me. I will explain to my parents!"

"Bro Yan, thank you... Thank you for always being by my side..." Ning Xueluo could only temporarily suppress all her dissatisfaction and anger, obediently leaning into his embrace. When Ning Xueluo was facing the other way, Su Yan lifted his head to look up at the study room's direction.

Through the window, he could still roughly see the silhouette of Ning Xi sitting on the chair. The image of that little girl from back then could not help but appear in his mind.

That girl who had carried him all the way while she sweated and her legs started to shake, yet promised to never leave him...

The girl who had picked fresh wildflowers for him every day...

The girl who had cooked delicious dishes so that he would eat his medicine obediently every day...

She was poor and wore clothes that had been mended many times and spoke shoddy Mandarin, yet the way she said it was beautiful and cute!

When had all of this begun to change?

From the day he was healed and picked up by the Su family, from the time he returned to the pretentious city, from when he was charmed by Ning Xueluo's beauty, all the good times that once were in his memories had become unacceptable...

But at this moment, why did he miss it so much?

He missed the girl's innocence, missed the way her eyes would sparkle and cling onto him when she stared at him...

At the Ning family's gate.

"Um... Aunty..." Ning Xi hesitated but still decided to call out to Ning Qitong.

“Hmm?” Ning Qitong who was about to open her car door paused her steps and looked at Ning Xi.

Ning Xi's cleared her throat and walked up to her. “About today... Thank you.”

No matter what, she still had to thank her.

Ning Qitong was nonchalant. “We're family. There's no need to thank me.”

Ning Xi felt a mix of emotions hearing her say that they were family. She took a deep bow graciously. “I still want to thank you!”

As she watched the girl before her, Ning Qitong sighed, “Sadly, I was abroad that year. I didn't know many things and when I did, it was too late. I never would have thought that my cousin would be foolish to this extent. If I let him continue like this, the elder's hard-earned family business will fall into the hands of an outsider!”

As Ning Qitong said this, a hostile glint flashed in her eyes.

Ning Xi fell into deep contemplation.

At night, in Ning Xueluo's bedroom, Zhuang Lingyu covered Ning Xueluo with her blanket, then turned around to close the door.

On the bed, Ning Xueluo, who was dozing off, immediately woke up again.

Chapter 1096: Help Me Do Something

There was no sleepiness in her eyes. In fact, it was full of darkness and hatred.

How could she fall asleep in such a situation!?

Ning Yaohua currently had 15% of the shares, while Ning Yaobang had 16% of shares, and Ning Qitong had 10% of shares.

So, the key was Ning Xi.

Whoever she used that 10% of shares of hers to support, that person would be the largest shareholder of the company and they would have the most potential to fight for the rights to inherit the entire company!

This time, Ning Yaohua and Ning Yaobang would definitely go crazy trying to snatch away the shares in Ning Xi's hand.

While she had not gotten any of the shares, she had no say in this at all. Even if she risked her life to get all the loose shares in the market, she could only get 2% back at most which would not do much.

There was no doubt that Ning Qitong was a hard woman to handle, so there was no way they could get the shares from her. The key was those shares in Ning Xi's hand!

She obviously hoped that Ning Yaohua could get Ning Xi's shares and acquire the company.

However, if Ning Yaohua bargained anything with Ning Xi for that 10%, such as let her come home or even publicly announce her identity, everything would be over for Ning Xueluo!

This matter was a top priority. She needed to have a strong backbone to let Ning Yaohua forget about the idea of announcing Ning Xi's true identity!

Ning Xueluo immediately thought of the Zhuang family!

However, she had accidentally overheard Zhuang Lingyu arguing with Ning Yaohua at Zhuang Lingyu's original home. Zhuang Lingyu forbade Ning Yaohua to have any contact with the Zhuang family. In fact, she was very firm about this.

That was why she had not dared to claim any connections with the Zhuang family, but now she could not care anymore. She had to take this opportunity!

She also had a way to handle Zhuang Lingyu.

Besides, Zhuang Keer had already been gone over to Ning Xi's side in advance, so she had to hasten her plan!

However, a lady like Zhuang Keer would be hard to curry favor from. From what happened before this, Ning Xi and Zhuang Keer seemed quite close and she was not sure if Ning Xi had said anything bad about her already...

When she thought of this, Ning Xueluo narrowed her eyes with hatred.

If it was not for Ning Xi ruining things the last time, she could have given the outfits to Zhuang Keer who would have worn History's dresses at the international banquet. That way, she would have been connected to Zhuang Keer and hugely promote her company.

In the end, everything had been ruined by Ning Xi!

Now that she had lost the key opportunity, she might need to use some special methods to get acquainted with Zhuang Keer...

As Ning Xueluo thought about this, she took out a key and used it to open a safe. She took out a handphone from the safe, charged it, then made a call, "Hello, it's me! Do me a favor!"

"Who is it again this time?" A raspy voice came from the other end.

"Zhuang Rongguang," Ning Xueluo said a name.

"Zhuang Liaoyuan's son?" The voice on the other end said in a low voice.

"Yes, it's Zhuang Liaoyuan's son!"

"Huh, little girl, you're getting braver, aren't you?" The voice from the other end sinisterly answered.

Ning Xueluo replied indistinctly, "Don't worry, I just want you to frighten him a little. I'm not asking you to actually do anything to him. When it happens, just do as I say. But you must wait for a suitable opportunity and do it cleanly! I can wait...but don't make me wait too long..."

Chapter 1097: Your Man's Analysis

At Peachwood, when she returned home, Ning Xi was still thinking about the events from the day when her doorbell rang.

"Steamed bun, help me see who's here," Ning Xi said.

"Yes, my beloved Master!" The robot's face revealed a small screen which showed the image from the security monitor at the door. It was Lu Tingxiao.

When Ning Xi saw it was Lu Tingxiao, she immediately got up to open the door. "Big Boss! It's so late. Why're you here?"

"I'm worried about you."

"Come in! Steamed bun, serve some water, please!"

"Yes, my beautiful Master!" The robot immediately rolled off to get a cup of water.

Ning Xi took the water from the serving tray and gave it to Lu Tingxiao before sitting down beside him on the sofa.

Lu Tingxiao took the cup and asked, "How did it go today? Did those people trouble you?"

"With Grandfather, no one dares to trouble me. In fact, something that happened today surprised me. You know my aunt, don't you? Ning Qitong! She came back this time!"

"I've heard of her, she's someone alright. What happened?"

"This time, when the will was being announced, I almost got into an argument but she helped to defend me!"

"An argument?"

Ning Xi nodded. "Yeah! Grandfather gave Ning Xueluo a lot of estates and trust funds. He said it was her dowry but he didn't give her any shares. At that moment, Zhuang Lingyu immediately raised her doubt and voiced that Grandfather was not fair with the distribution. Then, Ning Qitong got up and defended me a lot. She was basically saying that Xueluo did not have any right to inherit the Ning family's shares. Ning Qitong is quite amazing. Xueluo lost control of her emotions on the spot and ran out!"

Lu Tingxiao long fingers tapped the glass lightly and analyzed, "Your grandfather's distribution of shares for you guys should be...15% for Ning Yaohua, 10% for Ning Qitong, 6% for Ning Yaobang, 10% for Ning Tianxin, and you get 10% too?"

Ning Xi widened her eyes at his guess. “Whoa! Lu Tingxiao, how do you know this so clearly? You couldn’t have bribed the lawyer too, could you?”

Lu Tingxiao looked at her casually. “Your man would obviously have such basic analytical skills.”

Ning Xi instantly broke out in a sweat. “Cough, cough...okay! You’re amazing! Whatever it is, your analysis is right. Grandfather distributed it like that!”

“It’s currently the best way to divide the shares. It’s good check and balance for everyone.”

“But it’s quite frustrating too. Ning Yaohua and Ning Yaobang will definitely start to disturb me!” Ning Xi sighed.

“Do you want Ning International?” Lu Tingxiao looked at her and suddenly asked.

“Uhh...” Why was the devil’s tone so suspenseful? It was as if he was asking with the same nonchalance as asking her, “Do you want to drink water? If you do, I’ll go pour a cup for you”.

Ning Xi thought about it, then said, “To be honest, I don’t.”

Based on her current situation and energy, she did not care for it that much.

“But, of course, I definitely won’t let the company fall into Xueluo’s hands!”

Thus, she was still struggling with this issue...

It was a good thing that with the current situation, it was still a stalemate, so she still had a sufficient amount of time.

“Then, I suggest that you temporarily pass your 10% of shares to Ning Qiutong,” suggested Lu Tingxiao.

“Transfer them to Ning Qiutong?” Ning Xi thought about it, then her eyes lit up.

Chapter 1098: Born To Be The Bane of Me

“This is a good idea! I don’t want to give it to Ning Yaohua or Ning Yaobang either, and if I hold on to it, I’m worried that they’ll trouble me! Giving it to Ning Qiutong is a smart thing too. Based on her personality, she definitely wouldn’t let the other two sides go easy. Besides, with Ning Qiutong’s business capabilities, she won’t let Grandfather’s company wane! Boss, you’re too smart!”

Ning Xi discussed it with Lu Tingxiao for a while more, then when he saw that it was getting late, she asked, “Do you want to sleep over?”

When Lu Tingxiao heard her, he looked at her and said, “Nah.”

“Ah? Why not? It’s quite late! Isn’t it troublesome to rush back? Do you still have things to attend to later?” Ning Xi was confused.

Lu Tingxiao massaged his temples helplessly as he said, “Because I will easily lose control, especially in our future matrimonial home. Understand?”

“Uhh...”

Lu Tingxiao rubbed the girl’s head adoringly. “I don’t necessarily have to wait till after marriage, but I still want to do so because you’re the most important person to me, so I’m willing to wait and I want to give you the utmost respect too.”

Ning Xi sighed, enjoying her head being rubbed against his broad palm as she mumbled, “I am forever within your hands... I really have no complaints at all... You were born just to be the bane of me, weren’t you?”

A while later, Ning Xi sent him off.

Before he left, Lu Tingxiao suddenly thought of something and gave her a red, gold-plated invitation.

Ning Xi opened it to read and asked in confusion, “Huh...a birthday invitation? Who is Mo Jianzhang? Why am I invited?”

“It’s Mo Lingtian’s father. The invitation was sent by Lingtian. If you’re free tomorrow night, then you can go with me. Otherwise, then it’s fine.”

Mo Lingtian must have been prepared to invite Lu Tingxiao and his female partner, but because they could not appear as a couple, he had especially prepared an individual invitation for Ning Xi. This gesture showed that he valued her.

Ning Xi thought about it. “There isn’t much going on tomorrow night, but I’ll be at the studio in the day, so I’ll go over myself at night!”

Not many people in Lu Tingxiao’s circle acknowledged her or treated her as a friend. Plus, he had been so thoughtful, so it was not nice for her to reject the invitation.

Lu Tingxiao replied, “Okay.”

Ning Xi tiptoed and leaned in to kiss the man’s lips. Then, she said in the tone of a tyrannic CEO, “Baby, one day I will let you stand beside me rightfully and honorably! I’ll let the entire city’s women know that you’re mine!”

Lu Tingxiao was speechless.

Well, those were nice words...but did they reverse their roles?

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The next day, at Spirit Studio, because Spirit had been preparing to expand their business to H district, Ning Xi arranged the details and proposal for that site whenever she found the time.

Without realizing it, she had been in discussion with everyone till late at night. Ning Xi looked at the time on her phone and saw that she would be late soon, so she quickly said, "I have a dinner to attend later, I've to go first!"

"Okay, Boss, just go!"

"Don't work overtime too. Rest earlier! Ah, right, Shangze, are there any ready-made gowns in the studio? Simply get one for me! I don't have time to change at home!" Ning Xi said.

"Yes, what kind of style do you want, Boss?" Gong Shangze asked.

Ning Xi thought about it. "It's a birthday banquet for an elder, so the color and style should be low-key and staid!"

"Okay, Boss, please wait for a moment!"

...

Chapter 1099: Give The Most Perfect Life

Moments later, Ning Xi changed into the gown Gong Shangze had taken out for her before putting up some light make up and flat ironing her hair.

The evening dress that Gong Shangze had found for her was indeed a very understated design. It was a traditional classic qipao which was in a simple yet elegant color. The black orchids printed on it were outlined subtly and she looked very much like the chaste daughter of a noble household from the Republic of China era.

Ning Xi stood before the full-length mirror to look at herself and was satisfied. "Not bad, it's splendid! This one, then! Thank you, Shangze! I'll make a move first, bye bye!"

"Okay..."

Gong Shangze watched his boss leaving and hesitated to say something.

This dress was relatively low-profile...but once she donned it, it was not inconspicuous at all...

Ning Xi was the muse of his inspiration, the source for many of his designs, and was even the model in his head when he designed his pieces. You could say that she was the real owner of all of Spirit's apparel. When she had worn the dress herself, she brought his designs to life perfectly...

...

At the Mo residence, Mo Jianzhang's birthday banquet was organized in the outdoor garden today and the current atmosphere was extremely lively.

Lu Tingxiao had reached earlier, knowing that Ning Xi was busy in the studio, so he did not rush her.

Mo Lingtian held a goblet in his hand and worriedly asked Lu Tingxiao, “Hey, Lu Tingxiao, your bunny will turn up, won’t she? Is she still angry at me? Is she okay from the last time that she almost fell off the cliff? Was she traumatized?”

When Lu Tingxiao heard this, he cast a sidelong glance at his best friend without a word.

Frightened? That little girl had said that she had a lot of fun and that it was quite exciting!

He really hoped that she could be frightened a little. That way, she would be more careful.

Mo Lingtian did not know what Lu Tingxiao’s glance meant. Just as he spoke to him, a familiar outline appeared at the door.

Ning Xi handed over her invitation to the guard at the gate before walking in leisurely. Under the gorgeous and dazzling chandelier at the doorway, the girl looked as if she had stepped into the world of mortals from thin air with her simple gown and her wooden hairpin in her loosely-tied hair. She walked with her back to the light and the view behind her gradually faded away like an ink-washed painting...

The dress did not just fit her well; it was Ning Xi’s unique talent of being able to change her own spirit that made the air around her shift with the gown she wore. It was for that reason that both person and dress complemented each other well.

Ning Xi’s appearance made the banquet room fall into a hush for a while, then came the lowered voices of discussion.

When they suddenly saw such a breathtaking new face, people would obviously be curious. While the girls were curious about Ning Xi’s identity, they were most interested in timeless topics such as clothes and accessories, thus many people took notice of Ning Xi’s qipao very quickly.

“Who’s the girl that just walked in? She looks like a certain female celebrity... That gown is amazingly beautiful! She looks very charismatic!”

“Ah! I know that gown... That’s a Spirit piece. I’ve seen it in the boutique before but I didn’t buy it because I thought it seemed too ordinary. Who knew that it would be so stunning when you put it on? I really regret not buying it then!”

“Spirit’s pieces are not bad. I really like it too, but most importantly is who wears it! The more understated these dresses look, the more it chooses who wears it!”

“You’re right!”

...

After Ning Xi walked in and caught Lu Tingxiao’s eye, she found a corner to sit down.

Chapter 1100: Don’t Even Have A Girlfriend

Mo Lingtian hung his arm over Lu Tingxiao shoulders and could not help but started listing, “Two-faced fox, cute little bunny, shooting expert, adorable maid, warrior, daughter of nobility...hey!

How many faces does your little bunny have? I finally know why you're so charmed by this woman. She becomes a different person every time she dresses up. Do you feel like you're changing girlfriends every day?"

Lu Tingxiao responded, "I like her no matter how she looks."

Mo Lingtian's joke suddenly became an emotional moment when Lu Tingxiao said that.

Mo Lingtian felt like he had just been shot with an arrow to his chest. "Bro, I noticed that after you started dating, you've practically become a love guru! I would never have known before this! I thought you had low EQ! Speaking of which, the strategy you gave me earlier was too general, can't you teach me a few more tricks in detail compared to that cringy affectionate words you just uttered?"

"How's Ziyao?" Lu Tingxiao suddenly asked.

Mo Lingtian sighed, "You've already made it so clear the last time. Based on Ziyao's personality, she definitely will give up, I guess. She's not the kind of woman who would cling on and pester."

Mo Lingtian chatted with Lu Tingxiao for a while more, then greeted Ning Xi before entertaining other guests.

In the end, many people at the banquet asked him about Ning Xi, even his old man was looking at her.

"Lingtian, is that girl your friend?" Mo Jianzhang asked.

"Yeah, why?"

"I didn't think that you'd have this kind of friend!" Mo Jianzhang looked at his son lamentably.

"Huh? Father, how can you talk about your own son like this?!"

"When are you going to progress and make her your girlfriend?" Mo Jianzhang suddenly asked.

Mo Lingtian spat his drink into his glass and started coughing furiously. He was almost startled to death by his father's words. "Father! Don't scare me!"

Mo Jianzhang frowned at him. "Don't make a fuss about nothing. How did I scare you? The old saying goes that you can see one's values through their looks. I can see that this girl is not bad. She's composed and well-mannered. Since the two of you are friends and were chatting happily earlier, why can't you just take it further? You're about to reach your thirties. Even Lu Tingxiao has a girlfriend, so how much longer do you plan to fool around?"

Mo Lingtian looked like he would rather die. "Father... I have something to say! Today is your birthday. Can't you just talk about something happier?"

"Then, can you do something that can make me happier? Which family is that girl from? If you're not going to say anything, I can help you propose a marriage! If you

get married this year, she should be able to give birth to a bouncy little baby by next year!" Mo Jianzhang was obviously fixated on the thought of having grandchildren.

"Father! My dear father! Don't joke around anymore! She is Lu Tingxiao's other half!" Mo Lingtian finally could not hold it in any longer and blurted out.

Mo Jianzhang was stunned. "What? That's...that's Lu Tingxiao's girlfriend?"

Mo Lingtian pinched the space between his brows. "Yes! So, can I please ask you to stop right there?! Besides, I already have someone in my heart!"

Mo Jianzhang scoffed, "Huh, the person in your heart has high standards. Would she ever like you?"

"Father, am I actually your child?! She has high standards but I'm not that shabby, okay?" He had already been working hard recently to court his love interest.

Mo Jianzhang looked at Ning Xi's direction and sighed with regret, "You useless thing! You don't even have a girlfriend till now!"

Mo Lingtian was speechless.