

## Goodnight 31

### Chapter 31: The Price Went Up

"Triple!" Lin Hanxing smiled blankly.

Tan Bide was distracted by that box at first, so it took a while before he understood what Lin Hanxing said.

"What a joke!"

Before he came, his boss had instructed him to bid twice the price at most.

However, she outrightly tripled the price. How dare she!

"Quadruple!"

As Lin Hanxing's voice sounded, Lei Xiao stretched out his hand and opened the box.

The content inside was fully exposed.

The stench of a dead body amalgamating with the smell of food on the table was very disgusting.

Tan Bide looked at Lin Hanxing with his ashen face.

However, he saw her casually taking a sip of the juice in front of her.

"If Mr. Tan wishes to negotiate any further, I'll have to increase the price up to five times."

"Are you sure you want to be so confident?"

.....

Even the experienced gangster, Tan Bide could not stand this.

She wanted him to experience the same disgusted feeling they wanted her to feel when they sent it over to her!

"I always repay the kindness." Lin Hanxing chuckled and presented what she had prepared before Tan Bide.

"Since Mr. Tan had given me such a generous gift on behalf of the Lin family, how could I come here empty-handed?"

Tan Bide looked at the lady facing him with her broad smile on her face...

An inexplicable fear swept through his body.

Even his palms were cold.

He had greatly underestimated her!

"This is my welcome gift. Please accept it." Lin Hanxing stood up after she spoke. There was no need to stay any longer.

"After this, please tell your boss that I will not sell my tea garden for anything less than four times the price!" Lin Hanxing did not even look at the other party after she spoke and just left.

"Didn't you just say triple?"

Tan Bide quickly stood up before he looked at the thing in his hand.

Lin Hanxing's eyes were full of sarcasm for the very first time tonight.

"That was the price ten minutes ago, now..."

"The price has gone up!"

...

In the private room, Tan Bide looked at the paper in his hand with a pale expression.

Every name listed on the paper was followed by their house address, family member, and so on.

There seemed to be nothing strange at the first glance.

What made Tan Bide fear the most was...

After he checked the name on the list, he found out that...

These people were the undercover agents assigned by the Lin family to standby surrounding Mengsong.

Not even Tan Bide himself could lay out the distribution and work assignment as accurate as this.

Moreover, the sequence was based on timeline.

"This is clearly a warning..."

...

It was windy outside the moment Lin Hanxing and Lei Xiao stepped out.

Lei Xiao intuitively glanced behind him...

"If they want to follow us, just let them be." Lin Hanxing had already noticed it without even having to look.

Even though she said so, Lei Xiao silently gestured in the dark.

"It seems that you have not come out much ever since you came here. Do you want to hang out together?" Lin Hanxing looked at Lei Xiao.

The breeze blew the few strands of hair on her cheeks.

The cynicism in the private room was dissolved under the hazy orange street light.

Lin Hanxing's usual indolent look returned.

“The night here is very beautiful.”

She chose this place as the start to her plan...

Not only for the chaotic social background but also because of the environment there that had won her heart.

If she went to Jiang City in the future...

Her pupils dilated, her eyes were covered in darkness...

## **Chapter 32: Silver Hairpin**

The night in Mengsong was truly beautiful.

Due to the weather, the fences of every house were all covered by the climbing vines blooming with large clusters of flowers.

The whole street seemed to be shrouded in purple.

Many tourists traveling were there, and there was also a lively night market in the evening.

Lei Xiao followed Lin Hanxing, watching her thin slender figure almost blending in the yellow light.

Many night market stall owners knew Lin Hanxing.

Lin Hanxing's arms were full within a short distance.

Lei Xiao took over some with one hand.

“What are you looking at?”

Realizing that Lei Xiao was not following her, Lin Hanxing slowly turned her head around.

She saw Lei Xiao standing in front of a stall.

The young ladies around him could not help looking at his handsome face.

However, Lei Xiao thoroughly ignored them.

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“Hanxing, come here.” Lei Xiao raised his head and smiled at her.

Lin Hanxing stood there for a moment.

She looked at the smile on Lei Xiao's thin lips that had oddly melted the coldness on him.

This was the first time Lin Hanxing heard him call her name.

After a while, she walked toward him.

It was a stall selling silver jewelry.

Lei Xiao was holding a silver hairpin in his hand—the lotus flower on it looked vivid.

“For you.” He did not ask if Lin Hanxing liked it or not.

However, Lei Xiao intuitively knew that she would like it very much.

Lin Hanxing did not say a word. Lei Xiao inserted the hairpin in his hand into her hair.

The lotus flower was pinned behind her ear.

Her delicate face looked more exquisite and refined with it.

“Very pretty.” Lei Xiao’s hand caressed her hair, then touched her fair earlobe.

Lin Hanxing raised her head slightly and looked at Lei Xiao.

He only had her in his deep, dark eyes at that moment.

“Let’s go.” Lei Xiao was holding something in one hand and naturally held her with another hand.

His hand was warm but his palm was very dry.

Her hand was chilly, and she seemed unaccustomed to being held by someone as her movement was slightly stiff.

“But I have nothing to give you.”

Lei Xiao held Lin Hanxing’s hand and walked forward as though he did not hear it.

It was slightly crowded with tourists.

“How about I sleep with you, or you come to sleep with me?”

His voice drew others’ attention. Lin Hanxing’s face could not help but feel scorching hot.

She seemed to be an entirely different person from the one in the negotiation that night.

Suddenly, a passerby accidentally hit Lin Hanxing.

She was defenseless and staggered two steps forward and fell into the man’s arm.

Lei Xiao smiled and looked at Lin Hanxing who crashed into his arms.

“How impatient!”

His voice had a hint of playfulness, among other emotions.

“Can you be more decent?” said Lin Hanxing as she was in his arms. His body smelled very good—it was very refreshing.

“Haven’t you seen me being decent?”

If this was decent, how about all those times before this...

One may even call it hooligan!

“...” She indeed saw it before, several times.

“The Lin family of the Jiang City is a hard nut to crack.”

Suddenly, Lei Xiao shifted the topic.

Lin Hanxing’s expression suddenly became cold!

After a long time, she coldly replied...

### **Chapter 33: Aren’t You Tired**

“This is my business. It has nothing to do with you!”

Lin Hanxing’s eyes flashed with coldness as she tugged her hand and turned around to leave. However, she had barely taken a couple of steps before a pair of strong arms enveloped her in a hug and dragged her into the alley beside them.

The alley was much quieter compared to the market.

“Let go of me!” ordered Lin Hanxing, her eyes blazing with anger as she was held against a wall.

In the dark of the night, Lei Xiao remained arrogant. He was as reckless as he was normally.

“Do you know how high your guard is?”

His fingers brushed across her face and that tiny mole.

At that moment, everything tingled like electricity!

Lei Xiao drew closer bit by bit, reducing the distance between the two of them until there was barely any space left to advance.

“You never allow people to get to know you better, not even a single bit!”

It did not matter whether it was when he asked her why she hated Jiang City or even the time when he brought up the Lin family of Jiang City.

Lei Xiao had already slipped his hand amongst Lin Hanxing’s hair, tightly gripping the back of her head.

That delicate oval face with snow-white skin exuded a frosty air, her pale lips were tightly pursed together. With each word he uttered, he drew even closer to her. Right up to the very last moment, Lei Xiao’s lips had begun to approach her. Their breaths were almost intertwined.

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“As for me, I wish to be the first person to break into your world!”

As those words were spoken, Lei Xiao ruthlessly kissed her. His overpowering aura rushed toward her—she was completely unprepared!

People continued to bustle outside the dark alley and she could hear the sound of tourists laughing. Lin Hanxing had never done anything this crazy in her life.

This was not the first time that he kissed her. However, the reason that caused Lin Hanxing to resist it was herself...

It seemed like she had started to grow used to the way this man kissed her!

‘Oh...’

As soon as she came to this realization, Lin Hanxing wanted to push away but it seemed like Lei Xiao had already figured out everything that she was thinking...

He had nipped her chance of escaping in the bud long ago!

She had no idea how much time had passed before...

If it was not for the fact that he was concerned that Lin Hanxing would asphyxiate because she was unable to catch her breath, Lei Xiao would not have been willing to release her!

He pressed his thin lips to her temple and gently caressed it.

“To have kept this secret on your own for so many years...

Aren’t you tired?”

In her dazed state, Lin Hanxing heard him question her.

....

Tan Bide was currently on the phone. Perhaps it was because he was too anxious as the cold sweat on his forehead never stopped appearing.

“Yes, this is how it happened.”

There was a long pause on the other end of the phone. Every second that the silence continued, the stress Tan Bide felt grew.

“So you’re saying that she looks a lot like...”

When the person on the phone said the name that had not been mentioned in an extremely long time, Tan Bide felt a chill run down his back.

“Yes, she looks a lot like her. I was staring at her for ages!”

“You should know what to do!”

Even across the phone, the viciousness of that voice could be clearly heard! Tan Bide gripped his cell phone tightly...

...

It was late into the night.

Lin Hanxing tossed and turned, unable to sleep.

She did not know how long it had been as she stretched her hand to retrieve the silver hairpiece that the man had gifted her earlier that night.

The life-like lotus flowers appeared even more beautiful under the moonlight.

'To have kept this secret on your own for so many years... Aren't you tired?'

How could she not be tired? To carry such hatred as she lived through each day, it was about to completely ruin her life!

How many nights had she woken up in fright from her nightmares!

How many dreams have she had where she was enveloped in painful suffering!

She balanced the lotus hairpin on her lips as her long lashes lowered slightly, hiding her emotions.

'As for me, I wish to be the first person to break into your world!'

Somehow, what emerged in her mind were that man's domineering words and actions...

### **Chapter 34: The Seven Sorrows of Life**

The next day, early in the morning.

As soon as Lin Hanxing opened the door, she saw a man sleeping at her doorstep. All she could see was that he had both his hands stuffed into his trouser pockets and one of his legs was slightly bent. His eyelashes fluttered as though he had heard something.

The deep abyss of his pupils appeared momentarily unfocused—it looked like he was still deep in his slumber. However, Lei Xiao's eyes returned to their usual indifference very quickly.

"Why are you sleeping here?" Lin Hanxing asked.

'Had he been outside my door the whole night?' she wondered.

"Every time you get mad, you get Uncle Dumb to toss me outside. This time, I decided to do it myself!"

Lei Xiao stretched out his muscles and showed no signs of tiredness. At that moment, Lin Hanxing had no way to refute him!

"You tossed and turned till quite late last night," Lei Xiao said as he stretched out his hand to touch the top of her head, ruffling it as one does to a small child.

"It looks like you didn't sleep too well..."

Lin Hanxing's eyes twitched but she did not deny it. Her sleeping pattern was terrible. If she could get three hours of sleep in one night, it would be considered good.

When he saw that Lin Hanxing did not speak but instead lowered her head, Lei Xiao's gaze softened subconsciously.

"Pack up your things."

All of a sudden, Lin Hanxing spoke up. Lei Xiao was stunned. Was she planning to kick him out?

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"I'm going to stay at Tea hill tonight. Uncle Dumb will send the things over later." Lin Hanxing added another sentence very quickly.

"There's nothing worth packing up," Lei Xiao replied in a serious tone as he tried to make sense of what she said.

Lin Hanxing stared at Lei Xiao but still, she did not say more.

"Where are you going?"

As he noticed that she looked as though she was about to leave, Lei Xiao blocked Lin Hanxing's path.

As soon as she saw his body language that seemed to say 'as long as you don't tell me, I'm not going to let you go', Lin Hanxing felt torn between laughter and rage.

"Come with me if you want but don't ask questions," Lin Hanxing said simply and did not bother to explain herself.

...

The road leading up the hill was small and tortuous.

On the first and fifteenth day of each month, the usually deserted small road would look different compared to normal days.

Lin Hanxing silently walked ahead. Lei Xiao followed behind her in silence as well.

Since she did not allow him to ask questions, naturally he did not enquire further into it.

At the end of the road, there was a temple.

The scent of incense was always strong and cloying throughout the year, perhaps because the Mengsong people were particularly devoted followers of Buddha.

At the entrance stood seven giant dragon statues.

The seven dragons represented the seven sorrows of life<sup>1</sup>? which were birth, aging, illness, death, grievances, separation from love, and unfulfilled desires.

It was obvious that Lin Hanxing was a frequent visitor of this temple.

As soon as she entered, a young monk walked over and led her to the other side of the main temple hall. There were clearly fewer people there.

All this while, Lin Hanxing had still not uttered a word.

To enter the main temple hall, one needed to remove their shoes.

Lin Hanxing quietly completed a series of actions before she slowly knelt before the gold-plated Buddha statue in the center of the main temple hall.

Lei Xiao stood watching her by the door. Her slender wisp of a figure appeared even tinier within the large temple hall.



The morning light shone in slowly from the other end.

The golden light made even the dust specks appear as though they were also gold-plated. This was also true for Lin Hanxing who was kneeling in front of the Buddha statue.

Her entire being looked like it was enveloped in a godly light. Her soft and slightly wavy hair draped across both her shoulders. Her bright white skin looked like exquisitely carved jade. Her slender fair fingers were clasped together and she looked humbly sincere beyond compare as she bowed before the Buddha statue. Silently she knocked her head against the ground.

An inexplicable sense somehow made Lei Xiao feel extremely upset.

He had seen many sides of her.

Whether it was calm, anger, disdain, teasing, or taunting, and many more...

He had never seen one like this that could move his heart like this!

Perhaps it was Lin Hanxing's sincere piety...

It made Lei Xiao who had never believed in God, take off his shoes and walk toward her...

### **Chapter 35: Just Look At Me**

When Lei Xiao had walked closer, only then did he discover that there were two eternal lanterns<sup>1</sup> enshrined there. For such a large temple hall to only have these two lanterns!

Lin Hanxing spent a long time with her eyes shut and her hands clasped together. Her long eyelashes cast a shadow over her eyes. The dust specks that appeared gold under the morning light swirled around Lin Hanxing's body as though they had life.

Lei Xiao's gaze never left Lin Hanxing.

Yan Beixiao came with the news, the business at Jiang City was at the final stage. According to the plan, he should be preparing to leave the place immediately. From the moment he got on the boat in the beginning, Lei Xiao had set up a serial game with himself as the bait. His 'disappearance' was an integral part of the plan. The only thing out of his control was that he met her!

Lei Xiao was in deep thought when he saw that Lin Hanxing had already opened her eyes. She got up and came to stand in front of the Eternal lantern and added some lantern oil into it.

"Let's go," she said. Lin Hanxing's voice returned to its usual indifference. In fact, it was several times colder than usual. She had barely taken two steps when her hand was grabbed by Lei Xiao from the back.

She turned around.

Lei Xiao's large palm gradually loosened and his long slender fingers slid along Lin Hanxing's digits, slowly moving into a position to hold her tightly.

Lin Hanxing met Lei Xiao's gaze. A golden brilliance shone over the both of them. He gently tugged until she stood before him. Lin Hanxing wanted to remove her hand but Lei Xiao held onto it tightly.

Her body gave off an aura that seemed to imply that she could be easily captured. Her aura was so strong that it seemed like it would explode at any point. If he let go of her so carelessly, he feared that something untoward might happen.

Once he arrived at that conclusion, Lei Xiao tightened his grip to prevent Lin Hanxing from escaping. At that moment, Lin Hanxing was engulfed in suppressed violence that she had no way of releasing. It felt just like the nightmares she would get at night as soon as she shut her eyes. There was no way to escape, and no way to control it!

The truth of the matter was that every time she went there, Uncle Dumb would worry for a long time. Even though he could not speak, Lin Hanxing could still feel his concern.

Lei Xiao looked at her condescendingly.

.....

A shadow enveloped Lin Hanxing like a solid wall. Suddenly, Lei Xiao's hands swiftly clasped both her cheeks. The heat and his palms combined and intertwined—they seemed like a crushing weight, cocooning Lin Hanxing's heart.

"Take everything that you're thinking about right now and toss it away." Lei Xiao's voice rang through and was clearly heard by her.

"It doesn't matter what you're thinking about. None of it's important, look at me... Just look at me!"

The instant the two pairs of eyes met, the aura surrounding Lin Hanxing's body gradually faded. Lei Xiao reached for her back of her head and gently pulled her into his arms.

"Don't worry... No matter what you want to do, I'll be there with you!"

Lin Hanxing could clearly smell the pleasant scent emanating from his body. The negative emotions swirling around her seemed to slowly ebb away. She gradually closed her eyes and as she listened to his voice, the sense of fatigue seemed to wash upon her...

...

Under the Bodhi tree where seats were prepared for tourists to enjoy the cool air, Lin Hanxing lay sleeping on Lei Xiao's shoulder. As the crowd went bustling by, there would always be people whose gaze landed on the attractive couple. No matter how one looked at them...

Lei Xiao was expressionless and sat unmovingly. Everything about her was like a riddle. The only thing that Lei Xiao was sure about was that Lin Hanxing concealed an extremely strong sense of hatred deep within her heart. That deep hatred made it hard for her to fall asleep at night and gave her no peace during the day!

Sunlight streamed through the gaps between the leaves of the Bodhi tree to land on Lin Hanxing's face. As Lei Xiao watched her, the corners of his thin lips curled slowly. He lifted his hand to shield her from the intense sunlight.

In an instant, his gaze froze. At a close distance away, Yan Beixiao's stern face was looking at him directly. He seemed like he had something to say.

Lei Xiao first took a look at Lin Hanxing who was still fast asleep and gestured toward Yan Beixiao. The other party appeared to understand.

He found a pen and some paper to write on and got someone to pass the message to Lei Xiao. A single sentence was written on the paper. Once Lei Xiao had finished reading it, his brow furrowed deeply. He lifted his head expressionlessly to meet Yan Beixiao's gaze...

...

Lin Hanxing slowly opened her eyes. She had already forgotten how she fell asleep. Once she opened her eyes, the first thing that she felt was his hand that was still tightly clasping hers, just like that as it laid on his lap.

She had a sudden jolt of clarity. She had always found the relationship between them difficult to describe. It started with a doomed relationship, then she took him back. After that, he slowly infiltrated into her life. Bit by bit, she gave him an inch and he would take a mile.

She grew accustomed to him. Yet, they were not friends, and neither were they lovers. They were certainly not strangers.

'It doesn't matter what you're thinking about. None of it's important, look at me... Just look at me!'

Her line of sight traced upward along the hand that was tightly gripping her to land on Lei Xiao's face!

She never imagined that at that moment, he would also be looking at her. All the noise around her seemed to slowly fade away. Only the sound of her breathing and heartbeat remained, both of which appeared to be speeding up.

Suddenly, the piercing cry of a child rang through, breaking the peace between the two of them...

"Are you ok?" Lin Hanxing composed herself before walking over to kneel before the child.

The boy appeared to be around three years old. Perhaps he was crying so distraughtly because he lost the adult he was with.

Lei Xiao looked at the kid with a gloomy expression, there was no way to tell what he was thinking. Strangely, the kid was so frightened that he gradually stopped crying.

"Little Xing..."

The call was accompanied by the clicking sound of high heels running at high speed. All Lin Hanxing saw was that in the blink of an eye, the child had been enveloped in the embrace of someone else. It must be the child's mother who had found him.

Lin Hanxing got up and looked deeply at the mother and son in front of her; as well as the bodyguards next to her.

Out of nowhere, a couple of raindrops fell from the starry sky. In a few moments, the rain became heavier.

"Let's get out of the rain first. It's not good if such a young child falls sick," Lin Hanxing said softly.

The group of people quickly headed to stand under the leaves to shelter themselves from the rain.

"Thank you for what you did earlier." The little boy's mum took the chance to speak while they were all sheltering from the rain together.

It took one look for Lin Hanxing to tell that she was not a Mengsong local.

"Are you here on a holiday?" Lin Hanxing put on a smile, acting casually while she asked the question.

Surprisingly her simple question made the other person open up like a chatterbox, spilling all her thoughts on her mind. It turned out that this mother and son were from Jiang City.

They had accompanied her husband who came to Mengsong for work. However, as her husband was busy with work, she was so bored that she asked her people to bring them out to sightsee. She never imagined that the area would be so large that she would lose her son!

Within her words, one could sense the woman's frustration and anger at her husband for being so busy with work!

"That kind of husband really needs to be taught a lesson." Lin Hanxing's words resonated with the other person and she nodded her head in agreement.

"My house is on top of the Tea hill nearby. If this doesn't sound too unappealing to you, why don't you come over to our teahouse when the rain has stopped?"

As soon as Lin Hanxing said those words, Lei Xiao's gaze immediately swung to look at her smiling face.

"Are you sure? Will it not be too much trouble?" As soon as the lady heard the words 'Tea hill', her expression was full of delighted surprise.

"Why would it be any trouble?" The corners of Lin Hanxing's mouth were curved upward but inside, she was sneering. She had been waiting for them for a very long time. How could they be any trouble?

### **Chapter 36: Hot Spring**

Lin Hanxing's teahouse was backed by a thousand-year-old Pu'er tea hill. The tea garden spanning at least ten thousand acres was lush and green. As it had just rained, the teahouse was veiled in clouds. It looked just like a fairy realm.

"You look so young but it turns out you're extremely capable," the woman could not help but exclaim in praise once she saw how expansive the teahouse was with her own eyes!

Lin Hanxing smiled as though she did not see the admiration in the eyes of the woman and served the tea which had just been brewed.

"If it pleases you, Mrs. Tan, you could just stay here."

On the way back, the woman had mentioned that her husband's surname was Tan. Hence, Lin Hanxing had started to address her as Mrs. Tan.

“That wouldn’t be too appropriate.”

Mrs. Tan somehow had a persistent wary feeling in her heart. For her to be so friendly and hospitable when they had just become acquainted?

“Mrs. Tan, didn’t you want to teach your husband a lesson? Why not spend the night here? The tea garden is full of fireflies and there’s even a hot spring nearby. The view is unbeatable! All of this—”

Lin Hanxing calmly tasted the year’s newest tea, “—is never open for visitors!” She did not urge her to stay but her words were extremely persuasive!

“In that case, I’ll have to trouble you for the night!”

Mrs. Tan smiled radiantly like a flower but did not notice the dangerous glint in Lin Hanxing’s eyes, which she hid through the motion of taking a sip of tea...

...

Lin Hanxing stepped out of the house and subconsciously scanned the area with her eyes. Only when she saw Lei Xiao—who stood in front of bamboo, each as thick as a man’s arm—did her expression flutter slightly.

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He was smoking.

His head in its half-lifted state allowed one to see his throat clearly. With a cigarette between his fingers, faint white smoke veiled his stern cold features. There was no way to tell what he was thinking about.

As though he felt Lin Hanxing’s gaze, Lei Xiao turned his head. Once he saw her, he waved his hand at her.

Lin Hanxing hesitated for a moment but in the end, she walked over. As soon as she approached, Lei Xiao’s large palm landed on the top of her head. Before Lin Hanxing could react, he got the upper hand once again.

“Can you stop messing with my hair!” Hair was extremely important to a woman, coming second to her own life.

“Did you say earlier that there’s a hot spring here?” Lei Xiao narrowed his eyes to look at her. His voice was low and deep.

“Yes. When I first bought this place, I didn’t expect that there would be a hot spring. I guess I lucked out.”

“Do you want to go for a dip?”

Lin Hanxing was momentarily mute.

“I’ll ask Uncle Dumb to take you there.” Just as Lin Hanxing was about to turn back to call for Uncle Dumb, her arm was caught by Lei Xiao.

“You can take me there.”

His eyes were deep and dark. There seemed to be an expression within them that Lin Hanxing could not decipher at that moment.

Staring at his expression which seemed to say that he would not release his hand if she did not agree, Lin Hanxing decided to compromise. In the end, she responded, "Let's go then."

Lei Xiao's lips unknowingly curved into a smile. She did not seem to notice. She was starting to be more and more patient with him now.

...

Up on Tea hill, the temperature seemed to be cooler than it was at the bottom of the hill. After the rain, Tea hill was enveloped by mist. Lin Hanxing and Lei Xiao walked together, with one walking ahead and the other following behind. Their figures were hazy and indistinct.

"It won't be peaceful here tonight."

All of a sudden, Lin Hanxing could hear Lei Xiao's voice coming from behind her. Her footsteps stopped but quickly resumed.

"That was what I wanted," she responded.

They were close to reaching the hot spring. Even though it was an open-air hot spring, the planner still cleverly designed it to achieve ultimate privacy. A couple of flowering trees were planted at the side. Once the wind blew past, flower petals fully covered the area.

"Didn't you say that you wanted to take a dip in the hot spring?"

Lin Hanxing said but she saw that Lei Xiao had already reached out to remove his top, lifting it over his head as he did so. Carelessly, he tossed it aside.

"You..." Lin Hanxing frantically turned around, frightened that she might see something.

"Don't you want to have a look?" a deep, amused voice rang out from behind her, triggering Lin Hancing to turn bright red with fury.

"Who'd want to look at you!" Lin Hanxing could not stop herself from making a snarky reply.

After quite some time, there was no sound of movement from behind her. She pondered internally... A second later, all Lin Hanxing could feel was both her feet leaving the ground. Her entire body was suspended mid-air!

She hugged Lei Xiao's neck as part of a conditioned reflex. Once she lifted her head, Lin Hanxing saw that his lips were curled into an evil smile.

"Hold on tight. If not, I'll drop you!"

Cradling her, Lei Xiao walked toward the hot spring. After a while, he sat at the bottom of the spring while carrying her.

"Mr. Lei, why are you so immature?"

Lin Hanxing's bluntness brought him to tears of laughter.

“Just relax. This will help you sleep,” he said softly next to her ear.

“Mr. Lei...”

“Shush...” Lei Xiao pressed his finger against her lips and rested his chin against the top of her head, enjoying the warmth of the hot spring.

Lin Hanxing could not be bothered to respond to him. Since she could not move, she used all her body’s weight to lean against Lei Xiao.

Lei Xiao chuckled. The vibrations in his chest from his chuckling were felt clearly by Lin Hanxing. Lin Hanxing’s fingers trembled but she said no more. Surrounded by the heat, her entire being felt heavy and drowsy.

The wind blew past. Tiny flower petals fell in a flurry from the tree, falling into the hot spring. The light pink petals mischievously landed between Lin Hanxing’s hair and shoulders. Lei Xiao gazed upon Lin Hanxing who had closed her eyes.

### **Chapter 37: Catch Fire**

In the next second, Lin Hanxing’s head drooped sideways to lean against the curve of his neck. Lei Xiao’s heart leaped with joy. However, very quickly, he heard her overly even breathing. He looked down expressionlessly...

Lin Hanxing had actually fallen asleep leaning on him!

“Lin Hanxing, do you trust me to that extent? Or do you not consider me to be a man at all?” His low voice sounded a little husky.

The warmth of her breath spread across his throbbing vein. Lei Xiao used one hand to cradle Lin Hanxing and the other rested on top of a stone that had been heated by the hot spring. His large palm then supported his forehead as he could not resist letting out a soft chuckle.

Had he ever been this embarrassed before?

“Sooner or later, I’m going to fiercely embarrass her!”

Even though his words were ruthless, when he lowered his head and saw Lin Hanxing’s docile and gentle sleeping appearance, his dark gaze was replaced by one of warm affection.

His long slender fingers slowly brushed across her collarbone and tucked away her hair that was wet from having been soaked in the hot spring. Lin Hanxing’s long and softly curled hair floated back and forth within the hot spring, looking just like seaweed.

Her eyes, her eyebrows, each and every one of her smiles...

His arm slowly drew tighter around Lin Hanxing, drawing her closer into his embrace. The curve of his thin lips transformed Lei Xiao’s cold, hard face...

...

Lin Hanxing had a dream. It was one of those rare good dreams that she hardly got over the years. Her dream did not contain any conspiracies or calculative plans. There was not even anything related to the event that happened 18 years ago!

Her hands were spotless. She could cry and laugh freely, there was no need to hide her feelings. Slowly, she opened her eyes...

.....

The first sight to reach her eyes was the elegant throat belonging to that man. Her line of sight continued to climb to a strong jawline and thin lips followed by an attractive nose. Finally, she arrived at Lei Xiao's eyes which were shut.

This man possessed an extremely handsome, good-looking face. His exquisitely carved features made him appear like an exceptional sculpture that was created and favored by God himself.

She believed that any woman who saw him would go crazy instantly. Even Mrs. Tan earlier that day whose gaze would land on his face subconsciously ever so often and linger for ages. All of this was noticed by Lin Hanxing.

She slowly lifted her hand and hesitated for a moment before reaching for his throat. She stroked it, full of curiosity. A second later, Lei Xiao's large hand shot like lightning to catch Lin Hanxing's wrist.

"Is it a good show?"

She had stared at him for such a long time. Did she really think that he would not notice that at all?

His deep-set eyes opened and his husky voice fell to a whisper. His low voice seemed to carry a heavy sense of danger. Lin Hanxing was just about to reply when the faint sound of someone on the phone rang out from the distance.

She unknowingly moved her entire body closer to Lei Xiao and used her palm to cover his mouth. Even though the hot spring was an open-air spring, yet it was near impossible for ordinary people to find without someone showing the way.

The person on the phone was Mrs. Tan!

The two of them quietly listened to her sweet talk and guileful words as she chatted to the person on the other end of the phone. The more she heard, the deeper the flash of scorn appeared within Lin Hanxing's eyes.

It must have been tough on her to sneak off to such a distance just to speak on the phone!

However, she saw the deep solemn look within Lei Xiao's gaze as his tall figure slowly slid down. In a split second—leaving Lin Hanxing completely unable to defend herself in time—he opened his mouth and left a deep mark on her fingers.

Just as Lin Hanxing was about to scream out loud, it was her turn to have her mouth sealed by Lei Xiao's hand.



The sound of Mrs. Tan's voice started to fade as it moved further away. However, Lei Xiao's satisfied smile seemed to broaden. With one hand he pushed against the stones lining the hot spring and with a splash, he left the hot spring.

The chiseled, athletic lines of his muscles were completely revealed before Lin Hanxing!

Their wet clothes had dried from the heat of the hot spring. He bent down to pick up both his and Lin Hanxing's clothes. Turning around, he looked at Lin Hanxing who was still in the water with a half-smile.

"Give me my clothes!" Lin Hanxing said as she stretched out her hand to him in barely suppressed rage.

"Then you'll have to promise me, tonight you're not allowed to joke about yourself."

All of a sudden, Lei Xiao's tone took a serious turn. Lin Hanxing froze.

"Earlier today, what did your friend show you?"

Lin Hanxing leaned against the side of the hot spring and looked up at him with a calm expression. She had always been aware that there was someone by Lei Xiao's side. She had known this ever since the night when she noticed the strange marks on the guest room's windowsill.

"Tonight, they will act."

Lei Xiao did not directly tell Lin Hanxing the contents of the paper message. Lin Hanxing smiled coldly. Of course, she knew that they would act tonight. She even knew that what they wanted was her life!

"I have arrangements for tonight. You and your friend's people shouldn't act hastily."

She would never let herself end up in a position where she would lose out! This was no exception!

"I know that you're smart. I also know that you already have a plan. However..."

Lei Xiao handed over the clothes into Lin Hanxing's hands.

"Hanxing, love yourself a little more."

...

Tan Bide wore a depressed expression. Ever since the afternoon, his eyelid had been twitching non-stop. Out of all the times that he had dealt with issues, he had never felt anything that made him as uncomfortable as this did.

"Mr. Tan, everything is prepared. All that's left is for us to wait until nightfall!"

Tan Bide waved his hand at his subordinate. He was most aware of the boss's concerns compared to anyone else. Over the years, they had dealt with a couple of girls that looked similar, yet this time...

When he thought about that pair of cold eyes as frigid as an ice cellar and recalled the savageness of her actions... He worried that this time things might not be as easily completed as before!

...

Come nightfall, the teahouse was quiet as usual. The star-like glow of the fireflies was just as Lin Hanxing had promised—the view was unrivaled. Except...

Out of the blue, a huge fire raged uncontrollably in a corner of the living quarters of the teahouse. The blazing heat of the flames quickly grew to the height of several men. The heatwave rolling out from it was so intense it felt as though one would be baked to a crisp from it.

On a night like this, it appeared even more surprising and startling to the eye!

Han Bide stood at a high place overseeing everything that was happening. He wore a cold expression. No one could use such simple tricks like that to threaten the Lin family, to threaten the boss.

‘Wretched girl... Tonight will be the death of you!’

The flames grew wilder. Tan Bide observed it for a while and his lips curved into a cold smile. All his previous unease and worries were all burnt away and scattered into the clouds in this unruly fire that was growing bigger and bigger!

These few days in Mengsong, he had been so busy dealing with the business at the tea garden. Now that the issue was mostly settled, Tan Bide felt that he could finally spend time with his wife and child to enjoy the sights.

After he married his young and beautiful wife several years ago, she had always been at his beck and call. Soon after she had also given birth to a son for him...

Now that he thought about it, she made quite a fuss about bringing their son to a nearby temple earlier that day. She had heard that the fortune-telling there was extremely accurate. Why was she not back yet?

As he pondered, Tan Bide’s cell phone rang. He answered without thinking but as soon as he heard the voice coming through the phone, his complexion changed!

### **Chapter 38: Giving You The Choice**

“Mr. Tan, the fire is truly massive!”

Through the speaker, a chilling and taunting voice caused Tan Bide to break out in cold sweat! Unease and shock sped quickly to engulf his entire body!

A gust of cool breeze blew past and it brought up goosebumps all over Tan Bide’s body! He violently turned around to look at the jet-black shadows behind him, it looked as though he was reacting to something.

All the bodyguards that were in charge of protecting him had suddenly disappeared! Each and every one of them, yet they were there merely two minutes before.

Tan Bide became extremely weak at the knees. Two minutes’ worth of work, yet he did not hear even a sound.

“Why don’t we speak face-to-face?”

This time the voice did not come from his cell phone but from somewhere close to him...

Lin Hanxing walked out from the darkness, her beautiful face even carried the hint of a smile. Yet, that smile to Tan Bide, no matter how he looked at it, seemed to reveal that it was inevitable that she was going to win!

"You..." Tan Bide subconsciously took two steps back.

"Relax, I merely allowed your men to take a nap!"

At Lin Hanxing's words, Lei Xiao emerged from the darkness. He had rolled up his sleeves which showed off his huge muscles and the clearly-visible bulging thick veins. It was a shocking sight!

"What do you want to discuss with me?"

Tan Bide might have figured it out long ago, hence his forehead started to bead with cold sweat. Yet, his voice stayed calm.

.....

Lin Hanxing smiled when she heard him. However, her smile seemed to trigger a conditioned reflex in Tan Bide, striking fear in his heart! Her smile carried not even a trace of emotion. Instead, it seemed to be full of snares!

He had a suspicion that the words that were about to come out of that wretched woman's mouth would destroy his life!

"Let's talk about this fire."

She slowly walked and sat across Tan Bide. Her gaze landed on the huge fire that was still blazing viciously. That fire burned within Lin Hanxing's pupils.

"Can you see over there?"

Lin Hanxing stretched out her hand and pointed a finger. She drew it in a circle around the house that had not been engulfed in flames.

Tan Bide did not speak. He merely narrowed his eyes as though he did not fully understand what Lin Hanxing was implying.

"Your family is currently there!"

A cool breeze blew past and carried Lin Hanxing's hair with it.

As soon as Tan Bide heard her, he froze instantly. Soon after, his eyes went wide like a crazy person.

"You're lying!"

"Why would I lie to you?" Each word that Lin Hanxing uttered sounded relaxed and casual, as though she was just chatting about the weather.

"You've been crafty and devious from a young age. How can I be sure if what you're saying is the truth?"

Lin Hanxing looked at Lei Xiao and in turn, he tossed a photograph in front of Tan Bide. In the photograph was Mrs. Tan cradling the child!

"You..." Tan Bide could only feel his brain buzzing, everything seemed like a mess. Subconsciously, he pounced in the direction of Lin Hanxing but he was not close enough...

All one could hear was a crash and the man was already knocked to the ground by Lei Xiao. An anxious fire burned within his heart, so much so that he spat blood!

"Ms. Lin... Ms. Lin... A life for a life, spare my family!" Ignoring his pain, Tan Bide half-crawled half-rolled his way to Lin Hanxing's feet. He reached out his hand to tug at her skirt.

"Spare your family? If it were me asking you this, would you have spared me?" As her words sounded, one could only hear a thudding sound. It was Tan Bide knocking his head on the ground like a mad man.

He knew that she had seen through their ruse and had planned everything, waiting for him to fall into her trap that night. He had stupidly thought that he had the upper hand. Who would have thought that he would end up in such a dire situation!

Lin Hanxing wore an unreadable expression as she allowed Tan Bide to continue knocking his head against the ground. All the way till she saw blood, only then did she drawl lazily, "Don't be so quick to knock your skull out, wait till you hear the rest of the story. It's not too late for you to get more anxious!"

According to the current strength of the fire, there was at least another five minutes before the flames would reach the house where the mother and son were. As for now, Lin Hanxing wanted to give Tan Bide the power of choice!

Lin Hanxing reached the tip of her foot to Tan Bide's forehead and used a small amount of force to make him lift his head up.

"If I told you that your son isn't yours, would you still want to save him?" The crackling sounds of the burning flames seemed to meld with Lin Hanxing's gentle voice.

Tan Bide was stunned by her words and he looked at her in confusion. "What did you say?"

"I said, your precious three-year-old son might not be your flesh and blood."

There seemed to be light dancing in Lin Hanxing's eyes as her smile deepened. She looked like she was enjoying the sight of Tan Bide looking utterly defeated.

"You're speaking nonsense!" Tan Bide spat out through clenched teeth!

"I'm not speaking nonsense. You'll know once you've seen it." Lin Hanxing took out the item she had carried with her and passed it to Han Bide. He snatched it from her and tore open the envelope. All the contents fell to the ground and he flipped through each one!

From the beginning until the end, Lin Hanxing remained in her original position. She had a calm and detached attitude as she faced this man who was close to losing it completely.

Tan Bide lowered his head as he looked at the photographs and investigation findings in his hands with blood-shot eyes. He had previously imagined how scary the woman in front of him was, yet he had never expected that she would be terrifying to this extent!

This information was not something that could have been gathered in one day, yet before he had even arrived, she had already prepared everything. Unless she had known right from the start that he would come to Mengsong? She had been waiting all this while for him to fall into her trap himself?

Despite all this, the thing that angered and shocked Tan Bide the most was the evidence in his hands! He had worked hard and given his life for the Lin family, yet what did he get in return for his labor?

“Your wife had a relationship with this man. It started before you were both married. While you were working your butt off for your master, his son was busy bedding your wife. Once he took her to bed, it went on for 3 to 4 years!”

Lin Hanxing’s eyes were filled with ridicule. She knew exactly how to destroy a man’s pride and self-respect with ease.

“I don’t believe it! I don’t believe it!” Tan Bide gripped the information tightly. His hands quaked like a leaf. His blood-shot eyes and the visible veins bulging out of his temples made for a frightful scene!

“It’s ok if you believe it, and it’s fine if you don’t. Right now you’re merely an ownerless dog to me. It would be too easy for me to take your life...”

Lin Hanxing spoke in a low voice, slowly and clearly, “Right now, I’m giving you the choice! Whether we allow the fire to continue burning or whether we save both of them. The decision is up to you!”

The fire continued to blaze on.

Tan Bide continued to stare at the items in his hands looking like he had lost his soul. Lin Hanxing did not urge or pressure him. She merely let her gaze move past Tan Bide to land upon Lei Xiao.

Just like each time before, Lin Hanxing had never allowed his existence to conceal her abilities. As if he had noticed her stare, Lei Xiao’s deep gaze swept toward her.

Two pairs of eyes met.

All of a sudden, Tan Bide’s faint and indistinct voice rang next to both their ears...

### **Chapter 39: Be At My Beck And Call**

“I want the child!”

Lin Hanxing withdrew her gaze and lifted her head to look at the wide expanse of the sky. The night sky was scattered with immeasurable stars, completely unfettered by the mundane happenings below them. The heavens were so unfeeling!

Lin Hanxing had never understood why people always prayed to God when bad things happened to them? There were a different set of rules for the heavens and for those who lived on earth. The suffering among humans was a unique path. How could one wait for God to intervene?

“Are you sure?” she gave a low chuckle that carried the hint of a sneer. As she stood on high looking down upon Tan Bide who knelt on the ground, Lin Hanxing asked a question. It would not be repeated. If Tan Bide regretted his choice after, fire waited for no man!

"I'm sure!" Tan Bide roared in response, so forcefully that even his veins popped out. That along with the blood on his forehead made for a terrifying sight!

"As you wish."

Lin Hanxing raised her bare hands and softly clapped twice. In the dark, it looked as though a shadow flashed past.

"Now we should discuss our joint venture!"

...

The back courtyard of the teahouse.

Tan Bide held his son—who was sleeping soundly—tightly to his chest. With a shocked expression, he stared at the decorations and furnishings around him that looked exactly the same as those in the investigation report. This tea house looked just like a perfect replica of the one that was burned down before!

"The one that you burned down was merely the area that was open for the tourists to visit."

Lin Hanxing's personality made her both enjoy and prioritize privacy so when she built the teahouse, she particularly focused on separating it into two separate areas; one front courtyard and one back courtyard. The front courtyard was open to the public while the back courtyard was for her personal enjoyment.

.....

Many people had assumed that the front courtyard was the only teahouse on the entire Tea hill. This was why it was understandable that Tan Bide's subordinates had missed out on certain details during their investigations.

Uncle Dumb who had been gone for quite some time finally appeared. In his hands, he carried a calculator.

"Before we discuss our joint venture, I want to demand a repayment for the losses that I have suffered tonight."

Lin Hanxing fingers, dainty like jasmine flower petals, lightly tapped on the surface of the table, making pattering sounds.

Uncle Dumb's fingers repeatedly tapped across the calculator, the entire process took a full four minutes.

Tan Bide in his current state, no longer had his previous air of bravado and superiority. He hung his head and it was difficult to tell what he was thinking.

"The building that was burnt down contained some plants that I've spent many years to specially cultivate. That and the compensation for my mental distress from the shock adds up to thirteen million. You can choose to settle the debt with an online transfer or in cash. I don't accept checks!"

Lin Hanxing purposefully kept her voice down. The fierceness that seemed to emanate from her bones made it impossible for one to look directly at her! If she was unwilling, no one could make her lose out. Not even a fraction would be tolerated!

Thirteen million?

Tan Bide abruptly raised his head. That was the exact amount of all the liquid funds that he possessed. Was that number a coincidence or was it a number specially conjured by the other party...

He glanced at Lin Hanxing and looked away instantly in terror! How dare she say that she suffered a shock when clearly the person who suffered the biggest fright was himself...

Tan Bide suddenly concluded that he was no match for this woman! From the beginning right up to the end, everything was connected. Tan Bide could not help but suspect that from the moment she bought the ancient tea tree which should have been his boss's, she had begun to set up the trap.

She wanted to pique the interest of the people in Jiang City on purpose! This included getting rid of those little ones, even his own arrival there... She was clearly prepared from the start and even did nothing as she waited patiently for his people to act, setting fire to her teahouse's front courtyard!

This level of boldness, this level of patience, this level of calculated scheming... He had no chance of victory from the very start!

"Give me three days, I'll transfer the money to you." Tan Bide was like a defeated cockerel, even his voice was hoarse.

"I like how easy it is to do business with you, Mr. Tan." Once Lin Hanxing spoke, Uncle Dumb left silently just as he also appeared without a sound.

Lei Xiao had not entered the house, hence there were only three of them inside: Lin Hanxing, Tan Bide, and his son.

"Who are you, really?" Even if he died, Tan Bide wanted to die knowing the truth.

Lin Hanxing smiled as soon as she heard him. Her smile made her seem familiar to Tan Bide.

"Who I am isn't important. The important thing is what on earth are you planning to do now?" She took a sip of tea to moisten her throat. Her deep gaze carried not even a trace of warmth and it made for a sharp contrast with the smile on her face.

"Before the sun rises, I want to know... if this child... is of my blood or not!"

Tan Bide changed the topic and did not answer her directly.

"Fine, I promise that you'll know the result before the sun rises. However, you must be clear about one thing!" Lin Hanxing's expression abruptly changed—so quickly that Tan Bide was unprepared.

"There are only two options left for you to take, one is to work with me and be at my beck and call. As for the second option..."

Tan Bide stared at her apprehensively. Even though he had an inkling of what was coming, as soon as he heard what she said his entire body still trembled violently!

“Think carefully!”

...

At that moment, Lei Xiao was with Yan Beixiao. His deep gaze was directed at a distance.

“At the most, you have four days left before you must return to Jiang City to assume command!”

Yan Beixiao still had his usual foolish appearance but his tone was solemn. Lei Xiao glanced at him but did not speak.

“What is it about her that you like?” Yan Beixiao was extremely curious to know the answer to this question, which was why he asked one of his rare questions. A woman like Lin Hanxing would make a fine friend or work colleague. Yet, as a wife... Would that not be a little too much to stomach?

“What did Father say?”

“Your father did not say anything. Your mother—” Yan Beixiao stuffed both his hands into his jean pockets. His attractive peach-blossom like eyes were full of concealed amusement.

“—thought that this was your father’s idea and made him sleep in the study for three days!”

It could be said that Lei Xiao’s father—Lei Kangnian was an extremely well-known figure in Jiang City when he was young. It did not matter who you were, as long as one mentioned his name, everyone would be so frightened and become extremely respectful.

There was a famous saying in Jiang City long ago which was ‘If you have to marry, don’t marry Lei Kangnian; if you have to marry, marry Lei Kangnian.’

It was said to not marry him all those years ago because even though the Lei family built their family business through the shipping industry, yet once one became more involved, it became a gray area. The background of the matter was too complicated, hence no one would want to send their daughter into the swirling mess.

As for the reason to marry him, that was extremely straightforward; it was because he had both power and riches... Even his appearance was the type to make any woman who saw him fall in love right away!

Who would not want this kind of man? In the end, the person he ended up marrying was a nobody, the second daughter of the Zhong family. Once she married into the family, she ended up being treasured for almost several decades!

“I am reasonable.” Perhaps he recalled his father and mother as Lei Xiao’s features seemed to soften.

“I say, since you want to see your family so much, you might as well hurry back to Jiang City!” Yan Beixiao elbowed him as he spoke.

“What era is this now, yet you’re still playing such childish tricks. It’s too outdated!”

Yan Beixiao was stunned silent by Lei Xiao’s words. He had no retort for the longest time!

“Hey Mr. Lei, you’re pretty savage!”



In the dark, a thin shadow stood and there was no telling how long it had been there listening with no expression...

#### **Chapter 40: Heart Beat**

It was extremely late at night.

Lin Hanxing had just finished showering when she heard some movement at the door. She opened the door as she toweled dry her hair. When she saw Lei Xiao was sitting next to the door, her movements halted.

"What are you doing here?"

As soon as Lin Hanxing said those words, the towel in her hand was snatched by Lei Xiao. In the next moment, it was draped over the top of her head and rubbed back and forth in gentle strokes.

Lin Hanxing's line of sight was blocked by the towel and all she could see was his broad chest.

"I'm going to sleep here tonight."

Without waiting for Lin Hanxing to respond, Lei Xiao had already entered the house and locked the door from the inside.

"Leave." Lin Hanxing pushed against him. However, his physical strength was pretty evident in a situation like this.

Lei Xiao lightly held onto Lin Hanxing's wrists and abruptly pushed her up against the wall. Lin Hanxing was completely unprepared for this. As she felt her back against the wall, she lifted her head in fury.

In an instant, she froze.

Lei Xiao's stone-cold features softened at that moment and his deep cold eyes stared intently at her. When he could clearly see the anger in her eyes, his thin lips instantly curved into a faint smile. His eyes were filled with inexplicable tenderness.

Her heart missed a beat out of nowhere.

Lin Hanxing held her breath unknowingly and she wanted to hide from his eyes which looked like they were about to devour her. Yet, she could not resist letting her sight land upon Lei Xiao's face.

.....

"Don't make a fuss!" Lei Xiao spoke in a low voice, as though he had not done anything to capture Lin Hanxing. Once the words left his mouth, all of a sudden, Lin Hanxing was suspended mid-air!

It turned out that Lei Xiao had done all that to get her into his arms. Lin Hanxing subconsciously draped her hands across his shoulders.

"You'll sleep on the bed. I'll sleep on the ground."

Lei Xiao placed her gently on the bed and his gaze inadvertently swept across her snow-white feet. Her tiny toenails were like snowy jasmine petals in bloom. Once again, he recalled the time when she left a bunch of wild jasmine at his house...

"Are you ill?" Lin Hanxing felt bewildered as she watched him casually set up camp on the ground.

"Your words... They sound to me like you're hoping for me to sleep with you--"

Before Lei Xiao could finish speaking, a pillow flew at his face. He caught it calmly and the smile on his lips did not fade.

With a click, the lights went out. The room went pitch black.

Lin Hanxing laid on her back in bed but she could not sleep because Lei Xiao was there. She felt apprehensive about turning around in bed. This feeling made her strangely irritable.

All of a sudden, the fingers of that man reached over to catch hold of Lin Hanxing's wrist.

His hand was a little cold.

That was the thought that suddenly appeared in Hanxing's mind.

His thumb rubbed the back of her hand. It seemed as though he had sensed her irritable mood and was trying to comfort her.

It seemed like Uncle Dumb was also still awake. Lin Hanxing could hear the faint sound of the arias from the Beijing Opera.

"A moment ended the seven emotions, tears of suffering drenched the clothes"

"He taught me to collect the lingering hatred, to avoid the anger, to better oneself, to change the feelings, to take a break from love, to return to the sea of ??suffering, to realize the cause sooner..."

She slowly closed her eyes yet those scattered scenes did not appear like she had imagined they would. Lin Hanxing's tense body gradually relaxed. However, Lei Xiao's hand did not loosen at all...

...

Early morning.

Sunlight streamed in from a slit in the curtains. Radiantly, the sunlight shone on the ground and the light shadows scattered to form patterns on the ground.

Lin Hanxing fell asleep in a daze. All she could feel was her body being bound by something so tightly that she could hardly breathe. In the end, it was so unbearable that she opened her eyes and awoke from her slumber.

The first thing that she saw was the perfect chin of a man.

Lin Hanxing's mind went blank. It was like her brain could not react in time to figure out why there was a man in her room. Very quickly, the memories from last night came back to her.

As she slowly became more alert, she moved slightly only to realize what she felt trapping her earlier was Lei Xiao's arm holding onto her tightly.

She should have been sleeping on the bed but Lin Hanxing found that she was actually lying on the mattress that Lei Xiao put out last night. She was stuck in his embrace and had no way to move!

He was still fast asleep.

His stubble still made him look extremely clean-cut and the curve of his features was not as cold and rigid as usual.

The shirt that he wore last night was tossed carelessly aside and all he had on was a black tank top. In Lin Hanxing's entire life, she had never been this close with another person.

A faint feeling made her recall last night when she was pressed against the wall by Lei Xiao. Trapped within his embrace, her heart skipped a beat.

Lin Hanxing's face slowly turned crimson.

She moved slightly, wanting to run away from her embarrassment. Perhaps her movements were too much because Lei Xiao's brow furrowed tightly. His eyes remained shut but his arm moved out to pull Lin Hanxing back into his embrace.

This was followed in quick succession by his lips pressing against her forehead where they gently caressed her. Lin Hanxing's face instantly burned up.

"Good morning." Lei Xiao's morning voice was hoarse like sandpaper making it sound deeper and more magnetic than usual.

Lin Hanxing's entire body froze until she was as stiff as a rock.

"You rolled down here yourself last night." He used a hand to ruffle her hair and his eyes lit up.

"Do you think that I'm stupid?" Lin Hanxing did not believe his words at all.

Lei Xiao lowered his head to look at her and his lips suddenly curved upwards.

"Hmm, yes I think you're stupid."

What really happened was that after Lin Hanxing fell asleep, Lei Xiao carefully carried her down from her bed. He thought that she would wake up from her slumber but he never imagined that Lin Hanxing would not react to it at all.

"Release me." What she was referring to was his arm encircling her waist. However, Lei Xiao did not remove his hand, instead he forcefully pulled Lin Hanxing closer to his chest.

"Hey, Mr. Lei!"

"Why is your heart beating so fast?" Lei Xiao seemed to ignore the tone of Lin Hanxing's voice which hinted that she was close to exploding in anger as he stretched out his hand and pressed it against her heart.

Her uncontrollable beating heart under Lei Xiao's palm was more truthful compared to Lin Hanxing's repeated protestations. Lin Hanxing felt as though she could claw his face off at that moment!

"Did you sleep well last night?" All of a sudden, Lei Xiao's expression returned to his normal indifference. He used his arm to support his upper body making the muscles of his arm appear more evident.

Lin Hanxing had been silent for a good while. In the time that had passed, she finally understood the reason why he was willing to sleep on the ground and also why he insisted on staying in her room...

She stared at Lei Xiao's face in shock. Sunlight streamed onto the ground and illuminated his figure in golden light.

"You..."

Two pairs of eyes met, neither one of them spoke.

Lei Xiao subconsciously moved forward. Lin Hanxing clearly felt him closing the distance between the two of them. She could easily avoid it but this time, she seemed to be rooted in place, unmoving.

The distance drew closer and closer...

Knock knock knock...

Suddenly, a knocking sound came from the door...