

## Hidden 141

### Chapter 141: If My Inner Beast Comes Out

After putting down the medicine, Lu Tingxiao was about to knock at the bathroom door to ask whether Ning Xi was done, when it was pulled open from inside with a bang.

Ning Xi was wrapped up tightly in a huge bath towel, and she was hopping up and down like a caterpillar as she came running out.

"Watch out!" Lu Tingxiao was worried that she could not see and would fall down, so he hurriedly came over to help her.

Ning Xi sighed and said meaningfully, "It's not me that should be careful, it's you, Lu Tingxiao!"

"What do I need to be careful of?" Lu Tingxiao didn't understand.

Ning Xi looked at him matter-of-factly. "Be careful of me, of course! My strength has recovered a bit after bathing for a while, but the fire in my body could erupt at any time, like a dormant volcano! So it's better if you stay away from me! If my inner beast comes out, the consequences would be terrible! Let me tell you, even I am afraid of myself when I go crazy..."

The corner of Lu Tingxiao's mouth tilted upwards slightly. He didn't know whether to cry or laugh at her exaggerated words.

In fact, he looked forward to such a consequence.

"The medicine is here, do you need me to help you?" Lu Tingxiao asked.

"Of course not. For the sake of your virtue, I better do it myself!" Ning Xi said righteously.

"My virtue..." Lu Tingxiao curled his lips.

Ning Xi blinked. "Didn't you say before that you would only accept a sexual relationship as part of marriage?"

This type of good man who was disciplined and righteous was like a needle in a haystack. She would be committing a huge sin if she was the one to destroy his principles.

Lu Tingxiao pinched the skin between his eyebrows. Was it too late for him now to take those words back?

Ning Xi then said vaguely, "That, I'm not wearing clothes inside."

Lu Tingxiao nodded, handed her the medicine, then stepped back. "I'll wait for you outside."

"Okay, oh, by the way, please help me see if my own clothes and bag are outside!"

"Okay."

Lu Tingxiao walked into the living room, and after a short search, found a clothes basket in one corner with all of Ning Xi's things inside.

There was a flash of light inside her bag; it was an incoming call on her phone, which she had muted.

Lu Tingxiao took a casual glance, and in the next second, his pupils abruptly contracted.

Two letters flashed clearly on the caller display — YS.

It was the man whose identity he hadn't been able to discover until now.

The call didn't cut off, and the screen kept flashing.

Lu Tingxiao stared at it for ten seconds, then with slender fingers, picked up the phone and pressed the button to accept the call.

On the other end of the line, there was a faint sound like someone pouring wine, and then came a husky male voice. "Hello, Sissy, did you receive the gift? Happy Birthday."

"..." Lu Tingxiao said nothing.

"Hello?"

About five seconds later, as Lu Tingxiao wondered whether the man would say anything more, that slightly evil-sounding voice sounded again. "Heh, you aren't Ning Xi, are you?"

Lu Tingxiao remained silent.

Following that was the familiar sound of a wine glass tapping against glassware, and the man continued to speak in an interested tone. "Then who are you? Let me guess... it must be a man... a man who is still with her at this time of night... a one night stand? Or are you dating?"

The man paused, then chuckled huskily before speaking in a tone filled with dangerous malice. "Heh, if you're in a relationship, then has she told you, she has one foot in two camps? Yes, that's right, the other camp is me."

What did he mean?

Just as Lu Tingxiao was about to prod him for more information, the phone suddenly went dark. It had actually running out of battery, and had turned off automatically.

## **Chapter 142: Damn Making Love**

They had been thinking that YS was one of Ning Xi's ex-boyfriends. But hearing what the person had said on the phone, were he and Ning Xi still together?

Otherwise, why would he use the phrase "have a foot in both camps"?

Ning Xi had a boyfriend, but she just never mentioned it?

At the thought of this possibility, Lu Tingxiao's face instantly turned stormy.

But he calmed down quickly, since he couldn't exclude the very high possibility that the other party had deliberately said such a thing to strike his love rival a blow.

"Lu Tingxiao, I've rubbed on the medicine! Are my things here?"

"Yes." Lu Tingxiao came to himself, and took her things in.

After Ning Xi changed her clothes, Lu Tingxiao walked in again.

After changing into her own clothes, Ning Xi felt much more comfortable. The atmosphere was also not that strange anymore, so she took the blindfold off.

As soon as she removed the blindfold, she saw Lu Tingxiao looking at her with a complicated expression. She subconsciously touched her face and asked confusedly, "What's wrong?"

Lu Tingxiao sat down by the bed. "Can you tell me about yourself, Ning Xi?"

"About me? What about me?"

"Anything is fine."

Ning Xi was sure that Lu Tingxiao was deliberately trying to distract her, so she thought for a while before she said, "In that case, let me tell you something about my hometown!"

It was not the answer he expected, but it was just using different means to reach the same goal, and it would eventually lead to that matter.

Furthermore, it was the only time, and also the first time, that she was speaking about herself in front of him.

So Lu Tingxiao nodded. "Alright."

"Lu Tingxiao, there is a small town outside C City called Chunfeng Town. Do you know it? Mm, it's so small, you definitely wouldn't!"

"I do, the scenery is not bad. Was <Hero in Troubled Times> shot there?"

When Ning Xi heard this, she became excited. "Yes, yes! You actually do know! The scene in <Hero in Troubled Times> where the actor and the actress make love in the billowing wheat was shot in our town!"

Uh, damn making love! Why did she mention making love at this time! She was talking so much to forget about the topic of making love!

Ning Xi hurriedly cut off this dangerous talk. "Cough, the main point is that because the town isn't developed, the environment is especially good and the air is especially great!"

"A few years ago, Lu Jingli made some noise about going fishing there, but I was busy with work at the time, so I didn't go," Lu Tingxiao said a little regretfully. If he had gone at that time, would he have met her a little earlier?

In a sense, Lu Jingli really was the matchmaker for him and Ning Xi.

Although he hadn't gone, he had still met her later.

It was also only because Lu Jingli had taken Little Treasure to the bar that everything else happened.

Hmm, he would reward him properly when he got back!

"Then if you have the chance, you have to go at least once, you definitely won't be disappointed! I can be your guide then!" When she spoke of her hometown, Ning Xi's face was full of excitement, but it slowly darkened. "Over twenty years ago, the air was better. Back then, a lot of rich people would come on holiday, and there were even a number of them who came because of their pregnancies, including the Ning family's madam, Zhuang Lingyu, twenty-four years ago."

With these words, Ning Xi suddenly became silent.

Lu Tingxiao didn't urge her to continue, and quietly waited.

Ning Xi took a deep breath, and continued her story. "Madam Ning had planned to stay in Chunfeng Town while she was pregnant, then go back for the delivery. Unexpectedly, she accidentally induced labour, and the child was born premature..."

### **Chapter 143: Couldn't You Just Play Along?**

"Because they couldn't get back to the city in time, she was sent to a small hospital in Chunfeng Town. That night, there was another pregnant woman who was also admitted..."

"Then?" Lu Tingxiao asked, even though he could already guess what happened after that.

Ning Xi shrugged. "Then it was all drama! That small hospital didn't have enough staff and was poorly managed. They mixed the two baby girls up, and made a mistake that lasted eighteen years! Do you know Ning Xueluo even has the same blood type as me, that's why nobody realized anything!"

"Then how did they find out?"

Ning Xi turned her head and smiled at Lu Tingxiao. "As for that, it was thanks to my wild second uncle!"

"Ning Yaobang?" Lu Tingxiao had heard of this person, but didn't really know him; he only knew that back then, he had been a well-known playboy in the capital.

"That's right, my second uncle was a total player, and he was still fooling around with women outside even after he got married. He messed up a lot of lives, and in the end, had one son and three daughters in total!

"The Ning family wasn't sure if it was a feng shui problem, but in this generation, Ning Yaohua and Ning Yaobang just couldn't have boys, so that illegitimate son of my second uncle became the only male Ning heir in my generation.

"My second uncle was especially cocky when he thought his son could inherit the family's fortune, but who would have thought that he would later find out that his male heir wasn't even his real son. That outside woman had totally cuckolded him, haha! Then can you guess what happened after that?"

Lu Tingxiao really loved how Ning Xi's eyes sparkled. He thought for a bit. "Your grandfather was angry, and had DNA tests done for all the Ning family grandchildren, and found out that Ning Xueluo wasn't a Ning family member?"

Ning Xi's head was covered with black lines. "Couldn't you have just played along... there's really no fun trying to keep you in suspense!"

Lu Tingxiao laughed lightly. "Sorry, I'll do better next time."

Ning Xi humphed, and continued. "After they investigated, they realized that Ning Xueluo and I had been accidentally switched at the hospital that year, so I was taken back to the Ning family!"

Hearing her breezy tone when she said this, Lu Tingxiao rubbed her head gently. "They didn't treat you well?"

Ning Xi didn't think anything of it at first, but when Lu Tingxiao patted her gently on the head, for some reason, she suddenly felt that she had really been treated unjustly.

As expected, you only realize how aggrieved you are when someone cares for you; if no one cares about you, who would you share your sorrows with?

Seeing Ning Xi's depressed mood, Lu Tingxiao opened his arms wide. "I can lend you my embrace."

Ning Xi startled, and she turned her head. "No! Do you understand that this would be tempting me into committing a crime against you?"

Lu Tingxiao didn't say anything, just kept looking at her. "What about your foster parents, did they treat you well?"

Talking about her foster parents, Ning Xi's mood lifted a bit. "My grandmother favored sons over daughters, and really didn't like me. When I was born, she almost drowned me in the river, and she also once ditched me somewhere. But my dad found me and brought me back. My mom... she was also very good to me, I also have a thoughtful and obedient little brother!"

Hearing how she had almost been drowned or thrown away, Lu Tingxiao's heart clenched. And when she talked about her mother, her expression had seemed a little off, but he didn't ask further.

"I really like my old family, when they told me I wasn't their real daughter, I felt my whole world crumbling down. But the Ning family is too powerful, I couldn't make any other choice. Back then, if I had rejected them with all my being, there might have been the slight chance that I could have stayed, but..."

#### **Chapter 144: No One Is Better Than You**

Ning Xi sighed. "But that time, I was in love with a man, and needed a status to match his."

A light flashed in Lu Tingxiao's eyes. "Su Yan?"

Ning Xi nodded, then smiled. "Do you think it's strange how a country girl like me back then could have met a young master like Su Yan?"

Before Lu Tingxiao guessed the situation again, Ning Xi also didn't keep him in suspense, and directly answered her own question. "Su Yan's lungs weren't very good when he was little, so for seven years, he stayed in the countryside in the house next to mine.

"The first time I met him was when I found him collapsed on the road, so I carried him on my back and took him home.

"So we got to know each other after that, and we fell in love. Childhood friends and innocent playmates, how beautiful! Heh, but in the end, reality showed me it wasn't a Cinderella story, but the story of Mister Guo and the wolf!"

"No need to be sad, he's not good enough for you." Lu Tingxiao comforted her.

She never expected to somehow end up talking about her ex-boyfriend with Lu Tingxiao. Ning Xi scratched her head, and felt a little awkward. "That was off-topic, back to the Ning family... Ning Yaohua and Zhuang Lingyu hated to let go of Ning Xueluo, whom they had raised for eighteen years, so when I went back, they didn't give Ning Xueluo back to the Tang family, and to the Ning family, Ning Xueluo was still the apple of their eye.

"Then you can probably guess the rest. You can't make up for an eighteen-year gap overnight. In front of Ning Xuoluo, who grew up in a wealthy and powerful family, and who had received eighteen years of an elite education, I was an uncultured country bumpkin.

"I was too naïve back then, and at first I actually thought she was my friend. But she abused my trust, and tricked me into believing that I could drink the lemon water for washing hands, and gave me an imitation dress to wear for a banquet. One by one, she used these tricks to drive me out of the Ning family's social circle...

"The people in the circle were all already familiar with Ning Xueluo, and were all on her side. They treated me well on the surface, but in private laughed at me for being a hick. Even my own biological parents hated my existence, and felt that I was a stain on their name... then it was Su Yan...

"After Su Yan, my reputation, my innocence, my dignity — the things most important to a girl, they were all ruined and destroyed."

Ning Xi slowly hugged her knees. "Today on set, there was a problem with a prop, I accidentally used my sword to injure Ning Xueluo. At the hospital, my mother, my biological mother, didn't ask me a single thing before she slapped me, and my biological father had nothing but blame and threats for me...

Ning Xi stared blankly outside the window at a night that was black as ink, and her voice sounded far away. "For some reason earlier, everything I had been holding in for five years suddenly broke. I suddenly felt that everything was meaningless, that I was such a failure. Was it because I was so terrible that everyone hated me? Trying hard for so long, was it worth it?"

As soon as she finished, Lu Tingxiao suddenly grabbed onto her shoulders tightly. "Ning Xi, look at me. Not everybody hates you, they are the ones who are terrible. Understand?"

Ning Xi's eyes reddened slightly.

No matter how hard she tried to pretend she was fine, she was still only a girl just over twenty years old.

Lu Tingxiao pulled her into his arms and gently kissed the top of her head...

Ning Xi only felt a slight weight on her head, and didn't know what it was.

Lu Tingxiao gave her a deep stare and said seriously, "Ning Xi, if you doubt yourself, then try believing in me. You are more than good enough."

In this world, no one is better than you.

Ning Xi broke into laughter. "Of course I believe Big Boss Lu's words!"

Lu Tingxiao breathed a sigh of relief; that earlier moment had alarmed him immensely, to see her lose all hope.

After a short silence, Lu Tingxiao spoke up. "Ning Xi, can I ask you something?"

'Mister Guo and the wolf' is from the Chinese fairytale The Wolf of Zhongsan, which tells the story of a wolf's ingratitude after being saved by a scholar.

#### **Chapter 145: Become Your Brainless Fan**

"What is it?" Ning Xi tilted her head.

Was it because he liked her, so no matter what she did, he thought it was cute? Lu Tingxiao couldn't help touching her little head lovingly. "Do you like diamonds?"

"Ah?" Ning Xi hadn't expected that he would suddenly ask such a strange question. "Why do you ask?"

"Today is your birthday, Little Treasure helped me prepare a birthday gift for you. It seems he picked out diamonds. I'm helping him ask in case you don't like it." Lu Tingxiao acted normal.

"So it's like that..." Ning Xi scratched her head, then said, "Well, diamonds are supposed to be a girl's best friend, right? But it's just a birthday, and he's a little kid, he shouldn't be getting me something so expensive, so I'll have to say no. Something handmade would be better!"

Lu Tingxiao said casually, "It's not something so costly, unlike the one you received on set that day, which was truly valuable. I'm just worried that after seeing that, anything else would pale in comparison for you."

Hearing that, Ning Xi immediately facepalmed. "So you also know about that! News really does travel fast... don't compare yourself with that weirdo, he's mental!"

"Is that person your boyfriend?" Lu Tingxiao asked.

Ning Xi almost choked on her own saliva. "Cough... no way! What made you think of something as scary as that?"

"Because you seemed really close," Lu Tingxiao said in a slightly despondent voice.

Ning Xi's head hurt. "My God! How is that close? Is scolding someone for being mental considered being close?"

Lu Tingxiao nodded. "To me it is. You are always so polite with me, and have never been frank or sharp with me."

Ning Xi simply didn't know what to say. Was Big Demon King Lu secretly a masochist? Did he like being treated a little more harshly?

"In short, he has nothing to do with me now! He... he's just mental, and stupidly likes to throw diamonds at people! If I ever see him again, I'll definitely throw it right back at him!" Ning Xi said in a relaxed tone, but there was a hint of dread when she was talking about that person.

"Nothing to do with you now, then does that mean there was something there before?" Lu Tingxiao picked up on this point specifically.

Ning Xi coughed. "That... you could maybe say we dated before... if just one day counts..."

For some reason, Ning Xi cared about Li Tingxiao's opinion of her. She grabbed her hair. "Lu Tingxiao, do you think it's bad of me to have dated so many guys before?"

Lu Tingxiao looked very serious, and replied as if he was answering an extremely important question: "No, everyone has their own way of living, and they have things they don't want anyone else to know. People who don't know the truth have no right to stand on a high pedestal and punish or denounce other people."

Ning Xi's heart was warmed, and she smiled. "Lu Tingxiao, you sound like my brainless fan, no matter what I say, you'll think I'm correct, right?"

"Brainless fan?" Lu Tingxiao didn't quite understand what this meant.

"That's right, it describes those completely irrational fans who support their idols whether they're right or wrong!"

Lu Tingxiao thought for a while, then murmured, "Mm, that's very accurate."

Ning Xi: "..."

Ning Xi looked like she was silently struggling to contain some kind of emotion, and after a long beat, she sighed deeply. "Lu Tingxiao... do you know..."

"What?"

"Do you know, you are scarier than the aphrodisiac!" The look on Ning Xi's face was twisted as she pulled on her collar painfully.

#### **Chapter 146: Unable To Take Anymore Of Your Flirting**

Sheet, they had chatted for so long to distract her, but it had been all in vain!

How did this man start hitting on her without warning!

The scariest thing was that he actually didn't realize he was doing it at all!

If the saying was that no action was the best type of action, and no flirting was the strongest form of flirting, then this was the highest level of flirting... ptui ptui ptui...

Her brain was already in a mess, and she didn't know what weird things she was thinking about...

"Are you feeling unwell again?" Seeing her condition, Lu Tingxiao's expression immediately turned tense.



Ning Xi rubbed her throbbing temples. It wasn't as simple as just feeling unwell. This tide that had surged again was scarier than the first one. In her eyes right now, Lu Tingxiao was just like the male lead in a shoujo series, who came with his own emotional background music and romantic pink cherry blossoms special effects...

Her inner reason clashed with the intense, bewitching, pink rays of light he brought with him, and she felt like she was quickly being possessed.

In just a few short seconds, Ning Xi had started gasping for breath and was sweating profusely. Seeing this sudden change, Lu Tingxiao's own expression immediately changed. "Where does it hurt, weren't you already feeling better? What... what kind of pain... is it that... or something else?"

Lu Tingxiao felt slightly embarrassed when he remembered what she said earlier about him being scarier than the aphrodisiac.

This was perhaps the biggest compliment he had ever gotten.

There was a red light in Ning Xi's eyes, and she stared at him without blinking.

Under that gaze, Lu Tingxiao felt as if his body was on fire.

With some effort, Ning Xi shook her head, then threw herself onto the big bed and looked at the ceiling helplessly. "Ai, I think I still have to endure it tonight... Lu Tingxiao, if I lose control of myself later, remember that you have to knock me out!

Lu Tingxiao muttered, "Actually, I could..."

Ning Xi immediately stopped him. "Stop stop stop, don't say it! Please my lord boss, pardon me, this humble servant right now is unable to take anymore of your flirting!"

Lu Tingxiao lifted an eyebrow. "What are you thinking? I was saying, I could leave the room."

"Eh... oh..." Ning Xi was embarrassed as she rubbed her nose and murmured, "But it's too... too boring to stay by myself!"

She was embarrassed to say that she would be scared.

Lu Tingxiao understood her worries, and asked gently, "How about we go home?"

Go home...

Ning Xi was in a daze after hearing those two words, for it was the image of the Lu residence which instantly and naturally popped into her head.

"Better not, in my current state..." She didn't want to bring this utter filth back to that place.

Out of the corner of her eye, Ning Xi saw documents and laptop which Lu Tingxiao had placed by the side of the bed. "You do your own thing! If I meditate for a bit, I won't run or do anything rash..."

Lu Tingxiao smiled. "Okay."

In the quiet hotel room, there was only the sound of the clacking of keys on the keyboard. It was like the gentlest lullaby in the world...

With a peaceful expression, the girl slowly closed her eyes...

Noticing the long, steady breaths next to him, Lu Tingxiao stopped what he was doing, and carefully covered her with the blanket.

The girl made an indistinct noise, then unconsciously grabbed his finger and murmured, "Lu Tingxiao..."

Lu Tingxiao's body trembled, and there was an incomparably moved expression on his face.

She was calling his name.

"Yes, don't be scared, I'm here." Lu Tingxiao bent down, and his appearance was gentle as he kissed the corner of her mouth.

But tangled up in that gentle appearance was a dark cloud of turmoil...

'Shoujo' is Japanese for 'young girl'.

### **Chapter 147: Little Treasure Tears The House Apart**

Ning Xi, what should I do...

I'm not as good as you think I am.

It frightens me sometimes when you look at me with such trusting eyes.

If one day you find out that I'm really not what you think I am... would you leave me?

...

At five in the morning, Lu Tingxiao was woken up by the sound of the doorbell.

He opened the door to see Lu Jingli standing outside anxiously. "Brother, don't get mad at me, this is really urgent. If you don't go home now, Little Treasure will tear the whole house apart! They couldn't get in touch with you, and Ning Xi's phone isn't working, so I had no choice but to come here!"

At this moment behind him, Ning Xi instantly sounded wide awake. "What's wrong with Little Treasure? I'm going back right now!"

Saying that, she grabbed her bag in passing and helped pack up Lu Tingxiao's things in ten seconds. "Let's go, let's go!"

The three of them rushed back to the Lu residence.

As soon as they entered the courtyard, Ning Xi was stunned.

"What's going on? What are those?" Ning Xi rubbed her eyes, and stared in shock at the shiny, silver man-shaped figures walking around. She felt as if she'd travelled to a different dimension.

Lu Jingli blinked. "Can't you tell? They're robots!"

Ning Xi almost went crazy. "Of course I can see that... but, why are there so many of them?"

Lu Jingli's head hurt. "This is one of Little Treasure's hobbies, it's just that he hasn't taken them out in a while. But now that he's been provoked, he's put them all out, like zombies attacking the city..."

They could see a few dozen robots on the spot, and they were all wrecking things.

Digging up the ground, running around crazily, knocking into trees, destroying flowers; one even lifted a maid up... nearby, the servants cried out in alarm. The whole scene was a mess...

Seeing that the maid was about to fall out of the robot's arms, Ning Xi opened the car door and rushed over to catch the girl before she hit the ground.

"Are you okay, Wan Wan?"

Wan Wan was still in shock as she patted her chest, then she looked at Ning Xi thankfully. "Thank you, Miss Xiao Xi! You've returned, please go see Little Young Master quickly!"

At the Lu residence, all the servants, especially the maids, took a hostile attitude towards Ning Xi, they just didn't dare show it in front of her. But Wan Wan had helped Little Treasure bring fresh juice to Ning Xi on set often, so she started to get to know Ning Xi more, and she felt that Ning Xi wasn't taking advantage of the doting attention from Eldest Young Master and Little Young Master, and wasn't an overbearing bully for it. She was very modest and spoke well, so Wan Wan had a very good impression of her.

Seeing how Ning Xi had nimbly taken action as "the hero saving the beauty", in the car, Lu Tingxiao had a helpless expression on his face.

Lu Jingli stuck his head out of the car window and cried plaintively, "Xiao Xi Xi, you're not supposed to do that! You stole my job! Ouch! Help —"

As he was speaking, a robot had clamped onto one of his arms.

"Brother, save me! Hurry up and turn these things off!" Right after he made noise about being the hero to save the damsel, Lu Jingli now had to be rescued himself.

Lu Tingxiao had on an expression of someone who wanted to help, but didn't know how. "Little Treasure changed the program last time, I'll need an hour to crack it."

"An hour! Then I'm going to lose my arm! Ahhhh, hurts hurts hurts..."

"Then where is Little Treasure now?" Ning Xi hurriedly asked.

"He should be in the computer room." Lu Tingxiao swiftly came out of the car. "I'll take you there."

"Okay!" The two of them ran to the computer room quickly.

Lu Jingli watched their backs as they left. "Two of you, hurry!"

## **Chapter 148: Carry Me**

A moment later, Lu Tingxiao told the butler to prepare a small open-top car, similar to a sightseeing car, and swiftly brought her to a small, detached building behind the golf course.

The shape and design of the house was utterly fantastic; it looked like it was made of glass or some unknown metal. With one look, she could tell it was especially high-tech and had a very futuristic feel.

The Lu residence was too big; Ning Xi had lived there for so many days and still hadn't seen everything. This was the first time she had come to this place.

"There is a mechanical device at the base of the house which turns with the sun. The coating on the exterior walls of the house can absorb solar energy, and everything inside the house is solar-powered. The housekeeper and the servant are all robots," Lu Tingxiao explained as if he were a tour guide.

"So cool!" Ning Xi's face lit up. She was so excited, she looked like a little kid.

"If you like it, you can come and play whenever you want. I'll set up the access rights for you later. I didn't think you would be interested in this type of thing, which is why I never brought you here," Lu Tingxiao said.

"No, no! I actually really love this type of thing! When I was a child, I always dreamt of being taken away by an alien spaceship one day, and when I was older, I thought about falling in love with a robot. Ah! It's so romantic just thinking about it!"

Lu Tingxiao: "... " Maybe it was better to not give her access after all.

They both walked to the door, and no sooner did they see a robot lying on the ground when its eyes suddenly glowed red, as if scanning Ning Xi and Lu Tingxiao.

"Master...Master..."

After scanning Lu Tingxiao, the robot struggled to speak in an electronic voice. "Master... Master..."

This tragic robot, which could only say "master" brokenly, and looked like it wanted to disclose something but couldn't, was probably the housekeeper for this computer room.

Lu Tingxiao sighed, and opened a panel in the robot's back. She didn't know what he did, but the robot's eyes then became dark, as it stopped reacting.

Ning Xi approached nervously and touched it. "Why isn't it moving anymore? It's not dead, is it? Ah, that's not right... it hasn't broken down, has it?"

"It's fine, it just needs to be fixed later."

Ning Xi sighed with relief. "Oh oh, that's good, otherwise it would be a waste, this one looks very handsome!"

Lu Tingxiao: "... " Maybe it was better to leave it out of commission.

Lu Tingxiao wiped his face and entered the main building. Ning Xi followed behind him and looked around with an anxious expression. "Where on earth is Little Treasure?"

The hall was full of robots moving back and forth. When they detected Ning Xi and Lu Tingxiao, they immediately turned and took aim at them.

Then, they ignored Lu Tingxiao and rushed straight at Ning Xi.

"Ahhh, what are they trying to do? Why are they all rushing at me!" Ning Xi was startled. Although she was good at fighting, she couldn't beat a robot with an ironclad shell!

Liu Tingxiao lifted her up by her armpits and gently moved her from side to side to avoid one robot's mechanical claw. He sighed helplessly. "Because you don't have access, so they regard you as an intruder."

"So what do we do now?" While they spoke, Ning Xi had been swung from side to side by Lu Tingxiao several times already.

"Come close to me," Lu Tingxiao ordered her.

"Ah! How close?" Ning Xi said blankly.

"Little Treasure is in the main control room on the top floor. We have two choices. First, defeat them and break in."

"How can we fight so many robots! What's the second choice?" Her hands already hurt just looking at the material the robots were made out of. She didn't want to fight them!

"The second..." Lu Tingxiao lowered his eyes to look at her. "I carry you up, since they won't attack me."

Ning Xi blinked, then reached out without the slightest hesitation. "Carry me."

#### **Chapter 149: The Perfect Kabe-Don Pose**

Seeing the girl open her arms to him of her own volition for the first time, emotion rippled in Lu Tingxiao's cold eyes.

"Ahhh! They're coming again! Lu Tingxiao, hurry!" Ning Xi had already thrown herself at him.

Sure enough, as soon as she stuck to Lu Tingxiao, the robots immediately didn't dare touch her.

How amazing!

It was only when that warm, soft and sweet-smelling body abruptly rushed at him that Lu Tingxiao, who had been in a trance, finally reacted. He bent and grabbed her around her waist, then walked towards the spiral staircase.

This was probably the first time that he had been so close to her when she was clearheaded.

He really wished this road would never come to an end...

If Lu Jingli knew what his brother was thinking at the moment... ugh...

When Lu Tingxiao and Ning Xi both went upstairs, the robots followed them at a certain distance .

Ning Xi put her arms around the man's neck to keep her balance. Breathing in his cool, pleasant scent, and looking at the swarm of robots following them up the curved stairs, she somehow felt that this was an extraordinarily romantic scene!

However, this pink bubble didn't last long.

Just as they reached the top floor without a hitch, and were about to open the silver-white main door, the robots behind them suddenly made clacking noises, and then lifted their metal arms in unison. The arms stretched and withdrew, and something shot out, like the bullet from a gun.

Ning Xi immediately turned pale with fright. "Holy sheet! Is that for real? I thought they were just toys!"

Was it really okay to allow a mere five-year-old to play with such dangerous and lethal things?

She didn't know how to criticize Lu Tingxiao's parenting method anymore.

"Now what do we do?" Ning Xi was already ready to cry.

They were just looking for Little Treasure, why did they have to experience so many hardships, as if this was a copy of a game.

Lu Tingxiao grabbed her shoulders to push her against the door behind them. Then he used his whole body to cover her, leaning one arm against the door at her back.

Ning Xi was silent for three seconds, then swallowed a mouthful of saliva, and quietly said: "Lord Boss, do you know that you executed the perfect kabe-don pose?"

"Kabe-don?" This was clearly another term that Lu Tingxiao didn't understand.

Ning Xi face-palmed. My dear, flirting without meaning to is the most deadly of all!

Just then, out of the corner of her eye, Ning Xi saw a robot opposite them fire a shot directly at Lu Tingxiao's back. "Lu Tingxiao! Watch out!"

But it was too late. Lu Tingxiao was guarding her tightly, and she heard a smothered groan.

"Lu Tingxiao —" Ning Xi was thoroughly panicked.

"I'm fine." Lu Tingxiao raised his head slowly.

"How can you be fine? Lu Tingxiao, how do you feel? I'll take you to... ugh..." Ning Xi stopped talking mid-sentence, and her stomach suddenly churned. "Lu Tingxiao, you stink... what is that awful smell?"

With a black face, Lu Tingxiao took off his coat. On the back was something sticky and incredibly disgusting-looking.

Ning Xi covered her nose. Even as she breathed a sigh of relief, knowing that he was fine, she was dumbfounded. "What is that thing? Don't tell me it's sheet?"

Lu Tingxiao flung the coat as far away as possible to the bottom floor, and said emotionlessly, "Canned herring, it's said to be the smelliest canned food in the world. It was Lu Jingli's idea."

Ning Xi curled her lips. "Second Young Master is indeed talented... it's not just smelly, it's really a biochemical weapon!"

As soon as she stopped speaking, the door behind her all of a sudden opened outwards on its own...

'Kabe-don' is a trope often used in romance manga/anime series whereby characters trap their love interests against a wall by leaning one or both arms against the wall beside them. In Japanese, 'kabe' means wall, and 'don' is the sound of something hitting a wall.

## **Chapter 150: The Most Romantic Birthday**

"Let's go." Lu Tingxiao held her hand and walked inside.

It was an extremely natural gesture.

Ning Xi looked at their joined hands. Even though she knew that Lu Tingxiao was just worried that something else would happen, there was a small, strange feeling inside her heart.

The lighting in the control room was really dim; the only illumination present was the cold light from dozens of working computers.

Ning Xi followed Lu Tingxiao as they walked past the computers, and finally found Little Treasure beside the biggest machine.

Beneath that colossal machine, with countless wires attached to it, Little Treasure looked so small as he sat in a custom-made chair and stared numbly at countless sequences flashing across the screen. Standing next to him was a robot that looked like a smaller version of him. In its hand, it held a gun barrel which was pointed in Ning Xi and Lu Tingxiao's direction.

Looking at the cold, lifeless expression on Little Treasure's face, Ning Xi felt as if her heart was being squeezed tightly by iron claws, and she almost couldn't breathe from the pain.

"Little Treasure..." she said shakily.

Staring at the screen, the little guy didn't react at all.

Ning Xi was really scared, she had only heard Lu Tingxiao and the others talk about it before; she had never seen with her own eyes what Little Treasure was like when he was ill.

"What should we do... this is all my fault..."

"Ning Xi, don't blame yourself, it's alright, this happens to him quite often. Call his name a few times, and he'll be fine," Lu Tingxiao comforted her.

In reality, it was only because it was Ning Xi that Lu Tingxiao said that to her. If it had been anyone else, there was no way it would be that easy.

With some effort, Ning Xi calmed herself down, and step by step, carefully drew closer to Little Treasure.

The little robot's head turned with Ning Xi's every move, but Little Treasure still didn't react.

When Ning Xi reached Little Treasure, she bent over slowly, and carefully held one little hand. "Little Treasure... Auntie's back... I'm sorry... something happened last night, so Auntie couldn't come back in time..."

Ning Xi couldn't explain to him what happened, and could only hang her head in pain.

She didn't know how much time had passed until suddenly, a little fist appeared in her field of vision.

Then, that little fist opened slowly, and in the middle of that soft little palm was a pink hair clip. The clip had a hundred little diamonds on it, which formed the shape of a heart, and it twinkled brightly under the cold machine lights.

"This..." Ning Xi immediately lifted her head, both surprised and happy, even though there was still no expression on the little guy's face.

On the side, Lu Tingxiao looked at the hair clip in his son's palm, and said, "This is Little Treasure's birthday gift to you."

"For me..."It really was diamonds!

At that moment, Ning Xi felt a little uncomfortable.

Lu Tingxiao understood her feelings, and explained, "They're just normal crystals, and not expensive. But Little Treasure glued on all ninety-nine crystals himself."

Ning Xi was immediately deeply moved after hearing that. She didn't take the hair clip, but said to Little Treasure, "Can you help Auntie put it on?"

Little Treasure was a little sluggish when his gaze moved to the hair clip. Then he reached out one small hand, and clumsily pinned the hair clip next to her ear.

Ning Xi touched the clip with happiness written all over her face. "Does it look good?"

Little Treasure nodded.

Finally getting a response from Little Treasure, Ning Xi could no longer help herself, and pulled the little guy into her arms.

At the same time, the little robot beside them shot out colorful ribbons with a bang, and started to play a birthday song.

Ning Xi teared up when she lifted her head to look at the colorful ribbons fluttering in the air. "Thank you darling, this is the most romantic birthday I've ever had!"