

Hidden 991

Chapter 991: Who's The Third Party

After getting dressed, everyone split up to look for Guan Ziyao in the surrounding area.

"Xinyan, don't be sad, Ziyao's definitely not that weak!"

"It's all that woman's fault. She's just too much! She's been trying to provoke Sis Ziyao since yesterday and intentionally had my cousin piggy back her and kiss each other as if no one else was around. At night, they even...ugh, just offensive public morals!" Lu Xinyan ranted.

"That woman is indeed too much, I've been wanting to say that since yesterday. Is she here to hike or sleep? If she wanted to sleep, she should just go home! Why did she even come?"

"Poor Ziyao..."

...

The few girls who were usually on good terms with Ziyao had started to complain and push all the blame about the missing Guan Ziyao onto Ning Xi.

Was it wrong for a couple publicly display their affection for each other? If this was offending public morals, would he and his wife not be even more offensive by their standards?

Zhao Haisheng and his wife, Ling Fei, had wanted to say something but those people were on Guan Ziyao's side, so it would not do them any good to cut in. They could only shake their heads and continue the search.

As the sky was beginning to brighten, time slowly passed for them and everyone had gone on separate ways, yet they still had not found her. Their expressions could not help but be filled with worry.

Ning Xi's search was unfruitful too. She scratched her head and suggested, "Lu Tingxiao, let's split up to look! It's faster that way!"

If something really had happened to Guan Ziyao, it would definitely be very troublesome, especially for Lu Tingxiao. Even if it had nothing to do with them, the blame would definitely fall on them. It was not like she had not heard all the people gossiping and whispering earlier.

"The terrains here are complicated, you'd better stick with me," said Lu Tingxiao with a frown.

Ning Xi helplessly looked at Lu Tingxiao who wished that he could tie her around him to carry. "I'm an adult. Do you think I'd get lost? Don't talk so much, quickly look for her!"

Lu Tingxiao could not stop her, "Call me if there's anything, don't get lost..."

"I know, I know!"

...

"Sis Ziyao! Sis Ziyao! Where are you?"

"Answer me if you can hear me?"

"Sis Ziyao!!!"

Lu Xinyan shouted at the top of her lungs from the cliff and suddenly bumped into Ning Xi at a turn on the narrow path.

When she saw Ning Xi, Lu Xinyan immediately shot her a nasty look. "Witch! Sis Ziyao is now missing because of you! Are you happy now!? You're satisfied now, aren't you!? How can you be this evil!?"

Ning Xi raised her brows questioningly. "I hope in the future, when a third party comes between you and your boyfriend, and your third party goes missing when your boyfriend rejects her, I hope you can also be this righteous, Miss Lu."

"You!" Lu Xinyan roared in fury, "What third party?! You're the third party! You're the third party between Sis Ziyao and my cousin!"

"Miss Lu, do you really understand the meaning behind 'third party'? When I got into a relationship with your cousin, I was single and so was he. How did you come to the conclusion that I'm the third party?"

Lu Xinyan bit her lip and she rebutted, "Sis Ziyao and my cousin grew up together and they've known each other since they were young!"

Ning Xi nodded solemnly. "So, your cousin said that he liked Guan Ziyao and wanted to marry her?"

"He...he never said that to me, but my cousin definitely likes Sis Ziyao. He never got a girlfriend all these years because he was waiting for Sis Ziyao!" Lu Xinyan sounded incredibly certain.

Chapter 992: Ning Xi Fell Down!

As she looked at the stubborn and naive girl, Ning Xi did not actually want to say more, but since she was Lu Tingxiao's cousin, she still said something in the end. "Young lady, you flaunt yourself as an envoy of righteousness to fight for someone else's justice, but have you ever thought about asking your cousin's thoughts as his own flesh and blood?"

"Did he really like Guan Ziyao before? Is the relationship between him and Guan Ziyao as innocent and as undying a love as you thought?"

"You continue to question your cousin's choice over and over again just based on one outsider's hearsay to ruin him and his girlfriend's relationship. Don't you think that there's a problem?"

"I-I..."

Ning Xi had said so much but Lu Xinyan found herself tongue-tied.

It was true that she had treated Guan Ziyao as an idol because she admired her; she was capable, outstanding, and intelligent. She would always be on her side. As for her cousin, she had never tried to understand him, only treating him as a traitor...

When she thought about it, during her chats with Guan Ziyao, she subconsciously felt that they should ideally be a couple as she always heard Guan Ziyao reminisce about entertaining anecdotes from when they were younger, so she thought they liked each other. Nevertheless, Guan Ziyao had never given her a definite answer about they were really like.

In fact, Ning Xi was right. When she had started dating Lu Tingxiao, they were both single, so who was the third party?

Suddenly, Lu Xinyan actually found herself at a loss.

However, even so, she remained her annoyed towards this woman before her. "Even...even if you're not the third party, you can't use my cousin's sincerity to strut around, showing off or intimidate people. Do you know how sad Sis Ziyao is? You've obviously done something to hurt her and until now we don't know Sis Ziyao's whereabouts. Aren't you at least a little regretful! How can there be someone as evil as..."

As Lu Xinyan was angrily accusing her, Ning Xi's expression suddenly changed as she ran at lightning speed towards her.

Lu Xinyan, who Ning Xi had touched, acted as if she had been touched by something gross and instantly pushed her off of her. "What are you doing!? Don't touch me!"

Ning Xi did not expect Lu Xinyan to actually push her off suddenly. Even though she had pulled Lu Xinyan to safety behind her, she was pushed towards a collapsing cliff. Before she could react, her body had faltered and she rolled off the cliff...

Lu Xinyan watched, stunned, at the cliff where she had precociously and watched Ning Xi's silhouette decrease in size until it very quickly disappeared. A few seconds later, an alarmed screech was heard, "Ahh!!!"

"Xinyan! What happened?!"

"What's happening?!"

A few of those nearby had been attracted over by Lu Xinyan's screams.

"Ning Xi! Ning Xi fell down! Save her! Quickly save her!" Lu Xinyan cried.

The moment she said that, everyone's expression changed.

"What did you say?"

"Why would Ning Xi suddenly fall off?"

"What happened exactly? Xinyan, speak clearly!" Mo Lingtian asked with a serious expression.

"Bro Tian! What do we do!? Ning Xi fell off! I saw her fall off myself! The spot I was standing in suddenly collapsed. She fell because she saved me! Please save her! Quickly save her! Bro Tian! Get someone to save her!"

Chapter 993: What The Hell!?

Lu Xinyan could not hold it in anymore and started sobbing as she sat on the ground.

At that moment, no one could think about Guan Ziyao anymore. They were engulfed in the shock of Ning Xi's fall from the cliff.

They could still see the clear signs of the collapsed area on the cliff where Lu Xinyan had stood. Obviously, Ning Xi had fallen off from there.

How could they save her? It was a bottomless abyss beneath them!

Everyone knew that this was not the first time such a thing had happened on Mount Yu Ming. Many people took a wrong step and fell off the cliff every year and not a single body was found. Even if they were lucky enough to be found, there would be no possibility of surviving...

Mo Lingtian's voice shook as he said, "Beneath this cliff is the source of a waterfall and there are many rocks among the rushing waters. If someone were to fall in, if they were lucky enough not to have their heads bashed against those rocks, they still won't be able to handle the strong impact from hitting the water. If we wait till she gets washed up onshore, I'm afraid we should expect the worst. But if we just go down the water to save her, it'll be too dangerous. There have been similar incidents before this too and none of them were successful in their rescue attempts..."

The dreadful repression in the air expanded upon Mo Lingtian's words...

"What to do, what to do?! We were just out here for a hike, how did we end up like this?"

Ling Fei who was patient for a long time could not hold it in anymore at that moment. With a sneer, she started to say, "All because of someone's stubbornness and pretending to go missing! You all say that Guan Ziyao is so talented, so nice, but I don't see that at all! If she was really nice, would she keep harping on someone else's boyfriend? Even if she liked him, she can't do such an immoral thing! Whose sympathy is she trying to buy by pretending to be ditched and betrayed? Lu Tingxiao has zero relationship with her!"

Many people started to echo Ling Fei. "That annoying Lu Xinyan keeps saying that someone bullied and angered her, but I don't understand. Who bullied her? Who angered her? She went after someone else's boyfriend with her own wishful thinking and even made herself the victim, so how's she pitiful? She really deserves to be angered to death!"

"And that Lu Xinyan is a brainless follower too. Now, they've both killed a nice, young lady. They should be satisfied now!"

When she heard those horrible words, Lu Xinyan slumped onto the ground in shock as if her soul had left her.

She knew that she was dead...she was definitely dead this time...

If something happened to Ning Xi, Bro Xiao would never let me go!

Yet what made her even more afraid and panic-stricken was that she had watched someone plunged to her death right before her and she had even pushed her off!

"Stop talking crap. Even if we don't have a plan, we have to think of something! If Lu Tingxiao finds out, we'll all be in trouble..." urged someone.

"Someone must inform Lu Tingxiao about this immediately!"

"Inform...? Which one of you will go?"

...

The air was dead silent again.

Who would dare to tell Lu Tingxiao!? Did they have a death wish?

"I'll tell him!" Mo Lingtian ground his teeth and his hand trembled when he took out his phone.

If he had not forced Lu Tingxiao to come last night, nothing would have happened to Ning Xi...

Just as Mo Lingtian was about to make the call, a girl's shriek was suddenly heard from the crowd, "Ah! Ahhhhhh!!!"

"Dear! What's wrong?" Zhao Haisheng quickly looked at Ling Fei.

Ling Fei nervously looked at the edge of the cliff a few metres away from her and shouted, "A hand! There's a hand! Someone's hand!"

"Hand? Where?"

Just as everyone followed Ling Fei's finger to look over, indeed, they saw a hand. A fair hand that belonged to a woman.

"What...what is that...?"

"What the hell? Aaaaah!!!!"

"My God! Could Ning Xi have turned into a ghost to demand for someone's life?!"

Chapter 994: You're A Monster!

"Ahhhhh, ghost!"

Instantly, all the girls' shrieks rose. Lu Xinyan even almost fainted as the blood drained from her face from fright. It was chaos.

"Hey...what ghost...?" At that moment, there was another hand on the rock of the edge of the cliff. What followed next was a swoosh as a dark figure rolled over from the edge and fell on the ground before them...

"Wh-what is this?!"

"What just crawled up? Ahhhhh!"

"Jesus!"

"It's...Ning Xi! It looks like Ning Xi! Aah!!!"

...

Oh my God! What did they just see? Argh!

Ning Xi!?

It was really Ning Xi!

What was happening?

Could she have climbed back up by herself???

Ning Xi's hair was in a mess and her white sports outfit was dirty beyond recognition. Underneath her fingers were a gritty mix of mud and moss. She was bending down and gasping for air. After she crawled up and caught her breath, the first thing she nervously asked them was, "Hey...you didn't tell Lu Tingxiao, did you?"

As they watched this scene unfold, everyone looked as if they had seen a ghost.

Lu Xinyan had forgotten about crying as she stood there, stunned, while Mo Lingtian had fallen to the ground looking dumbfounded...

"Hey, I'm asking you guys! Why are all of you looking so shocked?" Ning Xi asked again.

"No! I haven't had the chance to tell him!" Mo Lingtian answered blankly.

"Good...don't ever let him know about this..." Ning Xi breathed a sigh of relief and sat back down.

Jesus! She was really crazy!

The first thing she said after crawling back from the brink of death was not "Thank God I didn't die" or crying and wailing; instead, she pleaded them not to tell Lu Tingxiao about this incident! Was she alright?

Was Lu Tingxiao scarier than falling off a cliff?

Mo Lingtian looked like he was having an anxiety attack. "How did you get back up here?"

"Duh, I climbed back up!" Ning Xi answered sarcastically.

Mo Lingtian questioned again, "Climb? How did you do that?"

"With my hands."

Mo Lingtian painfully swallowed his saliva and said, "Li-little bunny...no...heroine! How is your body even structured? Didn't you die?"

Ning Xi wiped off the sweat on her brow and rolled her eyes at Mo Lingtian. "Have you never heard of the cliff-diving law of survival?"

Mo Lingtian's mouth twitched. "I have, but this is my first time hearing of anyone climbing back up with bare hands. You're a monster!"

After everyone had regained their senses from their nervousness and shock, they started to ask Ning Xi one question after another.

"What actually happened? Xiao Xi, did you really climb back up by yourself? That's crazy magical!"

"This doesn't make any scientific sense. Do you know lightweight kungfu?"

"The last time I met you at the shooting range, I knew you weren't normal! You wouldn't have any special abilities, would you?"

"I told you that Master Xiao has unique taste! Miss Ning is definitely not a normal person!"

...

Pfft! You lot are the abnormal ones!

When she heard them start to exaggerate beyond comprehension, Ning Xi started to get annoyed. "You guys think too much. I'm a normal person and I don't know lightweight kungfu. In fact, I didn't even fall off. If I really did, how could I climb back up unless I had wing?!"

"Then, what happened? Heroine, stop keeping us in suspense! Quickly tell us!" Zhao Haisheng wanted to get to the heart of the matter and the others nodded in agreement too. The way they stared at Ning Xi was as if she was the most popular storyteller in ancient teahouses.

Chapter 995: Show Me How You Fell!

Ning Xi slowed down her breath and simply explained, "When I couldn't control my body, I did my best to roll down with the help of shrubs to slow me down and the fact that this cliff isn't entirely flat; there was about a 70-degree slope. I did my best to slide down the cliff while maximising my body surface area that rolled on the slope. Thankfully, I only slid for a while before I finally got a grip on a rock that was sticking out.

"Unfortunately, I was stuck in an awkward position and you guys couldn't hear me when I shouted for you. My phone fell off, so all I could do was to climb up! I'm dead tired. I shouldn't have been lazy and let Lu Tingxiao piggyback me. Life sure comes back at you quickly..."

When they heard Ning Xi's explanation, everyone was even more speechless.

Jeez, she actually had the time to adjust the angle and her way of rolling down when falling off the cliff?

This was insane! Indeed, she was no normal person!

"Couldn't you just have stayed put and wait for us to save you? What if you missed a footing and really fell down? What do we do then?" Mo Lingtian asked anxiously.

When Ning Xi heard this, she did not say anything. She just looked indistinctly at Lu Xinyan's direction.

What Lu Xinyan decided to cover up after her fall?

It was not that she was being pessimistic. She just had to consider such a possibility since, after all, Lu Xinyan and her were at loggerheads. In that situation, if Lu Xinyan did not say anything, she would not even know how she died.

Plus, she was not sure how long the rock beneath her feet could hold up, so she quickly climbed back up by herself. There was no way that she would leave her life in the hands of others.

Lu Xinyan felt ashamed under Ning Xi's gaze. Her lower lip trembled and she was tongue-tied.

In that instant, because of panic and fear of suffering the consequences, she had really thought of not letting anyone know or just say that Ning Xi had fallen off herself...

"Okay, okay! All that you wanted to know has been answered. Now, stop surrounding this place. If Lu Tingxiao notices, I'll be dead! I've to quickly rush back to change my clothes and destroy the evidence. Bye-bye everyone..." Ning Xi said as she got to her feet.

Seeing that she did not mention saving Lu Xinyan and had even wanted to hide this incident from Lu Tingxiao, everyone looked at each other in astonishment...

"Hey, wait up, Miss Ning Xi, don't move! We don't know if you're seriously hurt. You should go and get checked at the hospital!"

"Exactly! Just to be safe, you must get checked!"

"In fact, it's such a huge thing. We shouldn't hide this from Bro Xiao."

...

Just as the crowd was getting in Ning Xi's way and throwing her advice, a man's cold voice cut through from the back, "What are you lot doing?"

When she heard the voice, Ning Xi jumped and in a panic, she almost snatched someone else's clothes to wear.

Unfortunately Lu Tingxiao's eagle eyes had already accurately pinpointed Ning Xi who was hidden in the crowd and he walked right up to her. "What's happening?"

Ning Xi scratched her head and pretended to be calm. "I...tripped over..."

"Would tripping look like this? Show me how you fell!" Lu Tingxiao's eyes skimmed Ning Xi's grimy body like an X-ray and he saw the collapsed cliff behind her, including Lu Xinyan's guilty expression that was becoming increasingly miserable.

Show him?

"Th-that wouldn't be nice..."

The devil was so mean!

Chapter 996: He Was Really Wrong!

"I was wrong!!!" Ning Xi decided that it was best to admit her fault.

At that moment, everyone could not bear watching what was happening. "Bro Xiao, don't be so fierce to Miss Ning. It was all thanks to her for saving Xinyan that she had almost fallen off the cliff!"

"Exactly! Miss Ning must be frightened, you should console her instead!" Everyone started to help Ning Xi by coaxing him.

Lu Tingxiao's expression looked like a storm was brewing.

Almost fell off a cliff...?! He had only been separated from her for five minutes!

He was really wrong...

Even if it were five seconds, he should not have let her leave his line of sight!

Only until after Ning Xi's peril was resolved did everyone notice that there was one more person behind Lu Tingxiao. It was Guan Ziyao.

"Ziyao, where did you run off to? Do you know that all of us were worried sick about you?"

"You disappeared without saying anything and your phone couldn't be reached. Everyone's been looking for you all morning and Xinyan even almost met with danger!"

"Ziyao, you're really quite irresponsible this time!"

...

Guan Ziyao never would have thought that she would be confronted by this scene upon her return. Everyone was on Ning Xi's side and criticizing her...

She tried to keep her expression still as she apologized to everyone in a sincere manner, "I'm sorry, I was just in a bad mood and went for a walk, and my phone battery died. I'm really sorry for making everyone worry about me!"

However, not only did Guan Ziyao not gain everyone's sympathy, many of them looked annoyed at her. Even her friends who had helped her speak up before had shut up now.

The sharper ones could not help but start to think how come no one could find her after searching all around, yet it was Lu Tingxiao who had found her.

Was it really a coincidence or intentional?

At first, everyone might have sympathized with her a little, but now that they thought about the incident earlier, they all started to feel unfair on Ning Xi's behalf.

On one hand was a person who had always longed for someone else's boyfriend, yet continued to victimize herself, even using her friend's concerns to pick on Ning Xi and had gone missing without a care for all her friends' worries. While the other one had used her capabilities to save someone who was always against her and had actually climbed up by herself after falling off the cliff...

At that moment, everyone finally understood Ning Xi a little more. She was not really the weak little bunny; it was only with Lu Tingxiao that she revealed that side of her.

Just like how Lu Tingxiao only revealed his soft side in front of Ning Xi.

After Ning Xi climbed up, she did not mention the fact that Lu Xinyan had pushed her off at all. Lu Xinyan did not dare to say much because she felt guilty, much less help Ziyao out of the situation.

If Guan Ziyao had not suddenly gone missing, all of this would not have even happened...

Thank God Ning Xi had pulled her in earlier, or else, she really could have died!

When she thought of the whole incident, she felt herself shaking from the trauma.

Mo Lingtian looked gloomy as he walked to Lu Tingxiao's side and said in a suppressed tone, "Lu Tingxiao, I'm sorry."

Apart from this, he did not know what else to say. He felt guilty and blamed himself for what happened.

He had even almost took his anger out on him and Ning Xi earlier for Guan Ziyao's disappearance.

Thankfully, Ning Xi was alright, or else, he would never be able to face Lu Tingxiao again. After all, it was him who had told Lu Tingxiao that he had to come, even threatening him with their friendship.

...

Chapter 997: Tied To The Waistband

Guan Ziyao did not know how to bear the social pressure until she got home.

Last night, she had really felt terribly miserable, thus she had wanted to be alone. She also did not know why she had switched off her handphone with the intention of taking revenge on Lu Tingxiao.

In a dark corner, as she watched everyone look for her anxiously and blame Ning Xi, her mood that was on the verge of a breakdown had slowly turned around.

She had worked out a suitable time to appear, so Lu Tingxiao would find her and she wanted to use the opportunity to have a good chat with Lu Tingxiao...

Who knew that an accident would happen in the end and that she would become the target of criticism!?

From the moment she had known of the woman's existence, it was like a virus had attacked her perfect life. Everything had become a mess and it all spiralled out of her control.

She could not continue being kind or merciful!

After a night, she could finally calm down a little. She looked for her father and explained everything to him.

"What? Ke Mingyu is Lu Tingxiao?" When he heard his daughter's report, Guan Rui looked completely surprised too.

"Yes, Lu Tingxiao said so himself."

When he observed his daughter's expression, Guan Rui could roughly guess what had happened. He patted her shoulder. "You've been wronged. I've been too careless about this."

"It's not your fault, Father. Who'd have thought that Lu Tingxiao would go to that extent for that woman...?" Guan Rui's expression looked horrified, then he consoled Guan Ziyao, "You don't have to worry too much, no matter how much Lu Tingxiao gilds that woman, even if he can improve her social status, you can't uplift your origins..."

"Father, is there some sort of secret about Ning Xi's background?" Guan Ziyao asked in concern.

"After I returned from the birthday banquet, I especially investigated. She is Ning Yaohua's daughter, which isn't much of an issue. This woman stayed in the village until she turned 18, and was raised by an ignorant village lady. After she was taken back to the Ning family, she did many ridiculous things, so her biological parents found her embarrassing, and would much rather have their adopted daughter, Ning Xueluo, and not her, because she was too inferior to be shown to public!" Guan Rui said with disdain.

"But this woman has caused us to miscalculate things over and over again, so we can't take things lightly. We must completely destroy her before this woman succeeds. However, Lu Tingxiao has been doting on her so excessively recently..."

Guan Rui pat his daughter's shoulder. "The more Lu Tingxiao dotes on her now, the more it'll make Lu Chongshan and Yan Ruyi hate her. When that happens, we will boost our efforts, so even Lu Tingxiao wouldn't be able to protect her! Ziyao, I won't let you suffer for nothing! This time, I not only want to destroy her; I want to make her fall forever!"

...

At Platinum Palace entrance.

"Ning...Ning Xi!" Lu Xinyan panted as she ran up to her.

"What is it?" Ning Xi turned around and looked at the girl.

"I...may I say a few words to you personally?" Lu Xinyan shot a look at Lu Tingxiao who was beside her. Because she was afraid, she could not help but shrink a little.

"Speak personally...? I'm sorry, that might be a little hard!" Ning Xi said as she raised up one hand.

Her fair wrist was being wrapped with tie, and the other end of the tie was held tightly in Lu Tingxiao's hand...

Great...now she had really been tied to his waistband...

Lu Xinyan was speechless.

Chapter 998: Very Exciting

A moment of awkward silence passed.

Lu Xinyan gritted her teeth, closed her eyes and just mustered the courage to say in front of Lu Tingxiao, "Miss Ning, thank you for saving me! Also, I'm sorry! Before this, on the mountain, I didn't mean to push you off me. I really didn't know that you were trying to save me! Sorry! I'm so sorry..."

Even Lu Tingxiao knew that things had not been that simple. With Ning Xi's agility, she was only helping Lu Xinyan, so she would not have fallen off and after he heard this, his expression was instantly chilled to the core.

Lu Xinyan was just a young lady who could not handle Lu Tingxiao's pressure. Her body was shaking all over. She was so frightened that she could pass out any minute.

Ning Xi indicated to Lu Tingxiao that she would resolve the matter herself, then she touched her bandage-bound wrist and looked at Lu Xian, laughing grimly, "Hehe, lil girl, you almost cost me my life. Just saying that you didn't mean to and that you're sorry, do you really think that's enough? If your apology was useful, what are the police for?"

Lu Xinyan bit down hard on her lower lip nervously and looked miserable. "I'm willing to accept all the consequences!"

Ning Xi stroked her chin in contemplation. "Hmm, willing to accept all consequences? You said it yourself..."

"Yes...I-I did...to kill me or to scrape my flesh as you wish!" Even though Lu Xinyan stiffened and showed that she was reluctantly offering herself to be hit or killed, her trembling body clearly exposed her panic.

At that moment, numerous scary imaginations had already crossed Lu Xinyan's mind.

This woman definitely won't let me off the hook easily...

As she shook with hopelessness, Lu Xinyan looked to her cousin to beg, yet she was met with sinister eyes even scarier than Ning Xi's!

Fine! I shall just submit to death! To die in this woman's hand would be better than in Cousin's hands!

"Just...just say it! What do you want me to do?" Lu Xinyan tightened her hands into a fists and asked.

Ning Xi pretended to hem and haw, contemplating it for a while before she eyed Lu Xinyan and said faintly, "Call me 'Cousin-in-law'!"

"W-what...?" Lu Xinyan's face went blank as she stood there bewildered by what she heard. She was stupefied for a while before it dawned on her.

Was...was Ning Xi's request...just that?

Ning Xi's brows raised as she urged, "Didn't you say I could kill or cut off your flesh as I please? What's wrong? Regretting it now?"

After putting her emotions through such a rollercoaster ride, Lu Xinyan's entire body shook even more and her tears could not help but roll down as she drooped her head low. She cried as she said in a shaky voice, "Cousin-in-law..."

When she heard this, Ning Xi finally nodded in satisfaction. "Okay, this issue will come to an end. Thanks to you, I had an exciting day and it was quite fun!"

Ning Xi then dragged the scary-looking Lu Tingxiao away.

Exciting? Quite fun?

Lu Xinyan and Lu Tingxiao were both speechless.

...

After they entered the living room, Ning Xi decided to take the lead and she pushed Lu Tingxiao onto the sofa for a kiss.

Lu Tingxiao naturally guessed her naughty little thoughts, so he held on to her slim waist and kissed her hard...

A long while later, Lu Tingxiao pressed his lips to the girl's slightly swollen lips. "Very exciting? Very fun? Hmm?"

Ning Xi suddenly looked like she was about to cry. "You're still bringing that up?"

She thought that her actions could temporarily resolve the danger!

Chapter 999: Husband?

Lu Tingxiao stared at her with a darkened expression. "What do other people's lives have to do with you?"

Ning Xi cleared her throat. "Hey, that's your cousin! It's not very nice for you to say that."

"Even if it was me, I don't allow to do such things!"

"That's nothing...I've dabbled in way more dangerous things than this back then. What happened today was a totally small case. I wouldn't do things I'm unsure of..."

She had explained till her mouth went dry, yet Lu Tingxiao remained stiff as a rod. Ning Xi could not help but cry on the inside. She had gotten the upper hand and made Lu Xinyan apologize, but now it was her turn to be in the pits.

Ning Xi persisted in rubbing her hand against the man's chest and said, "Don't be angry, okay? Next time, I'll really be good and stay beside you. I won't just run off!"

Lu Tingxiao indicated that he did not trust her at all.

Ning Xi felt like her words did not carry enough weight, so she murmured, "Then, what can I do to appease you?"

Lu Tingxiao looked at her with darkened eyes, not saying anything.

Ning Xi's eyes lit up. She suddenly thought of something. "Hmm, don't be angry, alright...husband?"

Lu Tingxiao was speechless.

You win!

...

Half a month went by since that incident had happened.

Since then, Ning Xi's life had been significantly affected...

The worst thing was the devil's maddening and random style of safety education. The other thing was that her apartment had gotten so filled up that she had nowhere to stand. It was filled with all sorts of hampers, expensive clothing, makeup and those sort of things. There was even a pair of nunchucks, a soft sword, and other weird things like guns and knives...

The hampers with tonics were sent by Mo Lingtian and Guan Ziyao while the clothes and makeup were sent by Lu Xinyan. As for the nunchucks, sword, and knives, those were given by Shi Xiao and Xiong Zhi.

She knew why most of them had sent her those things, but she was really confused about Shi Xiao and Xiong Zhi.

Why were these two suddenly trying to win her favor?

Ding dong! The sound of the doorbell was heard.

Ning Xi opened the door and noticed Shi Xiao and Xiong Zhi at the door again. These two tall and strong guys held sausages and smoked goose in their hands.

"Lady Boss, this is our hometown's specialty, try them!" Shi Xiao's words were eager and careful. He now kept calling her "Lady Boss" and his attitude was entirely different from the initial arrogance he had displayed the last time.

Xiong Zhi echoed, "Lady Boss, try them! If you like it, we'll bring more for you the next time!"

Ning Xi sighed and leaned against the door. "The both of you, please just be direct! Stop beating around the bush. Are you still senior leaders?"

Shi Xiao and Xiong Zhi glanced at each other, then decided to be straightforward after some contemplation. Shi Xiao started, "Lady Boss, can you let us bros protect you?"

Ning Xi raised one brow. "Protect me? Are you sure?"

When they recalled the Lady Boss's valiance, Shi Xiao silently wiped off the beads of sweat on his brow. "Lady Boss, I know our shooting skills can't compare to yours, but in terms of agility, while we might not be the best, we're still two of the top few!"

"I've already finished shooting my show," said Ning Xi.

Shi Xiao quickly replied, "Exactly! Exactly because you're done the shooting, you'll need us! Lady Boss, when you're popular and you're always surrounded by your fans and reporters when you go out, you definitely need bodyguards! When that happens, can you speak to the Boss...and use the two of us?"

Ning Xi's mouth twitched. These guys...when did they learn to brown nose...?

"Then let's speak again when I'm famous!" Ning Xi said casually.

Did...did this mean they had a chance?

Shi Xiao and Xiong Zhi looked at each other again, suddenly feeling very emotional. They both agreed, "Lady Boss, you'll definitely become famous!"

Ning Xi was speechless.

Thank you so much for your confidence in me...

Chapter 1000: Getting Better At Games!

At Glory World Entertainment, in Ling Zhizhi's office.

"Congratulations on wrapping up the shoot. You've worked hard!"

"It wasn't hard at all! This movie is probably one of the happiest shoots I've gone through!" Ning Xi said sincerely, her face beaming with some good memories in her thoughts.

After all, she had acted with the little devil! However, of course, she should be careful and not show too much happiness.

Ling Zhizhi looked at her with a sense of concern in her eyes.

Ning Xi noticed and quickly asked, "What's wrong, Sis Zhizhi?"

Ling Zhizhi contemplated and decided to be straightforward. "Ning Xi, let me ask you. What's up with you and Ke Mingyu?"

Ning Xi blinked. She looked calm on the outside but a storm churned in her heart. Damn it! Could it Sis Zhizhi have found out!?

"Uhh...Sis Zhizhi, why would you ask?" Ning Xi questioned carefully.

"I just feel like something's odd between the both of you. Do you like Ke Mingyu?" Ling Zhizhi tried to ask.

When Ning Xi was shooting, Ling Zhizhi had also constantly gone over to accompany her, so it was inevitable for her to notice that something fishy was up. She obviously did not have any concrete evidence or else, she would not be taking on this tone right now. It was only with a woman's sixth sense that she could tell that the way Ning Xi looked at Ke Mingyu was indeed out of the ordinary.

Ning Xi subtly rubbed her chest and thought thankfully to herself that her secret was still safe. Her expression returned to nonchalance as she said, "Oh, it's just some good vibes! I like people who look cold and reserved. It makes me have the impulse to tease them!"

From Ning Xi's tone, it did not sound like she had anything on with Ke Mingyu, so Ling Zhizhi stopped worrying and said to her with displeasure, "You should still be careful. The way you look at Ke Mingyu, it's just...too blatant!"

Ning Xi coughed. "Understood! I'll be careful!"

"Here's a variety television show slot that I've just accepted for you. Take a look at it. It'll be at least another one or two months before your show goes up in the theatres, so it's the most suitable time for variety shows now or else, you'll be forgotten by the audience if you lack exposure," said Ling Zhizhi.

"Oh, oh, let me take a look!" Ning Xi took Ling Zhizhi's information sheet and skimmed through. She had only been on interview-based variety shows a few times and did not have much experience in other types of variety shows.

When she flipped open to the first page and saw the name of the variety show, Ning Xi started to take more interest. "Cute Baby Pair Up? The name itself sounds quite adorable!"

Ling Zhizhi briefly introduced, "It's an outdoor parent-child reality television show. The show's content creator will pair up celebrities who will experience what's it like to be a "mother" for the first time together with a cute child that they are strangers to. The life of a parent and a child will be depicted. The main draw factor is to show the other side of young idols after they are removed from their halos of celebrity life..."

Ning Xi nodded. "Oh, so it's this type of show! Understood! Before this, these shows were very popular! They've done the father version, so now they're doing a mother pairing...these television stations are getting better at games."

"This time, the director of the television station personally called to invite you to be a special guest in an episode," said Ling Zhizhi.

"Whoa! The director thinks so highly of me?" Ning Xi was elated.

"Because you look like you'll be the worst at taking on the maternal role."

Ning Xi was instantly dumbfounded. "On what basis!? Why can't I be a good mother?!"

"Because of your image," said Ling Zhizhi simply.

Ning Xi choked and she said angrily, "This is practically discrimination!"

The most important thing in reality television shows were conflicts. Conflicts made viewer rating skyrocket. By choosing a young and gorgeous, well-dressed female celebrity who did not know how to take care of children at all would psych the audience to want to watch how she would perform...