

## Chapter 102 Wake Up

Lin Fang bit her lips and shut her eyes, and when she opened them again, there was no more hesitation. “I thank you for liking me, but I really feel nothing for you. It’s just as well that we had this conversation today. I need you to know, that we don’t belong together. You cannot even hope to give me what I want. Zhang Chao, wake up.”

I let go of all the strengths that gathered in my hands. I sighed, as my heart lay in ashes.

Chen Yuzhou continued after her, “Really, wake up already. Fangfang aside, no girl in their right minds would possibly want you. Be realistic. Know your place. Go back home, and let you mommy and daddy find you a country wench, life really isn’t that bad. Oh, I’m sorry, I forgot you didn’t have any. My bad.”

Chen Yuzhou must have planned for this day for a long time already. what he just said wasn’t like him at all. Being the type of person that he is, he’d have jumped at me the moment he saw me as he came in through the door. All these words, and this carefully laid trap, it could only be Chen Ruhai.

And what a trap they have prepared. They couldn’t do anything to me on the surface, so they went beneath the surface and worked to destroy me from within. No matter how capable I am, I would never have suspected that Lin Fang would do this to me...

I turned around to leave this place behind me, but suddenly Chu Xiaoxiao ran up to me and hugged my arm in hers. I was startled, as was with everyone else in this gathering

Back in high school, just like Lin Fang, Chu Xiaoxiao was also one of the prettiest girls that has ever graced the school. The two of them were known to be the two singular most beautiful girls in town.

But unlike Lin Fang, Chu Xiaoxiao always gives off an air of pride and confidence around her. Back then, some rich boy had been persistently trying to ask her out, the current mayor’s son if I remember, but she never budged one bit. Not even once.

Though her haughtiness were widespread, but there had never been a lack of men and boys trying to ask her out. In fact, the more she refused, the more persistent they grew. Every man wanted to be the one to say that he was the one who got Chu Xiaoxiao, even if just to prove he was more of a man than all his other lessers.

People were shocked enough as it is, seeing that Chu Xiaoxiao spoke out for me just then. And now, seeing her tugging and hugging my arm against her body so intimately, they were beyond shocked.

Chu Xiaoxiao said, “Lin Fang, I will ask you one last time, are you really going to leave Zhang Chao?”

Lin Fang said, “What do you mean by ‘leave’? We were never together in the first place. Don’t be saying such nonsense anymore, I don’t want Zhou to misunderstand me. I know that ever since I was with Zhou, I was no longer that little girl who followed around you, but even then, you can’t just go around accusing me of what I didn’t do...”

“Just shut up.” Chu Xiaoxiao cut her off clean, “No one wants to listen to whatever trash you might spew. I’m just asking, you really don’t want Zhang Chao? You really don’t want such a good boyfriend that treasured you and cherished you?”

“I... I don’t... no! I already said, he is not my boyfriend! I never wanted him!” Lin Fang said.

Chu Xiaoxiao said, “Good, just remember what you said. Everyone here are all witnesses. Now, Zhang Chao, I want you. Be my boyfriend.”

All around, were gasps, and exclams, then everything was quickly drowned in a sea of gossip and discussion, much louder than the laughter that ridiculed me moments ago.

I was dumbstruck, as I looked at her smiling face. I just noticed, she was smiling at me, ever so bright, and ever so lovely.

As I stood there, unsure and unable to think, she rose on tiptoes and kissed me on the lips. If my brain had been frozen before, now it shattered to pieces.

“So is that a yes or a no?”

“I...”

“If it’s a no, since when have I let something so petty stop me? I’ll confess to you everyday, and stick around you everyday, until the day you say yes.”

“Isn’t it normally the other way round?”

“Is that so? Well, either way, what do I care what others think anyway? Now that you no longer have a girlfriend, and I don’t have a boyfriend either, we’d be perfect for each other.”

None of the noises around me even registered in my mind. My brain refused to even let them enter my consciousness.

In my eyes, in my ears, in my mind, there was Chu Xiaoxiao, and only Chu Xiaoxiao. The way she looked, the way she sounded, and the way she felt.

I knew that she did this only to save me from disgrace, but... but, the way she smiled at me, I couldn’t find anything else in the world cuter than that. Not now, and probably not ever.

“Thank you.” I hugged her in my arms, tight.

And Chu Xiaoxiao hugged me back, tighter. Ignoring everyone’s incredulous stares and the sound of gossip that never ceased, she smiled in my embrace, laughed, as if she had just scored the biggest prize for herself.

Then she turned around to Lin Fang, “Then let’s be clear about this. As of today, Zhang Chao had become my boyfriend, and you will do good staying clear of him.”

Lin Fang’s face whitened, and Chen Yuzhou’s face darkened. He had put in his all and planned so carefully for this day, and Chu Xiaoxiao came along and kicked his plan right in the nuts.

Chu Xiaoxiao continued, “In fact, don’t come before me ever again. I never want to see you again in my life. I cherished you and thought of you as my best friend, and now I regret my stupidity for ever doing so. I just can’t stand how stupid and selfish you are. I had been good to you in the past, that was stupid of me, but no more. From today, you walk your path, and I walk my own. I wish you all the happiness in the world. And no, I’m not envious of you, not even one little bit.”

Lin Fang bit her lips, and said, “Good. But if... if there was anything that I could help you with in your family situation...”