

Chapter 193 Like a Father

We found a car in the garage. Baldie and Chu Xiaoxiao sat in the back, and I drove speedily down the mountain.

As I drove, I was so fixated on getting Chu Xiaoxiao off this mountain that I completely ignored the wound on my hand that was oozing blood.

Since I remembered the route we took up, even though I was not familiar with the place, I knew where to go.

The car practically flew down the mountain. I was burning with anxiety and I wished that I had a pair of wings so that I could carry Chu Xiaoxiao straight to the hospital.

"Baldie, check her wound." I kept glancing in the rearview mirror at Chu Xiaoxiao. I could not be too distracted in such inaccessible terrain.

Baldie looked unwell. He had gone pale and his eyes seemed blank, and he hesitated to speak. My heart sank, was...

I jammed on the brakes and stopped the car in the middle of the road. Baldie quickly got out and swapped seats with me.

Chu Xiaoxiao was awake and clutching the area where she had been shot.

She had no blood on her, so perhaps the bullet was still inside her. I felt relieved at that. At least she had not lost a lot of blood. However, we still needed to rush her to the hospital before any complications arose.

Chu Xiaoxiao squinted at me. My heart cramped up at the sight of her on the verge of death, and I gently carried her onto my lap.

"Hold on, we'll be there soon."

Baldie's driving was not as smooth or fast as mine, but Chu Xiaoxiao did not seem inclined to let go of my waist. I had no choice but to let Baldie drive.

I caressed the top of her head, afraid to even imagine what it would be like to lose her. A thought flashed through my mind and I thought about how unfair life was. It always gave me something perfect, then took it back.

Chu Xiaoxiao saw that my eyes had gone red and teary, and she smiled, reaching out to touch my face.

"What are you crying about?" she asked breathlessly.

"I'm not," I replied, unconvincingly as tears ran down my face. A wave of pain surged in my chest. If something happened to her, I would kill Jiang Ming! I would!

"You can't bear to lose me? I thought I was just a substitute for Lin Fang."

I felt despondent and did not know how to reply. In the end, I settled for copying her expression and saying, "Nonsense." After thinking about it, I added, "You're not her substitute. You're very important to me. Will you please be okay?"

"Those are sweet words. I thought you were the kind of man who would never say sweet nothings." Chu Xiaoxiao suddenly broke into giggles and pulled at my collar and kissed me on the lips.

Then, to my absolute surprise, she held her hand to her stomach and sat up, as if nothing had happened.

My eyes could not widen any further. "Yo—you, you're alright?"

"Do you want me not to be? Heehee, I've got a long life ahead of me, I won't die so easily."

Oh God. I held her in my arms and checked her over. She was really alright. But she had definitely been shot by Jiang Ming. There was no way he was in cahoots with her.

Chu Xiaoxiao clutched at her stomach and groaned, "We have to thank this thing."

As she spoke, she reached under her top and fished out a misshapen phone. There was still a bullet embedded in the center of the phone casing. The bullet had penetrated the back of the phone and the screen was completely shattered.

"Oh, it's a Nokia. This phone is really amazing. We should buy a few to keep on us as talismans."

I was speechless, this damned...

"Our phones were all confiscated. Why do you have a phone with you?" I asked in astonishment.

Also, Chu Xiaoxiao did not use this model of phone. This model looked like it was for senior users.

"It's Jiang Ming's. He was provoking me with the gun to get me to kill you. I snatched his phone off the table while he wasn't paying attention."

I then remembered that when Chu Xiaoxiao had aimed the gun at Jiang Ming's head, she had indeed walked over to the table. It was just that everyone's attention was focused on the gun she was holding, and no one noticed anything else.

Chu Xiaoxiao said proudly, "Weren't you investigating him? But I know someone didn't let you. There must be secrets on his phone, so I took it for you to examine. However, I don't know if you can get any data out of it in this state."

I hugged her tight. "You're brilliant. Thank you. I didn't think that far."

"Now you know my power," she giggled. "But I didn't fake it. The shot really hurt, and I did faint. When I came to, I was worried that he would notice his phone was missing, so I pretended to still be unconscious. Check if the phone still works."

I took the phone from her. The overall structure was destroyed, and the phone was essentially in three pieces. Luckily, the battery had not been hit, otherwise, it might leak or even explode, and Chu Xiaoxiao's life would be in danger.

Even a sharp man like Jiang Ming had been fooled by Chu Xiaoxiao. Who would have guessed that a harmless-looking girl would do something like this?

I took the phone apart and dumped the components out, looking for the memory card and the internal memory.

"With these two components, we can retrieve the data." I was delighted. "There must be many secrets hiding inside here! Good job, Xiaoxiao!"

It might take a while before Jiang Ming realized that we had taken his phone. I immediately took out the SIM card and threw it out of the window into the mountainside. This way, he could not trace it even if he wanted to.

A strange feeling struck me out of the blue. In the data from this phone, there might be information about the truth of my parents' accident. This truth might be very different from what I understood, and what everyone was telling me.

In these short few days, I had heard many things from Liu Rong and Jiang Ming that left me dumbfounded. I had never known that my parents were such people and had never known about that side of Han Kun. Now, it was clear to me.

While I was pretending to be unconscious, Liu Rong had said that if I was stupider and had not been enveloped into this whirlpool, I might have lived to old age. He had also said that there was a war in Junran that had been going on for decades. However, I knew nothing of it, because Han Kun and Gan Ling had not told me anything.

I had always trusted Han Kun and treated him like a father. I also trusted his friends.

But if what Liu Rong had said to me while I was pretending to be unconscious was real, then Han Kun and Gan Ling had been hiding things from me and lying.