

## **I Regained 241**

### Chapter 241: Are You Thinking of Song Ling

After leaving Song Ling's sight, the four individuals, including Yellow Hair, thought they were safe, only to be caught the next moment and taken to the police station.

Gu Dai, sitting in the backseat, was lost in thought.

Meng Chuan, noticing Gu Dai's demeanor, pursed his lips and took a deep breath before speaking, "Daidai, are you still unable to let go of Song Ling?"

Gu Dai snapped back to reality, processing Meng Chuan's question with a sense of bewilderment.

Meng Chuan, not waiting for Gu Dai to respond, continued, "That Song Ling is reckless in his actions. Besides his good looks and some charm, he has no merits worth liking."

Subconsciously, Gu Dai agreed, "Mhmm."

Meng Chuan, encouraged by her response, advised, "Although Song Ling seemed very concerned about you today, don't let this small gesture soften your heart."

Initially confused as to why Meng Chuan was saying this, Gu Dai quickly explained, "Second Brother, you misunderstood. I wasn't thinking about Song Ling."

Meng Chuan, puzzled, queried, "Hmm?"

Gu Dai clarified, "I was wondering how those people knew my location."

Meng Chuan shared, "The leader said Zhou Gang had sent them."

Recalling Zhou Gang, Meng Chuan suddenly remembered he hadn't yet dealt with him and quickly took out his phone to give instructions.

Gu Dai shook her head, dismissing the idea, "Zhou Gang recently went bankrupt and got divorced. Cut off financially, he wouldn't think to target me in his current situation."

Meng Chuan asked, "What should we do now?"

After a moment, Gu Dai suggested, "I'll have someone look into Zhou Gang first to see if there are any clues."

Meng Chuan agreed, "Alright."

Gu Dai suspected someone was backing Zhou Gang, someone who could even monitor her daily movements!

She made a call to Chu Min.

Chu Min promptly assured her after hearing Gu Dai's instructions, "Don't worry, boss, I'll handle this matter well!"

Chu Min had seen the recent trending news about Zhou Gang and had wanted to teach him a lesson, but the situation was resolved before he could act. This time, he wouldn't miss the chance.

Gu Dai chuckled lightly, responding, "Mhmm."

Chu Min, noticing Gu Dai's good mood, joked, "Boss, you haven't contacted me in a while. I thought you were dissatisfied with my work."

Gu Dai, feeling helpless, chatted a few more words with Chu Min before hanging up.

After the call, Gu Dai received a message from Meng Zhi. After a glance, she informed Meng Chuan, "Third Brother said the club's situation is tricky, he might not be able to come later."

Gu Dai was anxious, "Third Brother always made time for family matters, no matter how busy. The difficulty he's facing must be significant! Second Brother, let's think of a way to help him."

Meng Chuan's eyes flickered, calmly saying, "Don't worry, Daidai. Trust your

Third Brother's abilities. He will handle it well."

Gu Dai hesitated, "Really?"

Meng Chuan nodded affirmatively, "Of course. Although your Third Brother is not as capable as me, he's still my younger brother after all. Even if he is dense, he is dense among the intelligent."

Gu Dai, still concerned, started to say something.

Meng Chuan interrupted with a smile, "If Meng Zhi knew you were worried about him, he might think you're doubting his abilities. Let's think about what to eat later instead!"

Gu Dai reluctantly agreed, "Okay."

Gu Dai then suggested, "It's a bit lonely with just two of us for dinner. I'll invite Gu Yin along."

Meng Chuan, puzzled, asked, "Who's Gu Yin?"

Gu Dai explained, "She's my cousin from my aunt's side. I've asked her to stay at my place."

Gu Dai shared the events of the past few days with Meng Chuan.

At Linxian Pavilion.

Wang Lan slumped in her chair, panting, "I'm exhausted. This restaurant is so crowded; I had to queue for two hours to get in."

Sheng Xin sat elegantly, her back straight, a faint smile on her face, showing no impatience from the long wait.

She said cheerfully, "I heard about this restaurant's high ratings while I was abroad. It has not a single bad review. I've always wanted to experience it, and today I finally got the chance.."

Chapter 242: Invited Meng Chuan to Star

Wang Lan sat up, bewildered, "Is this restaurant really that famous?"

Sheng Xin nodded, "I've heard the chef here cooks delicious meals. If there's a chance to buy the secret recipes and enhance my own cooking skills, that would be wonderful."

Wang Lan gazed at Sheng Xin with sparkling eyes, surprised, "Xinxin, you can cook?"

Sheng Xin chuckled, "When I was studying abroad, I got tired of the local bread and milk and had to learn to cook for myself."

Wang Lan's satisfaction for Sheng Xin deepened.

Sheng Xin, tall and beautiful, from a privileged background, and educated abroad, could now even cook.

Wang Lan thought of her as the perfect daughter-in-law she had always dreamed of. Not only could she boast about Sheng Xin among her circle of high-society friends, but she could also enjoy homemade meals. Maybe they wouldn't even need a housekeeper anymore.

Compared to Gu Dai, she was much better!

As for Jiang Yue...

Wang Lan scoffed. Someone who deceived and used her, coming from a mistress' family, she had long categorized as despicable and didn't wish to mention her again.

Speaking of family background, Wang Lan suddenly remembered she knew Mrs. Sheng but was unclear about what exactly her family's business was.

Wang Lan turned to Sheng Xin, asking, "Xinxin, what industry is your family in?"

Sheng Xin truthfully answered, "We're in the film and television industry."

Wang Lan asked, "Film and television? The Sheng Media?"

Sheng Xin confirmed, "Yes."

Wang Lan, not usually attentive to corporate matters, had still heard of Sheng Media's reputation, astonished, she asked, "Your family owns Sheng Media? The second-ranked company in the film industry?"

Sheng Xin nodded with a smile, "My father has a good eye for investment. Over the years, we've produced many hit shows, and the company has developed well because of that."

Sheng Xin then cited a few examples.

Wang Lan couldn't help but express her excitement, "I love those shows! They were all produced by your family?"

Sheng Xin smiled softly, "Yes, auntie. If you're interested, I can take you to the filming sites someday."

Wang Lan nodded eagerly, "That would be great!"

Remembering Sheng Xin mentioning being busy with work on social media, Wang Lan curiously asked, "Were you busy with your company's filming projects recently?"

Sheng Xin replied, "Yes, my father called me to assist with some projects."

Sheng Xin then leaned closer to Wang Lan, whispering as if sharing a secret, "Auntie, I'll tell you something, but you mustn't tell anyone else."

Wang Lan's eyes lit up, promising, "Don't worry, my lips are sealed. I won't spill a word!"

After hearing Wang Lan's assurance, Sheng Xin revealed, "The project I'm working on is a new movie my dad invested in. Guess who we invited to star in it?"

Wang Lan guessed several names, but Sheng Xin negated them all. Finally, Wang Lan had to ask, "Who is it?"

Sheng Xin, seeing Wang Lan couldn't guess, revealed, "Meng Chuan!"

Wang Lan was stunned, then asked in disbelief, "You mean the international academy winner Meng Chuan?"

Sheng Xin nodded firmly, "Yes!"

Meng Chuan was globally famous. Almost everyone with access to the internet and television knew of him.

When Meng Chuan first started his career, he immediately won directors over with his superb acting skills and immense artistic talent, landing a lead role.

His performance didn't disappoint. The film's release garnered high praise, and everyone talked about the movie's plot. He became the youngest academy winner in history because of that film.

Wang Lan hadn't forgotten her fascination with Meng Chuan's acting, excitedly saying, "Xinxin, I'm a big fan of Meng Chuan. I've seen every one of his films. Could you get his autograph for me?"

Sheng Xin hesitated, "Auntie, you must know how busy Meng Chuan is. He's been abroad for years and doesn't reveal his whereabouts. I'm afraid..."

Wang Lan pleaded, "I understand all that. But since Meng Chuan is collaborating with your company on a film, you might see him. Xinxin, please try for me.. You're so capable; I'm sure you can do it!"

Chapter 243: Kneel and Apologize

Sheng Xin's lips curved up slightly as she softly responded, "Auntie, I'll give it a try."

Wang Lan nodded repeatedly, her eyes crinkling with joy.

Wang Lan said, "Xinxin, with Meng Chuan in the movie, it's bound to be a hit. Your family is surely going to make a fortune this time!"

Sheng Xin nodded in agreement.

The more Wang Lan observed Sheng Xin, the more satisfied she became, and she couldn't help but say, "Xinxin, I really like you. I sincerely hope you can become my daughter-in-law."

A fleeting image of Song Ling's tall figure crossed Sheng Xin's mind, her earlobes reddening slightly. After a few seconds of melancholy, she said, "Auntie, it seems like Song Ling doesn't quite like me."

Wang Lan quickly replied, "Xinxin, you're smart and capable, and so graceful too. How could Song Ling not like you?"

Sheng Xin cast her eyes down, murmuring, "But Song Ling's behavior..."

Wang Lan reassured her, "Song Ling has been running the company from a young age. After facing so many challenges in the business world, he's just not used to expressing his emotions. He doesn't dislike you; he's just not good at showing it!"

Sheng Xin hesitantly asked, "Really?"

Wang Lan affirmed, "Of course! Besides, Song Ling is my own son. I know his thoughts better than anyone. So, Xinxin, don't worry."

Wang Lan paused, before she continued with a smile, "I believe Song Ling will definitely come to like you in the future."

Sheng Xin shyly lowered her head, then glanced at the time, hurriedly changing the subject, "Auntie, it's getting late. Let's order some food."

Sheng Xin took the menu from the waiter, ordered some dishes, and passed it to Wang Lan with a smile, "Auntie, I've ordered some simple dishes. You can choose the main ones."

Wang Lan's displeasure faded a bit with Sheng Xin's words. Taking the menu, she replied, "Alright."



However, upon seeing the French on the menu, Wang Lan was completely baffled. She wanted to order but couldn't recognize a single dish. Opening her mouth to speak, she found herself at a loss for words.

The waiter, noticing Wang Lan's confusion, offered help with a smile, "Madam, our menu can be..."

Wang Lan stared at the waiter, coldly interrupting, "What are you laughing at?"

Yang Yi's smile froze, her expression turning blank in panic, "I... I was just smiling politely."

Wang Lan scoffed, "You were clearly mocking me!"

Yang Yi, her voice weak, protested, "I didn't, I..."

Wang Lan cut her off, angrily saying, "What are you, a mere lowly worker, to mock me? Don't you know the customer is always right?"

Yang Yi hurriedly replied, "I wasn't looking down on you. I was genuinely just smiling politely, as I do with all customers."

Wang Lan, not listening, continued, "You were mocking me for not understanding French. Do you think you're in a position to mock me? Can't I afford it?"

Yang Yi explained, "I was about to say, our menu is digital and can be switched from French to Chinese."

Suddenly, Yang Yi remembered that the menu she handed out was initially in Chinese and had switched to French. She turned her head, seeking help from Sheng Xin with her eyes.

Sheng Xin met Yang Yi's gaze, paused for a few seconds, then looked away.

Sheng Xin handed a glass of water to Wang Lan, her voice gentle, "Auntie, don't get upset over such a trivial matter."

Yang Yi, touched by Sheng Xin's words, felt her eyes well up. But the next words froze her.

Sheng Xin suggested, "Arguing with a waitress is beneath you. It would be better to make her kneel and apologize."

Wang Lan's eyes lit up, excitedly agreeing, "What a great idea!"

She turned to Yang Yi with a cold gaze, "Now, kneel and apologize."

Yang Yi, a young girl, began to tear up in the face of such a demand, whimpering, "No, I don't..."

Wang Lan threatened, "If you don't apologize, I'll speak to your manager and get you fired. Don't blame me then. After all, I gave you a chance!"

At Linxian Pavilion, even the waitstaff were paid well.

Yang Yi, not wanting to lose her job, reluctantly lowered her head, crying, "I'm sorry."

Wang Lan demanded further, "And kneel."

Yang Yi, left with no choice, began to bend her knees, preparing to kneel. But just as she was about to touch the ground, she was suddenly pulled up by

someone..

Chapter 244: Married Then Divorced

Gu Dai pulled Yang Yi up, shielding her behind herself, and firmly said, "Don't kneel or apologize. Don't listen to what these people say."

Gu Dai remembered Yang Yi from her last visit to Linxian Pavilion, standing not far away, so she recognized her as her employer. Yang Yi was stunned that her boss was now protecting her.

Yang Yi had a thousand words in her heart at this moment.

But Wang Lan spoke faster than Yang Yi could.

Looking at Gu Dai, Wang Lan questioned, "What are you doing?"

Gu Dai glanced at Wang Lan and calmly responded, "I'm helping someone you're bullying."

Wang Lan's face darkened as she retorted, "This waitress disrespected a customer, don't 1 have the right to reprimand her?"

Gu Dai gave Yang Yi a reassuring look as she attempted to explain, and spoke in her defense, "I trust her. She wouldn't do such a thing."

With a pause, Gu Dai continued, turning to Wang Lan, "Moreover, I believe you're being overly sensitive and mistook her smile for mockery."

Wang Lan's eyes widened in anger at Gu Dai, "When you wanted to be with my son, you hid your true identity, serving me tea, doing laundry, cooking... Now that you have your eyes on another man, you've changed your tune. How disgusting!"

Gu Dai's expression turned cold, her gaze fixating on Wang Lan.

She despised people bringing up her three years of memory loss, and Wang Lan's reference to it only intensified her cold demeanor.

Wang Lan, intimidated by Gu Dai's stare, involuntarily trembled before retorting in a shrill voice, "What? Am I wrong? Weren't you the one desperate to marry my son?"

Gu Dai corrected firmly, "We're divorced now."

Yang Yi hadn't expected Gu Dai to have been married, especially to someone from a family as difficult as this old lady's, indicating the extent of bullying she must have endured.

Yang Yi thought it was good that Gu Dai had left such a family, clearly not worthy of her.

Wang Lan insisted, "Even if you're divorced, I was your mother-in-law for three years. Is this how you treat me now?"

Gu Dai scoffed, "In three years, even a dog would earn my affection. The fact that I feel nothing for you only shows you're less than a dog!"

Wang Lan was so furious she almost attacked Gu Dai, but hesitated, recalling past incidents of being hit.

Sheng Xin, who had been watching Gu Dai, felt a twinge of jealousy. She hadn't expected anyone to be more beautiful than her.

Learning that Gu Dai was Song Ling's ex-wife left her stunned.

Rumors had painted Song Ling's ex-wife as unattractive and crude, a complete country bumpkin. Yet here, Gu Dai was beautiful, exuding an air of nobility, contradicting the rumors.

But what did it matter if she was beautiful? Sheng Xin thought Gu Dai might be brainless, and her family background was far inferior to Sheng Xin's. There was no threat.

Sheng Xin looked down at Gu Dai with disdain and arrogantly said, "I can understand wanting to protect your colleague, but whether there was mockery or not, don't we all know?"

Gu Dai's eyes lowered slightly, quickly realizing Sheng Xin mistook her for a waitress. But her priority was to resolve the issue at hand.

Gu Dai asserted, "The restaurant has surveillance. Whether there was mockery or not, we can easily find out."

Sheng Xin's eyes flashed with panic but feigned composure, "It's just a small matter. There's no need to check the surveillance."

Gu Dai inwardly scoffed, insisting, "Let's check it, to avoid wrongly accusing anyone."

Wang Lan, furious, accused, "Gu Dai, what do you mean? Are you suggesting Xinxin and I would falsely accuse the waitress?"

Confused, Gu Dai inquired, "Xinxin?"

Wang Lan proudly pulled Sheng Xin closer, introducing, "My future daughter-in-law, Sheng Xin!"

Sheng Xin smiled smugly, casually flipping her hair to reveal a designer necklace on her neck, "Nice to meet you. I'm Sheng Xin, my father is the president of Sheng Media."

Sheng Xin felt a surge of triumph as Gu Dai's gaze lingered on her necklace.

Nonchalantly, Sheng Xin mentioned, "I asked a friend to buy this necklace from abroad recently.. I heard it's the only one in the world!"

Chapter 245: Thanks, but no need

Gu Dai couldn't help but let out a snicker.

Sheng Xin, taken aback, regained her composure and asked, "What are you laughing at?"

Gu Dai casually replied, "Your necklace is fake."

Sheng Xin scoffed, "How could that be possible?"

Then she accused, "I get it, you're just jealous of me, aren't you?"

Gu Dai knew the necklace was fake because she was acquainted with the designer of the actual necklace, which had already been gifted to her and was currently in her jewelry box.

Gu Dai didn't argue with Sheng Xin, but simply suggested, "You might want to ask your friend if the necklace is real or not."

Sheng Xin, confident, sent a message to her friend. However, as time passed, her expression grew increasingly troubled, her grip on her phone tightening.

Turning to Gu Dai with an angry look, Sheng Xin claimed, "My friend must have been deceived too, but even if it's a counterfeit, it's still something you could never afford in your lifetime."

Gu Dai nodded, responding, "Indeed, I don't buy fakes."

Before Sheng Xin could react, Gu Dai questioned her, "If your friend was indeed deceived, why would they block your contact? And can you be sure they didn't profit from it?"

Sheng Xin's face turned even more sour, defiantly saying, "Even if I was deceived, what does it have to do with you? I'm wealthy; a little loss like this doesn't bother me."

Gu Dai pointed out, "If you hadn't intentionally shown off your necklace to me, I wouldn't have noticed it was a fake."

Sheng Xin was stunned, realizing Gu Dai had seen through her intentions.

Sheng Xin had fantasized about outclassing Gu Dai, making her feel inferior, but she hadn't expected to be the one embarrassed in the end.

Wang Lan stepped in to comfort her, "Xinxin, don't bother with such low-class people. Remember, you have the VIP for this restaurant, and you can enjoy dishes personally served by Chef Feng Fei!"

Sheng Xin felt that Wang Lan was being overly pretentious, but the unpleasant expression on his face eased somewhat as she responded with a simple, "Mhmm."

Wang Lan glanced at Gu Dai and made a sly remark, "Having the head chef serve the dishes personally is a privilege not everyone can enjoy. Some less capable people can only watch from the side."

Yang Yi, realizing that Wang Lan's comment was a jab at Gu Dai, couldn't contain herself and let out a snort of laughter.

Wang Lan's menacing gaze fell on Yang Yi.

Before Wang Lan could confront her, Gu Dai interjected, "Since the chef is personally serving you, why not order some signature dishes?"

Not wanting to seem inferior to Gu Dai, Sheng Xin quickly said, "We'll order!"

Then, looking at Gu Dai disdainfully, she said, "You, being a waitress here, must know the menu well. Order what you think tastes good."

Gu Dai warned, "What if it doesn't suit your taste..."

Sheng Xin retorted coldly, "Doesn't matter. I don't expect you to choose what suits me. After all, you've probably never eaten here yourself."

Gu Dai, without a word, silently chose the dishes from the menu and asked before sending it to the chef, "Do you want to see what I've ordered?"

Wang Lan, impatient, said, "Xinxin already said no need to check. Why bother asking, do you think we can't afford it?"

Gu Dai curled her lips into a mocking smile. Since the two had presented themselves as targets, she thought, they shouldn't blame her for choosing the most expensive items for them.

Sheng Xin, satisfied, her chin raised high, arrogantly told Gu Dai, "After we finish eating, you can have our leftovers to experience what the upper class eats."

Gu Dai declined, "Thanks, but no need. I've eaten here before."

When Wang Lan learned that Gu Dai was actually the heiress of the Gu family, she was initially frightened for several days. However, she later heard rumors that the Gu Group was a shadow of its former self, essentially a hollow shell on the verge of bankruptcy.

When Wang Lan heard this news, any gloom in her heart instantly dissipated. Now, hearing Gu Dai claim she had tasted the dish before, Wang Lan simply thought it was a facade of strength.

Sheng Xin was surprised to hear that Gu Dai had tried the dish, but didn't dwell on it, assuming she had eaten it previously while married to Song Ling at the Song family.

The thought of Gu Dai being with Song Ling, however, sparked a flash of jealousy in Sheng Xin. She lowered her gaze and softly said, "Song Ling is quite satisfied with me, I might marry him in the future."

Gu Dai nodded in response, playing along with a simple, "Oh.."

Chapter 246: Bill



Sheng Xin, dissatisfied with Gu Dai's reaction, asked, "Aren't you angry?"

Gu Dai, puzzled, replied, "I've already divorced Song Ling. Your relationship with him doesn't concern me, so why should I be angry?"

During recent encounters, Song Ling had shown a regretful and apologetic demeanor to Gu Dai, which she now realized was just an act.

Understanding this, she felt relieved, with no sense of regret.

Sheng Xin pressed her lips into a smile and softly said, "I was just worried you couldn't let go. Now that I see you have, I feel relieved."

Gu Dai simply nodded, not continuing the conversation.

Sheng Xin, undeterred, continued, "Speaking of which, Miss Gu Dai and I seem to have a connection. We have a mutual acquaintance from before."

Gu Dai, after a few seconds of thought, confidently said, "You're talking about Jiang Yue, aren't you?"

Sheng Xin confirmed with a smile, "Yes, Jiang Yue. We were close friends in middle school. How did you guess?"

Because of her three years of memory loss, Gu Dai had limited interactions.

The only person around her age was Jiang Yue.

Except...

Gu Dai replied sincerely, "Because I'm smart."

It was the first time for Sheng Xin encountering someone like Gu Dai.

Wang Lan, without hesitation, retorted, "That's quite thick-skinned of you!"

Gu Dai ignored Wang Lan and instead asked, "The total bill is 800,000. Who will be paying?"

Her question left Sheng Xin and Wang Lan speechless. When they recovered, they asked in disbelief, "Repeat that amount?"

Gu Dai reiterated, "800,000."

Sheng Xin snatched the bill, and upon seeing the amount, exclaimed in shock, "How can it be so expensive? Are you robbing us?"

Gu Dai reminded, "You can check the menu for the prices."

Wang Lan angrily accused, "You ordered the most expensive dishes, just to scam us!"

Gu Dai, prepared for this, calmly replied, "I did ask if I could order anything, and you said yes."

She then played back their earlier conversation, recorded on her phone.

Ignoring the recording, Wang Lan insisted, "It's your fault. You should have shown us the menu first, but you didn't!"

Sheng Xin, seeking to escalate the situation, demanded, "Call your boss over, I want to file a complaint!"

Gu Dai looked directly at Sheng Xin, “The boss is here. If you have something to say, say it now.”

Sheng Xin looked around, not seeing anyone else, and skeptically asked, “Are you playing me for a fool? Where’s the boss?”

Yang Yi indicated Gu Dai and informed Wang Lan and Sheng Xin, “She is our boss.”

Sheng Xin was stunned, “You’re the owner of this restaurant?”

Wang Lan, equally shocked, stared at Gu Dai in disbelief.

Gu Dai nodded and continued, “So, are you sure you don’t want to pay the bill? If you insist it’s my fault, we can discuss it in the main hall and let everyone decide.”

Unyielding, Wang Lan said, “Let’s go then!”

Sheng Xin, internally cursing Wang Lan for her thoughtlessness, grabbed her on the arm, then reluctantly agreed to pay while she stared at Gu Dai, gritting her teeth, “We’ll pay!”

Gu Dai presented the QR code for payment, “Just scan here.”

Although Sheng Xin’s family was wealthy, her monthly allowance was only a million, and spending 800,000 at the start of the month left her with just 200,000 for the rest of it.

Hoping for a split bill, Sheng Xin suggested to Wang Lan, “Auntie, how about we pay half each?”

Wang Lan, in a tight spot, replied, “I don’t have money right now. You can pay Xinxin.”

Wang Lan was speaking the truth. Ever since Song Ling restricted her expenses, she had been living a frugal life, with each meal not exceeding a thousand. For her, an 800,000 meal was astronomical.

Sheng Xin initially felt displeased with Wang Lan, but remembering that Wang Lan was Song Ling's mother, she thought she might be undergoing a test, which dispelled her dissatisfaction.

Sheng Xin smiled and said, "I was just joking with you earlier. Of course, I'll pay. How could I let you pay?"

Wang Lan exclaimed, "Xinxin is such a good child!"

Wang Lan then turned to give Gu Dai a sharp look.

Once Sheng Xin had paid, Gu Dai turned to Wang Lan and said, "If your eyes are feeling uncomfortable, remember to get them treated at the hospital.."

Chapter 247:1 Support Her

Wang Lan glared at Gu Dai, her voice seething with anger, "Who did you say has a problem with their eyes?"

Gu Dai replied coolly, "The person who's glaring at me."

After a brief pause, she added, "Which is you!"

Wang Lan, fuming with rage, retorted, "Gu Dai, how dare you speak to me like that! I won't let you off!"

As Wang Lan strode towards Gu Dai, ready to strike, her hand was suddenly seized and flung aside before she could reach her.

Wang Lan staggered back several steps before regaining her balance.

Meng Chuan had just entered the private room when he saw someone attempting to hit Gu Dai. Without a second thought, he rushed forward to protect her.

Meng Chuan turned to Gu Dai with a concerned inquiry, "Daidai, are you alright?"

Gu Dai shook her head with a light laugh, "She didn't even get close to me before you stopped her."

Meng Chuan sighed in relief, "Good to hear that."

Gu Dai looked puzzled, "Second Brother, how did you find me? And where's Yinyin?"

Meng Chuan explained, "After parking the car, I took Yinyin to the private room. But when you didn't show up, I asked the staff and came looking for you."

Gu Dai nodded in understanding.

Wang Lan, witnessing Gu Dai chatting and laughing with someone else, shrieked, "Gu Dai, you fickle woman, finding another man to come and attack me!"

Gu Dai calmly denied, "I did not."

Wang Lan sneered, "Deny it all you want, him standing right here is proof!"

Meng Chuan's stern gaze fell on Wang Lan.

Wang Lan shivered, feeling a twinge of pain in the wrist that Meng Chuan had grabbed, and she couldn't shake off the familiar feeling she had towards this masked man.

Sheng Xin attempted to defend Wang Lan, “Gu Dai, why are you bullying auntie? Now you even brought someone to bully her? Isn’t that a bit too uncultured?”

Gu Dai tilted her head, puzzled, “Defending myself against slander is being uncultured? Then what about those who slander, aren’t they inhuman?”

Sheng Xin, glancing at Wang Lan, hastily clarified, “Auntie, I didn’t mean that!”

Gu Dai, surprised at Sheng Xin’s demeanor, asked, “You’re already so cautious in pleasing her even before marrying Song Ling?”

Sheng Xin, taken aback by the word “pleasing,” quickly responded, “I am the heiress of Sheng Media. Why would I need to please anyone? Besides, auntie is easy to get along with. We got along like family after just a few conversations. No need to please her!”

Gu Dai remained silent, observing Sheng Xin as if she were looking at a fool.

Sheng Xin, having witnessed Wang Lan’s thoughtless behavior, still found her easy to get along with and wasn’t worried about Wang Lan turning against her in the future.

However, Gu Dai considered the possibility that Wang Lan and Sheng Xin might actually be similar kinds of people.

This realization made everything clear to Gu Dai.

Sheng Xin, unable to decipher the meaning behind Gu Dai’s gaze, felt something odd and asked coldly, “What’s with that look? Are you looking down on me?”

Without waiting for Gu Dai to reply, Sheng Xin continued, “I’m much stronger than someone like you who only relies on men. What right do you have to look down on me?”

Wang Lan chimed in, "Yeah, what right does a woman who flits between men have to speak? Maybe this restaurant of yours was just a gift from one of your men?"

Gu Dai held back Meng Chuan, who wanted to lash out at Wang Lan and Sheng Xin, whispering, "Second Brother, they're not worth it. Let me handle this."

Meng Chuan, though seething with anger, replied, "Okay."

Unaware that she had narrowly escaped Meng Chuan's wrath, Sheng Xin, seeing his angry demeanor, questioned him, "Gu Dai has so many men around her, don't you have a problem with that?"

Meng Chuan's gaze was icy as he responded coldly, "As long as Daidai is happy, I don't care how many men she keeps. I support her!"

Sheng Xin clenched her fists, filled with jealousy.

She believed she was far superior to Gu Dai, yet all these men around Gu Dai could accept each other's presence and still love her.

In contrast, she had once dated three men simultaneously, and when they found out about each other, not only did they break up with her, but they also beat her up!

Determined to break up Gu Dai and Meng Chuan, Sheng Xin scanned Meng Chuan and said, "You're quite handsome.. Have you ever thought about being a celebrity?"

Chapter 248: Blacklisted

Meng Chuan, having no fondness for Wang Lan who had mistreated Gu Dai, and for Sheng Xin who was about to marry into the Song family, responded coldly, "I am already a celebrity."

Sheng Xin, hearing this, chuckled, "Then you must be a minor, unimportant actor, right? After all, Gu Dai doesn't have any connections. You won't make it big following her."

Gu Dai asked with interest, "What do you mean?"

Sheng Xin replied, "My family's company is in the film and television industry. If this handsome guy leaves you, I can sign him to our company. With resources, he's sure to become famous. He might even get a chance to act alongside academy winner Meng Chuan!"

Gu Dai laughed, then quickly stifled it, asking Sheng Xin, "What's the name of your company?"

Sheng Xin frowned, surprised that she had mentioned the company name several times, yet Gu Dai still didn't know it.

Sheng Xin couldn't help but exclaim, "Our company is so famous, and you don't know it?"

Gu Dai, puzzled, asked, "Is it really that famous?"

Sheng Xin clenched her fists, her gaze towards Gu Dai turning colder.

Wang Lan comforted Sheng Xin, "Xinxin, be patient with her. After all, Gu Dai usually just does laundry and cooking. How could she know about corporate matters?"

Sheng Xin, finding Wang Lan's words reasonable, felt better and turned to Gu Dai, "It's Sheng Media!"

Gu Dai nodded, acknowledging she understood, and mentally blacklisted the company.

Sheng Xin turned to Meng Chuan, "What do you think?"

Meng Chuan flatly refused, "I'm not interested."



Sheng Xin was surprised. She had thought that Meng Chuan would jump at such an opportunity but he declined.

Sheng Xin, becoming emotional, exclaimed, "Our company is the second largest in the industry. Even academy winner Meng Chuan agreed to act in a film upon hearing our company's name."

Meng Chuan frowned slightly, looking up at Sheng Xin.

Sheng Xin, noticing Meng Chuan's reaction, calmed down and smiled, "So if you join us, you could be working with academy winner Meng Chuan."

Gu Dai, puzzled, looked at Meng Chuan, "Is that true?"

Meng Chuan, looking bemused, shook his head, "I've never heard of this."

Sheng Xin, confused by Gu Dai and Meng Chuan's responses, added, "Academy winner Meng Chuan is under our company, and it was my father who made him famous. If you join us, you could reach the same heights."

As Sheng Xin spoke, even Wang Lan was stunned.

Although Wang Lan wasn't well-versed in the film and television industry, she had never heard of Meng Chuan being signed with Sheng Media, nor had Sheng Xin mentioned it before.

Wang Lan quickly assumed that Sheng Xin hadn't had the chance to tell her and felt proud of her prospective daughter-in-law.

Seeing Meng Chuan silent, Wang Lan urged, "Having the chance to meet my daughter-in-law is your good fortune from a past life. What are you waiting for? Sign with her already!"

Sheng Xin, head held high, was certain Meng Chuan would agree this time.

Unable to contain himself, Meng Chuan asked, "Since when am I with Sheng Media? And collaborating in a film?"

Sheng Xin, bewildered by Meng Chuan's words, instinctively replied, "Once you sign with me... Meng Chuan!"

Upon seeing the man's face as he removed his mask, Sheng Xin froze.

Wang Lan, not understanding Sheng Xin's reaction, comforted, "Xinxin, with your family's reputable company, anyone who doesn't sign with you is a fool."

The room fell silent after Wang Lan's words.

Sensing something was amiss, Wang Lan followed Sheng Xin's gaze and, upon seeing Meng Chuan, was startled, then excitedly said, "Meng Chuan! I'm your fan! Could I have your autograph? When did you get here? I didn't see you!"

Meng Chuan replied indifferently, "I've been here the whole time."

Wang Lan chuckled, "Meng Chuan, you're such a joker. We have a VIP membership at this restaurant. Why don't you stay for a meal?"

Meng Chuan simply said, "No.."

Chapter 249: Spreading Rumors

Meng Chuan found the idea of dining with someone like Wang Lan repulsive and rejected her subsequent words and offers.

After being repeatedly rejected, Wang Lan was momentarily stunned, unable to comprehend what was happening.

Gu Dai, unable to hold back her amusement, said with a smile, "Haven't you noticed how familiar he looks?"

Wang Lan replied without thinking, "Of course, he's familiar. This is Meng Chuan!"

Gu Dai was speechless.

Upon seeing the incredulous look on Gu Dai's face, Wang Lan realized something was amiss. After studying Meng Chuan for several seconds and noticing his attire, a possibility dawned on her.

Trembling, Wang Lan asked, "You're the man from before?"

Meng Chuan remained silent, but his silence was answer enough for Wang Lan.

Recalling her earlier behavior, Wang Lan desperately tried to explain, "I was just joking with you, please don't be angry."

Meng Chuan responded indifferently, "I don't think you were joking."

Meng Chuan ignored Wang Lan and turned to a subdued Sheng Xin, asking, "How come I didn't know I was signed to your family's company and that I was made famous by Sheng Media?"

Sheng Xin, trying to lower her presence but was still noticed, awkwardly laughed, "I..."

Meng Chuan pressed, "Is this the tactic your company uses to deceive new artists?"

Sheng Xin quickly waved her hands, “No, no, this was the first time. I realize my mistake now and won’t do it again!”

Meng Chuan stated seriously, “I’m an actor and spend a lot of time studying microexpressions. Your expression just now told me this isn’t your first time using these words.”

Caught, Sheng Xin defiantly said, “Even if it wasn’t my first time, what can you do about it?”

Meng Chuan replied, “I don’t have evidence right now, so indeed, I can’t do much.”

Sheng Xin breathed a sigh of relief.

However, Meng Chuan, seeing her reaction, spoke coolly, “But I can refuse to work with your company!”

Shocked, Sheng Xin exclaimed, “What!”

Sheng Xin’s mind was in chaos, anticipating the financial loss her company would suffer, the scolding from her father, and the difficulties she would face.

Realizing the gravity of the situation, Sheng Xin’s face turned pale as she hastily said, “This movie collaboration not only allows you to create another stunning role but also to earn a lot. Are you sure you want to cancel?”

Meng Chuan, unmoved, stated, “I don’t lack money or stunning roles.”

With that, he called his agent and canceled the movie collaboration in front of Sheng Xin.

Sheng Xin slumped into her chair, her mind echoing with the words, It’s over!

Suddenly, Sheng Xin looked up at Gu Dai, but fearing Meng Chuan’s reaction, quickly lowered her head again, cursing Gu Dai inwardly.

It was all her fault!

Had she revealed Meng Chuan's identity earlier, she wouldn't have acted in a way that led to the contract's cancellation.

In Sheng Xin's eyes, Meng Chuan was foolish for choosing Gu Dai, a woman she deemed unworthy.

Gu Dai, noticing Sheng Xin's internal turmoil, advised, "Don't just curse me in your mind. It's not good for your health."

Shocked, Sheng Xin asked, "How did you know?"

Gu Dai replied, "It was obvious."

Sheng Xin, now exposed, dropped the pretense.

Angry about the terminated collaboration, Sheng Xin lashed out, "You, a divorced woman who knows nothing but how to seduce men, have no right to stand beside Meng Chuan!"

Gu Dai calmly stated, "Meng Chuan and I have a sibling relationship."

Sheng Xin retorted, "I know! You're siblings without blood relation."

Sheng Xin had only heard about Meng Chuan having brothers, never a sister, so she was convinced Gu Dai and Meng Chuan's relationship was inappropriate.

Thinking this, Sheng Xin looked up at Meng Chuan and yelled, "You just returned from abroad and don't know about Gu Dai, but I can tell you about her!"

Meng Chuan replied, "I'm not interested in hearing about her from you."

Frustrated, Sheng Xin blurted out, "Gu Dai had an affair during her marriage and was with many men at the same time.. Why would you want to be with her?"

Chapter 250: Drawn by Gu Dai

Gu Dai spoke up to clarify, "I've never been with multiple men at the same time."

Upon hearing Gu Dai's words, Sheng Xin and Wang Lan excitedly interjected. Sheng Xin exclaimed, "I've already heard about it. You're still trying to deny it?" Wang Lan nodded vigorously in agreement, "Yes, and I've seen you with many men with my own eyes!"

Meng Chuan coldly interjected, "Since you're so fond of spreading rumors, we'll see you in court!"

Court? Sheng Xin's expression almost crumbled, as if she might burst into tears at any moment.

Wang Lan's fondness for Meng Chuan faded more and more.

She couldn't understand what kind of spell Gu Dai had cast to make these outstanding men speak up for her constantly, even Meng Chuan, disappointing her as a long-time fan.

Gu Dai noticed the venomous looks from Wang Lan and Sheng Xin, smilingly said, "Sometimes, I'm curious. Do you desire such a life? Otherwise, why would you always suspect that I'm with multiple men?"

Sheng Xin stiffened, retorting in a low voice, "Do you think everyone is shameless like you?"

Wang Lan eagerly agreed, "Exactly, we're not short of money. Why would we pander to men? You're really funny!"

Gu Dai's gaze lightly fell on the two.

Sheng Xin and Wang Lan instinctively lowered their heads, then hastily raised them again, revealing their sharp jawlines.

Wang Lan still harbored hope for Meng Chuan, turning to him, "Meng Chuan, did you see? Gu Dai is making wild guesses about us. She's a vicious woman!"

Meng Chuan protected Gu Dai behind him, glancing emotionlessly at Wang

Lan, coldly saying, "I only see you maliciously spreading rumors first. Daidai is just retaliating."

Meng Chuan added, "Don't think I can't see through your little tricks. Even if

Daidai doesn't fight back, I will deal with you."

Over the years in the entertainment industry, Meng Chuan had seen his fair share of situations like this. He could easily discern the petty schemes of Wang Lan and Sheng Xin.

They might fool Song Ling, that naive one, but tricking Meng Chuan? Impossible!

Wang Lan and Sheng Xin, not expecting Meng Chuan's harsh words, struggled to maintain their composure, angrily questioning, "How can you treat us like this?"

Meng Chuan countered, "Why can't I?"

Should he not seek revenge for those who bully Daidai and instead greet them with a smile?

Sheng Xin shouted, "You're a public figure. Aren't you afraid I'll post your behavior online?"

Meng Chuan, utterly unperturbed, calmly replied, "Please, go ahead."

Gu Dai spoke, "Second Brother, let me handle this."

Meng Chuan, knowing Gu Dai was worried about him, relaxed and shook his head, "Don't worry, it's alright."

Seeing Gu Dai's continued concern, Meng Chuan explained, "I entered the entertainment industry just for fun. Having enjoyed it for a few years, it's fine even if I leave."

Most importantly, he couldn't miss this chance to stand up for Daidai.

Sheng Xin, watching Meng Chuan's harsh words towards them and his different demeanor towards Gu Dai, even ready to give up his career, felt peak jealousy.

Suddenly, she saw the door open, and Song Ling's tall figure entered.

Her eyes lit up, she ran to Song Ling with small steps, her voice sweetly calling out, "President Song, why are you here? Are you here to dine too?"

With Song Ling's arrival, Gu Dai surely wouldn't be able to be arrogant anymore.

Gu Dai had been dominating her, but she believed that if Song Ling talked to her and stood up for her, she would be stronger than Gu Dai and would crush her beneath her feet.

Thinking this, Sheng Xin even visualized the scene in her mind, excitement sparkling in her eyes.



She fluffed her hair, softly calling, “President Song...”

Song Ling pushed past Sheng Xin, walking forward. His mind was completely occupied by Gu Dai, not paying attention to anyone else.

Song Ling, agitated since parting with Gu Dai, had smoked several cigarettes. Remembering Gu Dai’s restaurant was nearby, he decided to check it out.

His private room was next door. As he was about to pass this room, he heard the arguing voices, familiar ones at that.

Through the window, he immediately spotted Gu Dai.

Even though Song Ling had seen Gu Dai many times today, each glimpse of her still took his breath away, his gaze involuntarily lingering on her..