## I Regained 291

Chapter 291:1 am willing

Fu Nan looked towards Gu Dai and asked, "Will you sign me?"

Gu Dai felt that Fu Nan had asked a rather naive question, but still nodded, patiently answering, "Of course."

Fu Nan lowered his eyes, resignedly saying, "I am willing."

Pressing his lips together, Fu Nan took a deep breath, then began to unbutton his shirt one by one, revealing a large expanse of skin.

Gu Dai, watching Fu Nan's actions, was momentarily stunned. But as she saw him continue to undress, she snapped back to reality and quickly intervened, "What are you doing? Stop it, put your clothes back on!"

Fu Nan ceased his actions, looking bewilderedly at Gu Dai, and asked in confusion, "Aren't you interested in me? I am doing what I should be doing."

His earlobes flushed, the redness slowly spreading to his cheeks. After a few seconds, he spoke softly, "Although I have no experience, rest assured, I will strive to serve you well."

Gu Dai, initially frightened to the point where she dropped her arms, realized Fu Nan had misunderstood and quickly explained, "It's not you as a person I'm interested in, but your potential. I think you could be a big hit in the entertainment industry, so I want to sign you."

Fu Nan was struck by a tremendous surprise, feeling dizzy. It was the first time someone had told him he had potential and believed he could make it big.

After the joy came overwhelming embarrassment. His face turned so red it seemed it could drip blood, his head nearly bowing down. He quietly put his clothes back on and apologized softly, "Sorry, I misunderstood you, mistaking you for that kind of person..."

Over the years, Fu Nan had met all sorts of people in the entertainment industry. Many had taken a liking to him, whether male or female, so when he heard Gu Dai's words, he subconsciously thought she was the same.

Now, Fu Nan wished he could travel back ten minutes and retract his words. He should have realized that someone as elegant as Miss Gu Dai wouldn't be like those others!

With this realization, Fu Nan's guilt deepened, and he couldn't help but apologize repeatedly.

Gu Dai, seeing Fu Nan's nervous demeanor, felt a bit amused and softly said, "It's alright, let's discuss the contract instead."

Fu Nan breathed a sigh of relief and quickly nodded, firmly saying, "I am willing to sign!"

Gu Dai nodded, then printed a contract from the room's printer and handed it to Fu Nan, "Check the content. If there are no issues, you can sign."

Fu Nan obediently responded, "Okay."

But although Fu Nan agreed seriously, when he received the document, he signed his name without even looking at it.

Gu Dai, watching his actions, said helplessly, "Now I understand why you were tricked by your previous agency. You signed the contract without even looking at it. Luckily, the contract I made doesn't have any traps, or you would be in trouble."

Fu Nan explained, "I did look last time, but they hid traps in the contract that I didn't see."

Gu Dai nodded, then asked, "What happened with your previous entertainment company? Can you tell me about it?"

Fu Nan began, "I participated in a singing and dancing reality show. After the competition, the company approached me and wanted to sign me. They offered attractive terms, promising resources and a debut package."

His eyes reddening, lowering his head, he continued, "But after signing, they didn't keep their promises. They didn't even provide a practice room and sent me to a film site to do minor roles in various crews."

Gu Dai silently handed him a tissue.

After wiping his tears, Fu Nan continued, "Even that wasn't enough for them. My agent tricked me into attending a banquet, saying a middle-aged man took a fancy to me and I had to sleep with him to get resources. I refused and even hit the man with a vase. I wanted to break the contract, but they beat me, and then I ran away."

Gu Dai asked, "Do your relatives know about all this?"

Fu Nan, taken aback, replied somberly, "I have no relatives."

"My mother passed away when I was very young, and I was sent to an orphanage. As for my father, he's alive but abandoned my mother and me. I don't even know where he is now.."

Chapter 292: They Look Similar

Fu Nan shared his driving motivation, "The reason I entered the entertainment industry was to stand on the biggest stage, to make my father see me and regret abandoning me and my mother!"

Gu Dai looked at Fu Nan with compassion, apologizing, "I had no idea you went through such experiences. I am sorry for bringing back the bad memories."

Gu Dai could empathize with the pain of growing up without parental love, knowing all too well how heartbreaking it could be, especially since Fu Nan lost his parents at a young age and ended up in an orphanage.

Fu Nan shook his head, smiling, "It's okay."

Gu Dai reassured him, "The Gu Group is a warm family. Once you join, you'll feel the warmth of a home. Everyone is easy to get along with, and there won't be any unspoken rules or such things."

Fu Nan nodded, but a hint of disappointment flickered in his eyes. For some reason, he felt an innate closeness to Gu Dai and felt a tinge of pity upon learning she wasn't interested in him personally.

Realizing what he was thinking, he quickly dismissed these thoughts from his mind.

Suddenly, Fu Nan realized something and looked at Gu Dai in astonishment, asking, "The Gu Group... Are you part of the management team?"

Gu Dai responded, then asked, puzzled, "Do I not seem like it?"

Fu Nan nodded, then quickly shook his head after regaining his composure.

Gu Dai was amused by Fu Nan's behavior, "What's the matter?"

Fu Nan hurriedly explained, "I mean, you look like a leader. It's just that most of the management I've met were greasy middle-aged men. I've never seen anyone as elegant as you, so I was a bit surprised when I first found out."

Gu Dai couldn't help but laugh.

When Chu Min entered the room, he saw the two chatting happily.

Chu Min asked, "Boss, did you need me?"

Gu Dai nodded, "I've signed Fu Nan. Could you take him to the Gu residence later?"

Chu Min immediately objected, "No way, what if something happens to you? I can ask someone else to escort him, but I need to stay to protect you."

Gu Dai assured him, "Don't worry, I'll be fine. It's Fu Nan who's in danger from his previous entertainment company. Escort him to the Capital."

Seeing Gu Dai's insistence, Chu Min agreed, "Alright then."

Fu Nan, having heard everything, quietly said, "Miss... Miss Gu Dai, it's okay, I can go back by myself."

Gu Dai shook her head, refusing, "Just go back to your hotel and pack your things, then follow Chu Min."

Chu Min also agreed, "Yes, we'll leave soon."

Fu Nan, convinced by their firm words, went to pack his belongings.

Chu Min, upon seeing Fu Nan's face, was stunned. His gaze lingered on Fu Nan's retreating figure, not snapping back to reality until he was far away.

Gu Dai, puzzled, asked, "What's wrong?"

Chu Min, his voice soft, shared, "Boss, don't you think Fu Nan looks familiar?"

Although the boy looked handsome that day, his appearance was marred by the dirt from avoiding those people. It was only today that Chu Min had a proper look at him, and he felt a sense of familiarity.

Gu Dai, considering Chu Min's observation, nodded, "Indeed, there's a familiar feeling, but I can't place why."

Chu Min, with a complex expression, softly said, "Fu Nan looks a bit like Song Ling."

After pondering Chu Min's words, Gu Dai agreed, "It does seem so."

If Fu Nan's eyes were covered, the lower part of his face resembled Song Ling's, though Fu Nan's features were softer compared to Song Ling's more rigid appearance.

Chu Min sighed lightly, adding, "And Fu Nan also resembles Su Ting."

Gu Dai compared them in her mind again and found it true, but didn't dwell on it, saying, "No wonder he looks familiar. Perhaps attractive people do share similarities."

Chu Min pressed his lips together, wanting to voice his thoughts but hesitated. Eventually, he suppressed his idea.

Gu Dai noticed Chu Min's unease and inquired, "What do you want to say?"

Chu Min, startled and his eyes flashing with panic, quickly steadied his emotions and said, "I just remembered, I ran into Song Ling at the hospital this morning. He seemed upset when he left."

Gu Dai nodded, casually saying, "He was supposed to help me find out who's behind the car incident. I offered him money, and that made him angry.."

Chapter 293:1 don't like her

After Gu Dai made her remark, she couldn't help but scoff, "Song Ling is really strange. He doesn't seem happy even when offered money!"

Chu Min, observing his emotionally inept boss, shook his head helplessly. He chose not to explain Song Ling's inner thoughts and simply nodded in agreement, "Right!"

Fu Nan had already packed up. Chu Min, leaving the hotel room with him, couldn't help but worry about leaving Gu Dai alone in Chuan City. He feared the recurrence of past events.

If only someone could look after the boss, he thought.

Just then, Zhao Xuan's name popped into his mind.

Chu Min had a good impression of Zhao Xuan from their few encounters, finding him reliable and nothing like his boss.

Meanwhile, at the Song Corporation Hotel, Zhao Xuan noticed Song Ling, who had been staring at his computer screen and instructing key company personnel to investigate matters since returning to the hotel. Zhao Xuan didn't know the specifics, but he guessed it was related to Miss Gu Dai.

Zhao Xuan offered, "President Song, your coffee."

Song Ling took a sip and returned his gaze to the computer screen.

Seeing this, Zhao Xuan couldn't help but express his concern, "President Song, you've been working non-stop for hours. Maybe you should take a break."

Song Ling declined, "No need."

Immediately after, Song Ling instructed Zhao Xuan, "Later, check on those arrested by the police. See if Gu Dai's uncle is involved, and also investigate Gu Dai's aunt abroad."

Zhao Xuan complied, "Yes, President Song!"

Song Ling, with a troubled expression, closed his eyes. He was deeply concerned about Gu Dai's dangerous situation and suspected a connection to an incident on a cruise ship three years ago.

"Ensure Gu Dai's safety," Song Ling instructed Zhao Xuan.

Zhao Xuan quickly agreed, then couldn't help but comment, "President Song, you're really kind to Miss Gu Dai. But if you don't express your true feelings to her, how will she know your affection?"

Song Ling frowned, looking at Zhao Xuan as if he were a fool, and asked in confusion, "Who said I like Gu Dai?"

Zhao Xuan, stunned, uttered, "Ah?"

He couldn't understand. Song Ling was so attentive to Miss Gu Dai, where to helped to even solve the smallest problem, even chasing her from Jing City to Chuan City!

If that wasn't affection, what was it?

Song Ling clarified, "I don't like Gu Dai at all. My actions are merely compensation."

Zhao Xuan decided not to argue with Song Ling. After all, if President Song had made up his mind about something, it wasn't his place to change it.

As Zhao Xuan was about to leave for his room to carry out Song Ling's instructions to investigate the assailant, his phone rang. Glancing at the caller ID, he paused, slightly taken aback.

"What is it?" Song Ling asked.

Zhao Xuan, after a brief pause, replied, "President Song, it's Chu Min calling."

Chu Min?

Song Ling's expression darkened, "Answer it. Let's see what he wants."

Zhao Xuan, avoiding eye contact with Song Ling, answered the call on speakerphone, "What's up? Why are you calling?"

Chu Min said, "I have to return to the capital for a couple of days. I'm entrusting my boss to you. If anything happens, contact me immediately. I hope you can help."

Zhao Xuan promptly agreed, "Of course, I'll take good care of Miss Gu Dai."

Hearing Zhao Xuan's response, Chu Min felt relieved and satisfied, "I knew I wasn't wrong about you. You're more kind-hearted than your President Song."

Chu Min's remark left Zhao Xuan surrounded by a chill. He hastily replied, "Ha ha, I think President Song is quite good, even better than me."

Chu Min scoffed, "Good? We'll discuss that some other time. I'm boarding my flight now. And about looking after my boss, do it discreetly, don't let Song Ling know."

Gu Dai recently didn't want to see Song Ling. If she found out that it was because of him that Song Ling was bothering her, she would never forgive Chu Min.

Zhao Xuan, feeling tense, glanced at Song Ling, quickly lowered his head, vaguely agreed with Chu Min, and hurriedly ended the call..

Chapter 294: A Familiar Figure

Trembling slightly, Zhao Xuan timidly spoke to Song Ling, "President Song, Chu Min might have some misunderstandings about you. Please don't take it to heart."
Song Ling's face darkened as he coldly ordered, "Get out!"
Zhao Xuan, eager to comply, hurried to leave. Just before exiting, however, his phone rang with a message from Chu Min.
Chu Min: Chuanlin Hotel.
Chu Min: This is where the boss is staying.
Zhao Xuan swiftly replied: Understood.
Catching a glimpse of Chu Min's message, Song Ling slightly frowned and called Zhao Xuan back before he could leave. "Wait, what did he send you?"
Stunned, Zhao Xuan realized what Song Ling was asking and responded, "It's where Miss Gu Dai is staying."
Song Ling acknowledged with a grunt.
Cleverly sensing the situation, Zhao Xuan added, "President Song, Miss Gu Dai is staying at the Chuanlin Hotel."
Song Ling shot Zhao Xuan a glare and coldly said, "I don't want to know. Leave."
Confused by Song Ling's behavior, Zhao Xuan wondered if he had misunderstood something.

After pondering the situation all night, Zhao Xuan couldn't decipher Song Ling's thoughts from the previous day. However, his understanding became clearer the next day when he saw Song Ling driving towards Chuanlin Hotel. This observation confirmed to Zhao Xuan that he hadn't misunderstood Song Ling's intentions after all.

Song Ling arrived at the hotel and stared blankly at its entrance, unsure why he felt compelled to come.

His phone rang, snapping him out of his reverie. Answering instinctively, he heard Jiang Yue's excited voice, "Brother Song Ling, you finally answered my call. I've missed you so much, you..."

Hearing Jiang Yue's excited voice, Song Ling quickly hung up.

She had been calling him relentlessly from various numbers, repeatedly accusing him of being heartless, despite her having saved him in the past.

Growing increasingly agitated, Song Ling massaged his temples, unable to understand why Jiang Yue had changed so drastically from the girl he had once imagined.

Sometimes, he even doubted if she was really the one who had saved him back then.

As these thoughts crossed his mind, Song Ling's gaze shifted outside the window, where he saw a woman exiting the hotel.

Her silhouette overlapped with that of the girl who had saved him as a child. Startled, he realized he had already grabbed her arm.

Gu Dai, caught off guard by being suddenly grabbed upon exiting the hotel, reacted swiftly, flipping the person to the ground.

Song Ling stammered, "Ouuuuuu..."

Recognizing the familiar voice, Gu Dai looked down and asked, "Song Ling, what are you doing here?"

Stunned, Song Ling asked in disbelief, "Why is it you?" Why did Gu Dai's figure resemble that of the girl who had saved him so much? Confused by Song Ling's reaction, Gu Dai was about to leave. Song Ling, seeing her move to leave, grabbed her arm, "Where are you going? I'll take you." Gu Dai refused, "No need." Song Ling's expression darkened slightly, but he maintained his composure, "Chu Min asked me to look after you. I can't let you leave the hotel alone." Gu Dai, stopping in her tracks, turned to him incredulously, "Chu Min asked you to look after me?" Song Ling pursed his lips, pausing for a few seconds before firmly replying, "Yes!" Gu Dai couldn't fathom why Chu Min would choose Song Ling to look after her. Something didn't add up. Recalling Song Ling's earlier unnatural behavior and Chu Min's usual attitude to Song Ling, which was far from fondness, it seemed impossible that he would have tasked Song Ling with her care. She looked at Song Ling and spoke calmly, "Actually, Chu Min asked Zhao Xuan to look after me, right?" Her tone was questioning, but her face conveyed certainty.

Song Ling's expression stiffened, and he awkwardly replied, "Zhao Xuan is busy. He passed the task to me."
Realizing Song Ling was lying but needing help for her upcoming meeting with Wen Ye, Gu Dai decided to accept his offer, "Let's go."
Song Ling, prepared for rejection but still following her, was surprised by her consent.
Sitting in the driver's seat, Song Ling asked, "Where to?"
Checking her phone, Gu Dai replied, "Scenery Garden."
Recognizing the place, Song Ling frowned disapprovingly, "You're not fully recovered, and now you're going to see Wen Ye What if something happens?"
Chapter 295: Gu Si's Return

Gu Dai, yawning lazily, responded leisurely, "I know my own body, there won't be any problems. Besides, aren't you coming with me?"

Song Ling had insisted on looking after her, so if there was any need for action, she expected him to take charge. After all, it made sense to make use of him as a 'tool'.

Unaware of Gu Dai's thoughts, Song Ling felt a tremor in his heart upon hearing her say she had him by her side. He had many words of persuasion in mind, but they all turned into a muted affirmation, "Mhmm."

Song Ling added, "Since you trust me, I won't let anything happen to you."

Gu Dai simply responded, "Hmm."

Although Song Ling was driving, his mind was in turmoil, repeatedly picturing the overlap between Gu Dai's image and that of the girl from his memories.

He even started to believe that it might have been Gu Dai who saved him back then, not Jiang Yue as he had thought.

Amidst the raging flames, even though Song Ling's vision was blurred and he couldn't see the details clearly, the girl's words and her resolute figure conveyed to him that she must be a kind-hearted young woman, one who wasn't concerned about receiving any repayment for her actions.

Jiang Yue's personality starkly contrasted with his imagination, while Gu Dai, since recovering her memory, matched exactly what he had envisioned.

Realizing this, Song Ling couldn't help but ask, "Have we met before?"

Gu Dai's expression shifted slightly before she regained her composure, replying, "No."

Song Ling, lost in thought, continued, "I have this feeling that we've met before, and that you even saved me."

Gu Dai hadn't expected Song Ling to suddenly bring this up. Although she had indeed saved him twice, she no longer wished to discuss this matter.

Gu Dai responded, "You're mistaken. We've never met before, and I've never saved you."

Despite her words, Song Ling was reluctant to give up, as her image closely resembled the person in his memory.

He parked the car and asked earnestly, "Think carefully, have you really never saved me? Or have you ever lost your memory and forgotten such an incident?"

Song Ling, looking at Gu Dai, could only see her indifferent demeanor. Disappointed, he withdrew his gaze.

Perhaps she had never met him or saved him after all.

Gu Dai denied, "No."

How wonderful it would have been if it had been Gu Dai instead of Jiang Yue...

Scenery Garden was a villa, where Gu Si and Wen Ye had lived during their marriage. After the divorce, only Wen Ye and their daughter Gu Yin remained, though Gu Si still owned the property.

Approaching the villa, Gu Dai rang the doorbell. Gu Si, to her surprise, was the one who answered.

Gu Si greeted with a smile, "Daidai, it's been a long time. Come in."

Gu Dai's eyes darkened slightly. Gu Si seemed to have expected her visit. She nodded lightly and called out, "Aunt."

Gu Si's lips curled, already scheming against Gu Dai. However, her expression faltered upon seeing Song Ling behind Gu Dai.

Song Ling's features were chiseled to perfection, exuding an innate elegance. His icy gaze, however, lent this elegance an almost aloof air.

A brief panic stirred in Gu Si's heart, sensing that Song Ling was no ordinary man. Her voice softened involuntarily, "Please, come in."

Song Ling nodded and followed Gu Dai into the house.

As Gu Si gestured for them to sit, she smiled at Gu Dai, "I've been doing business abroad these years. The last time I saw you, you were just a child. Time flies. Daidai has grown up so much."

Gu Dai observed Gu Si as she spoke.

Gu Si, with her flowing black waves, stunning looks, and slender figure, didn't appear as someone who had borne several children.

Seeing Gu Si's superficial cordiality, Gu Dai smiled back, "Aunt, you're much more beautiful than I imagined. But why did you suddenly return from abroad? I'm here to see uncle. Isn't he home?"

Gu Si glanced briefly towards the bedroom, then quickly averted her gaze, replying, "Your uncle has stepped out."

Gu Dai, keenly observant, didn't miss her subtle glance.

Unaware of Gu Dai's lowered gaze catching this small gesture, Gu Si continued, "I came back for Yinyin's matter.."

Chapter 296: Threatening Each Other

Gu Si confidently assured, "Your uncle is indeed unreliable, but I've already taught him a lesson upon my return. He has promised to treat Yinyin better and is reluctant to let you take her away."

Gu Dai, disbelieving a word from Gu Si, spoke coolly, "But Yinyin has been mistreated by uncle for years. She herself expressed not wanting to live with him."

Gu Si argued, "Yinyin is still a child and doesn't understand these matters. I believe she'll be happy to live with her father once she sees his change."

Seeing Gu Dai unmoved, Gu Si continued, "Your uncle is Yinyin's biological father. They've lived together all these years. Daidai, being the kind person you are, surely you wouldn't want to separate them?"

Listening to Gu Si's words, Gu Dai found them laughable and couldn't even maintain a facade of agreement.

Gu Dai responded, "Wen Ye is more than just unreliable. Yinyin was hospitalized because of his beating, with a head injury so severe that she could have died if not for timely rescue. Once domestic violence occurs, it's likely to happen again. Aunt, as Yinyin's mother, doesn't it pain you to see your child treated like this?"

Gu Si, feigning disbelief, covered her mouth, tears forming in her eyes. Crying, she said, "I thought Wen Ye only caused minor injuries. I didn't realize it was so serious! That bastard Wen Ye, I won't let him off!"

Despite Gu Si's pretense of sorrow, Gu Dai still saw clarity in her eyes.

Gu Dai declared, "I'm determined to take custody of Yinyin. I won't leave her with Wen Ye. Children's thoughts matter too, their opinions should be respected. Right, aunt?"

Gu Si, seemingly persuaded, agreed, "You're absolutely right. I'll convince your uncle to give up custody. By the way, I haven't seen Yinyin in a long time. Can I visit her in the hospital later?"

Considering Gu Si is Yinyin's biological parent and Yinyin might want to see her mother, Gu Dai had no right to refuse and agreed, "Yes."

Gu Si nodded, then smilingly said, "I'll quickly get changed first, and then we can go."

Gu Dai watched Gu Si enter the bedroom and then turned her attention away.

Song Ling remarked, "Wen Ye is in the bedroom, and Gu Si suddenly agreeing to let you take custody of Yinyin definitely means they have an ulterior motive."

Gu Dai nodded, replying softly, "I know."

Song Ling, seeing Gu Dai was aware of the situation, changed the subject, "I heard you recently found a young boy?"

Gu Dai glanced at Song Ling, then looked away, replying indifferently, "Just helping out of pity."

Song Ling had casually brought up the topic, not particularly concerned about the boy. However, upon hearing Gu Dai's response, he instinctively wanted to say he was also in need of help and wished for her to be less cold towards him.

He managed to restrain himself from saying something so embarrassing but looked visibly unsettled. Remembering Gu Dai's earlier look, he quickly explained.

Song Ling said, "I heard about the boy from Zhao Xuan, as we were investigating that black car, which inevitably led to your recent activities."

Gu Dai nodded, casually acknowledging before focusing on her phone.

In the bedroom.

As soon as Gu Si entered, Wen Ye grabbed her, demanding, "Didn't you promise you'd convince Gu Dai to let me keep Yinyin's custody?"

Gu Si, pulled her arm out, then wiped it with a wet wipe in disgust, replied, "Don't touch me with your dirty hands. I've only temporarily appeased Gu Dai to lower her guard before we reclaim custody."

Wen Ye nodded, threatening, "You better keep your word, or I'll expose your past deeds."

Gu Si was not someone to be trifled with. Faced with Wen Ye's threats, she showed no fear and retorted firmly, "Rest assured, I'll do as promised. But if you continue to speak to me in this manner, you can forget about ever getting custody of Gu Yin. And don't forget, you've got your own share of misdeeds."

Wen Ye's face turned red with anger, but facing Gu Si, he found himself unable to utter a word in response. Instead, he swallowed his words in frustration..

Chapter 297: Do you have a boyfriend

Gu Si, changing into a coat from her suitcase, couldn't help but scoff at Wen Ye's scruffy appearance and the mess in the house. "The house used to be decent, but you've turned it into a pigsty. Can't you clean up a bit? You're like garbage, disgusting. I don't even want to come here!"

Wen Ye, feeling his pride trampled upon by Gu Si's scorn, glared at her retreating figure. Once she closed the door, he spat in the direction she had been standing.

He cussed out, furious, "Even if I'm sloppy, you married me and had a daughter with me! Pretending to be so noble, but you're just as dirty behind closed doors!"

Gu Si, uninterested in his rant, cheerfully left the bedroom, softly suggesting, "Let's go."

Gu Dai nodded in agreement.

Until the moment she got into the car, Gu Si was taken aback upon seeing that it was Song Ling who was driving. This man, who exuded an aura of high status and distinction, was unexpectedly serving as Gu Dai's chauffeur. This revelation left her thoroughly surprised.

Gu Si turned to Gu Dai and said, "Daidai, we've been together for a while now, and you haven't yet introduced me to this gentleman. Who is he?"

Gu Dai hadn't been particularly concerned about Song Ling, so she hadn't thought to introduce him. Upon being asked, she explained, "This is a business partner, Song Ling."

Hearing the name, Gu Si was visibly shocked, "Song Ling!"

Though she had been abroad, Gu Si was well-versed in domestic enterprises, especially someone like Song Ling who had been featured in numerous magazines. His Song Corporation spanned many industries, both domestically and internationally.

Realizing her oversight, Gu Si promptly addressed Song Ling with eager politeness, "Hello, President Song, I'm Gu Si, Gu Dai's aunt. I apologize for not recognizing you at first glance. Perhaps we could exchange contact information? That way, I'll be sure to remember you in the future."

Song Ling frowned slightly, declining, "Sorry, I'm not accustomed to adding strangers as contacts, nor do I like being known by others."

After saying this, Song Ling glanced at Gu Dai through the rearview mirror, with a look that resembled his feelings getting hurt.

The thought of being merely a business partner to her, despite their past marriage, unsettled him.

Gu Dai, sensing Song Ling's discomfort and guessing its cause, calmly closed her eyes, choosing to ignore it.

Song Ling, seeing Gu Dai's reaction, felt even more frustrated, loosening his tie for some relief.

Gu Si, rebuffed by Song Ling and surprised by Gu Dai's rapid collaboration with the Song Corporation, concealed her displeasure.

Returning to a normal tone, Gu Si asked Gu Dai, "Daidai, how's the company since you took over? Everything going smoothly?"

Gu Dai answered simply, "Smoothly."

Gu Si, wary of Gu Ming revealing something inadvertently, probed further, "If you encounter any difficult problems at work, you can always discuss them with me. I'll help you find solutions."

Gu Dai replied confidently, "Don't worry, Aunt. Despite the issues caused by the cruise incident three years ago, I'm capable of handling company matters myself. No assistance needed."

Her emphasis on "cruise" was deliberate.

Gu Si's eyelashes fluttered as she forced a smile, "That's good to hear. I'm proud of you, and I'm sure your father would be too."

Gu Dai's eyes darkened slightly, "Speaking of my dad, thank you for the grand funeral you arranged for my parents."

Gu Si felt a tremor at her words, suspecting Gu Dai might know something.

Impossible, she reassured herself. Her actions back then were too covert for Gu Dai to know.

After constantly mentally preparing herself, Gu Si finally mustered the courage to speak, "Your father and mother were my brother and sister-in-law. They passed away so young... I feel it's my duty to do that."

Seeing Gu Dai nod, seemingly believing her words, Gu Si internally breathed a sigh of relief. However, feeling the strain of maintaining her composure, she quickly changed the subject, "Daidai, you're all grown up now.. Do you have a boyfriend? I remember you studied abroad; you must have dated someone during your time on campus, right?"

Chapter 298: Song Ling is Jealous

Gu Dai, unsure if it was due to her past memory loss, genuinely couldn't recall much about her campus life.

She honestly replied, "I don't remember."

Gu Si almost ground her teeth in frustration. She couldn't believe someone would forget their past boyfriends, assuming Gu Dai was just brushing her off.

Frustrated, yet trying to maintain her composure, Gu Si forced a laugh, "Maybe there were too many chasing after you, so you can't remember just now."

Gu Dai had no interest in discussing such personal matters with Gu Si and simply nodded, giving a non-committal response to end the conversation.

While both Gu Dai and Gu Si didn't take the matter seriously, Song Ling dwelled on it.

He speculated that given Gu Dai's attractiveness, many must have pursued her, and her current claim of not remembering might just be about how many relationships she had.

This thought led Song Ling to imagine Gu Dai with various men, which darkened his mood further. He became more withdrawn and aloof.

Failing to gain much ground with Gu Dai, Gu Si was in a somewhat sour mood. Eager to establish a connection with Song Ling and add him to her network, she was so focused on her goal that she failed to notice Song Ling's gloomy expression.

With a smile, Gu Si spoke, trying to engage Song Ling, "I remember reading in a magazine that President Song also studied abroad. Given your remarkable abilities, the school you attended must have been exceptional too."

Song Ling, upon hearing 'overseas', blurted out, "I never dated anyone during that time."

Gu Si was taken aback, as she hadn't asked about his romantic life.

Gu Dai, surprised by Song Ling's misunderstanding, briefly glanced at him, finding it unusual for the business-savvy Song Ling to misinterpret a conversation.

Realizing the attention focused on him from both Gu Si and Gu Dai, Song Ling suddenly became aware of what Gu Si had just asked and his own response. A flicker of embarrassment crossed his face, but he quickly regained his composure, masking the brief moment of awkwardness.

Gu Si, seeing Song Ling's unaffected demeanor, complimented, "President Song has always been upright, no wonder you've achieved so much with the Song Corporation."

Gu Dai, hearing this, couldn't help but think that Gu Si was determined to latch onto Song Ling's influence.

Song Ling showed no reaction to Gu Si's flattery.

Used to being admired wherever she went, Gu Si was finding it difficult to maintain her grace after repeatedly hitting cold walls today.

Gu Dai, noticing Gu Si's discontent, couldn't help but let out a quiet laugh.

Song Ling, hearing her laughter, relaxed slightly and asked, "What are you laughing at?"

Gu Dai, not wanting to openly mock Gu Si, covered it up with another topic instead, "I'm just happy about the virtue you're being praised for."

Song Ling, noticing that Gu Dai was no longer treating him coldly, felt a surge of joy inside. However, this feeling quickly turned to dismay upon thinking about Gu Dai's past relationships. In a cold tone, he said, "You don't need to be happy for me. If you wish, you could be the same."

Gu Dai felt speechless.

As Gu Dai reflected on how Song Ling had remained faithful to Jiang Yue, as well as his attentive and almost unfaithful-like behavior towards Jiang Yue during their marriage, she felt repulsed.

After a long silence, she quietly said, "I'd rather not."

Rather not? Did Gu Dai mean she couldn't let go of those men?

Realizing this, Song Ling's expression darkened, and a cold aura began to emanate from him.

Gu Si rubbed her arms, feeling goosebumps from the chilly atmosphere, especially sensing something akin to jealousy from Song Ling.

The thought that Song Ling, such an outstanding individual, could possibly have feelings for Gu Dai seemed absurd to Gu Si. She shook her head, dismissing the idea as a mere illusion.

In her mind, a man of Song Ling's stature would prefer a gentle, virtuous partner who would pamper and care for him in all aspects of life, not someone with a cold and difficult temperament like Gu Dai.

Regretting her own timing, Gu Si couldn't help but wish she had been born two decades later. If she were of similar age to Song Ling, she could have used her charms to attract him and marry into the wealthy Song family..

Chapter 299: Mommy loves you

Gu Si's thoughts wandered, blurring the line between reality and imagination. Her gaze towards Song Ling grew more mesmerized by the moment.

Noticing Gu Si's intense stare, Song Ling's face twisted into an expression of disgust. His voice, cold and distant, broke the spell, "We've arrived. Get out of the car."

Gu Dai, too, noticed the piercing look in Gu Si's eyes. Guessing her thoughts, she felt a sense of speechlessness. Shaking off her gaze, she was the first to step out of the car.

At the hospital, Gu Yin's recovery was swift and remarkable, thanks to Gu Dai's treatment and a tailored recuperation plan.

The doctors, witnessing her rapid improvement, couldn't help but marvel at the Legendary Doctor's skills. They would have stayed by her side, if not for the fear of disturbing the young girl's rest.

Upon seeing Gu Dai, Gu Yin's face lit up, her voice soft and endearing, "Cousin!"

Gu Dai smiled gently in response.

At that moment, Gu Si swiftly moved from behind Gu Dai to the front, embracing Gu Yin tightly. "Yinyin, Mommy missed you so much," she exclaimed with emotion.

Gu Yin, suddenly enveloped in the embrace, looked confused, her eyes seeking affirmation from Gu Dai, "Mommy?"

Gu Dai nodded, confirming, "Yes."

Gu Si, taken aback by Gu Yin's disbelief, flashed a dark look but maintained a tearful voice, "Yes, it's me, your mom. I'm sorry for being so busy with business abroad all these years. I neglected you, not even realizing how badly your father was treating you at home."

Realizing the truth, Gu Yin's eyes welled up. She held Gu Si tightly, her voice muffled, "Mommy, did you come back just because I was bullied?"

Gu Si nodded, "Yes, when I learned you were hurt, my heart ached. I couldn't focus on work and took the earliest flight back."

Hearing this, Gu Yin's tears flowed more freely.

Gu Si continued, "Yinyin, Mommy really loves you. It was only due to work that I had to leave you with your dad. If I had known earlier, I would have taken you abroad with me long ago."

Gu Yin, in disbelief, murmured, "Mommy, you do love me... I always thought you didn't."

Gu Si gently patted her back, "There's no parent in this world who doesn't love their child. Of course, I love you. And I came back to protect you."

Immersed in a newfound sense of happiness, Gu Yin looked at her mother, "Thank you, Mommy."

Gu Si inquired softly about her daughter's recovery, "How are you feeling, Yinyin? Does it hurt?"

Gu Yin shook her head, obediently replying, "No, it doesn't hurt. The nurses say I'll recover soon."

Relieved, Gu Si responded, "That's good."

The mother and daughter continued their conversation with smiles.

Gu Dai stood at a distance, silently observing their interaction.

After a few minutes, Gu Si glanced at her phone. She rubbed Gu Yin's head with a sense of regret, "Yinyin, Mommy has work to attend to. I can't stay. Be good in the hospital and listen to your cousin, okay?"

Gu Yin, feeling a tinge of sadness but uplifted by her mother's words, smiled, "I understand. I'll be good and won't trouble cousin."

Gu Si nodded with a smile, stood up, and picked up her bag. Turning to Gu Dai, she said, "Daidai, I'm grateful to have you. Without you, I wouldn't know what to do."

After a perfunctory expression of gratitude, Gu Si did not forget to address Gu Yin before leaving, "Yinyin, Mommy has to go now. Don't be sad. Once I'm done with my busy schedule, I'll come to see you more often."

Gu Yin obediently responded, "Okay."

Once Gu Yin acknowledged her, Gu Si hurriedly left the hospital room.

As soon as she stepped out, the tender smile on her face vanished, replaced by a smirk of self-satisfaction.

Children are so easily deceived, she thought. A few soft words and they believe everything. Leaving Gu Yin with Gu Dai was the right choice. In the future, I can extract information about Gu Dai from Gu Yin. Dealing with Gu Dai will be a piece of cake..

Chapter 300: Identified Wen Ye's Location

As for the matter of helping Wen Ye regain custody of Gu Yin, Gu Si had long forgotten about it.

Just as she was about to leave, Gu Si looked up and was startled to see Song Ling watching her. Hastily, she quickened her pace.

Song Ling, watching her retreat, wore a look of dark amusement. His eyes were filled with scorn. Just superficial affection, he thought.

Gu Dai glanced at the time and noted that only ten minutes had passed since Gu Si's arrival. In Gu Si's terms, her love was worth no more than ten minutes.

Turning to Gu Yin, Gu Dai asked softly, "Yinyin, does your head still hurt?"

"No, it's just a bit itchy now," Gu Yin replied cheerfully. "The nurse said it's a sign of healing. I'll be able to leave the hospital soon!"

Gu Dai nodded, smiling, "Yes, you'll be out soon. Then I'll take you out, treat you to some delicious food, buy clothes..."

They talked for a long time until Gu Yin slowly drifted off to sleep. Watching her peaceful face, Gu Dai gently covered her with a blanket, her lips curling into a smile.

After instructing the caregiver to take good care of Gu Yin, Gu Dai quietly left the room, only to be greeted by the stern-faced Song Ling.

As Gu Dai attempted to leave, Song Ling stopped her.

His voice cold, he said, "Gu Si doesn't have a single truthful word in her. Aren't you afraid she's trying to get close to Gu Yin, and then they'll team up against you?"

Gu Dai was momentarily taken aback by his anger but soon realized that Gu Si and Gu Yin's interaction might have triggered some unpleasant memories for Song Ling.

She knew that his parents had separated when he was young, and he rarely mentioned his father. The scene must have resonated with him.

Gu Dai pondered in her mind but did not voice her thoughts aloud.

During the three years of marriage with Song Ling, whenever she had inquired without understanding, he never disclosed any information about this matter. Now that they were divorced, she had even less right and no need to question it.

Arms crossed, Gu Dai met Song Ling's gaze and spoke calmly, "I'm not afraid."

After pausing for a few seconds, Gu Dai continued, "Yinyin is a good child. Gu Si's actions don't affect my view of her. Besides, once I gain custody of Yinyin, I will surely treat her well and take up the responsibility of caring for her. There's no chance of me developing any dislike towards her."

Through the window, Gu Dai's gaze firmly rested on Gu Yin lying in the hospital bed.

A beam of sunlight fell on Gu Dai, making her appear dazzlingly bright.

Song Ling's eyebrows twitched slightly. Seeing Gu Dai like this, his eyes became hazy, and his gaze clung tightly to her.

Noticing Song Ling's look, Gu Dai frowned slightly and said, "Chu Min found Wen Ye's whereabouts. I'm going to find him now. Are you coming?"

Song Ling snapped back to reality and immediately replied, "Yes, I'm coming!"

After responding, Song Ling realized it was Chu Min who found the information, which irked him. Why was his team slower than Chu Min's?

Just then, Song Ling's phone rang. It was a call from Zhao Xuan.

Zhao Xuan reported, "President Song, I've found out. It was Wen Ye who hired those thugs. There's another party involved, but I haven't identified them yet. However, I believe they intend to clean up after the others and are not related to Miss Gu Dai."

Zhao Xuan continued, "As for the black car, we haven't found the driver yet. The license plate is fake, and according to the surveillance, it disappeared in a blink after appearing at the highway exit."

Song Ling, satisfied with Zhao Xuan's efficiency for the first time, decided to increase his bonus for the month and ordered, "Keep investigating. We must find out who the culprit is!"

Zhao Xuan quickly agreed, "Yes, President Song."

Song Ling had put the call on speaker, so Gu Dai also heard Zhao Xuan's words.

"Let's go," said Gu Dai.

As Song Ling sat in the driver's seat and saw Gu Dai heading to the back, he lowered his eyes. After a few seconds, he looked up again and said, "Sit in the front. I have something to ask you."

Gu Dai, not keen to engage but remembering he had been her unpaid helper, reluctantly sat in the front seat. However, she couldn't think of anything Song Ling might need to ask her..