

Little Brat's 1191

Chapter 1191 NL

Yu Yu did not take the phone.

“You brought me here all the way from Haicheng just to tell me this?”

She looked at Shi Yang and suddenly sneered.

“Did Shen Li offend you?”

At such a young age, Yu Yu was able to occupy a position in the core management of the Yu Corporation. Obviously, she was a smart person.

If she was not capable of sensing Shi Yang’s real intention, all her years working for the Yu family must have been a total waste.

However, Shi Yang did not mind that she had noticed.

After all, he had already made it very obvious, and he knew that even if Yu Yu understood this, she would still do as he was told.

“I can’t say I’ve been offended.”

Shi Yang had a magnanimous expression on his face, and his voice was as gentle and calm as ever.

“I just don’t really like her.”

Yu Yu frowned.

He did not like her?

What kind of answer was that?

Shi Yang had gone through so much trouble. That had to mean that there was some big conflict between him and Shen Li. Yet, in the end, all he said was just that he did not like her?

She did not believe that.

She turned her head away, but her heart was far from being as calm as it seemed.

After she had found out that Shen Li was the boss of Shengguang Media, she had had her suspicions.

Back then, many people were optimistic about “Fantasy God Chronicles”. Shengguang Media had been the first to negotiate with the director, but ultimately, the negotiations had not gone through.

She had thought that it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so she had immediately stepped in herself to secure the project. Who would have known that it was a trap that had been set up long ago?

As for “Chasing the Light”, they had also deliberately snatched it away!

All the glory that belonged to Shen Li should have been hers!

And Yu Cheng... If Yu Ming had not suddenly gotten hold of those photos and videos, how would they have known about them and tortured her like that?

Just then, the familiar itch spread through her bones again.

Yu Yu’s body began to tremble, and her face turned paler.

Shi Yang also noticed that something was happening, so he put away the phone.

“Since Second Miss Yu doesn’t want to make this call, then forget it.”

As he spoke, he turned around to leave.

Yu Yu panicked and immediately shouted, “Wait!”

However, Shi Yang did not seem to hear her.

Yu Yu began to feel more and more uncomfortable, almost to the point of insanity!

She was not able to care about anything else. She quickly got up from the bed, intending on going after Shi Yang.

Thud!

A dull thud was heard as she fell heavily to the ground.

However, she could no longer feel the pain. There was only one thought left in her mind.

She anxiously shouted, “I’ll do it! I’ll do it!”

Shi Yang stopped in his tracks and turned around.

He looked down at Yu Yu, his eyes full of pity.

Yu Yu’s body was twitching uncontrollably.

“I... I beg you...!”

At this moment, she no longer had any self-esteem to speak of.

Shi Yang squatted down and raised his hand to gently and patiently smooth down her messy hair.

“I heard that Second Miss Yu likes black almond cakes the most. I’ve ordered one for you. Would you like to try it? ”

Yu Yu’s tears suddenly welled up in her eyes.

How could she be like this?

How had she ended up in such a pitiful and lowly situation?

It was all Shen Li’s fault!

She grabbed Shi Yang’s hand so hard that the veins on the back of her hand popped out and turned white.

Shi Yang did not move, nor did he say anything. He merely looked at her quietly.

However, the pity and sympathy in his eyes easily pierced through Yu Yu’s last line of defense.

She trembled, and every word seemed to have exhausted all her strength.

“I’ll call... I’ll call... her.”

Shi Yang handed the phone over and gently said, "Alright."

...

After the morning classes, Shen Li and Shen Zhijin went home together in the afternoon.

At the dining table, Shen Zhijin scooped out a bowl of porridge for her and asked, "Are you going back to school in the afternoon?"

Shen Li shook her head.

"The previous stage of the experiment has been completed. I've arranged for the data to be sent over to Fino Lab in the afternoon."

It would take about a day and a half to deal with it, so she had some rare free time for these two days.

Shen Zhijin smiled and said, "Your progress is faster than I expected."

Shen Li blinked.

"Thank you for your praise, Teacher Shen."

Shen Zhijin gently tapped her on the forehead.

"I have a meeting at school later. I'll bring you some crispy peach pie tonight."

There was a new dessert shop near the school, and the food was delicious. Shen Li liked their desserts, but there was always a long queue.

Hearing Shen Zhijin's words, Shen Li's eyes curved as she smiled.

“Thank you, Dad.”

...

After lunch, Shen Li went back to her bedroom to take a nap.

When she woke up, it was half past two. She packed up her things, put her laptop in her backpack, ready to set off for Fino Laboratory.

When she passed by the studio, she suddenly remembered that she had told Lu Huaiyu that she wanted to give him a thank-you gift, but she still had not delivered the painting yet.

She sent a message to Lu Huaiyu.

[Second Brother, are you at Rongyue Mansion now?]

Lu Huaiyu seemed to be busy. Shen Li waited for a while, but he did not reply, so she went to the studio and took out the painting.

When she arrived at the basement, she put the painting and her backpack in the car. Just as she sat in the driver’s seat, her phone rang.

She took a look and saw that it was a message from Lu Huaiyu.

[I’m at the company. I’ll be back a little later. What’s the matter?]

Shen Li fastened her seat belt and quickly typed a sentence.

[Do you remember that I said that I would give Second Brother a thank-you gift previously? It just so happens that I'm going to Fino Laboratory today, and I'll be passing by Rongyue Mansion along the way.]

When Lu Huaiyu saw this message, he raised his eyebrows.

[Shen Tangtang, is your sincerity just because it's on the way?]

After a while, the other party replied very quickly.

[Second Brother, I'm driving. I'll talk to you later.]

Lu Huaiyu laughed.

Yi Bin, who was standing in front of his desk, was stunned and immediately stopped what he was doing.

"Second M?"

Lu Huaiyu put down his phone.

"Continue."

"Alright," he said.

Yi Bin reorganized his thoughts and was about to speak when he saw Lu Huaiyu look at his watch.

"You have 15 minutes."

Yi Bin was speechless.

Why had the time suddenly shortened?!

But of course, he could not ask that question. After all, he was a professional.

He coughed lightly, "Yes, sir."

...

Shen Li drove to Rongyue Mansion and went upstairs with the painting.

Lu Huaiyu was not around, and the room was quiet.

She looked around and finally put the painting on the coffee table in the living room.

This way, he would be able to see it when he returned.

After putting the painting away, she was ready to leave. However, she suddenly noticed a small cut on her left index finger.

She seemed to have been scratched by something like a piece of paper, but she had not noticed it before.

She looked around and decided to look for a band-aid.

She opened the drawer under the coffee table.

Suddenly, she stopped.

There were two books in the drawer.

One was “The History of Time,” and the other was...

“The Physical Universe”.

She knew that Lu Huaiyu had often read “The History of Time.”

The other one was the one she had seen at the Lu residence before.

Had Lu Huaiyu brought it here?

Shen Li picked up the book. The faint bloody fingerprints were still clearly visible.

This book must have been very important to him, so much so that he still cherished it even though it was stained with blood.

However, she did not know how the blood had stained the book.

She flipped open the book.

In the next moment, her body suddenly froze!

On the title page was the handwriting that she was all too familiar with.

Chapter 1192 The Person in the Hand-Drawn Drawing Is Her

That was her handwriting!

Shen Li was so stunned that she was frozen to the spot, and her mind went blank.

The room was so quiet that she could even hear her own heartbeat.

The air seemed to have frozen over, and the oxygen in her chest seemed to have been sucked out, making it difficult for her to breathe.

NL.

Ning Li.

This was... her book!

She stared at the handwriting, but her eyes seemed to be out of focus, unable to see anything.

The handwriting was clearly very familiar, but for a moment, she felt that it was very strange.

When she was very young, she had not had many friends. The thing she had done the most had been to go to the bookstore and sit in a corner for a whole day to read books.

She had frequently thought about the book, "The Physical Universe", that had been placed on the top of the shelf, beautifully framed and thick.

However, it had been too expensive. Thus, every time she went there, she would only look at it from a distance.

One day, her grandmother had secretly bought the book and placed it under her pillow.

For many years after that, she had kept that book as part of her collection.

She never bent the corners and had cherished it greatly. She had kept it so well that it still looked like a new book.

She only wrote her initials on the title page... NL.

That was until the accident at Yanhui Mountain, where she had accidentally lost the book.

Even though she had gone back and had carefully looked for it several times, she still had not found any trace of the book.

In the end, she had no choice except to give up.

From then on, the book had become a missing piece in her memory.

She had never expected that... it would be in Lu Huaiyu's hands!

In an instant, countless images rushed into her mind!

That was the first time she had gone to the Lu family's home for the New Year celebration. She had accidentally seen this book on the shelf in Lu Huaiyu's bedroom.

At that time, she had thought that it was a coincidence that he also had this book.

And because the cover was stained with blood, she had remembered it well.

At that time, she had intended to open the book to take a look, but Lu Huaiyu happened to come in, so she had put the book down again.

Lu Huaiyu also knew that she had lost that book.

That...

Did he know that this was her book?

Shen Li lowered her eyes as she remained motionless.

Countless thoughts appeared in her mind, surging like a river and constantly attacking her mind.

She had accidentally left this book at Yanhui Mountain.

However, it had now appeared in Lu Huaiyu's house.

In other words...

The day that the accident had happened at Yanhui Mountain... Had he been there too?

That's right!

He had indeed been in a car accident!

And it was after his return from Fino Laboratory headquarters in Bai City!

"August... August?!"

000817.

This was the entry code for Yunding Fenghua!

Also, she had once borrowed a book from him. Under a certain page of the Nebula map, the number “8.17” had also been written.

He rarely wrote in his books, so she had been curious about the date “8.17”.

So... it had been on that day?

It was as if something was surging up from the depths of her heart and colliding violently in her chest. Even her internal organs seemed to be in pain.

Her gaze slowly shifted to the side.

“The History of Time” was lying quietly in the drawer.

She held her breath, put down the book in her hand, and took out “The History of Time”.

From the moment she had met Lu Huaiyu, she had known that he cared a lot about this book.

No, to be more precise, it was not this book that he actually cared about, but...

She opened the book.

Soon, a thin piece of paper fell out.

She picked it up.

She had actually seen this piece of paper once before, but before she had been able to see it clearly, Lu Huaiyu had put it away.

At that time, she had vaguely guessed that something had been drawn on it, but Lu Huaiyu had not said what it was exactly, so she had not asked.

Now, she finally saw it clearly. It was a hand-drawn portrait.

The lines were smooth, and with just a few strokes, he had outlined a thin back.

The person was wearing a loose casual jacket, with thin but straight shoulders. The sleeves were rolled up, revealing a pair of slender wrists.

The figure was wearing a baseball cap, with a slightly tilted head. The black fringe fell over the eyes and brows, making them difficult to be seen. Only the straight nose and slightly pouty lips were visible.

It was just a simple sketch, but it still easily depicted the cold and proud character in the figure's bones vividly.

It was almost as if it had been engraved in the heart of the artist a thousand times.

Shen Li held the piece of paper containing the sketch. It was extremely thin, but she felt as if all her strength was being used to hold it up. Her knuckles had turned white.

That was because this person...

It was her.

The hand-drawn portrait that Lu Huaiyu had hidden in the book so carefully and treasured was actually of her.

And it was the image of her from that summer three years ago.

Shen Li stood there in a daze, unable to come back to her senses for a long time.

She slowly knelt on the ground.

He had never mentioned it.

Not about the car accident at Yanhui Mountain, about the book, or about this hand-drawn portrait.

There was no way he had not known it was her.

It was as if countless images were flashing before her eyes, but they were all extremely blurry and could not be seen clearly.

A rumbling sound gradually gathered in her ears, almost shaking her heart.

How could it be?

How could she not have known anything about it?

He had never mentioned it before.

At that time, there had been a series of car accidents on Yanhui Mountain, and as many as seven or eight people had been injured. The scene had been bloody and chaotic.

She had not known. She truly had not known that he had been there.

An indescribable ache gushed out from the depths of her heart and spread to her limbs and bones, gradually overwhelming her.

How could she not have known?

Just then, a sudden and ear-piercing ringtone jolted her awake.

She took her phone out, and the caller ID showed—

Yu Yu.

Chapter 1193 Meeting

Shen Li's eyes narrowed.

Old Master Yu had just passed away, and the Yu family should be in a mess right now. Why was Yu Yu calling her at this time?

In the quiet and empty room, the phone rang again and again with an indescribable stubbornness, as if the other party would continue to call if she did not pick up.

Shen Li finally accepted the call.

Yu Yu's voice could be heard.

"Shen Li?"

"What's the matter?" Shen Li's voice was calm.

Hearing her voice, the anger and hatred that Yu Yu had been suppressing for a long time surged up in an instant!

She clenched her phone tightly and laughed bitterly.

"You still have the nerve to ask that? Isn't it all because of you that I'm in this state now? You must be very happy now, aren't you?"

"I don't care what state you're in." Shen Li's attitude was extremely cold. "If you're calling just to say these things, then I'll hang up."

"You!"

Yu Yu was extremely angry.

If it had not been for Shen Li, how would she have ended up in such a state?

And now, she was actually acting as if this matter had nothing to do with her!

In Yu Yu's eyes, this was blatant disdain and contempt!

She took a deep breath and said, "I want to see you. I'll give you half an hour to come to Building 2 of the Capital Villa Courtyard."

His tone was firm, as if she was giving an order and was not giving her any room for disobedience.

Because it was so ridiculous, Shen Li laughed.

"Yu Yu, do you know what you're saying?"

"Of course, I know!"

Yu Yu was provoked by her laughter and her voice raised several decibels. She saw the figure sitting next to her out of the corner of her eye and suppressed her anger.

"Shen Li, let me just be direct right now. The old master is dead, and the Yu family is beyond saving, but I don't want to be dragged into this! I'm calling you to make a deal with you."

"A deal?" Shen Li retorted, " I don't know. What right does Second Miss Yu have to talk about making a 'deal' with me? "

As she spoke, she looked at the hand-drawn portrait in her hand.

It seemed like she should find a suitable time to have a good talk with Lu Huaiyu...

"I have one of your mother's paintings in my hands."

Yu Yu's voice came through the phone.

"If you want it, then come over. If I don't see you within half an hour, I'll burn that painting for her. "

Shen Li's expression turned completely cold. A layer of frost seemed to have covered her eyes, and the coldness seeped into her bones.

"Yu Yu, I advise you to think before you speak. Otherwise, you won't even know how you end up dying."

Her tone was extremely cold, and every word was as sharp as a knife's edge.

Yu Yu could not help but shiver.

She had never seen Shen Li like this before. It was extremely scary.

However, she was already in a difficult position.

She forced her voice to sound calm.

“I’ve said what I wanted to say. Believe it or not, if you think this deal is not worth it, then just pretend that I never called!”

Then, she hung up the phone without waiting for Shen Li’s reply.

Shen Li fell into deep thought.

Other than the “Mountain Tea” painting from the Xijing Art Academy, the rest of Gu Tingyin’s paintings were all in the Gu family and Shen Zhijin’s keeping.

Logically speaking, there should not be any paintings left outside.

However, this was the excuse that Yu Yu had used.

Of course, Shen Li knew that it was because she wanted her to go there, but—

It was better to be safe than sorry.

Now that Yu Yu had silently come to the Capital from Haicheng and even called her to threaten her, it was obvious that she was cornered.

Shen Li looked at the time.

3:01 pm.

In other words, she had to get to the villa in the Capital city before 3:30.

It was a group of villas in the suburbs of the Capital. If she remembered correctly, the Yu family had indeed bought some property there.

She looked down at the drawing in her hand again.

After a moment, she put it back into the book, got up, and walked out.

When she reached the door, she turned back to take a look.

The painting and the two books had quietly been placed on the coffee table.

Lu Huaiyu had obviously placed them in the drawer under the coffee table on purpose. He had been waiting for her to find out herself.

There were too many things that needed to be explained between them.

She took a deep breath and closed the door.

...

"I'm done."

Yu Yu put down her phone and looked at Shi Yang.

"But I can't guarantee that she will come."

Shi Yang gave a faint smile.

"She will come."

He had already seen for himself how much she cared about her mother.

Therefore, even if it was just a vague possibility, she would not let it go.

Yu Yu could not help but ask, "Since you're so sure, why didn't you call her yourself?"

Shi Yang paused his movements, but his smile did not fade.

"Didn't I say that I don't like her? Coincidentally, she doesn't like me either. If I was the one who made the call, things would be more troublesome."

Yu Yu frowned.

Trouble?

What kind of trouble?

But when she asked this question, Shi Yang did not bother to explain.

Moreover, things had already progressed to this stage, so there was no point in talking about this anymore.

She looked around again.

She was in the dining room, with a half-eaten cake in front of her.

Shi Yang looked at her for a while.

"Is this your first time here?"

Yu Yu's eyes flashed with disgust.

“This is Yu Jing’s house. Why would I come here?”

Shi Yang smiled and said, “Didn’t he say that he would find you a new place to recuperate? The environment here is good and it’s quiet. It’s a very suitable place.”

Yu Yu did not say anything.

If it was not for the fact that she had no other choice, she would not have been tricked by Yu Jing!

But it was too late to say anything now.

She suddenly thought of something and looked at Shi Yang.

“I wonder what her reaction will be when she comes and sees you.”

Shi Yang did not respond to her, but changed the topic instead.

“Actually, I’ll need your help later.”

...

Shen Li drove to the villa in the Capital.

As she headed to the suburbs, there were not many cars on the road.

She drove very fast.

Finally, her car stopped in front of a three-story villa.

She got out of the car and rang the doorbell.

The door was quickly opened, and a haggard and pale face appeared behind the door.

Yu Yu.

Shen Li's eyes narrowed.

It had only been a while since they last met, but Yu Yu seemed to have changed into a completely different person.

She had lost a lot of weight and looked like a bag of bones. She did not look too good. Her eye sockets were sunken and there were dark circles under them.

The elegance and exquisiteness of the past could no longer be seen.

Shen Li made a vague guess.

"Are you taking drugs?"

Yu Yu stared back at her, and it took her a great deal of effort to stop herself from slapping her.

Hearing her speak, Yu Yu burst out laughing as if she had just heard a joke.

"Isn't this what you wanted? Why are you still pretending?"

Shen Li had no interest in such matters.

“Where’s my mother’s painting?”

Yu Yu turned around and walked further in, while Shen Li stood at the door without moving.

Yu Yu turned around and glanced at her.

“If you want to stay there, that’s fine. But at least let me see your sincerity.”

...

Rongyue Mansion.

Lu Huaiyu entered the password code and pushed the door open.

“Ah Li?”

No one answered.

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows slightly.

He had already returned as fast as he could, or... Had he not made it in time?

He carried a candy box as he walked in.

He had even said that he would bring her some candy.

Suddenly, he stopped in his tracks, as if he had been nailed to the ground.

On the coffee table in the living room, there was a painting and—

Two books.

Chapter 1194 Sincerity

She had been here, and she had finally seen the two books.

Lu Huaiyu's grip on the candy box tightened as he called out again, "Ah Li?"

The place was so quiet that he could even hear his own heartbeat.

A moment later, he finally lifted his legs and walked forward.

When he arrived in the living room, he put down the candy box and picked up the painting.

This was probably a new painting that she had just finished.

So this was the thank-you gift she was talking about.

He put down the painting and looked to the side.

The two books were quietly placed there, neatly arranged.

He picked up the book "The History of Time" and found the hand-drawn portrait.

This was not the page where he had placed the drawing earlier.

He did not need to look at the other book, she must have already read it.

Lu Huaiyu sat down on the sofa with his elbows propped up on his knees. He stared at the two books and the hand-drawn portrait intensely.

The sky outside the window was a little gloomy. He sat there quietly, his whole body seemed to be covered with a layer of loneliness.

She had seen it.

In that case, she must already know...

The book that she had lost had always been with him.

They had met each other back at Yanhui Mountain during the car accident.

And he had already had feelings for her since that moment.

But...

Had she left immediately after seeing this?

He took out his phone.

There were no new messages in the dialog box with her.

Lu Huaiyu lowered his eyes.

He had imagined many times how she would react when she saw these things.

But he had never thought that it would be like this.

She had not had any reaction.

There was no curiosity, no questioning, nothing at all.

Lu Huaiyu opened the conversation window with her, then his well-defined fingers landed on the screen but then paused.

It was rare for him to be like this... He did not know how to start this conversation with her.

It was windy outside.

He looked out of the window and saw a few drops of rain falling on the window.

It had started to rain.

...

Jingye Villa.

After she finished speaking, Yu Yu walked into the villa, as if she did not care whether Shen Li would turn around and leave or not.

Or, perhaps it was because she was certain that Shen Li would follow her in.

She walked to the living room and sat down on the leather sofa before turning around to look.

Shen Li stood at the door and took out her phone.

As if she sensed Yu Yu's gaze, Shen Li swiped with her thumb and showed her the phone, her expression cold.

"It's 3:29 pm. I've arrived within the stipulated time that you set. It's time to give me my mother's painting."

Yu Yu chuckled.

"This only means that you're here to make a deal. I haven't even told you the specific conditions yet, and you're already thinking of taking the painting? Shen Li, aren't you being too calculative? Haven't you earned enough from "Chasing the Light"?"

When she mentioned this, her words still did not conceal her resentment.

Shen Li put away her phone and looked at her for a moment before she finally walked in.

She stood in front of Yu Yu and said, "I have to go to the laboratory to deliver something later, so please hurry up. If you have any requests, just state them clearly in one go."

Yu Yu poured herself a cup of tea.

It must have just been brewed. When the green tea was poured into the bone china teacup, a white mist could be seen wafting in the air.

It was the end of October and the weather in the Capital was already quite cold.

"What's the rush? Isn't your mother's painting more important than your delivery? "

She poured a second glass and pushed it towards Shen Li as she spoke.

Shen Li finally sat down, and her eyes swept across the cup of tea in front of her. A hint of impatience appeared in her eyes, and she looked up at Yu Chen coldly.

“You’d better be clear on one thing: you’re the one making a deal with me. I don’t have much patience, and as for you... The Yu family probably gives you even less time, right?”

“You!”

Yu Yu’s expression turned extremely ugly as Shen Li’s words hit a nerve.

Yes.

On the surface, she seemed to be the one taking the initiative in today’s negotiations. She had asked Shen Li to come, so Shen Li just had to come.

But in fact, she was the one in a more urgent situation.

The Yu family was in a mess now. If she could not solve her current predicament as soon as possible, she would definitely end up in a very miserable state.

She managed to suppress the anger in her heart and said, “It’s simple. First, I want to cut off all ties with the Yu family. I have nothing to do with whatever they have done. Second, I need a sum of money, enough to support me in the future.”

Shen Li’s lips twitched, but there was no smile in her eyes.

“Yu Yu, I don’t think I need to remind you that your surname is Yu.”

Over the years, the Yu family had done too many dirty things, and among them, Yu Yu had once held a certain power within the Yu family. Naturally, she would not be able to escape.

Now, she was actually trying in vain to get herself out of it?

“That’s not something I need to consider. Even if you can’t do it, there’s still the Gu and Lu families, right?” Yu Yu sneered. “The Yu family has ended up where they are today because these two families are behind it, right? And all of this... Wasn’t it all for you?”

Ultimately, Shen Li was the main culprit!

If she did not need Shen Li’s help, she would not be patiently negotiating with her face-to-face.

“As for the money, I think it’s a simple matter for you. You used “Fantasy God Chronicles” to scam me out of so much money, so it’s time for you to spit out some!”

“You were the one who insisted on snatching up “Fantasy God Chronicles”, and now you’re forcefully pushing the blame onto me. That’s not right, is it?” Shen Li’s expression was indifferent.

Yu Yu was not listening to her.

In her opinion, the reason why she had ended up where she was today was all because of Shen Li!

“All you have to say is: do you agree or disagree?”

Shen Li looked at her, her eyes dark and cold.

After a moment of confrontation, she said, “I can make you a promise, but I have to see your sincerity...”

Yu Yu was taken aback, and he frowned.

“What do you mean by that?”

Shen Li's lips curved into a cold smile.

"I'm already sitting here, but I haven't even seen the person I'm negotiating with. How can a deal be negotiated like this?"

A flash of panic appeared in Yu Yu's eyes.

"What are you talking about? Didn't I already explain the conditions to you clearly?"

Shen Li looked around.

"It must be uncomfortable for you to be alone in such a big villa. But it's hard to say. After all, there must be something more appealing that you would come here without even attending Old Master Yu's funeral."

Yu Yu's face was a mixture of red and white.

"I don't understand! Don't talk about such nonsense!"

Shen Li looked at the cup of tea and said, "Let me think, if I drink this cup of tea, what would the consequences be?"

Yu Yu's chest heaved up and down violently. Just as she was about to speak, a gentle voice rang out.

"That is the best Longjing tea, but it seems that you don't like it very much."

Shen Li turned around and narrowed her eyes.

"I see that Mr. Shi Yang wants to see me. Why the need to go through so much trouble?"

Shi Yang smiled. His gaze fell on the phone she was holding in her hand.

“Because you’re very smart.”

He stretched out his hand and said gently, “Give it to me.”

Chapter 1195 Take Her Away

Shen Li did not move.

The two of them fell into a confrontation, and the atmosphere instantly became tense!

Yu Yu sensed that something was wrong. Feeling bewildered, her eyes quickly swept over the two of them.

Wasn’t the villa already equipped with a signal-jamming device? Why did Shi Yang still want Shen Li’s phone?

Could it be that she...

Shi Yang maintained his posture and repeated, “Give it to me.”

Shen Li stared at him and clenched her fists.

When Shi Yang looked at her, there seemed to be a hint of helplessness in his eyes. He sighed softly and said, “I like your paintings a lot, and naturally, I also find your hands to be precious. So... don’t make things difficult for me.”

This was an obvious threat.

Shen Li’s lips curved into a cold smile, “Since you want it so much, then... I’ll give it to you!”

As she spoke, she threw the phone at him and it landed on the ground with a loud bang!

Shi Yang's hand was suspended in the air, and the phone fell beside his feet.

The air seemed to have frozen for a moment.

A few seconds later, Shi Yang bent over and picked up the phone. There was a crack on the screen.

However, this was not the most important thing.

Because at the very top, a small symbol was flashing.

He did not seem to be angry. Instead, he looked at Shen Li and said with a faint smile, "I'm just asking you to sit down and have a chat. Do you really need to record it?"

Yu Yu was shocked.

"She turned on the recording function? When did it start?"

"It's not important,"

As Shi Yang said this, he looked through Shen Li's call and text message records, and even opened her WeChat app.

The chat box at the top was Lu Huaiyu's.

Shi Yang clicked on it and saw that Shen Li had said that was driving.

Lu Huaiyu had replied, [Okay, be careful.]

It was past two o'clock.

"It looks like the two of you have a good relationship."

Shi Yang turned off the phone and threw it into the fish tank next to him.

Plop-

A string of bubbles rose as the phone gradually sank to the bottom.

Shen Li glanced at it but did not say anything.

Shi Yang suddenly said, "Has anyone ever told you that your temperament is nothing like your mother's?"

Shen Li looked at him coldly.

"That look in your eyes is the same as his," Shi Yang shook his head as he spoke, "She never had that look."

He seemed to have thought of something, and a faint smile of reminiscence appeared on his face.

"She was very pure and innocent. She always looked happy. You... are different from her."

Shen Li's nails dug into the palms of her hands as she said, "You don't have the right to judge her."

Shi Yang did not seem to hear her. He walked to the side and picked up a remote control.

The curtains were drawn slowly, and the surrounding space immediately darkened.

“Actually, there’s another reason why I invited you here today.”

As he spoke, he took his phone out and projected the screen onto the projector.

“I’ve prepared a gift.”

As soon as he finished speaking, a horse appeared on the screen.

It appeared to be in an independent stable, with some hay piled next to it. It seemed to be a little irritated, as it paced back and forth.

Shen Li’s pupils contracted. That was the white horse that he had bought from Dutian Racecourse!

“It looks like you still remember this horse?”

Shi Yang glanced at her and smiled.

“That’s right, come and take a look. Does this horse look like Bright Moon?”

Shen Li’s heart skipped a beat.

As expected.

Shi Yang had bought this horse because of Bright Moon!

She did not answer, but Shi Yang didn’t seem to care. He turned back and looked at the horse for a while.

“I think they do look alike. I think she would probably like it.”

“Shi Yang!”

Shen Li finally could not help but raise her voice!

Yu Yu, who was listening at the side, was confused.

W-what...?

Didn't Shi Yang want to deal with Shen Li? Why did he keep talking about Shen Li's mother?

She could understand why he had not taken Shen Li's phone away. After all, what happened today was really shameful.

But what was wrong with this horse?

She had a feeling that something was wrong, especially with Shi Yang. However, she did not know what to do in this situation. She could only rely on her intuition and keep her mouth shut as she tried to minimize her presence.

“She really likes Bright Moon, but it's a pity that Bright Moon has been kept at Dutian Villa. After a long time, this matter was put on hold. Until... I saw you.”

Although Shen Li's personality was very different from her mother's, he had to admit that when Shen Li was riding a horse, she looked like she was carved out of the same mold.

So at the horse race event, this idea had come to him again. When he happened to run into this horse, so he bid for it.

“Although it’s not exactly like Bright Moon, they’re both white thoroughbreds. She should like them.”

As soon as Shi Yang finished speaking, the white horse on the screen came to the food trough and started eating.

Shen Li’s heart was beating faster and faster, and a strong sense of uneasiness rose from the bottom of her heart.

This uneasiness was quickly verified.

Not long after the horse had eaten its feed, it suddenly staggered and fell to the ground!

Bang—!

The sound was amplified, and Yu Yu was so frightened that she took a step back.

Shen Li’s eyelids twitched.

Then, the horse began to twitch as it began frothing at the mouth and neighing in pain.

After a while, the shrill sound gradually died down, and the range of its movements also became smaller until it eventually stopped moving and went silent.

The whole villa was dead silent, except for the struggling neighing of the horse before its death, which still lingered in the ears, making everyone’s hearts palpitate.

Yu Yu held her breath.

She had known that Shi Yang was not an easy person to deal with, but now she realized that she had underestimated him!

Shi Yang turned off the screen, then turned to Shen Li with a gentle expression on his face.

“This is the video from this morning.”

Shen Li stared at him, feeling as if something was surging in her chest, almost rushing out!

Her body was trembling slightly.

“Shi Yang, you killed my mother.”

Every word seemed to have been squeezed out through the gaps between her teeth, and it almost exhausted all her strength.

Yu Yu raised her head and looked at Shi Yang, shock flashing across her eyes.

Shi Yang’s expression remained unchanged. He tilted his head slightly, as if he was thinking about her words.

“It wasn’t me,” he said softly.

“How could I bear to do that?”

Shen Li gritted her teeth, a sharp pain ran through her heart, and quickly spread to every part of her body, every inch!

Shi Yang looked at her and looked into her eyes.

He really hated her eyes.

“You see, I was afraid that she would be lonely, so I specially bought this horse and invited you here.”

He looked at Yu Yu as he spoke.

“Bring the car here and take her away.”

Chapter 1196 Car Key

Shen Li immediately became alert!

When Yu Yu heard this, a trace of hesitation appeared on her face.

This was actually something they had discussed much earlier. When Shen Li came over, she would be in charge of driving her away.

But now... she was regretting it.

She had discovered that Shi Yang was a very dangerous person!

Things did not seem to be going the way she had expected.

Shi Yang seemed to have guessed what she was thinking and his eyes fell upon her face.

“If you regret it, you can just say it.”

“I didn’t!”

Yu Yu subconsciously retorted.

Meeting Shi Yang's scrutinizing gaze, she had no choice but to say, "I... I just feel that I might not be able to handle her... on my own."

Shi Yang took out a small white medicine bottle from his pocket, then walked to the coffee table. He poured out two white pills and threw them into the cup of tea that Shen Li had not touched.

Then, he passed the cup of tea to Shen Li.

"The tea is a little cold, so just make do with it."

Shen Li's gaze fell on the bottom of the cup, where the white pills were lying quietly.

"Don't worry, it's just sleeping pills."

Shi Yang smiled and explained, "The road might be a little bumpy. Also, I'm hoping that you can be quiet."

Shen Li said coldly, "What if I don't drink it?"

Shi Yang reached towards the back of his waist with his other hand.

The next second, a dark hole was aimed at her.

"It's fine if you don't want to drink."

Yu Yu's eyes widened, and a look of shock flashed across her face!

Shi Yang had a gun?

The air froze.

Shen Li finally raised her hand and accepted the cup of tea.

...

A white car drove away from Jinye Villa.

The sky was gloomy, and large gray-green clouds were piling up on the horizon.

The rain began to fall, and the road was soon wet.

Yu Yu turned on the windshield wipers and frowned in frustration as she watched the raindrops fall.

She was already very unwilling to do this, but it just had to rain.

She looked in the rearview mirror and saw that Shen Li's hands were tied behind her back. Her mouth was taped and she was lying on the back seat.

As long as one did not get too close, no one would notice that she was in the back of the car.

What's more, this road was going up the hill, so there were not many people coming and going. In addition, it was raining today, so it was even more empty.

She had driven so far, yet she had not encountered a single car.

She would just have to forget it. She would be able to come back once she arrived at the place and had sent her there.

With that in mind, Yu Yu kept her thoughts to herself and continued driving along the road.

...

Rongyue Mansion.

Lu Huaiyu was sitting quietly in the living room when his phone suddenly rang, interrupting his thoughts.

He looked at his phone and his eyebrows twitched. It was a message from Shen Li.

He opened it without any hesitation, but he was suddenly stunned.

Shen Li had sent him her location: Jingye Villa.

Lu Huaiyu's brows furrowed.

The villa was in the suburbs of the Capital. Hadn't she wanted to go to Fino Laboratory? Why had she gone there?

Both of these places were not in the same direction at all.

He immediately texted back.

[Ah Li?]

However, after he sent this message, he did not receive a reply.

Lu Huaiyu waited for a while. For some reason, he felt uneasy.

Just then, Gu Tinglan called.

Lu Huaiyu picked it up.

“Hello,” he said.

“Lu Er, is Ah Li with you?” Gu Tinglan got straight to the point, his voice carrying a sense of urgency.

“No, she’s not.” Lu Huaiyu rarely heard him speak in such a tone. “What’s wrong? Are you looking for her for an urgent matter?”

Gu Tinglan took a deep breath.

“Yes. I called her just now, but I couldn’t get through, so I thought I’d ask you.”

The ominous feeling in Lu Huaiyu’s heart grew stronger.

“She came to Rongyue Mansion once around two o’clock, but she left after that. I didn’t see her. Why are you looking for her?”

Gu Tinglan was silent for a moment before he said in a deep voice, “We’ve suspected for a long time that the fire in Lincheng was deliberately set up by someone and we’ve narrowed the suspects down to a man named Dylan. However, the other party has forged an identity and we’ve never been able to find him. Ah Li suspected that there was something wrong with Shi Yang, so I went to check on him. In the days before and after the fire, he had continuously told people that he had gone to the countryside, but in fact, he had not gone at all!”

If he did not have a guilty conscience, why would he lie about such a thing?

Moreover, Shi Yang was a very cautious person. If Gu Tinglan had not used all of his connections and power to specifically investigate and double-check, he probably would not have found anything.

What this meant was almost self-evident!

“This matter is very urgent, but I can’t get through to Ah Li’s phone—”

“A villa in the Capital.” Lu Huaiyu suddenly interrupted him and said, “She just sent me her location. She’s at Jingye Villa. But... She was supposed to go to Fino Laboratory today.”

Gu Tinglan was shocked, “Jinye Villal? Why did she suddenly go there?”

“I don’t know. I’ve sent her messages, but she hasn’t replied.”

Lu Huaiyu’s heart continued to sink.

If even Gu Tinglan could not get through to her, it would probably be the same for him.

Gu Tinglan had obviously realized the seriousness of the matter.

“You mean to say...”

“Where’s Shi Yang?” Lu Huaiyu stood up.

“I asked his assistant earlier. He said that Shi Yang wasn’t feeling well so he was staying home today—”

Gu Tinglan’s voice suddenly stopped.

No one knew if Shi Yang was really at home!

“Go to Shi Yang’s place and keep an eye on him. I’ll go to Jingye Villa to find Ah Li.

Lu Huaiyu’s voice was cold.

Gu Tinglan understood that the situation was not optimistic, so he immediately said, "Alright, I know."

Lu Huaiyu ended the call, went to the master bedroom, and opened the bottommost drawer.

A car key was lying there quietly.

Without any hesitation, he took the key and turned to leave.

Chapter 1197 Trap

The sky was dark, and the rain was getting heavier. A thin layer of mist had already formed on the ground.

A black pearl sports car drove out of Rongyue Mansion. Raindrops rolled down the smooth body of the car. The engine roared and the black car quickly rushed into the continuous rain.

...

Yu Yu drove the car along the road leading up the hill.

They had already arrived at the foot of the hill, and the terrain was gradually getting higher. The further they went, the denser the forest on both sides became.

The rain beat on the leaves, and the wind was bleak.

Although it was in the afternoon, the sky was gloomy because it was raining. The scenery outside the window passed by quickly and was blurred by the rain.

Yu Yu gripped the steering wheel, her brows furrowing deeper and deeper.

It was her first time here, and she had followed the GPS.

She had not known that it would be so difficult to navigate. The higher she went, the steeper it was, and there were many turns.

It would have been fine if it was a normal day, but it was raining now, and the road was slippery, so she had to drive very carefully.

By this time, they had already ascended the hill. The sky at the hill area had darkened early. If they had been any later, she really would not have been able to figure out the way.

She wanted to send Shen Li there as soon as possible, but she did not dare to drive fast in the rain. Thus, she could only drive forward with a heart full of grievances.

If it was not for Shen Li, she would not have to suffer like this!

Thinking of this, Yu Yu resentfully glanced in the rearview mirror.

However, what she saw gave her a shock!

Shen Li, who was supposed to be sleeping in the back row, had sat up and was looking at her quietly!

Her hands were still tied behind her back, but her peach blossom-shaped eyes were dark and cold, and there was no sign of fatigue in them!

She was clearly very clear-headed!

“You didn’t sleep?!”

Yu Yu exclaimed in shock.

Shen Li did not answer. Other than Yu Yu's voice, the car was silent.

Only then did Yu Yu remember that Shen Li's mouth had been taped up, so of course, she could not speak.

Yu Yu's heart began to beat faster.

She forced herself to calm down and looked away.

"Forget it, it doesn't matter if you're asleep or not."

She was tied up anyway, so what?

Moreover, there was no one else on the road. Even if Shen Li made any noise, it would not attract any attention, and no one would come to save her.

As long as she could send Shen Li up the hill, she did not need to worry about anything else.

She heaved a sigh of relief and could not help but look at the rearview mirror.

However, when she looked up, she met Shen Li's mocking eyes.

Even though she could not speak, the mockery and sarcasm in her eyes were still extremely clear.

Yu Yu hated the way she looked at him. It was as if she had never looked upon her with any respect and was looking down on him!

A fire rose from the depths of his heart.

Yu Yu sneered.

“What are you looking at? Shen Li, if you have time to laugh at others, why don’t you think about yourself? Don’t worry, when we reach the place, there will be someone to serve you well.”

When she said this, the hatred in her heart burned, but when she thought of that scene, she felt a little happy.

“Lu Huaiyu hasn’t touched you yet, right? Do you think he’ll still want a soiled girlfriend after today?”

The car was silent.

Yu Yu had thought that Shen Li would panic after hearing this, but unexpectedly, Shen Li seemed to be completely indifferent.

She looked at Yu Yu indifferently, as if she was some kind of clown.

This gaze instantly provoked Yu Yu.

She was so angry that she laughed.

“Is it because you don’t believe me or is it because you’re not afraid? I guess you really won’t shed tears until you see your own coffin. Shen Li, you deserve what you’re getting today, do you understand?”

Shen Li turned her head away, as if she could not be bothered to listen to her.

People tended to become stupid when they were at their wits’ end and Yu Yu was the best example.

Shen Li leaned back in her seat and shifted slightly to a more comfortable position.

Yu Yu saw that she had not responded at all and that it was difficult and clumsy for her to even move. She did not say anything more, sneered, and focused on driving again.

Shen Li looked out of the window again.

Sleeping pills?

An ordinary person would quickly fall into a deep sleep after taking half a tablet.

Shi Yang probably thought that those two pills would be enough for her to sleep all the way.

It was a pity that he would never know what she had done in order to stay awake for a short while in the last few years of her past life in the sanatorium. During those nightmarish days, she had constantly been injected with tranquilizers and forced to take sleeping pills.

At that time, her body had developed a strong resistance to drugs, so the dosage had continued to be increased.

Of course, her current body was no longer the same as before, but she still had the memories of that time.

Resisting the drug had almost become her instinct.

She was awake... very, very awake.

The rain continued to fall on the car window, and the scenery outside could not be seen clearly. All she could see was a vague view of the dense forest.

This made it difficult to judge where the car was going.

However...

From the time Yu Yu had driven away from the villa to the time they had started ascending the hill, there was only one possibility.

Xi Hill.

Shi Yang had asked Yu Yu to drive her to Xi Hill.

A large number of camellia trees had been planted on Xi Hill, but at this time of the year, the camellia trees had not bloomed, so not many people came here.

Moreover, it was raining today, so there were even fewer people there.

It was a painstaking journey.

Shen Li closed her eyes and changed her position as if she was not comfortable.

This time, her hands that had been tied behind her back touched the cold doorknob.

She opened her eyes, and a cold glint flashed through them.

...

Shi Yang stood in front of the window and watched the car leave. He kept his gaze there until he could not see it anymore.

The sound of the rain pouring down was deafening.

The rain seemed to be heavier than expected.

That was pretty good.

He turned back to the living room and saw the empty teacup on the coffee table.

She was very vigilant. After entering, this was the only thing she had touched.

He took out a wet wipe and slowly wiped the edge of Shen Li's cup before using the remote control.

Then, he looked around.

This villa did not belong to him. He had not touched anything since he had arrived.

No, it was as if he had never been here.

It had to be said that this was indeed a good remote place, and the rain today was just right.

He folded the wet wipe, put it back into the bag, sealed it, and put it in his pocket.

Then, he went to the entrance and changed out of the disposable slippers. He also took out the leather shoes that he had put in the bag earlier.

Just as he was about to put on his shoes, his phone suddenly vibrated.

He took it out. It was his assistant, Song Miao.

He frowned slightly.

He had already told him not to contact him today if there was nothing important. This phone call...

He picked it up.

“Hello,” he said.

“Teacher Shi Yang!”

Song Miao’s panicked voice could be heard.

“The police just called me and asked me to go to the Public Security Bureau to cooperate with the investigation! I... Where are you now?”

Shi Yang’s face turned cold.

He ended the call.

Chapter 1198 Connected Hearts

What an idiot.

Shi Yang looked at his phone with an extremely cold expression on his face.

With this one call, all of his previous efforts were now in vain. He did not need to think to know that his current position had been pinpointed.

... At this time, he should have been at home in Fenghu Peninsula.

He raised his head and looked out the window again.

Looking at the time, he estimated that they must have already started up the hill.

It was a pity because he did not want to get involved in this.

However, it seemed like there was no other choice.

It seemed as if a long time had passed, but it also seemed like an instant. Shi Yang's eyes narrowed, and he returned to his usual gentle look.

However, there was a hint of bone-chilling coldness between his brows, as if a certain resolution had been made.

He changed his shoes, put his phone on the cabinet, and went out.

Soon, a silver-gray car drove away and disappeared into the rain.

...

The black sports car sped past, making splashes in the rain.

The man in the driver's seat had a cold expression on his face, and his eyes seemed to be covered with a layer of frost.

His phone rang. He glanced at it and quickly picked it up.

"Hello," he said.

"Lu Er, I've sent someone to confirm that Shi Yang is not in his home in Fenghu Peninsula. Also, his assistant, Song Miao, was summoned by the police not too long ago. Apparently, it was due to the matter of the fake painting."

Gu Tinglan frowned.

“I’m at the Public Security Bureau right now, and I’ve told them about Ah Li’s disappearance. Song Miao said that Shi Yang only told him to tell everyone that he was staying at home the whole day, but he didn’t know where he has actually gone. However, before he came to the bureau, he called Shi Yang, and it showed that Shi Yang was indeed in Jingye Villa.”

Lu Huaiyu looked at the villa in front of him and stepped on the brakes. The car immediately stopped, and the tires screeched as they scraped against the ground.

He unbuckled his seat belt and said in a deep voice, “I’ve already arrived.”

He quickly got out of the car.

With a bang, the car door closed.

When Gu Tinglan heard the voice from the other end, he was suddenly stunned.

Despite the heavy rain, the sound of the brakes and the door closing could still be clearly heard.

His heart skipped a beat.

“Lu Er, did you drive your own car?!”

Lu Huaiyu strode to the front of the villa.

The rain quickly wet his hair and shirt, making his eyes look even darker.

Hearing what Gu Tinglan said, he only replied with a faint “Hmm”.

The entire villa was quiet, and the door was tightly shut.

He took half a step back before suddenly raising his leg!

Bang!

The door to the villa was kicked open by him!

When Gu Tinglan heard this, he suddenly came back to her senses.

“Lu Er! You can’t—”

At this point, he suddenly stopped.

Can’t what?

Lu Huaiyu could not drive, yet he had already done so!

And in the current situation...

Lu Huaiyu entered the villa and quickly looked around.

It was clean and tidy, without the slightest sound.

Suddenly, his eyes focused on a cell phone that was placed on the cabinet.

He picked it up and glanced at it. It had already been turned off.

This seemed to belong to... Shi Yang?

He clenched his fists and continued to walk further in.

There were only two teacups on the coffee table in the living room.

One cup was half full, while the other was empty.

When he touched it, he found that it was completely cold, but no one was there.

Gu Tinglan felt as if something was clenching his heart as he listened to the sounds.

“Second Lu, what’s the situation like? Where’s Ah Li?”

Lu Huaiyu straightened his body and fixed his gaze on the fish tank not far away.

At the bottom, a familiar phone lay quietly.

His heart sank completely.

“She’s not here.”

“What!”

Lu Huaiyu did not say anything. He walked over and took the phone out.

The screen was cracked, and there was an obvious bump mark at the corner. That mark had to have been caused by a heavy fall to the ground.

Gu Tinglan's brows were tightly locked together. He said anxiously, "How could she not be there? Didn't you say that this was the location that she sent you? And Shi Yang, he's..."

"That was earlier."

Lu Huaiyu's voice was cold.

He was still a step too late.

Gu Tinglan's voice stopped abruptly. Then, a deeper sense of uneasiness and worry welled up from the bottom of his heart.

"Then, you mean to say..."

"Ah Li's car isn't here."

Lu Huaiyu closed his eyes.

Neither she nor Shi Yang was not here. Her phone had been thrown into the fish tank, and Shi Yang had put his phone on the cabinet at the entrance.

It was obvious that she had encountered some kind of threat and had been forced to lose contact with him.

As for Shi Yang, he must have realized something was wrong after receiving Song Miao's call, so he had left his phone there on purpose.

Lu Huaiyu's eyebrows twitched.

Shi Yang was so straightforward that he did not even mind his phone being discovered. It could only mean—

He had the intention to kill!

“Lu Er? Lu Er!”

Gu Tinglan’s nervousness increased when he did not hear any movement from the other end for a long time.

Lu Huaiyu lowered his head slightly, his eyelashes trembling.

His heart was beating uncontrollably, and his ears were ringing.

Where was she?

Where would Shi Yang take her?

...

Xijing University.

In the conference room of the administration building.

A group of school leaders was having a meeting.

Shen Zhijin sat there as he studied the meeting materials in his hands.

However, for some reason, he could not fully focus on them even after trying several times.

There seemed to be an inexplicable restlessness in his heart, making him unable to calm down.

He looked outside. The wind was very strong as the rain continually hit against the glass.

“Zhijin? Zhijin?”

Zhang Yao, who was sitting beside him, called him twice in a loud whispered until he came back to his senses.

“What’s wrong?”

Zhang Yao frowned slightly.

Zhijin, you seem a little out of it. Are you feeling unwell? ”

Shen Zhijin rarely became distracted on such occasions. However, he did not seem to be in a good state today.

Shen Zhijin paused and shook his head.

He took out his phone and sent Shen Li a message.

[Ah Li, is there anything else you want to eat besides the crispy peach pie? I’ll buy them at the same time.]

After sending this message, he waited for a while, but Shen Li did not reply.

He frowned slightly.

Just then, a phone call came in.

It was from Xu Yin.

Shen Zhijin raised his head and interrupted the meeting.

“I’m sorry, I need to go out to take a call.”

Everyone looked over in surprise.

Shen Zhijin rarely answered the phone during meetings. This was...

However, with his status, no one would dare stop him.

Shen Zhijin walked out of the meeting room and went to the corridor. He answered the call.

“Elder Xu,”

“Zhijin, Ah Li said she would come to the laboratory this afternoon. I was wondering why isn’t she here yet? I’ve called her, but she hasn’t been answering,” Xu Yin asked curiously.

Shen Zhijin felt his heart stop for a moment.

“What?”

“You don’t know either? I was wondering if the girl had something on at the last minute and couldn’t come. But if that were the case, she would have told me...” muttered Xu Yin.

Shen Zhijin’s body turned cold and the growing uneasiness almost swallowed him whole.

It was at that moment that another call came in.

It was Lu Huaiyu.

Chapter 1199 Betting on Life and Death

Shen Zhijin held his breath and said, "Elder Xu, I need to take this call first. I'll call you back later."

Xu Yin did not know what was going on, but hearing Shen Zhijin's tone of voice, he realized that something was wrong. He immediately said, "Alright."

Shen Zhijin answered Lu Huaiyu's call.

"Teacher Shen," Lu Huaiyu's voice was heavy as he spoke, "We've lost contact with Ah Li."

Shen Zhijin's entire body instantly tensed up. His throat was dry, and he said with difficulty, "When did that happen?"

"About half an hour ago, she sent me the location of Jingye Villa. Not long ago, Shi Yang's assistant called him and said that he was there too." Lu Huaiyu glanced at his watch. "I'm in the villa right now, but Ah Li and Shi Yang are not here."

"Shi Yang?"

Shen Zhijin slowly repeated the name.

"Yes."

Lu Huaiyu paused for a moment, and his voice lowered slightly.

"The investigation shows that he has some involvement in the fire in Lincheng."

Shen Zhijin felt as if his heart was being twisted by something. The piercing pain spread through his body almost instantly until even his fingertips were trembling.

Every image and sound around him faded away at this moment, leaving only a blank space of despair.

He opened his mouth, but he could not say a word.

When Lu Huaiyu heard the dead silence, he stayed silent for a moment.

Gu Tinglan had been investigating this matter, but he had never mentioned it to Shen Zhijin.

He had hoped to tell him everything after the truth came to light, but he had not expected Shi Yang would make a move before that day came.

In the meeting room, the meeting was left in a state of suspension due to Shen Zhijin's departure.

However, after waiting for a while, Shen Zhijin still had not returned.

Everyone could not help but look at each other, and the atmosphere was a little restless.

Zhang Yao looked around and stood up.

"I'll go out and check on Zhijin."

With that, he walked out of the meeting room.

The entire corridor was quiet. He looked around and soon saw Shen Zhijin standing at the end of the corridor.

He stood there as if he was on the phone.

“I know...”

Zhang Yao was just about to call him when a gust of wind blew in. The small window in the corridor was blown open!

The rain fell from the window and hit Shen Zhijin’s shoulders.

His shoulders were soon soaked and turned a darker color.

However, he did not react at all. He continued to stand there with his back straight, like a statue that had been isolated for a long time.

His head was slightly lowered, and the wind ruffled his hair, vaguely covering his handsome and thin eyebrows.

All that was left was a body that seemed cold, lonely, and desolate.

Zhang Yao’s remaining words suddenly stuck in his throat.

After that, he heard Shen Zhijin ask, “Where is she now?”

His voice sounded calm and restrained, but the hands hanging by his sides were already clenched so tightly that his blue veins had popped out.

Lu Huaiyu said, “All roads within a 20-kilometer radius of the Capital District Hospital have been blocked. All personnel and vehicles are being strictly checked. Also, they checked the surveillance for nearly two hours. Ah Li’s car doesn’t seem to have left this area.”

After Lu Huaiyu received Gu Tinglan’s call, he had immediately contacted the Public Security Bureau in the Capital and asked them to start investigating Jingye Villa.

In other words, although she was not in the villa, she should not be far away.

Shen Zhijin closed his eyes.

“Xi Hill.”

“Xi Hill?” Lu Huaiyu’s brows furrowed.

Of course, Shen Zhijin remembered the name, Shi Yang.

Other people might not have known it, but he knew very well that Shi Yang used to like Yin Yin.

Even though they had not had much contact, and even though Yin Yin had not even cared about him.

However, when they were young, the feelings of admiration could not be hidden.

But, there were so many people who liked her back then... Who could have pried into the darkest corners of a person’s heart? Who would have thought that someone would destroy everything so cruelly for their own selfish desires?

“There are a lot of camellias planted on Xi Hill,” Shen Zhijin enunciated every word as if his body had been run over by something, almost breaking his bones, “Yin Yin used to like that place a lot.”

Zhang Yao stood there and waited for a while.

He could vaguely hear Shen Zhijin saying something, but the wind and rain outside were too loud, so he could not hear what was being said clearly.

Finally, Shen Zhijin ended the call.

He turned around and walked over.

Zhang Yao finally saw Shen Zhijin's face clearly. Just as he was about to speak, he noticed Shen Zhijin's expression and was shocked.

It had been many, many years since he had seen such an expression on Shen Zhijin's face.

He did not know how to describe it, but at this moment, he inexplicably remembered that 19 years ago, after the accident, Shen Zhijin had returned to the Capital from Lincheng looking the same way.

However, it was not exactly the same.

In the dead silence, there still seemed to be a flame burning silently.

Shen Zhijin raised his eyes and looked over at him. His voice seemed to be colder than the wind and rain at the end of October.

"I'm sorry, I can't continue to participate in this meeting."

...

Lu Huaiyu walked out of the villa and returned to the car to make another call.

Zhao Hengshan, the director of the capital's Public Security Bureau, answered the phone.

"Huaiyu."

Zhao Hengshan was Old Master Lu's old subordinate. When he received Lu Huaiyu's call today, he immediately felt bad.

Shen Li's identity was too special. If anything happened to her, the Lu family and the Gu family would never let the matter go.

Moreover, it was suspected that Shi Yang had also murdered someone else. Thus, he was a key target.

They could not afford to make any mistakes.

"Teacher Shen said that Shi Yang might have headed to Xi Hill. I'll go there now." Lu Huaiyu spoke quickly and buckled his seat belt at the same time.

"Xi Hill?" Zhao Hengshan's expression was solemn as he replied, "Alright, I understand. We will focus the search on Xi Hill. Also, there is one more thing. Apart from Shi Yang and Shen Li, it is believed that Yu Yu should be with them. She came to the Capital from Haicheng the night before. We've already notified the Haicheng police to cooperate with us in arranging for Yu Jing's arrest."

"Yu Yu?"

The look in Lu Huaiyu's phoenix-like eyes was deep as something flashed through his mind.

He started the car.

"I understand. I'll head over there first."

"Lu Er!"

Gu Tinglan was right beside Zhao Hengshan. When he heard this, he finally could not help but call out to him.

Xi Hill!

Lu Huaiyu had driven all the way to Jingye Villa. It was already late... How could he drive up the mountain road now?

However, if Shi Yang had really taken Ah Li to Xi Hill, what would happen?

Of course, Lu Huaiyu understood what Gu Tinglan was worried about.

However—

He looked straight ahead.

“Ah Li is waiting for me.”

As soon as he finished speaking, a loud boom was heard!

The car turned around, and even the curtain of rain was torn apart. Then, the black car sped away at an amazing speed!

...

The rain seemed to have no intention of stopping.

The road was becoming more and more slippery. The branches and leaves on both sides swayed slightly from the rain, but were quickly left behind.

Yu Yu was becoming more distracted as she drove.

She slowed down at another turn and turned the steering wheel.

However, at that moment—

Shen Li, who was in the back seat, turned the door handle!

The car door opened!

Exerting force with her legs, she quickly flipped herself out of the car!

Chapter 1200 Death Zone

The powerful inertia pushed Shen Li away and she fell to the ground!

Yu Yu, who was driving, noticed the commotion and immediately turned around!

When she saw that Shen Li had chosen to jump out of the car, her heart skipped a beat!

Shen Li had to be crazy!

Did she not want to live?

It had been raining for a long time on the mountain, and the asphalt road was extremely slippery. Shen Li rolled on the ground, scratching several places on her body.

Her left knee and left elbow were grazed. Bright red blood seeped out, among the splashes of muddy water all over her.

Fortunately, she had chosen to jump out of the car when Yu Yu was making a turn. Firstly, she had already chosen the direction she wanted to jump from the moment the car turned, thus minimizing the collision. Secondly, Yu Yu had slowed down the car, which gave her some buffer.

Therefore, she had only suffered some superficial injuries and was not in any serious condition.

However, her actions had really given Yu Yu a big scare.

After she came back to his senses, Yu Yu was shocked and angry.

She stomped on the brakes, intending on stopping the car and bringing Shen Li back to the car.

However, at the very next moment, she was shocked to find that the car was not slowing down at all!

This curve was a small part of the slope, and although Yu Yu stepped on the brakes several times, it was still useless!

The brakes were not working!

When she realized this, Yu Yu panicked.

She had never encountered such a situation before, especially since this was a hilly road and the rain was pouring down.

In this place, the consequences would be unimaginable if one was not careful!

She gripped the steering wheel tightly and frantically slammed on the brakes.

However, following the slope of the road, the car did not slow down at all. Instead, it sped up!

No!

No!

She had to stop the car!

It was clearly a cold rainy day, but Yu Yu's body was covered in cold sweat.

In her panic, she glanced at the rearview mirror and saw that Shen Li had already stood up.

She suddenly tilted her head to the right.

Yu Yu was stunned at first before she suddenly realized something.

In a moment of desperation, she was unable to care about anything else. She gritted her teeth and turned the steering wheel to the right!

The front of the car swerved and hit a tree that was at the side!

Bang—!

There was a huge impact, and Yu Yu's body was instantly thrown forward by the inertia!

There was another muffled sound!

For a moment, Yu Yu's mind went blank, and his body was numb.

But very quickly, that intense pain came from her own body!

She leaned on the steering wheel, in so much pain that she could not move. There seemed to be some warm, sticky liquid slowly flowing out of her forehead, and she could smell the thick bloody smell in the damp air.

It was her blood!

There was a buzzing sound in her ears, and it blurred the sound of the outside world.

After a long while, she finally managed to regain her consciousness and slowly opened her eyes.

Shen Li was standing outside the car window, looking at her quietly.

Seeing that she had opened her eyes, Shen Li lifted her chin.

Yu Yu understood her meaning almost instantly. She wanted her to tear off the tape that was on her mouth!

If it had been before this, Yu Yu would definitely not have agreed. However, she had just walked on the edge of life and death, and her mind was still in a daze.

She started to hesitate.

On one hand, if it was not for Shen Li's reminder, she would have accelerated down to the rock wall by now. Then, it would not be known whether she would still be alive or dead.

However, on the other hand, she had a deep grudge against Shen Li. If she helped Shen Li now, who knew how Shen Li would treat her then?

One had to know that between the two of them, her injuries were obviously more serious than Shen Li's!

As she thought about this, she withdrew her gaze and reluctantly took her phone out of the pocket of her coat.

She had to make a call and get someone to save her!

Seeing her actions, Shen Li's eyes flashed with a cold sneer.

Yu Yu turned on her phone. Her face and hands were covered in blood, and the faint light from the phone screen reflected on her face, making her look extremely pale. There were also traces of blood on her face, making her look like a malicious spirit, which was extremely terrifying.

In the next moment, her eyes suddenly widened, and a deep look of disbelief flashed across her face.

She could not receive any signal... on her cell phone!

No!

It was because the SIM card in the phone was gone!

She looked at it again and again, almost unable to believe her eyes.

How had this happened?

This was her phone, how could it have been...

All of a sudden, her heart sank. Before they had left, Shi Yang had taken her phone and said that he'd save his number in it, so that she could contact him at any time.

She had not bothered much about it at that time as she had been busy sealing Shen Li's mouth with tape.

So he had secretly taken her SIM card at that time?

She suddenly realized something and turned to Shen Li.

“You... already knew?!”

Shen Li merely looked at her without any emotion in her eyes.

But Yu Yu knew that this was a silent agreement.

She had been double-crossed by Shi Yang!

After much thought, she finally made up her mind, barely managing to support her body.

The right side of the car had been dented badly, but fortunately, the left side was not affected much. At the very least, the door could still be opened.

With great effort, she unbuckled her seat belt and pushed the door open to get out of the car.

Even such a simple action was extremely difficult and painful for her.

His ribs were probably broken, and it was likely that she had other injuries.

She stared at Shen Li and firmly said, “I helped you, so you... you have to help me later...”

The look in Shen Li’s eyes was indifferent, and the meaning could not have been more obvious: At the moment, she had no right to bargain with her.

Yu Yu gritted her teeth.

The rain continued to fall, and Shen Li was completely drenched. Her clothes were torn in several places, and blood could vaguely be seen from her wounds.

Her hands were tied behind her back, and her mouth was still taped up.

She was clearly in a very sorry state, but for some reason, the arrogance that was contained in her bones still showed as she continued to stand there.

Yu Yu finally pulled the tape off her mouth.

Shen Li turned around.

Yu Yu looked at the rope around her wrists, but she did not move.

She was no match for Shen Li now.

“You don’t really think that there’s someone waiting on the mountain, do you?”

Shen Li suddenly said.

“What do you mean?!” Yu Yu was shocked.

Shen Li tilted her head slightly and looked at her, with a look in her eyes that was light and indifferent.

“Shi Yang told you that if you took me to the hill area, someone would take care of me and ‘entertain’ me well. That all you had to do was just one thing. That whatever happened to me after that was none of your business. That you could have your revenge and still get yourself out of this, right?”

Yu Yu’s legs went soft, and she took half a step back.

“I... I didn’t... you!”

“Your SIM card was removed, the brakes failed, and there’s only you and me in the car. The hillside road here is very steep, and it just so happened to be raining today. If something happened to us and we died here, people would wonder if it was you or Shi Yang who wanted to kill me.”

Yu Yu’s face turned pale.

“As long as you can testify that Shi Yang admitted to killing my mother and tried to kill me through you, I can take you down the mountain.”

Shen Li handed her wrists over again and said in a cold tone, “Untie it.”

Yu Yu pursed her lips tightly.

Although she hated Shen Li, Shi Yang wanted to kill her even more!

She gritted her teeth and reached out her hand.

Just then, a piercing car light suddenly swept over them!