

Little Brat's 871

Chapter 871: Confrontation at the Dining Table

An hour later, the four of them were sitting at the dining table.

Shen Li and Shen Zhijin sat on one side, while Lu Huaiyu and Gu Tinglan sat opposite them.

There were six dishes and a soup on the table. It was a very sumptuous spread.

However, the atmosphere seemed a little delicate.

Shen Li really had not expected that the first dinner she had here would be like this.

Gu Tinglan had informed her before coming to Bai City, and Shen Zhijin obviously had not known about it either.

In the end, he had just come to visit her.

Of course, he had the right to do so.

However, Lu Huaiyu had come along with him...

Shen Li remembered that when she had left the hotel that afternoon, this man had told her to miss him. However, after only a few hours, they were meeting again.

And it was at her home in Bai City.

Shen Li felt that she had been concerned for nothing.

How could she really have thought that this man would just sit there and wait for his death?

Shen Li picked up a small bone china bowl and prepared to fill it with soup. However, just as she raised her hand, the three men sitting at the table extended their hands at the same time to take her bowl.

Everyone froze.

The three men looked at each other for a moment, and the air seemed to freeze.

After a moment, Lu Huaiyu was the first to tactfully withdraw.

Then, it was Gu Tinglan.

Shen Zhijin took Shen Li's small bowl and filled it with soup for her.

Amidst this suffocating atmosphere, Shen Li received the bowl and softly said, "Thank you, Dad."

Gu Tinglan did not mind the situation much and said, "Ah Li seems to like pumpkin soup very much."

Shen Li nodded.

The corner of Lu Huaiyu's lips curled up into a faint smile as he said sincerely, "Teacher Shen's pumpkin soup is the best. It's no wonder Ah Li likes it."

Gu Tinglan was stunned into silence.

'Useless man!

'In order to curry favor with your father-in-law, you sold your friend out just like that!'

This compliment had been so natural and smooth. How would it reflect on him instead?

He turned his head to look at Lu Huaiyu and smiled as if he was bathed in the spring breeze.

“Lu Er, your bowl is still empty. How is it that you can taste that it is the best just like that?”

Lu Huaiyu’s smile did not change. Instead, he nodded his head calmly and elegantly.

“I was lucky enough to eat it once in Tianye City.”

Gu Tinglan was speechless.

It had been a miscalculation.

It was obvious that this man had planned to come here all along!

Shen Li did not want to get involved in this matter, so she kept her head down as she drank the soup.

However, when she heard this, she finally could not restrain herself anymore. She raised her leg and kicked Lu Huaiyu under the table.

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows slightly and his gaze fell on her face with a faint smile on his face.

Was that not a little heartless? Could she not see who he was doing all this for?

Shen Zhijin gave Lu Huaiyu an indifferent look and asked, “How is Old Master Lu’s health recently?”

Lu Huaiyu said, “Grandfather’s health is very good. Thank you for your concern, Teacher Shen.”

Shen Zhijin nodded.

Gu Tinglan immediately changed the topic.

“Ah Li, have you gone to visit any places during the past few days in Bai City?”

Shen Li shook her head.

“Not yet.”

Gu Tinglan was a little surprised.

“Lu Er is very familiar with this place. Even after being here for a few days, he hasn’t taken you out for a walk?”

As soon as he finished speaking, Shen Li felt the atmosphere at the dining table grow cold again.

Lu Huaiyu turned to look at Gu Tinglan with narrowed eyes.

Gu Tinglan had a faint smile on his face. He was still looking at Shen Li as if he did not feel anything at all.

Shen Li coughed lightly.

“I’ve been busy with the showcase. Then, in the past two days, I met with First Aunt and watched a few shows, so I didn’t have much time left.”

Gu Tinglan immediately understood.

“So...”

Shen Zhijin picked up some food to serve to Shen Li.

“This is your first time in Bai City. There’s no need to rush too much with these things. Just relax as you take a look around.”

Shen Li obediently replied.

“I was just waiting for you to come over.”

Shen Zhijin’s brows relaxed, and a hint of a smile appeared on his face.

“Mm. You could go to Bai City Cathedral and the Sulu River to take a look. In addition, you could also go to the Fino Laboratory’s headquarters, if you want.”

These were indeed part of Shen Li’s plans.

She glanced at Lu Huaiyu.

He had also spent a year there before.

She nodded.

“Okay.”

...

The meal ended on a strange note.

After the meal, Gu Tinglan and Lu Huaiyu left together.

Shen Li returned to her room and sat down at her desk.

It was already late. Looking out of the window, she could see the camellia trees and the swing in the courtyard.

The breeze carried a faint fragrance into the room.

Shen Li rested her chin on one hand and watched the scene outside quietly for a long time.

She rarely had a chance to just stare blankly like this. However, at this moment, in this place, she felt as if her entire body had relaxed.

She just wanted to stay like this, without having to say or do anything. It was enough to make her feel at ease and satisfied.

She stayed lost in her thoughts until Shen Zhijin knocked on the door and reminded her to go to bed early.

It was clearly her first time here and the environment here was very unfamiliar to her, but Shen Li slept very well that night.

...

The next morning, when Shen Li woke up, she still felt a little tired. She touched the cell phone that had been placed on the bedside, wanting to check the time.

7:32 am.

She was just about to lie down again when she suddenly realized something and looked at the phone again.

There were a few push notifications on it.

[Safe! According to Bai City Media, Pan Jiajia has finally woken up after two days in a coma! The reason for her suicide has finally been exposed!]

[Pan Jiajia has confessed that the reason for her suicide was that she had a conflict with her boyfriend and reacted on impulse!]

[Exposed: Model Pan Jiajia actually acted on impulse after the violence committed upon her by her boyfriend!]

Shen Li gradually became more alert.

She sat up and stared at the headlines. After reading them twice, she slowly narrowed her eyes.

After a moment, she laughed lightly.

As expected of a person who had ended up being in charge of the entire Yu family, Yu Yu was quite capable.

She had even been able to think of this kind of response to deal with such a situation.

She randomly clicked on one of them—

Chapter 872: Video: Counter-Attack!

[All Star Entertainment: Pan Jiajia has reportedly woken up today and admitted that the wounds on her body had been caused by her boyfriend on the day before the press conference!]

The following was a screenshot of an interview with Pan Jiajia by Bai City Daily.

In order to find out the truth as soon as possible and give an explanation to the public after Pan Jiajia had woken up, YU had chosen Bai City Daily from the many media outlets and allowed them to conduct an exclusive interview with Pan Jiajia.

Bai City Daily was quite reputable, so when this interview was published, most people chose to believe it.

The comments below had already exploded.

[Heavens! Was she actually beaten up like that? The young miss is so pitiful!]

[When I saw the news picture that day, I was shocked... What a domestic abuser!]

[She was supposed to be part of the showcase the next day, but in the end, it was all ruined by this sc*mbag of a man! It's truly not worth it to commit suicide for such a man!]

[So, this matter really had nothing to do with YU? What about those who put pressure on YU to apologize? Now that the truth has been revealed, don't you feel ashamed?]

[See, it's best not to speak before you know the truth, so just let the bullets fly for a while!]

[Domestic abuse? Are you sure that this news is true? If she was really abused, why didn't she report it to the police? Besides, isn't it strange that YU had always said that they did not know anything about this situation? How could they not know that their model was injured to this extent?]

[Domestic abuse is very scary! She must have been very scared when she was beaten up like that! As for reporting it to the police, there were so many cases of domestic abuse every day every year, yet so many people don't report it to the police! Besides, this was not a glorious matter. Should she have spread the news that she had been abused? It was very normal for YU to not know about it. Many people are abused yet even their own family members don't know about it.]

[I'm also of the opinion that YU was just the victim of an unexpected disaster. When the model faced the problem, their show had forcibly been interrupted. In the past few days, there have been all kinds of criticisms. I heard that several companies have already terminated their cooperation with them. It's truly tragic.

...

Most of the comments expressed the same thing: They opposed domestic abuse and sympathized with Pan Jiajia.

There were also quite a number of people who mentioned YU. Basically, they were saying that YU had been wronged this time.

It was very obvious that among these, there were some Internet trolls mixed in to help YU clean up the mess.

Of course, there were also some people who raised doubts.

[... If it really was domestic abuse, then there's still hope. Just go back to China and report it to the police. But if it's something else that's hidden... That would be too scary!]

However, such comments were quickly dismissed. The top few comments were all in support of YU.

Naturally, the onlookers who did not know the truth also thought the same.

Shen Li clicked on a few other links to look at the other news. The situation in the comments section was basically the same.

Yu Yu had obviously put in a lot of effort this time in her determination to turn the tables.

She would never allow herself to be dragged down by such a thing.

There were some people who wanted Pan Jiajia's boyfriend to be revealed, but because it was said that he was someone who was not in the industry and would not be easy to be found.

Hence, the focus of public opinion was still on domestic abuse.

Of course, YU had also taken the opportunity to clear its name.

Most people believed it.

After all, it was Pan Jiajia who had said it herself. After all, the exclusive interview had been conducted by the Bai City Daily.

Shen Li casually read the news for a while and saw that more and more people were speaking up for YU.

She put her phone aside, thought for a moment, then turned on her computer.

Even if they insisted on investigating Pan Jiajia's so-called "boyfriend who was out of the industry," they would still definitely not be able to find Yu Cheng.

Moreover, as time went by, the heat of this matter would soon pass.

In the end, how many people would still be following this matter then?

It was just a matter of getting to the bottom of it.

Yu Yu clearly understood this point.

Shen Li's finger lightly tapped on the computer's touchpad a few times.

Actually, it was safe to say that this matter was complicated.

The public wanted the truth, so YU had forced Pan Jiajia to come out and say those words. Surely, the words of the person involved had to be true.

For Yu Yu, or rather, the Yu family, to make someone say something they did not mean was the easiest thing to do.

This was the answer that was given to everyone as an explanation to calm down the public opinion.

After some time had passed, the heat of this matter would eventually subside. Most people might not even remember who Pan Jiajia was by then, so why would they suspect anything else?

As the founder of YU, Yu Yu had received a lot of criticism.

Now, many people on the Internet had started to apologize to her.

As for Yu Cheng...

This person, this name, had never appeared from the beginning to the end.

He was like an invisible person who was completely detached from this matter.

Shen Li tilted her hand and looked at the computer coldly.

The screen flashed.

After a while, she stopped moving and the corner of her lips curled into an extremely gentle smile.

It was as if the culprit had left his traces and disappeared after.

After doing so many “good things”, he still wanted to live a carefree life. How could such a good thing exist?

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“President Yu, the direction of public opinion has basically changed.”

As the assistant spoke, he looked carefully at Yu Yu who was sitting in front of him.

Yu Yu was leaning against the sofa and resting with her eyes closed.

She had just finished the interview with Pan Jiajia at the hospital and had continued to be busy for some time before she finally had time to relax.

Fortunately, her work had not been in vain.

The assistant continued, “Don’t worry, Eldest Young Master was not involved in this matter.”

Yu Yu opened her eyes.

“Okay.”

Her heart finally settled down,

“Then—”

Before she could finish her sentence, her phone suddenly rang. It was her other assistant.

She picked it up.

“Hello?”

The voice on the other end of the phone was filled with shock and panic:

“President Yu! This is not good! The video of Pan Jiajia going to Yu Cheng’s room that night has been exposed!”

Chapter 873: Half a Face

Yu Yu’s expression changed and she stood up abruptly.

“What did you say?!”

“It’s already trending! You need to go and take a look!”

Yu Yu immediately shouted at her assistant who was beside her.

“Give me your phone!”

The assistant was very close to her so he could hear what had been said on the phone clearly. His face also turned pale and he handed her phone over stiffly.

Yu Yu immediately clicked on Weibo’s trending search.

Pan Jiajia Video # had already reached fourth place on the list.

Yu Yu held her breath and clicked on the link.

On the topic square, the top Weibo post was the relevant video.

It was an entertainment marketing account with tens of millions of fans.

[Gossip KK: Suspected video of Pan Jiajia's suicide was exposed the night before!]

The attached video began to play automatically.

Obviously, this was a surveillance video placed in a corridor.

At the start of the video, the time stamp showed that it was 11:27 p.m. The carpet covering the floor of the corridor was thick and gorgeous, and the place was dimly lit and quiet.

After 5 seconds, a tall figure appeared in the camera frame.

She was wearing a blue and white striped shirt and denim shorts which showed off her beautiful figure.

Her straight and slender long legs were particularly eye-catching.

She was wearing a hat and her head was slightly lowered, so only a small part of her face could be seen.

Then, when she came to a room, she paced back and forth for a while as if she was hesitating over something.

After about half a minute, she turned around as if she wanted to leave. Suddenly, a text message alert could be heard.

She took her phone out and looked at it.

Of course, the contents on her phone could not be seen on the camera. However, after looking at the phone, she turned around and walked back to the room. Finally, she knocked on the door.

The door quickly opened and a man's hand reached out to pull her into the room.

The door closed.

The video was then fast-forwarded.

The time stamp soon showed the time as 6:13 a.m., the next morning.

The door was opened, and Pan Jiajia walked out.

Unlike before, this time she was wearing a hotel bathrobe, which covered almost her whole body completely.

Moreover, the way she was walking looked a little strange.

However, she walked very fast, as if something terrible was chasing her from behind.

Even through the screen, it was not difficult to feel her panic and embarrassment.

Then, there was another fast-forward. At the 8:21 mark, the door was opened again, and a man wearing a black short-sleeved shirt and black trousers walked out.

The visual of the man wearing a hat that showed half of his face flashed across the camera.

The video ended abruptly. The last scene had frozen as he faced the camera with half of his face showing!

The entire video had only lasted for 4 minutes and 23 seconds. However, to Yu Yu, every second during this period of time was extremely difficult to endure.

By the time the video had ended, her face had already turned from red to white. The hand that she was using to clutch her phone was trembling slightly.

The comments section had already exploded.

[This figure is definitely Pan Jiajia! She wore this shirt when she was photographed at the airport in Bai City!]

[Oh my god! Is this man in the video Pan Jiajia's boyfriend from outside the industry? You should die, Domestic Abuse Man!]

[It was definitely him who did it! Before Pan Jiajia entered the room, her legs and arms had still been fine. However, after she came out, she had come out wrapped tightly in a bathrobe so there had to have been something wrong! Also, look at the time! She had left at around six in the morning. YU's showcase had been held that afternoon.]

[Had the young miss been threatened? I saw that she hesitated at the door for a long time before she entered. She was about to leave, but after looking at her phone, she went back.]

[I think so too!]

[Within a minute, I want to know who this sc*mbag is! The young miss almost died at his hands! We can't let him get away with it!]

The crowd was furious.

Everyone's attention was focused on the man in the video.

Yu Yu's mind went blank for a long time.

Her assistant stood at the side and saw everything.

When he saw that half of Yu Cheng's face appeared in the video, her heart almost jumped out!

In a trembling voice, he said, "... President... President Yu... What... What do we do now?"

Old Master Yu loved Yu Cheng the most. So many of them had been working day and night for the past few days just to ensure that Yu Cheng was connected to this matter.

Who could have known that this video of the hotel would be exposed?

If Old Master Yu knew about this, who knew how he would react?

Yu Yu was jolted awake by this sound and was immediately filled with anger and resentment.

What should she do?

What else could she do?!

She suddenly looked at her assistant.

"I asked you to handle the surveillance videos, and this is how you handled it for me?!"

The assistant immediately panicked.

"President Yu! I already confirmed that the surveillance cameras at that time had indeed been destroyed! The police in Bai City didn't manage to find anything—"

Yu Yu threw her phone at him!

Bang! Bang!

The assistant subconsciously dodged and the phone hit his left shoulder. Then, it fell heavily to the ground and the screen cracked.

“Then, what is this video all about?!”

Yu Yu rarely lost her temper. Now that she had started smashing her phone, it was clear that she was extremely angry!

The assistant’s shoulder hurt terribly, but he did not dare to say anything. He hurriedly explained, “President... President Yu... I really don’t know what’s going on...”

Yu Yu closed her eyes.

What was the use of being angry now?

The video had already been exposed, so many people had seen it!

Yu Cheng was not from their industry, and only half of his face had been exposed. That was why no one had realized his identity up until now.

However, Yu Cheng was a well-known hedonist in Haicheng, and there were many people who knew him. After some time, he would definitely be recognized!

Yu Yu stood in the same spot for a while, trying to calm herself down. However, she quickly realized that there was nothing she could do.

This matter was just too difficult to handle!

Another call came in from her phone. It was from Yu Cheng.

It was also at this moment that she realized that she had actually forgotten to hang up the phone just now.

She tidied herself up slightly and began to instruct the assistant on the other end of the phone to resolve this matter.

“No matter what method is used, get them to delete the video immediately! Remove the hot searches as well! Also, get the Internet trolls to take control of the situation. Do not allow Yu Cheng to be exposed!”

After hanging up the phone, she looked at the assistant standing beside her.

“Go and find someone to investigate where this video came from. Find the person as quickly as possible!”

The assistant quickly agreed and turned to leave.

Yu Yu was the only one left in the room.

She calmed herself down and looked at her phone again.

She had not picked up Yu Chengtou’s first call and now there was a second one.

Yu Yu stared at the name on the screen for a while before picking up.

Before she could speak, Yu Cheng’s cold voice could be heard first.

“What’s going on with that video on the Internet?!”

He had been asleep, but people had kept calling him. After he had picked up the call, he had heard about it from his friend.

“Half of my face was shown!”

Chapter 874: Girl’s Prayer

Ordinary people might not be able to recognize him, but those who were familiar with him could tell at a glance that it was him!

Otherwise, his friend would not have called him directly.

Moreover, according to the current development trend, the number of people who knew about this matter would only increase!

Originally, Yu Cheng had not taken this matter seriously, but when he saw that half of his face had appeared in that video, he realized that things were not looking good for him now.

After taking just a few casual glances, he had seen that many people had taken screenshots and were insulting him in various ways. Some people were even trying to use various methods to search for him.

If this continued, his identity would definitely be exposed!

“Didn’t you say that everything had been taken care of?”

Yu Cheng spoke in a tone that was accusatory.

Yu Yu was already frustrated, but when she heard him talking so arrogantly as he pushed all the blame onto her, she laughed coldly in her heart.

If he had not gone overboard, would this have even happened?

The showcase that she had meticulously prepared had been interrupted. Yu Yu's reputation and interests had been damaged. She had been chased and criticized for the past few days, and she had to deal with the various media outlets. Everything had just been to clean up his mess!

Yet, in the end, he still had the nerve to say such things?

For a moment, Yu Yu felt the urge to hang up the phone.

However, in the end, she did not do so. Instead, she waited for Yu Cheng to finish speaking before she spoke apologetically.

"Brother, I'm sorry. My people made a mistake in this matter. I've already asked them to handle it. I hope that this matter can be suppressed as soon as possible."

Yu Cheng was unconvinced.

"Suppress? The video has already been released. How are we going to suppress it?!"

In her heart, Yu Yu cursed at the idiot, but she kept the tone of her voice sounding patient and careful.

"In that video, only half of your face was revealed. As long as we refuse to admit it, they can't point the finger at you. I will also continue to remind Pan Jiajia."

After all, Yu Cheng was not a public figure and his looks were rather ordinary.

With only half of his face in the surveillance video, it was indeed difficult to confirm that it was him.

Moreover, the Yu family was behind him.

There had to be a way.

Hearing what she said, Yu Cheng's anger subsided slightly.

"Then hurry up about it! Otherwise, if it gets out of hand, it won't be good for anyone!"

"I know, Brother, don't worry."

Yu Cheng hung up the phone.

Yu Yu's expression immediately turned cold.

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Shen Li looked at her phone. At the end of the video, she paused it when half of Yu Cheng's face was shown at the last second.

She looked at it for a few seconds and nodded in satisfaction.

Well, this frame had been chosen well.

She put down her phone and got up to wash up.

After breakfast, Shen Li and Shen Zhijin went out together.

Their plan for today would be very relaxed and free.

Shen Zhijin drove her to a few of the more famous scenic spots in Bai City.

The first one was Bai City Cathedral.

Probably due to fashion week, not many people had come to visit today.

The architectural style of the church was a combination of the Baroque and Renaissance styles. The huge round dome was very unique. On the wall, there were gorgeous and exquisite reliefs. The interior was mainly platinum in color and was extremely luxurious.

In front of the church, there was a wishing fountain.

The clear water column rose and fell. Under the sunlight, it looked particularly clear.

As the water splashed and there was a small rainbow that looked extremely beautiful.

Looking at it quietly, Shen Zhijin suddenly asked, "Tangtang, do you want to make a wish?"

Shen Li was stunned and looked at him in surprise.

"Make a wish?"

Shen Zhijin was an absolute realist. How could he believe these things?

"Mm."

As Shen Zhijin spoke, he actually took out a coin from his pocket and handed it to her.

A faint smile appeared on his handsome and elegant face.

"In the past, your mother liked to come here to make wishes. Many of these coins were thrown by her."

Shen Li felt a slight tugging at her heart.

She took the coin from Shen Zhijin's hand.

"Dad, do you want to make one?"

Shen Zhijin looked at her and shook his head gently.

"I've already gotten more than what I've ever wished for before."

That was enough for him.

Shen Li pursed her lips and nodded. She held the coin in her palm.

After a moment, the corners of her lips curled up.

"Dad, you might not believe me, but I actually have the same thought as you."

She turned around and faced the fountain. Her gaze focused on the short rainbow for a moment.

She said softly, "What I've gotten is something I never thought of even when I made a wish."

She pressed her palms together and closed her eyes gently.

Shen Zhijin tilted his head to look at her, his gaze much gentler.

The next moment, she opened her eyes and tossed the coin in her hand.

The coin traced a perfect arc in the air, the light reflecting off it brilliantly.

Wow!

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Shen Zhijin had lived in Bai City for many years, so he was very familiar with everything here.

There were also many memories that he and Gu Tingyin had shared.

Shen Li followed him around as they strolled leisurely around and went to his favorite restaurant for dinner.

The two of them did not return to Corning Street until it was dark.

That evening, Shen Li posted on her WeChat Moments.

There was no caption, only a photo.

It was a photo of her and Shen Zhijin in front of the wishing fountain at Bai City Cathedral.

The sunlight was just right. The cathedral behind them was solemn and elegant, and the water from the fountain was crystal clear.

Shen Zhijin stood to the left side of Shen Li, and on the right side of Shen Li, a gorgeous rainbow hung above the water.

The two of them were looking at the camera, their smiles showing on their similar brows and eyes.

After posting this on WeChat, Shen Li went to take a shower.

When she came out half an hour later, the number of likes on this post was already very shocking.

In addition, there was also an unread message from Lu Huaiyu.

[Did you have a good time today?]

Shen Li lay on the bed and thought for a while before deciding to give him a voice call.

The call was answered very quickly on the other side.

“Ah Li?”

The low and sweet voice sounded especially seductive in the quiet night.

“Second Brother.”

Shen Li actually had a lot to say. Her chest seemed to be filled with something, but in the end, she chose the simplest and most straightforward sentence.

“I’m really happy today.”

A smile could be heard in Lu Huaiyu’s voice.

“Yeah, I can see that.”

Shen Li hugged the pillow and turned over on the bed.

This feeling was hard to describe.

She had never, ever thought that such a day would ever come.

Perhaps it was because her personality was more like Shen Zhijin, quiet and reserved, or perhaps the experiences of all those years in the past were too heavy.

She was not used to confiding in someone.

However, today was different, and the first person she had thought of was Lu Huaiyu.

She wanted to tell him all of this.

She also knew that he would understand.

“Bai City is really very nice,” said Shen Li.

Lu Huaiyu smiled.

“Is it the best?”

Shen Li’s eyes curved in a smile.

“More or less. Lincheng is too crowded, the traffic jams in the Capital are very bad, and it’s always raining in Leland—”

She abruptly stopped speaking.

The surroundings instantly fell silent.

For a moment, she even felt that the air seemed to be frozen.

After a moment, Lu Huaiyu asked with a smile, "Hmm? What did you just say?"

Chapter 875: You Didn't Misunderstand

Shen Li's heart skipped a beat when she heard this.

It was clear that Lu Huaiyu had only asked this question very casually, but every word fell heavily in her ears and rolled into her heart.

She held her breath for a long while, and then as if nothing had happened, she said, "Doesn't Leland have a rainy climate? I think I read it somewhere before that it will sometimes rain continuously for a whole week."

Lu Huaiyu said with a faint smile, "That's only in the summer when the rainy season comes. In fact, except for that month or so, there are more sunny days throughout the year. Moreover, the temperature there is quite nice, so overall, it's pretty good."

Shen Li said softly, "Yes."

Lu Huaiyu paused for a moment before he said with a chuckle, "Both Lincheng and the Capital are good. But I didn't expect that Ah Li would take Leland into consideration as well?"

Lincheng was the place where she had grown up, and the Capital was her home now.

It was normal for her to have chosen these two places as a comparison.

However, Leland seemed to be completely unrelated.

Shen Li's body tensed up, and her heart started beating hard.

She sat up and pressed a hand hard to her left chest where her heart was, to try and calm down this noisy heartbeat.

The question he was asking, it seemed that she had no choice but to answer.

Silence.

It was as if a layer of invisible power was flowing over and gradually wrapping itself around her, making it difficult for her to breathe.

After a moment, she said, "It's because Second Brother seems to like Leland more than Bai City."

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows slightly as an extremely soft sound left his nasal cavity, with the end of the sound trailing upwards in his usual noble and leisurely tone of voice.

"Hmm?"

Shen Li said, "During the year that Second Brother was in Bai City, didn't you often go to Leland? You also mentioned that you liked Leland very much."

He had indeed said that.

Moreover, he had also said that if there was an opportunity, they could go there and take a look together.

Lu Huaiyu stayed quiet for a while before he smiled.

"So, it was because I like the place that you also took Leland into consideration?"

There was only one answer to this question.

“Yes,” she said.

“Ah Li, if I remember correctly, it seemed like you were considering a place to live in the future just now?” Lu Huaiyu’s thin lips curled up slightly as he spoke in a teasing tone. “If you mention Leland like this, I will misunderstand.”

Misunderstand what?

Of course, it was a misunderstanding. The little girl had included a completely unfamiliar place into her future just because he liked it.

She was so honest and straightforward, yet completely unguarded and devoted.

Just thinking about it made one’s heart tremble slightly.

“It would be too easy to kidnap you like this, you know?”

Lu Huaiyu tugged at the collar of his shirt and slowly expelled the heat from his words.

There was a smile in his voice that seemed to be like a warning to her.

There was only one bedside lamp in the room, and the warm light shone down, outlining her figure.

She sat on the bed with her head slightly lowered, and her raven-feather-like eyelashes cast a faint shadow beneath her eyelids.

There was silence all around.

Shen Li’s lips moved slightly, wanting to say something, but she pulled back several.

Lu Huaiyu had always treated her with the utmost patience and gentleness, so he just waited for her.

The two of them did not speak for a long time.

It was not until a breeze blew in from outside the window that Shen Li suddenly became alert again.

She opened her mouth to speak.

“... Not really. I just went out with Dad today and heard him talk about the past. So, I just thought that this place is indeed better than I thought.”

Lu Huaiyu understood what she meant.

He chuckled.

“Since Ah Li likes it, then this is the better place.”

Shen Li paused.

“Thank you, Second Brother.”

She looked at the time again and said, “It’s very late, so I think I’ll go to bed first, alright?”

Both she and Shen Zhijin had been out the whole day today, so it would be quite natural for her to be quite tired.

This was what Lu Huaiyu thought, so he urged her to have a good rest.

Shen Li agreed and then ended the phone call.

The room became quiet again.

Shen Li looked down at her phone and saw that Lu Huaiyu had sent another message.

[Good night, Ah Li.]

She sat quietly, as if she was reading it, but also as if she was not.

She remained that way until the light on the screen gradually dimmed and it finally turned completely dark.

After a long time, an extremely soft murmur rang out in the room.

“... Lu Huaiyu, you didn’t misunderstand...”

It was just a soft sound, like a dream, but it soon disappeared in the blink of an eye.

...

Happy times always passed quickly, but times filled with pain were slow.

The more painful it was, the more difficult it was to endure every minute and every second.

These past few days, Yu Yu had a particularly deep impression of this.

This morning especially, after the surveillance video of the hotel corridor had been exposed, the pressure from all sides came one after another, causing her to be overwhelmed.

Firstly, half of Yu Cheng's face had been captured by the surveillance video. His identity could be exposed at any time.

Secondly, Pan Jiajia's state in the video did not seem right. Anyone with a discerning eye could tell that she had been threatened. After watching the video, everyone realized that the atrocities she had suffered had been even more terrifying than they had expected. Hence, some people had begun to question YU again.

After all, Pan Jiajia was one of their contracted models. On the eve of the showcase, and right under their noses, such a thing had happened, yet they had done nothing. Even if the violence had nothing to do with them, they would still be labeled as negligent.

The reputation that they had painstakingly clawed back up was now in danger again.

In addition, the Yu family had quickly found out about this matter.

Without a doubt, Yu Yu was the first to bear the brunt.

However, this was not all bad. Because it involved Yu Cheng, Grandfather Yu had taken this matter seriously and began to use the Yu family's connections and resources to solve the problem.

As expected, that video quickly disappeared from the Internet and all related topics had been removed from the trending searches.

Even though the discussion had already exceeded 100 million, even though there were people posting posts to denounce it, it could not even reach the end of the trending searches.

Only then did Yu Yu heave a sigh of relief.

However, the tension after the incident did not go smoothly.

“You can’t find anything?”

Yu Yu looked at her assistant and questioned coldly.

“What do you mean?”

The assistant wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and said with trepidation, “President Yu, our people have tried everything, but... but they still can’t find out who released the video first—”

Chapter 876: Was Exposed

The person behind this was well-prepared and had attacked Yu Cheng directly.

If not for the Yu family, Yu Cheng would have been in trouble.

The other party’s intention clearly had been to target him, but up until now, they did not even know who that person was!

The assistant lowered his head and did not dare to say anything else.

Yu Yu had a few suspicions.

The Yu family was a famous family in Haicheng. They had many enemies over the years, both openly and secretly.

However, they had no clues at all at the moment, so it was really difficult to determine who it was.

She pressed her temples.

“Continue to investigate!”

The assistant quickly replied, "Yes! President Yu!"

...

At 10:30 am the next day, Shen Li had a brand showcase to attend.

Shen Zhijin sent her to the show first, before heading to the headquarters of Fino Laboratory.

When Shen Li arrived, Lu Huaiyu was already waiting outside the entrance of the show venue.

The level and scale of today's big show were comparable to that of G&S, so many people had come to watch the show, many of whom were important.

At this time, everyone was entering the show one after another. People were coming and going, and the atmosphere looked very lively.

Lu Huaiyu stood there, tall and slender, elegant and noble.

Many people around were looking at him, most of them were women.

He seemed to be unaware of the attention as he stood there. His entire body exuded a cold and languid aura. For a moment, almost no one dared to approach him.

As if he had sensed something, he suddenly raised his eyes and looked in his direction.

Then, the indifference between his brows and eyes disappeared, and a casual smile appeared on the corner of his lips as he walked forward.

Many people followed his movements and the direction of his gaze. When they saw the beautiful, slender, and tall young lady, they secretly sighed. At the same time, they dispelled many of their thoughts.

“Second Brother, did you wait a long time?”

Lu Huaiyu stood in front of her and very naturally took her hand.

“No, I just arrived.”

He held her hand as they walked in.

“Did Teacher Shen send you here?”

Shen Li nodded.

The two of them entered the show venue.

Lu Huaiyu had never attended such an occasion before. Of course, this time was only because of Shen Li.

From time to time, people would come forward to greet them.

Of course, most of them were here for Shen Li.

After all, she was the designer who was collaborating with G&S, and the designer who had the opening show for the Bai City Fashion Week that had been held with great splendor. Without a doubt, Shen Li had become the focal point of this fashion week.

The two of them walked down the long aisle before finally arriving at two adjacent seats in the front row.

Lu Huaiyu had been assigned the seat to Shen Li’s left. However, no one came to the seat on her right. Even until the last few minutes before the show, it was still empty.

Several others around started chatting in low voices.

“Why is no one coming to the seat in front?”

“That seems to be Yu Yu’s seat.”

The moment Yu Yu’s name was mentioned, the entire venue fell into a subtle silence.

After a long while, someone muttered meaningfully, “So, it’s her, no wonder...”

YU had been in a lot of trouble these past few days. As the founder, Yu Yu probably could not even sleep peacefully. How could she still have the mood to come and watch the show?

This time, the brand had deliberately arranged for Shen Li and Yu Yu to be seated next to each other. However, no one had expected that something would happen to YU, which would cause Yu Yu to cancel her intention to come at the last minute.

Of course, even if she came, she would probably be left out.

The fashion industry was very realistic.

In the past, Yu Yu had been very proud. The brand that she founded had been very successful, and she was a member of the Yu family. Naturally, everyone had been happy to behave respectfully to her and be on good terms with her.

However, now that she was involved in so much trouble, who could possibly want to have anything to do with her?

Everyone could not wait to cut ties with her.

It was much better that she had not come today.

“What a pity... I was hoping to see Ning and Yu Yu next to each other! After all, the two of them were the only Chinese designers who were invited! However, it has already been a few days, yet the two of them still never showed up at any of the same shows. It wasn’t easy to wait until today, but who would have known—”

“What’s there to be sorry about? Isn’t it enough that Ning is here?”

“That’s not what I meant. I just wanted to see them both together because they’re both equally famous...”

“Equally famous? Without even talking about anything else, you do realize that Ning’s designs are way ahead of Yu Yu’s, right? You call this being ‘equally famous’?”

“But... but isn’t Yu Yu more experienced...”

“She has appeared at the Bai City Fashion Week a few times, but those few big shows combined can’t even compare to the ‘Embrace of a Star’ show, don’t you think? Besides, after this incident, it’s hard to say if she’ll even still be invited in the future...”

Shen Li glanced at the seat beside her.

Soon, a blonde woman in her forties wearing a cropped white suit walked over. She recognized her as Bella, the managing editor of the top fashion magazine WM.

The other party took the initiative to greet her with a smile before sitting down beside her.

It was not good for a seat to be left empty in the front row, especially on such an occasion when there were so many people who would kill to have that seat.

Shen Li nodded at her.

Bella turned around, as if she wanted to chat with Shen Li. However, at this moment, the lights on the runway suddenly dimmed and music started playing.

The press conference had officially begun.

With a look of regret on her face, but out of respect and courtesy, Bella temporarily retracted what she wanted to say to Shen Li.

Shen Li looked at the runway in front of her.

...

Yu Yu had rejected more than just this brand's showcase.

In fact, ever since the news of Pan Jiajia's suicide spread, she had not participated in any other showcases.

All of her time and energy had been used to try and solve the huge pile of trouble that Yu Cheng had left behind.

In the hotel room, Yu Yu stood in front of the sink as she looked at herself in the mirror.

It had only been a few days, but her entire body had become haggard. No matter how exquisitely done her makeup was, it could not hide her fatigue.

However, she just needed to get through this period.

With the Yu family's involvement now, Yu Cheng should not be—

She heard her phone vibrate.

She casually wiped her hands and went to the living room to pick up her phone.

It was a promotional message.

[Pan Jiajia's abusive boyfriend outside of the industry is suspected to be the Yu Cheng of the Yu family from Haicheng!]

When Yu Yu saw this line of words, her mind instantly cleared up and she broke out in cold sweat.

How could this be?

Hadn't the news already been resolved? Why was Yu Cheng involved now?

She immediately clicked into Weibo and saw the hashtag # Pan Jiajia Yu Cheng. It had already rushed to the top of the trending searches.

A blogger had posted two pictures.

One was a picture of Yu Cheng at the race track while the other was a screenshot of half of his face in the surveillance video.

The blogger seemed very excited.

[If that's not Yu Cheng, then who is it?]

Chapter 877: Bella

If it was only half a face, it would indeed be difficult to identify.

However, the blogger had released both of these photos at the same time. With the comparison, it was immediately obvious.

The shape of the lips and the chin were extremely similar!

[It really looks like him!]

[This must be the same person, right? I knew it. When I saw that video earlier, I felt that he looked familiar. So it's Yu Cheng!"

[Yu Cheng? FN's captain, Yu Cheng? Haicheng's famous second-generation heir?]

[I remember that he and Yu Yu's founder, Yu Yu, are cousins. If that's the case... it would be impossible for Yu Yu to not know about this, right?]

[Huh, these cousins must be very close. Maybe it was their cousins who sent them to their cousins? This eldest grandson of the Yu family likes to play around. All the rich families in Haicheng should know about this, right?]

Yu Cheng was the captain of FN, but he was not very popular, so there was usually very little discussion about him.

However, the national rally had just ended a while ago. Thanks to Shen Li, he had become the focus of everyone's discussion after the race.

However, although they talked about him, there were not many people who remembered his face.

After that, the relevant content had been deleted or blocked, so no one had thought of him.

However, someone had suddenly pointed this out.

Everyone compared the two pictures carefully and found that there was indeed a resemblance.

A single stone could cause a thousand ripples.

The youngest son of a wealthy family, sexual abuse, subtle rules, FN...

So many sensitive words fused together and instantly stirred up the emotions of the public.

[So it was him! I knew it. Pan Jiajia is a rising star model in China. She's only 20 years old, yet she was able to get the opportunity to walk the runway at the Bai City Fashion Week. How many models could possibly achieve that? If there was nothing fishy going on with YU, how could such a promising new model have been abused the day before the showcase until she would commit suicide in despair?]

[This is the Yu family's most favored young master. This is not the only ridiculous thing he has done.]

[This kind of person doesn't care about other people's lives, right? In their eyes, a girl like Pan Jiajia is probably even more lowly than a dog or a cat.]

[Don't forget about Yu Yu! I don't believe that she didn't know that her own cousin was playing around with her own company's artiste. To think that she kept saying that she didn't know anything! Bah!]

Many people in the comments section were criticizing Yu Yu harshly.

Initially, there had still been some people who had spoken up for YU and Yu Yu. After all, over the past few years, they had accumulated quite a number of fans and popularity.

However, this matter had gone through many twists and turns, especially when many people had already believed that YU was innocent. In the end, when they realized that the man was very likely to be Yu Cheng of the Yu family, they felt as if they had received a big slap to their faces.

The feeling of being deceived surged up, making many people feel extremely angry.

The direction of public opinion quickly changed, and everyone's emotions recoiled. Their hatred and resistance towards Yu Yu and the entire Yu family reached the highest level!

After only a few glances, Yu Yu knew that the situation was already getting out of control.

She closed her eyes and placed one hand on her forehead. Only then did she realize that her hand was frighteningly cold.

How could this be...

The matter had already clearly been over!

She logged out of Weibo.

She did not need to look at it anymore. She could already imagine how terrible the situation was.

She took a deep breath and stared at her phone for a while before she started to make a call.

...

After the showcase ended, many people in the show venue began to discuss this big show.

It was quite obvious that most of the people were quite appreciative of this show.

Shen Li stood up and prepared to leave with Lu Huaiyu.

However, a few people came up to greet her, so she stayed for a while.

Bella, who had been sitting next to her, was about to go over to look for her, but before she could make a move, she was surrounded by a group of people.

“Their theme design this time was very interesting.”

“The rhythm of the entire show was very well maintained.”

“This show is almost as good as the ‘Embrace of a Star’ show at G&S! What do you think, Ms. Bella?”

Someone asked this question in a tone that did not hide his eagerness.

Bella was the editor-in-chief of WM. she was resolute and decisive. She was well-known as a female devil in the fashion industry.

More importantly, she was also a member of the Bai City Fashion Association. She had an extremely high status.

Of course, there were many people who wanted to please her.

Shen Li heard what had been said.

At first, she was surprised. She had not expected to be compared here.

But then, she remembered another thing: Bella had been the fashion director of this brand before, and she had been on good terms with them throughout all these years.

It was no wonder that these people would say that. It was obvious that they wanted to please her.

However, Shen Li did not care much about these things. After dealing with those people, she was ready to leave.

However, at this moment, she heard Bella speak.

“What are you talking about?”

It was a flat and straightforward voice. However, this simple sentence was enough to make the person who spoke blush and feel at a loss for words.

Her aura was so strong that the surrounding air instantly froze the moment she spoke this sentence.

Everyone quieted down and looked at each other. They did not know in what way they had offended this person.

They knew that the female devil was not to be trifled with, but they had already tried their best to give praise that would be in a direction that she would like!

“Did you not watch the ‘Embrace of a Star’ show, or is there a flaw in your aesthetic judgment?”

Bella asked.

Dead silence.

To be able to cause this person to say these two sentences consecutively, it could be seen that the person had truly provoked her!

Shen Li finally could not help but turn around to take a look.

Bella’s answer had been unexpected, but what was even stranger to her was that when this person had sat next to her earlier, she had clearly been very gentle and kind. Now, however, why was she so...

How should she put it... Stern? Aloof?

Standing in the middle of the crowd, Bella seemed to sense something and looked up at her.

The noble and cold face instantly flashed a brilliant smile at her.

Shen Li was dumbfounded.

“Excuse me, I have something to discuss with Ning.”

Bella raised her finger, and sensibly, the crowd immediately dispersed.

She lifted her leg to walk toward Shen Li and stood in front of her.

“Shen Li?”

The other party had called her by her Chinese name.

Shen Li hesitated.

“Madam Bella?”

Here, most people called her Ning.

Bella sized her up carefully. There was a smile on her face, and a hint of emotion in her eyes.

“You’re as beautiful as your mother.”

Shen Li was stunned.

Bella saw her reaction and narrowed her eyes.

“I was your mother’s high school classmate. Didn’t your father mention it?”

Shen Li shook her head.

“Carroll didn’t mention it either?”

Shen Li shook her head again.

Bella paused and smiled meaningfully.

“Well... It’s fine. You can just call me Aunt Bella.”

So that was the case.

Gu Tingyin had stayed in Bai City for many years. Encountering her former classmates and friends here would not be an unusual thing.

Shen Li’s lips curled up in a smile.

“Aunt Bella.”

When she smiled like this, the dimples at the corners of her lips were faintly discernible. She looked even more similar to the girl in Bella’s memories.

Bella lowered her voice and said very gently, “Their aesthetic standards are incorrigible. Don’t mind them.”

Shen Li was speechless.

Chapter 878: Children at Home

"It's a pity that I couldn't attend the 'Embrace of a Star' show."

Bella was still filled with regret at the mention of this matter.

She was supposed to have gone, but something had happened that morning that had caused her to be delayed. She had no other choice except to miss it and was only to watch the live broadcast on her phone.

Even watching it on the live broadcast, the show had still been perfect, yet it could not be compared to the live broadcast.

As Bella spoke, her gaze finally landed on Lu Huaiyu, who was standing at the side. She unashamedly sized him up with a critical eye.

"So, this is your boyfriend?"

Shen Li nodded.

Lu Huaiyu took the initiative to extend his hand, smiling lightly.

"Hello, I'm Lu Huaiyu."

Bella very lightly shook his hand.

"I know who you are."

As she spoke, she raised her eyebrows.

"This time, Carroll's words are somewhat believable."

Carroll had spoken very highly of Lu Huaiyu before, but she had never taken him seriously before.

It was only now that she was meeting him in person that she felt a little more convinced.

However, of course, he still could not be compared to Shen Li.

Naturally, Lu Huaiyu understood what she meant, but he just smiled without saying anything.

Bella looked at Shen Li again.

“How long will you be staying in Bai City this time?”

“About a week or so. I’ll leave after the G&S Men’s fashion show ends.”

“So early?”

“Yeah, I took a leave of absence this time. I still have to go back to school.”

Bella’s expression became subtle.

“I remember that you attend Xijing University, right? So even though Shen Zhijin is now the vice principal, you still needed to take a leave of absence? When I think about how many classes he skipped back then, yet now, he’s so strict with you.”

Shen Li was speechless.

Without waiting for her reply, Bella waved her hand with a hint of disdain.

“Well, seeing that the reason he skipped classes was for your mother’s sake... Let’s just forget about it.”

Shen Li silently swallowed back the rest of her words.

Bella looked at her for a little while longer before saying, “Come over to visit when you have some time free later.”

Shen Li was just about to nod when she was suddenly stunned.

“Your house—”

Again, Bella gave her a noble and cool smile.

“Hmm? Did I forget to tell you? Carroll is my husband.”

Shen Li said, “... Okay, thank you, Aunt Bella.”

Bella then reluctantly said goodbye to her.

She had just taken a few steps when she turned around again and saw Lu Huaiyu and Shen Li walking out hand in hand.

Lu Huaiyu had lowered his head slightly and leaned close to Shen Li’s ear. She did not know what was being said, but Shen Li’s sparkling peach blossom eyes curved up, shining with a shimmering light.

Bella put on her sunglasses and snorted.

“... This child is obviously more like Yin Yin. That kid from the Lu family is really lucky.”

...

In the afternoon, Shen Li and Lu Huaiyu went to the headquarters of Fino Laboratory together.

The scale of this place was much larger than the Capital branch. The conditions and other aspects of this laboratory were among the best in the world.

Shen Zhijin met them at the entrance and personally took them inside for a tour.

Along the way, they met quite a number of people.

After walking for a while, Shen Li could not help but ask in a lowered tone, "Dad, are the headquarters... always so lively?"

Shen Zhijin's expression was calm.

"No. It's just that those who were supposed to be on leave today have all come over."

Shen Li was at a loss for words.

Sure enough, every few steps that she took, she would encounter someone who would greet them enthusiastically.

Shen Zhijin smiled and said, "Don't think too much about it. They just want to see you."

When they heard that he was bringing his daughter over, everyone who was in Fino Laboratory headquarters had been restless for the past few days.

Firstly, Shen Zhijin had been a loner all these years. Now that he suddenly had a daughter, it was natural that everyone was curious.

Secondly, Shen Li had previously published a thesis in Universe, breaking Shen Zhijin's record, so it was even more of a reason for them to want to see her in person...

Shen Li understood.

Those who were qualified to enter this place were definitely top-notch talents in the field of astrophysics research.

These people usually had extremely high IQs, were obsessed with scientific research and had pure temperaments.

She could feel that they were all very friendly to her.

"The atmosphere here is very nice," she said.

Shen Zhijin responded with a "Hmm". After a moment, he said, "If you're interested, you can consider coming here in the future."

Shen Li nodded.

At this moment, a happy voice sounded.

"Zhijin."

Shen Li looked up when she heard the voice.

Shen Zhijin was the general director of Fino Laboratory. Everyone that they had encountered so far had addressed him very politely and respectfully. This was the first person who had called Shen Zhijin by his personal name.

The person who appeared was around fifty years old. He was a slightly plump man who was wearing a white lab coat and an amiable smile on his face.

When Shen Zhijin saw him, a faint smile appeared on his face.

“Professor Angus.”

Shen Li instantly understood the identity of this person.

He was the second-in-command of Fino Laboratory.

When he and Shen Zhijin had entered the headquarters of Fino Laboratory one after the other, the two of them had formed a very good relationship.

Shen Li had heard Shen Zhijin mention his name before, but this was the first time she had actually seen him.

As Angus looked at her, his smile deepened.

“This is your daughter, right?”

Shen Li called out to him, “Hello, Professor Angus.”

Angus winked at her.

“Finally, you’re here.”

Shen Li was stunned. She found what he said a little strange.

Angus continued, "I've read your previous paper before. It's really well written! It was really worth my effort to send those papers all the way over!"

Shen Zhijin seemed to be a little surprised.

"You sent information to Tangtang?"

Surely this was the first time he had seen her.

Shen Li was also stunned. Then, she thought of something and turned her head to look at Lu Huaiyu.

She had borrowed a few books from him in the past.

Some of them had not been published in China yet at that time. When Lu Huaiyu had given them to her, she had been secretly puzzled.

However, it turns out...

That he had specially borrowed them from Professor Angus?

Sure enough, in the next moment, Angus smiled and said, "Actually, they were sent to Huaiyu! At that time, I was puzzled. He had read those books before, so why did he want them again? Later, it occurred to me that he must have specially requested those books for Shen Li!"

For a year, Lu Huaiyu had followed him at the headquarters of Fino Laboratory.

Angus admired him greatly. Later, when Lu Huaiyu returned to his own country, Angus had been very sorry to see him go.

Lu Huaiyu nodded and smiled faintly, "Many thanks to you."

Shen Zhijin listened and also glanced at him.

Some documents were difficult to find in China. Lu Huaiyu must have specifically asked Angus for help.

“It was just a small matter. What’s there to thank?”

As Angus spoke, he looked at Shen Li with great emotion.

“Let’s see, I believe that you were in your third year of high school at that time?”

Shen Li nodded.

Angus laughed.

“Huaiyu even lied to me at that time, saying that the children at home liked it! Originally, I said that I would just send the Chinese version, but he had insisted upon the original version as well. If I had known earlier that it was for you, I would have chosen more and sent those to you!”

As soon as he finished speaking, there was a sudden silence.

After a long while, Shen Zhijin asked emotionlessly, “What?”

Chapter 879: I Am Very Grateful to Him

“Huh?”

Angus reacted for a moment before he realized that Shen Zhijin’s question had not been aimed at him, but at Lu Huaiyu.

The atmosphere was subtle.

Lu Huaiyu was silent for a moment before he calmly smiled.

“Well, those documents are very precious, after all. I remember that Professor Angus had mentioned that there was a doctor who wanted to see them too. He said that he had lent them to a student of a relative. He had thought that it would be more convenient.”

He had quietly changed a few words. However, Shen Zhijin had an excellent memory. How could he not remember what Angus had said before?

Moreover, Lu Huaiyu had been at the Fino Laboratory for a year. Although he was no longer working under him, he was still very close to Angus. It was impossible for him not to know how much Angus admired Lu Huaiyu.

As long as Lu Huaiyu asked, Angus would definitely agree to lend him the books.

As for who he had lent it to... It did not matter.

Shen Zhijin paused for a moment before he said, “In that case, I have to thank you for taking care of Tangtang.”

Lu Huaiyu coughed lightly.

“It’s good that Ah Li likes it.”

Shen Li was thinking about something else. Lu Huaiyu had lent her a book back then and had even specially asked for the original German edition.

So, he must have guessed that she knew German at that time?

Later, in his study, she had deliberately taken the Chinese-translated version. He had actually known everything?

It was true that this was an extremely smart man.

Shen Li glanced at him.

Other than this, hadn't he also guessed the other things... earlier?

Just then, someone passed by and greeted them.

Shen Zhijin did not ask any more questions, as he intended on continuing to show Shen Li the place.

Before leaving, Angus left Lu Huaiyu with a final message.

"Huaiyu, this is the first time you've come back since you left. Why don't you come over to my department? Billy and the others are very happy to hear that you're back today."

Lu Huaiyu had stayed here for a year, so he knew many people.

Angus and the others had not seen him for a long time, so they naturally missed him.

Lu Huaiyu looked at Shen Zhijin and Shen Li.

This suggestion had come just at the right time.

He smiled and nodded.

"Okay."

...

Shen Li followed Shen Zhijin, walking half a step behind him. When they came to a quiet corridor, Shen Li looked at him and finally said, "Dad, actually, Second Brother had also helped to borrow books for me..."

Shen Zhijin suddenly stood still.

"Tangtang."

He stood there, with his straight back and shoulders.

A bright light shone through the window that was beside him and landed on his face. Light and shadow intermingled.

He lowered his eyes slightly, so the expression in his eyes could not be seen. The shadow that was cast on the ground was very long. Even though the sunlight was just right, there was an inexplicable sense of quietness.

"I'm not angry with him."

As he opened his mouth, his voice was as calm as ever. It was just that the speed of his speech was slightly slower, showing a hint of dullness,

"On the contrary, I'm very grateful to him."

He was blaming himself.

Why had he brought her back so late? So late...

The third year of high school.

At that time, she should have only just transferred from Lincheng to Yunzhou not long before. She had only been seventeen years old.

She had only wanted to read a book.

Of course, he knew that Lu Huaiyu had liked her a long time ago. He also knew that Lu Huaiyu had attended the parent-teacher meetings for her during that year. He had found someone overnight and also taken her away from the Ye family and stayed with her as she took the college entrance examination.

Since her return, he had rarely taken the initiative to ask about her past.

However, he still had many avenues and methods to learn about her past.

How could he not have asked or investigated it?

Those were the 18 years that he was completely missing.

Even if the more that he knew meant that he would feel more guilty, more regretful, and even more tormented.

Those were all things that he should have done.

However, he had not done anything.

There was only one person who had given her everything that she lacked.

Lu Huaiyu.

Shen Zhijin had imagined more than once that if Lu Huaiyu had not been by her side at that time, how would her life have turned out?

He was grateful to Lu Huaiyu, yet he could not help but feel jealous. In the end, he felt completely accountable for that.

However, those were too difficult to make up for. There were some things that he would never be able to do.

Shen Li looked at him, only being able to see his side profile.

He was silent. His face was half lit and half in the darkness, and his emotions could not be seen clearly.

“Dad...”

She called out softly.

“Tangtang.”

Shen Zhijin spoke in a low voice, “I really wished that I was the one who had given you those books back then.”

Shen Li’s heart suddenly sank.

She shook her head, walked over to take his hand, and said softly, “But it was you, Dad, who brought me here today.”

She knew what Shen Zhijin was saying. She understood all of his guilt and self-blame.

But—

If that was also considered a mistake...

If that was also his fault....

How unfair would that be to him?

No one had ever given him a chance like that.

She shook his hand.

“I have the books that you gave me and I have the books that mother gave me now. Besides, if Second Brother heard what you just said, he would definitely be very happy.”

After all, Shen Zhijin was extremely critical of Lu Huaiyu.

Shen Zhijin looked at her, gently touched her head, and smiled.

“After all, you like him so much.”

...

As Lu Huaiyu followed Angus around, he greeted a few of his former acquaintances until they finally came to Angus’s office.

Angus made himself a cup of coffee. Knowing that Lu Huaiyu was quite particular about this, he did not bother with coffee for him and just poured him some water.

Lu Huaiyu sat down on the chair opposite his desk.

“Professor, it’s been a few years since we last met. As soon as I arrived, you gave me a big gift. Thank you so much.”

Angus had already come back to his senses. Hearing his words, he could not help but laugh.

“Zhijin is not such a stingy person. You’re worrying too much!”

Leisurely, he leaned back in his chair and took a sip of coffee.

“He was willing to bring you along here today. Don’t tell me that you don’t know what he means by that.”

This place could be considered as Shen Zhijin’s place.

Lu Huaiyu was a very clear-minded and intelligent person. How could he not understand this?

“As for you, you should also try to understand him more. After all, it wasn’t easy to find this daughter after so many years, was it?”

Lu Huaiyu took a sip of water. He thought for a moment and smiled.

“Yes, thank you for helping me.”

Angus looked at him and snorted.

“It was just a coincidence... If you really want to thank me, just help me teach the few people in the teaching group how to process the data later.”

“Okay.”

Lu Huaiyu very quickly agreed.

Only after Angus got his answer did he finally feel relieved.

Looking at Lu Huaiyu who was seated across from him, he changed the topic.

“How are you... doing now?”

...

Having been invited someone, Shen Zhijin went to the laboratory. After thinking for a moment, Shen Li decided to turn around and look for Lu Huaiyu.

When she came to the door of Angus’s office, she saw that the door was ajar and not tightly closed.

She raised her hand and was about to knock on the door when she heard Lu Huaiyu’s voice coming from inside.

“Which aspect are you asking about?”

She paused for a moment.

Then, she heard Angus sigh and say, “You know very well... I mean, how are you doing after the car accident two years ago?”

Shen Li’s heart skipped a beat.

Chapter 880: More Than Two Years Ago

Lu Huaiyu had been in a car accident two years ago?

He had never mentioned it before.

Subconsciously, Shen Li held her breath.

Then, she heard Lu Huaiyu's carefree-sounding voice.

"I'm fine, you don't have to worry."

His tone was the same as always. It was as if this was merely a small matter which he did not really take to heart.

Angus, on the other hand, sighed. Looking at Lu Huaiyu, who had a smile playing at the corner of his lips and an indifferent expression, Angus remained silent for a long time.

At that time, not long after Lu Huaiyu had left Fino Laboratory, he had received the news that Lu Huaiyu had been in a car accident.

He was, after all, a junior that Angus greatly admired. Angus had paid special attention to this matter and even made a phone call to ask about his condition.

At that time, the answer he received was that his life was not in danger.

In fact, Lu Huaiyu had very quickly been discharged from the hospital.

After hearing this news, Angus had felt greatly relieved.

Later, however, he realized that things were not as simple as he had thought.

That was because Lu Huaiyu had taken a long time to recuperate after he was discharged from the hospital.

He had turned down all his work and social activities, seemingly disappearing overnight.

Angus had asked around and found out that he had left the Capital and gone somewhere else to recuperate.

It had not been for just a week, not a month, but for a whole year.

No matter which way Angus thought about it, he felt that it was too long.

However, somewhere during that time, Lu Huaiyu had borrowed some books from him. Later on, when he found out about Shen Li's existence, he had thought about it and realized that she was probably the reason for it.

It was true that Lu Huaiyu had returned to the Capital after Shen Li had been admitted to Xijing University.

That was also why he had specifically asked Lu Huaiyu to come here today. He had wanted to ask about his condition.

Fortunately, Lu Huaiyu did not seem to be having any problems now.

Angus wanted to ask a few more questions, but when his eyes encountered Lu Huaiyu's dark eyes and saw the calmness in them, he suddenly did not know what to say.

After a long time, he put down his coffee and said, "That's good."

Knock, knock.

There was a knock on the door.

Both of them turned their heads.

Angus asked, "Who is it?"

The door was pushed open and Shen Li entered.

"Professor Angus, Second Brother."

Lu Huaiyu's deep phoenix-like eyes narrowed slightly. He immediately got up and walked over to her.

"Why are you here? Where's Teacher Shen?"

"Dad had something to do, so I said I'd come over here to take a look."

Shen Li asked, "Second Brother, I didn't disturb you, right?"

Lu Huaiyu smiled and said, "No."

Angus leaned back against his chair and said, "It looks like I'm the one who's disturbing you two."

He smiled and waved his hand.

"Alright, Huaiyu, you should go and show her around again."

Lu Huaiyu responded with a smile and led Shen Li away.

In addition to the data processing building's observation platform, there was also a basketball court, tennis court, and other places for researchers to have fun. There was even a small garden with a very nice landscape.

Lu Huaiyu and Shen Li strolled around slowly.

At this time, there were not many people outside.

Lu Huaiyu would occasionally tell her about the interesting things that had happened during the year that he had spent there.

Shen Li listened, finding it very interesting.

Lu Huaiyu did not often talk about these things before. Now that they were walking here together and she listened to him talk about such things, she felt as if they were participating in the experience together.

This was actually quite a nice feeling.

However, Shen Li still had something else on her mind.

She hesitated for a long time, until finally, at a certain moment, she suddenly stopped and took his hand.

She raised her head slightly to look at him and asked, "Second Brother, were you... involved in a car accident before?"

From the moment Lu Huaiyu had seen her appear outside the office door, he knew that she must have heard what he said, so he was not surprised to hear her ask about it now.

He smiled.

"Yes, it was a long time ago."

Shen Li pursed her lips.

“Then, was it serious?”

Lu Huaiyu’s tone was languid.

“I was wearing a seatbelt. Also, I managed to get to the doctor in time, so it wasn’t that serious.”

Shen Li looked at him but did not say anything.

The corners of Lu Huaiyu’s lips curved slightly. He leaned closer and said with a smile, “Look at me now. Does it look like I was affected very badly?”

Shen Li suddenly took a step forward and raised her arm to wrap it around his slender waist.

Lu Huaiyu was slightly startled.

Then, he felt her soft hand land on a certain spot on his back.

Her touch was very light.

She hugged him and leaned against his chest, her voice sounding a little muffled as she spoke.

“The wound here, was that left behind from that time?”

She had once accidentally barged into Lu Huaiyu’s master bedroom and happened to catch him while he was changing clothes.

Actually, it had only been a glance, but that scene had been too clear. It had been etched in her mind and could not be forgotten.

The man’s square shoulders, broad back, narrow waist, and firm and perfect muscle lines...

As well as the distinct scar on his back.

At that time, she had not asked about it in detail. Now that she thought about it, she surmised that it was probably something that had been left behind by the car accident.

Lu Huaiyu lowered his eyes slightly before he started to laugh.

“Yes.”

Shen Li’s forehead pressed against his chest.

“Why didn’t Second Brother mention it before?”

Lu Huaiyu stroked her hair, pulled her out of his embrace, and looked at her.

He asked with a low laugh, “Does your heart ache?”

Shen Li nodded.

Lu Huaiyu’s heart moved slightly.

“It happened a long time ago, and it wasn’t very serious, so I didn’t think of telling you about it.”

Actually, Shen Li understood what he really meant. He had probably not wanted her to know about it so that she would not be unnecessarily worried.

If she had not overheard it being mentioned today, he probably would not have brought it up at all.

She asked, "Did it happen two years ago?"

Lu Huaiyu looked into her eyes.

"Yes, it's been more than two years."

More than two years ago...

Shen Li thought of something and frowned slightly.

"Speaking of which, two years ago, I also—"

"Huaiyu! Shen Li!"

A voice suddenly sounded out, interrupting Shen Li as she spoke.