

Loving 121

Chapter 121. Han Yifeng's Engagement Party (1)

Xi Mushan's car soon left Glory World Corporation and headed straight for West Park.

At nearly the same time, inside the Chairman's office at Glory World.

Mu Yuchen stood beside the large window, looking outside at the sky peacefully.

Ah Mo actually did not want to disturb the peaceful vibes, but he just had to after knowing what happened below. "Master, I saw Missus get into Mayor Xi's car. They probably went to West Park. Out of consideration for Elder Xi, Han Yifeng's engagement party was set to be held at West Park."

After Ah Mo told Mu Yuchen, he did not seem to react.

"Master?" Ah Mo called out to him cautiously.

Mu Yuchen then turned away from the scenery outside as he straightened his slightly creased sleeve with a frown. He sighed internally.

"Prepare the car."

He then walked towards his table, picked up his phone and then swiftly left his office.

"Yes, Master!" Ah Mo replied quickly as he took out his phone and grabbed the windbreaker on the clothes hanger. Then, he ran outside to catch up with his boss.

...

West Park was very lively that day. A red carpet was placed from the entrance right up to the large hall inside the residence. On either side were all sorts of beautiful flowers. There were guests and sounds of greetings everywhere.

At the second floor of the residence, in Xi Xinyi's room.

"Xinyi, oh my gosh! You're wearing this dress! It's so beautiful! My cousin will surely fall for you again!"

Huang Shanshan was impressed when she saw Xi Xinyi in her pink wedding dress. Her eyes were filled with admiration as she was stunned to see the beauty.

Xi Xinyi looked at herself in the mirror as an embarrassed smile appeared on her beautiful face. She stood up.

She donned a pastel pink wedding dress that had a generous cutting which left her shoulders exposed, perfectly presenting Xi Xinyi's exquisite figure. There were even many shining pearls on the dress like stars in the sky.

Her blonde hair was tied up and clipped with a diamond hair clip. She only put on light makeup but her appearance was that of a fairy. She seemed frail yet charming and very lovely.

Even as a woman, Huang Shanshan was totally charmed.

"Xinyi, you're the goddess of the whole humankind. You're drop-dead gorgeous!" She was impressed.

Xi Xinyi put on a lovely smile as she turned around and looked at Huang Shanshan. Her tone of voice was filled with gratitude. She dragged Huang Shanshan's hands and told her with tears in her eyes, "Thank you, Shanshan! Without your support, Yifeng and I wouldn't be where we are today. I... I'm really grateful for you. You've always protected me just like my sister... Shanshan, you must soon find your own happiness too!"

"Xinyi! What are you talking about? We're best friends! Moreover, you're my cousin-in-law now. What do you mean by that?"

Huang Shanshan held onto Xi Xinyi's hands tightly.

Xi Xinyi took a deep breath and blinked her eyes. She nodded. "I just want to thank you. I hope that... Sister could come too. You know, Yifeng and I were hoping to get her blessings..."

Xi Xinyi's voice became quieter towards the end. Huang Shanshan was unhappy when she heard her suffering tone. "Xinyi, why are you still thinking about that witch? If it wasn't for her, the weekly papers wouldn't have published news like that! People like her are the worst. Even if she doesn't care, out of consideration for the Xi family, she should have prevented news like that from spreading out. Isn't she a Director in Glory World? If she had intervened, things wouldn't have ended up that way!"

"Shanshan, don't talk about her like this. It's not because of her anyway. I probably made mistakes somewhere. Anyway, aren't things all dandy now?" Xi Xinyi stared at Huang Shanshan unhappily.

"Xinyi, you're too soft. If it's about what happened in the past, you've compensated for all of it. You've endured for so many years and I think that's enough. Today is your engagement with my cousin. There's a huge group of reporters outside. Some of them probably came for what happened last night. Don't you know it's quite a negative impact on you?"

Huang Shanshan frowned and looked at her with a stubborn expression.

Xi Xinyi closed her eyes and shook her head. "I don't mind. I hope you won't be biased about Sister. She took care of me a lot when we were little. First and foremost, I owe her too much..."

"That's enough, Xinyi. Today is your big day. Don't think about these afflicted matters. Everyone knows that you mean well and it's her fault for not accepting it. Let's wrap it up here. I think Yifeng is going to be here soon!"

Before Xi Xinyi could reply, Yue Lingsi's voice came from outside the door. Xi Xinyi looked over and realized that Yue Lingsi was already there.

"Aunt Yue!" Huang Shanshan greeted her.

"Mmm, Shanshan, help her out a little. The banquet is starting soon. Don't think about it too much." Yue Lingsi felt her heart ache when she saw Xi Xinyi's troubled expression.

“Okay, Aunt Yue!” Huang Shanshan replied before clinging onto Xi Xinyi’s arm.

Yue Lingsi nodded and left the room.

...

The large hall below was decorated extravagantly. It seemed very lively all around the place while the host in front completed the mic check and started giving an opening speech. After a big round of applause and cheering, everyone quieted down.

“Now, let’s invite one of our main characters for the day, CEO Han! Mr. Han Yifeng, come up here and join us!”

Along with the host’s voice, the guests looked towards the entrance and saw several figures coming in.

Leading the group was Han Yifeng.

He wore a dark silver suit and had a rare smile on his handsome face today. His movements and behavior were elegant and charismatic. There was an indescribable aura around him.

The crowd could not move their eyes away from the eminent Han Yifeng. Most of them already knew that Han Yifeng had both looks and talent, but studying him that day surely impressed them even more.

Chapter 122. Han Yifeng's Engagement Party (2)

With an outstanding appearance and exceptional net worth, Han Yifeng was one of perfect Prince Charmings most girls dreamt of. His presence simply took many people’s breath away. A lot of girls started getting envious of Xi Xinyi.

Being born in a prestigious family and now having become a popular superstar, she even got married to such a worthy man. Xi Xinyi had gotten hold of what a woman could dream of. How fortunate of her!

The shutter clicks went on frantically as Han Yifeng stepped in. He smiled as he nodded to the guests, befitting of the image for a young man from a prestigious family.

“CEO Han, you’re finally here! Everyone’s ready and it’s about time too.” Assistant Xiao Zhao came up to him.

Han Yifeng looked ahead to see his parents Han Yu and Huang Ziyao as well as Yue Lingsi and Deng Wenwen. They were greeting the guests joyfully. Looking around, he could not find Xi Mushan anywhere, so he frowned slightly. “Is Uncle Xi not back yet?”

“Mrs. Xi gave him a call just now. He’s on the way and should be here soon. CEO Han, Ms. Xi is just upstairs, let’s go!”

Xiao Zhao smiled. “I heard Ms. Shanshan say that Ms. Xi is really stunning today. Coupled with you, CEO Han, you two are the perfect match! I’m so excited for the both of you!”

Han Yifeng’s expression softened. His eyes looked much gentler as well as he nodded and then looked towards the staircase area. As though he suddenly remembered something, he looked at Xiao Zhao and asked, “Did you see Ms. Xiaye?”

“CEO Han, Ms. Xiaye...”

Before Xiao Zhao could finish his sentence, there was some commotion at the back. Han Yifeng turned around as he heard someone yelling, “It’s Mayor Xi!”

“Hmm? Who’s the young lady beside Mayor Xi?”

“Why does she seem a little familiar?”

Looking at the entrance, Xi Mushan was walking slowly into the house, and beside him was a slim lady with waist-length hair wearing a black windbreaker.

It was Xi Xiaye!

Han Yifeng's focus instantly locked on Xi Xiaye's unfriendly figure.

"Congratulations, Mayor Xi!" People started greeting Xi Mushan the moment he came in.

Xi Xiaye glanced at Xi Mushan coldly. As she ignored the odd gazes from everyone else, she paved a path for herself and walked straight ahead towards the staircase area with a dark aura around her.

"Xiaye, you..."

Han Yifeng came up to her with a mixed expression, yet she totally ignored him and pushed him away coldly before proceeding upstairs.

Because Xi Xiaye had used quite some force, Han Yifeng crashed onto the staircase handle. Luckily, he reacted quickly and clutched onto the handle, avoiding an embarrassing fall.

Thump!

Solid footsteps marched right upstairs. He was startled and had no idea what had happened. By the time he looked around for Xi Xiaye, she had already headed upstairs.

"Yifeng! Are you alright?" Yue Lingsi and the others came up to him quickly and looked at him worriedly. Han Yu and Huang Ziyao who were behind looked at each other with a complicated expression.

"I'm fine!"

Han Yifeng pushed Xiao Zhao who was holding him away. He was starting to get impatient and then went upstairs as well. Yue Lingsi and the others seemed panicked.

What had happened?

Such a turn of events confused the crowd. They widened their eyes when they witnessed what just happened. So many questions needed to be answered.

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“It’s Xiaye! Oh God, is something going to happen again?”

Huang Ziyao looked troubled as Xi Xiaye’s figure disappeared by the staircase. She held onto Han Yu’s hand and said, “Today is a big day for Yifeng and Xinyi. Please don’t let anything happen!”

“Don’t worry. It’ll be fine. Let’s go up and take a look!”

Although Han Yu spoke those words, he was worried too. He felt a great sense of unease when he saw Xi Xiaye’s cold aura around her. Hopefully, nothing bad would happen!

“Don’t worry, it should be alright. I’ll go up and take a look. Mother, please take care of things downstairs.”

Yue Lingsi frowned with her heart worried sick. Then, she went upstairs as well.

As for Xi Xiaye, she headed straight for Xi Xinyi’s room as soon as she reached the second floor. After taking several steps, she saw the beautiful Xi Xinyi coming towards her with a joyful expression along with Huang Shanshan beside her.

“Xi Xiaye!”

Huang Shanshan raised her head when she heard the hasty sound of footsteps in front. The first thing she saw was Xi Xiaye’s cold expression and her eyes were dark as if a black typhoon was walking right towards them.

“What are you trying to do?!”

Huang Shanshan trembled slightly and looked at Xi Xiaye cautiously. She unconsciously shielded Xi Xinyi behind her. However, before she could grab Xi Xinyi, Xi Xiaye dragged on her dress and pulled her behind her. Huang Shanshan fell against the wall behind and fell onto the floor.

“Sis, have you finally decided to come?”

Xi Xinyi glanced at Huang Shanshan and freaked out a little, but a smile appeared on her face. As she was about to cling onto Xi Xiaye, Xi Xiaye closed in on her and looked at her with a pair of icy cold eyes. In a cold and calm voice, she said, “I’m going to ask you this.”

She squinted her eyes as they got colder. “Did you go and look for my mother yesterday at University A?”

Xi Xinyi was shocked and her expression changed when those words came out from Xi Xiaye’s mouth. She stared blankly at her and mumbled, “Sis, I just... I just wanted to give her an invitation. I...”

Before she could finish, a wicked grin crossed Xi Xiaye’s face. Her tiny figure went up swiftly. She moved so fast that behind, Han Yifeng could only catch a glimpse of a dark figure...

As quickly as she could, she grabbed onto Xi Xinyi’s hair and yanked her backwards. She raised her other hand and started slapping that lovely face.

“Ah!!!”

Xi Xinyi’s heartbreaking scream came right after the resounding slap, breaking the silence in the corridor.

Chapter 123. Han Yifeng's Engagement Party (3)

Xi Xinyi’s fair little face swelled up with the palm mark clearly visible. The fiery hot sensation of pain caused tears to fall from Xi Xinyi’s eyes, and her hair that Xi Xiaye had dragged was now in a huge mess.

“Xiaye! Stop!”

Han Yifeng was shocked to see what unfolded before him. He almost could not react at all and he could not believe that this wicked woman before him was the Xi Xiaye he once knew.

He went forward and wanted to separate them away, but Xi Xiaye threw him a cold, hard glance and forced him to stop.

“Shut up! This is a Xi family matter. We don’t need an outsider to intervene!”

Her harsh tone stabbed Han Yifeng’s ears like ice needles and he could feel his ears in pain.

“Xi Xinyi!”

Xi Xiaye completely ignored Han Yifeng and the sluggish Huang Shanshan. The hand that grabbed Xi Xinyi’s hair tightened as she moaned in pain. Her head was now held against the wall.

“I gave you a chance and asked all of you to not bother my mother. We could’ve minded our own business and live peacefully, but you forced me to do this! I’ve endured all of you for the past decade. If you’re not going to give me peace, I’m going to give you hell. From now on, I’ll take back every single thing you guys owe me and my mother! First off, these two slaps are for me getting punished by you burning your own wardrobe!”

The second slap landed as soon as she finished her sentence!

It much clearly much louder than the one before and Xi Xinyi’s scream went several decibels higher!

“That’s enough, Xiaye! Stop! If you’re harboring so much hatred, let it out on me!”

Han Yifeng rushed forward and grabbed Xi Xiaye’s shoulder. She dodged him and pushed Han Yifeng away.

“Ah! Yifeng, save me!” Xi Xinyi shrieked in pain as her hair was dragged ruthlessly.

"I told you to get lost! This matter doesn't concern you!"

"Xi Xiaye! That's enough! Let go of Xi Xinyi. I knew there was nothing good about you coming here today. You're just trying to ruin this, aren't you? No matter what you do, you can't stop my cousin's decision from marrying Xinyi. She has always spoken up for you even though you're such a wicked woman! My cousin will never marry you! Give up!" Huang Shanshan yelled at her as she rushed forward.

Xi Xiaye put on a beautiful smile as she listened amusedly. "Really?"

She turned around and looked at Han Yifeng with a cold laugh. "Han Yifeng, do you think you're still worthy of marrying me?"

Han Yifeng's expression changed when he heard those words!

"Xi Xiaye, let go of Xinyi!" Yue Lingsi's voice reached them. Xi Xiaye still grabbed Xinyi's hair as she moaned and cried in pain.

"Stop it, Xiaye! How dare you?!"

It was Deng Wenwen's voice!

"You're such a wicked person, Xiaye. Xinyi is your sister. How could you do that? Even if Yifeng..." Beside Deng Wenwen, Huang Ziyao looked at Xi Xiaye with disappointment.

In just a brief moment, the corridor was filled with people.

Judgmental voices reached her ears, but Xi Xiaye's face seemed as calm as ever. She raised her head and looked at the crowd before her with her cold eyes. Then, she tightened her grip on the fistful of hair in her hand and Xi Xinyi let out a painful wail again, making the crowd feel sick.

“So, you’re all here already?” Xi Xiaye asked quietly and calmly. “That’s great. I’m going to say this here today. Don’t you guys even think about getting the 20% shares from my mother. Give up! Mother has already signed the document and it’s with me now. If you guys want it, then come for me! Why do you guys have to make her life so difficult?”

Deng Wenwen and Yue Lingsi’s expressions changed and they exchanged looks when they heard Xi Xiaye. They looked terrible!

That witch Shen Wenna had actually signed the document and given it to Xi Xiaye!

The tearful Xi Xinyi was stunned as well!

Smug to see Deng Wenwen and Yue Lingsi’s horrified expressions, Xi Xiaye tightened her grip once again and Xi Xinyi let out a few cries. Her face which was pristine and beautiful just moments ago was now swollen. The sharp pain made her lose control of her tears and her makeup was ruined.

“Xiaye, please let go of Xinyi first. We can talk this out. She’s in so much pain now!” Yue Lingsi could feel her heart wrenching as she looked at Xi Xinyi. Whenever she took a step forward, Xi Xiaye pulled Xi Xinyi’s hair harder and the screaming continued.

“If you have something to say, you’d better say it now. Do you think there’d be a better chance to talk to you guys? What did you guys tell my mother? What did you guys talk about!?” She glared at Xi Xinyi with her stormy eyes as she questioned her. Xi Xinyi was in so much pain that she would rather be dead.

Han Yifeng rushed over worriedly. “Xiaye, let go of Xinyi. Can’t we talk about this peacefully? Why do you need to do this?”

Xi Xiaye glanced at Han Yifeng coldly. Her pair of cold, and distant eyes seemed so strange to Han Yifeng. She averted her gaze back to Xi Xinyi. “I don’t care how you played the victim and framed me, but if you guys are going to disturb my mother, we’ll see who meets the maker first. Neither am I afraid of getting my name sullied nor am I afraid of death. Are you not afraid as well?”

Xi Xiaye understood Shen Wenna the most. If these two women did not overstep their boundaries, with her indifferent personality, she would never have called Xi Xiaye!

She tightened her grip again, so the screaming went on. The tears streamed down as Xi Xinyi sobbed, "Sis, I really just went to give her an invitation card. I didn't mean anything else..."

"Didn't mean anything else? If that's the case, why would you mention the 20% share to my mother? Xi Xinyi, aren't you tired of putting up a mask and playing out this act for the past decade? Do you really want me to gather up evidence to reveal your true self?"

Xi Xiaye put up a mocking smile and stared at Xi Xinyi. "Didn't you guys get me to sign the document? I wanted to leave you all alone, but the way things are now, I don't mind fighting until the very end!"

Xi Xinyi's body trembled and she cried as she looked at Xi Xiaye without saying a thing.

Chapter 124. Man To The Rescue (1)

The commotion happening upstairs had already startled the crowd downstairs and all of them started to rush towards the staircase. Han Yu could only indicate for the bodyguard to block the staircase in order to stop them from rushing up.

The reporters had begun to crowd in and the entire banquet instantly became quite chaotic. The host held onto the mic and kept urging everyone to return to their seats, yet the crowd was still hesitating as they kept trying to look up the staircase!

They had all heard a woman's shrieks and crying earlier, but they were not sure what had happened!

Who was the woman in black earlier?

She had walked in with Mayor Xi!

When they thought about this, the crowd could not help but turn to look at Xi Mushan who was still greeting some of the guests, seemingly unaware about what had happened upstairs.

However, right at this moment, there was a furor at the entrance that disrupted this odd atmosphere.

Bam!

The door to the hall that had been closed earlier was suddenly pushed open from the outside. The crowd subconsciously looked towards the sound. They saw that leading in front was a dashing and tall man impeccably attired in a black tuxedo. He was followed by four well-built men dressed in black tuxedos and looked like bodyguards.

After the few of them pushed open the door, they made a path and then a tall and white figure greeted the crowd's sight...

The crowd instantly fell silent as they stared blankly at the man who had suddenly appeared. Their eyes were stunned and filled with admiration.

With his appearance, the entire banquet's splendor had very quickly diminished.

He was extremely handsome and was dressed in an all-white casual suit. His deep eyes seemed to be an ocean that was covered in a myriad of stars and endless profound wisdom. He had a tall nose bridge, thin and indifferent lips, and an honorable and extraordinary reservedness. His aura was low-profile and not brash with an indescribable imposing manner.

He did not care about everyone's gazes as he indifferently walked through the pathway that his bodyguards had paved and went towards the stairs.

When he had passed Xi Mushan, he also swept him indifference without hesitating in his steps.

...

"Enough, Xi Xiaye! Don't make things hard. Today is Xinyi and cousin's big day. I think you've come with resentment just to disrupt things!" Huang Shanshan's furious voice was heard.

She and Han Yifeng exchanged a look before the two of them quickly walked up to Xi Xiaye. Huang Shanshan reached out to grab her by the shoulders while Han Yifeng's target was her hand that was yanking onto Xi Xinyi's har.

While she seemed to know they were going to do this, Xi Xiaye very quickly pushed Xi Xinyi towards them as they were about to rush up. Xi Xinyi screamed, then she crashed right into Han Yifeng. Because Huang Shanshan had held onto Xi Xiaye's arm, she toppled over too.

"Xinyi, are you alright?"

Han Yifeng quickly pulled Xi Xinyi into his arms as he worriedly checked up on her. He saw that her beautiful little face was already swollen to the point that it was unbearable to look at. Her beautiful eyes were red and swelling from all the crying, yet she held back her tears and did not want to let them fall. Her vulnerable demeanor made one's heart ache for her.

"I'm fine... Don't blame her... I just acted on my own... I'm sorry... It wasn't intentional. Please believe me!" Xi Xinyi looked at Xi Xiaye with tear-stained eyes while Huang Shanshan currently pinned her down tightly by the arms.

"Xiaye, you've crossed the line! Look at what day it is! If you're deliberately trying to ruin things, don't blame me for being rude! I haven't questioned you about yesterday's incident, and today you want to do this! Slap her in front of me? You're really disrespectful of your elders! You wanton piece of trash!" Deng Wenwen walked over overbearingly at that moment with a threatening aura. Even Huang Shanshan could not help but tremble.

Xi Xiaye shot her a look before ignoring her. She turned to look at Xi Xinyi's red and swollen face as she leaned into Han Yifeng's embrace. The trace of her slap was particularly obvious on her tear-stained and extremely pitiful face.

"Is that so? I'm really sorry for hitting your face. When I saw your face, I really couldn't control my hand. You'll definitely understand where I'm coming from, won't you?" Xi Xiaye laughed calmly, the sneer in her eyes clear.

"Xiaye, you're too much! You have to make me hate you, don't you? Haven't I told you that if you have any anger, just come for me? Why won't you let go of Xinyi?"

Xi Xinyi buried her face in Han Yifeng's arms and cried silently, making him feel an abrupt fury, especially with Xi Xiaye's mocking gaze.

“Enough! You don’t have to say more to people like her. Grandma Xi, get someone to drag her out right now to avoid ruining things! Look at the occasion today! She did this on purpose! Look at how she slapped Xinyi. I have to give her a few tight slaps!” Huang Shanshan said sternly as she pulled Xi Xiaye hard. Because of the strong force, Xi Xiaye staggered a little too. Deng Wenwen also hinted at the two guards behind her and the two of them rushed up at the same time.

“Is that so? Have you thought about how to give her a few slaps?” A deep and apathetic voice suddenly came from behind.

Yue Lingsi and the rest felt that they were pushed to the wall by a pair of strong arms as several dark shadows flashed past them and the entire staircase corridor instantly became cramped.

When she heard the familiar voice, Xi Xinyi instantly lifted her swollen face and looked towards the white figure that appeared. After she had a good look at who it was, she forgot about crying and then cried in alarm, “Chairman Mu!”

The few of them were startled then and there. They looked on in shock at the dashing, honorable man that had suddenly appeared before them.

Huang Shanshan was also stunned in that instance. The hand that she had lifted in the air abruptly stopped as she quietly stared at Mu Yuchen’s handsome face. Her furious gaze became a little misty and she could not help but become absent-minded.

The corridor suddenly had a momentary silence.

“Oh, it’s Chairman Mu... We didn’t think that you’d...” Deng Wenwen was experienced after all, so she could immediately react and quickly went up to greet him.

While Mu Yuchen did not even look at her, his still and calm gaze swept Xi Xiaye, and then fell onto Huang Shanshan’s raised hand. “If you slap her, it means you’re slapping me. Are you sure you want to do that?”

“It... It was her who hit Xinyi first... She crossed the line... This wicked woman! Look at how... how she hit Xinyi!”

Because of Mu Yuchen’s strong presence and his silent, apathetic gaze, Huang Shanshan’s voice started to tremble a little.

“There are many who say she’s wicked. Wait, you’re person number what? It’s her problem whoever she hits, but you can’t hit her,” Mu Yuchen calmly commanded, then he reached out to pull Xi Xiaye, who had kept quiet, away. He suddenly turned around.

Those who were familiar with Mu Yuchen would know that his temper was famous for justifying his shortcomings!

Huang Shanshan’s beautiful face had already turned extremely stiff! She never would have thought that Mu Yuchen would be so mean.

She pulled Xi Xiaye back and unsteadily staggered a few steps. She subconsciously wriggled out of his grip, yet a stern warning gaze made her stop what she was doing.

Her expression changed slightly as she looked towards Deng Wenwen and the rest. All of them were simply shocked.

Chapter 125. Man To The Rescue (2)

He held Xi Xiaye firmly by the wrist as he walked calmly and pulled her away as if he did not see the conflict earlier at all.

“Congratulations, CEO Han. I’ve always thought that the woman in your arms was quite familiar. Now I remember, I seemed to have seen her at the evening show the last time in New York, but now that she’s changed into such fashion, I didn’t immediately recognize her. Your taste is quite unique.”

When he passed Han Yifeng, the man suddenly stopped in his steps. His handsome face that was as calm as water curved into an elegant smile as he said with a deep and calm voice, “Using force to bully others isn’t something that only you people can do. It’s also nothing out of the ordinary for me.”

“Could you be here to be disruptive too, Chairman Mu?” Han Yifeng could already hear the hostility in Mu Yuchen’s tone.

Mu Yuchen smiled. “How could I disrupt you matching pair? Someone who can denounce and criticize another woman on behalf a woman doesn’t deserve to be called a man. CEO Han, do you think you deserve to be called a man?”

Han Yifeng was startled, but before he could react, Mu Yuchen’s smile had already faded and he returned to his usually calm and indifferent expression as he continued to pull Xi Xiaye forward.

“However, when I meet something like this, I usually make a move right away!” As Mu Yuchen said this, a scream was immediately heard!

Reflexively, Ah Mo kicked Huang Shanshan who was trying to trip Xi Xiaye with her leg. She screamed miserably and fell to the ground embarrassingly before gripping her leg and crying out in pain!

“Chairman Mu!”

“Sis!”

“Shanshan!”

Yue Lingsi, Xi Xinyi, and the rest quickly chased after them, but they were stopped by Ah Mo and the rest. The two guards earlier were also blocked and the others could not get close at all.

Han Yifeng looked horrible. He obviously could tell that Mu Yuchen was mocking him, implying that he did not deserve to be called a man!

“Mu Yuchen, let go...”

Xi Xiaye tried hard to struggle free of his large hand. She could feel that her wrist started to hurt from his grip and she frowned at him. “Why did you come over?”

“What do you think?” Mu Yuchen just took his hand back, his silent eyes locking onto her. She could easily tell that he was unhappy.

Xi Xiaye met with his deep eyes and her thin lips parted slightly. She wanted to say something, yet she did not know how to say it. In the end, she looked away and then picked up her pace to walk ahead.

Mu Yuchen looked at Xi Xiaye who had gone ahead and already reached the edge of the staircase. A gloom flashed in his eyes, then he took huge strides and caught up with her. He reached her with a few wide steps and held onto Xi Xiaye’s wrist again.

“If you throw a fit again, you have to responsible for the consequences!”

In that instant that Xi Xiaye struggled, he warned her softly. His tone had an imposing manner that could not be defied and it forcefully pushed Xi Xiaye’s temper down.

“Ah Mo, I don’t want to see any news that shouldn’t be reported in tomorrow’s newspapers,” he said. Then, he pulled Xi Xiaye to rush downstairs and immediately pass through the crowd. Before everyone could react, their figures had already vanished outside the door. Their movements were swift as if they were dreaming. The interlude flashed past their minds and then vanished without a trace.

The crowd caused a commotion. They could not even react to what had just happened.

With such a sudden appearance and quick departure, he was calm and collected as if he had just entered his own home.

Even Xi Mushan looked a little puzzledly at the black and white figure that had disappeared at the door. He turned to look towards the stairs and saw Deng Wenwen, Yue Lingsi, and the rest who had run down.

“What happened?”

Such a weird and sudden change astonished Han Yu too. His mind flashed with Mu Yuchen's figure and vaguely felt that it was a little familiar, but he could not remember where he had seen him before. He just knew that the person was definitely extraordinary!

"It's Chairman Mu! Why are he and Xiaye...?"

The person who spoke was Huang Ziyao. At the moment, she looked shocked as well. She looked lost at Han Yu. When she thought about the scene that had just happened, it was easy to tell that he had come to get Xi Xiaye out of her predicament!

Xi Mushan looked thoughtfully at the door again, then said, "Enough. We'll discuss later. Now, the banquet should continue!" However, he hinted something to his secretary, Ah Hui, who nodded knowingly and then retreated.

On the second floor, in Xi Xinyi's room.

Xi Xinyi was sitting before the mirror as she tearfully looked at her swollen face. It was so bad that she could not even see its original outline. Her hands that hit under her skirt had already become tight fists. The fiery pain almost made it unbearable. Until now, she could still feel the buzzing in her ears. Xi Xiaye had been vicious.

When she heard the sound of footsteps behind her, she lowered her gaze and hid the dim light that flashed in her eyes as her tight fists slowly relaxed.

She looked up into the mirror. Apart from her unbearably swollen face, there was also Han Yifeng's handsome and dashing figure.

"Xinyi, how are you?"

Han Yifeng held an ice bag in his hand. He bent down to her side, his eyes filled with concern as he doted on her.

Xi Xinyi weakly sniffed as she stubbornly held back the tears that welled up in her eyes, not letting them fall. Han Yifeng's hands had just closed in on her swollen face when tears the size of beads started to patter and fall onto the back of his hand.

Han Yifeng felt his heart wrench, but he could only pull her into his embrace. She could not suppress her emotions anymore as she wept.

"Yifeng, I'm really heartbroken. How could she do this to me? Does she hate me that much? Could it be that right from the start... we were wrong? If that's the case, I'd rather not have known you right from the start..."

She choked on her sobs as she said. A while after that, she just cried and her tears dampened Han Yifeng's shirt.

"Xinyi, from now on, it's best if you disturb her less just as she wishes..."

Han Yifeng's eyes were mixed with emotions, he looked down at Xi Xinyi who was crying in his arms. He did not forget the words that Xi Xiaye had said earlier.

Xi Xinyi had gone to University A to look for Xiaye's mother and had even mentioned something about a 20% of shares. Even though he did not know what it meant for sure, he could tell that something was off.

"I just wanted to make everyone do better. I didn't think that Sister would be so determined. I didn't expect that she'd really come and make us look so... so embarrassed. I'm sorry, Yifeng. I didn't know that she'd call Chairman Mu over too. Why would she...?"

Xi Xinyi wiped her tears away with the back of her hand. She sniffed and looked at Han Yifeng through tear-blurred eyes. Her voice was weak and raspy. "Yifeng, tell me, at this point, what else can I do?"

Chapter 126. Man To The Rescue (3)

Han Yifeng softly consoled her, "It's okay, Xinyi. You have good intentions but it didn't work out. Xiaye always hated others disturbing her mother. I remember that day I already reminded you, but you didn't listen to me. Don't think too much. Now, tidy up a little and put on some fresh makeup. The people have already waited for very long downstairs."

When he saw Huang Shanshan appear at the door, Han Yifeng pulled Xi Xinyi away from his embrace and handed the ice bag to Huang Shanshan. "Help her get it together. The people downstairs should be impatient now. I'll go change."

He looked down at the shirt that had already been wrinkled from Xi Xinyi crying into it. Helpless, he could only sigh on the inside.

"Okay, Cousin, you go first. Leave Cousin Sister-in-law to me."

Huang Shanshan quickly took the ice bag.

"Xinyi, you said that the man earlier was Chairman Mu from Glory World? Is that the Master Mu who appears and disappears unpredictably?" Huang Shanshan closed in and as she helped Xi Xinyi ice her face, she asked a little preoccupiedly, "How did that slut Xi Xiaye get connected to Master Mu?"

Hearing Huang Shanshan, Xi Xinyi was a little stumped for words. She subconsciously turned to look at the absent-minded Huang Shanshan as something flashed in her eyes. It was so quick that no one could catch it. She then nodded gently. "He is Chairman Mu. At Glory World's anniversary last night, I even saw him myself. I can't be wrong. As for Sister, she's a director at Glory World... It makes sense for Chairman Mu to defend her..."

Even though Xi Xinyi said this, she still found it a little odd.

Even if Xi Xiaye was a director at Glory World, the words that Chairman Mu said earlier was not courteous at all. That manner of his did not seem like it was purely a superior sticking out his neck for his subordinate!

Could it be that Glory World's Chairman Mu and Xi Xiaye were...?

When she thought about this possibility, Xi Xinyi's heart tightened. The pale hand that gripped onto her skirt subconsciously tensed up and her eyes shifted.

“That slut really lucked out. I can’t believe she could even... but Master Mu was really...”

As Huang Shanshan spoke, she thought about Mu Yuchen’s handsome face again. He was really the highest of high-quality men!

...

Outside West Park, Mu Yuchen immediately carried Xi Xiaye to his car. Evidently, he was not in too pleasant of a mood either.

“Mu Yuchen, let go!” Xi Xiaye struggled hard. When they reached the car, Mu Yuchen let her go. His tall body turned, and in a flash, he pushed the top of the door open and circled her. His brooding gaze carried a constricting force as he towered over her.

“Explain what happened today! I remember that you said you wouldn’t come here again. Is it because you can’t get over Han Yifeng? Explain to me, Missus!”

His tone was very calm, yet Xi Xiaye could vaguely tell that there was an unusual air about it, especially when he emphasized the words “Missus”. It came with a hint of warning.

“It’s not what you think.” She looked away, not wanting to continue looking into his threatening eyes.

“Do you know what I’m thinking? Look at me!” Mu Yuchen’s tone was very dismal as he stared at her beautiful and apathetic little face, yet she ignored him. She just reached out to massage her wrist that hurt from his grasp.

“You’ve really become skilled! Can’t I control you? Is it because you can’t bear to see that Han Yifeng get engaged?”

Mu Yuchen squinted as he watched her. He still used that calm tone, not showing his emotions.

“I said it’s not because of him!” Xi Xiaye stubbornly replied.

“If that’s not the case, why don’t you dare to look at me? Feeling guilty?”

Mu Yuchen knew how to provoke her. Once he said this calm sentence, he shot her a side look, causing her to raise her voice as she glared at him. “I’ll look at you! Do you think I’m afraid of you?”

Seeing her gaze containing hurt, Mu Yuchen’s eyes instantly darkened and he said softly, “I rushed here to your rescue and you’re going to act this way? Looking at me like that?”

Xi Xiaye did not respond. She just looked down at her wrist that was about to break from his grasp. Mu Yuchen looked down and followed her gaze too. He then noticed that her wrist was bruised.

No wonder she had struggled so hard earlier. He thought she had wanted to sever all relations with him at such a moment!

“Are you a melon? Don’t you know how to shout?” Mu Yuchen’s gaze then eased a little and he looked at her from the side. He was about to reach out when Xiaye shot him a look and said coldly, “Did you give me a chance, Mr. Mu?”

Then, she just ignored him and pulled the car door open to get in.

“Did I cover your mouth?” Mr. Mu coldly glared at her too. Then, he walked towards the driver’s seat, pulled the car door open and got in. As he helped her put on the seat belt, he said softly, “You’re quite bold, hitting that woman like that. However, I think for such a matter, that man should take on a few more slaps to the face.”

Xi Xiaye was slowly calming her uneven breaths down. She shot him a look and said without courtesy, “You make it sound like you’re so enlightened! Xi Xinyi and Grandm-... CEO Deng went to look for my mother at University A for Yueying’s 20% shares. Back then, my father wanted to compensate Mother, so... as for the things Xi Xinyi did, do you think a few slaps could compensate for it? If she’s going to be this dumb again, I dare to splash acid on her!”

As he listened, Mu Yuchen just calmly glanced at her. He softly commented, “How wicked!” Then, he stepped on the accelerator and the car very quickly drove away from West Park.

“There are many who say I’m wicked. You’re person number what?” Xiaye shot him a glance with disdain, shamefully using his own words from earlier. “As long as it can make me feel better, I can be even more wicked. I’ve endured the hard times aplenty anyway.”

Mu Yuchen smiled. “You’ve caught on pretty quickly! Fine, if you still don’t feel better, then go look for them for revenge. You taking it out on me like this is harming the innocent.”

“Didn’t you say that you don’t mind me taking out my fury on you? Back then, you even made a solemn vow and made yourself sound like a saint. Now, you’re saying you’re innocent!” She complained unhappily.

Mu Yuchen could not help but laugh aloud. He reached over and patted her hand on her lap. “Okay, okay. Consider it a slip of the tongue. You can take it out on me as you wish. I didn’t hear anything and I won’t argue with you.”

Seeing that she was fine, he was relieved. He would not care about the rest for now.

Now, Xiaye finally eased a little. She turned on her side to look at him, thinking about something. Then, she asked softly, “Hey, Mr. Mu, earlier you said that you saw Xi Xinyi at some evening show in New York. Is that real or fake?”

“Why? What naughty things do you want to do now?”

Mu Yuchen’s handsome brows raised as he shot her a curious glance.

Chapter 127. Returning Late

Her eyes twinkled like the stars, and she shrugged. “I’m just curious.”

“Do you think that your Mr. Mu is the kind of person who goes to such places?” Mu Yuchen looked at her thoughtfully.

“Then, why did you say that you’ve seen Xi Xinyi in a nightclub in New York?” She lifted a hand to gather her messy hair as she asked disapprovingly.

“I just said that I seemed to have. It’s been so long. How would I remember whether I’ve been there or if I’ve seen her?”

“How despicable!”

As she listened to him, Xi Xiaye’s beautiful face could not help but flash with a faint ripple, yet her eyes filled with a warm light. She looked down at his large hand that cupped the back of her hand.

“You didn’t hurt your shoulder injury, did you?” Mu Yuchen did not bicker with her further. He just asked her softly as he leaned towards her, yet she just turned her head away and looked out the window. She answered plainly, “It’s fine!”

He laughed and without saying anything anymore, he just sped up.

The car sped all the way to Grand Waves Villa area as Xi Xiaye stared out of the car window. The sky was also gradually turning dark outside. When they drove past the supermarket near the Grand Waves Villa area, Mu Yuchen finally stopped the car. She figured that she had to make a trip to the supermarket too.

There were many people in the supermarket since everyone was preparing to purchase Chinese New Year goods. All the hampers and gifts on display filled one’s eyes with glitter. They had just walked through the supermarket entrance when piles of festive items greeted their sight.

Mu Yuchen frowned slightly as he watched Xiaye get the trolley. He fell silent for a moment before walking over.

Xi Xiaye watched as he took the trolley over from her, his handsome brows furrowing. Then, he turned to look at her, his gaze as clear as autumn water. She could not help but ask, “For someone as prestigious as you, is it your first time in the supermarket?”

Nevertheless, Mu Yuchen gazed at her as if he wondered if she was a moron. “Did you think that all the yummy food you ate at home before this had flown into the refrigerator by themselves?”

“Mr. Mu, I notice that you have a bad habit — you keep attacking me with your speech and your tone is very unfriendly like a military instructor treating his troops. In fact, don’t think that I don’t know. Those ingredients were all bought by either Ah Mo or Li Si...” Xi Xiaye smiled as she glanced at him.

His long arms circled and then held her by the shoulders. He pushed the trolley with one hand and smiled, not bothering to defend himself. “If I really were a military instructor, I would’ve removed you by now. With your attitude, I’d give you 50 points at the most for your total assessment score.”

“Why don’t you just give me 60? In fact, don’t you know that giving 59 points is even more savage than giving 50?” Xi Xiaye raised her brows and looked puzzledly at him.

“Because 59 points will make you guys remember more. Did you think that this score was simply given out?”

...

A while after, Xi Xiaye had already tossed a bunch of things into her trolley, but Mr. Mu had put a lot of things back from behind her. The reasoning was simple: no taking junk food that allayed one’s hunger!

No wonder this woman was so skinny.

Now that he thought about it, if a person lived alone, they would usually be more carefree, especially the working class. When they were usually hungry for a meal, they would eat the next meal. Sometimes if they were too tired when they reached home after work, they would lie on the bed and wake up to the start of a new day.

Even though Mu Yuchen came from a prestigious family, it was obvious that Mu Tangchuan and the rest did not raise him like a prince. On the contrary, after he entered high school, the family did not give him anymore allowance. The old fellows from the Su family and the Zhou family had discussed and agreed to all do the same. Su Chen and Zhou Zimo were raised like that too. After that, they were even sent off to a military academy where their days were pretty arduous.

The three buddies had hustled for a livelihood before, so they knew the feeling extremely well.

Now, all of it was different...

“Don’t eat these things anymore. Otherwise, why do you think we got married for?”

His deep yet sensitive voice suddenly echoed. Under Xiaye’s shocked gaze, he reached out to take over the hardtack in her hand and put it back onto the shelf.

Seeing her empty hands, Xi Xiaye was stumped and her twinkling eyes suddenly flashed with a faint light. A sense of ease ran through her indifferent face as she looked at him, then quietly lowered her eyes.

Yes, she was used to it...

Every time she shopped at the supermarket, she would stop at these items out of habit — hardtack, instant noodles, or food like frozen dumplings...

She fell silent for a moment. After thinking about it, she then suddenly felt a little pained in her heart. As she blinked, there was an instance when she could not help but be slightly moved by his attentive consideration.

“Have you eaten these things too, Mr. Mu?” She turned over and walked ahead as she calmly asked him.

“When I was serving in the army, I’d always eat late at night with Su Chen and Zhou Zimo. Nothing feels more familiar than seeing them even though it doesn’t taste great,” he answered very calmly.

She always thought that he should be the same as Han Yifeng, or even lived better than Han Yifeng. The latter had lived like a prince since he was young and was still living the way a master did. She did not expect him to be like her and she believed that he needed to be thrown into this cruel society to improve himself and settle...

She suddenly remembered something that her grandpa, Shen Yue, had said to her.

Xiaye, true growth requires going through the grind of society and years of settling. A true relationship is like that too. It needs to go through time's wear and tear, accumulating and settling, before it can truly blossom and bear fruit.

...

She thought about it, and then suddenly smiled. She abruptly turned to him. "Actually, I don't like to eat these things either."

Her bright and moving smile entered his sight, making him suddenly feel soft in the heart. His usual apathy for everything seemed to carry some faint warmth. When he thought about the endless decades that he would continue to journey on with her, there was a faint joy in his eyes.

This feeling felt pretty solid and he decided that he quite liked this new life.

When they walked out of the supermarket with huge bags of groceries, it was already close to five in the evening. The warm sun on the horizon had gradually dimmed and it was not as warm as it had been earlier.

They put the things in the back seat, and then the husband and wife got into the car.

Mu Yuchen was about to start the car when suddenly he heard a little girl speak up in a crisp voice, "Big brother, buy a bouquet of roses for Sister!"

When he heard her, Mu Yuchen wound his car window down and looked out. Indeed, he saw a very adorable little girl holding a flower basket, standing not too far away from his car and smiling at him. The flower basket was filled with tender and alluring red roses which were very beautiful.

He smiled, then waved to the girl, indicating for her to go over.

The little girl ran over very quickly.

He took out a few crimson notes from his wallet and handed it to the girl while saying softly, "Is this enough to buy all your flowers?"

The little girl nodded before she quickly put all the roses in her basket together and made a simple and imperfect huge bouquet. Then, she handed it to Mu Yuchen...

Chapter 128. Maple Residence Gathering (1)

"These flowers look pretty. Do all you women like these sort of things?" As he said this, he passed the bouquet to Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye's brows raised. She took one look at the bouquet in full bloom, then her eyes fell onto his handsome face. "I don't know about other people, but the more I look at it, I find that I do quite like it!"

She accepted the flowers and lowered her head to smell them. "Coincidentally, the blue rose in the vase at home has withered. I'll put these in the vase when we get back. I keep feeling like the house feels livelier when we decorate it with little things like this. What do you think, Mr. Mu?"

"The Missus is right. Let's go home. The two of them are probably rushing over soon." Then, he started the car.

Soon, the car that was draped with a gentle golden radiance of the setting sun sped towards the Grand Waves Villa area, bringing with it the delight of returning late.

Some things quietly changed just like that with the wash of time. Just as the sunset that gradually changed with the horizon, after the sunset, what came after would be the magnificent sky of stars...

...

After they returned to Maple Residence, the husband and wife did not rest. Drinking a glass of water, Xi Xiaye followed Mu Yuchen into the kitchen and helped him out.

"Mr. Mu, is this little water enough for the rice?" She brought the pot over and asked Mu Yuchen who was busy cutting the vegetables.

Mu Yuchen looked from the side and took over the pot to pour away some of the water. "There's too much. Mmm, it's fine now. Go play some music."

Then, he plugged the pot in to cook.

When the man cooked, he liked listening to relaxing music. She had asked him about it before and he said that cooking was a relaxing pleasure. Of course, he wanted to increase the quality of his pleasure.

He had a bunch of nonsensical logic. Sometimes she felt like he was just used to living like an old man. He was also so unhurried. Cooking just one meal would always take him more than an hour such as that soup he had stewed a few days ago. Being in the mood and having the time, he stewed it for quite a few hours...

"Which CD to play?" She gave him a look and took the towel he handed to wipe her wet hands as she asked.

"You decide. They're all the same genre," he just said and continued cutting his potato slices.

She put the towel aside and walked out. A while after that, a piece of relaxing and alluring music started floating throughout the villa.

It was a very, very old Oscar hit which sounded pretty mellow and quite encouraging.

Say you, say me...

When she returned to the kitchen and saw his busy figure, she suddenly could not help request, "Mr. Mu, can you make that steak with honey sauce? That one's quite nice."

"Mmm, I'll make it for you later," he answered calmly, his soft and gentle tone like a father coaxing a gluttonous little girl. "You've been eating this dish for the past few days. Haven't you gotten tired of it?"

She smiled cheerfully and walked over to say softly, "This is my most honest approval of your culinary skills. Shouldn't you be happy?"

"Missus, your approval is too cheap." He chuckled before putting the shredded potato on the plate. At that moment, the doorbell outside buzzed.

Xi Xiaye subconsciously raised her brows and looked at him, thinking that it must be those two buddies he mentioned who had arrived. She could not help but be a little nervous. In the meanwhile, he just took the towel to wipe his hands, looking calm as usual.

"They're probably here. Let's go out to take a look."

Then, he walked towards the door as she quietly watched his back. A while after that, she followed him.

The sky had already darkened outside at this point and the streetlights outside the villa had already automatically lit up. The dim yellow light warmly blanketed the floor.

Mu Yuchen switched the living room light on and the bright and warm lights instantly filled the whole house. He subconsciously slowed down to wait until Xi Xiaye had caught up, then he continued picking up his pace to walk ahead.

"The two of them are pretty easy to talk to. Since you're a woman, they can only let you be. If they ask you anything and you find them going overboard, just nod or shake your head. It's fine. Don't be so dumb," Mu Yuchen reminded his lady Xiaye as he strolled slowly.

"Mr. Mu, are you worried that I'm going to be taken advantage of?" Xi Xiaye who walked beside him suddenly turned to look at him and smiled calmly.

"I was just worried that not only will you be embarrassing, but that you'll embarrass me too." Mu Yuchen shot her a look. "Missus, your husband's image will rely on you to hold up today. I don't hope that you will be in high spirits or be a killer. Just be normal. What are you nervous for?"

Just as Xiaye wanted to ask something, the man had already walked over with huge strides and pressed the switch at the door. With a click, the tightly closed door ahead finally opened slowly.

What entered her sight was a domineering and flashy Range Rover. With one look, she knew it was Su Chen's signature car. This fellow had been advised many times by the old revolutionaries at home about this car. They had even organized many sessions for criticizing him. Lastly, unable to handle being a traitor, he confessed that he had gotten it from Mu Yuchen and had even signed a letter of indebtedness with Mu Yuchen, causing the latter to be criticized by the Su family elders on an international call!

Among the three buddies, Master Zhou Zimo and Mu Yuchen were both in the gentle and calm party. Their manners were graceful, and they preferred to be reserved and low-profile while Su Chen was the steadfast, domineering type. He looked a little imposing, but it could also be because of his profession.

However, Mu Yuchen and Zhou Zimo knew Su Chen's personality. Among the buddies, the one who fooled around the most was him and Zhou Zimo second. If he wanted to go wild, he was not bad at all, but Mu Yuchen was quieter instead. He was mild-tempered, but he definitely would not make things awkward because his dry humor could quickly liven up the atmosphere.

The three buddies had been playmates since they were young, so naturally, their relationship was extraordinary.

"Master! Missus!" Ah Mo's voice greeted. Xi Xiaye looked up and saw Ah Mo walking over wearing a black tuxedo.

Usually, the buddies' dinners did not leave Ah Mo out. To them, he was one of their good friends as well, so Mu Yuchen had let him attend.

Xi Xiaye nodded. At that moment, Ah Mo handed a folder and a very nicely packaged gift box to Xi Xiaye. "Missus, Mayor Xi made Li Si take this for you. Since I was coming over, I thought I'd bring it along."

When she heard him, Xi Xiaye was startled and she looked down at the items before her. Then, she remembered Xi Mushan's words. He did say that he had some things for her to take for her mother, Shen Wenna.

That afternoon, after she left with Mu Yuchen, she did not think about it anymore. Now, she wondered what became of Han Yifeng and Xi Xinyi's engagement banquet in the end.

Chapter 129. Maple Residence Gathering (2)

Ah Mo seemed to know what Xi Xiaye was thinking, so he continued, "Missus, the engagement ceremony ended earlier with the reason that Xi Xinyi was unwell at last. Mayor Xi had already left City Z with a plan tonight, so these..."

Xi Xiaye looked on with mixed emotions in her eyes at the items. Just as she was hesitating about whether or not to take them, the man beside her suddenly said softly, "Bring it to the study room."

"Yes, Master!"

The instant Mu Yuchen said that, Ah Mo brought the items into the villa. Behind them came the sound of a car door closing.

Xi Xiaye very quickly snapped out of it. She thought about how she was going to call the Shen residence after dinner later, but now she had to receive her guests first.

As she thought about this, she breathed in slightly, and then looked up at the sound. Two tall and lofty figures instantly entered their sight.

One wore a tailored metallic grey tuxedo, while the other wore a silver-gray mid-length windbreaker. The two of them were elusive, handsome guys.

The one in the metallic grey suit was elegant in aura besides being handsome and refined. He was Zhou Zimo and was no stranger to Xi Xiaye. Previously, at a certain banquet, she had seen him before.

The other was steadfast and attractive. He looked quite easy-going as he carried an indescribable imposing manner. He should be the important and highly-positioned Master Su!

The two of them walked in through the door one after another. When they saw Xi Xiaye before Mu Yuchen, the two of them stopped in their steps.

“It’s quite hard to even see you. How many times have the both of us called you only to be told off by you? You even told Ah Mo to tell us to prepare generous gifts. What are you going on about?” Su Chen stood firm when he immediately frowned and asked.

“I’m very curious about what you mean by having us prepare generous gifts too. I asked Ah Mo, and even he was mysterious about it!” The instant Su Chen finished, Zhou Zimo’s voice echoed.

Mu Yuchen looked indifferent. Some light shifted in his eyes as he asked, “Does that mean that you’ve prepared your generous gifts?”

“That will depend on what you’re up to... Whether it’s befitting of the generous gifts that we’ve put together with great care.” Su Chen and Zhou Zimo exchanged a look before they silently nodded and looked together at Mu Yuchen.

Mu Yuchen smiled. Suddenly turning to his side, he pulled Xiaye who stood behind him out. His long arms gently circled her shoulders and his deep and sensitive voice was heard. “This is Su Chen. You should know him. This is Zhou Zimo, the Master Zhou that you guys always discuss.”

Mu Yuchen pointed at the two of them and introduced them to Xi Xiaye.

Then, he looked at Su Chen and Zhou Zimo to say, “This is Xi Xiaye, my wife, your younger brother’s wife or your sister-in-law.”

When he said this, Su Chen and Zhou Zimo were stumped for words. The two instantly looked like they had been struck by lightning. Their eyes flew wide and they suddenly unknowingly looked around. A while after that, their eyes stopped on Xi Xiaye before them.

“Nice to meet you. I’m Xi Xiaye,” Xi Xiaye very amiably and appropriately greeted them as she spoke lightly.

When they heard her voice, Su Chen and Zhou Zimo snapped back to reality as they stared at Xi Xiaye. Then, their eyes fell onto Mu Yuchen who remained calm.

“Aren’t you planning to explain anything?” Su Chen frowned and asked.

“What’s there to explain? We’re married,” Mu Yuchen plainly said and then turned to indicate for them to go in.

“Xi Xiaye? Director Xi? Glory World’s Director Xi?”

At this moment, Zhou Zimo vaguely recalled Xi Xiaye. He did remember her and seemed to have heard that she was a director at Glory World who Elder Mu recognized.

“Wow, Ah Chen! You’ve become the hare that eats grass by its burrow [1]!”

The buddies had been playing together since they were young. Just one look at each other and they easily knew what each other meant, so when Zhou Zimo said this, Su Chen immediately responded, “Let’s go in first. It’s quite cold outside.”

Mu Yuchen was unperturbed as he looked at the two of them. Then, he pulled Xi Xiaye along and turned to walk into the villa, quickly closing the door behind them.

He had just walked into the villa when he let go of Xi Xiaye and said, “Go to the store and choose a few bottles of wine.”

Xi Xiaye looked up at him, then at Su Chen and Zhou Zimo who were still in shock. She thought about it, then nodded and quietly walked towards the storeroom.

Mu Yuchen watched her figure vanish past the door. He turned to the duo who had already taken off their coats and changed their shoes. Without saying anything, he just returned to the kitchen.

Su Chen and Zhou Zimo exchanged a look, then they followed after him.

In the spacious kitchen, Mu Yuchen was working on the steak with honey sauce that Xi Xiaye had requested. Su Chen and Zhou Zimo were also helping out with the other dishes. Even though their

culinary skills were not on par with Mu Yuchen's, they were usually used to being well-fed and clothed by themselves. Contrary to popular belief, they did not have any harmful habits of rich sons of capitalists or government officials.

As Zhou Zimo washed the ingredients, he looked at Mu Yuchen from the side and could not help but comment, "Why did you get married so suddenly? Even if your family pressured you, you don't seem to be the kind that would simply compromise. It's been so many years. I haven't seen them really be able to control you."

"He is definitely crazy, Zimo. I'm telling you, I've always thought that even when our two children can goof off together, he might not even be married. I mean, has he been interested in any women all these years? The bros don't even know how he got through all those years," Su Chen voiced out.

"His brain was always filled with different things compared to everyone else. Who knows what he's thinking about again?"

Zhou Zimo shook his head as he looked at Mu Yuchen and laughed. "But this Xi Xiaye seems pretty impressive. She fits your taste in women. Even if you don't want to explain, we buddies are too lazy to ask. As long as you're satisfied, you're the one who has to bear all of this anyway."

"No wonder you keep saying you're busy. It turns out that you're busy with your wife at home! But what are you actually thinking? Why did you get married without saying a word? You're only 30, man. 30! We haven't even messed around enough and you're married. You've really gone mad!"

Su Chen handed the plate to Mu Yuchen in a manner that seemed like he really wanted to advise him earnestly.

...

The two of them kept bantering until finally, Mu Yuchen said casually, "I wanted to change a different kind of lifestyle. What's so bad about that? Who told you that life after marriage would be duller than before?"

Chapter 130. Maple Residence Gathering (3)

When he said this, Su Chen was startled. Then, he remembered that Mu Yuchen seemed to be just like that. With a mild-tempered life coupled with his personality, whether or not he got married did not seem to make any difference.

“Do you know all about Xi Xiaye’s past? I have never heard of you interacting with her. It’s no wonder when I asked Ah Mo, he just mumbled and didn’t explain properly. It’s fine if you want to marry a woman, but you must know her background well. Do you want me to help you investigate? The elder of your family and the rest might not know about her past either. Otherwise...”

“That’s enough...” Mu Yuchen suddenly interrupted him. He lifted his still eyes and looked at Su Chen and Zhou Zimo who stood side by side. His eyes were peaceful and distant. “I have now set my heart on her and married her. Everything started anew from the moment we signed those marriage papers. I don’t want to know about everything in the past anymore.”

He then averted his gaze and silently turned around. Moments later, he added, “She didn’t ask about my past either, so what’s so bad about it?”

When Mu Yuchen said this, the two of them were stunned.

They saw that he had already continued attending to his cooking. Exchanging a look, Su Chen and Zhou Zimo’s eyes could not help but force a smile.

This was their first time seeing Mu Yuchen being so protective over a person. In fact, it was a woman, and one who did not look that outstanding.

However, they seemed to vaguely feel that Xi Xiaye carried an aura similar to that of Mu Yuchen’s. Her gaze was distant and she had a stubborn coldness. Could it be that they understood each other’s burdens?

What kind of girl was Xi Xiaye?

Seeing that he did not want to continue talking about it, Su Chen and Zhou Zimo did not ask further. Silently, they thought about it and then nodded before sighing, “Okay, since that’s the case, what else

can we say? We trust your choices and we only have well wishes left for you. We hope that this will actually be a good thing for you.”

“When are you planning to have the wedding?” Zhou Zimo finished cutting the shredded potatoes and handed them to Mu Yuchen as he asked.

Mu Yuchen’s quiet and handsome face eased a little now. “We’ve been busy, so it won’t be too soon, but we’ll inform you when the time comes.”

...

When Xi Xiaye picked a few bottles of wine and returned to the living room, she realized that the few of them were still busy in the kitchen. She did not go over to join in the fun. Instead, she just looked at the bouquet of roses that Mu Yuchen had given her before picking up the scissors and vase...

Her movements were swift. Soon, the blooming bouquet of red roses was trimmed and arranged in the vase. She was just about to clean up the fallen branches and leaves when suddenly the man’s soft and gentle voice entered her ear.

“Stop being busy now. Tidy up a little and help us prepare the bowls and chopsticks.”

Turning to look, she noticed that he had already brought the dishes out of the kitchen while Ah Mo was also opening a bottle.

“Mmm...”

She stood up and very quickly swept the branches and leaves into the bin beside her. After she straightened the vase, she then walked over.

When she reached his side, she asked softly and subconsciously looked at the kitchen, “Can we eat already? I saw that you guys were chatting pretty happily, so I didn’t want to disturb you. However, I’m quite surprised that the two of them also would know how to...”

“When we were serving in the army, Su Chen made a mistake, so his old man sent him to the cooking shift for almost half a year. In that time, we’d always run over to his place late at night to eat,” Mu Yuchen explained and walked over.

A while after that, the dishes were done. The five of them sat around the table. Across the husband and wife were Su Chen and Zhou Zimo. Standing, Ah Mo poured the wine into their glasses.

Su Chen and Zhou Zimo exchanged glances simultaneously as they started to examine the couple, Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye. In just one glimpse, they actually felt that there was underlying chemistry and they looked very fitting. In fact, they acted like a couple that had been married for years such as right now.

Mu Yuchen took the bottle of wine that Ah Mo served and Xi Xiaye, who was looking down, had looked up in that instant. She exchanged a wet handkerchief with the wine in his hand.

Then, he said, “Here’s some whiskey. This one isn’t suitable for you, so you’re only allowed to taste a little of it, hmm?”

She looked at the glass that contained a wee bit of whiskey. After some thought, she then lightly nodded.

...

Su Chen silently observed the married couple, Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye, across him for quite a while, before finally sighing to himself and announcing, “Look at you two. Since the deed is done, Zimo and I don’t know what else we can say. As your brothers, we can only sincerely wish you well. May you two live well and give birth to a chubby little one for us to play with next year!”

As he said this, his eyes fell onto Xi Xiaye, his voice at ease. “Sis-in-law... Eh, I think it’s better if I call you Xiaye. Otherwise, calling you Sis-in-law feels a little too weird. Ah Chen is number two among the three of us, yet he’s the one that’s lacking love the most. Since you’ve married him, you’d better guard him well. He’s a pretty steady fella. This one... You won’t lose out by sticking to him.”

“I agree with Su Chen too, Sis-in-law Xiaye. We’ll hand Ah Chen to you now. You’d better care for him well and give him warmth. We buddies wish you well. Come, let’s drink to this!”

Xi Xiaye listened and then quietly turned to gaze at him. She then smiled and nodded gently before cheerfully raising her glass and smiling. "Thank you all."

Clink!

The sound of the wine glasses gently tinkling was heard. The beautiful light glided in a curve in the glass as they downed the wine.

"Right, is Lingshi coming back for the New Year this year? That girl called me last month, telling me to get her a driving license. She's probably planning to return to the country." Su Chen poured himself a drink as he turned to Mu Yuchen to ask.

"She's only returning after the New Year. Grandfather and Grandmother are worried about letting her live abroad alone for a long period of time," Mu Yuchen answered. He fell silent for a moment, then continued, "After Imperial Sky Entertainment City is up and running, we'll let her take over it."

"That girl's been growing these few years. Do you really dare to let her take over? Aren't you worried she'll be taken advantage of?" Zhou Zimo lifted his glass of wine for a sip and smiled as he teased.

"Does she look like someone who's willing to make a loss? Just with her personality, others will be taken advantage of, but not her!"

Su Chen looked disapprovingly at Zhou Zimo. He laughed, swiveling to Mu Yuchen. When he saw that he remained calm and Xi Xiaye seemed puzzled, he thought about it, and then set the topic aside. He did not continue pursuing it any further...

Xi Xiaye also felt that the atmosphere was a little odd. When she turned to Mu Yuchen and wanted to ask him something, she saw him drinking with his head lowered.