Loving 1261

Chapter 1261. Problem 1

Late at night, inside a luxurious hotel room in City Z.

Doris was wearing a beautiful light golden low-cut dress as she sat elegantly on the sofa. While she had an enticing smile on her face, her eyes were extremely cold.

She had a thin and long cigarette between her fingers and smoke wafted from between her crimson red lips.

"Miss, Qi Feng's assistant Morrison is outside. He says he needs to see you personally," a subordinate reported.

Doris raised her eyebrows as a faint light glinted in her eyes. She grinned with some sign of interest. "Qi Feng? He's getting impatient now, isn't he?"

She gave it some thought for a little while. Then, she grabbed the glass of wine on the table and emptied it. "Let him in!"

"Yes, Miss!" Her subordinate went out.

Soon after that, Morrison knocked on the door and entered.

"Ms. Doris!" Morrison bowed politely.

Doris let out another puff of smoke as she glanced at him, seeming unfazed by his arrival. "Why did Qi Feng send you here?"

She did not even invite Morrison to speak. Doris always acted all high and mighty toward the subordinates and was always like this every time Morrison came over.

"Master wanted to call you to talk about it, but it was a serious matter, so he sent me over," Morrison said.

"A serious matter? What is it? Has Shasha been rescued? Or has Qi Kai's stock stabilized? Have all the issues been solved?" Doris gently flicked the cigarette between her fingers as she said.

Morrison coughed before saying, "Qi Lei and Qi Qiming got into a fight. He wants to start out on his own. I'm sure you've been informed, Ms. Doris."

Doris raised her eyebrows and smiled. "I did hear about that. What's the matter? Didn't CEO Qi say Second Master Qi requires some training?"

"Do you truly believe that's true, Ms. Doris?" Morrison put on an odd smile.

As Doris let out a puff and extinguished the cigarette, she folded her arms. "Tell me, what did Qi Feng send you here to do?"

"Ms. Doris, Master means that he agrees to your conditions, but you must do all you can to save Missus, and you have to change your attitude towards Ms. Weiwei as well. Besides that, he would also like you to stop Second Master Qi, and lastly, make sure that no one will suspect Master for all of these."

Doris's grin grew wider when she heard Morrison's words and her eyes were gleaming.

She was not a fool and she already captured the key information from those few words. Instantly, she stared at Morrison and asked, "How's Qi Qiming's attitude towards your Master right now?"

Her sharp glances stunned Morrison for a moment. He felt like this woman read him easily and she was emitting an enormous aura around her. Even Qi Feng had to act cautiously around her.

Morrison was not sure how to answer her question, so he kept quiet for the moment.

Doris knew what he was thinking about and she smiled. "There's no need to get tensed up. No matter what Qi Feng says, he's my son-in-law, after all, and Shasha is my only daughter. I only help people on my side anyway. I'll treat him well as long as Qi Feng is nice to my daughter, but if he's planning something else, then he should be careful."

"You've misunderstood, Ms. Doris. Master has always been great to Ms. Shasha. He went through a lot because of her incident and he did all he could to try and rescue her, but probably due to Mu Yuchen's trap, it was very difficult for him to be of help. Mu Yuchen is pretty influential in the political scene. I'm sure you understand this better than anyone else," Morrison spoke carefully as he noticed Doris's awful expression.

He grinned and continued, "Moreover, who could be sure that it wasn't Mu Yuchen who was behind what happened between your divorce with Mr. Gu? Don't forget who Zhuang Shurong is. Someone could've arranged the lawyer that Gu Qiwu looked for. I'm sure that you know about the meeting between Mr. Gu and Mu Lingshi, Ms. Doris? As such..."

Doris raised her hand and stopped him from continuing. Of course, she knew what happened. She was frustrated by Gu Qiwu's tricks. As such a prideful woman, how could she let Gu Qiwu fool her for decades!?

She could not accept this at all.

Mu Zi?

Mu Lingtian?

Mu Lingshi?

Doris grinned. "What happened between Gu Qiwu and me is my own business. You don't have to remind me about it! Qi Qiming probably has his doubts about Qi Feng now, doesn't he? Or else, he wouldn't put him in a mere director's position. Is Qi Lei trying to take a step back in order to advance?"

Doris had thoroughly analyzed the situation!

If it was not for Qi Lei's protest this time, Qi Qiming probably would have let Qi Feng take over Qi Kai soon, but with so many things happening right now, this matter had been delayed. It was apparent that Qi Qiming was beginning to have doubts.

It would not be an issue if Qi Lei did not achieve great results after starting a new company on his own, but he actually did accomplish something. Considering Qi Qiming's guilt towards Wang Qin, as well as what Qi Lei already possessed, Qi Qiming might have to reconsider his successor!

Qi Feng was in a bind right now.

What a move!

Even Doris was impressed by Qi Lei.

Revealing his cards at a time like this was perfect. Qi Qiming could not even lift a finger against him!

"It's fortunate that you understand what's at stake here. You know that Master has it rough. Second Master Qi's relationship with Ms. Shasha has broken up, and they won't return to how they used to be in the past. He didn't seem worried about Ms. Shasha's incident at all, and he even claims that he'll be on Mu Yuchen's side..."

Chapter 1262. Problem 2

Naturally, Doris knew about Qi Lei's feelings for Gu Lingsha before.

Although Doris did not know Qi Lei very well, she knew that he was pretty sweet toward her daughter and was polite to her as well, but she did not really care much for him due to her less than desirable relationship with Wang Qin.

Doris had always intended for Mu Yuchen to be her son-in-law. Besides, Qi Feng was not up to her standards.

She heard that Qi Lei was pretty concerned about Gu Lingsha's news in the past few years, but they got into a fight soon after that although Doris had no idea what happened. However, she did feel annoyed right now.

"How bold of Qi Feng to ask this! Throwing this problem to me and making me the bad guy here...is he trying to get results by doing nothing?" Doris laughed coldly.

"Ms. Doris, please don't doubt Master's intentions. You should know that's the only way now with the situation he's in at the moment. Both of you are on the same side now. The two of you are working with Ms. Shasha tying you two together, isn't it?" Morrison pointed out their relationship. "Don't worry. Master always keeps his word. He'll give you whatever he's promised. Ms. Shasha is the First Master's wife. Does it not make sense for him to help her?" he assured her.

"Don't try to sugarcoat your words. Is Qi Feng really that innocent? I'm not Shasha! And it's not like I need Qi Feng to fulfill my wishes." Doris did not seem to care.

"Ms. Doris, you're a smart woman. I suppose you wouldn't want the information Master has gathered to be leaked, will you? Mu Yuchen probably found out about something in New York too. Mr. Gu has also been looking for the child's fa—"

"Enough! Stop!" Doris' expression turned cold instantly. "Don't think that you can threaten me. If it weren't for Shasha, I'd make sure you regret your words today! Go back and tell Qi Feng that I need time to consider this. Qi Lei isn't someone that I can just do something about easily, and Qi Qiming's subordinates aren't idiots either. Why else didn't they do something already?"

"Don't worry, Ms. Doris. Master will cooperate with you." Morrison smiled. "However, we hope you can get it done cleanly, or else, we might be in bigger trouble instead."

"I don't need a mere subordinate of Qi Feng's to lecture me!" Doris glanced at Morrison coldly as she started to dislike him. She knew that he had unkind intentions, but his loyalty to Qi Feng was unwavering.

Morrison was stunned for a moment. Then, he smiled without saying anything.

"Go back now and tell Qi Feng to come and talk to me himself the next time. Is he that unhappy to see his mother-in-law?" Doris's tone of voice was cold, and she did not sound like she actually cared about her son-in-law at all.

"I understand! I'll go back now!" Morrison was angry, but he could not say anything because he knew how powerful Doris was. Even Gu Qiwu and Qi Feng had to be wary of her.

Morrison soon left the room.
The room turned quiet all of a sudden.
Doris's eyes darkened as she sat stationary. She then suddenly flung the wine glass in front of her.
Clank—
The sound of glass breaking echoed through the room. Her subordinates dared not make a squeak, but they all knew Doris was not in a good mood.
"Qi Feng, how dare you threaten me!?" Doris ground her teeth.
"Miss, Qi Feng's attitude recentlyhe didn't take you seriously at all. Ms. Lingsha's situation isn't very good, but he doesn't seem to be trying his best at all. Could it be"
"Don't underestimate Qi Feng's ambitions. Qi Lei starting out on his own isn't weird, but he's trying to stop him at full force right now. It's clear to see what his intentions are." Doris pinched the space between her eyebrows as she spoke with a cold tone. Her chest felt suffocated.
"Miss, should we give Qi Feng a warning?" her subordinate asked.
Doris took a deep breath and raised her hand. "There's no need. It's not the time to be infighting right now, and Qi Feng realizes that. I'll remember this. I'll make sure he knows there are some people he shouldn't mess with."
"Yes, Miss! What should we do now then? I doubt we can be of help with Ms. Lingsha's case. The police are clinging onto the evidence fiercely and we can't just get her out easily at the moment. This matter is oddly identical to what happened over in New York. It's very likely that Mu Yuchen is behind this. Perhaps, Qi Feng was trying to observe our reactions by pushing this problem onto us, so it's best we proceed with care."

Doris's trusted subordinate was called Glenn who was a middle-aged man and had been a trusted assistant of hers. He used to work under Doris's mother before being reassigned to Doris.

"To be able to control things from thousands of miles away, Mu Yuchen is much more powerful than we imagined. He managed to make Gu Qiwu and Qi Feng suffer the last time as well, we should be careful. Shasha made a blunder this time, I'm really disappointed that she can't even deal with Xi Xiaye, what's the point of getting jealous all the time?"

Doris was unhappy.

"Miss, I don't think we can put the blame onto Ms. Lingsha. Mu Yuchen was Ms. Lingsha's fiancè before, and now that he's become Xi Xiaye's husband, as her relationship with Qi Feng deepens, this issue is probably..."

"You don't have to speak for her sake. She's just useless! I warned her that being too emotional is immature! Men have the innate attitude to be enslaved. The more you care, the more they don't take you seriously. Just look at what happened to my mother. What a tragedy! Just look at the mess I had to clean up for her all these years!" Doris expression was cold. "Shasha's just like my mother: cowardly and useless. They were born princesses, but they act like slaves to their men!"

Chapter 1263. Disappointed

As Doris spoke, her tone sounded even gloomier and unhappier.

Glenn was slightly worried. Even though he understood Gu Lingsha's current situation, he could not help but be concerned. As Gu Lingsha's grandparents in England, they were quite worried about Gu Lingsha's incident and unhappy with Doris and Gu Qiwu's situation.

The Madam had always been displeased with the way Doris did things by hook or by crook, but because of Doris's imposing manner and pressure, she did not comment much.

"Miss, Miss Lingsha's encounter is rather pitiful. She's not wrong for loving Master Qi Feng just as how Miss—"

"You don't have to defend her. Weakness is weakness. She's incompetent. I only care about the results. The process isn't important. She's gone through so much, yet she still hasn't been enlightened. That's stupidity. Many years ago, she was the same way towards Mu Yuchen, and now, she can't even handle Qi Feng," Doris spoke as she could not help but feel a little defeated.

You could not blame Doris for thinking this way either. Exquisitely beautiful and elegant, she had always been a noble princess. All these years, every man she met fell for her charm. She had rejected many men while her own daughter...

As she recalled this, Gu Qiwu's face flashed in Doris's mind once again!

She had been tricked by Gu Qiwu in the end!

When she thought about this, she could not tamp down the anger she felt.

As he watched Doris's shifting expression, Glenn dared not speak up. He fell silent for a moment, then said, "I received news that Xi Xiaye's returning. She should be arriving back in City Z on tomorrow's flight, and coming home with her are Xi Xiaye's best friends, Ruan Heng and Su Nan. They're flying in directly from Los Angeles."

"Ruan Heng?" Doris frowned slightly upon hearing this. She asked, "Why does this name sound so familiar?"

"Miss, did you forget? Back when Miss Lingsha got into an accident, it was this Ruan Heng that she crashed into. After that, Ruan Heng fell into a coma. It was Mu Yuchen who contacted the hospitals abroad and sent him away. They thought that he wouldn't regain consciousness again, but now he unexpectedly has." Glenn had captured comprehensive information on this.

"Xi Xiaye's friend? Sounds like Mu Yuchen's quite thoughtful about Xi Xiaye! Hospital abroad, hmm? Right, on Qi Feng's end, did we hear that if his legs are recovering?" Doris quickly remembered.

"I found out two days ago that he's been doing quite well. He can feel his legs better and better. As long as he cooperates with treatment and nothing goes wrong, he should be able to stand quite soon. This Professor Terl is quite good. If that's the case, then we...I'm afraid Miss Lingsha is going to be neglected. With the way Qi Feng thinks, I'm worried that he might not be willing to let Miss Lingsha get close to Qi Kai's internals. When the time comes, he might even bite us back, so we have to be wary."

When Glenn said this, Doris's gaze turned solemn.

"I think that Gu Qiwu must have seen this coming too. That's why he changed so quickly. After all, everyone is just each other's chess pieces. I don't understand what Gu Qiwu's thinking of doing. It's been more than thirty years, and still, I can't read him."

Doris knew very well how outsiders always saw the way Gu Qiwu doted on her. Perhaps there was some genuine love from him, but it was funny. Doris had never been able to touch Gu Qiwu's innermost being. This man was more reserved than any other man she knew even though they had been married for decades!

"Miss..." Glenn did not know what to say.

"Okay, let's not talk about these things now. Just watch Qi Feng. Also, think of a way to see Lingsha and get her to steady herself. I'll think of a way to get her out," Doris said heavily.

"Miss, I heard from our people this morning that Mr. Gu and Li Ting from the municipal committee met up in secret. Looks like it was for Miss Lingsha too."

Upon hearing that, a sneer flashed across Doris's face. "At least, he's doing that. Otherwise..." She paused before continuing, "Go around a bit and work on looking into those people who joined that night. If nothing comes up, just get someone to take it all on. She's had enough time to reflect in there by now."

"Yes, Miss! Understood!" Glenn responded before retreating.

•••

In regard to Qi Qiming's way of handling things, Qi Lei was quite surprised.

Based on what he knew about Qi Qiming, he should be outraged and making things difficult for him. However, he did not expect him to have done what he did instead.

Nevertheless, after thinking about it, he could guess what Qi Qiming was going for. He obviously would not foolishly think that Qi Qiming was just doing it for Qi Lei. He was probably just worried about causing an even larger crisis for Qi Kai!

...

The autumn mornings were cool, and Qi Lei had been waking up quite early. He would complete the tasks at hand before sitting down to rest with some light tea.

Yang Sheng had been coming over early as well as they were busy preparing for the new company.

Inside the study room, Yang Sheng handed Qi Lei the steeped tea as he asked, "Master Qi, Director Xi will be arriving in the city on the noon flight. Should we go pick her up?"

Qi Lei took it and had a brief sip as he leisurely leaned back against his chair and his gaze froze for a moment before he took another sip. He responded, "Mu Yuchen will arrange someone to go over. Please arrange for me to meet her at Fuhua on Monday morning. Also, can you prepare two children's presents, and send them over to Zirui and the little one?"

Yang Sheng nodded. "Okay, Master Qi! Right, Master Qi, there seems to be an antique auction at the exhibition center near De Feng Avenue. I wonder if Miss Dongfang will be going for it as well," he probed while Yang Sheng carefully glanced at Qi Lei's expression.

When he said that, Qi Lei did pause. He thought about it, then replied, "She'll be going to City C these next few days. She'll probably only be back in a few more days."

Dongfang Liuyun was a busy person. Sometimes, it felt like she was far busier than he was, she rarely played games now, especially after she started lecturing at University A.

"Oh..." Yang Sheng responded. He clearly felt like it was a missed opportunity, but he noticed that Qi Lei's expression was unusually calm, and he did not hear anything from his tone.

He kept it in for a long while before suddenly asking, "Master Qi, do you think Miss Dongfang is better, or is Miss Xi?"

This question clearly stunned Qi Lei who looked up at Yang Sheng. "Do you even think that the two of them can be compared?"

Chapter 1264. Arrive 1

Yang Sheng did not quite know how to answer this. He thought about it, then said, "I feel like Miss Xi is easier to get along with. Miss Dongfang...seems a little reclusive and cold. She doesn't seem to care about anything."

Qi Lei fell silent for a moment as he thought about it then said, "After Xiaye met Mu Yuchen, she's actually changed quite a bit. She and I...are alike while Liuyun...she's mysterious."

"Yes, she's close by, yet it feels like she's very distant from us. Every time I meet her, I find her absentminded," Yang Sheng could not help but blurt out his thoughts.

"But, Master Qi, she's a good—"

"That's enough. I know what you're thinking." Qi Lei seemed to know what Yang Sheng wanted to say, so he cut him off. "Arrange the documents. Tonight, I'll rush to City B. We'll have to discuss these changes with the people over there. CEO Li should have received the news from Mu Yuchen by now."

"Got it, Master Qi!"

...

When the flight arrived at City Z, it was slightly past noon.

Lan Zilang and the others went over to fetch them. Xi Xiaye got them to send Su Nan and Ruan Heng home first while she rushed back to Maple Residence.

As the car sped along the way, Xi Xiaye suddenly asked Lan Zilang who sat in the front passenger seat, "How's it been over here?"

"Rather peaceful, but there's been quite a lot going on Qi Kai's end. Two days ago, Qi Lei probably laid all his cards on the table for Qi Qiming. He's boldly moving in and out of Chenye Movies and Television. I thought that Qi Qiming would denounce and beat him down, but he announced that he let Qi Lei gain experience instead. Also, Qi Feng's taken on the role of Director at Qi Kai. One can only guess what Qi Qiming's thoughts are. Right, Qi Lei also said that next Monday, he'll go to Fuhua to meet you. I think it's probably for the recent happenings," Lan Zilang briefly reported everything to Xi Xiaye.

As Xi Xiaye listened, she nodded gently. "I got it. Let him know that I'll be waiting for him next Monday. I have some things to discuss with him as well. But why would Qi Qiming let Qi Feng take on a Director's role? Didn't he say that he was planning to get Qi Feng to familiarize himself quickly with Qi Kai's work and was ready to hand it over?"

Lan Zilang thought about it. He was about to say something when Xi Xiaye frowned and spoke up, "Could it be because of Qi Lei? I feel like Qi Qiming's recent attitude has been quite hard to guess. Even Mu Yuchen has doubts."

"We can't be sure about this. Perhaps it's because he's suddenly been hit by his conscience and feels like he owes it to Wang Qin and Qi Lei," Lan Zilang said softly.

Xi Xiaye silently lowered her gaze. She did not continue talking about it and just changed the subject. "How's Grandpa?"

"The Elder CEO's doing quite okay. He knew that you weren't around, but he came to the office the past few days to walk around. He's been in good spirits recently. The Miss and Mister frequently visit the Shen residence and sometimes walk around with Elder Mu. He doesn't look as gloomy as before," Lan Zilang smiled as he said.

Xi Xiaye nodded gladly. "That's good then. I kept worrying that he'd be bored. Grandpa has led quite a life."

"Don't worry. The Elder CEO's gone through a lot all these years. He knows how to regulate his mood. He always says he wants to watch the little Master grow up. A while back when he was free, I even accompanied Elder CEO to visit Master Xiao Rui at school. I think you and Chairman Mu need to have a few more children to make the old man happy. They know you're coming home today, so the two

families are gathering for dinner tonight. The Miss and Mister will rush over from the university after their lectures."

Xi Xiaye felt her heart warm upon hearing this. She smiled and did not make a sound as she turned to look out of the car window.

...

At two o'clock in the afternoon, the autumn sun was warm and dazzling. In Shen Wenna's apartment at University A, Xi Mushan was prepared. He had put the things they needed into the car, and Shen Wenna slowly went downstairs, carrying Little Apple in her arms.

"All ready?" Shen Wenna walked to the car and looked up to see Xi Mushan who was still busy at the trunk.

"Almost. Let's fetch Xiao Rui along the way." Xi Mushan quickly closed the trunk and returned to sit in the car. Shen Wenna got into the front passenger seat too.

The husband and wife got along harmoniously these days. Xi Mushan seemed to be compensating Shen Wenna with all the love that he had missed out on these years. He was very obedient and doted on her.

Shen Wenna did not know what kind of love could last long, but she knew that sometimes, love born out of guilt could sometimes be stronger than other kinds of love.

Once in the car, Xi Mushan naturally reached over to help her buckle up. He patted Little Apple's head before starting the car.

When the car started, his soft voice was suddenly heard. "The maple forest in Fragrance Hill seems to be turning red. Let's go visit it if we're not busy this weekend. Xiao Rui also mentioned that he has homework on learning how to make specimens."

"This weekend? The educational administration has already informed that almost half the semester is done with. I haven't thought of my student's graduation thesis topics," Shen Wenna frowned and said.

"Isn't your research topic on using the Linux system to model and analyze polymer activity? I think you can just come up with a topic from this aspect. How many are you guiding this time around?"

When it came to work, the husband and wife shared information. Sometimes, he would help Shen Wenna handle some things such as helping her mark assignments and so on.

"Lecturer Chu from my office isn't feeling too well, so she might not be guiding anyone and will send a few over. Right now, I have 15 who have registered. I'm planning to wait for the day before October 1st for them to come over for a gathering, and then I'll inform them about this properly. The last batch of students' employment rate wasn't too high, thus the research faculty was planning to quickly get the graduation thesis matter sorted out so that they would have more time to find an internship."

"It's quite hard to say with these young ones. Right now, universities are expanding their recruitment drive. The supply exceeds the demands with university students, a lot of undergraduate students would also have lots of demands, especially like a famous university such as University A, the students who graduate would usually ask for more, that's not a good trend. They must know that life in university and in society are two completely different things."

As Vice-Chancellor, Xi Mushan was quite worried about these problems. Now, the younger students lacked pragmatism. While they had high standards, they were not as competent. Because of that, the school had been promoting thought education and had even done a follow-up study. The results showed that within two years of graduation, many had changed jobs six to seven times. The reasons were poor work environment, low wages, or bosses who were hard to get along with.

Chapter 1265. Arrive 2

Along the way, the husband and wife talked about university matters and nothing else. They went to get some things from the shopping mall before fetching Mu Zirui from school.

Meanwhile, on the other end, when Xi Xiaye returned to Maple Residence, it was only slightly past 2 p.m.

Maple Residence was extremely lively with Shen Yue, Mu Yinan, and Mu Lingshi around.

When Xi Xiaye walked into the living room, she already heard Mu Lingshi's laughter. Then came her son's familiar mumbling.

The little fellow seemed to be learning how to speak now, but he could not speak clearly. Sometimes, he would mutter words to the point that they were unsure if he was calling 'Father' and 'Mother' or just spitting bubbles.

As she listened to the little guy, Xi Xiaye's heart subconsciously tightened. She quickened her pace and walked in, looking toward the sound.

She saw her son clutching onto the sofa with both hands and walking ahead wobbly. They were afraid that the little guy would fall, so his father had hired people to cover the floor with a layer of soft anti-slip carpet so the little guy would not get hurt even if he did.

Mu Xiaocheng cried out and spoke in ways that only he understood as he walked shakily along the sofa. That little figure of his was looking more and more like his father's. He was very cute.

He walked a few steps before the little guy keenly noticed someone watching him. He looked over, and when he saw Xi Xiaye standing not too far away, the little guy wobbled as if he was trying to search for an important memory. After a while, his amber eyes lit up and his soft little face was immediately filled with a smile. He flapped his hands and then fell forward before crawling towards Xi Xiaye at a speed that could be compared to an agile little dragon while he called out to her!

Xi Xiaye felt her heart melt and turn warm. She quickly put aside her handbag and squatted down to call out to him with longing, "Baby, come to Mother! Do you still remember me?"

Then, Mu Xiaocheng crawled up to Xi Xiaye and hugged her arm. He stood up to mumble before leaning into her embrace.

Xi Xiaye's heart went as soft as cotton while she quickly carried him up to tease him.

At this moment, Mu Lingshi noticed Xi Xiaye and could not hide her joy. "Sis-in-law! You're back!"

Xi Xiaye lowered her head and planted a kiss on Mu Xiaocheng's cheek. Then, she smiled and looked towards Mu Lingshi. "Mmm, thanks for your trouble. Where are Grandfather and the rest?"

"He's busy in the backyard. Wash your hands and have some food. You should be hungry. Mother and Sis Wang have gone out to buy ingredients. Father's only coming over at night," Mu Lingshi said.

The servants quickly came up with a warm wet towel and served delicious snacks.

Xi Xiaye nodded as she put Mu Xiaocheng down on the sofa. "It's been a few days, but he feels sturdier!" Then, she took the towel to wipe her hand.

"It's a good thing you're back. He seems to be able to recognize people now. He can recognize yours and Brother's voice. When you and Brother called home, the little guy paid attention and listened on the side. When Mother hung up the phone, he even crawled over to hold the phone. How cute!"

"Has he been obedient? Isn't it quite tiring taking care of him?" Xi Xiaye smiled and picked Mu Xiaocheng up again.

"Not too bad. He never stops in the day. At night, he falls asleep by 9 p.m. He's pretty easy to take care of. Mother's said that he's much easier to care for than me and Brother. He's quite good and will fall asleep after he's fed, right, Xiaocheng? Call me Aunt!"

Mu Lingshi smiled as she looked at Mu Xiaocheng's cute little face, and subconsciously touched her own baby bump. Her eyes filled with anticipation.

Soon, she would have a cute child of her own!

"That's good then. Your brother was worried that you guys wouldn't be able to handle it. I was planning to stay for a few more days, but then I thought about how I missed this little guy, so I came home. Right, where's Ah Mo? Why don't I see him?"

"He's gone to City B. He might be there for a few days before returning," Mu Lingshi responded.

"City B? Is it about the Movies and Television development base? Isn't that being taken care of by VP Liu? Your brother seems to have delegated him a new project, right?" Xi Xiaye was a little puzzled.

Mu Lingshi sat down and poured Xi Xiaye a cup of flower tea. "VP Liu's been overwhelmed recently. Since Qi Lei is done with Qi Qiming's end, they are now preparing for the new company. Brother's really hidden this whole thing quite well. Since when did he collaborate with Qi Lei? No wonder Qi Lei seemed quite close to Brother before this. If Ah Mo hadn't told me about this, I wouldn't have known. I just thought it was because of Qi Kai and Glory World's past collaboration."

"Your brother didn't even tell me at first, but this was probably worked out late last year," Xi Xiaye explained.

"Mmm, things haven't been too peaceful lately. Without Brother around, quite a lot of work has piled up at the company. City B seems to be dealing with something. there are some disputes with the local residents over there, and Ah Mo's worried that it won't be handled well, so he went over himself. Coincidentally, CEO Li has some things to discuss too. VP Liu couldn't pull away."

"When your brother's back, tell him to promote some people from the Human Resources Department. There are quite a lot of projects at the company, especially in recent years, and it has been quite busy. Later, Ah Mo won't be able to find time to accompany you either. Right now's a critical time." Xi Xiaye frowned and looked at Mu Lingshi.

Her situation before had not been too bad. When she had been pregnant with Mu Xiaocheng, Mu Yuchen would always be by her side. After that, she knew how important it was to be accompanied by her husband.

"Don't worry, Sis-in-law, I can take care of myself."

"You can take care of yourself? I think you've suffered quite a bit."

"I'm just not feeling too well, but, Sis-in-law, you look great. It looks like Brother must have given you lots of care on this holiday."

...

The two of them spoke for a while, then Zhuang Shurong returned from grocery shopping with Sis Wang. Xi Xiaye let Zhuang Shurong watch Mu Xiaocheng while she went down to the kitchen with Sis Wang.

At about 6 p.m., Xi Mushan and Shen Wenna returned with Mu Zirui and Mu Tangchuan. The family gathered in harmony to share a sumptuous dinner.

During dinner, they talked about everything that happened recently and about the children's interesting anecdotes. Everyone seemed quite happy.

Xi Xiaye did not speak much as she mostly listened to them talk. She watched as Xi Mushan and Mu Tangchuan, the two old men, speak. While she noticed the smiles on their faces, she felt genuine contentment.

What a wondrous feeling this was. The happy laughter of the family made her miss the man who was still abroad. With the combination of longing and warmth, this was what home felt like.

If he and Ah Mo were around too, it would have been perfect.

Chapter 1266. Invitation 1

After dinner, Shen Yue was having fun with Mu Xiaocheng.

Zhuang Shurong wanted to make some healthy porridge for Mu Lingshi, but then Xi Xiaye noticed that she was chatting with Shen Wenna, so she volunteered to help her. She then found Xi Mushan looking for a glass when she entered the kitchen.

"Father, please wait for a moment. I have something to talk to you about," Xi Xiaye called out to him as he was about to leave the kitchen.

Xi Mushan stopped and looked at her. His face looked slightly reddish. Apparently, he was having fun drinking that night.

"What's the matter?" he asked.

Xi Xiaye lit up the fire and grabbed a towel to clean her hands.

"Let's talk on the balcony." She then led the way to the balcony first as Xi Mushan soon followed behind her.

The sky had turned dark, and the two of them just stood by the railings without the lights on.

"Mu Yuchen and I met Han Yifeng in New York. We got to know that he's been doing well with his son. Ever since they got into a fight, the Han family started to ignore Xi Xinyi. I know Mother and you visited Yue Lingshi before. I suppose things have come to an end. It's not important to find out whose fault it was anymore," Xi Xiaye said as she looked at Xi Mushan.

His expression froze for a moment as he kept quiet.

"I'm grateful that you've been keeping neutral about whatever happens between Xi Xinyi and me. At least, I don't feel too bad about it. However, I understand how you feel—"

"Xiaye." Before she could continue, Xi Mushan interrupted her, "About the things between your mother, me, and Yue Lingsi, the two of you were innocent, and..."

"It doesn't really matter. What matters now is that we're all doing well. Mother has already let go of the past and is with you now. That means she has gotten over it."

"What did Han Yifeng say?" Xi Mushan let out a long sigh before asking.

"He was not sure if he could go back to Xi Xinyi again. I suppose you're worried about this issue here, right? If that's the case, Xi Xinyi might...maybe we should give her a chance..."

Xi Mushan was surprised by Xi Xiaye's words.

"You don't have to look at me like that. It's not like I'm being kind. Aside from being considerate about our blood ties, I don't want to see a tragedy happen again. Moreover..."

Suddenly, Xi Xiaye's phone started ringing. She paused before reaching in to get it.
"Hello?"
She waited for a moment, but there was no reply.
Frowning, Xi Xiaye waited for a while again and was considering hanging up on the call when suddenly, a voice reached her.
"It's meXi Xiaye!" It was a familiar, hesitant voice.
Who else could it be apart from Xi Xinyi?
"Xi Xinyi?" Xi Xiaye was shocked. She instantly remembered what her man had told her before she left the United States. He had totally predicted it!
However, Xi Xinyi just acted so much more quickly than she expected.
"That's right. It's me. Are you surprised?" Xi Xinyi was standing on the balcony in her house as she spoke. Only she knew how long it had taken for her to muster the courage to call Xi Xiaye. She had to let go of her pride.
To be frank, she had lost her pride a long time ago. It had already been lost to Han Yifeng and her child.
Xi Xiaye's eyes darkened slightly. "I am surprised indeed."
Xi Xinyi laughed at herself and took a deep breath. "I know you did something that made Father and Mrs. Shen visit my mother. I really don't want to thank you because I hate you. I hate being in this situation since both of you won. As for my mother and meI hate myself even more"

When she was reminded of the past, she felt like knives were stabbed into her heart. It was so painful that it almost suffocated her.

"I'm not going to take pity on you." Xi Xiaye could hear the pain in her voice, but her tone was still cold.

"I don't need your pity!" Xi Xinyi replied, "You're lucky, Xi Xiaye. You're way luckier than I am!"

Xi Xiaye did not reply as she just grinned. Meanwhile, Xi Mushan could overhear their conversation.

"You didn't call me today just to complain, did you?" Xi Xiaye looked outside at the dim street lamps, and the image of Han Yifeng's cruel expression surfaced in her mind.

Xi Xinyi's eyes darkened as she forced her tears back. After struggling for a little while, she said, "I know you just came back from America, and you met Han Yifeng. I want to talk to you about us."

"You mean about Han Yifeng and you, don't you?" Xi Xiaye sounded cold. "I don't think there's anything to talk about when it comes to us."

Xi Xinyi did not know that Mu Yuchen had arranged for the meeting in New York, and Xi Xiaye did not plan on telling her too.

"Fine, let's just say it's about Han Yifeng and me, so please meet me. I..."

"Meet me at the Bamboo Teahouse at noon tomorrow." To Xi Xinyi's surprise, Xi Xiaye agreed to the request easily.

She was stunned for a moment. "Alright, I'll head over earlier."

Xi Xiaye hung up and let out a sigh of relief before she turned back to Xi Mushan. "Well, I guess we'll have to settle our sisterly conflict ourselves."

She turned around and was about to head back inside when Xi Mushan suddenly called out to her, "Xiaye..."

Xi Xiaye halted her steps.

Chapter 1267. Invitation 2

She turned around to look at Xi Mushan and noticed a serious expression on his face.

"Father, you don't have to hesitate to tell me anything." Xi Xiaye's voice breezed past his ear like the wind.

Xi Mushan thought about it. "There isn't really anything I'd like to say. It's just about Xinyi. You don't have to be considerate about me. Your mother is an open person, so I suppose she has gotten over it already."

"I understand how you feel, and I know Xi Xinyi has looked for you several times in order to ask you to convince me. It must be tough for you...but you never said anything to me. I'm sure you were being considerate which I really do feel happy about. I'm glad that you care about my feelings."

Xi Xiaye's eyes brightened as she looked straight at Xi Mushan. "Family can be a shackle to some. It's not about being willing or not. At times, it's about responsibilities and feelings. I can understand how you feel, so if Xi Xinyi has promised to change, I think we can give her a chance."

She found out that all the information about Gu Lingsha was Xi Xinyi's reporting. That made her change her impression of Xi Xinyi.

"Alright, if Xi Xinyi wants to see you again, just tell her what I just said. I can definitely forgive her." Xi Xiaye then turned around and went back into the house.

Xi Mushan was stunned for a moment before he then followed her in as well.

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Worried that it might be inappropriate for her to stay out for too long, Mu Lingshi returned to the Mu residence soon after dinner. It was a little late when Shen Yue left Maple Residence, but Xi Xiaye and Mu Zirui saw him off.

Since Shen Yue had drunk a little, he had a great time that night. He turned around and told Xi Xiaye and Mu Zirui after he entered the car, "Alright, you guys should head back in. Xiao Rui still has school tomorrow."

Nodding, Xi Xiaye then signaled Sis Wang to put the tonics into the car as she replied Shen Yue, "You should rest earlier too. I'll bring Xiao Rui and Xiao Cheng over during the weekend. Thank you for taking care of the company during this period."

Shen Yue smiled as he patted Mu Zirui's head. His old voice sounded gentle. "You guys must be busy as well. Take your time to rest up."

"Don't worry, Grandpa. I heard you and some friends have been exercising together lately. I'll join you all once I find some time."

"As long as you're not too busy." Shen Yue glanced at Xi Xiaye. "I heard about the company's progress lately from Zilang. It's doing well generally, so just focus on securing the bases. That's how I sustained for this long. It's normal to face issues, so just take it easy."

"Yes, Grandpa! I've got it."

"Alright, I'll head back for now. Give me a call if you're coming this weekend. I'll get the butler to make something nice for you."

"Okay, say goodbye to Great-grandpa now!"

"Goodbye, Great-grandpa! Goodbye, Grandpa, Grandma!"

Shen Yue nodded and got into the car with Xi Mushan and Shen Wenna's car following behind his.

Xi Xiaye patted Mu Zirui's head as they watched the cars vanish into the night.

She took a comfortable shower after she went back, and then she took a look at Mu Zirui's homework before heading to bed.

Mu Xiaocheng was already sleeping sweetly.

Just as Xi Xiaye lay down on the bed, Mu Zirui appeared at the door with his pillow in his hands, seeming to expect something.

"Xiao Rui? What's the matter?" Xi Xiaye was confused.

Mu Zirui instantly blushed. He hesitated for a moment before asking, "Mother...can I sleep with you and Brother? Father isn't home...Don't worry. I have decent sleep ethics!"

Huh?

Xi Xiaye was surprised.

When Mu Yuchen was around, he always encouraged independence among the children, so Mu Zirui had always slept alone.

Mu Zirui seemed disappointed when Xi Xiaye did not agree right away. He was about to turn around, so Xi Xiaye suddenly lifted the blanket open and patted the empty space beside her. "Come here. Sleep earlier and I'll send you to school tomorrow."

Mu Zirui rushed over happily and climbed onto the bed after he removed his shoes. His eyes widened slightly when he saw his brother sleeping soundly in the middle of the bed. He carefully put his pillow down as he asked, "Mother, does Father sleep on this side?"

"Mmm, did you drink the milk Aunt Wang gave you?" Xi Xiaye adjusted his pillow as she asked.

"I've drunk it!" He quickly lay down as he took a glance at Mu Xiaocheng beside him. He moved gently and quietly, afraid that he might wake his brother up. Xi Xiaye smiled. "It's alright. Act natural. He's in deep sleep right now." "Oh!" Mu Zirui then asked, "Mother, when is Brother going to grow up? He looks so small now!" "When you grow big enough to protect him, then he'll grow up." Xi Xiaye covered him with the blanket. "I've already grown up! Mother, do you still remember the girl, Qi Weier?" Mu Zirui sat up as he suddenly remembered something. "Qi Weier?" The little figure instantly popped up in Xi Xiaye's mind. How could she forget about Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha? "What happened to her?" Xi Xiaye gave him a puzzled look. "She suddenly passed out in the evening when class just ended. I saw a lot of people carrying her into the car when Grandma picked me up. The teachers were terrified and followed her along to the hospital. Is she sick?" Mu Zirui felt a little frightened when he was reminded of that scene. Xi Xiaye was shocked. Was Qi Weier sick? She felt pity for that child, especially since she heard that Qi Weier had a frail body ever since she was

born. However, she did not want to butt into their business, "She'll get well soon. Go to sleep now."

"Mmm, good night, Mother!"

Chapter 1268. Appointment 1

Mu Zirui was pretty tired after all, so he fell asleep soon after he said good night.

Xi Xiaye wanted to just sleep right away, but then she remembered that she only had sent Mu Yuchen a text message ever since she got back, so she then grabbed her phone and quickly dialed a number.

However, the call was terminated after just a beep.

Xi Xiaye frowned as she suddenly felt uneasy. She sat up and dialed the same number again after some hesitation, but then the number was not reachable anymore!

What could have happened?

Xi Xiaye was getting worried. She was reminded of the uneasiness she felt in Los Angeles, and her mind started to imagine the worst.

Her phone suddenly rang after a while. She answered when she saw the man's name, "Hello? Mr. Mu?"

The man coughed several times. "It was rather inconvenient to answer just now. It should be pretty late already. Why are you still awake?"

"It is late. I just had to call you when you didn't call me. What are you doing? Inconvenient? You must have some girls over with you, huh?" she teased him with a warm tone in her voice.

He sounded amused as well. "Who else is worthy to be by my side except for you?"

"I'm just kidding!" Xi Xiaye chuckled, "The whole family had dinner together tonight. Your parents seemed pretty busy, and they left soon after dinner. Everything's fine at home. By the way, as you expected, Xi Xinyi called me just now. I told her to meet me tomorrow at noon."

"Mmm, be careful since I'm not there. It won't hurt to bring more bodyguards with you. Do you understand?" he reminded her.

"I know, I know. You too!"

"How're our sons doing?" Mu Yuchen asked.

Xi Xiaye turned towards her sleeping sons and smiled. "They are doing great! Xiao Rui seems taller, and his homework is pretty good. Xiao Cheng can already walk several steps while leaning onto the sofa. He quickly crawls over to me whenever I appear near him."

"My sons are smart. I'm sure the little guy will remember me when I return." Mu Yuchen's words were filled with the pride of a father.

"We'll be waiting for you. Alright, it's time for me to sleep now. I have to send Xiao Rui to school tomorrow. Take care of yourself."

"Mmm, you too. Take care of yourself. Good night."

"Good night, Mr. Mu..." Xi Xiaye then hung up.

...

The next morning, Xi Xiaye was woken up by the alarm clock. She woke Mu Zirui up, and Mu Xiaocheng woke up after they finished getting ready as well.

After a simple breakfast, she left Mu Xiaocheng to Sis Wang and Aunt Fang. Then, she sent Mu Zirui to school before heading over to Fuhua.

Having been absent for some time, several thick stacks of documents were waiting on her table. Xi Xiaye had no time to spare. She started working once she returned to the office and almost forgot about the time as she started working.

She suddenly remembered her promise with Xi Xinyi when Xiao Mei came into her office with some documents and reminded her to have lunch.

At the Bamboo Teahouse, Xi Xinyi arrived roughly around 12 p.m. She ordered some snacks and a pot of chrysanthemum tea before she flipped through some magazines and listened to music as she waited for Xi Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye only arrived at the appointment half an hour later.

"I thought you were trying to make a fool out of me by making an empty promise." Xi Xinyi's eyes looked complicated as she looked at Xi Xiaye who was helping herself to some tea.

"Do you think I'm that silly?" Xi Xiaye glanced at her as she replied.

Xi Xinyi gave a bitter smile. "I suppose I should be thankful that you came at all."

"I didn't expect the two of us could have a moment like this, sitting down, having some tea, and talking peacefully." Xi Xiaye found it ironic. She calmly sipped the tea as she looked out of the window from which she could see the bamboo leaves falling to the ground.

Xi Xinyi was looking at her instead. She felt like she had never really taken a good look at her sister before.

Now that she was focused on her, she noticed that Xi Xiaye had the silhouette of their father, but the aura and mannerisms of her mother, Shen Wenna.

To be frank, Xi Xinyi was jealous of her. She remembered how she had been attracted by Shen Wenna's aura and beauty the first time she saw her. She was envious that Xi Xiaye had a mother like Shen Wenna while her mother was like that.

She would have surely felt unbalanced before, but as a mother herself, she felt something different now.

One could not choose their birth, and God did not have the duty to make sure everyone was born lucky and prestigious, just like her child.

She was worried that her son might be ashamed of having a mother like her in the future.

She thought that she only lived for herself all these while. She hardly cared about others, and then she pushed the people who cared about her further and further away till she felt bitter inside.

The sisters sat there quietly for a long while. Although Xi Xinyi felt bitter, she was unwilling to just admit her fault here. After some time, she mumbled, "True enough. I never expected for us to meet under these circumstances."

Her tone sounded cold and was colored with a tint of self-mocking. She did not want to expose her weak self in front of Xi Xiaye even though she was already defeated.

Xi Xiaye's expression was calm as she sipped on some tea and did not say anything.

'I thought you were lost for a while. I thought you'd return when you were tired. The story behind the complications...I heard about them all from my friends, walking amidst the cold wind during a winter night...'

Xi Xinyi listened to the song which sounded like it was describing their situation right now. She felt her chest hurt as she listened on. Eventually, she could not help but take a deep breath.

Chapter 1269. Appointment 2

Her face suddenly turned pale.

With a clatter, the cup in her hand fell.

When Xi Xiaye turned upon hearing that, she saw Xi Xinyi's expression that was as pale as a ghost. Even her beautiful eyes darkened.

Xi Xinyi quickly picked up the teacup, which thankfully did not break. She looked up at Xi Xiaye and met that cold gaze of hers. She then shut her eyes embarrassedly and took in a deep breath, before silently lowering her head and pretending to be calm as she poured herself another cup of tea.

"Just say what you want to say." Xi Xiaye did not have time to admire her sorry demeanor. Right now, she was indifferent to the sight of Xi Xinyi in such an embarassing state, so she was not too affected.

When Xi Xinyi heard that, her hand that held the cup subconsciously tightened. The second she saw Xi Xiaye's calm expression, she relaxed. "You met Han Yifeng in New York, didn't you? I heard that Chairman Mu...Brother-in-law and you both saw him!"

Xi Xinyi was impatient to find out because she remembered the condition that Mu Yuchen had set. She had been waiting to know how he was going to help her resolve this situation with Han Yifeng.

Perhaps because she knew Mu Yuchen's abilities, she never doubted the conditions that he determined. In fact, Mu Yuchen did not have many interactions with Han Yifeng. Since he met up with Han Yifeng, perhaps it was about her matter then.

Xi Xiaye could feel Xi Xinyi's nervousness as her tense face stared straight at her.

"How's my son? He must have told you, didn't he? Say something. How's Xiao Xuan? It's been more than a year. He must be quite grown up, isn't he?" Anxiety, nerves, and uneasiness were entangled within Xi Xinyi.

"They're both doing well. The child knows how to call his father now. You can tell that Han Yifeng takes good care of your son. He just wasn't too willing to bring you up," Xi Xiaye did not hide anything as she answered directly.

Xi Xinyi's expression looked even worse now. She laughed self-mockingly. "I should have known. He hates me to the bones and is extremely disappointed with me too."

"Actually, I'd know even if he doesn't say it. He still fell in love with you in the end. Xi Xiaye, you must find it quite ironic, don't you? In the past, no matter how hard you tried, he didn't seem to reciprocate, but now he...he likes you," Xi Xinyi spoke without looking up at Xi Xiaye while her voice was bitter.

"I should have understood that from the moment I broke that bottle of stars you folded for him, I should have understood...I just didn't want to admit it. I always thought that I had too many beautiful moments in the past with him, that I could use the memorable good times to tie his heart down.

"But I underestimated you, underestimated his feelings. You don't know that to me, I'm not sad about him not falling in love with me. Instead, it's knowing that after liking me, he fell in love with you once again. This makes it worse and harder for me to accept. That truly hit me in the face and told me loud and clear that I might not stand a chance again," Xi Xinyi spoke, seeming to have calmed down and not being as anxious as before.

This was Xi Xinyi's first time being so honest and breaking down in front of someone else. Even if she did not want to admit it, what else could she say now?

"I won't pity you," Xi Xiaye calmly answered and lowered her head to sip the tea.

"I'm not saying these things to get your pity. You know that I hate that. I just want to know, since the two of you talked to Han Yifeng, how's his attitude? Is he still as determined as before? Doesn't he want to give me a chance at all? Not even visitation rights for our son?"

She had not seen her son for more than a year now. Every time she thought about it, she could not help but feel heartbroken. "What does he want? How can I get him to give my son back to me? It's not like the Han family doesn't have enough women to bear children with Han Yifeng. Why do they have to take my son away? Why!?"

Towards the end, Xi Xinyi started to sound stirred up. Her fists were clenched as she slammed the table hard.

"You'll have to ask him this question yourself. I can't help you there. I don't deny that I did talk to him, and the topics revolved around you. I said that you've changed a lot in the past year and that I hoped he could face this all more frankly."

"What about him? What did he say?" Xi Xinyi quickly asked.

Xi Xiaye looked up silently at her pale little face. Moments after that, she lowered his gaze and looked calmly at the teacup. "He said that that's all there is between the two of you, that it's all in the past now."

When Xi Xinyi heard that, her body froze as if she suddenly turned rigid. With some effort, she regained her composure.

"That's all there is to us, and that it's all in the past now? Han Yifeng, when you really want to be mean and heartless, no one else can compare to you," Xi Xinyi muttered. Her eyes could not help but turn moist as she lowered her head and did not look up again.

Xi Xiaye was not interested in watching her be all broken-hearted, so she put her cup down and got up with waning interest.

"Hold on! What about Brother-in-law!? What did he say? He must have said something to Han Yifeng? Did Han Yifeng mention any conditions so that he'd return my son to me? What does he want? How much money does he want? I'll give him as much as he wants as long as he returns our son to me! I'm willing to sign the papers and stop bothering him as long as he'll return my son! Can he? I'm begging you. Tell Brother-in-law to let him know. Otherwise, you can let him know too! I'm left with nothing. I haven't got a single kin with me. I only have one son left. He can't just take him away from me so heartlessly! He can't do that! Xi Xiaye, Sister, I'm begging you, please! It doesn't matter how huge of a price I need to pay. I'm willing to pay it as long as I get my son back! I just want my son back!"

When she saw that Xi Xiaye had turned around to leave, Xi Xinyi did not hold back. She held onto Xi Xiaye's sleeves in panic and lowered her pride to beg.

"Sis, I'm begging you. I'm begging you! I've got nothing left. If this goes on, I'll break down. My mother's not doing great either. You and Aunt have won it all. You've won. I just want my son back! I gave birth to him, but I haven't even heard him call me 'Mother' or watched him grow up. Han Yifeng can't be so cruel to me. Brother-in-law promised me that he'd help me fight for it. he promised!" She choked on her sobs as she begged, and her voice scattered in the wind at the end.

Why was it that, at such a moment, Xi Xiaye felt sad for her?

Chapter 1270. Relieved 1

Xi Xinyi tried to hold her tears in, refusing to show her weak side in front of Xi Xiaye at all. She did not want to reveal her weakness and pain, but she could not bear it at this moment. Every time she thought about the pain she had gone through, she just could not control her emotions.

Especially when she was right in front of Xi Xiaye, she had no idea how to express the bitterness and pain within her. She could only put on a tough front when she was working in the office as well.

It was the first time she felt this alone and helpless. She was worried and afraid, especially when she thought about Han Yifeng and her son...

Xi Xiaye just stood there quietly as Xi Xinyi grabbed onto her. Her eyes darkened.

"I can't help you. This is between you and Han Yifeng." While Xi Xiaye's tone of voice was calm, she sounded helpless. "I tried to ask him. He...he said he might be able to go back to the way things were again. He loves your son, and I'm sure he'll give your son a great childhood and even provide him a smooth path in life."

"No, you can do something! You can! If you say something and Brother-in-law is willing to help, my son will be back by my side! I know Han Yifeng and I can't go back to the way we were anymore, but I'm willing to do anything to be with my child. You're a mother too. You must know how I feel. I beg you! I know I've made a lot of mistakes in the past. I was foolish and wicked. It's all my fault. I promise I'll change. Please?"

For the sake of her child and future, she was willing to cast her pride away.

"You overestimate me. The one Han Yifeng loves is you. Our relationship is all in the past now. How do you want me to convince him? Do I tell him that for the sake of our past relationship, he should give you a chance?" Xi Xiaye looked down at Xi Xinyi. She did not feel her revenge fulfilled upon seeing Xi Xinyi's sorry state. Perhaps, that feeling was lost ever since Han Yifeng left.

In her life right now, she had Mu Yuchen, her sons, along with her family and friends. Han Yifeng and some other people were in the past. It would just be plain awkward even if they met right now, so why should she care?

She would rather spend more time with Mr. Mu, her sons, and the people she cared about instead of wasting her time hating her.

"You can! I'm sure you still hold a place in Han Yifeng's heart. He has always felt guilty towards you, so he'll agree to whatever you ask of him!" Xi Xinyi grabbed Xi Xiaye tightly as if she was clinging onto her final strand of hope.

"Xi Xinyi, do you still want me to talk about our old feelings with Han Yifeng? You truly overestimate me. I hold a place in his heart? Please don't say things like that ever again, or else, you'll cause another drama. I want you to remember that my husband and I are very much in love with each other, and it will stay that way forever."

As Xi Xiaye pushed Xi Xinyi's hand away, her expression darkened and she looked away before leaving.

"I don't really remember the past anymore. If you want your child to return to your side, you need to be courageous. A lot of things might not be as important as you thought. Be prepared to give up on some of them. That's what Mr. Mu wanted me to tell you. Take care." Xi Xiaye then disappeared out of the doorway.

Xi Xinyi seemed a little lost. She only returned to her senses when she heard the sound of the bead curtain making noises. By then, Xi Xiaye had already long gone. She then realized what Xi Xiaye just said.

She said that she had already forgotten about the past!

She also said those things about wanting her child to return to her, and that Mu Yuchen told her to pass on that message. Did that mean...?

Did that mean that she had forgiven her?

Dumbfounded, Xi Xinyi quickly stood up and chased after her. Her hoarse voice broke through the silence in the teahouse.

"Sis-"

Her voice was filled with guilt and apology, as well as a ton of bitterness.

Xi Xiaye paused as she walked down the staircase. She raised her head slightly and looked at the warm sun in the sky. With a deep breath, she continued to walk away after the brief pause.

"CEO Xi!" The bodyguards standing outside quickly came over and opened the car door.
Xi Xiaye nodded and went in.
"To Glory World." Xi Xiaye closed her eyes after she stated her next destination.
"Yes, CEO Xi! But you haven't had lunch yet"
"It's fine. I'm not hungry. There are some urgent documents to take care of."
She had received a message from Mu Yuchen that morning telling her to send him several documents to his office, so she had to hurry.
Xiao Mei did not press the issue further. She glanced at the chauffeur and the car was soon on its way.
The car had already left when Xi Xinyi ran outside. She could only catch a glimpse of the car's silhouette
When Xi Xiaye opened her eyes, she noticed Xi Xinyi in the rearview mirror. For some reason, she felt bitter inside.
Perhaps, she was trying to convince herself that she felt relieved, or maybe it was because she heard Xi Xinyi called her "Sis" at the end.
Xi Xiaye sighed as she looked out the window, shocked to find herself on the verge of tears. She blinked several times as she told herself that they were sisters after all. They were family
Even if they had been in conflict before, if she could change and be good, she deserved a chance.

She was not as stubborn as she thought. They were family after all.