

Loving 1461

Chapter 1461. Crisis 1

The temperature dipped very low at night. Even with a skintight garment on and an additional windbreaker, it was not enough to withstand the cold night breeze.

The streetlights were dim, and the shadows on the ground appeared long.

A cold breeze came and rustled the yellow leaves that fell all over the ground until they danced gently.

Dongfang Liuyun wore a long black windbreaker. With her hands kept in those thin pockets, she slowly walked along the street engulfed with cool winds from every direction. The clear and rhythmic sound of her high heels against the clean floor could be heard.

Right now, the late night street was actually quite quiet. The liveliest time had passed, and soon the Lantern Festival would be over with the next morning about to arrive.

She had walked along this quiet and endlessly long street many times. After this traffic light, there will be another one ahead, then another one, and another one. Outside the city, there would be that wide road...

She walked through the sidewalk and reached the plaza that she used to frequent.

From afar, she could hear distant singing. However, it was not the song she usually heard but another one...

It was still the same with quite a number of people surrounding the place.

Dongfang Liuyun stopped her steps and found a nearby bench to sit on. She leaned against the chair and silently shut her eyes as she quietly listened.

'There was a young lady who sent her warrior to war. They said goodbye in the dark of the night on those flights of steps...'

As she listened, for some reason, her eyes began to lose focus until a familiar presence appeared beside her. When she turned to look, she saw that Qi Lei was sitting beside her.

“I’ve come here many times after that, but this is my first time seeing you here.” Qi Lei’s low voice was heard though he did not look at Dongfang Liuyun. His gaze was quietly fixed on the people before them instead.

“Well, I’m not all that free. I heard about your father. Are you okay?” Dongfang Liuyun looked at him from the side and asked calmly.

“Do I look like I’m not okay?” he asked instead.

Dongfang Liuyun suddenly smiled. “I wasn’t planning on consoling you not to be sad or anything since that isn’t practical. But it wouldn’t be great if anything happens to him either, so you’re wishing for him to get well.”

“Other people would console me to not be sad or to not worry. You’re quite the odd one.” Qi Lei’s tightly furrowed brows slowly eased up as he squinted at her.

“Odd one?” Dongfang Liuyun softly muttered. She thought about it and then continued to say, “Do you think I’m too cold?”

“Oh, do you realize that too? Many times, talking to you feels like I’ve walked into a refrigerator. No matter how enthusiastic one might be, it’s hard to keep the zest,” Qi Lei sighed and said calmly.

“Don’t slander me. I’m a very passionate person. Cold beauties only appear in fairy tales,” Dongfang Liuyun smiled and defended herself on this rare occasion.

“Life is somewhat like a story too. In a thousand years, can you guarantee that we won’t be the protagonist or a supporting character in fairy tales?” Qi Lei responded in a lowered voice.

“A hundred years? A thousand years?” Dongfang Liuyun raised her brows and looked at him.

“Mmm.” He nodded.

Dongfang Liuyun thought about it for a long while before she suddenly asked, “Do you believe that a person’s soul still exists after they’re gone?”

Stunned, Qi Lei paused, then said, “I don’t know, but I want to believe in that. That way...” Although he did not finish, from the tone of his voice, he sounded desolate.

Dongfang Liuyun leaned forward slightly and propped her chin on her hand as she silently watched the surrounding crowd. “If there’s such a thing, then your mother would’ve been reincarnated now, but all we can do is cherish the memory of them. Even though I studied history and learned from the many stories and events of previous generations, the more I got into it, the more I felt the miracle of life. Humans are actually so insignificant, yet we can make our lives so great.”

Qi Lei fell silent for a moment, then turned to her and asked, “Do you believe in it too then?”

Dongfang Liuyun sighed and suddenly leaned back against her chair. Qi Lei waited for a long while, but she did not answer.

After a long while, she said, “I’m leaving for City Z tomorrow. May your father get well soon.”

“Leaving? To where?” Qi Lei subconsciously frowned.

“The inspection team wants to go to a historical site in the Gobi Desert near Xinjiang. University A’s application for a doctorate program has been approved, so I’ve become freer. Then, I applied for leave from the university,” Dongfang Liuyun answered as her calm gaze looked at him in a lukewarm manner while her tone was filled with encouragement. “I hope that by the time I get back, everything will have turned out for the better for you.”

Qi Lei paused, then silently nodded. “I’m counting on that. You take good care of yourself too.”

Upon hearing that, Dongfang Liuyun chuckled softly. "As they say, I've traveled quite a fair bit, thus naturally I'll know how to take care of myself. You're different. Only you will understand your own stressors and hardships. You need to take care of yourself more."

"I'm very sorry about today. It should've been a happy occasion." Qi Lei's tone was a little helpless and sorrowful.

"There's no need to blame yourself for it since it was unexpected. I don't want to pity you either because that's not a good thing for us."

"Are you so proud that you don't want other people's pity?" Qi Lei laughed.

Dongfang Liuyun lowered her gaze, fell silent, and did not say anything towards the end. She slowly got up as her hands snuck back into the pockets of her windbreaker habitually.

"Go home. It's quite chilly outside. I'm going home now. When I get back, I'll treat you to a drink," she said, then her firm steps walked ahead, leaving only so much as a cold figure behind.

"Let me send you home since it's along the way anyway." Qi Lei got up and reached into his pocket to take out his car keys.

When she heard that, Dongfang Liuyun paused, turned to look at him, and her eyes seemed surprised.

"There's only one road that leads ahead from here, I'm going to the hospital too," Qi Lei explained.

Dongfang Liuyun's exceptionally beautiful face flashed with tenderness as she shook her head. "No need. I want to take a walk alone. Goodbye now." Then, she continued to walk ahead, and soon her frail figure drowned in the twilight ahead.

Qi Lei did not chase after her, and he did not hesitate to walk towards his car before quickly starting it...

He had merely come over to take a look when he was passing by. After beating Qi Feng up, he felt much better. As for that bet, he did not give a toss about it!

Did Qi Feng really think that Qi Lei was still that young and reckless fool he knew?

Chapter 1462. Crisis 2

When the lights were already fading, the car passed by quickly. Through the side mirror on the right, Dongfang Liuyun could be seen mooching forward on the sidewalk. She appeared to be bothered today.

He decelerated subconsciously and finally pulled the car over by the side. He then lowered the window, reached out, and opened the door of the passenger seat. After that, he just sat in the car and waited silently for Dongfang Liuyun.

“Get in!” When she approached, Qi Lei’s bold voice made it seem like there was no room for rejection.

Dongfang Liuyun stopped in her steps and frowned. She saw that Qi Lei had already sat back in the driver’s seat with a determined expression. Finally, she gave it a thought and got in the car after all.

She closed the door and fastened the seatbelt while Qi Lei started the car.

“Since you have ample time, just treat it as another chit-chat session with me,” Qi Lei suddenly said after driving for some time.

Having heard that, Dongfang Liuyun, who was stretching her arm out to turn on the radio, froze for a second or two. After a while, she pressed the power button with her slender finger, but she also turned the volume down subconsciously.

“What do you want to talk about?”

“Let’s talk about you.” Qi Lei replied while he turned his head and took a glance at her. He then continued, “We’ve been talking about me all this time, so shouldn’t we talk about you this time around?”

Dongfang Liuyun was startled for a while, and then she said calmly, "I have nothing much to say about my life. It is as you see. Plus, you might not be interested if I were to talk to you about history and archeology."

"How do you know that I wouldn't be interested? Professor Dongfang, do you always think that you have the superpower to understand everything?" Qi Lei drove carefully, so the car was not speeding too fast.

"Am I not convincing enough?" She glanced at him casually.

Qi Lei did not answer her, but he gave her a pregnant squint and accelerated the car slightly.

"My family has been very strict since I was a child, and I've been running around since I was in middle school, I've been to Japan, Southeast Asia, Africa, and many countries in Europe, but of course, academics were never abandoned. However, my time in school was not long, and most of my time then was dedicated to working and studying part-time. So, if I were to talk about myself, it can be summed up by the word 'hectic'," Dongfang Liuyun thought about it for a bit and said simply.

"You're a girl. There's no need to work that hard. It's not that you're rushing to make big bucks, start a company, build a mansion, own luxurious cars, and get yourself a wife," Qi Lei responded with a tad bit of disapproval.

It was undeniable that Dongfang Liuyun had actually led a far more tiring life than he did, maybe even more exhausting than anyone he knew. However, she always seemed to be more relaxed than anyone else.

"That was all in the past. When times get tough, just hold on and it'll pass somehow. Both of us are individuals that don't wish to rely on their family's status, so you should be able to understand how it feels, don't you?"

"Our starting point is just much superior to many people, but those are the achievements of the family. You should know that we might be nobody after leaving them. My mother often asks me to review and reflect on my life because she doesn't want me to rely on their achievements or grow up under their shelter. After all, my mother is a very inspirational person herself."

“Your mother?” Qi Lei raised his brows in surprise. He only knew that Mrs. Dongfang was a prestigious, well-known lawyer in the legal field. She was also a well-respected figure who held quite a status in politics.

Dongfang Liuyun nodded faintly. While Qi Lei was waiting for her to continue with the conversation, she just turned her head to the other side and looked out of the window and did not go on any further.

“Turn left at the intersection ahead and enter Grand Summer Bay. It’s number 17 of the Riverside Villa area.”

The Riverside Villa, huh?

Qi Lei knew that area naturally. Like the Grand Lake Villa area, it was a place with a fantastic environment, but it seemed to be an old area. He nodded indifferently, then turned the steering wheel slightly into the left lane...

It took about twenty minutes before the car drove slowly into the Riverside Villa area.

They soon arrived at villa number 17 in the Riverside Villa area.

It was an independent villa. From the outside, it had a combination of Chinese and European decorative elements. The front courtyard was huge while the street lights in the courtyard were very bright and the trees on both sides were very dense. The villa seemed to be hidden from the hustle and bustle of the city.

After the car stopped in front of the villa, Dongfang Liuyun then pushed the door open and got out of the car.

“Would you like to go in for a cup of tea?” she asked faintly.

Qi Lei thought about it for a second and replied, “Maybe next time. I still need to get back to the hospital.”

Dongfang Liuyun nodded. "Okay, goodbye then. Thanks for the ride."

"Goodbye." A hint of ease crossed Qi Lei's attractive face, and he then started the car.

Dongfang Liuyun watched as the car drove off. She stood at the doorstep in silence for a while, then she reached out into her pocket and took out the keys.

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When he returned to the hospital, it was already around one o'clock in the middle of the night. Wang Chun and Yang Sheng were still there waiting intently, and as soon as they saw his silhouette, they breathed a sigh of relief.

"Second Master Qi, you're finally back!" Yang Sheng's stiffened face eased a little. He and Wang Chun had been restless for the whole night.

"How's everything?" Qi Lei stood right in front of the glass window, staring at Qi Qiming, who was lying on the hospital bed inside as he asked faintly.

"Still the same as before. Chief Surgeon Liang checked in on President Qi several times and said that his current condition is fairly stable. Oh yeah, First Master came by too, and he stood here for a long time. Manager Gu was with him, but it seemed that he wasn't feeling too well, so Manager Gu asked him to go back to rest first."

Qi Feng had come earlier with a swollen face, but luckily, he was wearing sunglasses. Otherwise, it would have been more obvious. When they recalled that Qi Lei had stormed out ferociously before that, they were not sure if it was...

Yang Sheng thought to himself while glancing at Qi Lei secretly. Nonetheless, Qi Lei did not turn the slightest and he just listened to the report expressionlessly.

"Right, the deputy directors called your cell phone just now, but they couldn't reach you, so they were worried all evening," Yang Sheng updated anxiously.

“Get them to handle all the matters at hand first. I’ll be back in the office when things have stabilized here. Both of you should go back first. I’ll be fine here. Don’t worry.” Qi Lei raised his arm to rub his bulging eyebrows and took a breath.

“Assistant Wang, you’ve been worrying for the whole day. You can go back first. I’ll stay back and accompany Second Master Qi.” Looking at Qi Lei, it was impossible for Yang Sheng to not worry about him at that moment since he might even have not eaten his dinner yet.

Wang Chun froze for a second, pondered for a while, and then nodded. “Okay then. I’ll head back first. Be sure to notify me immediately if there’s any progress with President Qi!”

He still had to sort out the documents and bring them for notarization. Those were what mattered the most. Furthermore, they must be handled secretly!

Chapter 1463. Crisis 3

As Yang Sheng nodded in response, he turned his head to look at Qi Lei who had stopped in front of the glass window and was silently looking at Qi Qiming in the room.

After thinking about it for a moment, he quietly turned around and followed behind Wang Chun as they left together.

Qi Lei stood in front of the glass window in a daze. After hesitating for a long time, he finally walked towards the door and opened it before entering the room and standing next to Qi Qiming’s bed.

It had never crossed his mind that Qi Qiming would go through something like this.

His impression of his father had always been paranoia to him. For many years, he could only seem to recall unpleasant memories when he thought about Qi Qiming. Qi Lei knew that if he had a choice, he would definitely not have chosen this man to be his father.

However, many things seemed to be destined and there was no way to change it, especially blood relationships. Qi Lei could only accept the fact that they were related.

His mother, Wang Qin, was an arrogant and fearless person. He used to have a bad impression of her, and it was not until her sudden death that he suddenly realized that many things did not seem to matter as much anymore.

As they said, happiness was not about having everything. Instead, it was to care less. Therefore, he had always been accepting and tolerant to the point where he had nowhere else to go, so...

Qi Lei convinced himself that even if it had nothing to do with grievances, he was just trying to fulfill his duty as a son since there would probably be many people watching and judging him. Thinking this way made him feel better.

After taking a deep breath, he pulled a chair out and sat down slowly as he quietly looked at Qi Qiming. Yang Sheng, who just came back with some hot supper, hesitated for a long time as he waited outside. He finally knocked gently on the door.

It was certain that a night like this would be a restless night, and Qi Lei was not the only one who could not fall asleep.

At the Maple Residence, the lights in the entire house had dimmed. Even the wall lamp by the window that used to be on all the time was off. Occasionally, there would be light coming in from the reflection of the street lights in the front yard.

Xi Xiaye lay on her side, then tossed and turned until she wriggled out of the arms of the man behind her.

“What’s wrong? Don’t you feel well?” he asked because he noticed that she had been on edge the whole night and she had not eaten well during dinner either.

“It’s okay. I just feel uneasy and I’m afraid that something’s going to happen.” Xi Xiaye sighed. She would not normally feel this way, except for the time when her grandmother, Liang Fuhua, had passed away. She had also felt the same disquietude in her heart.

Mu Yuchen slowly reached out to turn on the bedside lamp when he heard her lament. The bright light immediately lit up the entire bedroom. He sat up straight and turned to look at the woman next to him. He saw that she had also opened her eyes and sat up.

“Are you still worried about Qi Lei?” His deep voice expressed concern, and his eyes were as deep as the ocean. When Xi Xiaye turned her head to look at him, she was immediately drawn to him.

In fact, she had never been able to resist him when he looked at her like that.

“I can’t explain it, but I feel a little uneasy and it doesn’t feel good,” Xi Xiaye said while brushing her hair with her lean fingers.

“Why are you worrying so much? Just let it be,” Mu Yuchen said to her disapprovingly. He pulled the blanket off his body and tied his messy bathrobe. Then, he left the room and returned with a glass of water shortly after that.

“Have some water.” He sat down next to her and passed her the glass of water in his hand.

Xi Xiaye inhaled and took the glass before taking a few sips distractedly. “Maybe it’s because the year has just begun and there are already so many problems. I feel like I can’t cope, especially in the past two days. I’ve been feeling a little burned out.”

“Didn’t Dr. Zhong say that you’re under too much pressure? What are you stressed about? Uncle Lan and the others are already taking care of everything at the company. Don’t you think your man is capable of handling things?” he seemed a little upset.

She raised her hand to drink up the water in the glass and returned it back to him.

“Do you want more?” he asked calmly.

Xi Xiaye shook her head and lay down on the bed. She looked at him and said calmly, “You worked really hard today, and thank goodness you did in time. Otherwise, Qi Lei would have suffered even more. Mr.

Mu, I actually feel like my life experience is quite similar to Qi Lei's, but I think I'm more fortunate than him. Do you feel sorry for him? You seemed to be really concerned about him."

"Who else do you think was the reason behind this if not you?" Mu Yuchen pointed out as he glanced at her. He calmed down and continued, "You know, Qi Lei and I were sort of enemies, so why would I be concerned about him?"

"So, do you mean...you did it because of me?" The corners of Xiaye's mouth curved into a smile as she glanced at him.

"Why else would I do that? I don't like trouble, and I'm not one who can just befriend my enemies. Moreover, there are plenty of other good people in the world, and he's not the only one. Understand?" he told her with a glare.

Xi Xiaye chuckled after he said that, and her slender arms gently wrapped around his shoulders. She leaned towards him and her silky hair that fell over her shoulders fell right in front of him.

"Okay, I know, I know. You treat me well, and my decision to choose you right from the beginning wasn't in vain, right? I made the right decision, haven't I?"

His expression seemed more relaxed now. He wrapped his long arms around her and let her lie down on his thigh as he ran his fingers through her soft silky hair. "I told you from the very start that I will never let you suffer if you marry me."

"We don't know that yet. When we get old, will you still treat me the same way as you do now? You can only prove it by doing so."

"Then...should I just hire a female secretary tomorrow?" he glanced at her and said.

"Don't you dare!" She glared at him with her cold eyes before he could go on. "I'll get the Human Resources Department to fire her immediately! Do you still want a female secretary?"

"Well, you're always worried about me otherwise."

“Can’t I just be dramatic? You’re so popular that every time you go out alone, I feel so much pressure that I have to be around you to feel secure!”

Chapter 1464. Crisis 4

She always spoke so justly.

Actually, it was not that she was worried about him. Instead, the more she cared for him every day, the more she was worried about how long this happiness would last. She wanted to just stick to him for the rest of her life...

When he heard this, Mu Yuchen’s heart instantly melted. To him, nothing made him happier than hearing his own wife saying that she cared about him.

“Alright now, don’t overdo it. You’re already the mother of two children. Why are you still so affected? If I was really thinking about it, I wouldn’t have waited until now. I have standards that are much too high, and I only picked you out of the entire world. Are you not confident about yourself, or do you not trust me enough?”

“There are too many uncertainties, so I can’t help but worry. After every storm when I think that we could live peacefully again, it doesn’t seem to turn out that way. It always...Alright, I’ll stop talking. Don’t frown now...”

When she saw that he frowned, she stopped rambling.

“It’s fine. Don’t worry,” he patted her head as he consoled her.

Xi Xiaye then nodded. “Just go with the flow then, but I still can’t sleep,” she said as her starry eyes suddenly lit up and look meaningfully at the man.

Upon seeing that gaze, Mr. Mu’s lips immediately flashed with a telepathic smile. With one hand holding her, he switched off the lights and the entire room fell into darkness.

A while after, soft moans could be vaguely heard in the darkness...

He conquered her eagerly, much more eagerly than he usually was.

After he tossed her around, she suddenly recalled something and said to him through panted breaths, "Mr. Mu, Xiao Cheng is a year old now, and we have been going at it. Why do you think we still haven't gotten any good news yet? I see other people being pregnant almost every year or every two, three years. It should be time for us to have the same news too, shouldn't it? Su Nan has also been pondering over whether to have a second child or not."

When she finished, the man paused slightly above her. Then, in the next second, he continued with even more passion without answering her question.

Xi Xiaye did not have half the mind to think about it further as she fell into a daze.

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The next morning, Mu Yuchen woke up slightly later. When he had washed up and walked downstairs, Sis Wang had already prepared breakfast.

"Master, have some breakfast first. Otherwise, it'll be cold soon. Is the Missus awake?" Sis Wang delivered a freshly-made soya drink as she asked.

Mu Yuchen sat down leisurely and said with refreshed spirits, "Wake her up a little later. We slept quite late last night."

"Alright, Master," Sis Wang smiled, then responded, "Right, the Madam called this morning to tell you to leave the Young Master at the old residence. Since the two of you have just gone back to work, you're probably quite busy, and she's coincidentally on break for the next two days."

"Mmm, pack some things to bring over later. We'll be quite busy in the next few days over here."

"Yes, Master!" Sis Wang responded. She wanted to say something more when the doorbell suddenly rang.

She quickly went to get the door while Mu Yuchen continued to have his breakfast slowly.

It was Li Si who came rushing in happily.

“Master!” His voice could not conceal the happiness as he rushed up to Mu Yuchen in a few huge strides.

Mu Yuchen frowned and slowly stopped what he was doing. He turned to look at Li Si, catching sight all of the happiness on Li Si’s face. Then, his lowered voice was heard, “What great thing has happened now? Has Qi Qiming regained consciousness?”

Li Si took a deep breath and Mu Yuchen hinted at Sis Wang who very knowingly poured Li Si a glass of water...

Li Si took it courteously, finished it in a few gulps, and then calmed himself down before he said, “Master, great news!”

Li Si went closer to Mu Yuchen and said softly, “Earlier, Ah Bo called from Los Angeles saying that they’ve caught the assassin, but in the process, he fell down some stairs and broke his legs. He’s fine though. Right now, he’s still in a coma. When he wakes up, they should be able to get something out of him. Also, he’s been captured by the authorities over there for now, so there’s no need to worry that he’ll run off. Ah Bo has already given special instructions. Master, you don’t have to worry!”

When Li Si said that, Mu Yuchen paused what he was doing, and his exceptionally handsome face flashed an unfathomable smile as he slowly set the chopsticks and bowl in his hand down. He took the glass of water from the side, had two sips, and then abruptly got up to leisurely take the towel from Sis Wang to wipe his hand before walking towards the sofa.

Li Si walked over too.

“Master, this is great news. In fact, Ah Bo has already gotten people to lock down the news, doing our best not to startle anyone else. Wang Qin’s incident was a thorn in both Master Qi and Missus’ hearts.

Right now, we just need to get this information from the assassin and the truth should surface very soon!" Li Si said brightly.

God knew that to catch this person, they had really put in a lot of effort.

"Right, Master, the Minister should have found out by now as well. The police have gotten wind of some of the news."

Mu Yuchen sat down coldly, thought about it, then said in a lowered tone, "We have to be careful. Get Ah Bo to find out the ins and outs of the whole thing from the assassin. Gu Qiwu isn't willing to bring up this assassin anymore, but of course, it will be hard for him to rid himself of all connections. It's actually easy to guess who he's trying to protect."

When Mu Yuchen said that, Li Si fell silent for a moment then nodded knowingly. "Master, I got it! I'll get people to check Gu Lingsha and Qi Feng right away and see if they've got any links to this assassin."

"Mmm, I'll let you handle that. Send Ah Bao to assist Ah Bo right away. As for Qi Qiming's thing, leave it to Qi Lei. He should know what to do."

"Alright, Master, I'll get it done right away! Oh right, Wang Chun got four bodyguards for Qi Lei this morning. He's worried that someone will do something to Master Qi. I think it doesn't seem right. Could this have been something that Qi Qiming arranged for beforehand? Qi Feng didn't seem to have beefed-up security!" Li Si asked puzzledly.

Mu Yuchen thought about it then said in a gruff voice, "That's between them brothers. From now on, we'll let Qi Lei and Qi Feng handle matters between each other."

"Master, what about Qi Feng?"

"For certain grudges, they need to resolve it themselves. Don't underestimate Qi Lei. He's not that dumb."

Chapter 1465. Crisis 5

Li Si nodded and replied, "Yes, I see, Master. The hospital just called too. Qi Qiming's situation hasn't gotten any better. He even underwent an emergency procedure in the emergency ward around three o'clock in the morning, and his condition is currently still not very stable yet. As for Second Master Qi, he's been waiting there all this while..."

He reported Qi Lei's situation to Mu Yuchen.

"What about Qi Feng? Is there no response from his side?" Mu Yuchen asked.

"He got his *ss kicked by Second Master Qi yesterday, but he did go to the hospital with Gu Lingsha. However, he left early due to his condition, so there hasn't been much movement since then. But, Master, is it true that he's the person behind this incident? If that's so, then he truly is frantic!" Li Si creased his brows and said as he could not stand it anymore.

Mu Yuchen looked composed as usual as he responded, "He does have a motive. When it comes to being vicious, I admit that indeed, I lose to him."

A hint of lament was mixed in his deep voice. "At least, he won't think twice when it comes to laying a hand on Qi Lei."

"Does this make you think of Master Lingtian? Actually, I don't think Master Lingtian will really want to do that. Maybe he just can't stand seeing Gu Lingsha being caught by us. After all, at that time..." Li Si spoke cautiously, but when he saw Mu Yuchen's face stiffen, he held back his words.

"The matter between me and Lingtian is different from the grudge that exists between Qi Feng and Qi Lei. Don't compare them with Lingtian and me in the future."

Mu Yuchen's tone dove straight into the sub-zero zone, which made Li Si tense up subconsciously and he replied at once, "Yes, Master! I might have gone overboard with that comparison. Please forgive me."

Mu Yuchen lifted his arm to support his bowed head in the center of his eyebrows. "You can go back first and get Vice President Zhang Lan to host today's meeting. I'll take two days off to rest."

“Yes, Master!” Li Si did not dare to say anything else and left directly.

It was already ten o’clock when Xi Xiaye woke up. Fortunately, Lan Zilang had moved the morning meeting to the afternoon in time. Otherwise, she would not have been able to make it in time.

When she went downstairs after freshening up, he was on the sofa, going through some documents leisurely. The French windows at the side were opened, so the warm rays covered the whole room, and the air was filled with a hint of floral fragrance. She looked over at the windows subconsciously, and sure enough, she saw the freshly replaced champagne-colored rose bouquet on the shelf.

“Did you go out in the morning?” she spoke softly while walking down the stairs.

The man, who was reviewing the documents attentively, raised his head in an instant. When he saw her, his stiff, attractive features eased slightly. Following her gaze, the bouquet of roses came into view, and he smiled. “Do you like them?”

“You’re quite ingenious sometimes.” Xi Xiaye walked down the stairs and went straight towards him. He put aside the documents and poured her a glass of water. “Sit down. Are you hungry?”

“A little. Where’s Sis Wang? Are you the only one here? Are you on leave today?” she asked as she took the glass from him for a few sips.

“I’m taking the day off. I also called Uncle Lan and told him that you’ll only be back in the evening. Sis Wang has gone to the Shen residence while our sons will stay there for two days, and the meal will be ready soon.”

“Mother rarely gets to rest for two days. Xiao Cheng is so naughty. Why don’t you let Mother relax for a day or two?” Xi Xiaye frowned.

The little kiddo had grown to be a lot more mischievous in the past two months, especially after he learned how to walk. Even Aunty Fang struggled while taking care of him, thus they were lucky that Sis Wang was there to help. It had been less difficult now ever since Mu Yuchen transferred two more servants from the old residence.

“Mother is no longer young. She’s naturally happy to see her grandsons.”

“You’re right, and the same applies to Grandpa too. We’ve renovated the room upstairs, but he...”

“There are things that he misses over there, so leaving our sons there with them from time to time is more practical than anything else.” He gave her a sidelong glance and put all the documents on the desk away on the shelf on the side. He then stood up, walked towards her with the controller, and turned on the sound system in the living room. The room was filled with soft and soothing music in an instant.

“Your sons sound like cheap toys to you as you speak. I sometimes get a feeling that you don’t care much about them. Be careful that they might grow distant from you,” Xi Xiaye said with a disapproving gaze.

“You’re the one who should be careful with your temper. Don’t spoil our sons. As for me, they won’t grow distant from me as long as I pay attention to the way I get along with them. We adults shouldn’t protect them too much during this period anyway. Don’t worry. I grew up under Grandpa’s watch too,” he spoke while returning her gaze with a sidelong glance.

He would never admit that when their sons were home, she would only give all her attention to them. For example, after dinner, she had to bathe Xiao Cheng, tuck him into bed, then help Mu Zirui with his homework. After that, she would bathe, then go to bed. He basically did not matter anymore. It was not like when they were newly married and living freely as husband and wife. Back then, all she thought of was him...

“I’m okay with anything, but I’m just worried that this will make them grow apart from us, especially us since we’re so busy. We can only be with the kids for a few days in a month. Xiao Rui is starting to form his own opinion about things, and I don’t want my childhood misfortune to happen to him. I hope he can have a complete and colorful childhood. After all, they’re just like other children.”

“But there’s no need to stick together every day to be able to foster our relationship. Our sons are destined to be no ordinary men. As for now, I just hope that they can take after some of our qualities. The apple never falls far from the tree, so why worry?” He gazed at her helplessly. Nowadays, their topic of conversation revolved mostly around their sons. Mu Yuchen finally understood that this was inevitable. He also understood the good intentions of his father Mu Tangchuan, and his mother Zhuang Shurong.

However, he could also understand the worries Xi Xiaye possessed. After all, she had had it differently. Her childhood had been full of flaws and imperfections, hence it would only be natural for her to wish to provide her children with a different childhood.

“You seem to have faith in them.” She rolled her eyes.

“Of course, I do. They’re my sons, and they’ll be as outstanding as their father when they grow up,” he fiddled with his cufflinks while he asserted.

“I found out that the older you get, the more narcissistic you get. What makes you so sure that they won’t overtake you in the future? Or even me?”

“You? You’re, at most, a cute little foodie, and you want them to overtake you?” He squinted at her with a smirk.

Chapter 1466. Crisis 6

Xi Xiaye responded by throwing a pillow at him. “I told you not to bad-mouth me in front of our sons. It makes me lose my dignity!”

Mu Yuchen quickly caught the pillow. “They’re not here right now, are they? Can’t you just satisfy a man’s pride and vanity?”

His eyebrows were slightly furrowed when he said that. The way he was looking at her looked a lot like the face Mu Xiaocheng pulled when he could not get his toy. It was no wonder they were father and son.

She raised her eyebrows and stared at him for a while before she turned her head and coughed sarcastically. “I’ve never seen you care about male pride and dominance. Is it because I’ve become more charming lately and you’re starting to feel a sense of crisis? Hey, where are you going? I’m not done yet!”

Before she could finish speaking, Mu Yuchen had already left to go to the kitchen...

He seemed to be quite relaxed today. The husband and wife were enjoying their afternoon tea leisurely after lunch. Xi Xiaye was just about to go to the office when Mu Yuchen had already grabbed the car keys after noticing that.

“Are you going to send me there?” She was holding her handbag while looking at the man who had already walked out the door with the car key.

“I’ll send you there, then stop by Su Chen’s place to hang out for a bit.” Mu Yuchen’s figure then disappeared out of the doorway.

Xi Xiaye shrugged as she watched the figure of the man disappear. It took a while before she finally followed behind him.

In the blink of an eye, it was already the afternoon, and in Qi Qiming’s ward at City Z Hospital, the attending doctor, Liang Jing, had just performed a checkup on Qi Qiming. Her frown eased slightly as she handed the medical records to the nurse beside her while she removed her mask.

“How is he doing?” Qi Lei said hoarsely as he looked at Liang Jing with his bloodshot eyes.

He had not gotten any sleep at all, and he had been busy with the company’s opening ceremony since a few days ago, so his body was weak. He felt a little groggy and extremely exhausted.

Qi Lei had asked Yang Sheng to go back and get some rest in the morning. Other than a few bodyguards that Wang Chun had arranged, Qi Lei was the only person left at the hospital. Wang Chun had returned to the Qi Kai Group, and the news about Qi Qiming’s accident had been made known to the Qi Kai Group internally. Nobody knew what would happen. Qi Feng was also trying his best to keep everything under control.

Certainly, after such a tragic accident, some reporters would not let the opportunity to get first-hand information slip away, so there were a few reporters in disguise at the hospital. Fortunately, Qi Lei had made prior arrangements, or else, it would probably be chaos.

“His condition seems to be slightly stabler now, and I hope that whatever happened last night won’t happen again. He’s still in critical condition, so we will need to monitor him carefully. However, you also

need to be mentally prepared because he was severely injured. Even if he's lucky enough to make it through, I'm afraid that it will also be very challenging down the road since it will take a long time to recover, and he may have limited mobility in his left hand," Liang Jing reminded him in a serious tone.

Qi Lei took a deep breath as he listened and he looked at Qi Qiming on the hospital bed. "I understand. Thank you for all your hard work. Please try to save him no matter what..."

"You can rest assured that this is our priority, and I will do my best. You haven't gotten any sleep at all. It's best to take a rest. Otherwise, you might fall first before he even gets through the critical stage. His condition is fairly stable now, and there are critical care unit nurses watching over him. They'll notify me in time if anything happens. Don't worry about it and just take a good rest." Liang Jing was kind to him since Qi Lei was also a good friend of Mu Yuchen and Zhou Zimo's.

Qi Lei glanced at her gratefully and nodded. "I know. Thank you. Thank you so much. I'll stay a little longer." He sat on the sofa opposite after saying that.

Liang Jing looked at him with a deep gaze, and she could not help but sigh. She had seen many cases like this, but it was certainly not easy for Qi Lei to go to this extent, especially during the emergency procedure last night...

"We'll do our best and leave the rest. You don't have to feel too depressed. His condition isn't that bad," Liang Jing comforted. She rarely comforted the family members of patients that way because at times like these, destiny could not be avoided, and comforting would not do anything. However, after seeing Qi Lei, she still could not help but comfort him.

She seemed to have heard of Qi Lei from her son, Zhou Zimo. She knew that he also had a pretty tough life. Therefore, she admired Qi Lei compared to her son who had given her quite a bit of trouble.

"I know. Thank you," Qi Lei generally did not like to say "thank you" very much, but he realized that he had been saying it quite a lot recently. He would hardly say those two words before this.

Liang Jing smiled and nodded before leaving the ward.

Not long after she left, the critical care unit nurse also came in to check on the patient. Qi Lei finally left the ward.

When Yang Sheng visited with some afternoon tea, Qi Lei was sitting on a bench at the corner of the corridor and smoking a cigarette. There was faint smoke in the air and his figure seemed a little lonely.

“Master Qi, you haven’t eaten much in the afternoon. Here’s some porridge and your favourite flower tea,” Yang Sheng said as he stood beside him with food in his hand.

His voice interrupted Qi Lei’s thoughts. He raised his gaze and glanced at Yang Sheng as he flicked the ashes off the cigarette in between his fingers. He frowned and took another puff before he left half of the cigarette in the tray beside him.

Yang Sheng’s gaze followed Qi Lei’s motion and saw that the tray was already filled with cigarette butts.

“How’s the company doing?” Qi Lei asked with his husky voice as he reached out to Yang Sheng.

Yang Sheng quickly put the food container on the glass table next to him and swiftly poured the porridge out for him. “Don’t worry, Master Qi. It was managed in time, so everything is pretty much under control. It’s also thanks to the vice presidents and Master Mu that our Tai Yu Corporation is doing so much better compared to the chaos in the Qi Kai Group.”

Qi Lei silently took the steaming porridge that Yang Sheng handed over and tested the temperature before slowly eating it.

Yang Sheng felt relieved as he watched his boss eat. He continued, “You don’t have to worry about the company, Master Qi. President Qi’s condition is what we should be worried about right now. I heard from the employees of the Qi Kai Group that the shareholders are worried after hearing about President Qi’s condition, and it seems like they might want to bring the date of the shareholders meeting forward.”

Chapter 1467. Crisis 7

When Yang Sheng said that, Qi Lei paused. Then, in the blink of an eye, he continued without any change in expression. His silent eyes were calm as if it was something within his expectations.

Upon seeing that Qi Lei did not say anything, Yang Sheng paused and looked at Qi Lei silently too.

Qi Lei finished the bowl of porridge, then served himself another one. He finished it slowly before leisurely having his cup of floral tea too.

When he saw Qi Lei put down the bowl in his hand, Yang Sheng carefully called out to him, "Master Qi..."

Qi Lei took the wet handkerchief Yang Sheng handed him then wiped his hand casually. His bloodshot eyes squinted, then he said coldly, "That's normal. If something so huge happened and they didn't think of using this chance to overthrow the leadership, then that would've been odd."

"What do we do then? CEO Qi did say to postpone the shareholders' meeting before this. If it were brought forward with CEO Qi in his current state, First Master would definitely use the chance to control those shareholders. Most of CEO Qi's trusted aides are already inclined towards First Master, and they will have no qualms letting First Master take lead. CEO Qi probably won't be regaining consciousness anytime soon. I'm worried that right now in the entire Qi Kai, only Yue Hai has remained neutral while most of those shareholders are on First Master's side. Even though we've left Qi Kai, to just watch helplessly as it falls into First Master's hands..."

As Yang Sheng said this, he felt extremely uneasy. Quite a few projects under Tai Yu Corporation were from Qi Kai. Previously, because of their kinship, Qi Qiming did not make things hard for them and was even willing to help out. However, once Qi Feng took leadership, would he just let Tai Yu Corporation do well?

Thus, if Qi Feng assumed the position of CEO, it would definitely be a terrible thing for them!

Qi Lei's eyes darkened for a moment. He was wiping his hand when he stopped as a chill flashed in his eyes. Moments after, he said in a lowered voice, "Just manage matters at the new company. I'll know what to do with everything else. Watch Qi Feng. I'd like to see if he can get his way and become the CEO of Qi Kai!"

"Master Qi do you have some sort of plan?" Yang Sheng asked carefully.

Qi Lei tossed aside the handkerchief and said coldly, "The information I asked you to gather on the shareholders should be almost complete, isn't it?"

"It's prepared, but Master Qi, what do you want those things for?" Yang Sheng asked puzzledly.

"Email it to my inbox right away. I need it," Qi Lei ordered right away. His handsome face did not seem as cunning as usual. Right then, there seemed to be an added hint of caution and detachment on his face.

Yang Sheng was actually not familiar with this version of Qi Lei as he rarely saw him like this. He did not realize when it had happened, but his Master Qi did not seem to have the brashness of his youth like before. Now, you could see in his steps that there seemed to be profoundness and wisdom that came with time.

He thought that if VP Wang were still around, she would definitely be very happy to see Master Qi today. Sadly, she would never be able to witness it.

Too much had been sacrificed for Master Qi's growth. From when he used to loiter playfully to the reserved person he was today, it had not been easy.

As Yang Sheng thought about this, he felt gratified.

He fell silent for a moment before responding, "Alright, Master Qi! I'll send it to you right away."

Qi Lei had already gotten up leisurely at the moment. He fixed his slightly wrinkly shirt then said, "I'm going out for a bit. Send the things to me right away. Also, arrange for a few more people to stand guard here and inform me right away if anything happens. Stop anyone who comes over. Apart from me, Doctor Liang, and those two nurses, no one else is allowed near the ward, got it?" Qi Lei explained seriously.

Yang Sheng nodded. "Don't worry, Master Qi. I understand! I will arrange things well."

Qi Lei then turned and was about to leave when Yang Sheng suddenly remembered something and quickly called out to him, "Hold on, Master Qi!"

As he called out to him, he rushed up to the man.

Qi Lei slowed down his steps and waited for Yang Sheng to catch up to him before he shot him a side look and waited for him to continue.

"Master Qi, earlier, when I passed by De Feng Avenue, I saw Miss Dongfang. It seemed like she was going abroad. She said to thank you and to wish you good luck. When she's back, she'll treat you to a drink," Yang Sheng said.

Yang Sheng did not know why he would tell him this. Earlier, when he had passed by De Feng Avenue, he had a sudden thought to go take a look at Dongfang Liuyun's place. He kept feeling that when Master Qi and Dongfang Liuyun chatted, they were very compatible. In fact, Master Qi seemed to be himself more without much pressure.

It was not because of any other intention. He just thought that perhaps Master Qi could have more friends like Master Mu or Miss Xi Xiaye, which would be a great thing. At least, sometimes, there could be one other person to hang out with Master Qi.

When he rushed over, he unexpectedly bumped into Dongfang Liuyun closing the doors. She had explained that she was going abroad.

Upon hearing that, Qi Lei paused and turned to look at Yang Sheng.

When his eyes met Qi Lei's gaze, Yang Sheng could not help but shrink his neck and say softly, "Actually, I suddenly thought of Miss Dongfang when I was passing by De Feng Avenue. I knew that she went yesterday, but...Anyway, I made a trip, and bumped into her leaving."

"Busybody!" Qi Lei frowned as he softly reprimanded Yang Sheng and then walked ahead with a sunken expression.

Yang Sheng was stunned. He scratched his head and followed after him.

...

The afternoon sun was very warm. The bright sunlight streamed in through the half-opened window, and the green bonsai on the side seemed that much more alive.

In the office of the Deputy Chief of the Traffic Control Bureau, Su Chen stood before the shelf and took a folder. He tossed it to Mu Yuchen who sat at his desk before he sank down in his chair. He took a cigarette from the side, took a stick out, and began to smoke it without the slightest scruple.

“Take a look at it. It wasn’t easy getting these either. Why don’t you get Uncle Mu to do this for you? Do you feel bad asking help from your old man?” Su Chen teased as he let out a puff of smoke while nonchalantly watching Mu Yuchen take the document and begin flipping through it.

Mu Yuchen did not even look at him as he flipped through those materials with his head down. “You’ve been coming over to my place to leech on meals. Do you feel troubled that I asked you for a little favor now? You’ve got so much to say!”

Chapter 1468. Crisis 8

Su Chen rolled his eyes and gave him a sideways glance. “I don’t remember you being so free that you’d be so calculative about money with me. By the way, what’s going on on Qi Qiming’s side? Don’t tell me that it was Qi Feng’s doing,” he said with furrowed eyebrows.

“I want to know that too. He has the most motives in many of the incidents. Plus, his signature is all over those events, but it’s just that there’s no evidence to prove that it was him. If what we think is true, he does know how to hide and protect himself since he doesn’t make a move easily,” Mu Yuchen did not raise his head while he commented in his indifferent, emotionless tone.

“No matter how well he knows how to conceal himself, it’s impossible to be flawless. If there’s his shadow in one or two things, it can be said to be a coincidence, but if it’s on everything, then it means that something’s fishy. We’re both not people that believe in coincidence, are we?” Su Chen said disapprovingly while he stood up from the chair and walked towards Mu Yuchen. After casually taking out a packet of tea leaves from the tea cabinet, he sat down opposite Mu Yuchen, grabbed the kettle that was just boiling at the side, and began to brew some tea.

Mu Yuchen skimmed through the documents, and his charming face stiffened as he did so, but it returned to normal after that. He then kept the folder silently and placed it aside while Su Chen handed him a cup of freshly brewed tea.

“I think so too, but there’s no evidence. Everyone can only see the outcome, and ultimately, now even after so many coincidences, he’s still fine. He sure has got some luck there,” Mu Yuchen said as he reached out for the tea to take a sip leisurely.

“It’s such a huge project that it lies in your hands. I’m powerless from now on. You asked me to find a way to get my hands on these materials. You must have doubts regarding Wang Qin’s misfortune, don’t you? But this matter has been silent and there hasn’t been any result yet, so I feel it’s strange too. And I thought Uncle Mu cared a lot about this issue too.”

“Li Si came by this morning. He said that the murderer has been found in Los Angeles, but he has been unconscious ever since he was injured,” Mu Yuchen said in his deep voice.

Instantly, Su Chen raised his eyebrows. “So does this mean that there’s a way now? As long as the murderer wakes up, we’ll know who hired him?”

“It won’t be that easy since he is a killer. Also, we don’t know how many lives he has taken. They are people with their lives on the line, and they should know that once they’re caught, they’re as good as dead, so they might not give up their employer. A real killer usually has great professional ethics. The information I got from my father is that the killer is an orphan and a loner. He was in the military and is quite the sniper,” Mu Yuchen poured all the information that he had out calmly.

Su Chen nodded. “Then, it won’t be easy to get him to talk.”

Mu Yuchen took another sip of tea as he glimpsed at the clock opposite him and discovered that it was already 3 o’clock in the afternoon. He then suggested, “It’s a rare opportunity for us to catch up, and since it’s about time, let’s pay Zimo a visit and have dinner together tonight.”

“Great, let’s go to Dragon Hot Spring. It’s been some time since we last enjoyed ourselves,” Su Chen agreed.

“Won’t your wife lock you outside of your room when you go home?” Mu Yuchen gave Su Chen a pregnant gaze when he heard that suggestion.

Su Chen replied to his gaze with rolled eyes and said coldly, “I’m a decent man. Plus, what’s wrong with enjoying myself? It’s not like I’m out looking for another woman.”

“Oh, I smell something fishy there. Is there something wrong between you and Ji Zitong?” Mu Yuchen quickly caught the anomaly in Su Chen’s tone and said with certainty.

Su Chen did not bother him. He placed his teacup aside before standing up suddenly to grab his police uniform jacket on the side in one hand and drape it over his shoulders. “I thought you said we’re going to Zimo’s place. Let’s go. You’ll drive!”

While speaking, he had already taken his hat from the table to wear on his head, and he strode out the door.

Mu Yuchen took a glance at the tall and bold silhouette that had just disappeared at the doorway while a trace of amusement brushed the corners of his lips. He then caught up with Su Chen.

...

“First Master, we’re doomed!”

In the evening, Morrison knocked on the door of Qi Feng’s office and rushed in nervously while his eyes overflowed with panic and anxiety.

Qi Feng, who was looking down and reviewing the documents, creased his eyebrows. When he raised his head and glared at Morrison, his expression stiffened as he seemed to be dissatisfied with Morrison’s reaction.

“What’s wrong?” Qi Feng asked coldly.

“First Master, this is bad. We might have screwed up! The man has disappeared, and there’s no trace of him now. I worry that he might have been caught by the police! I heard him say a while ago that many people have their eyes on him. I’m afraid that...” Morrison reported his findings restlessly.

Upon listening to that, Qi Feng frowned slightly in an instant and clenched the pen in his hand. Uncertainty could be seen in his eyes.

“Master, is there a possibility that the cops might have...” Before Morrison could finish his sentence, Qi Feng had already raised his hand to hush him.

“He’s not a man that opens up that easily. Furthermore, we can’t be sure whether he’s fallen into the hands of the police, so don’t sh*t your pants.” Although Qi Feng felt uneasy, he did not panic since not many people knew about the man who was involved in the matter. Moreover, the people that he found were ones that he trusted. The only thing that bothered him at the moment was whether the person, who deliberately clung tightly to the matter, had gotten any proof that tied him to it.

“You’re right too, Master. It’s just that I’m truly worried. Mu Yuchen isn’t a man to be trifled with. Ever since he was apprehended for a few days for Wang Qin’s incident and got out, he has never given up on searching for the truth. He went to the Maldives a while back. I think it was more than just a vacation.” Morrison frowned and his tone sounded very serious.

Qi Feng raised his arm and rubbed his bulging glabella, then he spoke in an abnormally cold tone, “This isn’t his first time ruining my plans. Time after time, since when did he not get involved in my plans? He’s always there dealing with me deliberately!”

“First Master, so what should we do now? I just came back from the hospital. President Qi hasn’t awakened. Second Master and his bodyguards are on guard there, so we couldn’t get close to the room. So far, President Qi isn’t out of the woods yet, and his condition escalated just now. Fortunately, the doctors made it there in time. Why don’t we...”

“Shut up! Don’t worry about things from over there. Is all this still not chaotic enough for you? Since when did I tell you that you can make such calls yourself?!”

Chapter 1469. Shareholders“ Meeting 1

Annoyed, Qi Feng immediately cut Morrison off. Morrison was startled when Qi Feng looked at him with a stern gaze. He gasped and quickly clammed up.

“Master, I...” Morrison felt like he was in the wrong, so he did not dare to say more.

“Do you think this situation is good for us? We’re being forced to take action. You’re too ignorant, Morrison.” Qi Feng was feeling light-headed and he seemed exhausted.

In fact, he had not been able to relax for quite some time and had always been in a state of nervous tension. He started making plans because he had begun to feel helpless, especially after Doris’s misfortune.

“But all we can do is to keep going. Those shareholders are also on your side, Master. However, some of President Qi’s people seem to be out of it and they don’t understand what’s going on. They seem to have some doubts about President Qi’s matter. When President Qi said that he wanted to postpone the shareholders’ meeting, they strongly agreed to it, but now, they seem to be keeping their options open...” Morrison said frustratedly.

“First Master, I feel that they’re just a bunch of fence-sitters who can’t make up their minds. I don’t get what Yue Hai’s thinking either. It seems like he’s just on his own. President Qi has always kept his guard up against him. When Second Master was still at the company, he seemed to be quite friendly towards him, but now...”

“The Qi Kai Group is in a tough spot now. The most important thing right now is to make sure that the shareholders’ meeting is on the agenda. Everything was unexpected, so they can’t really say no,” Qi Feng said as he took a sip of tea from the cup beside him.

Morrison nodded. “Exactly. I’ve heard from the hospital that President Qi’s still in critical condition, and it may be difficult to recover even after he emerges from the critical period. Moreover, according to reliable sources, he might...”

Although he wanted to go on, he noticed Qi Feng’s eyes darken when he said that. Therefore, he immediately held his tongue and observed his boss carefully.

Qi Feng took a deep breath and gripped the cup in his hand tightly. “Keep an eye on President Qi’s condition at the hospital and see if there’s any way to help him.”

“Yes, First Master! I’ve already ordered our people to contact a foreign specialist. If things take a turn for the worse, we can also...”

“Do you swear that this has nothing to do with Shasha?” Qi Feng asked as he raised his head and looked at Morrison.

Morrison nodded quickly and replied, “Madam knows nothing about this. Glenn initially wanted me to pass on some message to her, but I think Madam seems to be moody recently and I’m worried if I tell her these things, she will...However, I didn’t expect Glenn to sacrifice himself for someone else. In my opinion, he must’ve had a deep affection for Doris. Many couldn’t resist her charm, even Alex and Gu Qiwu. People were right about her.” Morrison seemed to be lamenting.

Qi Feng listened and his eyes darkened. He leaned back and said, “It’s better not to have anything to do with Doris. You should tell Madam about Glenn since she has the right to know. Also, arrange for them to start setting up for the shareholders’ meeting in seven days. After being in a deadlock for so long, they can only take it head-on and come to a decision as soon as possible.”

Qi Feng also felt that he was somewhat powerless. At this point, it would probably be easier to end things sooner rather than later.

Morrison’s eyes gleamed with joy and he said, “Yes, don’t worry, First Master. I’ll make the arrangements so that Manager Chen will discuss the shareholders’ meeting with the rest at the meeting tomorrow morning. By the way, should we also keep an eye out on Second Master?”

“What else can he do now? Even if I didn’t know what my father meant before, it still wouldn’t be very difficult to inherit the Qi Kai Group. Sometimes, the more you care, the more trouble you get. Now, all we can do is just go with the flow.” Qi Feng could not care too much. He could only soldier on and keep going.

Morrison could hear the gravity in Qi Feng’s tone. He thought about it and said, “Master, don’t worry. Everything will work out for the best. We’ve done so much and we’ll eventually succeed. No one’s more suitable for that position than you. President Qi has always thought the same, hasn’t he? If it wasn’t for Mu Yuchen who stirred things up and influenced Second Master to quit the Qi Kai Group, and President Qi who pitied Second Master because of Wang Qin, we wouldn’t have ended up like this. Moreover, all the good things that would’ve followed were obviously ruined too.”

Morrison was disgruntled when he talked about Mu Yuchen who had investigated him before. He still held a grudge against Mu Yuchen because of his previous accident.

“Just keep an eye on them. Qi Lei can’t do much now that most of his people have left the company with him while the rest won’t support him either.”

“Then, should we call him to the upcoming shareholders’ meeting? President Qi did not remove him from his position as the Qi Kai Group’s Vice President. I think it probably won’t be a big deal to tell him and it’ll stop people from talking too. By the way, Master, it’s best to tell Madam about this matter first. If you can get Gu Qiwu’s support, it should be much easier. Although Gu Qiwu isn’t on our side, those shareholders do take his decision into consideration. He has nothing to do with Qi Lei, so he’ll definitely support you, First Master,” Morrison continued after pondering for a while.

“I’ll leave the arrangements up to you and I’ll go to the hospital later. My kind brother has been there for so long and it seems a little inappropriate if I’m not there,” Qi Feng said sarcastically.

He could hardly control the rage in his heart when he thought about what happened yesterday. His jaw was still stinging although his bruises had healed quite a bit this morning after Gu Lingsha applied ice packs on his bruises last night. Otherwise, he...

Qi Lei had surprised him. In the past, he would definitely not make the same mistake.

“Yes, Master. I’ll make the arrangements. By the way, Madam said that she’ll come later with Miss Weiwei. Miss Weiwei wants to see you,” Morrison added.

Chapter 1470. Shareholders’ Meeting 2

Miss Weiwei?

When his daughter was brought up, Qi Feng’s dark eyes could not help but glimmer in composure.

Actually, he admitted that he was a very selfish and extreme person, but when it came to his daughter, Weiwei, he genuinely loved her. Perhaps, it was also because he had been by her side watching her grow ever since she was born. Every time he saw her struggle with her illness, he seemed to see shadows of his old self.

The father and son and duo sympathized with one another, so as a father, Qi Feng still loved Qi Weier very much. Because of Qi Weier, he put in a lot of effort. Thankfully, her health had improved a lot since, and she seemed to be doing better in terms of mental health as of late too.

Previously, Gu Lingsha had been depressed because of Doris's passing. In order to avoid being affected by Gu Lingsha's emotions, Qi Feng had especially separated the mother and daughter for a period of time. When he heard that Gu Lingsha was doing better, he let them stay together again.

Even though Gu Lingsha was still working at Qi Kai, because of her previous emotional instability, she kept on taking leave although Qi Feng got used to it.

"If you've made the arrangements, then go fetch them. It's been a while since I've gone out," Qi Feng said calmly.

"Alright, First Master, I'll go right away."

Then, Morrison let out a sigh of relief before he retreated.

...

The sky gradually darkened, and the warm, gentle sunlight shone on the horizon. Moments after that, the sun set into the horizon, and the vast world appeared dusky.

When Xi Xiaye walked out of the office, the sky had darkened, and it was early evening.

She had just walked down the stairs when the chauffeur and bodyguards drove the car over while the guard by the door respectfully went up to open the car door for her.

She quickly got into the car.

"Go to the hospital in the city center."

Her man had called her earlier, saying that he would have dinner with Su Chen and the rest that night and would be returning home late. Every time he went out, he would knowingly report his movements to her so that she would not need to worry about not being able to find him.

“Alright, CEO Xi.”

She was worried about things on Qi Lei’s end. Earlier, when she had called him, his phone had been switched off, so she called Yang Sheng and found out that he had been staying at the hospital.

Fuhua Real Estate was not too far from the hospital. It took only an approximately 40-minute drive. When they passed by the bustling city center, Xi Xiaye asked the bodyguard to get dinner for Qi Leei.

The hospital was naturally quite quiet at night. As she walked along the empty corridor and listened to the clear sound of her own footsteps, Xi Xiaye was actually slightly afraid. She had always been quite nervous about the hospital, but thankfully, there were the two bodyguards behind her that Mu Yuchen had arranged for.

Before she reached Qi Qiming’s room, she could see Qi Lei from afar. He was standing at the glass window looking in from outside, and his figure actually looked quite lonely.

She walked lightly, but her rhythmic steps were heard. Qi Lei turned to look in an instant. He followed the sound, and Xi Xiaye’s elegant, slender figure soon greeted his sight. Relief flashed across his face.

“You’re here!”

Xi Xiaye reached his side in a few steps with a nod, and then looked towards the sickbed. Qi Qiming lay still on bed.

“How’s he doing?” she asked with concern as she turned to look at Qi Lei, catching a hint of fatigue in his bloodshot eyes.

Qi Lei breathed in. "He's alright. He was stable by the afternoon. Earlier, the doctor just came to check, and he said that if he can safely get through tonight, and his condition stabilizes, he'll be able to get through the critical period for now, but we don't know when he'll regain consciousness."

Then, he turned around and pointed to the chairs behind him. "Let's sit down and talk."

Xi Xiaye nodded and sat down too. "You look really tired. You should rest, or you might collapse yourself."

Qi Lei closed his eyes for a while, then opened it and calmed himself down before saying, "I'm fine. I can handle it still. I was just a little tired a few days ago, but earlier, I had a quick shut-eye in the car on the way here, so I feel much better already."

"Don't push yourself too hard. I got you some dinner. Quickly have some," Xi Xiaye said as she waved to the bodyguard beside her. The bodyguard knowingly brought the lunchbox forward and respectfully handed it to Qi Lei.

Qi Lei massaged the space between his brows. He did not reject the food and put it on the glass table beside him.

"You don't have to make a trip all the way here. Nothing's changed." Qi Lei's lowered voice sounded raspy.

"I was worried, so I came to look. Even though I don't want to say too much, I do hope you're doing better, and that all will be fine and things will look up again."

When Xi Xiaye turned her head and looked at Qi Lei's worn out expression, she felt sorry for him. He has had too much to bear, and she really hoped that everything he was going through right now would be rewarded with happiness just like how she had it back then.

"I'm fine. There's no need to console me, but of course, I'm happy that you care about me. Perhaps this is just my fate: to be a lone wolf," Qi Lei said in what seemed like a very calm tone.

“When did you believe in fate? We’re all good people and we haven’t done anything terrible, so we shouldn’t be abandoned by fate. Don’t be too pessimistic now. Even I found happiness. You’re better than I am. How could you be left behind?” Xi Xiaye smiled calmly.

“These words sound familiar like someone else asked a similar question before...” Qi Lei laughed softly as his fingers combed through his dark hair while he sighed helplessly. “I’m not such a great person. I’ve lived to be 30 years old and I haven’t done a single good thing. Instead, I’ve caused endless trouble. Sometimes, I really wish I could turn back time. Perhaps I could change many things.

“But there are no what-ifs now. I don’t like what-ifs or similar terms anyway. Sometimes, those terms are just a way of finding excuses for our past mistakes.

“I didn’t see things thoroughly back then and forced myself into dire straits. Xiaye, you’re a good woman, and I’m grateful to have met you. At least, right now, I’ve still got a friend like you visiting me and talking to me.”

Qi Lei sighed, and then his dazed gaze fell onto the sickbed inside...