

## Loving 181

### Chapter 181. Tenderness (2)

His long fingers ran through her black hair over her shoulders as her faint fragrance smothered all over him, chipping away his weakening willpower. His arms around her were tightening uncontrollably as he hugged her in his arms...

He had to admit that kissing her was addictive.

His usually ascetic self was gradually falling apart before her charm. Suddenly, he felt defeated as he had always been proud of his well-trained discipline and self-restraint.

After tasting several minutes of sweetness, he forcefully stopped himself and looked at her with sparks in his eyes. Her outfit seemed a little messy as several buttons before her chest had come undone and her eyes looked beautiful.

She came back to her senses when she felt her chest area become chilly. Gazing downwards, she noticed that her shirt was open. In embarrassment, she quickly buttoned her shirt up.

He laughed before helping her. "I'm too impatient, but don't worry as there's no one else in my office."

"Don't simply touch me again during work the next time." She glanced at him frowning before she helped him to fix his slightly creased sleeve.

"You mean I can touch you anytime whenever we're not at work? Do you mean it that way?" Mu Yuchen tidied up her long, messy hair with his fingers as he chuckled.

Xi Xiaye slid off from his lap and stood up, glaring at him without saying anything as she walked towards the sofa beside the coffee table. "I bought some rice for you as well. Eat it yourself. I'll go down first. I'll be waiting for you beside your car in the evening."

She grabbed her pumpkin porridge and went towards the exit so quickly that he could not see her figure at all.

He could still feel the remains of her temperature in his arms as the door closed. Smiling, he felt gleeful and suddenly, he thought to himself that this was not bad at all.

Perhaps a life like this was what he had been hoping for. He wished this could continue especially since it seemed pretty awesome.

After a while, he stood up and went towards the sofa opposite...

...

On the other hand, in Han Yifeng's private villa.

Things had gone crazy last night and ended when Xi Xinyi begged him to stop.

It was nearly noon when Han Yifeng woke up. The servants had already prepared his lunch downstairs, so Han Yifeng took a cold shower and then dressed up before heading down to eat.

After a while, Xi Xinyi went downstairs too. By then, Han Yifeng was already eating his meal silently.

"Yifeng, are you going to the office later?" Xi Xinyi gracefully got Han Yifeng a bowl of soup as she asked him gently.

"Mmm, work's starting today. There's a meeting at 3 p.m. later. You should go back on your own after lunch. I can't make it." Han Yifeng raised his head and looked at her, noticing some marks of their intimate moments from last night. For a moment, he found them irritating.

He took a deep breath and grabbed the newspaper, flipping through it casually. However, his expression darkened when he saw a certain piece of news and some photos in it.

Xi Xinyi noticed something was not right with Han Yifeng, so she asked out of concern, "What's wrong, Yifeng? Why do you look so unwell?"

Han Yifeng's eyes darkened and he threw the newspaper before Xi Xinyi.

In confusion, she picked the newspaper up and took a look at it. Her face went pale when she saw a blown-up photo of the moment when she had handed Xi Xiaye the glass of wine. She continued reading it and gasped when she realized that the entire article was negative towards her. This was indeed bad news for her.

"How... How is this possible?!" She mumbled to herself as she went absent-minded. Freaking out, she quickly looked at Han Yifeng opposite her. "Yifeng, this isn't true! They are defaming me..."

Han Yifeng looked downwards silently.

He heard that Mu Yuchen had an odd habit. He disliked the media, and in recent years, he would not appear in the eye of the public at all except for banquets that he absolutely needed to attend. Also, he would reject any media's request to enter these banquets unless he explicitly gave them the permission to do so.

This time, there was no news about him and Xi Xiaye at all. Even when it came to the conflict with Xi Xinyi, Xi Xiaye's name was replaced with the phrase "a certain lady" instead. These tabloids must be working under his orders.

However, was Mu Yuchen really capable of all this?

Did he really order them to write up on Xi Xinyi? What was happening?

"Yifeng, what should I do? The media really loves to exploit things like this. They'll magnify every single thing I do. I really didn't do it on purpose back then. You know that I'm really respectful towards my sister. But now, the media..." Xi Xinyi rambled frustratedly. She switched her phone on and was about to call her manager to find out what was happening.

The second she switched her phone on, message notifications came in one after another. Some were from Yue Lingsi and Deng Wenwen while her manager had sent her several messages too. They must be about the newspaper.

Han Yifeng gave it some thought before replying, "It's too late to stop it now since it's already on the news. We can only observe how things go for some time, or hold a press conference if there's a need to clarify it. Also, attend more charity events, which you've been doing, haven't you?"

His eyes seemed complicated as he looked at the extra large close-up photo.

He did not want to imagine the possibility!

Xi Xinyi's face was getting paler. She hesitated for a moment before nodding. As she was about to call her manager, her phone rang. Glancing at the screen, she saw Deng Wenwen calling her!

She was startled for a while before picking up the call. "Grandmother?"

"Xin Er? What's with the matter on the news? Why is your phone switched off? Where are you right now?" Deng Wenwen's anxious and worried voice came through the moment the call was connected.

Chapter 182. Solution

Xi Xinyi simply explained what happened, and then headed straight for Yueying after lunch.

Inside Yueying's CEO office, Deng Wenwen and Yue Lingsi were already waiting.

Deng Wenwen's expression was stormy and the aura around her was unapproachable. Yue Lingsi seemed really worried and anxious as she paced up and down the office.

She quickly went up to Xi Xinyi as soon as she came in. "Xinyi, what happened? Yesterday didn't you and Yifeng...?"

Xi Xinyi put her bag onto the sofa and saw several newspapers Yue Lingsi had put aside. Her beautiful face went ashen as she looked at them and picked one up. She flipped through it as sadness overflowed in her eyes.

"What's happening? And what about the ambassador? Aren't you already contracted and confirmed?" Deng Wenwen's face looked tensed and stared at Xi Xinyi when she saw her acting so oddly.

Xi Xinyi took a deep breath and looked at Deng Wenwen, hidden pain in her eyes. She toughened herself up and was silent for a moment before saying, "It's fine, Grandmother, Mother. Don't ask me about this anymore. It's all my fault. Let's just ignore this scandal for now. Give it some time and people will soon forget about it." Her voice sounded disappointed as she sat down onto the sofa quietly.

Deng Wenwen and Yue Lingsi traded glances at each other after they heard her. They came to the same conclusion. Deng Wenwen asked her coldly, "Your sister did it again, didn't she?"

"Mother, it must be her! Xi Xiaye is the Director of Glory World Corporation and Chairman Mu is her superior. How could Xi Xinyi have a good impression if she just slips in criticism to the top brass? And these newspapers might be her work too! Just who's that Caitlyn? She's just an old celebrity hag who's past her prime. She's nowhere as popular as Xinyi now. If not for someone's help, how could she have beaten Xinyi?"

Yue Lingsi was getting angry as she spoke, her dissatisfaction towards Xi Xiaye growing larger, especially after what had happened at the meeting with Shen Wenna the last time. Besides giving her a hard time in front of Shen Wenna by calling Xi Mushan, Xi Mushan's attitude towards her after that was just...

She had exhausted everything to keep Xi Mushan beside her, and finally became the mayor's wife, yet now Xi Xiaye made her embarrass herself in front of her past rival, Xi Mushan's ex-wife. How could she take this?

"Xinyi should've been guaranteed to become the ambassador! I've spoken to several directors and they all agreed to put in good words for her at different levels, so how did things turn out this way? They were really fond of Xinyi too!"

Yue Lingsi frowned intensely and looked at Deng Wenwen. "Also there's the matter about Yueying's shares, Mother. If not for Xi Xiaye, there's no way Shen Wenna wouldn't have given it back to you if you confronted her. She's now targeting Xinyi. Just how many times has it been? I really don't want to talk about it. I'm worried people might comment on me mistreating my stepdaughter, but you've witnessed it all along the years. Just how many years have I been in the Xi family? Have I ever mistreated her? Have I not thought of her first whenever there's something good?"

Deng Wenwen's expression darkened when she heard Yue Lingsi's words. If Xi Xiaye heard these words, she wondered how she would react.

Thought of her first whenever there was something good?

Was there even once that whatever that “something good” was had not been taken away by Xi Xinyi for various reasons?

“Mother...” Xi Xinyi’s frail voice broke the silence.

She looked at Yue Lingsi helplessly with an underlying tone of criticism in her voice. “You really shouldn’t go to meet Aunt Shen on your own. Grandmother should be the one to meet her instead. We’re the one at fault here. Aunt Shen and Sister had it rough all these years, and we’re doing pretty fine. Can’t we be more understanding towards them? After all, you’re Aunt Shen’s good friend, aren’t you?”

These uncomfortable words worked its effects on Yue Lingsi. She raised her head and looked at Xi Xinyi with inexplicable helplessness in her expression. “Xinyi, you’re only saying that because you don’t understand what’s happening between us. Shen Wenna was nearly identical like her daughter. She was cold and distant. Do you think I’ve done nothing all these years?”

“But, Mother...”

Xi Xinyi was about to continue, but the once-silent Deng Wenwen voiced out, “Alright, that’s enough! Stop bringing up the past. If this is really Xi Xiaye’s doing, she’s overdone it this time! She shouldn’t give her own family such a hard time. I know she’s angry with me for forcing her to sign on the contract as well as over the matter with Xinyi and Yifeng, but what else does she want after things have turned out this way?”

Deng Wenwen’s voice was strict and firm. The elder’s eyes looked sharp as she said coldly, “If I don’t do so, how should we solve the crisis for Yueying? The Han family aren’t idiots either. Why would they help us out for nothing in return? They’ll only help if I say Yueying will be your dowry in the future! But the shares in Shen Wenna’s hands are like a ticking bomb for us. It could explode anytime, so we have to get that document!”

“Mother, what do you want to do?” Yue Lingsi’s eyes brightened and she quickly turned over to Deng Wenwen.

Deng Wenwen stood up from her chair and said, "We'll go with the old way for Xinyi's matter. We'll let the scandal die down on its own. Xinyi, you don't have to do give an explanation to the public. The company will arrange more events with other partners to wash the negative news away. You have to be careful as well. Try not to be involved in these matters again. The company is in deep trouble right now, so avoid accumulating more issues."

"Then, about the shares..." Yue Lingsi asked quietly.

"I have my plans. Leave it for now. We can start preparing on the projects with Qikai. The stakeholder meeting is near and there will be drastic changes. Be wary!" Deng Wenwen cautioned seriously.

Yue Lingsi and Xi Xinyi exchanged glances before nodding.

Chapter 183. Mu Yuchen, Profiteer! (1)

Glory World Corporation's working hours ended exactly at 6 p.m.

The sky turned dark as people streamed out of the office building. Unlike the long days and short nights in the summer, the wind in the evening was dry and cold. It really started to get chilly after the sun set.

Xi Xiaye arrived next to the car with her briefcase and noticed that the man was already inside the car making a call. It seemed to be a call from Su Chen.

She walked toward the driver's seat. Mu Yuchen moved over to the front passenger seat as he was still talking to Su Chen on the phone.

"We'll meet on the weekend. Come straight to the Imperial Sky Club. That's all for now." He hung up the call and put his phone aside.

"Did they ask you out for a drink and to play cards?" Xi Xiaye asked casually as she put on the seatbelt and started the car.

He glanced over at her without replying as he leaned back in the seat. He was looking at the crowd outside the car window with his placid eyes.

She did not ask further since he did not reply. Then, she drove the car out of the parking lot and headed straight onto the broad streets. Her clear voice reached him. "Actually, it's okay for you to meet them from time to time."

"I'll bring you over during the weekend," he replied almost instantly to her statement.

"Aren't you worried that I might be bothering you guys?" Xi Xiaye raised her eyebrows and glanced at him with an interested look.

He turned his head and faced her to reply without answering her question, "You should go out more. You rarely go out on your rest days."

"Work is pretty tiring. Who doesn't want to sleep well on a weekend, or read books while enjoying some tea?" She replied casually.

"There you go with your reasons. I saw your gym club member card in your drawer. You started half a year ago, but I doubt you've gone more than three times. What a typical attitude, I suppose."

Xi Xiaye was then reminded that she decided to train half a year ago, so she made up her mind to get a gym club membership. In the beginning, Su Nan would go with her, but after a few times, she stopped going out of laziness.

"I've never seen you work out before. Moreover, you're not really the muscular type..."

Xi Xiaye glanced at him and was about to refute him, but before she could finish, she felt a dangerous gaze coming from the man, making her shiver.

He squinted his eyes and focused on her as he asked quietly, "So, do you like big and muscular men?"

Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment. She held onto the steering wheel with a grin on her face, but she did not say anything. However, Mu Yuchen took it as an affirmative reply from her.



He stared at her for a while before suddenly smiling and spouting a creepy line, "You'll regret what you said today."

Xi Xiaye just shrugged, then sped up the car.

It was rush hour and they were stuck in traffic for some time. It was around 7 p.m. when they arrived at Maple Residence. The married couple left their briefcases aside. Mu Yuchen went into the kitchen as usual while Xi Xiaye arranged the flowers they had just bought in a vase.

It was a large bouquet of champagne roses. When their car passed by the entrance of a supermarket in the neighborhood, there was a child selling flowers. They remembered that it was Valentine's Day today; the whole world was celebrating it.

Xi Xiaye then made a casual remark about the flowers being pretty and how the flowers at home were wilting, so Mu Yuchen got down from the car and bought a large bouquet.

It was not a lavish dinner with three dishes and a soup, but Xi Xiaye really loved them, so in the end, she had two and a half bowls of rice. Eventually, the two of them finished all the dishes.

After dinner, she could not help but rub her slim waist, afraid that she might grow fat, but she thought to herself that her mother and grandmother were not the types to gain weight easily. She would not get fat easily as well, would she?

She gave it some thought, and then decided she would measure her weight at the spa this weekend.

...

She went out of the bedroom with her slightly messy hair to see him sitting on the sofa watching television. He had even made a pot of tea, the fragrance filling the place.

"Why aren't you watching sports matches?" She glanced at the television screen before sitting down beside him.

He casually poured her a cup of tea and then handed her the remote control.

As she grabbed it and was about to change the channel, her phone at the corner of the table started ringing, so she passed the remote control back to him and picked up her phone.

It was a call from Su Nan!

It must be because of Xi Xiaye's morning call to her that morning.

"Xiaye? It's me! What's up? I hope I'm not bothering you and your man calling you this late at night. Why did you call me this morning? I read the papers today. Xi Xinyi..."

Su Nan rattled like a bullet train non-stop when the call connected. Xi Xiaye was at a loss.

"Nan Nan!" Xi Xiaye frowned and yelled at her. Su Nan then stopped.

"What's wrong?"

Xi Xiaye gave it some thought before saying, "I want to tell you about your wedding dinner. Ruan Heng and you haven't decided on a venue, have you? I spoke to Mu Yuchen and he agreed on letting you guys organize it at Imperial Sky Hotel. They still have a slot open."

Su Nan screamed in excitement on the other end. "Really? Imperial Sky Hotel? Oh my God, I've forgotten your man is Master Mu. I'll take up your offer then! We'll do it at Imperial Sky Hotel. I was just discussing the wedding invitation with Ruan Heng. You guys are my saviors!"

Su Nan's excited voice had an unmistakable tone of gratitude in it.

"I won't decline your kind offer then. I'll send you guys an invitation the day after tomorrow. Please be sure to come. Also, please thank Master Mu for me. Remember to please him well tonight!"

Su Nan then let out a vicious laugh and Xi Xiaye blushed. Su Nan continued talking just as she was about to retort something back. "By the way, Xiaye, is Master Mu really like what the rumors say?"

"What rumor?"

Unaware, Xi Xiaye looked downward and sipped some tea as she asked in doubt.

Su Nan continued with her wicked laugh. She coughed lightly and then asked in a quiet voice.

Chapter 184. Mu Yuchen, Profiteer! (2)

"Is Master Mu really frigid like the rumors say?"

The few words at the end were too soft to be heard!

Xi Xiaye caught up with the conversation and understood what Su Nan meant. Her pretty little face turned red as she glanced over at the man.

He was pouring some tea with his head lowered. She only saw the handsome side profile of his, which gave her a sense of tranquility. She was suddenly reminded that she had once called him a quiet beautiful man. It was a perfect description of him right now.

However, she had no idea how to answer Su Nan's question since she was not really sure because...

"So, is he?" Su Nan asked again.

Xi Xiaye averted her gaze away from him unnaturally and said to Su Nan, "Of course not! Go rest earlier. I'm hanging up."

She hung up on the call and left her phone aside before unconsciously taking another glance at him oddly.

He noticed an odd gaze focused on him, so he sipped some tea and turned over. She was staring right at him with her pink lips pursed as if she wanted to say something but was hesitant.

She had just come out of the shower and only had a loose pastel-colored sleeping robe on. Her neckline was slightly open, revealing her collarbones and her fair skin hiding under her long, black hair. They seemed to glisten under the dim lights, and he could smell the refreshing fragrance from her, fueling the beast inside his blood.

He took a deep breath before putting his arm over her shoulder while he asked quietly, "Why are you looking at me like that?"

Her long eyelashes twitched a little. She leaned onto his chest as her eyes met his gaze. Thinking about it, she raised her eyebrows and smiled. "I just suddenly thought about how you're quite good-looking."

It was a rare compliment from her. Seeing her warm smile softened his heart, and he grabbed onto her cold hand with his long fingers.

"Don't say something like this to other men..."

He lowered his head and kissed her on the forehead. Before she could react, he captured her pink lips as well.

She could not control herself as she grabbed his collar in front of his chest...

He was going strong on her, not giving her any opening at all. His hand snaking around her waist was starting to get naughty as he started exploring her waist through her long hair.

His refreshing scent was everywhere. In just a brief, intimate moment, the temperature around rose. She was put down onto the sofa without even being aware of it.

She then realized their sleeping robes were ruffled. His robe sash was in her hand. As for her, her chest was exposed and since she was just done with her shower, inside was...

With her last ounce of willpower, she grabbed onto her falling robe, but the moment her fingertips reached the fabric, his large hand locked down her wrist. He looked at her with sparks in his eyes, his raspy voice sounding magnetic. "Missus, time to fulfill our obligations of husband and wife!"

He hugged her tightly as if he wanted to merge her into him. His sparkling eyes did not look away from her at all.

She turned her head away, embarrassed. Suddenly, Su Nan's words echoed in her mind and she could not help but mumble, "Aren't you frigid?"

Frigid?

Mu Yuchen could not wait but to prove her wrong right there and then!

The temperature was still on the rise when she noticed his grip tightened. He was coming onto her ferociously and she could feel a sense of danger when she looked into his eyes.

"The newspapers said so, and also... You're not really... very intimate... with me." Her voice was so quiet that it was barely audible while her pretty little face was bright red.

"Frigid... I see... Good..." He stared at her and an odd smile appeared on his handsome face. He said quietly, "Do you want to find out now?"

Before waiting for her to react, he lifted her up and went into the bedroom.

The curtains rolled down and two black figures flew out from inside the semi-transparent veil. They fell onto the ground, and soon there was the sound of her voice complaining, "Gentler—"

He laughed quietly before he stopped for a bit and looked at her lying down under him. "No woman would ask that."

A smile appeared across his handsome face again. It was very different than usual. In fact, it was much more seductive!

...

The truth was that even though he acted coldly towards people, he could become a wild beast in bed, so wild like a general that had never lost before.

After three rounds, Xi Xiaye could not stand it anymore. Amidst the panting, he said, "Can those muscular men measure up to me? I told you you'd regret what you said."

Her breathing was getting uneven as she stared at him. He was acting cheeky, so she talked back stubbornly, "How do you know they can't? Mu Yuchen, in your older days..."

Before she could finish, the man started his fourth round of attack. He was determined to make her admit defeat!

At that brief moment, Xi Xiaye realized her fault. She should have listened to Su Nan's reminder— never provoke a man who was in heat; the woman would be at the short end of the stick.

Unfortunately, she experienced it firsthand, so...

The night still had a long way to go. The cold wind breezed through the window gap and it was very dark inside the bedroom. The only source of light was from the lamp beside the large window. In the meantime, an intimate game was happening behind the curtain veils. There were occasionally short moans in the quiet darkness, and it only stopped briefly after midnight...

Chapter 185. Mu Yuchen, Profiteer! (3)

The next morning, Xi Xiaye woke up feeling sore all over.

She opened her eyes slowly after rubbing them a little. Then, she turned her head over at the position beside her — it was empty.

She took a deep breath. Their intimate moments from last night rushed back into her mind. Her little face started to get red.

Although she had asked him to forgive her, he would not just let her go so easily.

Damn it!

She started to get angry. As she was struggling to get out of bed, she suddenly heard the sound of footsteps and she instantly grabbed the blanket to cover her chest. She looked over at the source of the footsteps.

Mu Yuchen was brimming with vigor as he came out from the bathroom, having changed from his sleeping robe into his usual black shirt.

“You’re up?”

He saw her frustrated eyes, but he just went towards the wardrobe calmly with a meaningful grin on his face.

“Mu Yuchen, you liar! Profiteer!”

She angrily grabbed a pillow and threw it at him!

He easily caught the pillow thrown at him. Raising his eyebrows, he grabbed an outfit for her as well. He walked towards the bed and handed her clothes to her. “Get washed up. Grandmother has come over in the morning and is preparing breakfast for us downstairs. If you don’t want to be late again, you’d better be quick.”

She glared at him before turning away from him.

“Are you angry?” He glanced at her and asked, holding the clothes right in front of her. “You’re really petty, aren’t you? I admit that I lost control for a little. It’s my fault. If this makes you feel better, I apologize. I’m sorry.”

“How insincere!” She stared at him and grabbed the clothes. as she was about to pick up her sleeping robe on the floor—

Ka—

The door opened.

They both looked towards the door to see Wang Hui’s beaming face.

“Grandmother!”

In shock, Xi Xiaye unconsciously grabbed the blanket and covered herself up.

“Oh, I didn’t see anything. I didn’t see anything at all!”

Although Wang Hui said that, her sharp eyes scanned the whole room. She did not miss Xi Xiaye’s naked shoulder along with the rumpled clothing on the floor...

It was obvious what had happened there last night. These youthful things!

“I just came in to take a look since you guys haven’t gone downstairs yet. The door was open as well. That’s alright, Xiaye. Grandmother didn’t see anything at all. Go wash up and come downstairs. I’ll head back down first!”

Wang Hui left the room swiftly with a big smile plastered across her face.



Xi Xiaye was relieved when she heard the sound of the door closing. The man beside her was casually knotting his tie. She was impressed by his calm expression. "Don't you know the meaning of embarrassment?"

"Can I make Grandmother forget what she saw if I feel embarrassed?"

He frowned slightly and looked at her. Then, he grabbed her clothes and passed them to her. "If you can get better at handling yourself socially, Xi Xinyi couldn't have taken advantage of you every time. Her acting is genuine, but what about yours?"

"I'm not an actress anyway. I don't need to act for a living like her," she defended herself, but her eyes obviously darkened.

"Haven't you heard of the phrase 'life's like a movie; it's all about your acting'? You don't have to put up an act with people close to you, but it's not a bad thing to put on a show once in a while to avoid being taken advantage of."

He patted her head and laughed. "Oh, well, it's alright. I'm here."

Xi Xiaye was startled. She raised her eyebrows and glanced at him in astonishment. "Mr. Mu, are you trying to sell your loyalty to me this early in the morning?"

She blinked several times as she asked seriously while looking at him in the eye, "Do you wish for me to become a woman like Xi Xinyi?"

"As long as you know how to differentiate the circumstances, I don't mind." He stood up and looked at her from above. "Alright, go and wash up. I'll pack up the stuff and bring them downstairs."

Xi Xiaye was quiet for some time before nodding without fully understanding it. She grabbed her clothes as she dragged the blanket together with her and walked into the bathroom.

Mu Yuchen started picking up their clothes from the floor as her figure vanished into the bathroom...

After she was done and went downstairs, Mu Yuchen was having his breakfast at the table. Wang Hui was unpacking the stuff she had brought for them from the Mu Residence.

“Remember to get Sis Wang and the others to water the seeds I planted in the backyard. I’m sure it’ll grow once the climate gets warmer. The flowers will surely be beautiful during summer.”

Wang Hui suddenly remembered what the elder at home had reminded her about. She would come over these few days to water the flowers as well as make some food for the kids.

“Got it, Grandmother,” Xi Xiaye replied.

“At the opening ceremony of Imperial Sky Entertainment City a few days ago, your grandfather went for a while, but he lost interest when he found out you both left early. I checked with Ah Mo and realized someone gave you trouble. Are you alright?” Wang Hui had heard something regarding Xi Xiaye and the Xi family.

“I’m alright. You don’t have to worry about me, Grandmother,” Xi Xiaye looked at Wang Hui gratefully as she replied.

“That’s great then. By the way, I wanted to shop at the New Era Plaza this afternoon to buy something for your grandfather. Xiaye, come and accompany me. Uncle Xu took leave this afternoon. Chen, come back to the Mu Residence for dinner as well. Your parents are coming back tonight too.”

Uncle Xu was the chauffeur at the Mu Residence and he was on leave that day. Mainly, she also wanted to go shopping with Xiaye...

Chapter 186. Trick (1)

She replied Wang Hui and promised to meet her at the New Era Plaza at 3 p.m. later.

After breakfast, Xi Xiaye told Mu Yuchen when they were preparing to get to work, “Maybe you should drive a car yourself. I’ll go back to the Mu Residence with Grandmother.”

Mu Yuchen grabbed the car keys on the table and replied, “Ah Mo will come and pick me up. Let’s go.”

He went over beside her and a refreshing scent passed her. She went out of it for a moment. By the time she turned her head back at the sofa and wanted to take her briefcase, she realized that he was already holding it.

At the garage, she took the keys from him and opened the car door to get in. She then drove the car out and stopped for Mu Yuchen to swiftly sit in the front passenger seat.

She thought about it before suggesting, "Since Ah Mo has become a project manager, you only have Li Si with you now. Do you need another assistant? Things might get really busy after some time."

"I've notified our branch in France. There'll be a new assistant coming in a few days." After he replied, he suddenly remembered something and turned to look at her. "The stakeholders meeting for Yueying is happening in several days. Vice President Liu will attend as the second largest stakeholder. You..."

"I'll go with him," Xi Xiaye answered before he even finished his sentence with a clear gaze at his handsome face. Her eyes looked determined. "I should go for both work and personal reasons. I'm responsible for this project as well and I cannot back off."

His eyes were glowing as he threw her a meaningful glance. He smiled and nodded, recognizing her determined expression. Sighing, he lectured, "That's the right mindset. Sometimes, the idea of sacrificing for others doesn't work well. Life wouldn't be so tough if you lived a little more selfishly, and I hope you can do so."

She did not reply to him. Instead, she accelerated the car quietly.

"I didn't do anything with the document you gave me about the 20% of Yueying's shares. It's still under Mother's name. I think we should give it back to her. After all, it's something Father left for her. Maybe it means something significant to her," Mu Yuchen spoke up after a brief moment of silence.

Xi Xiaye was a little shaken up when Shen Wenna and Xi Mushan were mentioned. Her grip on the steering wheel tightened as her eyes clouded over.

Xi Xiaye struggled for a while before finally opening up as she slowed the car down. "Mu Yuchen... I feel that my parents still have feelings for each other. Do you know that my father still misses my mother

every New Year? After their divorce, my mother was enraged on several occasions due to some Xi family matter. In the end, my father would compromise... but I don't understand why..."

"During the year I was expelled from the military academy, Mother looked for Father and asked him to deal with it for me, but... that was the first time I saw my mother cry. I then realized she's not as strong as I imagined. In fact, she was fragile. Her pride and coldness was just her protective barrier. I asked her the other day if she still misses my father, and she told me she's given all her feelings to Father, so she can't love anyone else anymore..."

It was just like Shen Wenna to always feel very distant to others. The relationship between the mother-daughter pair seemed cold, but only people close to them understood that Xi Xiaye was very protective and loving towards her mother, Shen Wenna.

Mu Yuchen did not say anything. He looked at her quietly and played the role of a loyal listener.

"And Father... I want to know what happened between them, so I want to test them a little..." She mumbled at the end, refocusing on the road in front again as her clear eyes glittered.

Mu Yuchen was quiet for some time before saying quietly, "Everything will get better. You don't have to be unhappy about this."

She did not respond to him again and just looked ahead silently, speeding the car steadily.

Just as she sat down inside her office, her assistant, Xiao Mei, came in with several documents.

"Director Xi, these two documents need your signature." Xiao Mei opened the documents and put them before Xi Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye took them and looked through it. After that, she swiftly signed her name at the corner. When she handed them back, she said, "Xiao Mei, please get me some stationery and toys like the last time I asked you to. Send it to me here tomorrow at noon."

Xiao Mei nodded. She had been with Xi Xiaye for a long while after all, and she understood what she meant. She must be visiting the orphanage up in the north...

“Noted, Director. I’ll get it done later. It’ll be here quickly!”

Assistant Xiao Mei put on a smile as she closed the documents. Then, she asked out of concern when she saw Xi Xiaye did not seem well, “Director Xi, what’s wrong? You don’t look very well!”

Xi Xiaye suddenly stiffened.

After her business with Mu Yuchen till midnight, she still had to wake up early for work today, so she kind of felt exhausted as she thought about those unhappy moments.

“I’m fine,” Xi Xiaye replied indifferently.

“Director, you don’t look very well. Remember to take a break if you’re tired. You must be exhausted working for the opening ceremony of Imperial Sky Entertainment City. By the way, Director, did you see the papers? The female star, Xi Xinyi, is being discussed right now because of her pouring wine onto you that night. It’s all over Weibo! Many of our staff followed Xi Xinyi’s Weibo to get updates on the news. It seems that she hired many keyboard warriors to defend her and push the blame onto you! Fortunately, people weren’t sure if you’re the one that’s in conflict with Xi Xinyi... However, her fans seem to be pretty aggressive...”

Xiao Mei was suddenly reminded of this matter, so she reported it to Xi Xiaye.

She had found out about what happened after reading the entertainment magazines yesterday. Initially, she thought that things would just die out after several days like usual. However, the matter snowballed into a much bigger issue and caused a big fuss on Weibo. Someone even posted the close-up photo there and it was gaining a lot of attention.

Chapter 187. Trick (2)

Xi Xiaye frowned when she heard Xiao Mei’s words. A cold light flashed through her eyes and she went silent for a moment before asking, “How do you guys know that she did it on purpose?”

Xiao Mei laughed. "It's so obvious in the close-up photo! We aren't blind. If it were not for your quick reaction, your dress would've been ruined but, Director Xi, you were really beautiful that night. Some of our colleagues took pictures of you and saved it as their phone wallpaper. You're really inspirational! Also, we know how your personality is... We'll all support you till the end. Now, no one knows that was you anyway..."

Xi Xiaye listened quietly as Xiao Mei blabbered on. Soon, she apologetically stopped talking after realizing she had been talking non-stop.

"I'll get back to work then, Director. Whatever you asked me to do will be completed soon!" Xiao Mei left the room then.

Xi Xiaye switched on her laptop after Xiao Mei left and logged onto Weibo...

After looking through her work for a while, her frown grew deeper. Following a moment of hesitation, she grabbed her phone and gave Mu Yuchen a call.

Mu Yuchen was monitoring the share market when he received Xi Xiaye's call.

"What's up?" His calm voice reached her ears.

"Did you see the official Weibo of our company? Xi Xinyi's incident seems to have caused a big stir. There are many comments on our Weibo now. I'm worried that the company's image will be affected. It's possible that she might use this news to raise her popularity. After all, it's a pretty common trick within the entertainment industry," Xi Xiaye replied him with a slightly grim tone.

"What are you worried about? The company's image isn't going to break so easily because of a minor character. Wait until people see our results in the new share market. Everyone will understand." Mu Yuchen was calm as usual. He was not anxious about it at all. Sometimes even she had to admit his composed attitude was really impressive.

"But if they..." Just as Xi Xiaye still wanted to say something else, Mu Yuchen interrupted her, "Ignore it. Do whatever is your responsibility, alright?"

Xi Xiaye was at a loss for words when she heard his indifferent tone of voice. She took a deep breath and said, "Okay, then. I'm just reminding you about it. I hope we don't make any loss out of this."

"A person that can outwit me hasn't appeared yet. Just wait and see if you don't believe me." He let out a quiet laugh before hanging up the call.

Xi Xiaye put her hand on her forehead as she looked at the dark screen. With the doubts in her mind cleared away, she closed the Weibo window and opened the documents on the South River Project, starting another new work day.

At the same time, in the CEO office of Yueying.

Deng Wenwen was sitting before her desk with Yue Lingsi standing beside her. The two of them were looking at the computer screen together, their expressions terrible.

"Mother, what should we do? Look at the comments on Weibo and these newspapers! This matter is getting more and more out of hand. Some media companies have called us to ask for clarification on what happened. I didn't let Xinyi come to the office this morning."

Yue Lingsi looked at the newspaper in her hand and read through its contents, her eyebrows furrowing as her face seemed distressed. "If Mushan finds out about this, he'll be furious. I asked Xinyi about what happened, but she refused to tell me. Just by looking at the Weibo and the photo, it's obvious that that witch Xi Xiaye was trying to defame Xinyi! And yet, Xinyi refuses to defend herself!"

Yue Lingsi was enraged and anxious at the same time.

Xi Mushan hated scandalous news like these. He had been strongly against Xi Xinyi's decision to enter the entertainment industry back then, but in the end, he remained silent because of Deng Wenwen. As she said, Yueying was in the entertainment industry after all.

If this matter got out of hand, not only would it affect Xi Xinyi and Yueying, but even Xi Mushan...

Xi Mushan's patience had been wearing thin recently because of Xi Xiaye and her mother's matter. Sometimes, he might even get violent with Yue Lingsi if...

Yue Lingsi suddenly felt this matter was extremely complex. Xi Mushan was someone who would not open up easily. Even after staying by his side for over 20 years, she never really knew what he was thinking about. She had to admit that she was afraid of Xi Mushan.

Deng Wenwen's expression was dark and strained while her eyes were sharp.

Yue Lingsi got more anxious when Deng Wenwen did not react at all. She could not help but voice out, "Mother, please say something. Isn't Xinyi your favorite? If this ends badly, I'm really afraid that Mushan will get angry, and the image Xinyi has built up over so many years will be ruined. Look at this news. They even revealed news from several years ago and tried to make things difficult for Xinyi. That witch Lin Ling made things even worse. She kept spreading bad rumors about Xinyi! Even Caitlyn joined in the fray as well. Have you forgotten that Xinyi mentioned Xiaye is on good terms with Caitlyn?"

"This matter is quite tricky. We can only observe the situation for some time. Isn't there a charity dinner at the Wang Corporation tomorrow? Send Xinyi over. Ignore these scandals for now and go about as usual. I hope you can focus on the stakeholder meeting for now. I called CEO He yesterday and found out that he sold his shares to someone already. We have to find out who's behind this to avoid any loss on our end."

Deng Wenwen closed the Weibo page, her expression grim. "I have a feeling that something's not right. We have to get that document back from Shen Wenna as soon as possible."

"But Mushan won't agree to it. That's Mushan's compensation to her when they got divorced. Mother, have you forgotten that Mushan almost broke off relations with you the last time. If we do it now, he'll surely..." Yue Lingsi reminded with a frown.

Deng Wenwen suddenly let out a cold snicker. "Don't worry. He'll have to agree to it. Yueying is the Xi family business. How can we let an outsider take charge of it? I have my way of getting him to agree."

Chapter 188. Trick (3)

Yue Lingsi's uneasy thoughts died down after hearing Deng Wenwen's words. She gave it some thought before replying, "Mmm, I'll leave this to Mother then. I'm going back to the Yue Residence later. Qikai and the Han Corporation are both interested in the South River project. They were thinking of



developing it together, and Xinyi mentioned it to me. I'll go and talk to my brother and see if things can be worked out."

Deng Wenwen nodded. "Go then. Ask Xinyi to pay them a visit as well. Send my regards to Elder Yue, I'll visit some time later. Things are a little hectic recently, it's been a long time since I last visited him."

"Don't worry, Mother, I will!"

"Mmm, by the way, send him the gifts I have inside my car."

Yue Lingsi nodded before leaving Deng Wenwen's office.

The Yue family in City Z was one of the prestigious families as well. Yue Lingsi's father was once a top ranking official in the government sector, and now Yue Lingsi's eldest brother followed in his footsteps, holding a high position in the same sector as well. Her second brother was the Vice President at Qikai and held a fair amount of Qikai shares. As the youngest in the family, Yue Lingsi grew up receiving lots of love and attention from her powerful family.

This was also why Deng Wenwen had been happy for Yue Lingsi to become her daughter-in-law back then. Shen Wenna seemed to have nothing at all. When she married into the Xi family, there was not even a wedding, but Xi Mushan insisted on marrying her, so Deng Wenwen had to compromise with Xi Jiyang supporting the decision.

Elder Yue loved Xi Xinyi very much. It was not an exaggeration to say she was the treasure everyone loved.

Soon after Yue Lingsi left, there was a knock on Deng Wenwen's door.

Deng Wenwen called out her permission to enter. The person who came in was Xi Xinyi.

"Grandmother!" Xi Xinyi entered with a smile.

“Xin Er? Why are you here? Your mother has just left and she said she’s going back to pay your grandfather a visit.” Deng Wenwen was surprised to see Xi Xinyi.

Xi Xinyi smiled, still appearing slightly pale. There were also faint signs of distress in her expression, but her tone of voice was oddly carefree. It was the kind of nonchalant tone one forced to put on a tough act. “I received Mother’s call when I arrived here, but I still wanted to come up and take a look. I’ll leave through the back door later. There are quite some reporters at the entrance.”

Deng Wenwen’s attitude became loving and tender towards her as she sighed, “Xin Er, we’ll just stay put and observe this scandal for now. I know that it’s been tough for you. Your sister really overdid it this time.”

“I’m alright. She has her own issues and unhappy moments as well, so I hope everyone can go easy on her. By the way, Grandmother, I know you’re struggling with the document that’s in Aunt Shen’s hand recently. This is Yifeng’s engagement present for me. Take a look at it. It might help if you go to sister with this.”

Xi Xinyi took out a document from her bag and handed it to Deng Wenwen.

“What is this? Engagement present?”

Deng Wenwen looked at Xi Xinyi curiously when Xi Xinyi handed her the document, she did not take it from her immediately.

A weak smile appeared on Xi Xinyi’s pale face. “Why don’t you take a look first? Although I understand it might be a little tough on Sister, I really feel horrible seeing you and Mother struggle about this. Sister’s impression of me has never been best anyway. Adding this incident doesn’t really matter much.”

Xi Xinyi laughed bitterly, then she continued, “Grandmother, can you just say that I told you to do so? And, Grandmother, I hope you can promise me one thing. After you get back the 20% of shares, can you give it to Sister in the future as her dowry so that I can feel better?”

Deng Wenwen found comfort in Xi Xinyi’s words. She smiled and sighed, “Xin Er, you’re just too kind. I wouldn’t have to go through this hard time if your sister was half as nice as you. Don’t worry, Yueying

will only belong to you in the future. As for Xiaye, Yueying will only fall if she handles it. I've put in my all into Yueying. It's like my life now. I can only rest easy if I leave it in your hands. As for Xiaye, it's good enough to give her something as compensation."

After that, she took the document from Xi Xinyi and opened it. Upon taking a glance at it, a doubtful look appeared on her face. She averted her gaze towards Xi Xinyi and asked, "What does this mean? What can this do?"

Xi Xinyi smiled. With an emotional tone, she said, "Grandmother, it... You'll figure it out if you think it through. It should be very important to Sister. She'll understand once she sees it."

Deng Wenwen frowned. After a moment of silence, a sharp light flashed through her eyes as she remembered something. When she was about to ask something else, Xi Xinyi had already turned around.

"I'll head out first. Mother must've been waiting for long. Grandmother, I really hope Sister won't be sad anymore, but it seems that she won't forgive me no matter what I do. I don't blame her even if she keeps pushing me back, but I still have to work hard for myself. You guys understand me, don't you?"

As she reached the door, Xi Xinyi suddenly halted in her steps and turned around to look at Deng Wenwen.

Deng Wenwen felt sorry when she saw Xi Xinyi's pale and sorrowful expression. She took a deep breath and nodded. "Xin Er, you're a good child. Grandmother will always take your side. You've always been my treasure since you were little., I can never stand seeing you being hurt. Just be a happy little princess like you've always been!"

Xi Xinyi looked at Deng Wenwen with glitter in her eyes and gave her a nod before leaving the office.

...

Around noon, Xi Xiaye suddenly thought about going back to the Shen Residence. She had promised Wang Hui to meet at the New Era Plaza at 3 p.m., so there was still some time.

She sent Mu Yuchen a message and told him she was going back to the Shen Residence. Then, she went downstairs after packing her stuff up.

Unexpectedly, he was waiting for her beside the car when she went to the parking lot.

“Are you going back with me?” Xi Xiaye looked at him in apprehension as she took out the car keys from her bag and unlocked the car.

“I promised to go back with you after the New Year.”

He then grabbed the car keys from her and slid into the driver’s seat, smoothly and sleekly.

Chapter 189. Meeting The Right Person (1)

When she saw that he had already started the car, Xi Xiaye was startled for a moment. Then, she got in too.

“Are you still working in the afternoon then? Or are you going to accompany Grandmother and I to shop?” She peered down at his long fingers helping her to put the safety belt on as she asked.

“Later, Li Si will come over to fetch me. I still have to make a trip to the city council in the afternoon, so I won’t be with you guys,” he softly answered before handing his phone to Xi Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye knowingly took his phone and switched it on. Indeed, the phone was going to be out of battery soon, so she found a cable from the storage drawer to charge it.

“Is it about the South River project?” Xi Xiaye asked as she leaned her head on her hand.

“No, it’s about Car City. We’re planning to import a batch of new cars, so we need to sign some documents. At the same time, I’ll visit some friends. Su Chen’s Traffic Control Bureau is right there,” he answered softly, then turned to see that her beautiful face looked faintly worn out. Her twinkling eyes were absent-minded too. Chuckling, he reached over to hold her by the shoulders, letting her lean on his shoulder. “Last night, we barely did much and already you’re this tired. You need to train this body of yours more.”

When he said this, it immediately provoked Xiaye's cold glare. Subsequently, he clammed up, but the curve on his thin lips widened.

The car stopped steadily outside the Shen residence. By then, Xi Xiaye was leaning on his shoulder and sleeping soundly until Mu Yuchen had to wake her up. She woke up from her sleep in a daze. Although she had only slept for a short while, her spirits were much better now.

Before Xi Xiaye went home, she had called the Shen residence, so when they entered, Shen Wenna and the rest had already prepared the dishes.

University A would only re-open after the fifteenth of the first month of the lunar year, so right now it was still a holiday and she was free.

Shen Yue knew that the husband and wife were coming back, so he had obviously rushed home from work for the meal too.

"Mother, Su Nan and Ruan Heng are organizing their wedding at Imperial Sky Hotel on the fifteenth. Do you want to come? You and Uncle Su are good friends too. I'm sure Uncle Su will send you an invitation," asked Xi Xiaye as she stood up to serve Shen Wenna soup.

When she heard this, Shen Wenna hesitated for a moment, then she nodded. "Naturally, this is inevitable. Last year, when Nan Nan went to school, she came over to my office to visit too. It is indeed lovely to see her and Ruan Heng's relationship become a fruitful one."

Shen Wenna and Su Nan's parents were quite close. In fact, she also knew that Su Nan was her daughter, Xiaye's best friend, so she adored her too.

"Then, we'll just come over to pick you up on that day. Grandpa, do you want to come along as well?"

Xi Xiaye put the bowl of soup down before Shen Wenna, and then started serving another bowl for Mu Yuchen who was speaking to Shen Yue.

“Such lively events are for you young people. I don’t think this old man will join in the fun. But Ah Chen’s not going with you guys. He’s going to play golf with me. Coincidentally, I have some old friends coming over and I want them to meet my grandson-in-law. Let them know that I, Shen Yue, have a good fortune like them too.”

As Shen Yue said this, he held up his glass and clinked it with Mu Yuchen before drinking it.

One could tell that he was in a pretty jovial mood. This time upon returning, they could see that he was smiling widely. Compared to before, he was much happier now.

Even on Shen Wenna’s cold face, there would occasionally be a smile.

Of course, Xi Xiaye knew very well that she had to credit all of this to the man beside her. If it were not for him, she would not be sitting around and feeling this relaxed as she did right now.

“Ah Chen, has Glory World thought of expanding into estate and construction?”

Shen Yue downed the drink in his glass, then he suddenly turned to Mu Yuchen and asked thoughtfully.

“There are many industries under Glory World, but the estate and construction industry is on hold for now,” Mu Yuchen answered simply.

“You guys can learn more about it in the next few years. I’m old and while I’m still quite healthy now, I can hold on for a few more years. In another few more years, no matter what, it’ll be time for me to step back. I don’t have a son. Your grandma only had your mother while your mother only has one daughter. Xiaye, all of these mere worldly possessions of mine will naturally be left to you two.”

When Shen Yue said all of this, his tone was a little heavy. “Initially, if you two hadn’t gotten married, I wasn’t planning on letting Xiaye stay on with Glory World either. Instead, I was planning on letting her further studies abroad or stay by my side and get familiarized with Fuhua with me. Then, in another year or two, I’d let her take over Fuhua... Now, since you two are married, all these will be up to you two to discuss. Your mother’s just an academician, so she doesn’t quite understand all of this...”

Shen Yue was a pretty optimistic person, so when he said all of this, Xi Xiaye could not help but worry.

She slowly looked up at Shen Yue who was already snowy-haired and she suddenly felt her heart faintly tug.

It seemed as if she had never tried to understand Shen Yue, while he had never demanded anything from her. Perhaps it was because what happened with Shen Wenna had been too traumatizing for him, so what he wanted to see the most was the children living a carefree and happy life.

Mu Yuchen's hand that was under the table suddenly reached over to gently hold her cold hand that was on her knee as he answered Shen Yue in a lowered voice, "Don't worry, Grandpa. We will do our best to take on whatever that we should."

Xi Xiaye could tell that Shen Yue was really quite satisfied with Mu Yuchen. After marrying him, she felt that she had been living pretty comfortably, while Grandpa and Mother were quite happy, and the Mu family had been really kind to her too...

Was this not everything that she had been pursuing?

After lunch, Mu Yuchen accompanied Shen Yue in the living room to drink tea and chat on the sofa while Xiaye accompanied Shen Wenna to sort out the plants in the backyard.

Shen Wenna did not have many hobbies. Whenever she was free, she liked to work on the plants, so the Shen residence backyard was filled with a lot of rare plants.

The plum blossom forest in the backyard was fluttering in the cold breeze akin to snow falling from the sky. She inhaled the cool fragrance as Xi Xiaye walked through the blossoming trees with flowers that fluttered and scattered all around. Soon, she saw the end of the corridor where Shen Wenna was watering the potted flowers.

Watching the busy Shen Wenna from the top of the staircase made Xi Xiaye get momentarily misty-eyed as she watched her frail figure. Many of the things she wanted to say had reached the tip of her tongue, yet she did not know how to start.

Only until Shen Wenna suddenly looked up at her did she return to her senses...

"If there's anything you want to say, just say it. We mother and daughter don't need to be this courteous," Shen Wenna just said, her tone rather gentle and calm.

Startled for a moment, Xi Xiaye looked down in deep thought. Shen Wenna was already back to work by the time she lifted her head.

After a moment of hesitation, she went over and stopped right behind Shen Wenna, watching her being busy with work for some time before saying, "Nothing... I'm just taking a look."

Shen Wenna stared at her as her eyes darkened slightly. She did not say anything and went back to tending the flowers.

"Come by earlier on the fifteenth. We'll head to the beauty salon first. I want to get my hair done." Shen Wenna's voice reached her again after some time. "Are you doing alright with Chen Er? I can see that he's pretty caring towards you. Your grandpa is very satisfied with him as well."

Shen Wenna's gaze landed on Xi Xiaye's face, a loving tone hidden in her voice.

Xi Xiaye glanced at her in the eyes as she gave it some thought before nodding. "We're doing okay. He's really good and caring towards me."

"Xiaye, I really hope that you've met the right person this time. You don't have to act tough on your own anymore in the future. When you reach my age, you'll start to realize that things you once thought were important will become insignificant. The most important thing is that he's good to you."

Shen Wenna suddenly felt sentimental. A sense of loss flashed through her eyes for a split second, and then they returned to clarity.

"Mother... How did Father treat you?" Xi Xiaye clenched her fists slightly and looked at her mother as she asked carefully. Her voice was filled with obvious pain.



As if she had foreseen Xi Xiaye's question, Shen Wenna did not seem surprised at all. Her cold face looked calm as ever while she looked down at a freshly sprouted plant and let out a sigh before looking at Xi Xiaye peacefully.

"I know you've been longing to know what happened between your father and me... Well, you have the right to ask anyway..."

Shen Wenna suddenly put the watering can down and put the pot back to its original position. Then, she grabbed a clean towel and wiped her hands before standing back up, appearing a little sad when she saw the scattered flower petals on the staircase.

"You don't have to doubt his feelings for me. He's really good to me... Actually, he has never given me an explanation about Yue Lingsi and her daughter. I'm the one who suggested a divorce back then because I couldn't stand it. Being betrayed by my own husband and good friend isn't a proud thing to announce, so I don't really want to talk about it."

Shen Wenna let out another sigh. "I just feel sorry for you. If I had insisted just like the typical character in those television drama series, and treated Yue Lingsi harshly and forbade them to enter the Xi family, maybe you might not have needed to suffer this much, but I can't forget about your father. To me, he should be a prideful existence. He'd never be stopped by such trivial matters of feelings.

"So, I'm willing to grant his wish. Xiaye, every man has his own pride. Had I insisted back then, your father's career might've been ruined. I can already foresee how life would be afterward. I chose to back off, but I've grabbed onto his heart forever. There might be a lot of ways to keep a man's feelings for you, but nothing works better than guilt... I'm not willing to tell you this because I don't want you to become like me. Xiaye, your mother has a dark side of hers. She's not as perfect as you see on the surface..."

A cold wind blew through, turning the air around chilly. As Xi Xiaye was looking at her mother, she saw a tint of sadness and fragile on her usual cold expression. She felt irritated and distressed.

"Xiaye, forgive my prideful self for not giving you an enjoyable childhood..." Shen Wenna said as she watched a petal slowly fall onto her toe.

Xi Xiaye looked at her and waited, yet she did not seem to continue.

Xi Xiaye's mind started to wander as the scent of the plum blossom wafted all around as well as the pink rain of petals caused by the gust of wind.

Suddenly, Shen Wenna looked at the plum blossom Xi Xiaye was focusing on and smiled. "The first time I met your father was under the peach blossom garden in the school... Back then, we..."

She stopped halfway and remained silent for a moment before turning around and heading back into the hallway. Xi Xiaye then slowly followed behind her too. It made Xi Xiaye feel sour on the inside when she saw her gaunt figure walking under the breeze mixed with flower petals.

After walking for some time, she suddenly sighed, "Your father and I must be a failure to you, but if I had a choice again, I would definitely still have married your father and given birth to you whether or not things still end up the same today."

Xi Xiaye was shocked at her words. Her face turned pale and she tried to think but could not come up with a reply.

The mother-daughter pair just kept quiet as they walked through the corridor. The cold wind kept delivering the fragrance of the flowers to them while some remains of pink petals danced around. Xi Xiaye's long hair rose up slightly as her clothes fluttered around her. It seemed unreal...

It was already 2 p.m. when they arrived back in the living room.

After an hour of chatting with Shen Yue, Mu Yuchen was short on time to leave. He got ready to go when he saw Xi Xiaye return, and Shen Yue sent them off with a big smile.

Outside the Shen Residence, the chauffeur Li Si had arranged was already waiting outside.

Xi Xiaye handed the briefcase to him as her voice brushed against his ears. "Come home earlier after you're done. I'll go back with Grandmother after shopping."

He nodded and ran his fingers through her slightly messy hair before walking towards the car.

## Chapter 190. Meeting The Right Person (2)

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She stopped halfway and remained silent for a moment before turning around and heading back into the hallway. Xi Xiaye then slowly followed behind her too. It made Xi Xiaye feel sour on the inside when she saw her gaunt figure walking under the breeze mixed with flower petals.

After walking for some time, she suddenly sighed, "Your father and I must be a failure to you, but if I had a choice again, I would definitely still have married your father and given birth to you whether or not things still end up the same today."

Xi Xiaye was shocked at her words. Her face turned pale and she tried to think but could not come up with a reply.

The mother-daughter pair just kept quiet as they walked through the corridor. The cold wind kept delivering the fragrance of the flowers to them while some remains of pink petals danced around. Xi Xiaye's long hair rose up slightly as her clothes fluttered around her. It seemed unreal...

It was already 2 p.m. when they arrived back in the living room.

After an hour of chatting with Shen Yue, Mu Yuchen was short on time to leave. He got ready to go when he saw Xi Xiaye return, and Shen Yue sent them off with a big smile.

Outside the Shen Residence, the chauffeur Li Si had arranged was already waiting outside.

Xi Xiaye handed the briefcase to him as her voice brushed against his ears. "Come home earlier after you're done. I'll go back with Grandmother after shopping."

He nodded and ran his fingers through her slightly messy hair before walking towards the car.