## Loving 221

Chapter 221. Xiaye's Unbearable Past (1)

Su Nan looked excitedly at Xi Xiaye, while she just smiled calmly at her. She took out the red packet that Mu Yuchen had prepared and handed it to Su Nan. "Nan Nan, Ruan Heng, congratulations. You must be happy forever!"

When she reached out to take over the red packet, Su Nan suddenly asked softly, "Why didn't your man come with you?"

"I came with my mother. He won't be coming to join the fun, but he did prepare this red packet!" Xi Xiaye laughed softly.

"Master Mu prepared it?" Su Nan widened her eyes. She did not care for anything and immediately ripped the red packet open to gape at the cheque and greeting card. She immediately cried out, "Six nines! How generous! Xiaye, when you go back, please tell Master Mu that my respect for him is as endless as uninterrupted torrential rivers!"

As she said this, she hugged the red packet and said softly, "Xiaye, I think I'm getting rich from organizing this wedding. You and Master Mu should quickly have yours. With Master Mu's influence, there'll be so many cash gifts for sure. Keep all of them to yourself and have it as pocket money... Just thinking about it makes me shiver. I'm telling you, for today's wedding, Ruan Heng and I've already discussed that all of the cash gifts will go to me. His salary will be managed by me too, haha..."

Su Nan seemed to be a pretty jovial mood today. The smile on her face was extremely radiant. On the side, Ruan Heng looked at her dotingly too. Xi Xiaye was genuinely happy for them from the bottom of her heart, yet she could not help but think, if she and Mu Yuchen would really organize their wedding in October, how would their wedding be like?

Every girl would have their own dreams of a beautiful wedding dress, and she was no different. She did not have reasons to fantasize back then, but now, had everything changed? Could she start looking forward to it again?

When they walked into the banquet hall, it was already almost fully seated. Xi Xiaye was Su Nan's best friend. In fact, because of her and Shen Wenna's status, they were guests of honor and their seats were arranged right beside Su Nan's table.

The wedding started soon. As she watched Ruan Heng put the ring on Su Nan's finger, and how Su Nan looked so happy that tears fell from her face, Xi Xiaye seemed to empathize with the same feelings. There was an indescribable feeling in her heart.

She stood up to hold the teacup up and wanted to sip her tea when she noticed the faintly flickering splendor on her hand too. Suddenly, a warmth crossed her heart.

After the wedding reception ended, the banquet began.

Many guests attended the wedding. Most of them were teachers from University A. Earlier, they had just sat down when Shen Wenna started chatting away with some teachers beside her, and when they found out that Xi Xiaye was Shen Wenna's daughter, everyone was in the same disbelief.

"No way! Professor Shen looks just slightly over 30! How unexpected of your daughter to be this grown!"

"Exactly! I've never seen Professor Shen talk about her family. I thought she wasn't married!"

"I heard that her daughter is a director at Glory World. That's pretty amazing!"

One by one, voices of envy were heard. Shen Wenna only smiled in response while Xi Xiaye did not say much either. She just drank a sip or two of wine once in a while as she watched Shen Wenna chat away with them.

A while after, when Su Nan had changed out of her wedding dress and returned to the hall with Ruan Heng, Su Nan dragged her alone to drink.

Su Nan and Ruan Heng had invited quite a lot of old classmates as well. Just like the previous gathering, Wang Zilou and Sun Mei had come as well.

"Xiaye, let's go over. The old classmates are there, and so are several university mates. Previously, I've said I'll go greet them. Let's go!" Su Nan pointed at the table near the balcony and smiled.

Before Xi Xiaye could answer, she was already dragged over to that table.

"Oh, our bride and groom are coming over!"

They had just gone closer when the sounds of teasing were heard. The table full of people instantly stood up. Even the classmates and friends from the neighboring table all swarmed up to them too.

It was Wang Ziluo and Sun Mei. However, what shocked Xi Xiaye was the fact that Xi Xinyi was unexpectedly there too! She was sitting right beside Wang Ziluo!

"Oh my God! Why is she here? Did we invite her?" When Su Nan saw Xi Xinyi's face, she instantly looked pissed off and turned to glare at Ruan Heng!

Ruan Heng shrugged innocently as he said gloomily, "I did follow your orders and only invited Wang Ziluo, but who would've thought that Sun Mei and the rest would've come too? Earlier, I didn't even see them at the entrance!"

As if they sensed the confusion, the group already walked over to greet them with their drinks in hand. They smiled and said, "The two of you are horrible, only inviting Wang Ziluo for your wedding and leaving us behind! Is our coming uninvited troubling you guys?"

"Haha, how could that be? Ruan Heng and I thought that you guys won't be in City Z anymore after the New Year, so we just invited Wang Zi, but of course, I'd welcome you to witness our happiness. Haha, you're very welcome!" Su Nan forced a laugh and answered.

"Your wedding's pretty grand. You even did it here! Earlier, everyone was saying how jealous they were, but we actually came over to sincerely wish you well!"

"Thank you, everyone. Cheers!"

"Wishing the both of you happiness! Cheers!"

After they downed the drinks, and before Su Nan and the rest could ease over, someone suddenly cried out from the side, "Eh, isn't that Xi Xiaye?"

Everyone's gaze very quickly fell onto Xi Xiaye who was behind Su Nan and Ruan Heng.

They were all familiar faces, but Xi Xiaye did not seem to be able to recall their names. Some of them had even played ball together with her back in senior high.

Xi Xiaye's fair face flashed with comfort as she nodded slightly. "Hello, everyone. Long time no see. I hope everyone's well."

"Rather well. Wait, Xi Xiaye, didn't you go to the military academy back then? Where are you working now? I haven't heard news about you in years now!"

A girl beside Wang Ziluo looked a little shocked at Xi Xiaye. She vaguely remembered this girl was called Lin Xueli or something. She had been the commisary in charge of studies for the class next door back then.

"Back then, for the entrance exam, you just did as usual. Usually, your grades were alright but you were unexpectedly amazing in the exams, and even got into that pretty good military academy. You must probably be a military officer, aren't you?"

When Lin Xueli finished, a voice of disdain came softly from behind. "Pfft, what military officer? Back then, she broke the rules in the military academy and was immediately ordered to be expelled. Don't you guys know?"

Once this voice was heard, many people around were stunned. They looked a little shocked towards the source of the voice.

The person who had spoken was a girl beside Xi Xinyi. Su Nan remembered that this girl was part of Xi Xinyi's little posse from back then!

Chapter 222. Xiaye's Unbearable Past (2)

She saw that the woman was currently looking at Xi Xiaye with contempt, while Xi Xinyi who was beside her just frowned and pulled at the girl's sleeve, softly whispering, "Xiao Ling, don't talk nonsense!"

"What happened? Yu Lingling, what did you say earlier? What do you mean by breaking school rules and being ordered to be expelled? What happened? Wasn't she doing well in the school?"

"Exactly, tell us what happened. I thought it was weird back then when she suddenly went abroad instead of studying at the military academy!"

"Exactly, but now she seems to be doing very well as a director at Glory World. It's not a role just anyone can take on..."

Everyone had not been in much contact with Xi Xiaye, but they had always taken note of her. One reason was that of her extraordinarily good looks. Another was because her family background was considered pretty celebrated in school back then. Now, she was even the mayor's daughter and sisters with the celebrity, Xi Xinyi, so naturally, she received a lot of attention.

"Yu Lingling, what nonsense are you spewing? You watch what you say!"

When Su Nan heard her, she instantly frowned and looked worriedly at Xi Xiaye. She saw that Xi Xiaye's cold and indifferent face had turned slightly pale while her eyes had swiftly dimmed too. Instantly anxious, she stared coldly at Yu Lingling to warn her.

"How am I spewing nonsense? Just ask her yourself. Ask her why she suddenly stopped studying at the great military academy, and why she suddenly went abroad. See how she'll answer you guys!"

Yu Lingling gave Xi Xinyi a look, the corner of her lips curving with an insulting smile. Her eyes looked sharply at Xi Xiaye as if she was watching a show.

"Yu Lingling! If you want to cause trouble, get out right now. Don't babble crazy things. I know you don't like me. Then, come for me! Why are you spewing nonsense about someone else?" Su Nan's eyes darkened as she glared sharply at Yu Lingling. She really did not expect to let such people come in. Look at Xi Xinyi that slut's fake manners. I'm sure that Yu Lingling was incited by her!

Yu Lingling had always been on bad terms with Su Nan. Back when they were in school, she liked to rat on her to the teacher and had always made life difficult for Su Nan. After Xi Xiaye dealt with her, she had always born hard feelings against Xi Xiaye. Since she became part of Xi Xinyi's little posse, she started to drive a wedge between Xi Xiaye and the other classmates.

"All of those who have come are guests, Su Nan. Your temper hasn't changed much since school!" Yu Lingling sneered with disdain. "In fact, I was just telling the truth. How is that called spewing nonsense? Don't you know better than anyone else? Xi Xiaye was expelled by the military academy because they were afraid of causing a huge ruckus. She couldn't stay in City Z, so she then accepted her family's arrangement to go abroad!"

"Nonsense! Nonsense! Shut up! If you spew more nonsense, I'm getting someone to chase you all out!" Su Nan's expression changed drastically. Her eyes turned cold and she shot a mean glare at Xi Xinyi who was feigning gentleness, pretending to be worried and pulling at Yu Lingling. She shouted, "Xi Xinyi, this is you seeding things on the sly again, isn't it?"

"Su Nan, what are you trying to say?" Xi Xinyi frowned and feigned innocence.

"What's happening? Lingling, what happened with Xi Xiaye?"

While watching the few people's performances, the crowd became even more curious. Even Wang Zilou looked puzzledly towards Yu Lingling. "What happened?"

"Huh, if you dare to do it, won't you let others talk about it? Just look at her and you'd know she's not some good person. What's she being so arrogant for!?"

Yu Lingling received the signals that Xi Xinyi gave her. She looked tauntingly and her eyes were filled with loathing and contempt. "She... Well, she's a thief! When she was in military school, she stole the diamond necklace that her military instructor was going to give his wife. Later on, she was found out by the instructor, and even... Well, since she failed to steal it, she made an unreasonable scene and beat up the instructor until he was heavily injured. One of the instructors eyes was blinded. It's disgusting. I've never seen someone like this..."

Before Yu Lingling could finish, Su Nan had already tossed the wine glass in her hand onto the floor. Her body had tensed up and she could help but be worried as she turned to look at Xi Xiaye beside her. "Yu Lingling, you damned b\*tch, shut up! You're the thief! Someone, security! Drag this crazy woman out! Quickly! Get out!"

Xi Xiaye felt that her entire spirit was suddenly emptied. Her chest felt extremely heavy and even her shallow breathing made her aware of the pain in her chest.

Her mind turned blank as her mind started to interweave with numerous choppy fragments...

Her beautiful face was already so pale that blood had drained from her face. As her chest was in pain and her breaths became short, her body gave way and then she staggered, clutching onto Su Nan's arm like she was holding onto a buoy. She started to inhale huge breaths, and her dazed eyes were gloomy and filled with a fear that could not be disguised. Even though she looked a little panicked, the rationality in her head kept her clear-headed...

"No way! How's this possible?"

"Yeah, that's impossible? How could she be a thief? And even be so brutal with the beatings?"

"No way! How could she have been expelled by the military academy? In fact, her father was probably already the deputy mayor back then. If even such a high-up official had been unfair, you can tell how bad the situation must've been!"

"I think so too. Otherwise, how could she have been expelled? In fact, I heard that she's a director at Glory World Corporation. Who knows? Maybe she slept with someone!"

"Right? I heard that she and her superior, some Vice President, have been getting very close recently! Yesterday, they even attended the Yueying shareholders' meeting together. Earlier, I heard Xinyi mention..."

Some people had already begun to whisper to one another and discuss this.

All of her unbearable past was opened up right before her in dripping blood. In her absent-mindedness, she suddenly remembered that scene —

"Teacher, I didn't! I really didn't! I didn't steal anything and I didn't seduce him..."

"Father, I really didn't. Please believe me. I don't want to quit, Father..."

"I really didn't do it. He's framing me. I really didn't! It's him who has feelings for me..."

"Xi Xiaye, because you have severely violated the school rules, the circumstances are severe. After an investigation, the school has decided to take disciplinary action by expelling you from the school. You're on your own now. Go back and pack up your things to leave the academy right away..."

"Why don't you do well? Why did you have to be a thief and even do something so shameless? We are utterly humiliated by her! Can't she just give this family fewer problems? Back then, her father had put in so much effort to let her enter the military academy?"

...

That day, she had been just like she was right now. Under the mocking looks from her classmates and comrades looking down on her, she was forced to pack her bags and quit against her will.

"Xiaye, Xiaye, are you okay? Xiaye!"

Su Nan held her up as she had turned weak. She was so worried that her eyes started to redden.

Chapter 223. Master Mu Is Angry! (1)

A long while after, Xi Xiaye jolted slightly, then her dazed eyes managed to clear up. The horrible sneers entered her ears as if she was poked with needles made from ice and snow. It was so cold that it numbed her.

She looked up stunned at Xi Xinyi who pretended to be all innocent and worried before her, yet there was a flash of cold light in her eyes.

"Xiaye!"

Beside her ear, Su Nan and Ruan Heng's worried voice kept calling her. The guests by the side seemed to have noticed this too. All of them looked over, and even the hotel manager who was directing all the tasks was alarmed.

Sun Mei pulled at Yu Lingling to make her stop, yet she just glared at Sun Mei. She did not feel remorse at all. Instead, seeing Xi Xiaye this humiliated and stuck in a difficult situation, combined with how pale she looked, she even felt very smug, especially when she found out from Xi Xinyi that she was currently a director at Glory World.

"Stop pulling at me, Sun Mei! I'm just telling the truth. If you don't believe me, go ask Zhang Yan. He was in the same school as this disgusting thief back then. At the class reunion a few years ago, he even talked about this! He asked if we were in the same class, but I didn't know how to answer him back then. How embarrassing..."

Su Nan reached over to hold Xi Xiaye by the shoulders as she shouted to the oncoming security, "Security, drag this woman out for me! Throw her out right now! Quick!"

Sun Mei and the rest looked a little troubled at Su Nan and Ruan Heng. Even Wang Zilou kept looking at Xi Xiaye in a daze. Quite a few people had already crowded around from the side, wanting to advise Su Nan to calm down.

"Su Nan, don't be rash!"

"I'm not being rash right now Doesn't she know what she's saying? I think you two witches have intentionally come here to cause trouble! Xi Xinyi, that's enough! I've never seen a more disgusting woman than you. Your own mother's become a nauseating third party. Forget that you don't feel ashamed enough, but you even want to use your mother as a role model and steal your sister's fiance. If I were you, I would've been so ashamed that I'd retreat into the forest, but why do you have such a thick face? Could it be because of how you've become an actress in recent years, so evilness has seeped into your bone marrow?" Su Nan cursed at Xi Xinyi in a rage. She was seething in anger with no reason whatsoever. "I've been tolerating you for a very long time! Don't think I don't know that you've incited this! I think that your popularity today is the one that's been gained through sleeping with I-don't-know-how-many directors!"

Sun Mei could not bear to listen anymore. She could not help but reprimand, "Su Nan! What are you saying? Don't cross the line!"

...

Xi Xiaye's hand that hid in her sleeve was balled into a tight fist. The wine glass in her hand trembled slightly as she stared straight at Xi Xinyi. In an instant, her gaze became gloomy, ice-cold and bone-chilling.

"What's happening?"

At that moment, Shen Wenna's voice suddenly came from behind. Everyone looked to the source of the voice.

"Aunty Shen! Xiaye, she..." Su Nan looked worriedly at Shen Wenna, then she looked down too.

Shen Wenna's cold face flashed with a puzzlement. Looking ahead, she immediately saw Xi Xinyi who sat on the side and her gaze instantly hardened whilst her expression changed!

In a flash, Shen Wenna also noticed that Xi Xiaye looked pale and miserable. She appeared desolate and icy-cold, so she walked over and at this moment, the whispers started to enter Shen Wenna's ears.

"She's here. She looks like a professor from University A. She looks very cultured. The mother and daughter pair are quite alike. Her daughter doesn't look like a thief, but she is indeed quite beautiful. She has the means to seduce..."

"I don't think she looks like it, but she was expelled by the military academy, wasn't she?"

"It seems like she's even the mayor's daughter... Could she be the mayor's ex-wife then?"

"Mayor Xi's ex-wife? No way! She's so young and beautiful!"

...

Xi Xiaye spent a lot of effort to hold back the anger that she was about to recklessly vent. She quietly averted her gaze and looked drained and weakly at Shen Wenna who had also stiffened on the spot. "I'm fine, Mother, let me send you back. Su Nan, we're leaving now. I'm really sorry about tonight."

"Xiaye! I'm worried about you! Ruan Heng, arrange for someone to send Aunty Shen home right away. Xiaye, you shouldn't be driving like this... Xiaye..."

Before Su Nan could finish, Xi Xiaye had already pulled Shen Wenna and abruptly turned away. Her figure looked bleak and lonely. Just by watching her, Su Nan could feel the powerlessness in her steps.

She could not care much and quickly chased after them. There was an uproar at the wedding banquet as everyone looked towards Xi Xiaye and Shen Wenna's figures as they left in a hurry...

She had just stepped out when Su Nan finally managed to catch up and gripped onto Xi Xiaye. "Xiaye! Stop! I'm telling you, you're not suited to drive right now! I'll send you home! Ruan Heng, you send Aunty Shen back!"

"It's fine. Today's your wedding day. Go back. It's such a happy day. Please don't let it be ruined by me..." Xi Xiaye's voice was exceptionally calm as her expression was tranquil too. Her eyes had already turned grey and were silent as still water. There was no light in them at all.

Su Nan felt her heart ache. She did not know how much strength Xi Xiaye needed to hold back all of her anger and grievances, but she knew that Xi Xiaye had done so, not just for Shen Wenna, but also for her and Ruan Heng.

When they saw quite a few people following after them, Ruan Heng could only gloomily say in concern, "Xiaye, I've already arranged for someone to come pick up Aunty Shen. Su Nan, you accompany Xiaye to rest in the VIP room."

Yet, just as his voice fell, the hotel manager had already brought a few people and rushed over, until they reached Xi Xiaye, "Director Xi!"

Xi Xiaye nodded, turning to look at the distracted Shen Wenna and say softly, "Please send my mother back to the Shen residence."

"Mother, you..."

Shen Wenna looked miserable as she muttered before turning to leave, "I'm fine. It's fine if they know. I am your father's ex-wife... Okay, I'll leave now. I'm fine. You don't have to worry. Don't mind their words either. We all believe you..."

"Director Xi?" The hotel manager softly called out for Xi Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye closed her eyes and took in a deep breath. She nodded and then the hotel manager followed Shen Wenna out.

As she watched Shen Wenna's figure gradually move further away, Xi Xiaye calmly said, "I'm going home too. Don't worry. I'm fine." Before Su Nan and the rest could react, she had already picked up her pace and walked ahead.

"Xiaye!" Su Nan wanted to follow after her, yet she was pulled back by Ruan Heng. "Enough, Nan Nan. Let her have some time alone!"

"I want to go settle scores with those two witches!"

Su Nan stormed right back in a rage.

Chapter 224. Master Mu Is Angry! (2)

Xi Xiaye plodded through the corridor with heavy footsteps. Suddenly, she thought that this corridor felt endless. It was very, very long. All around her were walls and it was so stifling that she almost could not breathe.

She was not sure how long had passed until she found the entrance...

When she walked out of the hotel, it had already turned dark outside. The streetlights were lit up, yet the faint light could not seem to pass through the vast, gloomy twilight. The night wind kept blowing, bringing a bone-chilling humidity into the air while the moist ground refracted varying lights and shadows because of the light shining down. The scene looked so desolate that it brought pain to one.

Her thin and lonesome figure passed through the gloomy, misty rain. When she walked under a dim streetlight, she finally took out her phone from her pocket and made a call. The person on the other end picked up very quickly.

"Hello? Detective Zhang? It's me, Xi Xiaye... I wanted to ask about that thing. When will we get the results?"

"Earlier, I just checked Yang Jianfeng's account. Another \$200,000 was banked into him again three months ago, but I can't be sure if it was from that person. It'll probably be very hard to get evidence on this. Your father and grandfather personally erased all of the information about this, so it's not that easy to open up the investigation again..."

"I've got it. Don't alarm them... Thank you, Detective Zhang," she softly said.

...

After hanging up, Xi Xiaye got into the car. Upon closing the door, all of her strength and endurance instantly broke down like the dam of a sea had burst. The dry and burning rim of her eyes could not hold back her tears and they started to turn moist.

She tossed her phone aside, intending to wipe the chill on her face away. She wiped and wiped at the tears, then suddenly buried her face into her icy palms. For a long time, she did not move.

"I really didn't do it. He framed me. Why won't you guys believe me?"

"Father, I'm not afraid of going to jail. I'm only begging you to help me. I'm not a thief. I didn't seduce him..."

"Grandfather, can you please talk to them? I really don't want to quit. I finally... I admit that I did hurt him, but I really didn't steal anything. It was him who told me to go over and get information..."

That year, she had just joined the military academy. Just when she thought that her career in the army could begin, this tragedy had once again stolen all of her dreams and hopes away.

After the incident, even Xi Mushan could not protect her while Shen Wenna had accompanied Shen Yue for his eye surgery abroad. When they returned, the school's decision had already been set.

She had to be expelled bearing a blackened name, and Deng Wenwen was even more ashamed by her. As a result, she made her spend a long time in the study room to reflect on her mistakes, and Xi Xinyi ran to her every day to tell her about Han Yifeng...

Back then, she felt that her world had never been that gray before. No matter how hard she tried, she could not walk out of that deadlocked haze.

After that, Shen Wenna went looking for Xi Mushan. Following their discussion, they decided to send her straight abroad, and then collaboratively suppress the news about this. Xi Jiyang had also declared that no one was to ever raise this matter again.

In the period that she had just gone abroad, because he was worried that she would take things too hard, Shen Yue had even cast aside the company matters and accompanied her there for a long time. When she felt better, he then returned to the country.

Before he left, Shen Yue had advised her, "What's happened has already happened. As much as you cry or feel wronged, it'll be useless. There are many things that you still need to do. You aren't just living for this one thing. There are always many unlucky people. Once you get through it, you'll realize that it was actually not such a big deal after all."

Yes, it really would not be a big deal if she could get through it, but what if she could not?

•••

She was not sure how long had passed. She just felt warm moisture in her palm as one by one, teardrops fell through her fingers and her shoulders trembled slightly.

Suddenly, she did not know why she was this upset. She thought she had already walked out of that darkness. Even if she faced all those mean rumors, she thought that she should be able to face them calmly, yet what she thought was different from reality...

Just as her sleeves were about to be completely soaked by her hot tears, the car door beside her was suddenly opened and a strong gust of cold wind instantly poured in!

She was shocked and looked up reflexively. Quickly, she wiped away the moisture on her face and looked out of the car.

Mu Yuchen's tall and handsome figure greeted her sight. His expression was unusually grave and his eyes were immersed in gloom, yet the depths of his eyes also contained the complexities of his love and worry for her.

She looked at him, startled. She was quite surprised, but after a while, she regained her senses and turned her head away. Wiping the tears at the corner of her eyes, she asked softly, "Why are you here?"

Her voice was a little hoarse and raspy from the crying. Her pale face looked so weak that it pained him to look at her, yet the thing that he still could not help but be angry about was how she could instantly return to her usual calm.

"Why wouldn't I be here? You've become quite capable. Why wouldn't I come to see the show? It hasn't even begun and already you're hiding here crying? Tell me what happened."

Mu Yuchen felt that as even-tempered as he was, he could not suppress the rage in his heart. He had carefully watched over her, afraid that she would not be able to handle it. He had worried that the

bunch of people would easily invoke problems, so he had ordered the hotel manager to look after her. However, unexpectedly when he was on the home to Maple Residence from the Shen residence, he had received the hotel manager's call. After that, Shen Wenna had worriedly given him a call too, so he then rushed over.

While she, on the other hand, forgot about even calling him. Despite calling her numerous times, she did not pick up...

His deep voice brought a hint of sternness as his deep gaze locked onto her. He could not care less about the drizzle that fell from the sky as he just fixed his eyes on her.

She silently looked down, her hands resting on her knees clenched slightly without saying a word.

When he saw that she did not say anything for a long time, the sound of his soft scolding carried an order that was determined and did not allow defying, unlike his usual calm and gentleness at all. "Speak!"

Clearly, he was extremely angry.

"Xi Xiaye, you don't dare to speak up now?" He coldly called out her name and held the car door with one hand while looking down at her.

Forced by his strong presence, she finally could not bear it and looked up. Her silent and dim gaze met his deep eyes. She raised her voice and shouted at him as if she was giving up in moments of hopelessness, "Say what?! What do you want me to say? Would all of you believe me if I spoke up? All of you think I'm a thief, that I'm a shameless person who would seduce her own instructor... Everyone is resolute about the idea that I'm someone like that, so what do you want me to say? If explaining myself worked, I wouldn't mind explaining it a thousand or a million times!"

## Chapter 225. Ban Xi Xinyi (1)

She clenched her teeth, and then her clear eyes were very quickly covered with gloom. She continued coldly, "If I said that it was the man who framed me, asking me to be with him, that he couldn't seduce me, so he forced himself onto me, and after that in the middle of the ordeal, I got hold of a pen and stabbed his eye blind, would you believe me? He got the title as an excellent instructor every year while I'm just a bad student who got in through connections. Who'd believe me?"

When she said this, Mu Yuchen was shocked for a moment. Suddenly, there was a cold sharpness that flashed in his eyes.

"After that, I was expelled by the academy, and was even almost sent to jail. My father used his connections to erase all of my records whilst my mother used Grandfather's money to shut that man up. On the day that I left the academy, the class teacher used me as a bad example in front of my whole class. What do you want me to say? How do I explain? Tell me! How can I prove my innocence?"

All of the anger and suffering she had endured instantly could not help but show in her eyes that heated up. The instant her tears were about to fall, she turned her head away stubbornly. She sniffed with both her hands clenched into tight fists. Choking on her sobs for a moment, she continued to stammer in a raspy voice, "All of them say that I'm a thief, that I'm a shameless woman. Even my grandfather and grandmother didn't believe me..."

Then, she lowered her head and covered her pale face in her hands again. She was so hurt. All of her grievances and unbearable past being completely exposed in the open was something hard for her to accept.

"That's just them being stupid and not knowing right from wrong. You didn't even seduce me. What would that man have to make you think so highly of him? Who brought this up tonight?" He still could not hold back his anger.

She sniffed and looked up at him with her red eyes, not saying anything.

"Was it that Xi Xinyi again, or that stepmother of yours?"

From the way she looked, Mu Yuchen could already guess the answer.

"Are you a fool? Are you so stupid that you don't know how to attack her back? The best way to handle a woman like her is to give her a taste of her own medicine. If that doesn't work, then play dirty!"

When he said this, his tone was far from the stern scolding like before. Instead, there was a tone of evil influence and smugness now.

She was triggered by his words. This was the first time someone had called her stupid. She immediately straightened her back and refuted angrily with justification, "If I were so invincible, why would I need you for?!"

"You!" Mu Yuchen felt that she had the ability to anger him to death. He really did not know what else to say after that rebuttal, so he just inhaled, nodded, and glanced at her helplessly. "If you had acknowledged this earlier, I might've still been praising you right now, but now, with this attitude of yours, I..."

Xi Xiaye widened her reddened eyes and glared at him coldly. When she was about to say something, the sound of footsteps from the side interrupted them. What followed was a huge black umbrella shading Mu Yuchen's head from the sky above as Ah Mo's voice came through.

"Master, this is what you wanted."

Mu Yuchen looked at Xi Xiaye, then turned around and took the thick stack of papers from Ah Mo's hands.

He casually flipped through it, then nodded and handed it back to Ah Mo. He said calmly, "The banquet's about to end soon, isn't it?"

"Yes, Master, the guests have started to leave, but they're not out yet. Manager Liang has already explained the matter to me," Ah Mo said softly.

"This is your forte, so just go with the usual and play by ear," instructed Mu Yuchen, yet he looked at Xi Xiaye as he did. "Do you want to take revenge?"

When she heard him, her eyes that were a little misty from the tears suddenly brightened up. She stared at him and muttered, "Do you have a plan?"

His gaze was as still as water. Noticing a sliver of hope in her eyes like a bullied little girl looking for her parents to help her take revenge, her eyes twinkled with a light that flickered akin to scattered diamonds. He could not help but feel sorry for her. Quite a while after that, he lifted a hand to wipe away her tears...

Xi Xiaye followed his slightly cold fingers, rubbing her tears away, feeling embarrassed. Her eyes were still focused on his extraordinarily handsome face.

His hand lifted slightly and patted her head as his tone became soft and gentle. "Get down from the car. Follow me."

Xi Xiaye was shocked, but she nodded and followed him out of the car...

At this moment, it was already past 9 p.m. and the banquet was about to come to a close.

When Su Nan returned to the banquet hall, she had rushed over angrily, intending to settle the score with Xi Xinyi and Yu Lingling, but she was stopped by her parents. Just like that, the storm that erupted at the banquet was finally suppressed.

After Xi Xiaye left, Xi Xinyi and Yu Lingling continued chatting away happily as usual to everyone, but when everyone mentioned Xi Xiaye's matter, Xi Xinyi would just smile in response and not comment. However, it was exactly because of this reaction that everyone was afraid of the high probability of the matter being true.

When it was past 9 p.m., a group of people finally decided to leave.

Outside the hotel, Xi Xinyi and Wang Zilou's group bade goodbye to each other at the stairs.

"Hey, Xinyi, was that true about Xiaye? To be honest, I also thought it was weird back then that she would suddenly go abroad despite doing well in the military academy," Sun Mei could not help but ask Xi Xinyi.

"Xiaye's not like that, Sun Mei. Even if it was as Lingling said, I'm sure there's something else," Wang Ziluo hesitated for a moment, then said.

"I think Sister wouldn't too, but... I'm really sorry, my grandfather and father don't let me talk about this matter, so..." Xi Xinyi very innocently stated, yet the awkwardness on her face had set the accusation against Xi Xiaye in stone!

Everyone exchanged glances knowingly. Even Wang Ziluo's expression darkened.

Xi Xinyi lowered her head, seeming a little upset as she sighed, "Sister has been having it hard all this while, so I hope that everyone won't see her differently because of these things. She's a very good person and I've always admired her, so please, everyone, don't bring this up again anymore, okay? I'm begging you..." Xi Xinyi's voice trembled slightly. She sounded like she was being considerate towards Xi Xiaye, yet, the moment she said that, a motorcycle had swiftly driven towards them and stopped before them.

On the motorcycle was a tall man with a helmet on. He got down from the bike and held a thick stack of documents before walking up to the few of them and asked politely, "May I know who Miss Xi Xinyi is?"

Chapter 226. Ban Xi Xinyi (2)

The tone of the man was polite and humble whilst he looked at them at the bottom of the staircase.

Such attitude rarely alerted cautiousness, so the crowd all looked at Xi Xinyi who put on a smile and said, "Hello, I'm Xi Xinyi, and you... Ah! Ah! Ah!"

Before she could finish her sentence, the tall man's eyes turned cold and he grabbed Xi Xinyi's shoulder, slapping the thick pile of document papers in his hand on Xi Xinyi's beautiful face!

The sound of paper slapping her reached everyone's ears.

Xi Xinyi screamed in agony. She felt her head go light as her foot tripped and she fell onto the ground. The man then threw the stack of papers onto Xi Xinyi, making the papers rain everywhere. Meanwhile, the other pillion rider on the motorbike threw another stack of papers towards Xi Xinyi as well. The sharp edge of the papers actually caused thin bloodlines to appear on her face!

"Be careful in the future. Don't always stab people in the back. I've seen too many people like you. I'll make sure you'll have a hard time if I see you do it again. Bro Mo doesn't have to even lift his finger!" The first man threatened her coldly and then left on the bike.

Everything happened too quickly. The crowd came back to their senses a while after Xi Xinyi started screaming. At that moment, the papers almost covered up Xi Xinyi. Some people started picking the papers up to take a closer look.

They were some inappropriate photos of Xi Xinyi and they even included specific captions of when, where, and who the photos were taken with.

In addition to that, conflicts between Xi Xinyi and other celebrities, and any tricks used were included. For example, there was one about how soon after Xi Xinyi's debut, the female lead suffered severe injuries from falling off a hanging wire due to a system failure. The circumstantial evidence suggested that Xi Xinyi was guilty. There were many other similar cases whereby anyone who was found to be going against Xi Xinyi would somehow be involved in an accident, and every single time, Xi Xinyi was found at the scene!

The detailed information was all available. There was even a close-up photo of Xi Xinyi secretly vandalizing a certain celebrity's dress!

Many things were listed down. From the time Xi Xinyi debuted until now, her whole career had been recorded and those unknown events were now fully presented to everyone.

Sun Mei and the others stared at the photos with their scandalized eyes wide and because the wedding was ending, many guests came out from the hotel as well. Fueled by the breeze, many of the papers flew inside and most of the guests grabbed one unconsciously!

Xi Xinyi felt that something was wrong when Sun Mei and the others were looking at her with shock, so she quickly grabbed one of the papers.

It was all about the conflict between her, Caitlyn, Lin Ling, and...

She yelled as she crawled up from the ground, "These aren't true! They aren't true!"

She was trembling uncontrollably. No matter how hard she tried to keep herself composed, the fear in her heart made her feel light-headed.

Her first reaction was that someone had to be messing with her!

If these went out, her reputation in the entertainment industry...

Suddenly, many people surrounded her. Some of them quickly snapped photos and posted it on their Weibo!

This was some hot news!

Xi Xinyi's face went pale as her mind turned blank. She wanted to do something but she could not move, totally freaked out.

...

Beside the car somewhere nearby, Xi Xiaye witnessed what happened with her cold eyes. Her hand was still holding the paper Mu Yuchen had handed her.

"Master, this is the video they took. Take a look!" Ah Mo passed his phone over and Mu Yuchen flicked his cigarette on the ashtray as he took it. Glancing at it, he then gave it to Xi Xiaye beside him. "Take a look."

Xi Xiaye frowned as she grabbed it and saw a video of Yu Lingling talking.

"I didn't do it on purpose. I was triggered by Xi Xinyi! She told me that it was Xi Xiaye who locked me up in the school toilet and even asked Su Nan to remove my name from the student council... That's why I... I've told you the truth. Please don't hurt me..."

"You had people..." Xi Xiaye looked at him, startled.

"You use odd ways against odd people. Sometimes, it's better to be direct."

He took the phone back from Xi Xiaye and gave it to Ah Mo. After a brief moment of silence, he said, "Send it to Han Yifeng together with that thing."

Ah Mo took his phone back and nodded. "Yes, Master!"

Xi Xiaye looked at the battered up Xi Xinyi. She seemed lost as Sun Mei and the others tried to drag her out of the crowd. She suddenly lost interest in watching and felt tired, so she opened the car door and sat inside.

Mu Yuchen turned his head over when he heard the sound of the door close. When he saw she had her eyes closed and her hands resting on her forehead, his eyes darkened and there was worry nestled between his brows.

"Master, next up..." Ah Mo mumbled quietly.

Mu Yuchen frowned as he threw the cigarette away and said, "You decide." He then opened the car door and sat inside as well.

"Start the car," Mu Yuchen told the driver in front as he got in. His eyes looked over at Xi Xiaye beside him. She seemed a little sad, so after some thought, he asked, "Are you worried about Father? Or Mother?"

He was always very observant, easily guessing what she thought.

She remained quiet after some time. Then, she took a deep breath and said in a bitter tone, "I feel like many feelings seem to become insignificant when it comes to conflicts and grudges. Humans are really insignificant. It doesn't mean that problems will just disappear if you care less.

"I'm really afraid that the things I try to protect will all just turn into a ridiculous joke..."

Chapter 227. Ban Xi Xinyi (3)

On the way back to Maple Residence, she did not say anything at all and Mu Yuchen did not bother her. He just put a blanket over her when she got tired and slept as she leaned against the window. It was late at night and there were fewer cars on the road. The shadows of the trees from the streetlights flashed past her face, appearing cold and depressing.

She could see her own fragility as she closed her eyes. She could also still feel the sadness as a lump in her throat. Opening her eyes a little and looking at the cold drizzle outside, as well as the streetlights that passed by, her expression suddenly turned calm and tranquil.

She let out a light cough and pulled the blanket around her tightly. Her dry throat sounded awful and Mu Yuchen quickly got her a tissue.

"When I was 5, Father had just started working in the government office. Because of the shift in his work, there was a two-week break. He brought Mother and me to stay by the seaside," Xi Xiaye grabbed the tissue from him and said quietly, her eyes filled with sadness.

He was listening to her while looking at her. He waited for a bit but she did not continue.

After a long time, she touched her forehead, as if she was reminded of some fond memories. A smile appeared on her face. "Mother was really caring towards Father back then. She said she wanted to experience how it was like providing for the family, so at that time, our expenses were covered by the earnings we got from selling Mother's paintings. Father would cook at home, awaiting my mother's return, and I helped her to sell the paintings. Most of the people that came to the beach were kind, young people. They really liked Mother's paintings..."

Suddenly, her expression changed. After some time, she sighed, "Those days... We were really happy as a family, and now... They're just memories."

Mu Yuchen's eyes darkened, but he did not say anything at all.

The car slowly went towards Maple Residence and parked right in front of the house. Xi Xiaye swiftly got down from the car and walked into the house, then went upstairs.

When Mu Yuchen went into the house, she had just disappeared around the corner of the staircase. He took a deep breath and took off his coat before going into the kitchen.

Xi Xiaye's phone kept on ringing after she took a quick shower. When she browsed through her history, she saw many missed calls, mostly from Shen Wenna and Su Nan. She gave them a brief reply before switching off her phone.

She then saw the man taking a bowl of something inside when she was about to leave the bedroom.

"Eat something. Leave the worries for tomorrow."

He put the bowl on the coffee table beside the sofa. Xi Xiaye glanced over at the contents of the bowl. It was noodles with an egg.

He turned over his head and handed her a pair of chopsticks. Although she wanted to say that she was not hungry, she did not want to reject his kindness, so she took the chopsticks and sat down.

"You go and wash up as well. I've prepared the water for you."

She picked up a tomato and was about to put it into her mouth, but she saw that he was still watching her. Stopping mid-way to her mouth, she then changed directions to feed him instead.

He was startled for a moment, but he did not reject and ate it. At the same time, he patted her head with a warm smile on his handsome face. Without saying anything, he went out of the bedroom.

...

The next morning, as Xi Xiaye was done washing up and was going downstairs for breakfast, her phone started ringing. She picked up the call as soon as she saw that it was Su Nan.

The moment the call connected, Su Nan's eager voice reached her through the phone. "Xiaye, Xiaye, look at the TV and Weibo! Hurry! It's super big news!"

Xi Xiaye was stunned. She walked towards the living room and found the man reading the papers on the sofa. She grabbed the remote on the coffee table and switched the television on.

The screen showed a crowd of reporters flooding the entrance to Yueying Media Culture Company, many of them holding papers and photos from last night. Deng Wenwen and Yue Lingsi were surrounded and the reporters were all asking about Xi Xinyi.

It was chaos on Weibo as well. Many fans of the female celebrities whom Xi Xinyi had sabotaged before were outraged, but there were also a lot of fans defending her.

She grabbed the papers from Mu Yuchen and scanned through it. A big portion covered Xi Xinyi. After some additional commentary by the writers, it seemed even more severe than it should be.

Was he trying to end Xi Xinyi's career?

Just a few intimate photos of Xi Xinyi going to a resort with someone was enough to cause a big stir. However, the news about causing severe harm to a female celebrity was much worse.

"Vice President Liu just called. The advertisement shoot for Imperial Sky Jewellery City was about to start, but the PR Department has decided to swap people and revoke the contract with Xi Xinyi. Manager Fang isn't in the company now, so they need you to sign the contract and pay a visit to Yueying. What do you say?" Mu Yuchen sipped some tea and looked at her.

Xi Xiaye was reminded about what had happened at the opening ceremony. The PR Department had found out that Mu Yuchen was unhappy with Xi Xinyi, so they already had plans to remove her. The circumstances now made things easy.

After a brief moment of silence, Xi Xiaye nodded, her long eyelashes flickering a little. "I'll go in place of Manager Fang this afternoon."

"Forget about those unhappy memories. No matter what, you're my Mrs. Mu that impressed me," he said so as he took the papers away from her, "You won't be able to stand your ground if you're too kind. This saying works well in any circumstances."

She was slightly wavered by his words, and she nodded a little.

•••

After Ah Mo clocked in, he went straight to Mu Yuchen's office.

As he knocked on the office door, Mu Yuchen was watering the plants on the rack. He continued even when he heard the sound of the door opening.

Ah Mo went to Mu Yuchen and called out to him respectfully, "Master!

Mu Yuchen stood up straight and left the watering can, grabbing a towel to clean his hands as he said, "I have something that I need you to do personally."

Mu Yuchen raised his head slightly and looked pointedly at Ah Mo.

"Please tell me, Master!" Ah Mo replied quietly.

Mu Yuchen nodded and walked towards his table slowly. Then, he took a folder out from the bookshelf in the back, opened it and then glanced at the document inside before handing it to Ah Mo.

Chapter 228. Driven Mad (1)

Ah Mo very swiftly took it, looking puzzledly at Mu Yuchen.

"These are some details of your sis-in-law at the military academy. Because it's been too long and some people intentionally erased some things, it's clearly incomplete," Mu Yuchen said. As he slowly sat down, he looked calmly at Ah Mo. "I need you to help me investigate the truth of your sis-in-law getting expelled from the military academy years ago. Before you've gotten all the necessary evidence, you must keep this matter a secret. However you want to do that, you can consider it yourself."

Ah Mo listened, and then opened the document in hand. He took a good look before nodding. "Don't worry, Master. I'll personally attend to this."

He seemed to have noticed that this matter was important, so Ah Mo dared not to be careless. From the information of the contents, it looked like things were not that simple. Otherwise, how could Xi Xiaye have been living alright after stabbing that person's eye? Clearly, someone was suppressing this, and who that was, he could guess.

"When you investigate that man's background, you might come across some unexpected findings," Mu Yuchen suddenly warned.

"Yes, Master! Don't worry, I'll handle this well. Right, Master, as for Xi Xinyi's matter, I've already..."

Mu Yuchen propped his head up with a hand and answered softly, "You handled this Xi Xinyi matter well. Riding on this wave, just settle her once and for all."

Ah Mo thought about it, and then said, "Master, I've just received a call. Quite a few advertising companies have already canceled their contracts with Yueying just as we predicted. Even if Qi Kai and the Han Corporation try to save them at all costs, I'm afraid this won't be an easy feat, so..."

"We'll just leave this matter at that for now. This storm won't subside so quickly. That's enough from you."

Mu Yuchen naturally understood what Ah Mo was implying. Previously, Xi Xinyi's incident with the orphanage had yet to die down, and now such a horrible scandal had been exposed. It would not take long before she would be infamous within the entertainment industry. One or two scandals could be used to hype suspicion, but if numerous negative coverage with real evidence, he could only mercilessly tell her that she was probably done for in the show business this time around.

"Yes, Master!" Ah Mo answered and retreated.

•••

The situation was worse than they had imagined. Inside the Yueying Culture Media office, Yue Lingsi was extremely panicked and anxious as she kept explaining to the person on the phone.

"CEO Fu, listen to me! This time, the rumors aren't real. Someone's intentionally smearing Xinyi. CEO Fu, please don't be misled by the slander. Those were all nonsense reported by the media... CEO Fu! CEO Fu! Listen to me, CEO Fu!"

Unfortunately, before Yue Lingsi could finish, the person on the other end had already heartlessly hung up.

Yue Lingsi felt restlessly defeated. She was about to anxiously call the person back, yet before she could, another call came in. She quickly picked it up and forced a smile on her face. "Hello, CEO Fang..."

The person's tone on the other end of the phone was extremely upset. He just said a few things and Yue Lingsi's forced smile stiffened before she quickly explained, "CEO Fang, it's not like that. They're just smearing Xinyi on purpose. CEO Fang, our contract's still..."

Another person hung up!

Yue Lingsi's expression was unusually dispirited. Her entire body turned rigid as she slowly put the phone in her hand down and looked up at Xi Xinyi, who was sitting on the sofa looking absent-minded, nervous, and anxious.

At that moment, she was scrolling through Weibo.

"Mother, what can we do? What can we do? I ... "

Xi Xinyi's body trembled as she looked up at Yue Lingsi, her beautiful eyes filled with an alarm that could not be disguised. She was so anxious that she started to tear up. Flustered, she took the phone from the side and called Han Yifeng, yet on the other end, she still only heard the dead tone of Han Yifeng's phone being switched off.

"Mother, it's not like that. Someone's intentionally smearing me, Mother. Tell them not to cancel the contract. Yifeng's not picking up my calls either..."

Xi Xinyi choked on her sobs, she looked pale and weak as she clung onto Yue Lingsi's arm. She could not help but cry aloud. Having worried for the whole night, now she just looked pitiful and dejected. The thin paper cuts on her beautiful face could still be seen and they looked slightly scary.

Yue Lingsi hugged Xi Xinyi gently. Just as worried, she patted her back and advised, "Xinyi, don't be worried first. Yifeng might still be busy with something. What happened? Explain to me properly. Why would there suddenly be so many negative news about you? I don't control what you usually do, but what happened? All these information and pictures..."

As Yue Lingsi said this, she frowned at Xi Xinyi. Reading all these detailed information, she started to feel concerned.

"Mother, all these aren't true. Someone must be messing with me! Mother, you have to believe me!"

Xi Xinyi's grip on Yue Lingsi arm suddenly tightened, as if she was holding onto a life-saving final straw.

Yue Lingsi looked at Xi Xinyi with mixed emotions. "Then, can you guess who it could be? Xinyi, I'm afraid your grandmother cannot bear it anymore. Previously, you've signed with a lot of companies and all of them are requesting to cancel contracts! I've already reminded you before that it's a precarious time for you right now, but you didn't listen to me, and now such a huge ruckus has been caused. The company doesn't know how to handle those reporters!"

Yue Lingsi sighed heavily. She let go of Xi Xinyi and lifted the curtains to take a look. They were still being surrounded by a large group of reporters downstairs.

"I think you should prepare a bit. Pack up your bags and go abroad to lie low until things die down. Just treat it as a vacation. When this dies down, we'll make other plans. This just can't go on!"

"But, Mother, for this year's Gold Star Awards, I ... "

"Xinyi, I know that you've persisted this path because you want to reach the peak of your stardom, but you have to look at the circumstances. Right now, the companys's in trouble because of your problem. Your grandmother's already very unhappy. You should know that to her, nothing's more important than Yueying. Even if the company puts in more effort, it would be hard for us to suppress all the negative coverage. We can only secretly investigate the truth. Wait until this dies down. The company will naturally use you again, so don't worry. This company will be yours in the future!"

Yue Lingsi held up her forehead with a slight headache, appearing upset.

"Mother, I... I'm sorry. I was just ... "

Xi Xinyi wanted to say something else when at this moment, the door was suddenly flung opened as the secretary entered.

"CEO Yue, the people from Glory World Corporation are here. They're at the visitor's lounge and they said there's something they want to discuss with Miss Xinyi!"

Chapter 229. Driven Mad (2)

Inside the visitor lounge at Yueying, Xi Xiaye's rigid figure sat on the sofa. She was flipping through the document in her hand while Xiao Mei stood by her side.

The patter of rushed footsteps came and Xiao Mei very quickly looked up at the entrance as Yue Lingsi and Xi Xinyi entered.

"Why is it you!?" When Yue Lingsi saw Xi Xiaye's figure, her face sank.

Xi Xiaye was too lazy to look at her. She just handed the document to Xiao Mei who understood and passed them to Yue Lingsi and Xi Xinyi.

"Regarding the contract termination, I'm sure Manager Fang has already mentioned it to you. I've already signed the termination contract, so you guys need to sign it too. Glory World will choose another person in Yueying to replace you. Also, earlier, a few other shareholders came and discussed Yueying's current situation with me. We've all decided unanimously to remove Xi Xinyi's right to be an artiste with focused training this year. Besides that, we'd like to strongly recommending changing the main female lead for shows such as 'Starlight', 'Love Song' and several others. This is the statement that I've petitioned for the other shareholders to sign. Please take a look."

Xi Xiaye's indifferent voice read out as Xiao Mei then delivered the two documents to them.

"Xi Xiaye, you witch, how dare you hit us while we're down?!"

Yue Lingsi just took a quick glance at the document before instantly glaring at Xi Xiaye through clenched teeth. She could not keep her angry shout down. Then, she tossed the documents onto the ground in a rage.

Xi Xiaye looked at Xiao Mei who quickly picked the documents up again and handed the contract termination papers to Xi Xinyi who looked deathly pale and bleak. "Miss Xinyi, please sign this!"

"I'm not even hitting you when you're down. I'm just representing the company to execute the company's decisions. All of the shareholders' benefits can't just suffer a loss from someone who's not what they seem. CEO Yue, you're a businesswoman too. Why can't you think from the standpoint of fellow shareholders and do what's best for them? If you have any opinions, how about explaining them to me? Getting angry at me won't solve the problem."

Then, as if to complement Xi Xiaye, a commotion came from outside.

"CEO Yue, CEO Zhang, and the rest are here. They said they want to see you! I couldn't hold them off!" The secretary pushed open the door, looking extremely anxious.

Yue Lingsi's expression changed slightly. She then glared at Xi Xiaye before going outside.

Seeing Yue Lingsi's figure vanish out the door, Xi Xiaye got up too. Her intense gaze fell onto Xi Xinyi. "Sign it. I'm still rushing to report back to the company."

Xi Xinyi trembled slightly as she stared at the document in front of her for quite a while. Then, she looked up at Xi Xiaye, her beautiful eyes flashing with a coldness that could not be disguised. Her fists that hid underneath her sleeves tightened.

"You don't need to act like this. I think there were probably many people who came this morning, asking for you to sign the same document too. If you don't want Yueying to fall into the wave of being on the verge of closing down again, it's best that you sign it. Otherwise, I can't guarantee that I won't sell my shares to Jinyi Media, and all the other shareholders seem to have the same thoughts too. When that happens, Yueying will cease to exist very soon."

Xi Xiaye handed the pen in her hand to Xi Xinyi whose chest heaved. You could see that she was trying very hard to keep her anger down as her eyes instantly flashed with cold hostility.

However, Xi Xinyi knew very well herself that Xi Xiaye was telling the truth. Yueying could not overcome such a huge surge of problems. Because Xiao Mei was present, in addition to the shareholders outside, she took in quite a few deep breaths before finally choosing to compromise!

She took Xi Xiaye's pen with gritted teeth and swiftly signed her name!

When Xi Xinyi signed the final stroke, Xi Xiaye suddenly leaned forward and whispered softly into her ear, "Your situation is worse than I'd thought. Looking at how sorry you are, I suddenly feel much lighter in my heart."

"Were you the one who did this this time, Xi Xiaye!?"

When she tossed the pen aside, Xi Xinyi suddenly widened her eyes and glared at Xi Xiaye coldly. The anger that she was suppressing was close to the point of erupting while she looked at Xi Xiaye with hostility.

Xi Xiaye signaled to Xiao Mei on the side. She very immediately understood and put the document that Xi Xinyi had signed away before packing up the briefcase and retreating outside.

"It was you, wasn't it !?"

Xi Xiaye did not answer, yet her lips had curved into a sneer, the answer abundantly clear.

Xi Xinyi's expression started to change. Her beautiful eyes were filled with an indescribable fury as both her hands pressed down on the table before her. She glowered at Xi Xiaye and said coldly, "You want to ruin me! I've finally gotten to where I am, and you want to ruin me? How evil can you be?" "I thought you'd still feign innocence and wail accusingly like before, but from the looks of it, the incident this time really has angered you and you can't seem to accept it..."

Xi Xiaye squinted, her frigid gaze falling onto Xi Xinyi's face that was almost twisted from the rage. "Compared to all the things you've done to me, all of these was just child's play. You put on that hypocritical mask of yours and plotted for me to fall into all sorts of horrible situations, stealing everything that belongs to me, and even framing me. Aren't you eviler? I'm just imitating you right now!"

When she heard Xi Xiaye, Xi Xinyi's face instantly darkened. The sharpness that hid in the depths of her eyes suddenly broke the ice and she fixed her gaze on Xi Xiaye. Her usual gentle voice was enamored in a hint of biting chill as she took in a deep breath and said softly in Xi Xiaye's ear, "So, you want me to be in this sorry state? Trying to ruin my path to stardom, taking revenge on me? You've grown in capabilities now! So what? Weren't you still expelled by the military academy?"

"I can sue you in court for trying to frame me without evidence! I admit that if it were for the thing with Han Yifeng, I owe you that and I'm willing to compensate you. Yueying's matter was Grandmother's decision, yet you took it out on me. Why? Where did you get all this information? It's all fake! I'm telling you it's all fake! You're falsely accusing me and setting me up!"

Xi Xinyi was extremely mad. Even though she tried very hard to control her emotions, she could not hold her fury back. Her face was red with anger and just when she thought about how she was about to be banned forever, she started to lose control.

Xi Xiaye laughed coldly, responding carelessly, "Don't worry. I will find the evidence. I heard that back then, Yang Jianfeng who framed me seem to have some kind of relationship with your mother and the Yue family. If I count it correctly, he should be considered your distant cousin. Three days before the incident, someone saw you looking for him at the military academy..."

When Xi Xiaye said this, Xi Xinyi instantly cried out in alarm to deny it, "Nonsense! You're spewing nonsense! I didn't! I didn't!"

## Chapter 230. Exposed

Xi Xinyi realized that she lost control in the instant she screamed. She then took a deep breath in, trying to calm down. However, Xi Xiaye was not giving her any room to catch her breath.

"I also found out someone transferred \$200,000 into his account several months ago. I wonder if it's related to you. Well, we'll know soon enough!"

Just as Xi Xiaye finished her sentence, her phone started ringing. She grinned coldly as she took it. Then, her mouth formed an "O" when she saw who was calling. She shot Xi Xinyi a meaningful glance before waving her phone at her. "See..."

She then answered the call and turned on the loudspeaker.

"Ms. Xi, it's me. I've confirmed that Huang Shanshan transferred \$200,000 into Yang Jianfeng's account, and the next day, Xi Xinyi transferred \$200,000 to Huang Shanshan." Detective Zhang's deep voice came through the phone.

Xi Xiaye raised her eyebrows and glanced at Xi Xinyi whose expression froze up instantly while her whole body was tensed.

"Okay, I got it." Xi Xiaye then hung up on the call.

"I even found out that you'll transfer money into Yang Jianfeng's account every three months. Before the New Year, he looked for you and you guys had a fight. It must've been because of a money issue, wasn't it?"

"No! No! He's never looked for me. He's my cousin and I'm just giving him some money out of pity. What's wrong with that?" Xi Xinyi tried her best to defend herself, her eyes turning red. "You framed me! You're a thief and even seduced my cousin shamelessly. Now, you're trying to frame me for it! You were expelled by the military academy back then! If it wasn't for Father, you'd be in jail already. Father almost got demoted because of you. He would've been done for if Mother hadn't asked for help from Grandfather and Uncle. How dare a shameless thief like you accuse me?! I won't let you get away with it, Xi Xiaye. If you want to ruin me, I won't just let you be!"

"You can deny it, but I can tell you that I've found the few gangsters in the small alley from back then. Unfortunately, they told me that you ordered them to put on an act with you. After that, you gave them \$20,000 each, but they were smart enough to make you write a clarification letter to avoid them from being held responsible. Your handwriting was just like before. There's been no improvement at all," Xi Xiaye said in a plain tone as she grabbed a paper from her bag and put it in front of Xi Xinyi. "I didn't want to expose you this soon. I planned to find out the whole truth about the military academy incident and talk to you again, but you forced my hand. I don't really have the patience anymore. I told you, don't think that I wouldn't have the evidence to expose you."

Xi Xinyi was out of mind as her whole body froze. Xi Xiaye did not care at all and just left that piece of paper on the table.

"I'll take back whatever belongs to me... I'll get both Yueying and Father back. Yueying will be mine, and Father will belong to only my mother!"

Xi Xiaye flashed a disturbing smile, and a sharp gleam shone through her eyes. That depressed vibe earlier was now gone and her strong willpower was displayed!

Xi Xinyi was startled by Xi Xiaye's powerful aura. She slammed the table and grabbed the paper, skimming through the contents swiftly!

Her expression changed all of a sudden!

"I didn't write this! Where did you get this to frame me?! I didn't write this!"

Xi Xinyi tore the paper up like crazy. It almost became flecks before she flung them all onto the ground.

"We'll find out if you wrote it after we compare the handwriting and fingerprints with yours. You can tear them up all you like. It's just a photocopy anyway. I have a whole stack of it back in my drawer. Xi Xinyi, you're so smart that you risked yourself to make me owe you, and you mentioned your injury everytime you tried to bully me."

Xi Xiaye looked coldly at the paper scraps Xi Xinyi had thrown onto the floor. Xi Xinyi was panting and her eyes seemed odd. Xi Xiaye smiled before losing interest to look at her anymore.

She turned around without so much as a glance and went towards the door. "I'll make sure to send these to the people in West Park and Han Yifeng. Let them know what kind of person the princess they have been proud of actually is..."

When she arrived at the door, someone opened it.

At the same time, Xi Xinyi suddenly screamed, "Xi Xiaye! You witch! How dare you!?"

She grabbed the teacup on the table and flung it straight towards Xi Xiaye!

As she felt something coming from behind quickly, Xi Xiaye shifted her body and the teacup flew straight.

"Ah!"

With a painful scream, the teacup fell on the floor and broke, the ceramic pieces scattering everywhere!

Amidst the scream, Xi Xinyi looked over and saw Yue Lingsi yell in agony while covering her face. The slightly hot tea had splashed all over her face, her whole body and hair had become wet as well. A big red lump was appearing on her forehead.

"Mother! Why were you there!?" Xi Xinyi panicked and yelled.

"Mother, how are you? Are you alright?" After a while, Xi Xinyi went up to her anxiously.

Yue Lingsi kept on yelling as she breathed heavily and rubbed her face with both hands. "Xinyi, what's happening!? Ah!"

Xi Xiaye glanced over at Yue Lingsi and then turned towards Xi Xinyi, smiling. "You're really something. You can even attack your own mother now. That's a really good aim though." She went through the door before Xi Xinyi and Yue Lingsi could react. Walking away, she left them with just the view of her back.