

Loving 41

Chapter 41. Mu Yuchen, Let's Get Married?

The clouds in the morning sky were nowhere to be seen. Sunshine shone down and a cool breeze passed by. A black car slowly ambled up the cement road and soon stopped by the roadside.

The car door opened and a prestigious-looking man alighted from the passenger seat. He wore a silver suit with a long, black coat.

He took a glance at the warm sun in the sky and then sat down on a bench by the road.

“Get me the documents on South River. I’ll wait for here for you to deliver the gift.”

“Yes, Master!”

Ah Mo swiftly brought Mu Yuchen the documents from his briefcase. Then, he picked the gift up and went towards the back door of West Park.

They still had to go back to the office after this.

As he just crossed the road, the door suddenly opened from the inside.

“Director Xi!” Ah Mo was shocked.

The sudden voice startled Xi Xiaye as well. She raised her head and saw Ah Mo standing in front of her. After a short moment of being absent-minded, she acknowledged him, “Hello!”

“Director Xi, what happened? Why do you look so pale?”

Xi Xuaye shook her head. As she wanted to just walk past without saying anything, a thought went through her murky mind. She looked at Ah Mo and asked, “Is Mu Yuchen here as well?”

Surprised, he nodded after a while then he turned around and looked in a certain direction. Xi Xiaye looked where he was facing and saw Mu Yuchen sitting on the bench, reading some documents.

The golden sun added a tint of tenderness around him. At that moment, he looked extremely distant and unreal.

Xi Xiaye was pressing her painful wound tightly under her windbreaker as she crossed the road without any hesitation.

She hoped that she could find someone who could help to protect this fragile pride of hers and to bring her away safely before she fell.

Mu Yuchen noticed a faint shadow slowly approaching him and blocking the sunlight that fell on his documents. The sound of footsteps was getting closer, so he raised his head a little and saw a pair of feet coming closer.

Xi Xiaye halted several steps before Mu Yuchen as her hand tightened around her wounded arm slightly. Her eyes stared intently at him...

A faint memory went through her mind as she recalled what he had said to her the other day.

If you don't mind, marry me. Be my wife. Be the head lady of Glory World. That way, you should be able to come out ahead.

"Sign it. As long as you sign this, we'll compensate you accordingly..."

"Your mother has already told him about it and he's accepted it.

"Xinyi, will you marry me?"

"Xiaye, Master Qi is a special guest of the Xi family. Take Master Qi out for a walk,"

“I’m just telling the truth. Isn’t it all because of her that our family has become like this today?”

The scenes replayed in her mind like a movie reel. She felt suffocated and finally closed her tired eyes. Inhaling a deep breath, she then opened her eyes again and looked at Mu Yuchen who was still focused on the documents.

She gave it some thought before saying in her exhausted voice, “Mu Yuchen, let’s get married?”

Mu Yuchen was surprised when he heard her hoarse voice. He did not look at her immediately, but his hands that were holding onto the documents clenched slightly.

Xi Xiaye was looking at him firmly, noticing that his already dark eyes slowly turned darker. Her face became paler as she suppressed the ache in her chest and the excruciating pain on her shoulder as she put on a bitter smile and was about to leave.

Suddenly, the silent Mu Yuchen took his eyes off the documents and gazed at her. Closing the documents, he walked towards her and passed them to her.

Xi Xiaye was confused. She turned around and asked him as she held the documents in her hands. “Where are you going?”

Mu Yuchen looked at the setting sun and his deep voice sounded warm. “Let’s go. The civil affairs bureau is closing soon.”

Xi Xiaye’s heart stopped when she heard him. She was only able to comprehend what he said after a while.

She felt a warmth blossom in her chest as she looked at him and found herself at a loss for words. Suddenly, she felt a sense of relief from all the pain she experienced. However, she might not be able to hold up long enough for them to reach the civil affairs bureau in time.

Her vision blacked out and she almost hit the ground. It was at that moment that Mu Yuchen felt something odd was brewing. He threw a sharp glance at Xi Xiaye and instantly noticed that something was not right with her.

Xi Xiaye, who had been holding up with just her will alone, was collapsing.

Mu Yuchen held onto her limp body and asked worriedly, "What's wrong?"

Xi Xiaye let go of her hand that was pressing her wound. Looking at Mu Yuchen, her bloody hand clutched his collar as her voice sounded frail and hoarse. Instinctively, her eyes started to tear up a little and she blinked in order to focus on his eyes.

"Remember... what you said... I'll marry you. Right now... marry... right now..."

She uttered those words before being engulfed by the dark. Finally, unable to endure it anymore, she passed out.

Chapter 42. Hospitalized

It was only then that Mu Yuchen noticed that the black top hidden underneath her black windbreaker was completely soaked in blood and that she was terrifyingly pale. The wound on her left shoulder was very deep and it was still bleeding.

Mu Yuchen's gaze instantly darkened. A mix of emotions flashed in his eyes. There was gloominess, a sense of loss, and a faint hint of sympathy. Finally, he pulled her into his arms and carried her up.

"Master! What's wrong with Director Xi? How did she get hurt?"

At this moment, Ah Mo had a feeling that things were odd, so he retreated and witnessed Xi Xiaye falling. Caught in shock, he recalled noticing that she seemed very pale earlier.

Mu Yuchen lifted Xi Xiaye and walked right up to the car ahead. His deep voice was clearly tinted with some distress. "Immediately drive to Hospital T, and at the same time, check on what happened tonight."

Ah Mo ran to open the car door as he hastily answered, "Yes, Master!"

...

The car revved very quickly, speeding all the way to Hospital T.

"Master, do we have to call Li Si over and send Elder Xi's present over?"

At the driver's seat, Ah Mo carefully looked at his master in the back seat through the rearview mirror. When he saw the Master seeming a little pensive, he immediately regretted asking that.

Mu Yuchen held onto Xi Xiaye's wound with one hand while he casually took a blanket from the side to cover her with it, he said calmly, "No need, let him check on what happened tonight."

"Yes, Master!"

...

In a certain upgraded ward in Hospital T.

"Why's the wound so deep? I'm afraid that it'll leave a scar. In fact, there are traces of drugs that could temporarily make a person lose their consciousness. Such a drug is also commonly known as knockout drops. What happened to you guys?"

The middle-aged doctor stood in front of the sick bed in his pristine white coat and studied the medical record while saying this all professionally.

Knockout drops?

Mu Yuchen instantly frowned and a cold light flashed in his eyes. He shot Ah Mo a look and the latter nodded very carefully.

She had probably met some incident in West Park earlier.

However, recalling Director Xi's dazed and absent-minded manner, she must have had a negative encounter. When he saw the Master's complicated gaze, Ah Mo did not dare to ask further.

Mu Yuchen turned to look at Xi Xiaye who was as white as a sheet on the sick bed. When he saw her brows furrowed almost into a knot, he then asked in a lowered tone, "How's she right now?"

"The blade sliced through her shoulder. I'm afraid it won't heal very quickly. As for the knockout drops, don't worry. She'll be fine once she wakes up. The wound has already been handled and bandaged. After this, she just needs to change the dressing on time and be careful not to let it be in contact with water, and it should be just fine. However, for safety purposes, I recommend that you let her stay hospitalized for another day or two. Wait till the wound is stabilized before she's discharged."

He could see that this person before him was someone extraordinary, so the doctor started to speak more courteously too.

Mu Yuchen nodded as his gaze slowly moved away from Xi Xiaye.

"You guys go out and handle the hospitalization procedures first. Get the medication from the pharmacy, and when she wakes up, immediately let her take the medicine."

The doctor handed over a list to Mu Yuchen. When Ah Mo saw it, he quickly took it. "Just leave that to me, doctor. When will our Director Xi be able to wake up?"

"She'll be up in a bit. She's probably usually overworked. In fact, she has a minor gastric problem. Her health is in a poor condition and if she still doesn't rest and take care of herself, sooner or later she'll topple. Sigh, you young people really go all out with work. When you get older, you'll suffer!"

The doctor sighed and frowned at Xi Xiaye on the bed. Then, he turned to the IV tube at the side. When he saw Mu Yuchen rooted there, he could not help but say again, "You'd better not treat this lightly. She's your wife, isn't she? She can't go on like this in the long term. She's already so thin!"

“Doctor, Director Xi...”

Ah Mo wanted to explain, yet he did not expect his Master to already reply, “I will be more aware of that.”

The doctor nodded, appeased. “Well, if there’s nothing else, we’ll go out first. If you need anything, just press the bell. Right, when she wakes up, it’s best to cook some light porridge for her to eat first. That knockout drop was quite strong and she’ll probably be dizzy for a short while when she wakes up, but it’s not much of an issue.”

The doctor then retreated after leaving his advice.

Ah Mo glanced at Xi Xiaye on the sick bed and said, “Master, I’ll go handle the hospitalization procedures then!”

Mu Yuchen did not respond. Without a squeak, Ah Mo just quietly left.

The sky was already dark outside and the lighting in the ward was dim too. The pale yellow light from the bedhead shone onto her face and seemed a little hazy. She did not sleep calmly as her brows remained in a knot. He looked at the hands by her sides kept tightly into fists. Her fair and thin wrists were tensed up like she was struggling in some nightmare...

Then, he saw that at the corner of her eye was a huge teardrop that flowed down her temples and onto the pillow. Soon, the white pillow was soaked with moisture.

It was quite hard to imagine that someone who looked as strong as her would actually...

He quietly watched her and fell silent for quite a while. A mix of emotions flashed across his profound eyes. After some thought, he finally bent down slightly to wipe the moisture at the corner of her eyes. He helped her fix her blanket and checked the IV tube. When he looked away, he saw that she seemed to be shivering from the cold, so he took off his coat and put it over her blanket.

“Sleep well. Tomorrow when you wake up, it’ll be a new beginning. You must believe in yourself, Xi Xiaye...”

After he did all of this, he switched off the lights at the bed head and walked over to the French windows. Taking his phone out of his pocket, he then made a call.

Chapter 43. Marriage Contract

The sleeping Xiaye felt like she was engulfed in terrifying darkness. Struggling and suffocating, she felt cold and pain all over her body, especially the anguish buried deep within her chest.

She curled up and huge droplets of sweat appeared all over her forehead.

However, she could feel someone wiping her sweat off from time to time. Her hand was even gripping onto that person’s big, cool hand, and she could feel a slight human warmth from the palm...

She struggled and finally opened her eyes. Through her blurry vision, she saw the orange wash of the sunset.

“You’re awake?” His deep voice was filled with concern.

Xi Xiaye’s head was still feeling heavy with pain as she looked around after realizing that it was Mu Yuchen beside her. “Where am I?”

Her voice sounded dry and frail.

“This is Hospital T. You’ve been injured. How’re you feeling?”

Mu Yuchen helped her sit up and handed her a glass of water.

Xi Xiaye suddenly found herself drained of strength as well as a sharp pain piercing her left shoulder. Everything that happened earlier instantly played back in her mind and her whole body froze and her face went extremely pale.

She thought she would never be sad again, but when those memories kept replaying in her mind, her chest tightened.

She had lost almost everything. How could they still ask her to sign the contract? How could they still sacrifice her to marry someone?

She ran her fingers through her dark hair as she curled up her body and buried her head into her knees, wrapping both her arms around them as if she was trying to ball herself up in the safety of herself. She remained frozen that way.

Mu Yuchen just looked at her without saying anything.

After a while, Xi Xiaye suddenly remembered something. She looked up at him and said, "Didn't you say we were getting married?"

Mu Yuchen was stunned for a moment. His deep eyes studied the girl with the pale face who still braced herself with a strong-willed gaze. Her expression was not as lost as before and she had her usual calmness.

"Have some water first." Mu Yuchen handed her the glass of water in his hand again.

Xi Xiaye looked at him with her dark eyes as she took the glass and then laughed, "Are you regretting it?"

As she just finished her sentence, there was a knock on the door before Mu Yuchen could reply. A middle-aged man in a formal suit walked in with something in his hand. Behind him was a middle-aged lady who was probably his assistant.

"Master Mu!"

The middle-aged man noticed the two of them and walked over to bow respectfully and greet him. He stole an extra glance at Xi Xiaye on the bed, appearing slightly surprised and impressed.

Mu Yuchen nodded and looked at him indifferently. Then, he replied the greeting in his usual calm voice.

The middle-aged man nodded and quickly pulled a document out of his briefcase. "I immediately came over with the stuff after I got your call."

He then handed the document to Mu Yuchen.

Mu Yuchen took it with his long fingers swiftly. He scanned through it and nodded before taking a pen from the middle-aged man. After signing it, he handed the document to Xi Xiaye. "Take a look at it. If there's no problem, then sign it and we'll be married."

Xi Xiaye was stunned as she stared at him quietly. After a while, she took the document and saw it was a marriage contract. Her eyes were drawn to his powerful signature at the bottom.

She hesitated for a moment when she lifted her hand. Raising her head and looking at him with unease, she was unsure how to proceed.

Mu Yuchen smiled with a mesmerizing expression before chuckling. "Sign it, Mrs. Mu. I, Mu Yuchen, am a good guy. You won't suffer any loss by marrying him."

His laughter was filled with warmth and it made Xi Xiaye giggle. However, her movement accidentally pulled at her wound and she frowned.

"Be careful."

Mu Yuchen leaned over to hold her.

Xi Xiaye sat up and looked at him in the eyes with a smile. Without any hesitation, she swiftly signed her name beside his and handed the document back to him.

Mu Yuchen took it back and studied both their signatures before handing it to the middle-aged man. "Would you be able to send us the marriage certificate by tomorrow morning?"

The middle-aged man nodded. "No problem. Leave it to me, Master Mu! Oh, right, we might need a picture of you both. I got Xiao Zheng to come over to take one!"

Mu Yuchen frowned. Then, he glanced at Xi Xiaye and she nodded. "Just take one. That'll do."

"Alright, it'll be quick, Master Mu, Mrs. Mu!" The middle-aged man smiled and then spoke to his assistant, "Be quick, Xiao Zheng."

"Okay!"

After a moment's preparation, they took a photo for Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye as quickly as possible. The whole process took less than five minutes.

"Don't worry, Master Mu. I'll make sure to deliver the marriage certificate to you by tomorrow morning. We won't bother you both anymore. Congratulations!"

The middle-aged man then left the room silently with his assistant.

Chapter 44. Red Book (1)

Silence returned to the room once again.

Xi Xiaye looked at the closed door and her mind went fuzzy. She only came back to her senses when Mu Yuchen unpacked the medicine and handed the pills to her.

"They've left. What are you looking at? They'll send the marriage certificate over by tomorrow morning. Take this medicine. You'll get better soon."

His deep voice was filled with warmth. Xi Xiaye raised her head and stared at him blankly. His black eyes looked at her worriedly, and she paused for a bit before taking the pills.

"Aren't you going to ask me what happened?" She asked as she looked at him in the eye.

Mu Yuchen hesitated for a moment, then he laughed as he handed a glass of water to her. "A knife pierced through your shoulder. Do you want me to ask you if you were brave? Or if I feel that you're powerful?"

She froze when she heard him. "You know all about it already?"

Mu Yuchen did not say a thing. He subtly tossed a piece of paper into the dustbin.

Actually, when she was unconscious, Li Si had told him all about what he discovered. Mu Yuchen more or less knew what had happened during the banquet.

Xi Xiaye lowered her gaze when he stayed silent. Taking a deep breath, she swallowed the pills in her hand with some water to wash away the bitter taste. "I never expected you to agree even under those circumstances. I..."

She had mixed feelings within her, but she was grateful for him always coming to her rescue during her time in need.

"Why shouldn't I?" He asked as he took the empty glass from her. "I told you that I need a marriage, and that if you don't mind, I'll naturally accept you as my wife."

Suddenly, Mu Yuchen swivelled his head around. His eyes were as dark as the night as he looked at her. His voice sounded genuine. "The moment you signed your name on the marriage contract, you're my wife. There's no chance of regretting it."

No chance of regretting?

Would she even regret it?

Regret what?

There was nothing bad about it though. It was a clean cut with the past, forcing herself not to go back anymore. Maybe this was a chance for her to seek a new path in her life.

She was really tired of struggling with the same issue for so many year. Maybe, marrying someone would allow her to escape the suffocating feeling every time she returned to her empty house.

At least, she was able to triumph and get married before them. She supposed she could protect her stubborn pride.

Everything would be a new start. It had to be...

Xi Xiaye suddenly raised her head as a smile appeared across her beautiful face. Her eyes looked at him with genuine gratitude while she said quietly, "Thank you, Mu Yuchen. I'll do my best to be your wife."

A sense of warmth passed through Mu Yuchen's elegant face as he saw her smile. His eyes seemed serious as he smiled back at her and his rare sense of humor surfaced. "I believe in my wife's determination."

Xi Xiaye could not hold in her laughter upon hearing his words. "Thank you for having faith in me, Mr. Mu, however I'm feeling hungry right now, can Mr. Mu go do some hunting and get some food for me? Just water isn't able to satisfy me."

She also pointed at the empty glass by the bedside table.

After a whole day with whatever that happened, she had not eaten anything at all. It was already midnight and naturally she felt hungry.

Mu Yuchen raised his brows and looked at her, his thin lips forming a grin. "I got Ah Mo to get you some porridge just now. The doctor said your wound is deep and you have to be careful in the next few days."

A knock rapped on the door as soon as he finished his sentence, Ah Mo came in with two huge bags in his hands.

“Master! Director Xi, you’re awake! Master, the porridge is done. I also got some food for you. You haven’t had dinner too. Please eat something!”

Ah Mo placed the bags on the table opposite the bed. He took a thermal container out and walked towards the bedside. Producing a bowl, he poured the porridge into it.

“Thank you, Ah Mo!”

Xi Xiaye thanked Ah Mo and then tilted her head to look at Mu Yuchen. “I want to be discharged from the hospital tomorrow since it’s just a small wound. It’ll be fine if I take care of it.”

She disliked the antiseptic smell of the hospital. Every time she was sick, she would endure it. She would never enter a hospital unless it was absolutely necessary.

Hospitals always gave her an unusual sense of suffocation, which made her afraid like how she had been back then...

“The doctor said you need to stay for a or two day and only leave when your wound is alright. You can come straight to Maple Residence by then. I’ll get Ah Mo to pack up all your stuff and move in.”

The man’s voice was gentle yet firm. His piercing eyes made Xi Xiaye feel dazed with an unusual feeling in her heart.

“It’s okay. I’m really alright. I want to go back to the apartment and I don’t want to stay here. I still have to go to work tomorrow...”

She felt her head ache again the moment she thought of the South River project. She would rather find something to do instead of just eating and sleeping in the hospital. After all, her wound was not critical anyway, so there should not be any issue.

Chapter 45. Red Book (2)

“If you’re going to say it’s because of the South River project, then I’ll get someone else to be in charge. In this period, you’ll just be in charge of getting healed in Maple Residence. I’m approving your leave for the next month.”

Mu Yuchen frowned slightly and took the porridge from Ah Mo.

"I'm really fine. It's no problem for me to be discharged immediately. I proposed the South River project. I want to finish what I started and do it well. It's just a small injury anyway. You've been busy for the entire day too. Go home and rest earlier. I'll be fine alone."

When she found out that it was already late at night from the dark sky outside, Xi Xiaye naturally was not willing to delay him any further, especially because there was still a very important meeting tomorrow morning. As the newly appointed Chairman, he would, of course, be busy with official business.

When he heard this, Mu Yuchen's handsome brows furrowed further. Before he could respond, Xi Xiaye had already reached over to take the porridge. "I'm fine alone. You go home and rest. Tomorrow morning's meeting is going to be quite intense..."

Before Xi Xiaye could finish, she heard Mu Yuchen's plain and helpless voice. "Xiaye, you seem to have forgotten the meaning of the document you signed earlier. If you still don't understand the meaning of marriage, I don't mind explaining it to you. Marriage is a responsibility and duty built between the two of us together. You are now my wife. Taking care of you is a responsibility and a duty that I can't avoid. Can't you be more self-aware? Can't you demand just a little from me?"

Xi Xiaye, who was enduring her pain while holding the bowl, was startled to hear his stern reprimand. She then looked up at him. Seeing the vaguely afflicted gloominess in his eyes, she suddenly could not help but feel her heart soften.

Quite a while after that, she quietly lowered her gaze. Staying silent for a moment, she suddenly raised a hand and said very justly in her raspy voice, "Then, Mr. Mu, I have a demand! I demand that you don't tear me away from my South River project. I'd like to demand being discharged from the hospital tomorrow!"

Once Xi Xiaye did this and indignantly said those justified words, Ah Mo, who was still shocked by Mu Yuchen's words earlier, suddenly could not help but laugh out loud. Immediately, he was greeted by his Master's dark cold gaze. Then, he cleared his throat and said, "Master, I'll go ask the doctor about the Missus' situation!"

It turned out that his old friend from the civil affairs bureau had come earlier to help the Master and Director Xi settle their marriage certificate. It was no wonder they were so secretive. When he had first heard about the union, he had wondered which divinity was the Missus that could make Master Mu willing to bind her by marriage. At first, he thought it was random, but now he understood!

Ah Mo ran off like a bunny, not daring to disturb the Master and Director Xi. Oh, no wait. Now, she should be called the Missus. He could not disturb their joyful occasion.

Previously, he had really thought that the Master would not commit to a marriage for any woman, but who would have thought...

It looks like Director Xi was indeed extraordinary. At least, to the Master, she was very special...

“You keep climbing up this ladder, Xi Xiaye. How capable are you!?”

Mu Yuchen could not help but feel helpless. He did not expect this woman to react so quickly, using his words to trap him. Shooting her a side look, he then took over the bowl that she was struggling with and handed her the spoon.

Xi Xiaye did not care about being courteous anymore. Since he had already seen her at her worst, she did not mind and took it, scooping out a heap of porridge and blowing air over it before carefully eating it. She said matter-of-factly, “It was you who said I didn’t have any demands. Now that I’ve made a demand, you don’t seem very willing.”

“What a clever mouth!” Mu Yuchen softly scolded, then he slowly brought the bowl to her lips. He thought about it before saying softly, “If your demand is as such, I will grant it to you. Tomorrow morning, you’ll be discharged, but you must go straight home with me to Maple Residence. As for your stuff in the apartment, I’ll get Ah Mo to pack it and bring it over. Stay at home for a week, then I’ll consider letting you continue to be in charge of the South River project.”

Since Maple Residence already had a family doctor, Uncle Zhong, he would just have to trouble him to make a few trips.

Maple Residence was where he stayed...

It was in the Grand Waves Villa area, the place where she had stayed the night after getting drunk.

From now on, would she be living with this man?

Such endless decades ahead...

Xi Xiaye suddenly felt a little uneasy and she could not help but frown slightly. Mixed emotions stirred in her twinkling eyes as she looked at Mu Yuchen. Her mind suddenly flashed to the scene when she had signed the marriage contract...

Right, they were already married. From the moment she signed the contract, there was already no turning back. It was not all bad to just be reckless and unruly for once.

No matter what the outcome was, whether it would turn out to be a tragedy or comedy, she would calmly accept it. Marriage was a grand gamble of life and she, Xi Xiaye, had put her bet down!

As she thought this, she nodded slightly. "Okay, I'll also do as you wish."

...

Early in the morning, the runner from the civil affairs bureau had indeed delivered the marriage certificate. Xi Xiaye held the little red book in her hand and casually flipped it open. She could not help but feel that the two people in the picture were clearly not in harmony. Mu Yuchen was obviously honorable and handsome as always, while she was disheveled, pale, and looked a little wan and sallow...

Quite a while later, she slowly closed the red book in her hand and inhaled. Gazing up towards the golden rays that poured in at an angle from the window, her beautiful face suddenly broke into a faint smile...

"What happy thoughts have you been thinking about? Tell me about it. I want to be cheered up too."

The red book was suddenly pulled out of her hands as a low and melodious voice slowly brushed past her ears.

She retrieved her gaze and noticed the man had appeared by her bedside with the red book in his hands. He casually flipped it open to look at its contents before he handed it to Ah Mo beside him.

Chapter 46. Moving To Maple Residence (1)

Xi Xiaye lowered her gaze after staring at him in the eyes. "Don't you have to work? It's almost time for the morning meeting. Ah Mo can send me back to the apartment to pick up the stuff later."

The sun was already up outside, so she knew that it was not early anymore.

The man ran his fingers through her messy hair almost intimately. "I delayed it till tomorrow. We'll settle our matters today. Put on a coat. We'll leave if there are no problems at the final checkup later."

He then took the coat he had draped on the chair and covered her.

Xi Xiaye could not argue with him, so she just nodded.

There were a lot of people in the hospital in the morning time. It was nearly noon when the checkup was done.

After lunch, the doctor came over and told Xi Xiaye that she could go home.

"Be careful that your wound doesn't get into contact with water, and remember to reapply the medicine frequently. Rest well for two weeks and you'll be fine. Remember not to do extreme sports to avoid the wound from opening up," advised the doctor as she closed her medical records.

"I got it. Thank you!" Xi Xiaye thanked him in a hoarse voice.

“Let’s go back to Maple Residence immediately then.” Mu Yuchen nodded slightly to the doctor but his eyes were gazing at Xi Xiaye. Ah Mo who had gone to settle the discharge procedure had returned as well.

Xi Xiaye carefully got out of bed. “You’re done with the discharge procedure so quickly!”

“Mmm, can you walk on your own?”

Mu Yuchen kept all the medicine on the table and glanced at her.

Xi Xiaye nodded. “I’m fine.”

Ah Mo quickly went over to help Mu Yuchen with the packing. “Master, you should hold Director Xi. I’ll take care of these.”

He then put all the medicine into the bag as quickly as possible.

The weather was great outside. The warm sun greeted them the moment they walked out of the hospital. Xi Xiaye almost could not open her eyes. She squinted as she took a glance at the warm sun, suddenly feeling the dark mist in her mind thin out a lot.

After a while, Ah Mo drove the car over and stopped beside them.

“Get in the car.”

Mu Yuchen opened the door and signalled to Xi Xiaye to get in while she was looking around blankly.

The car manoeuvred through the busy roads and quickly headed towards Maple Residence.

At Maple Residence, Sis Wang received a call from Ah Mo and got word that the Master was bringing the Lady home, so she worked throughout the morning. Not only did she bring tons of clothes and shoes, but she even redecorated the yard. She really gave it her all.

The car entered the Grand Waves Villa area, and after passing through some winding roads, they stopped in front of Maple Residence.

“Master and Direc... Missus... are home!”

Mu Yuchen came out of the car, then he extended his large hand to Xi Xiaye who was still in the car.

Xi Xiaye was dazed. She went silent as she looked at the large hand that appeared in front of her. Then, she placed her cold hand in the palm and the large hand clenched hers. Both the cold hands coming in contact with each other gradually produced some warmth.

The entrance door slowly opened. Sis Wang and three maids stood right there in a row. They politely bowed and greeted when they saw Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye. “Hello, Master. Hello, Lady! Lady, welcome to Maple Residence!”

The few of them then opened up the way to a straight and clean cemented path from the entrance right up to the door of the villa. It was just like what she saw the last time. However, there was something different this time. Huge blooming roses were draped on the street lamps along the side as long stripes of lace were waving along with the gentle breeze. She also heard calming music accompanied by the trickling of water.

Xi Xiaye turned towards the direction of the music and saw a musical fountain hidden within the lawn ringing out joyously as the cool wind blew. There was also an indescribable fragrance in the air.

Xi Xiaye’s heart warmed when she saw the charmed expression of Sis Wang’s group. She went towards one of the street lamps after some thought and cupped the rose on it to sniff it. She smiled and waved the flower in her hands as she looked at the man before her.

“Thank you for your welcoming ceremony, Mr. Mu!”

Mu Yuchen raised his eyebrows, then he walked over. "I'm glad that you like it. They prepared all this for a long time. Let's get inside. It's cold out here."

Xi Xiaye nodded before she shot Sis Wang's group a smile of gratitude, and they returned her the widest smiles on their faces.

Following Mu Yuchen's lead, Xi Xiaye went into the living room and sat down on the sofa. Sis Wang then served them some water.

Mu Yuchen took a glass and handed it to Xi Xiaye.

"Don't worry, Lady. We'll be careful with your wound. Also, your clothes and other items have been prepared. Have a look at what else you need and just let us know what's missing."

Sis Wang smiled gently. They stayed at an apartment near the Grand Waves Villa area, it was pretty convenient to summon them over.

The Master was someone who liked tranquility. He did not want anyone walking around his private property, so they usually would not go over except for the weekly cleaning or when the Master summoned them.

Xi Xiaye nodded, "Mmm, thank you, Sis Wang."

"You're welcome, Lady. Master, we'll head back for now if there's nothing else. Please let us know if there's anything you need."

Sis Wang left quietly after Mu Yuchen nodded.

The villa fell into a silent state. The newlyweds just sat there quietly and no one said anything, yet the atmosphere was not awkward at all. Instead, it was pretty peaceful.

"I want to go back to my apartment later. My things and the company documents are still there," Xi Xiaye said as the man lay on the sofa and leisurely read a magazine.

Chapter 47. Moving To Maple Residence (2)

Mu Yuchen averted his eyes from the magazine to her as she spoke. He frowned slightly and asked after a short pause, "Where are the keys to your apartment?"

Xi Xiaye was startled for a bit. Without a word, she took out a bunch of keys from her shirt pocket. "Room number 704. The entrance door might be a little difficult to open. Just lift it up a little and it'll be fine. All the documents are inside the black briefcase on the table in my study room. Bring the whole thing over. There's also my laptop and my hard disk on the table in my bedroom. Just get me these things first and I'll go back to get the rest on my own a few days later."

Her things were pretty messy and she guessed that he probably had no idea how to tidy up when he got there.

Mu Yuchen glanced at her and took the keys from her hand. "Are you sure there's nothing else to get?"

Xi Xiaye shook her head as her pale face blushed slightly. She took a sip from her glass. "Nope. It'll be fine if you get me those. My stuff is kind of messy and sometimes I don't even know where I put my important stuff. My memory's getting a little weak lately..."

"People might think I'm bullying you as your superior. You're so miserable to be on holiday. I've never seen anyone as dedicated to their job as you."

Mu Yuchen looked at her oddly. She was injured and weak, yet she was still thinking about work. It was not hard to understand how she had climbed to the position of Director from a tiny employee in just a span of five years. She must have put in an unimaginable amount of effort behind everyone's back.

"Then, you can promote me as a token of appreciation." Xi Xiaye looked at him seriously.

"Dream on! Didn't I just make you a Planning Director? Glory World doesn't encourage nepotism. You should know this better than me, Director Xi." Mu Yuchen glanced at her as he closed the magazine. Then, he opened the drawer of the coffee table and took out a controller to put on the table in front of Xi Xiaye.

“You promoted me? Wasn’t it the Human Resources Department...”

“Do you think you really sat on a rocket and reached all the way to become a Planning Director in Glory World’s headquarters? You’ve completed your projects magnificently. I’m fully aware of what’s happening in the headquarters even when I’m abroad, which is why I made an exception and promoted you.”

Mu Yuchen poured himself a glass of water as he spoke. He took a sip and looked at Xi Xiaye earnestly.

Xi Xiaye was startled. No wonder the company had promoted her so quickly. It had taken her a very long time to get to the position of a Director, but in just half a year, she was promoted to Planning Director...

“However, what surprises me is how you impress me. It seems that I have to spend more time getting to know my employees better in the future.”

Xi Xiaye understood what he meant. She replied, “Many big companies like to look at past experiences and age, but I feel that motivated young people might not be worth any lesser than people with relevant experience. I believe you aren’t that shallow, Chairman Mu.”

Mu Yuchen smiled. “If I were shallow, how could I have found you?”

He suddenly stood up and then pointed at the controller. “I’ll go and get your stuff. If you feel bored, you can watch some TV. If you’re tired, then get some rest in the bedroom.”

“Okay. sure. Oh, right, please get me a couple of books by my bedside too,” Xi Xiaye added on.

“Mmm, wait for me.” He then left the house after that.

Xi Xiaye turned over slightly and looked outside of the large window, watching his figure disappear outside the entrance after a while...

Her apartment was not that far away from Maple Residence. It was about half an hour's journey if one drove quickly.

Ah Mo got the keys from Mu Yuchen and opened the door to Xi Xiaye's luxurious-looking yet cozy little house.

The whole place had a light golden theme and was decorated with a mishmash of furniture with Roman and modern elements, giving it an elegant character instead of just being a plain deluxe place. It added some warmth to the quiet space and was generally quite similar to the interior of Maple Residence.

A myriad of impressed thoughts passed through his mind as he walked in.

"Master, the study room is over here."

Ah Mo opened the study room to see a tall shelf full of books and a clean table by the large window. With just a slight turn of one's head from the table, one would be able to look outside at the world.

Simple and neat, just like her style.

Mu Yuchen walked in and looked at the shelf of books. He grabbed one and flipped through it before putting it back.

He glanced at the table and saw several documents opened. They were documents on the South River project. She had made many detailed remarks and comments on the documents, highlighting how serious a worker she was.

He quickly kept all the documents and put all of them into the black briefcase.

As he was leaving the study room with the briefcase, he noticed a small photo frame on the table. Halting mid-step, he took a closer look at it.

It was her in the photo. With her waist-length dark hair, she was leaning back slightly as she put the back of her hand on her forehead and looked up into the sky with squinting eyes. The portrait seemed peaceful as though she was truly enjoying herself outdoors.

Mu Yuchen smiled and took the photo after giving it some thought...

Chapter 48. Pampered Foodie (1)

Her bedroom was right opposite her study room and it shared a similarly simple and neat style.

Her laptop was on the shelf by her bedside. Ah Mo took the briefcase from Mu Yuchen who went in to take the laptop and the books she mentioned. Before he left, he opened the wardrobe and took several sets of outfits as well.

“Master, Missus’ apartment is pretty similar to Maple Residence’s style.” Ah Mo laughed after he took a good look at the whole place. He took the bag from Mu Yuchen. “However, renovations like this give people a perception of home.”

“Since when did you study renovation and decoration?” Mu Yuchen asked as he narrowed his eyes at Ah Mo.

Ah Mo looked down and lightly covered his mouth sheepishly. After a short pause, he asked, “Master, is there anything else we should take? Are these all?”

He glanced at the stuff he held doubtfully.

Mu Yuchen fell silent as he looked around and walked towards the kitchen. Then, he opened the fridge and noticed that it was rather empty inside. After closer inspection, he saw some tomatoes and eggs at the bottom tray, but there was nothing else, not even a bottle of juice.

He frowned slightly at what he saw. Turning around, he noticed the cooking utensils and how clean they were. She probably had not cooked for the past week.

He wondered how she survived.

A cold light flashed in Mu Yuchen's eyes. He closed the fridge after a while and walked out of the kitchen.

"Put the things into the car. We'll head to the market first," he ordered as he walked outside the house.

Ah Mo nodded and caught up with him. "Okay, Master. Sis Wang mentioned that there's no more food in the fridge, so we probably have to buy some. It's quite late now and I don't think the Missus ate anything since the afternoon."

Knowing Mu Yuchen's rules, the Master was a man who liked to stay in. During his free time, he would usually cook on his own with his unusually impressive cooking skills.

When he was free, he would play golf or cards with his friends. Sometimes, he also played some tennis or went swimming. Without any overwhelming activities, he preferred a simpler way of life.

Mu Yuchen nodded and went towards the lift.

...

After Mu Yuchen left, Xi Xiaye watched some TV in the living room. Soon, she fell asleep. It was warm inside, so she slept for several hours with just a thin blanket over her.

Mu Yuchen was not back yet when she woke up. The sky had turned dark and the whole villa was silent. The entire living room was dark as well while dim lights came from the street lamps on the cement path outside.

She rubbed her eyes as she tried to adapt to the dark environment. She wanted to switch the lights on, but she did not know where the switches were. Helpless, she stood rooted and gave it some thought. In the end, she took the phone from her shirt pocket out and called Mu Yuchen.

Suddenly, she remembered that she had never noted down his phone number. However, when she opened her contact list, the name "Mu Yuchen" was in it.

She then remembered the day when he had taken her phone and asked her for her password. He must have saved his number into her phone at that time.

She was startled and went blank. Just as she was thinking about whether she should call, the phone started ringing as if it had a sensor on it. It was Mu Yuchen.

Xi Xiaye hesitated for a moment before answering the call.

“It’s me.” The call connected and Mu Yuchen’s deep voice came through.

“Where are you? The sky turned dark and I can’t find the switch for the lights,” Xi Xiaye frowned as she asked.

“Did you just wake up?” Mu Yuchen laughed. “I’ll be home in about ten minutes. Stay where you are and don’t move around. You might injure your wound.”

“Mmm, be quick. It’s all dark here.”

Xi Xiaye then hung up. However, the moment she hung up, her phone rang again. It was her grandpa calling.

She gave it some thought before answering it.

“Hello? Grandpa...” Xi Xiaye greeted quietly.

“You still know that you have a grandpa? Why was your phone turned off yesterday? What happened at the Xi family banquet? Where did you go? Couldn’t you have given us a call? Did something happen?”

Chen Yue’s old voice sounded cross, but he sounded concerned as well.

“Grandpa...”

Xi Xiaye had no idea how to answer the questions he fired at her.

Chapter 49. Pampered Foodie (2)

Her grandpa, Chen Yue, obviously knew that Xi Xiaye had gone to West Park. Every time the topic of Xi family was brought up, Xi Xiaye would act peculiarly. Most likely, he had already more or less heard about the incident of the day before.

“I’m fine. I’m doing pretty well. I’ll go home to see you in another two days. I’m sorry, Grandpa.”

She fell silent for a moment before quietly replying.

From the other end, there was suddenly the heart-wrenching sound of Chen Yue coughing, then there was a lamenting sigh. Quite a while after that, that loving and deep voice of her grandfather’s entered her ear again. “It’s okay. I didn’t mean to blame. It’s just that when you turn your phone off like that, it’s very worrying. Your mother’s just completed an academic report and returned home last night. She was worried about you the entire day. If you have some time in the next two days, come home for a bit.”

“Mmm, I got it. I’ll see if I can go back on the weekend. I’m a little busy for the next few days.”

She contemplated for a bit before answering. Her injury had not recovered yet. Naturally, she could not let them know about it. Otherwise, with Grandpa’s temperament, he would not leave the matter at that.

Then again, between her and the Xi family, there might not need to be a reason for them to keep in contact anymore. To frankly break off some things was not necessarily a bad thing.

She was just afraid that some things might not go as she wished.

Chen Yue continued to say a few more heartfelt words to Xi Xiaye, yet she did not remember any of it. She sat in the darkness for a long while and did not move. She did not forget that her impulsive actions would need to be explained to Chen Yue and her mother, Chen Wenna.

How would she explain it?

Would she really let Mu Yuchen follow her back to the Chen residence in another two days?

Xi Xiaye watched as the phone screen in her hand gradually dimmed and she was suddenly dazed. There was an instant when she could not believe that everything right now was real until she heard footsteps from outside. Then, the living room instantly lit up...

She subconsciously turned to look at the door. Indeed, the man was walking in with some bags in his hands.

"I made a last minute trip to the supermarket. Are you hungry?"

He put the bags down on the table and then brought Xi Xiaye's things over. "See if I left out anything."

"Mmm, it's mostly here. Why is it just you who's back?"

Xi Xiaye remembered that earlier, Ah Mo had gone out with him, so she looked around as she asked.

"Ah Mo doesn't live here," Mu Yuchen simply answered, then poured himself a cup of water. He drank it, then shot her a look. He saw that she was a little absent-minded with her pale face slightly scarlet. It was the look of someone who had just woken up. "Why didn't you go sleep in the bedroom?"

"I didn't know I could fall asleep like that too. It seems quite late, dinner..."

Xi Xiaye's eyes fell onto the bags on the table. It seemed to be some fresh ingredients that had just been bought. It must be for cooking at home, but Sis Wang and the rest had already gone back, while her culinary skills...

Would he be impressed?

She frowned and thought about it. Before he could answer, she got up. "I'll go cook."

She had just said that when he frowned and shot her a look from the side. That gaze seemed pretty pressuring to Xi Xiaye, and she subtly stopped moving.

“Are you sure you can do that now? Just sit down. There’s a cook with Maple Residence, so you can eat within an hour.”

Mu Yuchen then gently got up, took off his blazer and pulled his sleeves up before carrying the ingredients towards the kitchen.

Xi Xiaye was surprised. She only returned to her senses after quite a while. She had not really expected that the magnificent Chairman Mu of Glory World, and the Master Mu that ruled City Z, actually know how to cook...

Quickly, there were sounds of water swishing from the kitchen.

She hesitated for a moment, then she could not help but get up and slowly walk towards the kitchen.

She had just reached the door when she saw that in the spacious and stylish well-equipped kitchen, a tall man was focused on washing the ingredients in front of the sink with his back towards her. The rice cooker the stoves was already started up.

However, Mu Yuchen, who was quietly washing the ingredients, suddenly felt someone watching him from behind. He instantly turned to the door and saw that Xi Xiaye was standing there, watching him silently.

He paused for a moment. Not saying anything, he just averted his gaze before continuing what he was doing.

”

When he kept quiet, Xi Xiaye softly mumbled, “Let... let me wash the ingredients.”

She really felt bad for letting this honorable man cook. In fact, this man was her superior. She really could not get over the freeloading.

Before Mu Yuchen could answer, her hand had already reached into the sink, but a huge hand had very quickly held her wrist above and ahead of her.

“It’s fine. You’re the one who’ll suffer if water touches your wound. Can’t you be less restless?”

Mu Yuchen frowned, then he softly scolded her and took his phone. “Help me take this out to charge. The cable’s beside the sofa. Play some music. The remote control is in the coffee table drawer.”

Xi Xiaye was startled, seeing that there was some unhappiness between his brows, she pulled her hand back and quietly turned around to leave the kitchen.

However, it was only a short while before her voice came from the outside. “There seem to be quite a few cables here. Which one is for your phone?”

“Anyone of it is fine,” he replied plainly.

Xi Xiaye then casually took one of it to plug in, then she bent down to pull open the coffee table drawer and saw the remote control inside.

She thoughtfully examined it, then clicked on the switch.

Above her head, there were suddenly several rays of magnificent light that flickered as an alluring music started to pour out. It was a very charming German song...

Chapter 50. Pampered Foodie (3)

A short while later, dinner was ready.

The dishes were not considered sumptuous. They were just four simple dishes with a soup, but it looked very delicious and its fragrance whet the appetite.

Xi Xiaye who sat far away on the sofa could already faintly smell the whiff of the tempting fragrance.

“Have some fruit juice. With your injury, it’s best if you don’t drink.”

The man across her poured her a glass of fruit juice and elegantly placed it in front of her. When he saw her twinkling eyes in a daze and wanted to say something but stopped herself. He asked, “What are you thinking about so deeply?”

“Nothing...” Xi Xiaye subconsciously sighed, then she quickly picked up her chopsticks. After some consideration, before she finally met his concerned eyes and said, “I just feel like all of this is happening too quickly. It feels like a dream.”

“Aren’t you someone who’s quick to adapt?” Mu Yuchen plainly replied, and then pushed the bowl of rice to her, while he elegantly held up the fruit juice to take a sip, “Or are you trying to tell me right now that you’re regretting it?”

When she heard him, Xi Xiaye fell silent. Then, she shook her head lightly and lowered her gaze quietly as she silently looked at the chopsticks in her hand. After quite a while, she answered, “No, I’m just afraid that if we replayed the moment, I’ll still make this choice, but...”

She seemed to have made some decision as she abruptly looked up steadfastly at Mu Yuchen, her twinkling eyes filled with bright splendor. She suddenly put her chopsticks down and took the glass of fruit juice. In a voice that was filled with a rare tenderness and no shyness at all, she said, “I don’t want to say anymore thank you’s to you. I just wanted to tell you that I’ll definitely do my best to be your good wife. We’ll definitely live a happy life, right, Mr. Mu?”

Mu Yuchen quietly looked up. His eyes that were still as the ocean met her bright, twinkling ones. His quiet, handsome face faintly eased as he responded to her expression and gently held up his glass too. Sentimentally, he agreed, “Mmm, we’ll live a happy life and being a good Mrs. Mu would be the best way for you to thank me.”

The husband and wife clinked their glasses to that toast.

“Earlier, Grandpa called me. My mother’s just returned from completing an academic report and they want me to make time to visit the Chen residence in another two days. Do you want to come along?”

Since they decided to let nature take its course and continue this journey, Xi Xiaye did not plan to hide anything. While she understood very clearly that if she really wanted to let her grandpa and mother stop worrying, she would need to tell them about this marriage.

No matter what, they had already reached this point, so they should at least be loyal towards this marriage journey that was about to begin.

“When are you planning to go back?”

Mu Yuchen now more or less understood her situation. He knew that her grandpa had been comrades with his grandmother when they were younger.

“This weekend,” she answered before she picking her chopsticks up again.

“We should visit them, and at the same time, discuss the wedding. Have you ever thought about the kind of wedding you want?” He said as he scooped food into her bowl.

Xi Xiaye was startled. She seemed like she was at a loss with the extra food in her bowl. If she remembered correctly, no one had ever taken food for her ever since she had grown older, yet today...

There was suddenly a faint warmth that blossomed in her heart. As she thought about his words, she felt her heart tighten. She thought about it for a long while and finally said, “Let’s set the wedding aside. It’s about to be Chinese New Year soon and the company has been very busy. Besides, now’s not a good time to have a wedding. I don’t care about those things either...”

As she said this, she suddenly laughed at herself. There was a moment when she suddenly realized that she had actually been holding on for so long and just needed a reason to feel relieved. Now, she seemed to have found her reason, so everything else did not matter anymore.

Now, how many people would be willing to share her happiness, her anger, sorrow, and joy with her?

So, all those things did not seem to matter anymore.

“Grandpa is a very loving person. Oh, did you already know my grandpa from before?”

Xi Xiaye suddenly remembered that previously when their blind date was arranged, her grandpa had aggressively recommended him, so they should know each other. However, the man across her thought about it and shook his head. “I’ve heard about him, but I’ve never met him.”

“But Grandpa had nothing but high praises for you. Are you sure you’ve never met my grandpa?”

Xi Xiaye looked a little suspiciously at him, but when she saw that he looked serious and thoughtful, she could not help but say, “I still feel like there’s something odd about you two.”

“If you really insist on some sort of connection, then I can tell you that previously in France, I did have some business relations with your grandpa. Although I’ve never met the man himself, now he seems to have become my grandpa too. This relationship would clearly be more of substance than,” Mu Yuchen answered.

He thought about it and added, “Wait till your injury has recovered further, then I’ll bring you back to the old Mu residence. I’m sure they will be very satisfied with you. Let’s eat.”

Xi Xiaye’s fair little face was vaguely surprised. She analyzed him from the side before silently lowering her head to eat.

Xi Xiaye never would have thought that a man’s culinary skills could be this impressive. She had just taken a bite of the scrambled eggs with fresh tomatoes when she could not help but gobble it all up. Across her, Mu Yuchen kept adding food to her bowl. but she did not even pretend and just accepted it all.

When the meal was over, she had guzzled more than half of the food. She had eaten two whole bowls – an amount shocking even to herself.

“Did you specialize in culinary?” Xi Xiaye put her chopsticks down with satisfaction and asked.

She felt that his skills were even better than her mother, Chen Wenna’s. Realizing how almost all the plates on the table were cleaned by her, her elegant face could not help but reveal two faint clouds of scarlet spots.

Mu Yuchen thoughtfully looked at the plates and then turned to her. He did not miss the way she looked all embarrassed and he laughed softly. “When I’m free, I sometimes try my hand at it to pass the time, but I couldn’t tell that you actually had the potential to upgrade to a foodie.”