

## Loving 51

### Chapter 51. Pampered Foodie (4)

When he remarked about her appetite, Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment and her expression instantly darkened. She shot him a look and then stood up slightly ashamedly to tidy up the bowls and plates before her.

“I’ll put the bowls and chopsticks away...”

However, she seemed to have forgotten about how injured her shoulder was. She had just lifted her left arm and picked the plates up when a sharp pain immediately seared, making her hand subconsciously let go.

Clank!

The crisp sound of the ceramic shattering rang out. A beautiful plate had just announced its death.

Xi Xiaye immediately frowned to see the ceramic pieces that had shattered all over her feet. She squatted down and awkwardly started to clean it up, yet just as a finger touched the sharp ceramic shard, she felt a sting and before she could react, a drop of blood had dripped down her finger.

“How foolish!”

A soft scolding was heard followed by a whiff of fragrant air and in the next instant, a huge hand had already wrapped her cut finger with a towel. Then, he lifted her up by the waist and walked towards the sofa.

“Tighten your grip on it. I’ll go get the first aid kit.”

Mu Yuchen put her down on the sofa and then quickly dug out a first aid kit from the drawer of the coffee table. Swiftly, he took a bottle of medicine out to stop the bleeding and a waterproof plaster. Then, he very promptly treated Xi Xiaye’s wound.

Xi Xiaye drew in a breath. Quietly lowering her head, she saw him efficiently cleaning her wound and her brows almost furrowed into a knot.

Mu Yuchen suddenly looked up at her and seeing the way she endured the pain, he said, "This disinfectant is pretty effective. It'll be a little painful. Endure it. You don't look like the kind of pampered foodie."

"How about you come to try too? I'm quite scared of the pain. Just be gentler and it'll be fine. There's no need to put so much," Xi Xiaye responded a little grumpily, the fiery pain on her finger feeling a little hard to bear.

Mu Yuchen did not reply to her. Instead, he had applied the medicinal power at the quickest speed. Then, after he put the plaster on, he quietly put away the first aid kit.

"Okay, you don't have to care about this anymore. Go upstairs and wash up first, but be careful not to get your wound in contact with water."

Xi Xiaye turned to the mess and nodded. She felt like she seemed to be making things worse and she could not help but bury her forehead in her hands. "Okay then, I'll go upstairs first."

Then, she lifted the bag up at her side and walked towards the staircase.

Even though Maple Residence was really huge, the entire villa only had one bedroom. The whole of the second floor consisted of a suite, a huge bedroom, and a huge side hall. After the hallway was Mu Yuchen's super enormous study room, which adopted the floor within a floor concept. It had rows and rows of shelves filled with all sorts of books and could be comparable to a library.

The entire Maple Residence's style was quite similar to her apartment's. They were both lavish and stylish without losing its elegance. Xi Xiaye surveyed the place before slowly walking towards the bedroom.

She opened up the closet and wanted to hang her clothes when she realized that there was a huge wardrobe that took up an entire wall. It was filled with women's clothes all in her size. Her clothes were

on the left while Mu Yuchen's was on the right. In the middle was a row of nightgowns for the both of them.

She put her things away and took out a black nightgown before walking to the bathroom.

Half an hour later, Xi Xiaye finally finished her bath and got out. However, the bedroom remained quiet and the main light was not switched on. A faint light came from the dim wall lamp at the bedhead.

She brushed her slightly damp fringe and looked towards the door, noticing that the hallway lights were still very dim. Frowning slightly, a faint light flashed in her eyes, then she walked towards the door.

When she walked out of the bedroom, she still could not see any sign of Mu Yuchen, so she wanted to go downstairs to take a look. However, just as she reached the entrance of the hallway, suddenly—

There was a clatter!

The door before her suddenly opened and Mu Yuchen's tall figure abruptly greeted her just like that. Unable to stop in time, Xi Xiaye was frightened and almost knocked into him. Thankfully, she reacted quickly and held onto the door frame, yet the result of this was an instant pain shooting up her shoulder.

"Be careful!"

Mu Yuchen quickly reached out to hold her.

"Do you tread so quietly all the time?"

Xi Xiaye lifted a hand to lightly hold her chest in fright.

"Did you hurt your wound?" Mu Yuchen frowned as he helped her to sit down on the sofa.

“It’s fine. I’ve just changed my dressing earlier. You go wash up first. I’ve filled the bath up for you. I forgot to take my laptop earlier...”

She noticed that he had helped her bring up her briefcase and laptop. She gratefully looked at him and was about to reach out to take the laptop from him.

There were a few important groups of data that needed to be analyzed in the next two days for the Commerce Department, yet two days had already passed just like that. Without a doubt, she needed to rush it.

“It’s not early anymore. You were just discharged from the hospital. Get proper rest. If it’s work-related matters, then put it aside for now.”

Xi Xiaye shook her head. “I can’t. It’s pretty important data. I said that I was going to send it to the Commerce Department today, yet I’ve delayed it till now. It won’t be good if it affects their work progress. It’s the project for City S and the developer is rushing.”

Once she said this, Mu Yuchen instantly frowned and fell silent for a moment before saying, “You go rest first. I’ll take a look later.”

Then, before Xi Xiaye could say anything, he took the items and walked towards the bedroom.

## Chapter 52. Wedding Night

When Xi Xiaye returned to the bedroom, there were already no signs of him. The room was still cloaked in darkness, while the bathroom was brightly lit.

Xi Xiaye stood at the door and struggled for quite a while before she finally walked over to the bedside. In a glance, she saw that the needle on the clock showed 10 p.m. It was late. However, to someone like her who always pulled all-nighters, it was still very early.

The bed was huge and it would not be a problem fitting five to six people. With a cozy, simple and elegant light color and the dim yellow light shining down from the wall, it gave anyone a snug and warm feeling.

She walked over to pull up the curtains, then turned back to sit down quietly by the bed. She could not help but feel a little nervous.

As it would be her first time sharing a room with a man that she did not know very well, she now suddenly thought of many things she would have never considered before.

Do I kick away the blankets when I sleep? Will I sleep talk in the middle of the night?

After the endless stream of thoughts ran through her head for a long time, she snapped back to reality when she heard the bathroom door open. She turned to look and noticed that Mu Yuchen had walked out in a black robe. With a towel in his hand, he was ruffling it through his slightly damp, dark hair.

When he saw Xi Xiaye staring blankly at him from the bedside, he stopped what he was doing and looked at her. Picking up the uneasiness in her eyes, he noticed that her fingers that hooked onto the bedside were also turning a little pale...

He did not say anything and just walked over in huge strides, pulling out the chair from the bedhead and sitting down. He took Xi Xiaye's laptop and briefcase from the short side table. Then, he casually opened the laptop and asked softly, "Where's the City S project?"

Xi Xiaye then reacted, quickly moving and sitting closer. She looked at the laptop screen and reached out to point at the hard drive that he had clicked open. She replied softly, "It's in this drive. It's the seventh document. The password is XXX. You can look for it..."

Mu Yuchen had very quickly found the document and opened it to see the project details of City S.

"Why did the Commerce Department reach out to you? These data analyses are quite complex. Can you handle it?" His profound eyes stared at the computer screen as he asked.

"The expatriate, Director Chu from External previously asked me to watch their Commerce Department. Besides, I've dealt with this project before, so I understand it a little. It's only right that I help out too," said Xi Xiaye.

“Your work on the South River project is quite extensive. From now on, let the other departments resolve them internally. I can’t be paying a bunch of good-for-nothings,” Mu Yuchen said as he swiftly typed a long line of alphabets on the keyboard. Then, the chosen data very quickly appeared in a diagram, below which displayed a string of results.

Xi Xiaye did not say anything either. She just watched as he skillfully maneuvered, compared the analysis from the diagrams, and then begin writing the conclusions. Sometimes, she would ask about some results.

The time passed and in the blink of an eye, the clock on the cabinet showed that it was midnight, yet the two of them who were immersed in the work were totally unaware. Quite a while passed and upon Mu Yuchen’s final typing in of an alphabet, the data was generated. Ease covered Xi Xiaye’s tensed expression.

“When you get to work tomorrow, help me print it out and hand it to Assistant Director Wang of the Commerce Department, please.”

Xi Xiaye found a USB flash drive from her briefcase, handed it to him, and indicated for him to copy the item over.

“Be good and stay at home to rest for a few days. Consider it as the company giving you a break. Your body is your temple. If you ruin it, the person who’ll suffer is you,” advised Mu Yuchen as he turned off the laptop. He put the things on the table aside, and then suddenly got up to walk out. Soon, he returned with a glass of water and her medicine.

“It’s late. Take the medicine and quickly get some sleep, okay?”

He handed the water to Xi Xiaye, his deep voice sounding very gentle. His silent eyes held a hint of concern. She could not help but nod before she took the medicine and swallowed it.

After that, she lifted the blanket on the bed nervously. Mu Yuchen took his coat from the chair and put it around his shoulders before walking out.

“Where are you going?”

Xi Xiaye propped herself up and looked at him, puzzled.

“You go to sleep first. I’ll go to the study room to send some documents to the French office,” he said before his tall and thin figure vanished outside the door, leaving with a shadow.

Quite a while after that, Xi Xiaye tore her twinkling eyes away, mixed emotions swirling in them. She pulled on her blanket and slowly closed her eyes, yet she could not sleep. Helplessly, she just opened her eyes again and quietly watched the wall lamp at the bedhead giving out a faint light.

She stared and stared, then suddenly drowsiness engulfed her. She did not know when slumber claimed her.

Later on, after some time had passed, she vaguely heard the sound of the door opening. Then, she faintly heard rustling beside her as if someone had lifted the blanket beside her and laid down.

Xi Xiaye wanted to open her eyes to take a look at her side, yet her eyelids felt extremely heavy. A faint fragrance relaxed her as all of the suppressed fatigue from the past few days could not be held in anymore. Finally, she fell into a deep sleep.

Before the darkness surrounded her, she was still silently telling herself—

Sleep. When you wake up, it’ll all be a new beginning.

Chapter 53. Engagement Invitation (1)

The next morning, when Xi Xiaye woke up, the man beside her had already gone. The temperature underneath the blanket had cooled down, but the air seemed to still linger with that faint smell of his.

She had slept without dreaming, and it had been quite some time since she had slept so soundly. When she woke up, she felt much more relaxed. Upon waking, she slowly walked out of the room.

She had just reached the stairs when she saw Sis Wang tidying up the living room. Breakfast was already served on the dining table and steam billowed from it.

Xi Xiaye subconsciously took a look around the entire living room. There were no signs of Mu Yuchen either, while Sis Wang who was working had alertly noticed Xi Xiaye.

“Missus, you’re awake!” Sis Wang gentle voice was heard.

Xi Xiaye nodded slightly and said softly, “Good morning!”

Then, she slowly walked downstairs.

“Missus, have breakfast first. Otherwise, it’ll turn cold later.”

Sis Wang tidied up some messy newspapers on the table and walked over. “Are you feeling much better? The Master said to remind you to take your medicine after breakfast. I’ll go bring the medicine over first.”

Xi Xiaye had searched for quite a while, yet she did not see a certain someone, so she asked, “Where’s he?”

“Missus, do you mean the Master?”

Sis Wang beamed as she looked at Xi Xiaye to say with a gentle laugh, “Master went to work early in the morning. There seems to be something important at the office. Assistant Ah Mo came over very early, so Master didn’t even have much of a breakfast before he left, but before he left, he made sure I remembered to remind you about breakfast and to take your medicine.”

Had he gone to the office?

The night before, he had gone to bed so late and now he had left to the office so early. She could tell that he was no more relaxed than she was.

After falling silent for a moment, Xi Xiaye sat down at the table.



Sis Wang, who had walked to get the medicine from the coffee table, suddenly remembered something. She turned to say this to Xi Xiaye, "Right, Missus, Master seems to have left you a letter on the table."

When Xi Xiaye heard this, her gaze subconsciously swept across the table and saw that indeed on the corner was an envelope with no address. She reached out to open it and a credit card slid out from the inside. A note came out together with it. On it was only one line in bold strokes —

If you want to go out, let Sis Wang go with you. She can drive. The pin number is XXXXXX.

She was startled as she quietly looked at the credit card that reflected a faint golden radiance. Her beautiful face suddenly flashed with a smile. Then, she kept the note and card back into the envelope and continued having breakfast.

After she finished her breakfast and had taken her medicine, she wanted to go out. If she was going to return to the Chen residence this weekend, she would need to prepare some gifts. Coincidentally, she had not gone out for quite a while now. Since it was a rare holiday, she might as well just go out for a walk.

Initially, Xi Xiaye wanted to drive herself, but Sis Wang was not assured and insisted on accompanying her. Helplessly, she just let Sis Wang go with her.

When the Bentley steadily drove out of the Grand Waves Villa area, Sis Wang who sat in the driver's seat suddenly asked softly, "Missus, where are we going?"

"Let's go to New Era Plaza."

New Era Plaza was a project under Glory World. It had already been functioning for quite a while now, yet she had not properly done a site walk around there. She heard that Imperial Sky Entertainment City was preparing to do a launch, so New Era Plaza would probably have some promotions too. It should be quite lively and she wanted to go over to have a look while treating it as an inspection at the same time.

"Okay, !"

When they reached New Era Plaza, it was close to noon and it was bustling all around the plaza. The two of them found a temporary parking lot near the plaza after much difficulty.

“Missus, where do you want to look around first?”

There were many consumer areas near New Era Plaza, from mid-range to the higher range. Anything that one could think of was there. It was considered a densely populated area. Even if it was not a holiday, the place was still very lively.

“Mmm, let’s go straight to the gifts and health care section to take a look.”

Chen Wenna was someone who paid attention to maintaining her health. Compared to precious pearls and jewels, she preferred some nourishing health care products such as nourishing scented tea and supplements.

As for Chen Yue, he preferred to collect antiques. Xi Xiaye also had a hobby of collecting herself. These few years, she had been collecting some gems, so this was not a problem for her.

Because it was close to the New Year, many people had started shopping for New Year items, so on the way, the streets were quite crowded. Sis Wang had hurled out her arms all the way to fend off the people that came close in fear that they would accidentally bump into Xi Xiaye’s injury.

They had walked around quite a few higher end stores at a go, but she did not find anything that she particularly liked. They made a huge round before she finally locked onto a stump of thousand-year ginseng.

“Missus, we’ve walked for so long. You’re tired too. Let’s go over to sit down a while. I’ll just go and pay for it.”

Xi Xiaye nodded, then she closed the box and handed the ginseng to Sis Wang before sitting down on the sofa.

“It’s right here! Xinyi, it’s right here! I remember the last time I found a thousand-year ginseng here. Eh, it’s this one. Xinyi, look!”

Sis Wang could not react in time when the item in her hand had already been snatched. Startled, she quickly turned to look.

What greeted her eyes were two young ladies who were dressed fashionably. One looked very pretty and charming in a light daffodil trendy spring outfit.

The other wore a white Chanel dress with a long, pink coat on the outside and a white scarf around her neck. On her head, she wore a cowl-like hat that was pulled very low, but Sis Wang could vaguely see how she looked and she seemed familiar like a certain popular star from television. However, Sis Wang was not too surprised. Earlier, when she was at the old Mu residence, she had seen all the famous film stars and singers, so she was quite calm about it.

As they moved closer, their strong fragrant perfume filled the air. It seemed like a high-end kind of perfume.

At this moment, the girl in light yellow was holding the brocade box that she had just snatched from Sis Wang’s hands. With a delighted smile, she looked at the girl beside her.

One could tell that they had come just for this thousand-year ginseng.

Chapter 54. Engagement Invitation (2)

“Mmm, it’s indeed a good tonic. Just buy it then. Give it to Aunty Han as a gift to nourish her health. It’ll definitely be very useful,” said the girl in the white dress as she smiled gently.

The girl in yellow nodded. “Then, this is it. I’ll go pay right away.”

As she said this, she closed the brocade box and was about to go pay for it when Sis Wang blocked her way. She quickly grabbed the brocade box back from the woman. “Apologies, ladies. I already picked this ginseng. In fact, I’ve been issued the receipt. I just haven’t paid, so my apologies!”

“What do you mean you picked it? I saw it two days ago. Besides, you haven’t paid, have you? This ginseng is very important to us. We’ve been looking for it for a very long time. Today, we’ve come just to buy it, so it should be ours!”

The girl in yellow immediately looked irritated as she shot Sis Wang a glare and reached out to snatch the brocade box back. However, Sis Wang very quickly reacted and evaded while complaining, “Why are you like this? I’ve already said that we’ve taken this. Do you know what ‘first come first serve’ means? Why are you being so unreasonable?”

“Unreasonable? Right now, haven’t you not paid for it yet? Boss, we can buy this ginseng for twice the price. Quickly pack it up for us!”

“Well...”

The shop assistant at the front desk looked at the girl in yellow, seeming a little troubled. She said softly, “Excuse me, Miss. This lady was indeed about to buy this ginseng and I was preparing to pack it up for her. How about you look around the store to see if there’s anything else that you might fancy?”

The girl did not want to give up. She frowned and shot Sis Wang a mean look, then she said to the person at the front desk, “We’ve locked onto this ginseng, boss. Three times! Three times the price. That should do it, right?”

The girl in the white dress who had not said anything gently pulled on her friend. “Shanshan, don’t be like this. They did see it first and this is a public place. Let’s not gossip for people to talk behind our backs, got it?”

“Xinyi, we’ve looked for it for a long time. Besides, my aunt likes to drink tea with ginseng. If you present her with this ginseng, she’ll definitely feel that his future daughter-in-law is considerate and thoughtful. Also, Aunt has been worried about you these past few days about you and Cousin’s engagement. She’s definitely very worn out. Giving this to her would be just perfect!” Huang Shanshan said to Xi Xinyi anxiously.

Xi Xinyi nodded and smiled with tenderness. Gratefully, she said, “Thank you, Shanshan. I know you’re doing this in the best of my interests.”

As she said this, she suddenly turned around and a very elegant smile appeared on her face. She said softly, "Excuse me, older sis, I know that you saw this ginseng first, but it's very important to us. Could you please let us have it? We can buy it from you for five times the price. How about that?"

"I'm very sorry. Even if you offer me a hundred times the price in exchange for it, I won't let you have it. We bought this first."

Sis Wang looked repelled by the two people, then she turned around to pay. She insisted as she passed the brocade box to the shop assistant, "Quickly pack this up. We're in a rush."

"Hey, how can you be like that?!" Huang Shanshan immediately walked up to the cashier angrily but Xi Xinyi held her back.

Across her, Xi Xiaye, who had been reading the magazine on the sofa, had taken everything in. She watched as they frowned at Sis Wang like two clowns. Then, in the corner of her mouth, a cold sneer of disdain curved downward.

She naturally knew the girl in yellow. It was Han Yifeng's cousin, Huang Shanshan, who was a slightly famous jewelry designer, called Han Yifeng's mother, Huang Ziyao 'Aunty'. She had always disliked Xi Xiaye and always told tales about her in front of Han Yifeng. However, she got along with Xi Xinyi extremely well and the two of them were the best of friends.

Huang Shanshan had always found Xi Xiaye cold and uninteresting besides being very unfriendly towards Xi Xinyi. Many times, she had fought with her about Xi Xinyi's things. She had even said that if she ever saw her making Xi Xinyi sad again, Xi Xiaye would get it from her. In fact, Xi Xiaye vaguely remembered that Huang Shanshan's older brother, Huang Jiancheng, had always adored Xi Xinyi. Sadly, the love went unrequited.

She did not want to spoil her mood by looking at the two of them, so she put the magazine in her hand down, stood up, and was about to walk out to wait for Sis Wang.

However, the sharp-eyed Xi Xinyi noticed her.

"Sis, why are you here too!?"

Xi Xinyi's surprised voice entered her ear. Before she could react, Xi Xinyi had already walked swiftly right up to her. Her sweet-tempered voice was filled with concern. "How's your injury? We really didn't mean that, Sis. You're just being too serious. That day..."

"Xi Xiaye! It's you!"

Before Xi Xinyi could finish, Huang Shanshan had rushed right up and tugged Xi Xinyi behind her as if afraid that Xi Xiaye would hurt her. "Xinyi, how many times have I told you that you should stop being so nice to a cold person? Did you forget that it was she who pushed you until you sprained your leg? Don't forget the pain just because the scars are gone!"

"No, Shanshan, my sister didn't do it on purpose. She's still hurt. I won't allow you to talk about her like this! Do you hear me!?" When Xi Xinyi saw this, she frowned and quickly explained to Xi Xiaye, "Sis, don't blame Shanshan. She's just frankly worried about me. I know that you didn't do it on purpose. How are you now? The other day, when I saw you leaving wounded, we were all very worried about you. Grandmother even sent people out to look for you, but we couldn't find you anywhere..."

Before she could even finish, the phone in Xi Xiaye's pocket suddenly rang. Xi Xiaye looked down nonchalantly and took out her phone. When she saw who was calling, she answered the call.

Chapter 55. Engagement Invitation (3)

"Hello, Xiaye? It's me!"

Su Nan's sweet yet worried voice came through the phone the moment the call connected. "Where have you been in the past two days? I called you and no one picked up. I went to your company to look for you and they told me you're on leave. What's happened? Where are you now?"

A whole bunch of questions was fired at her. Xi Xiaye could imagine that Su Nan was probably very frustrated.

"I'm alright. I've just not been feeling very well, so I'm taking a few days off. Don't worry about me. Didn't you already go back to work? Why did you go to my company to look for me?"

Xi Xiaye wanted to walk away from her spot, yet Xi Xinyi was holding onto her sleeve and preventing her from escaping. Huang Shanshan felt sorry to see the dejected expression on Xi Xinyi's face and she glared at Xi Xiaye coldly.

Su Nan was concerned about her, she finally asked after a short silence, "I was supposed to go back two days ago, but I was worried about you... So, was everything alright at West Park the other day?"

Xi Xiaye glanced at Xi Xinyi who was beside her. After some thought, she then said, "Nan Nan, I have something to deal with right now and I'll talk to you later. I have something to tell you too."

She hung up before Su Nan could reply. Then, she glared at Xi Xinyi icily and said, "If you don't want things to turn out like the last time, then let go of me!"

Xi Xinyi's face turned pale as the cold voice struck her. Her whole body froze and she met Xi Xiaye's icy gaze, trembling a little before letting go of her hand. She then mumbled, "S-sorry... Please don't be angry... I'm just... I'm just..."

"Xinyi, don't always use such a soft tone when talking to her. She doesn't deserve it! Don't be so considerate about her personality. You've done enough throughout all these years! You and my cousin love each other, and she's the one bothering the both of you. Moreover, it was never mentioned that she had to be part of the marriage proposal. You're also a daughter of the Xi family!"

Huang Shanshan could not stand it anymore. She dragged Xi Xinyi and stepped forward herself, glaring at Xi Xiaye angrily.

"Stop it, Shanshan. I want to solve my problems myself. I don't want you guys to always do it for me. Besides, it's my fault after all. I have my own opinions, so can you please leave this to me?"

Xi Xinyi took a deep breath and pushed Huang Shanshan back, her little face filled with determination. "I don't want it to be like this every time. In the end, it makes things worse, Shanshan!"

Then, she looked up with her doe eyes begging, "Sis, this is between us. Please don't blame her. About the other day... I'm sorry. I really didn't know that the Han family would make that kind of decision. I

also didn't know that Grandmother would do that... Don't worry! I'll surely convince them in the end. What's yours will be yours. I just hope you can live better. I don't mind even if I don't get anything."

"That's enough, Xinyi! You don't have to explain so much to her now that things are at this point. Just give her the invitation card to your engagement. It's her business whether she's going to attend or not. We've all tried our best and that's that."

Huang Shanshan was displeased that Xi Xiaye's face looked distant as ever although Xi Xinyi was nearly begging her. With a grin, she looked at Xi Xinyi as if she was a clown. Then, she went forward and grabbed the red invitation card from Xi Xinyi's handbag.

"Shanshan! You..."

Xi Xinyi frowned as she looked at the invitation card in Huang Shanshan's hand. Grabbing it back and staring at Huang Shanshan, she then bit her lip and hesitated when she looked at Xi Xiaye. She apologetically handed the invitation card to Xi Xiaye.

"Sis, I'm getting engaged to Yifeng next Friday. I... I hope you can make it... Sorry... I really don't know how to apologize to you... but I'm really in love with Yifeng. I hope you can give us your blessing... Your blessing is the most important thing to us..."

The huge, blaring word "happiness" that was imprinted in gold foil acted as a sharp blade. Her heavily injured heart bled once again.

Concerned?

Worried?

She would not have to listen to these words today if she were concerned or worried. She also would not have found Mu Yuchen after being severely injured and realize that no one had chased after her.

At this point, she had to admit that she, Xi Xiaye, was pathetic. She was always playing the unimportant role.



How did things turn out like this?

She had no idea.

What else could she do?

Should she question her sister angrily or argue with her out of frustration?

There was no need anymore. Being cared for was something that had to come from deep within the heart. People would care about you if they thought you were important. Otherwise, you were nothing to them.

The proud version of herself would never lower her head to beg for their attention anymore. She had tried to get them to be concerned about her by leaving them for several years, but unfortunately, she had utterly failed!

She sighed softly as she took out her sunglasses from her pocket and put them on. Her long fingers gently took the red invitation from Xi Xinyi. In just a glance, she saw the names of Xi Xinyi and Han Yifeng inside.

“Missus, I’m done paying. Let’s go.” Sis Wang’s voice came from behind.

As the wise Sis Wang went over, she had heard their conversation and somewhat grasped the situation. These two women were obviously putting on a show. However, she was impressed by the Missus’ calm and collected attitude.

Xi Xiaye nodded and handed the invitation card over to Sis Wang who grasped it as her Missus walked out of the store, not bothering to look at them again.

Xi Xiaye and Huang Shanshan were stunned.

Chapter 56. Mr. Mu Is A Narcissist (1)

The two of them gaped at each other. They had no idea what was happening!

Who was that woman calling Xi Xiaye “Missus” just now?

Xi Xinyi thought about something and her pale face started to have an odd expression. Her eyes looked as if she had just witnessed something impossible. Without caring much, she started chasing her sister.

Huang Shanshan quickly caught up and they felt as if they had just experienced an auditory hallucination.

However, Xi Xiaye’s figure was nowhere to be seen. The crowd almost drowned them as they tried to look around and still could not find her in the end. It was as if whatever had happened earlier was just a figment of their fantasy.

Huang Shanshan halted in her steps and asked as she was panting, “Xinyi, did you hear what that woman called Xi Xiaye? She seemed to have called her Missus, didn’t she?” She turned around and looked at Xi Xinyi with flushed cheeks.

Xi Xinyi nodded and frowned, then she said doubtfully, “What’s happening? When did Xiaye become a Missus? Whose Missus? And who’s that woman?”

Huang Shanshan shook her head, full of doubt as well. “Could it be that she’s married? But... I’ve never heard of it. Maybe that woman was just trying to help her out of the situation. She didn’t seem like any ordinary woman after all!”

She could not forget what had happened in the store just now. The woman had snatched the ginseng away. Obviously, Huang Shanshan did not have a good impression of Sis Wang at all.

Xi Xinyi lowered her gaze and thought for a while. She could only think of this possibility, so she nodded and sighed as she looked at Huang Shanshan, feeling guilty. “It’s all because of me. All these years, I’ve been paying attention to her and she was never close to any man aside from Yifeng, so it’s completely possible that she’d do that out of spite towards me. I understand her all too well...”

“Okay, stop blaming yourself. She’s the one who can’t let go and it’s not your problem. You don’t have to take everything upon yourself. Don’t mind her. You’re getting engaged in a few days and there are a lot of things you need to prepare. Your dress should arrive soon as well! Rest well and just be a beautiful fiancée.” Huang Shanshan smiled kindly at Xi Xinyi.

Xi Xinyi smiled back and pulled her cap down as she moved forward. However, a few young people who walked past recognized her.

“Look, isn’t that Xi Xinyi!?”

“Yes! That’s her! Oh my God, she’s so beautiful!”

“My goddess! Let’s go and get her autograph!”

Soon, a crowd gathered and were seeking autographs from Xi Xinyi.

Xi Xinyi nodded with a smile on her face as she greeted them and smiled gently as she autographed whatever her fans passed to her.

Suddenly, a larger group of fans surrounded her and maniacally snapped photos of her. It was a pretty chaotic scene.

...

On the other hand, Xi Xiaye did not go home after leaving the gifts and healthcare section. Instead, she went to the market and bought a lot of stationeries for children as well as a variety of snacks.

There were several big bags with them when they came out of the market. Besides holding a few herself, Sis Wang’s hands were also full.

“Missus, we’ve bought so many items for children,” Sis Wang said as she stuffed the items into the trunk.

Xi Xiaye walked to the driver's seat. Turning to Sis Wang, she said, "Thank you, Sis Wang. You must be tired. You can go back first and I'll drive on my own, I have somewhere to go."

"Missus, you've not recovered yet. Master asked me to..."

Sis Wang was trying to insist, but Xi Xiaye smiled and said with a tone of determination, "I'm not that weak and I'll be fine alone. Go back now. You might get caught in a jam later." She then started the car.

After almost an hour's drive, Xi Xiaye's car slowly went towards the northern area with the old residences. She parked her car beside a run-down courtyard.

The old courtyard seemed to have been a primary school once. The steel fences were rusty and through them, there were two old buildings in front of which was a sports field.

On the field, dozens of children were playing around gaily. Many other much younger children also gathered around the field as they watched the others play happily.

A middle-aged woman in simple clothes stood under a large banyan tree beside the sports field as she looked at the children with a kind smile on her face.

Xi Xiaye just stood outside the steel fence. Without taking off her sunglasses, she watched the amusing children quietly, not even moving an inch for quite some time.

The middle-aged woman under the tree noticed Xi Xiaye. She went towards her but the focused Xi Xiaye did not notice her presence until she called out to her with a gentle voice, "Miss, you're here again today!"

Xi Xiaye looked at the kind-looking lady beside her and nodded. "Hello, Teacher Li... I was just passing by. Are the children doing okay?"

"They're alright. Look at them. Aren't they playing around joyfully right now?"

Teacher Li looked towards the direction of the sports field with a gentle smile on her face.

“Mmm, that’s great. I bought the children some stuff. The New Year is coming soon. Take this money to get them some new clothes and buy some stuff too. I’m going to be busy by the end of the year and I’m afraid I can’t come myself,” Xi Xiaye spoke as she handed a thick paper bag to Teacher Li, then pointed at the huge number of items beside her.

Chapter 57. Mr. Mu Is A Narcissist (2)

Teacher Li was stunned and she subconsciously declined, “This won’t do. I can’t always take your money after you’ve always bought us so many things...”

Before she could finish her sentence, Xi Xiaye stuffed the money into her hands. “Just take them as pocket money for the children.”

Teacher Li sighed helplessly. She always had no grounds for rejection.

“Aren’t you going to take a look at the kids? At least, they’ll know you’ve been sponsoring them quietly for the past few years, so they can learn to be grateful when they grow up...”

Xi Xiaye shook her head as she looked at the fun-filled children and her smile widened on her beautiful face. “It’s alright. I’m good as long as I see them happy. Every child deserves to have a happy childhood.” She smiled at Teacher Li before she left.

Teacher Li stood there and looked at Xi Xiaye’s. Her eyes were grateful as they were fixated on Xi Xiaye’s gaunt figure moving further away from her.

In the past four years, she would come almost every month with either money or items for the children. However, she would just stay outside the fence and watch the children play every time. Never once had she walked inside or told them her name...

Even if Teacher Li wanted to tell the children about this kind-hearted donor, she had no idea where to start.

...

Xi Xiaye walked beside the fence and went past under a large tree. The cold wind breezed through and leaves fell along the path, but her gaze did not budge away from the sports field one bit. All of a sudden, she almost walked into a wall and a familiar smell reached her nose. She halted her steps and averted her gaze.

A large hand swiftly held her by her shoulders, his scolding filled with tenderness. "You're always so careless. You'd probably walk right into a trap too."

Xi Xiaye's eyes widened when she saw the man who had suddenly appeared before her. Her voice shuddered slightly. "M-Mu Yuchen, why are you here?"

Mu Yuchen let go of her shoulders, then his starry-night eyes looked over in the direction Xi Xiaye was looking. "Sis Wang gave me a call when your assistant sent the documents to the Commerce Department. Your assistant guessed that you should be here and I was around this area, so I came here to take a look."

Xiao Mei?

Several times when she had gone there before, Xiao Mei was in her car. It must be...

"Work hasn't ended yet. Why are you..." Xi Xiaye raised her head and looked at him, suddenly realizing that he was really tall. It felt unreal when he was standing right before her.

"I left early since I was done with work today. Why? Are you going to report me for leaving work early?" Mu Yuchen looked at her amusedly and grinned.

Xi Xiaye raised her eyebrows and smiled back. "I wouldn't dare to report you. You're the top boss after all. Your words are the rules to the whole of Glory World."

"I'm glad that you're aware of that. How're you feeling?" Mu Yuchen looked at her left shoulder.

"It's alright. It's just a tiny injury. I'll be fine after several days," Xi Xiaye replied quietly and looked at him. "It's getting late. Let's go back."

"No, it's still pretty early. Follow me somewhere," Mu Yuchen said as he glanced at the warm sun in the sky.

"Where?" Xi Xiaye asked doubtfully.

A mysterious smile appeared on his calm face as he looked at her. "You'll know when we reach there."

Xi Xiaye closed her eyes and became quiet for a moment before nodding. "Alright."

Mu Yuchen's smile softened as he put a hand into his pocket and draped the other over Xi Xiaye's shoulder. "Don't worry. I'm not selling you away."

Xi Xiaye was stunned as she felt slightly uncomfortable when he put his arms over her shoulders. She gave it some thought before turning her head and replying him seriously, "I'm not worth anything, Mr. Mu."

Mu Yuchen frowned instantly and his eyes darkened. Throwing a sharp glance as he spoke with an immense pressure around him, "Who dares to say that my wife isn't worth anything? Get him here and I'll bury him in money!"

Xi Xiaye was shocked by his sudden outburst, then she chuckled, turning away and continuing to laugh.

Mu Yuchen laughed as well. Xi Xiaye's moody spirit actually lightened up when she saw his warm smile.

"You really behave like an upstart person, or someone who's unexpectedly received a large sum of money," Xi Xiaye replied after a light cough.

The man did not seem to be concerned as he glanced at her. "Have you seen any upstart who's as charismatic and handsome as I am? Hmm?"

“You... Mu Yuchen, I never knew that you were pretty narcissistic...” Xi Xiaye stared at him as if she had just discovered new land on Earth.

“A certain magazine did a poll for the top seven highest net worth of single men in City Z. I’m ranked number one,” Mu Yuchen boasted calmly as he looked at Xi Xiaye.

“However, that’s for singles. Are you still single now?”

“Hmm? I forgot about that. I won’t let them write about it again the next time.”

“Moreover, just who else on the list is as mysterious as you? You’re always driving the media crazy just to catch a glimpse of you...”

Chapter 58. Wedding Ring (1)

“Master, Missus!”

When they walked to the car, Ah Mo was already waiting.

Xi Xiaye nodded. She took a glimpse at the Bentley and the Porsche beside him. Just as she was thinking about whether to let Ah Mo drive one of the cars back first, the man beside her spoke up.

“Pass the car keys to Ah Mo.”

As he said that, he already reached out to open the car door beside her. Looking pointedly at her, he was hinting her to get in. Then, he went around and got into the driver’s seat.

Xi Xiaye hesitated for a moment before handing the car keys to Ah Mo. She said calmly, “When you reach home, please help me shift the things from the car to the living room too. Thanks!”

“No worries, Missus!”



Ah Mo laughed out loud and took the keys. Then, Xi Xiaye walked over to get into the front passenger seat.

Mu Yuchen leaned over and his long fingers deftly pulled the seat belt over her, quickly helping her buckle up before he started the car.

This place was not too far away from the north of the bustling city. In just a little over 20 minutes, they entered the city center. He skillfully steered the wheel as he maneuvered through one busy road after another.

In the car, the husband and wife did not say much either. Instead, he picked up quite a few calls in a row, seeming very busy.

The atmosphere in the car suddenly turned pin-drop silent. The two of them did not say anything until Xi Xiaye leaned forward to switch the music player on. His deep voice suddenly entered her ears.

“Are you cold?”

He noticed that whenever she sat in cars, she loved to wind the windows down. Her thin and frail body shrank in the rustling cold winds and seemed even weaker just as it did now. The winds that poured in from the outside made her beautiful hair incredibly messy.

His sudden voice made Xi Xiaye absent-minded for a moment. She reacted after a while and raised her hand to straighten her clothes and subconsciously shook her head.

Next to her, he had brought the car to a halt since it was a red light ahead. He quickly took his windbreaker off him and tossed it onto her lap, making his intentions clear.

Xi Xiaye took a look at him, thought about it, and did not argue before putting his windbreaker on.

“Aren’t we there yet? It’s late.”

She saw that the sky outside had already turned dark. Being after work hours, the cars on the road had increased as well and they were about to arrive in the eastern suburbs by this point.

“It’s right in front.”

Then, Xi Xiaye realized that their car had driven into the parking lot of a classy, majestic club.

“We’re here. Get down. I’m getting some things and taking you for dinner at the same time. We’re a little late today, so I won’t cook at home.” Mu Yuchen reached over to unbuckle her seat belt and then swiftly got down from the car.

“Master Mu, you’re here!”

The couple had just walked in when a formally dressed young woman walked up to greet them. When she saw Xi Xiaye beside Mu Yuchen, she naturally could not help but take a few more side glances.

Mu Yuchen slowed down and waited until Xi Xiaye had walked up to his side before he asked, “Have the things been sent over?”

“They just arrived. Manager Chen was just about to call you, but you suddenly called. Please wait here for a moment. I’ll go get Manager Chen right away.”

Then, the young woman quickly brought them to sit on a sofa. Soon, tea and light refreshments were served.

Manager Chen arrived very quickly, holding a delicate bag in his hand.

“Master, you’re here. This is what you want. I know that you need it urgently. Coincidentally, the great master was still in City Z and he spent a few nights working on it. It was just sent over. Thankfully, it got here in time.”

Manager Chen passed the bag in his hand as he explained. His gaze skimmed them and when he saw Xi Xiaye beside Mu Yuchen, a light flashed in his eyes. He could not help but ask softly, "Is this the Missus?"

Xi Xiaye was startled. She slowly turned to look at Mu Yuchen, who took the bag and nodded calmly. He turned and met Xi Xiaye's eyes, introducing softly, "This is Manager Chen. He used to be by grandfather's side for many years. Later on, he followed me to France. I assigned him to return and work on the expansion of the jewelry business. He's good friends with the famous jewelry designer, Williamson."

"Nice to meet you, Manager Chen," Xi Xiaye greeted politely.

"Missus, you're too courteous!"

Manager Chen started to look at them oddly, thinking about what the Master had asked him to arrange. However, earlier when the Elder Madam had gone over to play mahjong with a few friends, she was still grumbling about how the Master had not yet found her a granddaughter-in-law. What was going on?

The Master had already said that this girl before him was the Missus. That was enough to explain everything. Could it be that the Elder Madam and the rest still did not know?

He thought about it before reminding, "Master, the Elder Madam was here to play mahjong with some friends earlier this afternoon. Something unexpected came up before she left. I think the Elder Master has some urgent matters..."

"Mmm, let her be. I'll be going back in a few days," Mu Yuchen said and gently got up. He looked at Xi Xiaye, then taking the hint, she got up too. She caught up with his pace and walked out of the door.

However, they had just passed through the walkway ahead and were about to walk to the car when suddenly, two black commercial cars slowly came to a halt on the cement road. A few people got down from inside, all of them wearing black tuxedos. Two figures alighted from the car in front too.

They were two middle-aged men who looked very familiar, but they were not sure where they had met them before. The couple watched as the men stood on the roadside to look at the vast industrial development zone across them. It seemed like they were leading an inspection.

As they talked, they walked towards them.

Xi Xiaye subconsciously hesitated in her steps, but suddenly the man gripped her hand that lay by her side. The slightly chilly temperature passed through both their palms. Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment. She quickly turned her head and looked up at him.

Stonily, he just looked calmly at the people who stopped before him...

Chapter 59. Wedding Ring (2)

Xi Xiaye was doubtful as she looked towards the direction he was staring at and saw two middle-aged men. One of them seemed to be around 50 years old. He was slightly chubby and looked rather energetic.

The other one...

Xi Xiaye looked closely and realized that he looked familiar.

With an average figure with a cold face, he emitted a calm and gracious aura. He was charismatic in his own way together with his pair of keen, eagle-like eyes. This man seemed around 40 years old and his handsome face was especially similar to a certain someone beside her!

The man glanced at Mu Yuchen for a brief moment, then he averted his gaze and focused on Xi Xiaye for quite a while. His pair of sharp eyes which were similar to Mu Yuchen's made Xi Xiaye feel uneasy.

She paused for a moment while Mu Yuchen clenched his fists as he held her hand. He nodded slightly at the man in front by way of greeting. Out of the blue, he was already dragging her towards the car before she could even react.

The middle-aged man turned around and looked at them. She noticed his piercing eyes soften for a moment. He even nodded and smiled kindly at her when their eyes met.

After a while, he turned his head around and continued the discussion with the other man beside him.

“Get in the car. I’ll bring you for dinner!” Mu Yuchen ordered when he saw Xi Xiaye staring at the several people.

Xi Xiaye came back to her senses and realized that he had already opened the door for her before he headed towards the driver’s seat.

“Mu Yuchen, that person just now was your...” Xi Xiaye mumbled a question as she stared at him when she got into the car, her eyebrows raised.

“You might be able to see him when we return to the Mu Residence in a few days.” Mu Yuchen was about to start the car as he finished her sentence.

Xi Xiaye frowned and felt that something was not right with him. There was an odd sense of coldness from him and his expression seemed tired as well. She said quietly to him, “Maybe I should drive.”

Mu Yuchen tilted his head and glanced at her, his eyes fixed on her left shoulder.

“It’s fine...”

He laughed and straightened her messy windbreaker. “It’s okay. You don’t have to force yourself. Do you want to go anywhere in particular for dinner?”

Xi Xiaye was distracted for a moment, but she shook her head after a while. “The ones I usually visit are pretty far from here. It’s pretty late already, so let’s go home earlier. There’s probably some ingredients left in the fridge which should be enough to whip up some noodles.”

She was feeling tired after a long day and was not really fond of food outside. However, her cooking skills were not something she was proud of. The only thing she could cook well was...

“T-the instant noodles I cook are pretty tasty...”

She thought that he did not want to cook when he frowned, so she had forced that sentence out of her. Instantly, she regretted it!

Because Mu Yuchen was looking at her oddly with a strange grin which made her felt embarrassed, she took a peek at him and felt her cheeks getting warm. She turned her head away and looked outside the window.

“I see... My wife is trying to make us instant noodles for dinner.”

Mu Yuchen’s voice carried a certain charm as dark rays spread across his calm eyes. He looked over at her and said, “I’ll satisfy your request and give you a chance to prove yourself tonight. I’ll be your assistant.”

He then turned on the music player before starting the car.

“But I think there’re no more noodles at home...”

Xi Xiaye realized she was contradicting her own words. She should have just named him a restaurant and things would not have become this awkward...

“There’s a market around the villa area.” Mu Yuchen never really went to the market, but he noticed it since he drove past the area every day.

Xi Xiaye took a deep breath helplessly and put a hand on her forehead in regret.

After around 40 minutes, they bought all the ingredients at a supermarket around the Grand Waves Villa area. Xi Xiaye had also bought quite some fruits before the both of them went back to Maple Residence.

it was pitch black by the time they reached home. The clock on the wall showed that it was 8 p.m.

Xi Xiaye changed her shoes and tied her hair into a bun with a hairpin she took out from her handbag. Then, she walked towards the kitchen with the stuff.

Mu Yuchen came in with numerous bags in his hands. When he saw the clothes she had tossed on the sofa, he put the things away accordingly and hung her clothes.

...

In the kitchen, Xi Xiaye washed the tomatoes and vegetables. Just as she was about to cut the vegetables, she smelled a refreshing fragrance behind her. A large hand swiftly held her wrist and stopped her.

“You can boil the water first. I’ll prepare the ingredients.”

He cheekily poked her finger with the band-aid on. The light pain made her frown. She struggled and moved her hand away.

#### Chapter 60. Wedding Ring (3)

The man’s large hand was like the claw of an eagle latching onto its prey. He locked her wrist down and looked at her in the eyes. He moved his other hand towards his pocket when she looked back at him in shock.

Xi Xiaye faintly saw a gentle flow of light passing right in front of her. In the next moment, she noticed that there were two rings gleaming neatly in his palm. Their design seemed special, but there was no doubt they were a pair of wedding rings.

The female variant had the shape of a star on top and was filled with diamonds. While it looked simple, it seemed elegant. The male variant looked similar, but the only difference was that it had no diamonds on it.

He calmly took the female variant and slid it onto Xi Xiaye’s ring finger. It fit her perfectly. The faint glimmer made Xi Xiaye’s hand seemed even prettier.

A grin appeared on his face. He laughed and looked at Xi Xiaye out of admiration. “It seems that my taste is pretty good. It suits us well! Missus, your hand looks much better with a wedding ring on it.”

Afterward, he handed the other ring to Xi Xiaye and raised his hand before her. His intent was crystal clear.

Xi Xiaye raised her brows, not taking the ring immediately. Instead, she took her time and studied the ring he put on for her. Her eyes were shining and she pursed her lips when she saw him smile.

“Hmm, the design looks pretty, but the diamond seems a little too small. It might make you look stingy...”

Mu Yuchen paused, then he laughed helplessly. “I thought you didn’t like being an upstart? If you want, there are many more rings in Glory World Jewelry City. You can just go and pick one yourself.”

“It’s okay, I don’t really like jewelry anyway. I shall leave them for girls who appreciate them, I quite like this myself, I’m satisfied.”

A wide grin appeared on Xi Xiaye’s beautiful face. Her stirred feelings as a result of his sweet gesture were reflected in his eyes. She gently fiddled with the ring on her finger and looked at the flickering glimmer as indescribable feelings rose within her.

Bitterness, grateful, and a gentle warmth...

Actually, this was pretty great. She did not have to think if someone would belong to her. Being together with him like this was something she had hoped for all along, was it not?

After a brief moment of silence, she took the other ring from his palm and slid it onto his ring finger earnestly. She raised her head and looked into his deep, sea-like eyes.

“No matter what your initial intention was...”

Her eyes were filled with gentleness and appreciation. She slowly lifted her hand with the ring and smiled happily. “Because of that, I’ll forever remember this moment. Thank you, Mu Yuchen.”



What a silly, easily pleased girl!

Mu Yuchen nodded his head lightly, then he patted her head and looked at the ring on his hand. After a while, he said, "Never take it off, alright?"

Xi Xiaye's body trembled as she looked at her hand again before taking a deep breath. "It looks so beautiful that I wouldn't be willing to take it off."

"As long as you like it," Mu Yuchen said gently.

"Did you go to the club today just to get it?" Xi Xiaye finally realized.

"Why else would I have been there? I was still worried that it might not fit you, but it seems like I was overthinking. It suits you very much." Mu Yuchen withdrew his hand slowly to admire her ring.

Xi Xiaye smiled happily. "Of course, Su Nan always said that my hands look great and that I have a flair for natural beauty. They pair well with any jewelry."

"Natural beauty? You?" Mu Yuchen raised his eyebrows and looked at her questioningly.

"Mmm, me indeed." Xi Xiaye nodded with stars shining in her eyes.

"What a rare scene! A foodie realizing her inner potential... Hmm... Okay, stop messing around. The water is still cold. Start boiling the water or we might not get to eat by the time it's midnight..."

"Mu Yuchen?"

"Hmm?"

"I'm going to clarify again... I'm not a foodie!"

“However, the facts prove that you are one. It’s not a derogatory term, my Missus.”

...

A simple dinner of instant noodles was successfully dished up as a result of the couple’s efforts. The house was filled with a delicious fragrance when they opened the pot.

Mu Yuchen looked at the pot of mixture before him. He dared to say that this was the simplest and cheapest-looking meal he ever had in the past 31 years of his life!

The woman opposite him was watching him, full of expectations. He felt that it would be a crime if he did not finish the noodles right there and then.

“Why don’t you give it a try?” Xi Xiaye suggested quietly as she handed a pair of chopsticks to him. “I think you’ll like it. I’ve tried dinners like this many times before, so I’ve mastered this dish a long time ago. Trust me... It tastes good...”

Mu Yuchen glanced over at her before taking the chopsticks. He shook his head and chuckled. “Missus, looking at you now reminds me of someone who tried to sell me insurance many years ago...”