

Loving 531

Chapter 531. Master Mu's Fiancée? (2)

The sun was setting. The golden rays created very long shadows as the cool air glided through.

Xi Xiaye sensed the heaviness in Inspector Zhang's tone, so she frowned slightly as she clenched her fists. Her eyes remained gazing at the sky as she just waited for Inspector Zhang to continue.

Inspector Zhang said quietly, "The conflict between the Gus and the Mus isn't really a secret. I'm sure everyone has somewhat heard about that incident although it was covered up later on."

Xi Xiaye's eyes darkened as she nodded. "Mmm, I know that much, and a lot of topics are considered a taboo in the Mu family. Mu Yuchen almost never mentions them to me. He also reminded me not to mention it in front of Grandfather and Grandmother, so..."

"Of course, while the Mu family is huge with Mu Yinan being the main pillar, there are a lot of complicated matters within the family. Mu Zi alone had a lot of mysteries shrouded around her. It's still unclear right now... I won't talk about this right now. Let's talk about the Qi family."

Inspector Zhang took a deep breath, seeming reluctant to mention Mu Zi. He lit a cigarette up as he looked downwards. "The Qi family is quite complicated. Qi Qiming has two sons, Qi Feng and Qi Lei. I've mentioned them before. Qi Feng is Qi Qiming's favorite son. He's talented and the Qi family loves him. Moreover, he's quite handsome, and many women were head over heels for him. Have you heard of the Gu family in City B?"

"The Gu family? City B?" Xi Xiaye frowned. She sifted through her memories and shook her head in the end.

She only heard Mu Yuchen briefly mention them. She only knew Gu Lingsha was not from City Z. Instead, she was from the Gu family in City B. However, Mu Yuchen was reluctant to talk about it to her. Every time it was mentioned, he would just reply half-heartedly. He probably still took that matter personally, so she could not get much out of him.

"That's a pretty huge family as well. They share a great relationship with the Qi family, and they are a long-time friend of the Mu family."

Inspector Zhang explained, "The car crash five years ago was indeed an accident. I only found out that Mu Lingtian died on the spot while Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha were rescued. Gu Lingsha is the treasure of the Gu family. No one has seen them ever since, thus many guess they were already dead, but I think the chances of them being alive is high. Someone seemed to have seen Gu Lingsha in New York."

"If it's an accident, then how do you explain the conflict between the Qi family and the Mu family?" Xi Xiaye voiced out her doubt as she stared at Inspector Zhang.

Inspector Zhang smiled, but his eyes seemed heavy. "I'm sure Mu Yuchen didn't tell you about it, but there's nothing much really. It might be better for you if you don't know."

"I want to know what happened." Xi Xiaye was determined.

Inspector Zhang nodded, but he hesitated for a moment. "Because Gu Lingsha was your husband's fiancée, they were engaged when they were just babies. Mu Yuchen was pretty pitiful when it came to this. He had been in the military for quite some years and only knew about the engagement later. At that point in time, there was nothing he could do about the engagement. Gu Lingsha was already with Qi Feng, and Qi Feng is Mu Lingtian's good friend. Mu Yuchen wanted to cancel the engagement with the Gu family to let Gu Lingsha and Qi Feng be together, but the Gu family declined and wanted Gu Lingsha to break up with Qi Feng in order to fulfill the engagement."

He took a pause and released a puff of smoke. "This dragged on until Mu Yuchen's retirement from the army. I don't know what exactly happened, but three months later, the Mu family still went to the Gu family for a marriage proposal. Someone guessed that Mu Yuchen had really fallen in love with Gu Lingsha, but I don't think it's that simple. I found out the Gu family and the Qi family were working on an important project, so that might be the reason, but I still need to investigate to find out more details. If this hypothesis is correct, then it explains why Gu Lingsha and Qi Feng eloped before the wedding. Their plan probably got found out, and Mu Yuchen ordered to chase them down no matter the cost. When they tried to escape, the crash happened.

"Mu Yuchen is a proud man with high societal status. He glazed over the fact that Gu Lingsha was with another man despite their engagement and was even willing to marry her. In the end, she still chose to elope with someone else, so it wasn't unreasonable for him to get angry, but no matter what, he's responsible for the accident.

“And he probably never expected that the person who helped Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha elope would be his trusted brother, Mu Lingtian. As the final blow, this accident took Mu Lingtian’s life. In a way, Mu Lingtian betrayed his brother, Mu Yuchen, and Mu Yuchen indirectly killed his own brother. Do you get it?”

Xi Xiaye listened quietly until Inspector Zhang finished. Her face had gotten pale as her grip on the pole tightened and her eyes darkened. It was unclear what emotions she was feeling at the moment.

After being quiet for some time, she mumbled, “Fiancée, elopement, indirectly killed Mu Lingtian...”

“That’s right. Ever since then, the Mu family had this barrier with the Gu family and the Qi family. They hardly contacted each other over the years, and it’s exactly because of this that I assumed Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha are still alive. Otherwise, they wouldn’t be so calm about it. However, the Qi family doesn’t seem peaceful lately, so you’d better be careful,” Inspector Zhang reminded.

“I’ll continue to find out more details. By the way, I checked the immigration record and noticed Qi Qiming goes abroad periodically. I had a friend keep an eye on it. We might find something out.”

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Xi Xiaye was dazed while she was trapped in her vortex of thoughts as she felt pain in her chest.

She was not sure whether she should be angry at him for keeping quiet about this, or to pity him for this horrible past! No wonder he would be anxious whenever she mentioned Mu Lingtian. He had no idea how to express the horrible feeling within him.

Inspector Zhang observed Xi Xiaye and noticed that her face had turned pale, so he sighed. “Well, it’s not exactly a big deal. Who doesn’t have a past of their own? Just think of it as a tiny event in his life. Mu Yuchen is genuinely nice to you. Whether he truly loved Gu Lingsha before or not, you’re the one he’s married to now. Understand?” He threw Xi Xiaye a concerned glance.

Xi Xiaye took a deep breath as she raised her head, glancing up at the sky quietly as she blinked her eyes. Her expression calmed down. “I’m alright. Please continue.”

Inspector Zhang nodded. "Qi Qiming is a sly fox. I probably would've missed it if I were any less observant, especially if it were people keeping an eye on him during this period of time, not just me. Your husband is probably doing the same thing as well."

Xi Xiaye went silent for a long while. "Thank you, Inspector Zhang. You don't have to investigate it anymore..."

In a surprise, Inspector Zhang asked, "You're going to stop? Don't you want to know the truth?"

Xi Xiaye took a deep breath as she closed her eyes to calm down. Control returned to her eyes once again when she reopened them. "I want to know, but I also hope that... I can know the truth from him. He's looking for some answers too and I can't do anything about it. The only thing I can do now is to have faith in him."

Inspector Zhang was stunned for a moment. He stared at Xi Xiaye for some time before he put a smile on. He nodded as he looked over in the same direction as Xi Xiaye.

"With a man like Mu Yuchen, he's not someone who'd marry a girl so easily. I'm not sure if you're the lucky one, or he's the lucky one. You're a smart person, Xi Xiaye. However, not everyone can see things through," Inspector Zhang suddenly said.

Xi Xiaye smiled. "Did you find out anything about Qi Lei, Inspector Zhang?"

From the words he said just now, Xi Xiaye noticed that the conflict between Qi Lei and Mu Yuchen...

"I was just about to mention it. Qi Lei, Gu Lingsha, and Mu Lingtian were very close. Although he's not on friendly terms with Qi Feng, they'd compromise for the sake of Mu Lingtian, and the siblings seem to have feelings for Gu Lingsha..."

Inspector Zhang did not continue since Xi Xiaye pretty much understood everything.

However, it pained her heart when she heard Gu Lingsha was once his fiancée whom he had not told her about. Instead, he said she was just an unimportant person. She was heartbroken when she heard about Mu Lingtian's betrayal from Inspector Zhang.

Such a painful experience would surely leave a mark. A fiancée eloping with someone else, the betrayal of a brother, which indirectly caused an accident and ended up with Mu Lingtian dead and Mu Lingshi disfigured... What else could be worse?

She suddenly felt that she could relate to the pain very well. While she felt horrible knowing he had had a fiancée before, she bore the sharp pain out of concern for him too.

She did not want to admit that she was jealous right now.

Just who exactly was Gu Lingsha that he would agree to marry her? Even both Qi Feng and Qi Lei had fallen in love with her!

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The sun started moving west. It was 4 p.m. in the evening.

Inspector Zhang left swiftly whilst Xi Xiaye remained at the same spot for a long while. She stood facing the wind as the surrounding air was shrouded in a depressive vibe.

She sighed after a while and her expression clouded over.

Xi Xiaye wanted to go home when she got back into the car, but Ji Zitong insisted to go to the hospital. Of course, it was an order from Mu Yuchen. Xi Xiaye was pretty annoyed, but they arrived at Hospital T soon, so she went inside.

At Hospital T, Dr. Wang gave Xi Xiaye a thorough check-up. While Xi Xiaye was sitting on a bench waiting for her results, Ji Zitong went to fill in the forms for her.

It was late in the evening at the moment, so the normal office hours ended when they arrived at the hospital. After some time, even the hospital became empty and quiet.

She was sitting alone on the bench, and there was no one in the corridor. She looked out the window and noticed the night was falling. The sky was turning gray and eventually darker.

She had a lot of complications inside. For him to make a marriage proposal willingly and for the Mu family to accept that woman, she must be exceptional, maybe much better than her...

Then, Mu Lingtian...

She took a deep breath as a depressed feeling hit her. She bent over exhausted and covered her face with her cold hands as the stormy clouds in her heart covered her tiny body.

Should she ask him about it?

Why did he not tell her about this before?

Was there something between Gu Lingsha and him in the past?

He said he had only met her several times.

Many questions troubled her. She felt like she was in an endless dream as a black vortex stormed over her and she had issues dealing with it to the point that she did not even notice her phone vibrating.

Her phone continued to vibrate. It had been going on for some time when she finally came back to her senses and noticed it.

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The phone showed that it was Mu Yuchen calling. She stared at the phone for quite a while before answering it. Mu Yuchen's low and gentle voice came through from the other end. "Why did it take you so long to pick up? Are you home yet?"

Upon hearing his sensitive voice of concern, she immediately felt a sourness in her heart. She sighed softly before answering with a raspy voice, "No."

Just with one word, he could already hear her unhappiness. "What's wrong? Who made you unhappy now?"

When he did not hear her answer, he continued, "Didn't Zitong bring you to the hospital?"

She did not answer him and just held onto the phone as her eyes flickered between darkness and light.

When she did not answer after a long while, he frowned and commanded, "Speak, Xiaye." He turned around in his chair to look out at the city ablaze with lights out his window, yet his heart started to feel uneasy for some reason.

"I don't want to talk to you right now," Xi Xiaye lowered her gaze and answered plainly, her tone clearly gloomy.

"Does that mean I'm the one who annoyed you?"

As Mu Yuchen listened, he suddenly chuckled softly. With one hand holding onto the slightly cool arm of the chair, his gentle voice was very sensitive. "Tell me. What horrible, wicked thing have I done this time to make you so unhappy? I need to see if I have to self-respect."

Xi Xiaye sighed, yet the more she heard such sensitive words, the sadder she felt. She even started to imagine if Gu Lingsha was some devastatingly beautiful woman. Was she a stunning girl with brimming talent?

Because humans cared, we would become sensitive and vulnerable. Although it was not a good thing, sometimes it was just inevitable.

After a long while, she complained, "Mu Yuchen, you've been dishonest with me..."

Mu Yuchen immediately raised his brows on the other end in surprise. He then smiled helplessly. "How have I been dishonest? I've been sitting around in the open waiting for you to get to know me, but I've never seen you take an interest in me."

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When she heard this, Xi Xiaye's eyes darkened slightly. She curled up on the bench, thought about it, and finally decided that she was too lazy to make guesses. Asking up front would probably be better.

"Do you still remember your fiancè, Gu Lingsha? Didn't you say that you barely knew her? You bastard, you even proposed marriage to her, didn't you? We've been married for so long, yet you never told me about this! What if that woman comes back?"

Her tone was a little distant, and the agitation was evident.

When Xi Xiaye finished, Mu Yuchen was stunned. His still eyes suddenly turned solemn as his handsome brows furrowed into a knot. He looked up at the dim light above him and tried hard to think for a very, very long time.

Gu Lingsha...

After a long while, that beautiful and bright face finally completely appeared in his mind.

The memory was distant, yet at the mention of this woman's name, the hostility that he suppressed in his heart suddenly surged out.

He has long blurred out this woman's face, but all the things that she had done revealed a bitterness in his eyes. Of course, there was that other person!

He had been searching for them for many years now, yet he could never find traces of them. It was only recently that some leads began to surface.

Mu Yuchen suddenly fell silent. Xi Xiaye could also suddenly feel an indescribable suffocating pain as if something was weighing on her chest. She could barely breathe properly. She thought it, then sighed deeply. Her voice remained calm as she dismissed the matter. "I'm tired. Forget it. We'll talk when I get back."

"Don't hang up, Xiaye! Let me explain."

Before she could finish, he suddenly stopped her. His usually calm voice was colored with anxiety now.

"What do you have to say? You've already silently admitted to it. Your beloved fiancé is much more excellent than I am, and you even proposed to her back then."

Seconds later, his low voice finally demanded calmly, "Who told you that?" One could vaguely hear the coldness in it.

"Who cares who told me as long as it's the truth? Didn't you get people to chase after them because she was eloping with Qi Feng back then, ruining your wedding? Do you dare say you've only met her a few times? Is there an unforgettable past between you and her?"

"Who says we have any past? I don't even remember how the hell Gu Lingsha looks like anymore. I only proposed marriage to the Gu family because back then I thought that it didn't matter who I married. In fact, I wanted to see what the Gu family was up to when they insisted on making that woman marry me."

Hostility crossed Mu Yuchen's handsome face as a stern light flashed through his dark eyes.

"Xiaye, there's nothing between me and Gu Lingsha. Apart from the invalid so-called arranged betrothal when we were younger, it's not what you think."

However, Xi Xiaye still had not heard Mu Yuchen's explanation. All of a sudden, there was no more sound from the phone. She then realized her phone was out of battery!

On the other end, Mu Yuchen called over a few times and thought her phone was switched off. Because he was too anxious, he could not sit still and quickly got up. Without packing anything from his desk, he rushed out.

"Master, the document..."

"Get them to bring it over tomorrow. Prepare the car. Go to Hospital T right away!"

How dare she hang up on him? He would have to teach her a lesson!

Mr. Mu was really annoyed right now. She should have given him a chance to explain no matter what. What did she mean, just hanging up like that?

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After waiting for quite a while, Doctor Huang finally walked out from the consulting room with a smile and the lab test results in her hand. She looked at Xi Xiaye with her head lowered and silent on the bench before quickly going up and announcing very cheerfully, "Missus Mu, congratulations! You're pregnant. The fetus is about five weeks old and is very healthy. However, your body is a little weak and needs to be nursed. Here are the lab test results. Take a look."

As Doctor Huang spoke, she handed Xi Xiaye the lab test while beaming.

The moment Xi Xiaye heard her, she was stunned for a moment. The light in her eyes paused, and she almost could not hold back the surge of joy in her heart.

Really, it really was a positive pregnancy result!

She could not care less about how unhappy she had been earlier. A full smile lit up her pale face immediately as she quickly took over the lab report Doctor Huang handed and looked through it in detail.

Doctor Huang obviously took in all of Xi Xiaye's reactions grinning. "You can't do vigorous exercises in the first three months, and you must watch your food to have a balanced diet. I've just prescribed some medication for you and written down the things to take note of. Missus Mu, you must take care of yourself. Remain in a cheerful state of mind, and come for regular check-ups."

Chapter 534. Upgrade To Parents-To-Be (2)

Xi Xiaye barely remembered what Doctor Huang said after that. Her head was only filled with one fact: she was pregnant.

The fetus was five weeks old, so she and Mu Yuchen had a child who was more than a month old.

She knew that he had been thinking about this. If he woke up in the middle of the night, he would even stare longingly at her belly. For a few nights when she had been in a sleepy daze, she would catch him like that, and those valuable paintings at home had been changed into huge pictures of cute babies. It was easy to tell what he had been thinking about.

Life was miraculous. After much anticipation, such a bundle of joy had finally arrived. This news was enough to make her burst from delight. She did not realize she had been anticipating this for so long, especially when she saw how Su Nan was like.

As she thought about this, the joy surged in her heart. She subconsciously felt for her phone, and then remembered that she had been unhappy with him earlier!

Xiaye decided that to punish this fellow. She would not tell him first, and let him be the last to find out to keep him in suspense!

However, she could tell her grandpa, Shen Yue, Wang Hui and the rest. Let them be happy about it. With a little one coming, it would be a very blessed thing!

However, in the midst of her happiness, she seemed to have forgotten that Doctor Huang, who had done the check-up for her, was an appointment arranged by Mu Yuchen. When she was done and had

gotten the results, they had already messaged Master Mu to inform him, so he even knew this wonderful news before she did.

Ji Zitong, who went to pick the medicine up had not returned yet, so she waited quietly. Xi Xiaye did not know how long she had sat there blankly as she looked down and read the lab test results over and over again. Her exquisitely beautiful face blossomed with a smile that was ever more radiant. In her trance, there was a whiff of a cold yet familiar fragrance. She seemed to have realized something, so she quickly glanced up and realized that the man was standing before her. His unpredictable eyes were watching her with a gentle light.

Looking at him, the light in her eyes became even more dazzling. She was about to get up to him, yet in the next instant, she immediately put on a straight face and quickly hid the lab test results behind her and turned away, not looking at him.

He narrowed his eyes and his handsome face flashed with a demonic smile as he gently enticed her. "Missus, show me that thing in your hand."

Sulking, Xi Xiaye hid it very well. She glared at him as she stood up, and was about to leave when he immediately came up to her and put her into his embrace in the next instant. Her hand that held the lab results were locked behind her against the wall too. Because his tall figure held her down, she could not move at all.

Ignoring her dark eyes that contained unhappiness, he immediately pried her slender fingers away and took the wrinkled lab report. Squinting at the text, his noble, handsome face instantly brimmed with tenderness as he chuckled. "Missus, all your efforts weren't wasted after all. My dear, we have a child!"

The smile that curled up on his face was as radiant as the rainbow. He could not hold back his happiness, but he could not care less about expressing his thrill while his slender hand subconsciously caressed Xiaye's belly. She then pushed him away and blushed. "What are you doing?! This is a hospital. There are cameras!"

When she said that, Master Mu then realized that he had forgotten himself. He quickly fixed her clothes and her messy hair as he said apologetically, "I was too impatient..."

Initially, he was a little annoyed, but seeing her at this moment, all of his sourness was wiped out. This was extremely wonderful news!

“You didn’t explain to me what your fiancée Gu Lingsha was all about!” Xi Xiaye put on a straight face. Clearly, she had not forgotten the unhappiness earlier!

Of course, she felt that it was best to ask him directly to avoid getting all depressed and guessing things herself. They said they were going to trust one another fully anyway, so she should be able to ask him anything.

The moment Xi Xiaye finished, Mu Yuchen shot her a side look and said, “Who cares about Gu Lingsha?! I don’t even remember how the hell she looks like. I’ve got nothing to do with her. It’s only when the Gu family came looking for me that I found out about the engagement. Even though the Mus and the Gus were family friends back then, I’ve always stayed at school even during vacations, so we barely met. Don’t put the two of us together!”

When he blurted all this out, the man even seemed quite cold.

“If you’ve got nothing to do with each other, then why did you propose for marriage?” Xi Xiaye rolled her eyes at him. Out of sight, out of mind, she turned away to ignore him.

“It’s not what you think it is. If you must have an explanation, then I’ll give you one. It was just a trick of mine. As horrible as I am, I wouldn’t be this desperate. Initially, when I found out about her and Qi Feng, I proposed rejecting the arranged marriage and was willing to let them be together, but it was them who didn’t want it.”

When Mu Yuchen mentioned this matter, he was quite troubled.

Then, Xi Xiaye suddenly remembered that back then after the tender meeting, when he and Qi Lei bumped into each other, they seemed to be...

“You...” she softly spoke and was about to say something, yet after a while, she did not know what to say either.

When she looked up at him, his gloomy expression had returned to its usual indifference. He leaned down to hold her in his arms, and lift her up. He looked down at her, his tone becoming much more at ease and gentle now. "Okay, don't be angry with me because of these things. No matter what, you're Missus Mu, and you even have a baby now. What are you worried about? If you're willing to listen, I will simply repeat it for you."

As he spoke, he walked ahead in huge strides. Xi Xiaye struggled for a while, wanting to get down, yet he hugged her even tighter. Helplessly, she could only let him be.

"There's actually nothing to talk about. This marriage was randomly decided upon when Grandfather had too much to drink back then, yet the Gu family actually took it seriously. Grandfather and Mother were unhappy with each other about this. You know my mother's a very open-minded woman. She would never agree with this so-called betrothal at childhood. When I retired from the army, she and my father thought of many ways to help me reject this marriage, especially after Gu Lingsha and Qi Feng became a harmonious couple. So, initially, this marriage caused dispute too. After all, Gu Lingsha was a half-fiancée of mine too. It was only after I retired from the army that I officially met her. Prior to that, we didn't have much contact."

Mu Yuchen's tone was very calm as he narrated the background of the matter. The light in his eyes seemed hazy as if he was chasing a very, very distant memory.

Chapter 535. Upgrade To Parents-To-Be (3)

His initial unhappiness was instantly chased away by the arrival of the child. When Mu Yuchen walked out of the hospital all relaxed and calm, it was early evening. The car was parked right beside the road.

When they saw them walking over, the bodyguards in black quickly opened the car door.

When they got into the car, Xi Xiaye said, "Assistant Li Si, call Zitong. Hmm, she's worked hard today. Tell her to go home soon. Later on, just get them to send the things over."

"Got it, Missus!" Li Si answered with a smile. It was rare to see the tenderness openly shining in Master's eyes. The way he was so careful only meant that there must be some good news. As he thought about this, he thought about letting the old Chairman know as soon as possible so that they could be happy about it too!

Mu Yuchen very honestly explained everything to Xi Xiaye. Even though it was a little different from what Detective Zhang said, it was about the same overall.

“Lingtian and Qi Feng, Qi Lei, and Gu Lingsha were great friends. Back then, Lingtian was classmates with them, but they weren’t in City S High School, but in XX High School.”

He settled Xi Xiaye in, and then pulled a pillow to put behind her as he tried hard to recall.

“XX High School?” Xi Xiaye softly muttered. She tilted her head and thought for a while before she said in shock, “That seems to be the most famous elite school in the whole city, isn’t it? It’s quite similar to City S High School, but that’s where most children from aristocratic families gathered.”

Mu Yuchen nodded. “Him, Lingshi and Ah Mo studied there. Su Chen, Zhou Zimo and I were at City S High School, so they were quite close. In fact, I’m older than them by a few years, so we don’t gel quite well.”

“Well, as they say, there’s a generation gap every three years which sounds quite logical too. No wonder you and I had a generation gap back then too.”

Xi Xiaye now remembered that this man was three or four years older than her. Sometimes, he felt more like her senior such as her father or elder brother, and even her so-called husband, especially when he tried to lecture her about something.

“What generational gap could we possibly have? Aren’t we getting along well right now?” he objected and answered. His jet black eyes subconsciously glanced at her belly. Xi Xiaye could not help but laugh at that expression, yet he continued the topic earlier, “As for Gu Lingsha, I just want to explain once more to you that she’s got nothing to do with me. This did not change in the past and will not change in the future, so you don’t have to care about her. Just remember that she’s an unimportant person.”

Mu Yuchen clearly did not want to remember this woman much. Apart from his own woman, he did not give two hoots about other women. Other people always said that he was inherently cold and apathetic, but he knew himself well enough that as great as someone could be, it had nothing to do with him. He was simply contented with her.

From the way it looked, loyalty to her was not difficult. What was hard was that not everyone could see it clearly. A lack of self-restraint at the moment could bring endless trouble. If one did not want to err, then they would have to be self-disciplined. Of course, he did not have much thought about this. With all of the passion that he had for her, he had nothing extra to give.

“Okay, now you’re clear about this. Because of this, Grandfather and Mother were quite upset. It was only after that that things became better. Just don’t ask about it in front of the two of them. If you want to know even more, then go ask Grandfather and Grandmother. The two of them probably knew about the whole matter best.”

When he said this, Mu Yuchen finally seemed to be coming to an end. With one hand, he circled Xi Xiaye’s frail shoulders and pulled her into his broad chest. He could feel her warm temperature very quickly through his chest. “Next time, don’t be unhappy with me about these petty things. You’re the most precious one to me. I always listen to you, don’t I?”

“Who told you to be so vague and not explain it earlier? Suddenly, I have to find out that you had a fiancée.” Xi Xiaye rolled her eyes at him as she looked down at his hand that was on her belly.

“Don’t worry. Your charm is enough to push her back by ten miles. You’re not even on the same level. How old is it?” He was emotionless in the first half of the sentence. Then, his gentleness emerged heard in the second half.

“Five weeks...” she softly responded.

He probed around, but he did not dare to feel too hard as he asked a little puzzled, “That’s a long wait then. Why can’t I feel anything?”

“It’s only five weeks. It’s probably not even the size of an egg. You’d probably feel it only around two or three months. Back then, Su Nan’s bump was only more obvious around the fourth or fifth month.”

As Xiaye spoke, she drew a little egg in the air. After she thought about it, she then turned to look at him. Her eyes flickered with a faint radiance as she asked in anticipation, “Hey, would you like a boy or a girl?”

“As long as it’s from you, I’d like either, but I do hope even more that this would be a girl. When she grows up, she could be closer to you, go shopping and get facials with you. I’m afraid boys aren’t that considerate. He’d have to be like me. He’d have to have a taste of all of the hardship I went through. Otherwise, he’d think that we had him just to let him enjoy life!”

Mr. Mu now began to anticipate their life hereon after.

“Don’t you like boys? What if I have a boy?” Xi Xiaye began to worry about the future. The image of Su Nan and those words suddenly flashed across her mind. She quickly felt her belly nervously. That exquisitely beautiful little face looked uneasily at him as she muttered, “Mu Yuchen, do you think I’ll become as fat as a ball? Would you not like me then? And then if I give birth to a boy, would you not like me?”

Mu Yuchen immediately laughed softly and helplessly. He reached out to touch her head. “Can’t you just think more positively? Your fullness will just make you seem more prosperous and spirited. That’s not a bad thing. It doesn’t matter whether you have a boy or a girl. Just let things be.”

She frowned and said softly, “I don’t want to be like that.”

“I already said I’d still like you. Still, it’s you who’s worried yourself. Later on, I’ll get you a professional nutritionist to watch your diet. That way, you won’t have to worry.”

“If this is going to be a boy, then in a few more years, let’s have another one...”

“One is enough.”

“Don’t you like my children?”

“What nonsense are you saying?”

Chapter 536. Upgrade To Parents-To-Be (4)

At the Mu Residence at night.

After a simple dinner and some tea, the whole family took a break together. Wang Hui was sitting by the table and going through her old letters, mostly consisting of some trivial matters and photos. She would take a look at them whenever she was bored to reminisce the past. With her getting older, she could only think about what she had done when she was younger, and what was memorable to her.

Mu Yanan was sitting on a rattan chair nearby, reading a book with the help of his glasses.

“Hey, I really think that I’m getting old now. I feel so sentimental every time I look at these pictures. It feels like we just joined the army yesterday. How did we get old in the blink of an eye?” Wang Hui touched the old photos as she said.

Mu Yanan averted his gaze from his book and looked at his wife. “Well, that’s just how it goes. Do you still think that you’re twenty over years old? Even Tangchuan is past 50 now!”

“My body is still holding up fine. Hopefully, I can live long enough to see Xiaye and Chen Er’s child grow up. They’ve been married for half a year. Why is there no news at all? Do you think they don’t care about this at all? Chen Er is going to be 32 soon, and I’m pretty worried about them. Xiaye should be around 27 or 28, isn’t she?” mentioned Wang Hui anxiously.

“Leave the youngsters alone and let things flow naturally. Moreover, they’re busy now. Shen Yue is getting old and retiring soon. He’s got it much rougher than us. Shen Yue’s been alone for a long time. Hasn’t he thought of finding another partner? Liang Fuhua passed away so many years ago.” Mu Yanan sighed.

Wang Hui glared at Mu Yanan the moment he finished his sentence. “What do you know? Shen Yue is just an army recruit who had nothing. Just who do you think Liang Fuhua is? It’s his blessing that she got together with him!”

“Hmph, didn’t Shen Yue treat her really well afterward? Sure, Shen Yue was like a thug. I wonder how he ended up with Liang Fuhua. Her admirers could fill up a soccer field. I don’t understand what she saw in Shen Yue. And then there’s you, I doubt there’s anyone as good-looking and talented as I am among your admirers. Why did you even dislike me at first?”

“Liang Fuhua has excellent taste. If I really have to point it out, you’re definitely not better than Shen Yue.”

“How is he better than me? I’m born prestigious and a gentleman. How is he better?”

“Just by the fact that he loves his wife faithfully, that’s so much better than you! For his company, Fu Hua Property, he used Liang Fuhua’s name. What about you? Before you knew me, you were just another playboy. Do you think you’re better because you have more money?”

Mu Yinan realized he had made a mistake. He should not have mentioned this. Women were especially scary when talking about the past. He had experienced this many times before!

When he first got married to Wang Hui, she could easily pin him down and he could not do anything. After that, people knew Mu Yinan had gotten himself a fierce wife and had become a typical wife slave.

“I’m not going to talk to you about it again!”

If he continued they would probably start an argument again. After all, they had been going at it for several decades!

As Wang Hui was about to say something, the telephone started ringing. Mu Yinan went to pick it up.

It was a call from Li Si!

“Elder President, I’m Li Si!” Li Si’s voice came through.

“Oh, Li Si? It’s been a while since you called me. What’s the matter?”

Li Si had worked for Mu Yinan before. More specifically, Mu Yinan trained Li Si to be Mu Yuchen’s assistant. As a smart and capable young man, Mu Yinan thought highly of him.

“Are you doing well?”

“Great!”

Li Si had just gotten off work before he quickly gave Mu Yinan a call. “Elder President, I’m calling you today to congratulate you. Has Master told you yet?”

“Tell me what?”

Mu Yinan found it odd. He had just called them this afternoon to ask about Xiaye, so Li Si’s congratulatory message was weird.

“What? Elder President, Missus is pregnant. Didn’t Master tell you?”

“P-pregnant? Do you mean I’m going to have a great-grandchild soon?”

...

This was massive news, especially to Wang Hui who was sitting by the table! She was already listening in when Mu Yinan spoke on the phone. When she heard the news, she dropped whatever she had in her hands and rushed over, confirming it with Li Si again!

That night, everyone in the Mu Residence worked hard until midnight.

The next morning, at the Maple Residence.

Mu Yuchen woke up early on a weekend. As he was about to make breakfast, he found Mu Tangchuan sitting on the sofa when he went downstairs. Wang Hui and Zhuang Shurong were giving instructions to Sis Wang and the others, swapping out the potted plants. Mu Yuchen had no idea what they were called, but the new plants were all fresh and green, making the environment smell great.

A lot of stuff was being hauled into the storeroom.

Zhuang Shurong was making breakfast as Wang Hui just stood beside the door. Mu Yinan should be in the back yard since he was always concerned about the flowers whenever he came over.

“Put these into the wardrobe separately. I’m sure it’ll be of use in two months’ time, and this... rearrange it over there.”

This family acted quickly on the information. Mu Yuchen knew that they had already found out about Xi Xiaye’s pregnancy by the looks of it.

“Master, please let us through!” A servant who was holding some anti-slip floor mats was going up the staircase.

Mu Yuchen moved away slightly and went downstairs.

When the servant’s voice was heard, Mu Tangchuan looked over at the staircase.

Chapter 537. Important Protectee (1)

Mu Yuchen gave a simple greeting and sat down on the sofa as he poured himself a cup of tea.

“This is a lot of people here in the morning. You guys have a lot of free time.” Mu Yuchen sipped some tea before glancing over at Mu Tangchuan.

“It’s not a bad thing to gather people for a celebration. I haven’t scolded you about not telling us immediately! You’re going to be a father soon. Act like one.”

As always, Mu Tangchuan was always gentle and serious. “I’ve just analyzed Xiaye’s matter with your grandfather. We know that someone’s behind it, so be careful on your own. A lot of things have happened lately, but I’m not going to pry too much into it.”

“Mmm, I understand.” Mu Yuchen did not want to explain too much, so he lowered his head and gazed at his tea cup.

"I've also heard that you're investigating your aunt again. Xiaye looked for Sis Lan too. Is that right?" Mu Tangchuan stopped moving and asked.

Mu Yuchen put down his cup as he leaned into the sofa. "Lingshi has always wanted to know about her father. This can't remain in the dark forever. It'll be irresponsible to Auntie and Lingshi. No matter what, there should be something." His tone of voice was cold.

"I've put in a lot of effort into this before, but I couldn't find that person. As your aunt insisted, your mother and I gave up in the end."

Mu Zixi's matter was a heavy topic for the Mu family, and they rarely brought it up. Mu Tangchuan must have given it a lot of consideration before bringing it up today.

"Mmm, while your grandparents hardly talked about it, they probably had the same thoughts too. Your grandmother was so furious that she almost chased your aunt out when she was pregnant with Lingtian. She cried every day for a period of time after your aunt's death, but in the end, she calmed down and took care of Lingshi."

"Sis Lan and your aunt were very close back then. I bet she knows something, but we couldn't find out anything from her. She just told us to give up and take care of both Lingtian and Lingshi." Mu Tangchuan searched through his memories.

Mu Yuchen stayed quiet for a moment before speaking up, "Father, I have something to ask you."

"What is it?"

Mu Tangchuan drank some tea and looked at Mu Yuchen in doubt. He rarely saw such a heavy expression on him.

"Did Auntie mention a Mr. Wen to you back then?" asked Mu Yuchen directly.

Mu Tangchuan frowned instantly. "Mr. Wen? This name sounds familiar."

“There’s something related to Mr. Wen. He should be the one behind Xiaye getting blocked in the tunnel the other time as well as this scandal. When Xiaye approached Sis Lan, Mr. Wen was involved in their conversation too. I arranged my thoughts and realized that Mr. Wen is coming for me. There are only two reasons he might be coming for me. The first is that I’m involved with Glory World, and the other for revenge. Aside from the Gu family and the Qi family, I don’t think there’s anyone else who’d hate me this much. However, after I gave it some thought, there could be one more person.”

“Who?” Mu Tangchuan’s eyes turned cold as he looked at Mu Yuchen.

“Lingtian and Lingshi’s biological father,” Mu Yuchen replied as he looked into Mu Tangchuan’s eyes. “On Lingtian’s birthday, Xiaye and I met a man when we visited their graves. He even brought Lingtian a cake. I asked Li Si and the others to investigate, but we couldn’t find anything. The cake shop owner said that the man asked her to deliver the cake to his car outside, so she couldn’t see his face.”

“With that being said, if that person intended to hide his tracks, and we’re unable to find him after so many years, he must be extraordinary to a certain extent.”

“Mmm, that’s what I thought as well.”

“Do you suspect that Mr. Wen is Lingshi’s father?” Mu Tangchuan squinted at Mu Yuchen.

Mu Yuchen grinned. “I won’t make a conclusion without any proof, but what we know now is that Mr. Wen must know something. If he’s not Lingshi’s father, he would at least be affiliated with him.”

...

Xi Xiaye woke up and went downstairs after she washed up. Needless to say, she was shocked by the commotion.

The whole floor was placed with anti-slip mats, and the curtains had been changed into warm-colored tones as if the whole house had been refurbished.

After a simple breakfast, Wang Hui started telling her a long list of things to be careful about.

“You just got pregnant! It’ll feel odd at first, but after several months when the child starts to move around, your state of mind will change, and you’ll be more aware of your maternal instincts. You’ll then realize your heart becomes softer, and you’ll be more courageous. The little thing inside you will be as important as your own life.”

Wang Hui held Xi Xiaye’s hands. She was kind and gentle as she put on a smile.

“Grandmother...”

Xi Xiaye was about to pull away, feeling awkward when they made such a big fuss out of it. She looked at Mu Yuchen for help, but he was just calmly reading his newspaper.

“I’ve talked to your mother. Xiaye, why don’t you come to stay in the Mu Residence? It’s easier for us to take care of you, and Chen Er can work on his own. Your mother and I will take care of you, so we can be at ease too.”

Let Xiaye stay at Mu Residence and leave him alone in Maple Residence?

Mu Yuchen definitely did not want that!

“Sis Wang will stay here. You guys don’t have to worry,” he replied almost instantly to Wang Hui’s suggestion.

Xi Xiaye felt self-conscious. “Don’t worry, Grandmother. It’s only been a month now. There are a lot of things I need to learn from Grandpa at this time. I can give myself a holiday and spend more time with Grandpa. I have quite a lot of free time nowadays anyway.”

“Have you told your grandpa about this? He’ll be really thrilled,” Wang Hui suddenly mentioned Shen Yue.”

Chapter 538. Important Protectee (2)

Xi Xiaye frowned when she heard Wang Hui. She did not reply and instead looked at the man beside her.

“Li Si has informed him already. We’ll head over to the Shen Residence soon,” said Mu Yuchen.

Wang Hui nodded. “That’s good to hear. Go back more often if you guys have the time. I know your grandpa is trying to let you take over Fu Hua, but I think it’s not suitable for Xiaye to do so right now.”

She frowned further. “You have a frail body, and there’ll be more hardships to come. Leave these worrisome matters for the future.”

Xi Xiaye smiled and shook her head. “Don’t worry, Grandmother. My body is fine. I’m only in the first month of pregnancy. Grandpa has prepared a group of elites, and Chen is helping me out as well. I’m sure I’ll get on track very quickly. It’s actually quite easy.”

She then shot Mu Yuchen a glare.

Wang Hui intended to have her stay at home, and she did not want that. She knew very well how her body was holding up. She did not want to stay immobilized at home for her whole pregnancy, and with Shen Yue’s health deteriorating, she did not want him to work anymore.

“That can’t do. It’s a huge matter. Just stay at home and rest.” Wang Hui sounded determined. Xi Xiaye did not know what to say so she kicked the man beside her. Mu Yuchen turned over to look at her helpless expression, chuckling lightly. He said, “Don’t worry, I’ll arrange it. Let her do whatever she’s happy with.”

Mu Yuchen’s tone was calm, but it was one you could not reject.

As Wang Hui was about to say something, Mu Yuchen’s phone started ringing. It seemed to be a business-related matter, so he let go of Xi Xiaye’s hand as he stood up and walked upstairs while he spoke on the phone.

After rearranging the Maple Residence and lunch, Wang Hui and the others returned to the Mu Residence. Before they left, they gave Xi Xiaye another round of reminders.

Sis Wang was an experienced nurse before, so it was a piece of cake for her to take care of Xi Xiaye. Mu Yuchen even let her stay in the Maple Residence for convenience. They cleaned up a room on the first floor and let her stay there. Besides that, the Mu Residence also sent another servant and a chef over.

Mu Yuchen had been getting really busy since Xi Xiaye got pregnant. He took up Xi Xiaye's role in the South River project. In addition to it being the middle of the year, the data for several projects came up and required his attention, so he had been working late for a few days.

The same applied to Xi Xiaye as well, but she had it much easier compared to Mu Yuchen who had assigned her minimal work, mostly just to let her kill time. Xi Xiaye's daily schedule went like this: she followed Shen Yue around in Fu Hua in the morning to learn about the operations. She would then meet Mu Yuchen for lunch and then rest in his office. In the afternoon, she would help out with Glory World's project.

Of course, she had Ji Zitong by her side. After several days, they were not as distant as before, and sometimes they could strike up a conversation.

On the day of the Qixi festival, Xi Xiaye thought Mu Yuchen would visit Mu Zi's grave again, but he did not seem like he was going to. Instead, he asked Ah Mo and Mu Lingshi to bring two bouquets of white lilies over.

After working through the whole morning in the office, Mu Yuchen was a little worried when Xi Xiaye was not there yet. He looked outside the window and noticed the sun was slowly setting in the west. He called her phone, but he could not reach her, causing him to frown instantly.

As he was about to give Ji Zitong a call, there was a sudden knock on the door and his secretary came in.

Li Si had been traveling to and fro City Z and City B after he took over Ah Mo's role for Movie City. Mu Yuchen had two other secretaries now, and Secretary Bai was one of them. He was capable and was part of the team Mu Yuchen had brought back from abroad. After half a year of being here, he was thoroughly familiar with Glory World's operations now.

"Chairman Mu, this is the document submitted by the Administrative Department. Please take a look." Secretary Bai put the document onto the table.

Mu Yuchen nodded, then he asked, "Did you see Director Xi when you went to the Planning Department just now?"

Secretary Bai paused before replying, "I just wanted to tell you. Director Xi just called and said she's going to the cemetery. She told you not to wait for her and she'll head back directly to the Maple Residence later."

Mu Yuchen looked down, not saying anything for a while. "What day is it today?"

He remembered the Qixi Festival passed a while ago, and she had mentioned that she would be visiting Xi Jiyang's grave in a few days.

Xi Jiyang...

It had been roughly three months...

He had passed away for three months already!

It was just in the blink of an eye.

"It's the 14th of July. Everyone says it's the Zhongyuan Festival now, but it's not really that popular anymore, especially for city folks."

Mu Yuchen nodded quietly as he put his phone on the table. He turned his chair and faced the sky outside. "Okay, you can leave now."

...

14th of July.

Xi Xiaye was not particularly familiar with this day. She just happened to hear someone mention it some time ago. After some people from the rural area said they were going back to visit their ancestor's graves, she then remembered.

Xi Jiyang had passed away for some time already, and she rarely took notice of what was happening with the Xi family.

She heard that Deng Wenwen was quite unstable in the rehabilitation center. With Xi Mushan being absent in City Z, Mu Yuchen sent Li Si to visit her. Of course, Mu Yuchen never told her about it since he did not want to burden her anymore.

As for news about Xi Xinyi and Yue Lingsi, she had not heard about them for a very long time now. Yueying seemed to be getting better because of Xi Xinyi, but there was totally no information about Yue Lingsi at all. Apparently, the people from the Yue family were furious to find out about her scandal. Even Elder Yue was almost hospitalized from high blood pressure.

Everything that happened replayed scene by scene in her mind. Xi Xiaye felt like she was dreaming.

Chapter 539. Important Protectee (3)

The car drove through the cold and pass the silent roads. Soon, it stopped slowly by the roadside magnolias.

After Ji Zitong parked the car, she softly called out to Xi Xiaye who sat in the back seat with a solemn expression as if there was a lot on her mind, "Director Xi, we've reached Qingshan Cemetery!"

After she heard Ji Zitong, Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment. She eased herself from her trance and then turned to look out the window. What greeted her were the silent tombstones up ahead.

"Okay, wait for me here. I'll go up myself."

Xi Xiaye carried a bouquet of daisies as she pushed the car door open to get down.

Because she could observe the situation at the tombstones up there from her position, after some thought, Ji Zitong nodded. "Okay, be careful, Director Xi."

Xi Xiaye replied her with a smile, and then made her way upwards. Ji Zitong got down from the car and stood beside it, her gaze following Xi Xiaye's every movement.

The grave keeper of this cemetery frequently cleaned the place. As she walked over, she noticed that apart from some fallen leaves, the ground was like the tombstones, practically spotless.

Xi Xiaye walked slowly up the flight of stairs, following the route based on her memory and made a turn. When she looked over, the figure that greeted her took her by surprise!

Han Yifeng?

Why was he here?

Dressed in a dark tailor-made tuxedo, he stood there all alone silently in front of Xi Jiyang's tombstone. From the side, his expression seemed a little lonely and bleak. He stood there unmoving. By the looks of it, he seemed to have been there for quite a while!

She did not expect him to come. Even if someone were to visit, it should be Xi Xinyi...

When Xi Xiaye stopped to examine him, Han Yifeng seemed to have realized her presence. He subconsciously turned around and indeed, he saw her.

She was dressed in a black dress, and her hair was casually tied into a neat bun. She looked frail and slender while her fair complexion was cold and graceful. She seemed to look the same as before, yet as he studied her, he seemed to have realized that a lot of things had changed.

Han Yifeng was obviously surprised to see her too. It was only when he drove past those little alleys and saw people selling paper cutouts and mock ingots that he found out it was the Zhongyuan Festival today. He thought about how Xi Mushan was abroad, and Xi Jiyang had been nice to him before, so he came.

Xi Xiaye only hesitated for a moment before she walked over.

“Xiaye, I’m surprised to see you here.” Han Yifeng looked at Xi Xiaye beside him. It was hard to hide the hint of happiness in his deep tone. He did not know why his gloomy mood for the past few days instantly lifted at the sight of her. The gloomy clouds rolled away, letting the sunshine in.

Xi Xiaye did not answer him as she just silently bowed and put the white daisies on Xi Jiyang’s tombstone. She stared at that familiar face on that tombstone, and after a while, she suddenly got up and gently closed her eyes. Her expression was calm as she silently said a prayer.

Han Yifeng did not bother her either. He just silently watched her from the side.

It was at this moment that he could see the tranquility and distance between her brows. She did not seem as cold as usual, yet it made him feel a faint a heartache at this sight. In his daze, he suddenly realized that it felt like they were on two ends of a straight line. Apart from what held them together in the middle, they were actually becoming more and more distant, and they would never meet in the middle again.

Han Yifeng thought about many things, including the past, the present, and the future. He then realized that he had been wrong right from the start. Even though Xiaye did not like to speak back then, she did not know how to defend herself and was quite reclusive, yet she was very kind and gentle!

He had seen her buy all the flowers from those sellers many times because she could not bear to see them work so hard, and wanted them to rest earlier. In fact, she would always visit places like orphanages.

How could someone like her have the heart to frame Xi Xinyi?

And why did he time and time again ignore all her kind intentions?

Why had he been so heartless back then?

She had done so much, so he should at least be moved, yet back then he felt nothing at all. Even right now, every time he thought about those things, he would feel happy yet heartbroken.

He was happy because she had actually been so good to him, and heartbroken because he knew that he would never have that again.

Every time he reminisced these things, he would feel more and more guilt towards her. At the same time, among these beautiful memories, she began to take more and more space in his heart.

He was very depressed, but he would not tell her because from the looks of it, he knew that she was doing well, and that was enough for him.

Mu Yuchen could bring her far more happiness than he could ever. Even Han Yifeng admired a man like that.

When he saw the sadness gradually surface between her brows, he suddenly could not help but console her. "Grandfather is doing better on the other side, Xiaye. Don't feel too sad."

Then, Xi Xiaye slowly opened her eyes and looked calmly at the tombstone before her, her tone slightly apathetic. "On the other side? We still don't know whether there's really reincarnation in this world. Perhaps humans are like this. Even if we lived gloriously before, or went through many hardships, once we leave this world, everything vanished into thin air. In the end, we take nothing with us."

Listening to her say all this, Han Yifeng paused and then sighed softly. "Yes, once we leave, we'll be gone forever. I hope that all of this unhappiness can finally be settled too," he said sadly.

However, he knew well that this was only his hope. Xi Xinyi had already...

As Xi Xiaye listened, a sneer curled on her lips. She did not answer. Instead, she leaned down and looked at Xi Jiyang's photo.

"It's already been three months, but it feels like it was just yesterday. Xiaye, sometimes I really hope that there is a so-called exchange. I would use my next 10 or 20 years of life to change for a chance to return to the past. Maybe we... we could..."

Han Yifeng fixed her eyes on her. Then, he saw that a light shifted in her twinkling eyes which were as clear as autumn waters.

“There is no maybe. There are many unhappy things in the past. If it were back then, I might have thought the same things as you, but now, I’m not willing to anymore. Instead of evading all these facts from the past and limiting ourselves, it’d be better to face it bravely. When you are left with nothing, you’ll realize that there’s not much to lose.”

Chapter 540. Important Protectee (4)

When Xi Xiaye said this, she was suddenly reminded of her old self.

When some pain was being put before us, they seemed to magnify, but no matter what, one would need to go on. Evading would only be the action of a coward.

After that, Xi Xiaye did not continue or look at Han Yifeng either. Her gaze remained on the tombstone before her.

“Grandfather, I hope that you’re doing well. Without those worries, you can live happier!” she said before turning around to leave.

Han Yifeng subconsciously turned around. He was about to chase after her, yet as he was about to take a step, he realized that he had no reason to go after her. He thought about it and finally halted his steps in sorrow.

The sky was turning dark. The car passed through the bustling city, driving through the silent tunnel. When they returned to the Maple Residence, it was already past 7 p.m.

The lights at home were all switched on. Xi Xiaye went to the kitchen after setting her stuff aside. As expected, she saw the man dressed leisurely and preparing dinner. She could smell the aroma of the food from afar.

She strolled into the kitchen and watched him work around skillfully, looking all focused with concentration. Her heart warmed as she walked up to him from behind and hugged him by the waist.

When he felt his waist suddenly clutched tightly and the softness pressing against his back, he paused what he was doing and looked down at the arm circling him. His gentle voice queried, "What's wrong?"

Upon hearing his sensitive voice of concern, she suddenly felt sad. She did not know whether it was because she was pregnant with the little thing that she had suddenly become all sensitive.

She struggled for a while and finally said, "Nothing, I just... wanted to hug you for a while." She did not care about being reserved now.

When Mu Yuchen heard this, he obviously felt satisfied. His heart melted into a puddle and a smile flashed across his handsome face. He immediately turned around and pulled her into his embrace. Seeing her clear eyes watch him, he lowered his head to kiss her.

However, it was just a short, gentle kiss. Otherwise, he was worried that he would not be able to control himself. The fetus was only two months old. The days were going to be long after this, and he could already imagine that for a very long time after this, he would need to live like a celibate monk.

He sighed, then pulled her away. Upon seeing her misty eyes, warmth spread from his palm as he touched her still flat belly and sighed. "This little thing is really torturing."

When she heard his lament, Xiaye was stunned. Then, she immediately blushed and scowled down at his caressing hand before, she laughed. "How long has it been since we found out? Weren't you... quite pure of heart and free of desire previously?"

"Well, that would depend on who it was. You know this well." He did not know the meaning of shame as he spoke very seriously, "Missus, one is enough. Too many children translate into more worries. In fact..."

Master Mu thought that having this one child was enough. If they had a few more in the future, they would need to spend more thought on them. Once the child arrived, she would definitely shift her focus, then he would probably slide far down the ranks!

Besides that, he did not want to go against his self-interest.

“No, at least two. A boy and a girl would be best.”

Xi Xiaye frowned at him. “Just one would be too lonely. Do you not like children?”

“A boy and a girl? You’ve got to see if I’m that fertile! As long as you give birth to them, I’d definitely like them. What nonsense are you thinking about now?”

Mu Yuchen wanted to say something more, but seeing her determined manner, he could not bear to go against her now.

When the child arrived and her figure changed, he was sure that she would not be this determined!

Besides, it was not easy to be parents. By the looks of her, she probably had the potential to be a hot mom.

Actually, Mu Yuchen was slightly torn. Even though he hoped to have a child with her, he was not ready to be a father at all. He simply could not even imagine how he would be like as a father, and how it would like to have a little devil following him.

“You’re not allowed to dislike your child. Do you remember what you said to me?” Xi Xiaye squinted with seriousness in her eyes as she fixed her gaze on him.

He could not help but laugh as he raised his brows. “What did I say?”

“As a father, you must play the role of a good father, teacher, friend, and brother all at the same time. In order for our child not to be distant from us in the future, we must always pull ourselves closer to him and teach him ourselves.” Xi Xiaye seemed to already be prepared with plans on how to raise the child.

As he listened, he just spread his hands open. “Okay, you are now the home’s most important protector. Whatever you say goes, okay? Your Majesty?”

When Xi Xiaye heard this, she was delighted and nodded gladly. "Of course! Mr. Mu, you're becoming more and more self-aware. Your Majesty will reward you well."

"What reward? Your Majesty? You only know how to make things go your way." He looked amusedly at her as faint anticipation twinkled in his eyes.

"Mmm? Nah, for you!" Mu Yuchen only felt a flash of full-blown flirtatiousness before his eyes. When he stopped to look, he realized that there was a blossoming rose in front of him.

This girl had been giving him little gifts randomly recently. Two days ago, she gave him an exquisite tie clip, and the day before that, it was a cute pink pig that she had drawn. Today, it was a stalk of rose!

"Why are you suddenly being all sweet to me today?"

Mu Yuchen did not think that this girl would do all these for no reason. By the look in her eyes, these past few days, he felt like she was not the same as before. Apart from the usual sentiments, there was an additional nervousness which he believed that he could see through.

"Mr. Mu, your charm is off the charts. I just want to be sweet to you. Aren't you happy?" Xi Xiaye beamed and shot a look at him. Her hands were stretched out behind her as she lifted her chin defiantly.

"My charm has always been the same. I know I've always been irresistible to you, but I'm a little overwhelmed by this love."

He lowered his head and smelled the fragrance of the flower. His handsome smiling face greeted her, and she could not help but feel like she had been bewitched. After a while, she said softly, "Earlier, I just casually plucked it from the flowerbed..."

Indeed!

He smiled and patted her head. "I'll accept your goodwill. Okay, go outside and wait for me. I'll be there right away."

She then nodded and silently walked out of the kitchen as she thought about whether to tell him about how she had bumped into Han Yifeng.