

Loving 61

Chapter 61. Mu Family's Queen Mother Has Arrived (1)

Xi Xiaye smiled. "If I have the patience and willpower of an insurance salesperson, I would've been in the Commerce Department instead of the Planning Department."

"You're doing pretty well. After a few years of hard work, you'll probably become the Vice President." Mu Yuchen looked at her as he slurped some noodles from the bowl, his voice sounding gentle.

"Mr. Mu, can't you give me extra benefits since I'm already your wife now? For example, give me a promotion a year later, or raise my salary now," Xi Xiaye rested her chin on her hand as she looked at him seriously with stars flickering in her eyes.

"I can satisfy both your requests now, but are you willing to transfer over and become my special assistant?" Mu Yuchen put on an evil grin, his eyes hiding other intentions behind them.

"I guess I'll just stay back as Planning Director. How is it? How does it taste?" Xi Xiaye asked when he had already eaten some of the noodles.

"Mmm... Passing grade. It's not as unacceptable as I thought." Mu Yuchen gave her an honest review, then he continued working on his bowl of noodles. At the same time, he pointed at the big bowl of noodles before Xi Xiaye and stared at her with an obvious gesture.

Xi Xiaye was satisfied with his comment, so she picked her chopsticks up and took a slice of tomato. "I didn't have classes on the weekends when I was younger. I went back to the Shen Residence sometimes. Grandfather was always busy with business and Mother was always overseas, so I always cooked myself a big bowl of noodles for a meal. Mother didn't want to teach me how to cook because she didn't want me to be like her, so..."

"Is your mother a very virtuous woman?" Mu Yuchen suddenly asked. Then, he noticed that her fair face looked oddly cold and a little helpless.

Xi Xiaye nodded as her eyes darkened slightly. "She's cold on the outside, but very kind and considerate inside. She's always an elegant woman in my impression. She was so decisive even towards my father's

cheating on her unlike normal people... but after that, I realized that she isn't as strong as I thought. She could break down too..."

Xi Xiaye did not continue. She always had mixed feelings towards Shen Wenna. A part of her loved and respected her. On the other hand, she blamed her for not fighting for what she deserved. If Shen Wenna had tried to fight back then, her father might not have given up on them and chosen Yue Lingsi.

However, she gave it some thought and concluded that she would have probably made the same decision as Shen Wenna if she were in her place. They were too proud to beg...

"Like you?" Mu Yuchen raised his head and glanced at her. He then averted his gaze to the few books on the table.

She had bought those books from New Era Plaza that day, but she knew he was not looking at the books. Instead, he was focused on the red invitation card under them.

It was the invitation card to Han Yifeng and Xi Xinyi's engagement!

She froze. She wanted to get the invitation card, but Mu Yuchen's large hands were faster. He picked the card up and flipped through it. Then, he looked at her. "It's next Friday. Have you decided if you want to go?"

Xi Xiaye lowered her head and closed her eyes when he looked at her. As she shook her head, her freshly closed wound started to sting again and the pain in her chest which stopped some time ago relapsed almost instantly.

She wanted to think that it had never happened before, but the deeply carved memories in her mind constantly reminded her. Had she not stabbed herself that day, would she have done so now?

She suddenly laughed at herself and her smile turned cold. Even he could feel the chill as he sat right opposite her.

“There’s no need anymore. Having a clean-cut separation is better. If we meet again, it would cause a lot of trouble. It still depends on whether I can make it easy,” Xi Xiaye said after a short silence.

Actually, she thought she should fight back and take back her pride, but she gave it some thought and decided that it was not necessary anymore. After struggling so hard, in the end, she just needed a reason for her to let go of everything.

“I think that the best way to solve these problems is to reset everything. Act as if we never knew each other. There’s nothing wrong with that. What do you think?” Xi Xiaye looked at Mu Yuchen and asked.

“However, in order to do that, you’d need a much stronger willpower than others. You’d have to take more burden too. I hope that you can trade an eye for an eye, my Missus.” Mu Yuchen smiled.

“An eye for an eye? Just to feel good at the moment?” Xi Xiaye frowned.

“Mmm, they made you feel unhappy, so you shouldn’t let them be comfortable too. You should do whatever you want to do to make yourself feel better. A woman shouldn’t care about being a gentleman.”

“Mr. Mu, are you teaching me to become an evil woman?” Xi Xiaye opened her eyes wide and stared at him after he said those words straightforwardly.

He smiled and his tone was filled with warmth. “As long as you’re happy, I’m never a fan of the idea of sacrificing someone to benefit others. I wouldn’t be happy if I need to put up an act and still take on the criticism.”

“But I’m tired.” Obviously, she was exhausted after so many years, trapped within the cold relationship and her family...

Chapter 62. Mu Family's Queen Mother Has Arrived (2)

After that, Mu Yuchen did not say much. He just calmly tossed the invitation aside. “Don’t go then. Just get someone to send a gift over.”

Then, he lowered his head and continued to enjoy his dinner.

They had just finished dinner when Mu Yuchen's phone rang. It seemed to be a call from France. Xi Xiaye only heard him converse with the other end in very fluent French. Of course, she could not understand a word of it.

After that, he went upstairs while Xi Xiaye washed the dishes, but he had very courteously finished the big bowl of noodles.

She finished tidying up and put the gifts she bought that day away before going upstairs.

Just as she walked into the room, Mu Yuchen walked out of the bathroom, freshly bathed. His soft, black hair still had some moisture and his black nightgown hung on him very casually. The belt at his waist was just pulled into a simple knot, revealing a small part of his strong and sturdy chest. His tall posture regaled his honorable and elegant handsome face and highlighted the low-profile, reserved aura of his. Such graceful charm startled Xi Xiaye for some reason and her twinkling eyes were dazed in that instant. However, she very quickly snapped back to her senses.

When he saw Xi Xiaye stop by the door, Mu Yuchen said, "I've filled up the bath for you. Go in and bathe, then rest earlier. Watch out for your injury."

"Mmm, right, the study room..."

Xi Xiaye wanted to ask if she could use the study room as she was not quite used to working anywhere else. Earlier, she had bought quite a few books. Unfortunately, when she returned to Maple Residence then she remembered that this was not her apartment and she did not have her study room...

"You can use it as you please. Go bathe first. When you're done, then come to the study room," Mu Yuchen said before stuffing his bath towel into her hands. His tall figure strode over to take the new books in her arms before he made his way towards the study room.

Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment. She regained her senses quite a while after, and when she turned to look at him, she saw that he had already entered the study room. Then, she held her forehead, feeling at a loss. She looked at the slightly damp towel that he had passed to her and could only force herself to walk into the bathroom.

When she was done bathing and changing her dressing, she then put on a comfortable nightgown before knocking on the study room's door, almost an hour had passed.

She knocked a few times, and when no one answered from inside, she pushed the door open to enter.

She had just taken a few steps when the sight of Mu Yuchen reading documents at his desk greeted her. Perhaps because he heard the door opening, he instantly looked up. Seeing that the woman had changed into a light champagne nightgown with her waist-length hair hanging down like interweaving dark clouds, his quiet eyes could not help but be stunned by her demure beauty. Her delicate and fair complexion revealed a faint blush, yet in the next second, he concealed his emotions.

"Come here!"

He put the documents in his hand down and indicated for Xi Xiaye to go over.

Xi Xiaye then picked up her steps and walked over leisurely, stopping beside him.

He pulled open the drawer by the side and took out a bunch of keys before handing them to her. "This is the house keys. Sis Wang and the rest won't always come over. The keys to the cars in the garage are all in the drawer below the television in the living room. I've already gotten Ah Mo to send your less-than-presentable car to the salvage yard."

When she heard this, Xi Xiaye instantly frowned and looked a little sorrowfully at Mu Yuchen. "What!? I just changed my car last year! I used up almost half a year's salary..."

"The engine won't do anymore. If you were competing with those young people that night, I'm afraid you'd embarrass me, milady."

"I didn't say I want to be like them. They are energetic, young people." Xi Xiaye grumbled as she reached out to take over the keys that he handed to her.

He suddenly raised his brows and looked at her to ask, "How young are you this year?"

“26. Why?” Xi Xiaye looked a little surprised at him, but she answered very honestly.

“26? Xi Xiaye, I thought you were 62! All day, you only think about work, then you eat and sleep. Apart from that, what else do you do?” Mu Yuchen asked a little helplessly.

Xi Xiaye was startled, then she answered, “Actually, I do know how to do quite a few more things. I read, drink tea, race... Right, I was even an athlete last time. Even though I wasn’t great in my studies in senior high, my basketball skills were pretty good. In fact, I was the school’s team captain...”

When she rattled on about this, Xi Xiaye suddenly did not continue because she noticed that the man was looking at her very weirdly, making her feel a little embarrassed.

“Athlete? School team? Milady, have you never heard of the saying, ‘you no longer possess your former glory’? If you really want to talk about these, then I was also a very quiet, good-looking boy in school back then. And now?”

“Now, Mr. Mu, you’re still a very quiet, good-looking man,” Xi Xiaye had very quickly continued.

Mu Yuchen was startled. He looked at her for a long while before the husband and wife could not help but look at each other and laugh.

“Okay, stop trying to find loopholes in my words. I just wanted to let you relax a little. Don’t treat yourself so unfairly, okay?”

His soft and soothing voice was like a teacher gently scolding a disobedient child. Xi Xiaye felt giddy just listening to it. Upon seeing his serious ways, she finally could not help but turn her head away and softly start laughing.

“Mmm, got it. Then, I won’t be courteous. Actually, I quite like that Porsche.”

“As you wish.”

“What are you looking at? Mmm... Let me see... Emperor Entertainment City’s project outcome. Isn’t this the wrap-up that I just handed in? Why did you make that annotation? Is there a problem?”

Xi Xiaye bent over slightly and gently took the document in front of him.

Mu Yuchen leaned over to pull her into his arms with one hand. He was about to just let her sit down, but at that moment —

Bam!

There was a sound of someone bumping into the door from outside!

Chapter 63. Mu Family's Queen Mother Has Arrived (3)

The couple was shocked and looked at each other. Xi Xiaye quickly straightened her back and looked outside the door, astonished.

Thump thump thump!

Sounds of quick footsteps echoed and she frowned. “There’s someone outside!”

Mu Yuchen had already stood up, his deep eyes shining slightly, but his expression was as calm as ever. He just walked outside and Xi Xiaye caught up to him when he left the room.

There was a grey figure that disappeared into their bedroom as they just walked out of the study room. Feeling odd, Xi Xiaye went on to take a look. She stood outside the bedroom and saw an old, bespectacled lady wearing a grey coat scrummaging through their cupboards.

Swoosh!

The old lady opened their wardrobe and rifled through them. She fixed her sharp gaze on Xi Xiaye’s clothes, then she studied the spacious bed. After that, she quickly took a look at the bathroom...

Xi Xiaye was stunned and was not sure what was happening. The old lady seemed just like a disciplinary teacher. Glancing at the man beside her, she realized that he had already sat down on the sofa.

He turned the television on and was taking out some tea leaves casually as if he did not notice the old lady messing up their bedroom.

She pointed her finger at the bedroom and stammered out of astonishment, "Mu Yuchen... She..."

"Sit down. She'll come out after going through the room," Mu Yuchen replied as he poured the tea elegantly.

She was stunned for quite a while. Turning to the messy bedroom and then at the calm man, she thought about it before sitting beside him on the sofa.

Xi Xiaye accepted the tea he handed to her. She sipped on it as she threw him a question, "Is that your grandmother?"

"Who else would be this daring aside from her? Get used to it. They usually won't come to Maple Residence. Probably Father told them."

"Father? The middle-aged man we saw this evening?" She had noticed that the man's facial features seemed similar to Mu Yuchen's, and at that time...

Before she could think any further about it, sounds of swift footsteps closed in. A shadow went past before her speedily and before she could even come back to her senses, someone had already sat down beside her.

She raised her head. It was the old lady from just now —

With silver-white hair and a pair of foxy eyes glimmering with light, she looked skinny but seemed energetic. Her face was slightly tensed up and was staring straight at Xi Xiaye, who was starting to feel embarrassed, so she tugged on the sleeves of the man beside her.

“You rushed over this late at night. You’ve seen her now, so it’s time for you to go back and rest easy.” Mu Yuchen looked at his grandmother, Wang Hui, and evenly poured her a cup of tea.

Wang Hui stared at him without a change in expression. Her face bloomed into a wide smile and the look in her eyes became gentle as well. She asked kindly, “You look pretty familiar. What’s your name? How old are you? Where do you stay? Who else is in your family? How long have you been together with Chen? When are you guys getting married?”

A whole bunch of questions was fired and Xi Xiaye was unable to react.

“I...” Xi Xiaye felt a chill running down her spine. She turned her head over to Mu Yuchen, yet he was not paying attention to her. Instead, he was watching NBA on the television.

“Hi... I’m Xi Xiaye... We... We...”

“Xi Xiaye? Why’s that name so familiar?” Wang Hui squinted her eyes and stared at Xi Xiaye’s pretty little face. After a while, her eyes were glinting and then she shouted, “Are you the one the elder said performed very well in Glory World? Director Xi who looks pretty good, Shen Yue’s granddaughter?”

Xi Xiaye was stunned. The scene of her first meeting with Mu Yuchen flashed through her mind.

The blind date!

Xi Xiaye’s cheeks heated up. Suddenly, her face reddened and she nodded. “Hello. So, you know my grandfather as well?”

“Of course, we were good comrades back then. I heard that old fella mention that he has a treasured granddaughter. He told me about it... Oh, I forgot to introduce myself. I’m Grandmother... Mu Yuchen is my grandson!”

Wang Hui was running her mouth, but her eyes became sharp when she glared at Mu Yuchen. “If your father and Manager Chen hadn’t mentioned it to me, we’d still have no idea about it! How long have you been together?”

Mu Yuchen then turned to lock eyes with Wang Hui. “We’re already married. She’s now your granddaughter-in-law and we’re staying together legally. Xiaye, greet her formally.”

Married!

Granddaughter-in-law!

Staying together legally!

These phrases made the old lady’s blood pressure rocket sky-high!

Wang Hui widened her eyes and looked at the young couple before her. In her astoundment, her eyes rolled around before she came back to her senses, locking her gaze onto Xi Xiaye’s pretty little face. “Chen mentioned that you guys are married?”

Xi Xiaye nodded and smiled shyly. She replied politely, “Hello, Grandmother! I’m sorry I didn’t visit you earlier...”

Chapter 64. An Accident?

Xi Xiaye’s reply made the usually quick-witted Wang Hui stunned for some time. Her eyes darted between the two of them repeatedly as her body seemed to have frozen.

Not knowing what to say, the sudden news indeed shocked the elder. Moreover, she was the one who had mentioned getting married first. Xi Xiaye then realized that her rash decision had caused such a big uproar, so she was now worried about her grandpa and her mother’s side. Would they...

She looked at Mu Yuchen uneasily, her eyes screaming for help. He noticed her intention and then smiled at her before he set his gaze on Wang Hui.

Wang Hui finally came back to her senses. An odd expression appeared on her face as a light flashed through her sharp eyes and she grinned at the two of them. Staring at Mu Yuchen squarely in the eyes, she quipped, "I'm not a very traditional person. I'll accept it since you both are already married. However, since you guys got married in such a hurry, could it be...?"

The old lady's sharp eyes were focused onto Xi Xiaye's stomach as she grinned like a cunning fox. "Did you guys not take safety precautions and had an accident?"

"Pfft!"

Xi Xiaye was drinking some tea, but upon hearing the speculation, she started coughing and tea spurted out of her mouth. As a result of her shock, her wound on her shoulder was jolted slightly. Mu Yuchen reacted quickly by grabbing several tissues for her to avoid the mess from worsening.

"What nonsense are you talking about? Don't you have anything else in your mind?" Mu Yuchen frowned towards Wang Hui. At the same time, he placed a hand behind Xi Xiaye's back protectively. "How are you feeling?"

Xi Xiaye raised her hand slightly to indicate that she was fine, but her little face was all red. All of a sudden, she felt that it was very hot. She glared at Mu Yuchen awkwardly and wanted him to explain!

Wang Hui thought that her assumption was correct when she saw Mu Yuchen being so concerned about Xi Xiaye. After all, otherwise, they would not have gotten married in such a rush.

However, it did not seem right. The timing did not match up. They had just gone on their blind date not too long ago, and Chen had just returned recently...

What was happening?

The Mu family was very strict with their reputation, especially since they were a prestigious family. Wang Hui was a respectable icon within the military while Mu Yuchen's father, Mu Tangchuan, was a top brass in the government sector. His mother, Zhuang Shurong, sat among the ranks of the Procuratorate management. Therefore, they had to be very careful with everything they did.

Problems related to principles or negative issues were something they should avoid, which made them more sensitive towards matters that might hurt their family's reputation.

Within the upper ranks of the society, smart people would never make such silly mistakes, unlike those playboys who would get into trouble everywhere and become victims of the mass media.

Being born under such family circumstances and having studied in a military school, Mu Yuchen had extraordinary self-control. He was disciplined, humble, and responsible.

...

Mu Yuchen knew exactly what Wang Hui was thinking as she stared at them.

"It's not what you think. Didn't you guys always want me to get married and live a new life? You guys are happy with her, and so am I," Mu Yuchen took a pause and glanced at the shiny ring on Xi Xiaye's finger, then he continued, "Xiaye studied in City S High School too. I've met her many years ago and liked her ever since. A senior marrying his junior... Isn't that pretty good?"

As he finished his sentence, the man glanced at the blushing Xi Xiaye with an odd smile.

Liked her ever since high school?

A senior marrying his junior?

That was impressive of him. He did not even need to practice lying. However, it seemed to be believable. In fact, they really did study at the same high school and were truly having the relationship between a senior and a junior!

However, their high school phase was over ten years ago and they had no idea who each other was then! Moreover, he was several years older than her. When she enrolled at the school, he had already graduated!

Xi Xiaye glanced at the man who looked calm as ever and did not show any hint of being nervous. She was impressed by how he could remain so calm.

His performance was able to trick the cunning old fox. Furthermore, the couple's intimate behavior proved that Mu Yuchen's words were not a lie, so Wang Hui then truly believed him.

She looked at Xi Xiaye and smiled. "I see you both knew each other before... Well, that's great! Great, senior and junior, not bad at all! His parents, who are your parents now as well, are from the same school too."

"I hope you don't mind, my child. It's easier now that things are clear. I'm pretty close to your grandpa Shen Yue, your mother Shen Wenna and his parents are on friendly terms as well. There's nothing wrong with knowing each other. I hope that our family gets to know each other better. Haha, this is fantastic..."

Wang Hui grinned like a cunning fox, her smile even seeming slightly evil.

See now, Shen Yue, back then, my son wasn't able to marry your daughter. However, now your granddaughter has become one of my family members. Suck it up! The fact is that my grandson is really charming!

Chapter 65. Not A Bad Move

Xi Xiaye felt goosebumps when she saw Wang Hui's grin. A cold wind blew behind her and made her shiver.

Why did she feel like she had just fallen into a wolf's den?

Wang Hui quickly erased her smile when she noticed Xi Xiaye's uneasiness. A kind smile returned to her face once again and she gently patted Xi Xiaye's hands which were resting on her lap. "Don't mind me. I'm just overjoyed to have a pretty granddaughter-in-law! You're really quick-handed, aren't you? But that's how a soldier should do it! Attack when you have the chance. There's nothing wrong with being decisive, is there?"

Wang Hui was really satisfied with Xi Xiaye. Although she had browsed through Xi Xiaye's profile before she sent Mu Yuchen on the blind date, now that she saw her in person, she thought that she seemed

very similar to her mother, Shen Wenna. Even their personalities were similar: quiet, humble, and elegant. Moreover, she was a high achiever. Where else could she look for a granddaughter-in-law like this?

As expected of his impeccable taste, Chen was spot-on this time!

“Chen, you’re much more charming than your father!” Wang Hui laughed happily as she took a sip from her cup of tea. She exercised restraint when she received a cold warning stare from Mu Yuchen. Glancing at the time and realizing that it was pretty late already, she said, “I don’t really mean anything. I just heard your father mention you two, and Manager Chen gave me a call too, so I was curious and came over...”

“I’ve already decided to bring her home in a few days. There are quite a lot of things to work on. Isn’t my mother coming back in a few days from her inspection trip in City B?” Mu Yuchen said indifferently.

“She called your father today. She’s coming back tomorrow afternoon.” Wang Hui glanced at Mu Yuchen secretly.

“Okay, I’ve got it, I’ll go back the day after tomorrow. We’ll chat again tomorrow if there’s anything else. It’s pretty late already. Decide for yourself if you want to go back or stay over for the night.”

“I’ll go back, I’ll go back. Don’t worry, I won’t interrupt you guys! Okay, it’s set then. Come back on the morning of the day after tomorrow. I’ll get them to be prepared. Right, Granddaughter-in-law, what do you like to eat?” Wang Hui seemed pleased. Her smile was really warm and did not feel distant at all.

Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment. She then replied with a polite smile, “I’m not very picky. My taste is pretty close to his.”

She dragged Mu Yuchen into the conversation shamelessly because she had no idea how to answer her. Moreover, she had had several meals with him before and she noticed they both preferred more light-tasting food.

Wang Hui's smile was growing wider with each word just like a chrysanthemum in full bloom. She nodded and then stood up. "Alright, then I've got it. I'll go back now. Remember to come by earlier then. I hope I didn't scare you tonight!"

Xi Xiaye shook her head gently, feeling rather shy under Wang Hui's gentle and passionate stare. "It's okay. It's my fault for not visiting first. I hope you can forgive me."

Wang Hui nodded vigorously like a chicken pecking grains on the ground. "I understand! I really understand! I was young and in love once. As long as you guys are in love with each other, you've gotten the marriage certificate anyway, so you can do whatever you like. Acting on impulse isn't bad. On the other hand, acting irresponsibly on impulse is a bad move. Don't worry. There's nothing wrong with moving in together as a married couple. It isn't a bad move at all. We elders are pretty open-minded and can accept it."

She then touched all her pockets, unable to find anything. She smiled at Xi Xiaye awkwardly. "I'm sorry, my child. I rushed over here and didn't bring you anything. I even forgot to get you a red packet. My bad."

After some thinking, she took off the green jade bracelet from her hand before she pulled Xi Xiaye's slender hand and put it on with a smile. "Alright, take this as a first meeting gift from me. His grandfather gave this jade bracelet to me back then as our token of love. It's pretty troublesome to wear it around although I just felt like putting it on these few days. You look really great with it!"

"Grandmother, I... It's okay..."

Xi Xiaye wanted to decline and was about to take it off, but the man threw her a glance and then spoke up, "Bring her a few more next time. I know there's a lot of stuff like this among the dowry Grandfather gave you."

"You cheeky brat, you're just like your grandfather. Devious chap! Do you think I'll treat my granddaughter-in-law poorly? We'll talk again once you come back. It's already late. I'll go back now. You two rest earlier as well! Remember to bring her back! Or you'll face the consequences!"

While Maple Residence was pretty spacious, there was only one bedroom. Wang Hui would not disturb the newlyweds, so she quickly left. After all, there were many more chances in the future to talk and she did not want to ruin the youngsters' fun!

...

Xi Xiaye slowly drew the curtains in a daze after Wang Hui got into the car hastily. When she came back to her senses, she noticed that the man was already lying on the bed and flipping through one of the books she had bought.

"Aren't you going to tell me something?" Xi Xiaye went over and sat down on the edge of the bed as she looked at him with her quiet eyes.

"About?" He raised his head and looked at her in doubt. Then, he took his coat off and passed it to her.

Xi Xiaye frowned, taking the coat and putting it on the chair beside the bed as she said, "I don't know anything about your family. Shouldn't I be prepared if I'm going back with you?"

She suddenly felt a headache as she mentioned it.

Mu Yuchen gave her a meaningful look when he saw her eyes glower and he laughed. "Are you nervous?"

"Which part of me looks nervous? I just feel like we didn't consider a bit more before making our decision." Xi Xiaye seemed troubled.

"Isn't it too late to think about that now?" Mu Yuchen looked at her funnily.

"You're the one who said to go to the Civil Affairs Bureau immediately!" Xi Xiaye could not help but to give him a glare.

Chapter 66. Shocked Su Nan

Mu Yuchen chuckled without a word. He let her frown and sit quietly for a while before he said softly, "Fine, I really didn't consider it much. You've just committed a crime by being attached to a rebel. They're not monsters, so you don't have to worry."

As he said this, he tore his eyes away and looked down at the page in his hand before he continued, "Grandfather and Grandmother are quite loving. They won't trouble you. Father is amiable and gentle too, so it won't be too hard to communicate with him. Mother looks a little serious and indifferent. She doesn't talk much, but she's actually kind at heart and isn't hard to get along with. If you feel that it's hard to communicate with them, you can just ignore them. You just have to remember these few people. As for the rest, you don't even have to care.

"Even though it sounds like the Mu family is quite huge on the outside, these few years, the relationships have faded quite a bit. You don't have to be too pressured. I'll let you know when the time comes. Then, I'll tell you what you need to take note of. With me here, what's there for you to be worried about?"

If he had not shared this, Xi Xiaye really would not have known anything about the Mu family. She never did pay attention to such things.

She thought about it, then nodded. She ceased her questions. "You should prepare that gift by yourself. I'm not too sure about what they'll like."

"Mmm," Mu Yuchen just answered.

...

Xi Xiaye then lifted the blanket and slowly got into bed, lying down on her side.

Mu Yuchen's gaze was quiet as he watched the way she lay down with her back against him. On this huge bed that could easily fit five to six people, she lay at the side and only took up less than a tenth of the space.

His silent and profound eyes flickered slightly, then he said softly, "Are you afraid?"

When she heard him, Xi Xiaye's frail body was startled for some reason and she instantly stiffened. Mu Yuchen could see that her fingers clutched onto the blanket tightly, turning pale.

"N-no..." Xi Xiaye's clear voice was heard.

However, just as she said this, she heard the rustling of the blanket being lifted, and before she could react, a huge hand gripped her waist and pulled her in, delicately avoiding the injury on her shoulder.

She could not help but cry out in alarm. The faint warmth that suddenly came behind her made her turn rigid and she dared not move. The quiet and elegant fragrance that came close to her nose made her fall into a daze.

"Don't worry. I won't go to the point of disregarding your injury. I'll give you time, but I hope it won't be too long." His deep voice rang out with a depth and some raspiness, warming Xi Xiaye's heart when she heard it for some reason.

She fell silent for a moment, then after a long while she turned her head slightly. She looked towards him and met his deep eyes. She thought about it before lightly breathing in, then she answered softly, "I know. Thank you."

"I don't want to hear those two words anymore from now on. Alright, it's late. Go to sleep," said the man before his grip on her waist slowly loosened.

Xi Xiaye then eased up while he did not move anymore. The vague warmth from his chest traveled through the narrow of her back. The air was filled with his elegant and cold aura, and the sound of his faint breathing was audible.

She subconsciously opened her eyes and turned to look at him, realizing that his eyes were already closed. His long eyelashes and his noble and elegant handsome face that was showered with the dim yet warm wall lamp made him look somewhat distant and out of this world.

She suddenly smiled, tearing her gaze away. Suddenly, she felt relaxed as she was engulfed by an unprecedented warmth. A while after, she fell asleep again...

...

The next day when she woke up, the man beside her was nowhere in sight. After Xi Xiaye finished washing up and went downstairs, she realized that the entire villa was empty, but the dining table did have breakfast prepared.

Xi Xiaye had just sat down and had a few mouthfuls of the porridge when Su Nan called. She then remembered that she had made plans to meet Su Nan last night.

“Xiaye, I’ve already reached Bamboo Teahouse. When are you reaching? Don’t tell me that you haven’t woken up and have run off somewhere. Earlier, I went to your apartment and rang the doorbell for a long time, no one answered!”

Su Nan’s impatient voice came through. Xi Xiaye then put the spoon in her hand down.

“Order some food first. I’m rushing over right now.”

Then, she took the glass of water at the side and had a few gulps. She did not even have the time to tidy up as she had just gone to the drawer to get the car keys and rush out.

By the time she sped all the way to Bamboo Teahouse, nearly an hour had passed. Su Nan who was waiting in the private room was already very impatient.

When she saw Su Nan’s angry yet worried look, Xi Xiaye served her tea while her twinkling eyes flashed with a light as her beautiful face forced a smile. “I’m sorry for letting you worry, Su Nan. I’m fine, I’ve been living pretty well these past few days too.”

“Where did you go these past few days? I couldn’t find you at your apartment, nor at the company. I’ve heard all about what happened at the banquet. It’s just that shameless thing getting engaged right? Do you have to go the point of being so disheartened that you hid away to mourn, or be upset alone?”

Su Nan shot Xi Xiaye a look for failing to meet her expectations of staying strong. She chided, “Xi Xiaye, to be honest, I really can’t stand you. You’re just so stubborn. Don’t try to correct your mistakes! Xi

Xinyi, that pretentious slut, seeing her pretend to be all innocent makes me want to rush up and rip her apart! How dare she be so shameless to send me an engagement invitation? What the hell? She even pitifully said that she just wants you to live better, that she'd rather return Han Yifeng to you. That bitch! Now, isn't she still getting engaged to Han Yifeng?! You don't know this, but when I came over, I even saw them try on their formal attires... I'm so pissed off..."

When she saw Su Nan all furious and getting angrier as she spoke, Xi Xiaye who quietly listened to her angry venting suddenly said calmly, "Su Nan, I'm married."

"What? What do you mean 'married'?"

Interrupted by Xi Xiaye, Su Nan looked very unhappily at her. However, seeing that Xi Xiaye was drinking her tea, her brain suddenly understood and realized what Xi Xiaye had just said!

"Xi Xiaye, what did you just say? Married? Did you say you were married?"

Su Nan widened her eyes and looked at Xi Xiaye, stunned.

Chapter 67. He's A Very Good Person

Under Su Nan's shocked gaze, Xi Xiaye looked up slightly. When she saw Su Nan's stunned face, she could not help but purse her lips and chuckle. Her tone was very calm as she affirmed, "You heard me right. I am indeed married."

Su Nan only snapped back to her senses after quite a while. She held onto Xi Xiaye's hand and fixed her gaze on her, her beautiful eyes still filled with disbelief as her little face was tensed up. "Who's that man? It definitely isn't Han Yifeng, is it?"

Xi Xiaye lifted her hand gently and patted the back of Su Nan's hand. Shaking her head lightly, she slowly lowered her gaze and said calmly, "I've already told you, Han Yifeng... and I... is already in the past..."

"Then, who's that man to whom you're married? Why did you suddenly get married to him? Aren't you afraid of being fooled? Have you really gone crazy?"

Su Nan knew Xi Xiaye well. These past few years she had almost always been with her, she had never seen her date anyone. Therefore, now that such a jaw-dropping piece of news had suddenly popped up, she could not help but be shocked!

“It’s Mr. Mu. He’s a very sweet person and is very considerate. He’s very good at looking after me too. I think... I don’t have any reason not to get married to him, especially now that everything is really quite smooth-sailing.”

“Don’t tell me that these past two days when you vanished, it was because... you went to get married right away!”

Xi Xiaye kept silent, yet Su Nan already knew her answer. She felt a headache coming on as she lectured, “Xiaye, marriage is one of the most important things in life. How could you be so careless? Do you understand him? Understand his family situation? Sigh, what’s wrong with you? I’m most afraid of seeing you unhappy, alright? Don’t tell me that you suddenly got married just to take revenge!”

“Forget it. I don’t care anymore. Since you’re already married, just bring this man out to meet me before we talk any further. I won’t say anything anymore. If he isn’t a good person, Xi Xiaye, don’t blame me for killing you! Then, immediately break off relations with your fool. That way, I can live for a few more years!”

It was just like Su Nan to say that. Clearly, she was incredibly worried, but her words were also very mean.

Xi Xiaye listened to Su Nan’s lecture quietly, then she smiled. “Don’t worry. His family knows my mother and my family. Let’s not talk about this. Let’s find a time to have him treat you to a meal. You and Ruan Heng can come together.”

As she said this, she elegantly served her some tea. “How are you and Ruan Heng?”

She recalled that it had been quite a while since Ruan Heng called her every day, so the two lovers must have reconciled.

“Just the same. He’s just too naive and slow. He’s so one-track minded everywhere he goes! I’ve decided to bring him back to meet my parents in a few days. I feel like we’re both not young anymore. Now, you’re married as well, and I’m even older than you by a year. I’m 27 this year and I’ll be 28 when the New Year comes. My parents are already getting worried.”

Su Nan sighed in distress.

“Did Ruan Heng propose to you?” Xi Xiaye took a sip of tea and asked.

“He has mentioned it before. He wanted me to follow him home to meet his parents, but the last time that incident happened, so it was delayed. We’ll discuss it again another day. His parents and mine are both into literature and arts. Plus, they’re all sensible people, so it should be easy for them to get along.”

When Su Nan said this, Xi Xiaye suddenly remembered the incident last night. She and Mu Yuchen had already decided that she would be meeting his family the next day.

“Okay, let’s not talk about this anymore. Let’s talk about you. When are you bringing him out to let me examine?”

Su Nan restrained her train of thoughts. She drank a mouthful tea and frowned at Xi Xiaye, sticking her tongue out in disdain. “Ugh, it’s so bitter! I really don’t know why you like drinking this tea. I still prefer to drink milk tea.”

“Wait till we’re done with being busy in the next few days,” Xi Xiaye responded to her question earlier.

Su Nan nodded. “Okay then. Are you going for Han Yifeng and Xi Xinyi’s engagement ceremony? Initially, I was worried about you. If you go, then I’ll go. If you’re not going, then I’m too lazy to give a damn either.”

“I might not be able to go as I should be at work at that time. It’s always a little busy end of the year and those few days will be just before New Year’s Eve, so there’ll be quite a lot for me to rush before going on holiday.”

When she thought about the South River project, Xi Xiaye could not help but feel a headache come on. There were still so many things that needed to be prepared and it would be the holidays soon. She wondered whether she should request Mu Yuchen so that she could hand her proposal in slightly later. Otherwise, with such a short amount of time, she was really worried that she would not be able to complete it.

“That’s true. They’re just some unimportant people. Who do they think they are that I have to care just for anyone? Huh, and what was it they even said? That I need your blessings the most? How pretentious! Han Yifeng must’ve gone blind, actually liking such a fake woman... Never mind. Forget it! Once I talk about them, I’ll get angry! I haven’t shopped in so long. Since the sun is pretty warm today, let’s go out and walk around.”

Xi Xiaye followed Su Nan’s gaze and looked out of the window too. She noticed that outside, the sun shone magnificently and warm, golden rays blanketed the whole place.

Everything seemed so beautiful.

She thought about it before nodding gladly. “Mmm, I should get some New Year goodies for Father Su and Mother Su too. Just nice then, since you can help me bring them back.”

“Save it! You have to send your own New Year’s gifts by yourself. My parents miss you! They haven’t seen you come to the house for quite a few months now. Once I return, you’re all they ask me about,” Su Nan said as she stood up. “Right, I didn’t drive today, so I can carpool with you.”

Xi Xiaye smiled as she took her handbag on the side. “Let’s go then. I’ll definitely be responsible and send you home safely.”

However, moments later, when Su Nan saw the Cayenne parked in front of her, she became speechless with shock. Turning to look at Xi Xiaye, she pointed at the car and asked, “Are you saying that this car belongs to your mysterious husband?”

When she saw Su Nan’s expression, Xi Xiaye could not help but laugh. She just helped her open the door to the front passenger seat. Then, she walked around the car and got into the driver’s seat.

“Don’t tell me that you’re even living off a rich man! Dang, don’t tell me that the man you’re married to is a short fatty. Oh, maybe he’s a horny, bald man!”

Su Nan got into the car and buckled up. Her rich imagination started to expand as she imagined how Xi Xiaye’s new husband looked like.

“Don’t think so nonsensically. He’s a pretty charming person. His looks... shouldn’t lose out to Han Yifeng’s.”

“Shouldn’t lose out to Han Yifeng’s?! Han Yifeng is already quite a rare, handsome catch. Could the man you’ve found actually beat him? No way! I’m really getting more and more curious...”

Xi Xiaye ignored Su Nan’s crazy look as she switched the music player on and started the engine.

Chapter 68. Flowers For Mr. Mu

They had shopped for almost the entire day and amassed a huge pile of clothes and shoes, which were all Su Nan’s. By the time she sent her friend back to the Su residence, it was already close to evening.

Xi Xiaye did not stay any longer. After she dropped Su Nan off, she swung by her old apartment and packed some things to bring back to Maple Residence.

When the car traversed through the city downtown, she suddenly remembered about what she needed to discuss with Mu Yuchen. She kept thinking about it, fretting about how to ask him.

Even though he seemed pretty easy going, he was very firm and decisive about for certain things. He did not allow resistance, so she was afraid that getting him to yield would not be that easy a task. When she thought about this, she suddenly parked her car by the roadside and pondered how to ask him later.

She frowned a little distressedly. Just as she wanted to lean back and contemplate, her eyes looked outside and suddenly saw a flower shop by the roadside...

She thought about it, then a vibrance flashed across her twinkling eyes. She then pushed open the car door and got down.

“Hello, Miss! Want to buy some flowers?”

Xi Xiaye had just stepped into the shop when the lady boss very enthusiastically greeted her.

She nodded gently as her bright eyes started to look around at all the various fresh flowers in full bloom around her. Quickly, her gaze fell onto a flower basket with blue roses.

“I’ll have this one then. It’s quite pretty. Help me pack a bouquet. Please wrap it up nicely.”

Xi Xiaye pointed at the huge basket of blue roses with her fair fingertips as she said to the lady boss.

The lady boss smiled and nodded. “Okay, Miss. Please wait for a moment. I’ll get it ready right away!”

Actually, Xi Xiaye did not know the meaning these flowers carried. She just thought that they looked pretty and that the profound ocean-blue color was quite suitable for a man with Mu Yuchen’s low-profile and reserved demeanor. She thought that he would appreciate these flowers.

Earlier, when she saw the blue roses, her eyes lit up ever so slightly. However, she barely recalled receiving any fresh flowers before.

The only flowers she had ever received would be the prize that Mu Yuchen had won from the race that night, that stalk of blooming red rose and a very beautiful Barbie princess doll.

When she thought about this, she suddenly smiled. Even though she felt a little bleak, at the same time, a warmth expanded in her heart. She felt like a beam of sunshine had suddenly shone into the haze at the bottom of her heart without her even noticing.

The lady boss was very quick. A short while later, she had delivered the beautiful bouquet of blue roses to Xi Xiaye. The huge bouquet almost covered her.

Xi Xiaye looked down at the blue flowers that were elegantly beautiful and so unfathomable that it almost brought tears to her eyes. The faint fragrance entered her nose as she breathed in slightly. Nodding in satisfaction, she paid and then left.

At this moment, Mu Yuchen who had been busy the entire day returned to Maple Residence and realized that the whole villa was in darkness. The only faint light that flickered occasionally came from the dim streetlight beyond the yard.

When he turned the living room lights on and looked around, he instantly saw the dishes that Xi Xiaye had left behind that morning on the dining table. Earlier, when he had parked his car in the garage and noticed that the Porsche was missing, he had already guessed that she must have gone out.

He did not think too much. Taking his coat off to reveal a black top, he turned the temperature higher, then leisurely made his way to the kitchen.

...

When Xi Xiaye returned to Maple Residence, she realized that the lights inside were already switched on. She rushed down from the car with that huge bouquet, and the moment she entered the villa, a warmth engulfed her.

She looked around the whole living room and her gaze went to the kitchen where the lights were turned on. She then carried the humongous bouquet towards the kitchen.

Slowly pushing the glass door to the kitchen open, a tantalizing aroma assailed her nostrils and a tall, black figure standing before the stove greeted her sight.

He was skillfully stirring the food in the pan with his sleeves rolled up halfway, revealing his fair and thin wrists. His handsome and quiet face looked a little surreal underneath the dazzling lights.

Xi Xiaye studied him and could not help but become absent-minded for quite a while. Moments after, she snapped back.

She looked down at the flowers she held in front of her, then looked up at him again. Suddenly, she felt a little shy and quite embarrassed. She had never presented anyone with flowers before, what more a man...

When she thought about this, Xi Xiaye could not help but scold herself on the inside. She had really gone crazy. What was wrong with giving him something else? Yet, she had chosen flowers of all things! She was pondering about whether or not to just forget it and give up when the man who was busy suddenly turned around and looked at her.

Immediately, his eyes fell onto the bouquet of blue roses that almost covered her. Her starry eyes met his unfathomable eyes too and she was startled...

“Who sent you those?” Mu Yuchen’s eyes flashed with a cold light that betrayed his calm tone.

Xi Xiaye struggled on the inside. Her beautiful face flashed with a mix of emotions for a while. Finally, she decided to just go for it. After all, she had already bought the flowers!

She slowly walked over and stopped before him. Just as she turned to look at what he was stirring in the pan, she handed him the huge bouquet in her arms. Her voice was soft and gentle. “When I passed by the florist, I thought they bloomed quite beautifully, so I bought them. They’re for you... What are you cooking? It smells so divine!”

Once his lady said this, Mu Yuchen was stunned. His eyes that were as bottomless as the sea flashed with surprise. He stared at Xiaye’s fair and beautiful face and sharply noticed that two faint splotches were slowly crawling up her cheeks...

Mu Yuchen’s usual calm and indifferent gaze had, for some reason, turned gentle. This was the first time someone had presented him with flowers, and the person that had done so was this woman who had just become his wife.

There was suddenly a mixed light in his eyes, yet he looked down at the bouquet, then at the side of her face. She was pretending to look into the pan. He suddenly chuckled, his soft tone a little tender. “One who’s unaccountably solicitous is hiding some evil intentions, eh? What did you do now? Or do you want me to satisfy any requests of yours?”

She almost forgot that this man always had a vigilance that could see through everything. He instantly saw through her thoughts and she felt defeated.

She turned around and leaned on the countertop, watching him get busy from the side. Her brows were furrowed into a knot as she thought about it and decided that she should not hide it. She should just be frank.

Chapter 69. Silly Foodie

"I think my injury is better now. It's close to the year end and the company's going to go on a break. A lot of work has piled up in the office so I want to go back to work tomorrow. May I submit the proposal for the South River project later?"

Xi Xiaye frowned and looked at him as he remained silent. She then said, "The year-end holiday runs for about half a month and the team is still in a mess at the moment..."

Mu Yuchen did not reply to her immediately. He transferred the fried eggs with tomatoes from the pan to a plate. As he did not look at her the whole time, Xi Xiaye only got more and more anxious.

Apart from being worried about the piling up work, she really disliked always staying at home. It made her feel empty and she had an odd sense of suffocation.

"Mu Yuchen..."

Xi Xiaye rapped her knuckles on the cool kitchen counter when he did not reply. "Shouldn't you be happy that your company has such a dedicated employee like me?"

"The South River project can be delayed, but are you sure that you'll be fine?"

Mu Yuchen glanced at her. He knew what she was thinking about. "You can stay at home to prepare the project. I've asked Vice President Liu to take care of your work for now, so you don't have to worry. If you push further, then I'll take the South River project back from you."

Directly, he was declining Xi Xiaye's request.

Xi Xiaye felt defeated when he left no room for discussion. She glared at him unhappily as the smell of the food entered her nostrils. Without caring about elegance, she pinched a piece of the omelet with her fingers and chomped it down.

Mu Yuchen threw her an odd look.

“What are you looking at? It’s plain and not tasty at all!” She then picked up a slice of tomato and ate it while looking pointedly at Mu Yuchen.

Mu Yuchen was unfazed. This woman would become unreasonable when she started to get mad. She would definitely mess with anyone if one got serious with her.

He just shot her a glance and then continued making the second dish.

“I met Su Nan today. She’s my best friend and has always taken care of me. I told her about us being married. Do find some time so you two can meet.”

Xi Xiaye stopped making a fuss when he did not say anything. In her head, she did not forget about Su Nan’s reminder which she had repeated over and over again.

“Does she want to see who’s so unlucky to have married to a silly foodie?”

Mu Yuchen threw her a glance as he continued to fry the potato slices in the pan.

Xi Xiaye sulked when she heard him. “Why’re you making it sound like a bad deal marrying me? I’m a modern lady... A fair, rich, and beautiful woman! Who are you calling a silly foodie?”

“You need to train longer to lure me into your trap, but it won’t ever work on me.” Mu Yuchen scanned Xi Xiaye with his eyes as if he was looking at an idiot.

He was the one who would trap others. Whoever could trap him?

A fair, rich, and beautiful woman?

Well, if she was serious, she was pretty cute.

“I’m stating a fact. I was the school idol back then, and now I have a stable job with income of over a million. I’m a strong woman who doesn’t depend on others...”

Xi Xiaye did not continue any further because the man was staring at her with a surprised gaze. She felt creeped out and stopped talking.

“Missus, I think you’re very much alike something when you feel very good about yourself. Do you want to know what?” Mu Yuchen gave it some thought and then said calmly.

“Like what?” Xi Xiaye became curious.

“An idiot.” Mu Yuchen averted his gaze back to the potato slices after the short reply. A grin appeared on his face and he was stifling his laughter.

Xi Xiaye’s expression froze. She reacted after a slight delay and could not hold in her anger anymore. In her temper, she flung the bouquet of flowers in her hand towards Mu Yuchen. “You’re the idiot! You’re the foodie! Don’t think I’ll be afraid of you just because you’re the Chairman...”

Mu Yuchen shook his head at her wild behavior. He smiled and then held onto the bouquet she had thrown at him. Grabbing her body and holding her in his arms, he restrained her against himself.

“That’s enough. If you continue to mess around, our dinner won’t even be ready when midnight comes. You can arrange a meeting with your friend. Isn’t Emperor Entertainment City open to the public already? Bring her there for some shopping. Put all your spending under my name... On second thought, I’ll get you a supplementary card later, so you can get whatever you want with it.”

“Then, do you want to meet Su Nan? We can have a meal. She’s probably getting married to her boyfriend soon and they’re both good friends of mine. We’re bound to meet sooner or later,” Xi Xiaye raised her head from his arms and looked at him as she asked.

“Mmm, you can go ahead and arrange it. Let’s have dinner with them in the next two days or so,” Mu Yuchen replied after giving it some thought.

“Alright then. I know you’re busy with several projects in City S. We’ll do it this Saturday then. What do you think?” She tilted her head and suggested a time.

“Sure, I have time this weekend.” Mu Yuchen nodded.

“I’ll give Su Nan a call now then. Also, I think these flowers look pretty and I’ll give them to you now. I’ll take the dishes out! Be quick with the rest. I’m really hungry!”

She then backed away from Mu Yuchen and left the kitchen with the two dishes he had prepared.

Mu Yuchen stared at the bouquet of blue roses after she left the kitchen. Several blue petals had fallen onto the floor because of her aggressive movement just now...

Chapter 70. Meeting Parents (1)

After dinner, Xi Xiaye offered to do the dishes, so Mu Yuchen went upstairs in a relaxed manner.

Upon finishing the dishes, she went upstairs and saw a vase that had suddenly appeared. It was full of the blue roses, and they were actually arranged pretty delicately.

She was surprised as she did not expect him to know about flower arrangement.

She stared at the flowers for quite a while before entering the bedroom, holding the big bag of things she had gotten back from her apartment in her hands.

Only a dim lamp on the dressing table was switched on. Within the dark bedroom, the light from the bathroom seemed very bright and the sound of water flowing was heard.

She gently closed the door and turned on the bedroom light. Walking towards the wardrobe with her luggage, she then opened it and started to put her things into the wardrobe.

When she had just hung her first piece of garment up, she heard a ringtone. Looking around, she saw the phone on the bedside table ringing.

She ignored it and continued arranging her stuff. About ten seconds after the ringtone stopped, the phone rang again. It seemed urgent.

After a brief moment of silence, she raised her head and glanced over at the bathroom. The sound of the water stopped and she spoke loudly, "Mu Yuchen, your phone keeps on ringing!"

A brief reply came. "You answer it."

Xi Xiaye frowned. She got up and started walking towards it as she was fiddling around with the golden rose Mu Yuchen had won the last time. Without seeing who the caller was she picked up the call.

The calm and quiet voice of a lady came through as soon as the call was connected. "Hello? Chen, my flight's been delayed. I'll probably reach the airport by 8.30 a.m. tomorrow. Please come and pick me up. It's more convenient from your place to the airport since it's connected through the highway."

Xi Xiaye could not react quickly. Instead, she replied quietly, "Hello..."

There was a short pause on the other hand when Xi Xiaye spoke. "Hello, are you Xi Xiaye?"

There was a tad bit more warmth in her voice.

"Mmm, I'm Xi Xiaye. And you are...?"

Xi Xiaye somewhat guessed who she was when the lady was able to address her name accurately. "I'm Zhuang Shurong, Chen's mother. His grandmother told me about you. Please tell Chen to pick me up at the airport at 8.30 a.m. tomorrow. Alright, it's pretty late now. Rest earlier and don't forget to tell him."

The call ended before Xi Xiaye could even reply,

Xi Xiaye's heart sank a little and her eyes darkened as the phone screen dimmed. Her expression seemed odd. When she heard the sound of the bathroom door opening, she turned around.

"What's wrong? Who called?" Mu Yuchen was drying his wet hair as he walked towards the bedside. He glanced at his phone in her hand when he noticed her odd expression.

Xi Xiaye handed his phone back to him and looked at him with a troubled expression. With a hand on her forehead, she informed him, "Your mother called. She said her flight's been delayed and that she'll only arrive at 8.30 a.m. She asked you to go and pick her up from the airport."

"I see." Mu Yuchen put his phone on the bedside table then went and sat down before the dressing table.

"Hey... From your mother's tone, she sounded... Would she not like me?" Xi Xiaye was looking at Mu Yuchen helplessly. Zhuang Shurong's tone seemed especially cold just now and it freaked her out. She felt oddly nervous.

Mu Yuchen glanced at her. He smiled as she gave him a very troubled look. "She's just like that. Her tone always sounds cold and distant. Father said it comes with her occupation, so don't worry about it. It's fine even if you don't get along well with her since we don't stay together anyway."

"But that's your mother!" Xi Xiaye was shocked to hear his indifferent tone.

"She and Father are in a sort of special position. Communicating can be difficult at times. Sometimes, she doesn't have anyone to communicate to. Just get used to it and don't worry so much. If you really can't deal with it, you can just nod or shake your head to whatever she says."

Mu Yuchen looked downwards as he spoke as if he was reminded of something. Xi Xiaye noticed he was still and became quiet. However, she did not ask about it as he looked rather sad, so she just handed the golden rose to him and said gently, "Mmm, got it... How about we put this in the study room? There's an empty spot on the bookshelf beside the window. I think it's just right to put this."

Mu Yuchen averted his gaze back up and saw the golden rose in her hand. He raised his eyebrows and asked, "You went back to your apartment?"

Xi Xiaye nodded. "I had something to take, but I don't really have much anyway. They didn't even fill up one luggage case and most of them are documents."

"Do as you wish then. Unpack your stuff later. Go and take a bath first. I've filled the tub for you."

"Mmm, you take over then. I'm almost done."

Xi Xiaye gave him the rose and went back to arrange her stuff. "Right, the flowers in the living room look amazing! Have you learned how to arrange flowers before?"

"A person with good sense of aesthetics doesn't need to learn. Just being exposed to it is enough."

Mu Yuchen walked over to her and took the clothes from her before putting them into the upper shelf of the wardrobe. The wardrobe lined the entire wall, so it was pretty tall. Given that she was not that tall, it was pretty difficult for her to reach the upper shelf.

"I realize you have no idea what being humble means." Xi Xiaye rolled her eyes at him.

"That's meant for hypocrites. I don't need it. Go and take a bath now." Mu Yuchen casually handed her a sleeping gown.

Xi Xiaye was speechless as she took the gown and went into the bathroom after arranging her stuff.