## Loving 811

Chapter 811. Inside Story (1)

When Li Si said that, Lawyer Wang's expression sank. He hesitated momentarily, and then said regretfully, "I really didn't think that she couldn't make it in the end. I've met Wang Qin. She's a classic iron woman of the business world, but right now, I do find it a pity."

Li Si nodded as he sighed softly. "Now that VP Wang is gone, Qi Kai's going to be a mess again. Master's still inside there right now, and I don't know if Master Qi's going to make it. If Qi Qiming... Sigh, Lawyer Wang, you must find a way concerning Master's matter. Do your best to get him out. Missus is worried sick now too. Elder CEO and Elder Madam don't know yet. I wonder how's the situation on Chief Zhuang's end now."

Lawyer Wang nodded. "Don't worry. I'll do my best."

"Okay, I'll go do my work now. If there's anything, contact me by phone," Li Si said before he got into the car and left the police station swiftly.

The night that was tossed about by wind and rain was not destined to be peaceful. Xi Xiaye rushed back to Glory World while Zhang Lan called everyone to discuss strategies. Xi Xiaye joined the discussion too. Afterward, at dawn, they finally came up with the initial steps to handle the situation. Everyone was quite tired after pulling an all-nighter, what more Xi Xiaye.

Inside the office of Glory World Corporation's Chairman.

Xi Xiaye was sitting on the chair at Mu Yuchen's desk with her back to the door. She quietly watched as a clear sky gradually appeared in the window. With her frail figure sheltered by the chair, she seemed even more fragile.

She had been busy the entire night, and now that it was dawn, even though she was exhausted, she did not have the mood to sleep. She closed her eyes, and all she saw was Mu Yuchen turning around to leave with the police, Wang Qin at her last breath, and Qi Lei on the verge of a breakdown.

An indescribable feeling of gloominess weighed on her chest when she thought about Mu Yuchen. Apart from feeling touched, she felt even more heartbroken.

He was always so honorable to her.

She felt deeply sorry for Wang Qin's passing and even pitied Qi Lei. Their fates were very similar, but she was a little luckier, but at least, ever since she had Mu Yuchen, everything that she had lost, he had slowly found them back for her.

She only hoped that Qi Lei could have a better life from now on.

She looked out the window quietly for a long while. The glass of water which she held that was initially warm had become cold when she quietly averted her gaze.

Ji Zitong, who had rested in the resting lounge outside, was quite energetic at the moment. When she saw the way Xi Xiaye had not slept the whole night, she could not help but worry, so she reminded her, "Director Xi, you should rest. When it's light, you'll have a lot to do. You've got to watch yourself."

"It's fine. I couldn't sleep either. It's fine on my end. You should go home. You can't be of help with the company matters anyway. I don't know how to explain to Su Chen that I've exhausted you now. Li Si and the rest are here for the matters to come, so it should be fine."

Xi Xiaye looked to Ji Zitong, paused, and then continued, "I haven't even had the chance to prepare a gift for you and Su Chen's new marriage."

"Don't worry about that. We're not planning to have a wedding either. Anyway, we'll talk later on. I'll go home now. Let me know if you need anything. I'll be at the flower shop. I usually don't have much work anyway, but I believe that soon, it'll all be okay," Ji Zitong said, unsure whether that was comforting or not.

Xi Xiaye nodded gladly and moved towards the table before she quickly made a call. "Xiao Mei, organize for a car right away to send Miss Ji home."

Not too long after Ji Zitong left, the sky began to turn bright.

The incident last night was clearly a very controversial one. Vice President Wang Qin of Qi Kai was stabbed and had passed away in the hospital, and the suspect, Glory World's Chairman Mu Yuchen, was detained by the police at the moment!

This was shocking news!

With the occasion last night, the whole news spread even faster. The entire country had probably heard of it by now.

It was such a huge matter, so naturally, it could not be hidden from Mu Tangchuan and Zhuang Shurong. Last night, when she was busy working and remembered them, it was already late at night. She thought Mu Tangchuan and Zhuang Shurong must have been asleep, so she did not make the call.

When the phone rang, it was only daybreak.

It was Mu Tangchuan, and Xi Xiaye rushed to the old Mu residence.

At the Mu residence, Xi Xiaye had just walked into the living room when she could faintly feel the stifling atmosphere. Mu Zicheng's cries could be heard. She looked toward the sound and saw that Mu Tangchuan and the rest were sitting on the sofa in the living room. Wang Hui was coaxing Mu Zicheng who wept incessantly while Mu Yinan was reading the newspaper. Mu Tangchuan and the rest fixed their eyes on the papers too, all their expressions solemn. Zhuang Shurong was not back from work abroad yet.

"Grandfather, Grandmother, Father! Xiao Cheng!"

Xi Xiaye quickly walked in.

"Xiaye! You're back! What happened to Ah Chen? It's only been a night and such a huge thing has happened. What do they mean? Accidentally injured? Where's Ah Chen right now? What's the deal with all of this?"

The moment she saw Xi Xiaye appear, Wang Hui anxiously walked up to her. Mu Zicheng cried nonstop in her arms as if he could feel the uneasiness in the adults' hearts. His little pair of hands struggled and waved in the air.

"Xiao Cheng's been crying ever since he woke up this morning. I think he must miss the two of you!"

Xi Xiaye quickly took her son from Wang Hui's arms as she softly coaxed him. After a while, the little fellow finally stopped crying.

She held the milk bottle and fed him for a bit before he fell asleep soundly. Then, she handed him to Aunt Fang. On the side, Mu Yinan and Mu Tangchuan were looking at Xi Xiaye, waiting for her answer.

Xi Xiaye roughly explained the whole incident to them, and all of their expressions instantly turned grim. Even Mu Tangchuan, who was usually calm and collected, now looked unusually grave as heaviness gathered in his eyes. His tone was extremely grave with a hint of worry. "Based on what you're saying, someone deliberately framed you two?"

"Glory World's been emerging at a rapid speed in the past few years. It's normal to be attracting trouble. Now that Glory World and Qi Kai are collaborating, I'm sure everyone will know how Qi Kai's situation is. This person chose Wang Qin of all people. It's just too coincidental!" Mu Yinan analyzed calmly.

"Mu Yuchen says that he has his own plans. Grandfather, Grandmother, Father, he asks for all of you not to get involved."

Chapter 812. Inside Story (2)

Xi Xiaye shared Mu Yuchen's message with everyone.

"Nonsense! This is a severe matter. He's telling us not to get involved? Does he think he can count on himself to get him out? Who is the one with such motives? We have to investigate it thoroughly. In fact, from what I can see, many people are implicated too. This is bad!" Mu Tangchuan shouted angrily. He knew what Mu Yuchen was thinking. He probably did not want to impliacte him and Zhuang Shurong. Mu Tangchuan knew his son very well. Ever since he was young, he would not be willing to beg them for anything. It was not that they had a poor father and son relationship, but Mu Yuchen had been very independent since he was young. He was also sensible and would very knowingly think from him and Zhuang Shurong's perspectives. In fact, as the eldest brother, he always set a good example and was protective over Lingshi and the rest while he himself...

Mu Tangchuan had always felt like he let down his son, but he and Mu Yuchen were quite similar in terms of personality. They were both reserved people, so...

"How are things at the company?" Mu Yinan, who had been quiet on the side, asked.

"Just as he predicted, when I returned earlier, I received VP Zhang Lan's call. Glory World's shares have begun to destabilize. Now, the media's spreading this news all around. It's normal for the shares to be affected. I've already discussed a temporary countermeasure with some of the higher ups, and I let VP Zhang Lan execute it. I hope that it can stabilize things for a while, and it won't fall too badly. Besides, Lawyer Wang's been looking for evidence to help Ah Chen from being the suspect. As he ordered, I went to look for Su Chen last night. Su Chen said he'd think of something with Zimo," Xi Xiaye explained softly.

"Tangchuan, think of something. Go see Ah Chen. Find out what's going on. It's already gone over our heads! You and Ah Rong haven't cared much for him all these years. You know yourself how well you've been as parents. Now, your child's in trouble. Do something!" Mu Yinan demanded.

As Mu Yinan spoke, his aged voice was colored with unhappiness. Worried as he was, he could not help but be furious at Mu Tangchuan too. He rolled the newspaper in hand and tossed it into the bin as he said with a heavy voice, "What nonsense! These reporters really have nothing better to do! What do they mean by manslaughter? How about they explain what manslaughter is? Did they see Ah Chen do it themselves? I can't stand these people. They just want to report nonsense for the attention!"

Mu Tangchuan's expression sunk as dimness flashed across his dark gaze.

When Xi Xiaye saw that Mu Yinan and Mu Tangchuan were so dejected, she advised, "Grandfather, don't worry. I believe him. Let's just straighten things out. We'll let the few Vice Presidents hold down the fort at the company. The most important to do right now is to find out what really happened."

Then, she turned to look at Mu Tangchuan. "Father, Ah Chen's just saying that he hopes you and Mother won't worry about this first. I think he should have his own plans. Otherwise, he wouldn't have told me that. He said to let Su Chen find a way to meet him. I think he has some things to discuss."

At the moment, Xi Xiaye was extremely anxious too, but after she calmed down and thought about it, the fact that he could be calm in such a tense situation and not look anxious must mean that he should have made other plans, so she felt much more relaxed too.

Mu Tangchuan thought for a bit before he said, "I'll explain it to your mother. Xiaye, you have to shoulder more burden about the company's matters right now. I'm going out." With that, he left.

As Xi Xiaye watched his figure vanish out the door, she breathed in slightly, and when she thought about how things were a mess at the moment, she could not help but feel a headache come.

"Alright, look at you. You didn't sleep for the whole night, did you? Go home and get some good sleep. Leave Xiao Cheng with me for the next few days. Pick Xiao Ru up on the weekend. Don't worry about the children. You have quite a lot on your mind with the company, and you've just recovered too. Take it easy."

When Wang Hui saw Xi Xiaye's fatigue that could not be concealed, she advised the girl gently. Her sharp eyes looked at Mu Yinan who also seemed worried. "Alright, calm down now. It's not a huge deal. Since everyone's clear, now is the time to find evidence and prove Ah Chen's innocence. There's no use worrying. We'll have to get moving! Go do what we should be doing!"

Wang Hui had been in the army her whole life, so she was quite frank about the entire situation. After having heard so much, she clearly believed her own kin.

Xi Xiaye then nodded and sighed. "I'll have to trouble you then, Grandfather and Grandmother. I'll leave Xiao Cheng to you for the next few days. I can't be lax on the company's end. Besides, I still have to go take a look at Master Qi's end too."

"Whatever it is, you have to watch your health. Don't fall sick now."

"Mmm."

Xi Xiaye still did not have time to take a breather. After she explained a little more, she rushed out of the door, recalling that she should check on how things were at the police station.

...

Like Xi Xiaye who had been worried the whole night, Su Chen and Zhou Zimo had not slept either as they had been stewing about this.

The next morning, Su Chen secretly went to the police station. He had just parked when he saw Xi Xiaye waiting outside the station. She must have come to see Mu Yuchen but clearly failed to.

As Su Chen watched Xi Xiaye's slender figure shiver in the cold amid the wind and rain, he only sighed to himself, before turning to say to Secretary He, "Secretary, go call Missus Mu over."

"Got it, Chief Su!" Secretary He answered, and then got down from the car.

After a while, Xi Xiaye walked over to him. When she got into the car and saw Su Chen, she could not care less about the cold she felt. She looked hopefully at him. "They won't let me see him, Su Chen. Do you have a way for me to see him? I'm really worried..."

Su Chen's steadfast, handsome face looked a little gloomy too, and his eyes were dark. "Don't worry. You still can't see him now. Xiaye, you look weak. You should go home and rest first. Leave this to me. Zimo's already rushing towards Glory World. Don't fret about anything right now. Just rest well. Otherwise, the person inside will worry too."

"But I, I..."

"No buts. The only thing you can do right now is trust Ah Chen and us. Watch the company for him, and take care of your son. Listen to me. Go home and rest right away. I'll find a way to meet him."

Su Chen's tone allowed no room for rejection. He had just finished speaking when he immediately told Secretary Ho to send Xi Xiaye back to her car. Then, he watched her car leave. A long while later, he rushed into the police office.

Chapter 813. Inside Story (3)

Obviously, it required some work, but Su Chen finally met Mu Yuchen.

Mu Yuchen was arranged to be kept in custody alone. When Su Chen went in, Mu Yuchen was sitting on the hard stool and closing his eyes to rest. His manners remained noble and extraordinary. Steady and calm, his clothes were tidy although his white sleeve was stained with fragmented dark red blots that had already dried up.

Su Chen stopped at the door for quite a while. With his handsome brows raised, he could not help but be speechless.

Everyone was an anxious mess outside while a certain someone seemed quite relaxed in this quiet place. He did not look nervous or worried at all.

After a while, he shook his head and then walked in.

When he heard footsteps, Mu Yuchen calmly opened his eyes and looked up to the source of the sound.

Su Chen sat down across him and smiled. "I can't believe there'd come a day you'd be like this, but you seem quite relaxed and natural in this terrible place! Earlier, when I came over, I saw a certain woman outside anxious and frantic while a certain someone else has been quite calm!"

When he heard this, a hint of light flashed in Mu Yuchen's calm gaze. He asked softly, "How's she?" His voice was a little deep and raspy, and you could tell he was a little bit worried.

"How's she? How else could she be? When she came looking for me last night, she was worried to the point of tears. After that I was anxious, so I told Zitong to accompany her. Earlier, I saw that she was looking quite wan and sallow. She must have pulled an all-night last night." Su Chen's teasing tone eased as he answered seriously.

A faint heartache flashed in Mu Yuchen's eyes. He lowered his gaze and said helplessly, "She's like that. I knew it."

"Fine, how about you explain what this is all about? You're already at this point. Don't tell me that Mu Yuchen would do something this dumb. What is actually going on? Tell me. Quickly find out the truth about this whole thing and leave this damned place! Otherwise, the people outside will really need to be worried now," Su Chen simply asked, not quite able to stand the way his friend looked.

Mu Yuchen's gaze dimmed, his handsome face returning to its usual calm. "I might need to stay in here for a few more days. Help me take care of things outside."

"Tell me what is it? Becoming the black sheep isn't something different you would do. Do you have any plans? Who dares to scratch the Buddha's head?"

Su Chen obviously knew how Mu Yuchen was like. This incident was filled with oddities, so he was really curious.

"Who do you think could do this?" Mu Yuchen looked up calmly at Su Chen.

Su Chen frowned and squinted at him. He thought about it before testing, "Someone I know."

Mu Yuchen's gaze was stunned and then he nodded gently. "Yes."

"Glory World has been racking up quite a few rivals these few years. If I were to really guess, I'm afraid it'd be a little hard, but I've straightened things out with Zimo before. All of your movements could roughly ruffle the feathers of two people. In fact, only these two people would have the most animosity toward you and have the abilities to pull this off," Su Chen fixed his gaze on Mu Yuchen's calm and unaffected gaze as he said with a faint smile.

As Mu Yuchen listened, his calm lips gently started and curved into a faint smile. He reached out towards Su Chen's pocket and very quickly took out a cigarette box to slide a stick out. He took a drag and then handed it back to Su Chen. "I want to hear it."

Su Chen lit a stick up too. Just as he floated the cigarette at his lips, he said in a deep voice, "Is it that one from the Qi family, or the one from City B? Apart from them, I don't think anyone has the ability to pull this off. In fact, could they have easily walked into the venue themselves? I gave Li Si a call earlier and got some news from his end."

He calmly exhaled the smoke before Mu Yuchen nodded gently and said softly, "You could all guess it too. It looks like this storm won't be calming down so soon."

When he heard his friend sigh, Su Chen could only reach out to pat him on the shoulder. "These grudges should be resolved. Haven't you been able to let go of these things all these years? Hello, who is it? Is it the one from the Qi family? Is it because of revenge?"

Mu Yuchen's slender fingers gently tapped the cigarette, and with the ashes that dropped to the ground, he said softly, "He wouldn't do that. Even though he has many weaknesses, he wouldn't have made a move on Wang Qin."

"That's right. After all, she is his wife. In fact, they have a son who was right there. He wouldn't have been so dumb. That means we're only left with that other person!" Su Chen narrowed his eyes at him again.

Mu Yuchen straightened up slightly and leaned back against his chair. The smile on his face suddenly turned bitter although his tone remained quite calm. "Who else could it be apart from him?"

"Is it really him? How do you know?" Su Chen's expression changed slightly as his gaze began to look solemn.

Mu Yuchen frowned slightly, and he took a drag, a little annoyed. "After the last auction, I arranged for people to secretly watch him in City B. I roughly know what happened. I'd just gotten the news from Ah Mo in France the day before yesterday. Gu Qiwu didn't even go to France. After that, I found out from Ah Bao that actually he's returned to City Z. Actually, I even found out which hotel he stayed at. It's not too far away from the South River dock."

"After that? Why did he suddenly come to City Z? The South River dock? Was he really after you?" Su Chen asked, puzzled. He paused, thinking that it was odd. "That doesn't make sense. There was indeed some bad blood between them and the Mu family, but to say it's a motive, I think..."

"He has the largest motive. It's Qingming tomorrow. It's been six years. I think, this time, he should be making a visit to West Hill Cemetery." Mu Yuchen tossed the half-smoked cigarette onto the ground while his low raspy voice sounded quite bleak.

"What do you mean?" Su Chen's gaze darkened. He stared at Mu Yuchen's handsome face and took in all of his expressions. For some reason, he could feel a bleak stillness. In fact, upon looking closely, he could unexpectedly notice sparse helplessness as the light in his eyes made him seem sober.

Mu Yuchen lifted a hand to hold his forehead habitually before gently massaging it. The light in his eyes darkened. "Wait till Ah Bao verifies it. You'll understand."

Chapter 814. Inside Story (4)

Su Chen was stunned for a moment. He stared at Mu Yuchen as he recalled his conversation with Zhou Zimo last night. Then, he patted Mu Yuchen's shoulder again. "Alright, I can somewhat guess what happened. It's been some time since you started investigating Lingshi's background. I don't see you doing anything else ever since you returned from City B the last time, so I'm sure you've found something."

Mu Yuchen did not deny it. He replied, "Zimo should've told you about this."

Su Chen nodded as his tone became lower. "I couldn't believe it when I listened to Zimo's analysis, but I suppose it's not far from the truth now that I've spoken to you. Gu Qiwu should be the person Lingshi and we have been looking for!"

"I sensed that something wasn't right when all the evidence pointed towards Qi Qiming. If it really was Qi Qiming, he wouldn't have that kind of relationship with Lu Xinlan. Moreover, Qi Qiming was in contact with Lu Xinlan before she met my aunt. Do you think Lu Xinlan would have allowed my aunt to have a romantic relationship with Qi Qiming?" Mu Yuchen looked at Su Chen as he spoke calmly.

"That's impossible. I do remember Sis Lan being on very good terms with Aunt Mu Zi, but when romance is involved, friendship can get pretty fragile there."

"That's why I didn't think Qi Qiming was that person, but I still did a DNA test just to make sure, and the results confirmed my guess."

"Lu Xinlan probably knew something, but she didn't want to spill it even right before her death. I'm not sure what she was trying to do." Su Chen's eyes were filled with doubt as he spoke.

Mu Yuchen glanced over at the blood-stained area on his collar before he closed his eyes. "She knew. Actually, she's just trying to protect my aunt. I can understand what she felt. Maybe she felt responsible for my aunt's unfortunate end and her neglect towards Lingtian and Lingshi."

Su Chen found it a little hard to breathe all of a sudden. He calmed down before looking at Mu Yuchen firmly. "How are you going to tell Lingshi this? Does she know? I don't think she can take it if she finds out!"

He could not imagine how huge of an impact this would be on her if this news made it out to the public! Suddenly, he understood why they could not find the person after so many years of investigation.

Mu Yuchen did not reply as his expression darkened.

"But if it's really him, why didn't he reunite with Lingtian and Lingshi? Hasn't he always had a strained relationship with your family? How did he get together with Aunt Mu Zi?" Su Chen still found it unbelievable.

Mu Yuchen opened his eyes slowly as a faint light flashed in his eyes, yet he did not answer.

Su Chen stopped the conversation when he noticed that his expression seemed unwell. He handed the pack of cigarettes over, but Mu Yuchen declined it this time.

"What have you planned to get yourself out of this mess? I'm sure you have a plan since you're so calm under such circumstances. Glory World's shares are already affected. All the media are reporting about this, and Xi Xiaye is facing enormous pressure."

Mu Yuchen did not reply to Su Chen's question. He asked one instead, "How's Wang Qin?"

Su Chen's expression darkened, and he paused before replying, "She didn't make it."

Mu Yuchen's expression clouded as well. He looked downwards at the blood on his collar, not showing any emotions in particular, but Su Chen could feel a chilly aura emanating from him.

"Gu Lingsha's injury is minor. It was just a scratch on her arm. As for Wang Qin, if there's no evidence that can clear you of suspicion, you'll definitely be in trouble. Don't tell me you're really going to stay here." Su Chen glanced at Mu Yuchen in concern.

"Give it some time. I have a favor to ask from you," Mu Yuchen said quietly.

"Tell me."

Mu Yuchen looked at Su Chen for a while before he closed in. He whispered into Su Chen's ear, his expression going strained and then relaxing. Su Chen gave Mu Yuchen a complicated glance as he asked, "Are you sure?"

"Not really, but from my understanding, he'll probably do that. I'm not his only target. I've had people investigate his background. He got together with my aunt after he was married to Doris, and in that span of a few years, my aunt gave birth to Lingtian and Lingshi. It's already a fact that they are actual siblings. Do you think a man would find another woman if he truly loves his wife?" Mu Yuchen's tone was cold while his expression was still calm.

"So, you mean Gu Qiwu and Doris's lovey-dovey act is all fake?" Su Chen looked at Mu Yuchen in disbelief as he went over this newfound knowledge. "That's impossible, right? That reasoning feels too weak. Everyone in City B knows Gu Qiwu loves Doris. He could give up everything for her. He even offered 30% of Hui Gu Corporation's shares as a gift in order to show his sincerity in marrying her. It was huge news back then. Their wedding was extremely extravagant as well. It was one-of-a-kind! I attended dinners with them when I went abroad to work in City B before. That kind of bond between them can't possibly be faked."

But Lingshi...

How could that be explained?

Chapter 815. Inside Story (5)

Mu Yuchen did not explain. Instead, he grinned mysteriously.

"Ah Mo found something interesting in Australia. I'm sure he knows that I can't leave here for a little while. Contact him and tell him to return to France once he's done there. They need to stand their ground there."

Instead of replying Mu Yuchen, Su Chen started, "I heard from Xiaye that the perpetrator was trying to frame her, and you..."

A helpless expression surfaced on his face. "I'm not letting her bear this burden. It isn't my intention to involve her in this. Blocking her in the tunnel, and the accident at the wedding... Those were all warnings and provocations for me."

"It's great that Xiaye and you love each other, but with Wang Qin's death, I'm afraid Qi Lei... If he really does believe you did it, that just means he's a fool. There's no point being friends with him anymore!" Su Chen frowned.

Mu Yuchen smiled. "Qi Lei isn't that stupid. I have high hopes for him. I'm sure part of the intention behind this incident was to sever our trust, but that's not the main purpose. Glory World and Fuhua are working together to get South River Project No. 2. Our opponent is Qi Kai. They can't afford to let us get the project, that's one. Secondly, it should be because of Lingtian. I could sense that Ah Mo would give us some very important information."

"How are you so sure?" Su Chen asked as he frowned.

"Ah Mo has been working beside me for many years. I know how he works very well. He'd report to me almost every day whenever I sent him to work abroad, but this time around, he hasn't contacted me for several days. However, Lingshi frequently calls her sister-in-law, so they should be getting close to Lingshi."

Mu Yuchen suddenly thought of something. He looked at Su Chen as his eyes were tinted with slight loneliness. "Please get them some white lilies when you go and visit them tomorrow. Assure Xiaye that I'm fine and I'll be able to get out after a while. Tell her to take good care of herself." He sounded a little livelier.

Su Chen stared at him for a while before nodding, "Alright, I'll go according to your plan. Don't worry about your company. Zimo will do his best. Li Si and I will be sure to find the killer."

Mu Yuchen took a deep breath and closed his eyes once again, and Su Chen patted his shoulder as he stood up. "Don't worry, Brother! Wait for another few days!"

Su Chen then left.

This incident was too huge to hide from Shen Yue. Lan Zilang quickly informed him right after he signed the contract with the buyer.

Shen Yue was stunned for a moment, but he quickly calmed down.

After going through so much in his life, Shen Yue was level-headed. He gave it some thought before saying to Lan Zilang, "How's Xiaye doing? She didn't even call when such a thing happened, did she?"

Lan Zilang seemed worried. "Elder CEO, Ms. Xiaye is probably very busy. Take a look at Glory World's shares on the Internet. I also heard Wang Qin passed away last night, and Chairman Mu was detained. It sounds terrible! Weren't they busy preparing the documents to be submitted to the government? Alas, this has happened at such a critical time! What should we do?" He was worried sick, and it all showed on his face.

Shen Yue hesitated for a moment before saying, "Don't worry about it for now. Stay put and see what happens next. Do not use the funds we just got from selling the land. We'll see how Glory World does. We might need to help if they aren't doing well."

"Yes, Elder CEO! Regarding the South River Project..." Lan Zilang asked.

"The South River project? I won't let Qi Qiming get this so easily! Raise the prices of our lands around the area. At the same time, release news that I'm going to purchase the land there at a high price. That's the core location for South River Project No. 2, a property of Hua Heng Property. That old man, Hua Heng, is a long-time friend of mine. He should be grateful that I'm doing him a favor!" Lan Zilang's eyes brightened up as he smiled admirably. "As expected of Elder CEO! I almost forgot about it! CEO Hua intended to sell the land a long time ago. However, the government couldn't offer him a price he liked, so the government instead threw this responsibility to the bidding companies. They are trying to use our network and connections. At the same time, they can spend less effort on it. If we get that plot of land, our chances of winning are much higher. Even if we fail to bid for the project, Qi Kai will need to spend a fortune for it!"

Shen Yue nodded. "Get this done as soon as possible. Also, find out what the situation is on Xiaye's end."

"Yes, Elder CEO!" Lan Zilang left quietly after a brief reply to Shen Yue.

The entrance to Glory World was flooded with reporters early in the morning. Li Si arranged for many security guards and barely managed to stop them at the parking outside of the entrance. It was noon when Xi Xiaye returned to the company.

Xi Xiaye visited Qi Lei's place after she left the police station, but Qi Lei refused to meet anyone. Even Yang Sheng had to stand by outside. Xi Xiaye could not do anything, so she went back to Glory World.

When she arrived at her office, Xiao Mei came over and told her that CEO Zhou was here.

It was Zhou Zimo!

Xi Xiaye then remembered Su Chen's words from before. She was exhausted from the stress and pressure she was facing, thus she seemed a little out of herself when she met Zhou Zimo.

"I got the gist of what happened. Su Chen called me and said he's doing well inside. He's just a little worried about you. He told you not to worry and that he'll be out in a few days. Go rest. Leave the company to Vice President Zhang and the rest. I'll help as much as possible."

Zhou Zimo's eyes were filled with concern. "That man won't fall so easily. Have some faith in him."

Chapter 816. Mastermind? (1)

Xi Xiaye nodded gratefully. "Thank you." Her voice sounded tired and hoarse.

Zhou Zimo returned a smile before glancing over at Xiao Mei. "Get Director Xi to rest. I'll go talk to the Vice Presidents and see what's happening."

Xiao Mei gave a brief affirmative reply before he left.

Although Glory World's share prices fell sharply, they were still able to stabilize their core operations as they took precautionary measures early. Xi Xiaye was so exhausted that she fell asleep the moment she arrived in Mu Yuchen's resting lounge.

She woke up hungry the next morning. She could still hear the sound of the rain pouring outside.

As she walked out of the restroom after washing up, there was a knock on the door. Xiao Mei came in with breakfast.

"Have some breakfast, Director Xi. I thought you might be up right now." Xiao Mei smiled.

Xi Xiaye nodded as she grabbed the remote control and switched on the screens on the wall. She asked as she observed the market shares, "Where are Vice President Zhang and the rest?"

"Vice President Zhang and Vice President Wen worked for a full day, so they went back home at midnight yesterday. They should be arriving at work soon. By the way, Elder CEO Shen dropped by just now and spoke to Master Mo in the meeting room. He went back when he realized you were still asleep. He told you to go back to Shen Residence tonight."

Grandpa?

Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment. She then remembered she could not possibly hide such huge news from him, and with the South River project at its critical moment, she felt stressed again. She studied the shares and noticed that the losses were not as severe as yesterday. The Vice Presidents had discussed and decided to halt the two big projects they were working on at the moment and solely focus on the South River project because they were not sure what the government would do.

"I got it. Give Uncle Lan a call and tell him I'll be going back tonight."

Xi Xiaye grabbed the breakfast from Xiao Mei, chewing while having her eyes glued to the screen. Her thoughts were to ask help from her grandpa if things did not get better.

...

Inside the office of Qi Kai Corporation's CEO.

Qi Qiming had been staying in his office ever since he came back from the hospital. He did not step out of the room at all.

"CEO Qi, I just received news that CEO Wang's remains can proceed for cremation now..." the secretary spoke carefully, afraid to disturb Qi Qiming who had maintained the exact same position on his chair for a very long time.

Qi Qiming opened his eyes slowly. It was a rare occasion to see his sharp eyes darken as he asked, "Where's Qi Lei?"

"He locked himself up inside his room in the Grand Lake Villa, Master Qi. Second Master... It's taken a huge impact on him. CEO Wang already left, CEO Qi..."

"Tell him that his mother is getting cremated tomorrow. Keep everything simple."

After fighting for their whole lives, it was not his intention to see her end up like this. Although he hated her, he felt empty inside him now that she was gone. He was used to her existence, or else he would not be feeling that tiny bit of grief at this moment.

"Yes, CEO Qi!"

His secretary was about to leave, but Qi Qiming then said, "Wait!"

"CEO Qi?" His secretary turned around and waited for Qi Qiming's orders.

"Gather the stakeholders for an emergency meeting. Let Qi Lei take over CEO Wang's position," Qi Qiming said.

Qi Qiming's secretary was stunned. He just heard Vice President Yue talking about how easy it would be for CEO Qi to take over the whole company now that CEO Wang was gone, yet...

"CEO Qi, you mean...?" His secretary was unsure.

"Tell him to get back to work. There's no point to be sad over a dead person now!" Qi Qiming took a deep breath and said.

"Yes, CEO Qi!" The secretary did not dare to question Qi Qiming's decision, and he left the room after a brief reply.

Qi Qiming's phone started ringing the moment the door was closed. Qi Qiming picked it up without looking at the caller's name.

"Hello?" His hoarse voice reached the other end.

"Come over. I'll be waiting for you at the usual place." A cold, deep voice came back to him.

Qi Qiming froze slightly when he heard the voice. There were waves of emotions in his eyes. "It's you!"

The man on the other end laughed coldly before hanging up on the call.

Qi Qiming was dazzled for a moment before finally coming back to his senses. He kept his phone and put on his coat before finally leaving his office.

The rain still continued. It was cold even sitting inside the car.

Their usual meeting place was at a dam near the river on the outskirts of City Z.

That man had already arrived when Qi Qiming reached.

Dressed in a black outfit and a black cap, with a pair of large sunglasses covering his face, he stood in the rain without an umbrella. He was watching the grass quietly, and there was no one else aside from him at the tranquil scene.

Qi Qiming could smell the stench of cigarettes when he got near. He also heard some light coughing, and the scarf on his neck was swaying as the wind blew.

The man tossed his cigarette into the dam when he sensed someone was near.

"You're here." He turned back and glanced at Qi Qiming.

Chapter 817. Mastermind? (2)

Qi Qiming walked to his side and stopped, meeting the other person's gaze. His eyes flickered from dark to light as he fixed his gaze on the person before him.

That person stood there quietly too. Unmoving, he let Qi Qiming size him up. Moments after, he slowly pulled down his sunglasses and revealed that distinctly grave and stern handsome face. Those deep eyes of his did not conceal his sharpness, and there was an indescribably chilly aura all over him.

Apart from Gu Qiwu, who else could it be?

"Was it you who did it? You killed her, didn't you?"

Qi Qiming's gloomy gaze revealed a flash of hostility as he coldly stared at Gu Qiwu.

Gu Qiwu did not respond. Instead, he quietly put on his sunglasses again and turned to look at Qi Qiming with a faint smile. "You don't seem too upset. Haven't you always hated her? Whoever could help you finish her off this time is a good thing for you anyway."

"I didn't tell you to kill her. No matter what, she's still..."

"Still what?"

Before Qi Qiming could finish, Gu Qiwu had already indifferently cut him off. His deep voice was colored with disdain. "Your woman? Or your wife? I don't think you've cared about that all these years. Coming to a realization and having remorse doesn't seem like something Qi Qiming would do."

"You're crazy! Did you kill her? Tell me!"

Qi Qiming's expression was as gloomy as the sky before a storm. Veins popped on his forehead as he fixed his gaze on Gu Qiwu.

Compared to Qi Qiming's fury, Gu Qiwu was much calmer. He smiled indifferently and said, "For what reason are you certain that it's me and not Mu Yuchen? Isn't there conclusive evidence on him already? This incident is a good thing for both me and you."

"But I never wanted her to die! Who told you to act by yourself? You're cruel!" Qi Qiming lowered his voice and said through gritted teeth.

Gu Qiwu smiled without a care as he gave Qi Qiming a side look. "She's already dead. Have you come to reveal your feelings for her? If we're talking about cruelty, how cruel can it be compared to you, Qi Qiming? You know very well yourself how you've been treating the mother and son all these years, and how many women you've let down. Wang Qin was quite smart. She didn't fall for it. This time, I've helped you get rid of huge trouble for the future. You should at least say thank you to the person who helped you."

"You... No matter what, she was still my woman and Qi Lei's mother. Gu Qiwu you can be heartless, but I can't necessarily do that too!" Qi Qiming's expression was exceptionally gloomy as he stared coldly at Gu Qiwu's stern face.

Gu Qiwu looked extremely calm. He calmly examined Qi Qiming for a long while. You could not hear any emotions from his voice as he spoke, "Okay, no need to act all soft-hearted now. The wheels are already

set in motion, so what's the use of talking about it now? Once Mu Yuchen is halted, Glory World Corporation might as well have collapsed, and the South River project will no doubt fall into your hands. You can have complete control of the entire Qi Kai, so what else are you unhappy about?"

"Did you want to take down Glory World by so carefully going against Mu Yuchen?" Qi Qiming stared coldly at Gu Qiwu. through that pair of sunglasses, he could not see Gu Qiwu's reaction.

"Why else did you think? If you think that this reason isn't sufficient enough, then you can just assume that I'm taking revenge for Lingsha and Wei Wei." Gu Qiwu's voice was cold. One could tell whether that tone was real or fake.

"Mu Tangchuan won't willingly let his son stay at that place for too long."

"Then, they will have to find evidence for Mu Yuchen to be clear of suspicion. I don't know about this either. I only heard about it. All the huge media are fighting to report on it, so it'd be hard to not know about it. At the end of the day, it was just a woman. I'll put more joss sticks on for her for future Qingming

Festivals and just grieve a little. I've asked you not to forget your original intentions."

As Gu Qiwu said this, he sighed calmly. "Okay, we'll just let this matter pass. There's still much to do after this. The news from Ah Feng's end came. The surgery's very successful, and soon he'll be able to return. Wei Wei will come home too. When that happens, you should let them consider marriage. Wei Wei's really cute, don't you think so?"

When Gu Qiwu said that, a light flickered in Qi Qiming's eyes, yet he did not answer.

"We'll use this time to hit Mu Yuchen down. You know Ah Feng hates him to the bone. Sigh, now that he's like this, and Wei Wei... That way, at least Ah Feng would feel better. Okay, go home. The rain's getting heavy. I won't be going to the funeral tomorrow. My condolences to you," Gu Qiwu said indifferently, and then turned around to walk away.

Qi Qiming felt rigid all over. He turned to watch Gu Qiwu's figure gradually move away as fury flashed in his eyes. After that, it slowly turned into a complicated gaze, and finally, he could only take in a deep breath. Both his hands suddenly covered his face, and after a while, he put both his hands down.

Gu Qiwu walked back to his car in the cold rain. The person who sat in the front passenger's seat was his person assistant, Ah Yong.

Gu Qiwu had just gotten into the car when Ah Yong asked softly, "Boss, are we going straight back to City B now?"

Gu Qiwu looked up at the sky, and then glanced at the watch on his wrist. He thought about it, then said, "Let's make a trip to the cemetery."

"Don't you want to visit Miss Lingsha, Boss?" Ah Yong asked softly. He paused, and then added on, "Her arm's quite injured, and it affected her previous wound too. After that accident, every time when the weather is like this, she would..."

Gu Qiwu's eyes darkened. He thought for a moment, then responded, "No need. After going through so many things, she's stronger than we think."

"Boss, do you really think that person slipped up? I've checked. He's never slipped up. Didn't you say to just give a little warning?" Ah Yong suddenly asked softly.

When he said that, Gu Qiwu's slightly good-looking face flashed with a smile. However, that smile did not seem genuine.

"Assassins right now are all very clever, especially at that ranking. We have to be more careful. If I guess correctly, that person has probably chosen to escape to Europe, hasn't he?"

"How do you know, Boss?" Ah Yong looked a little surprised at Gu Qiwu as a light of disbelief surfaced in his eyes.

Gu Qiwu only scoffed as he took the newspaper from the side and said coldly, "He's been pulling some smart tricks in front of me, using me to get rid of Wang Qin. That's quite a brilliant move."

Chapter 818. Mastermind? (3)

Upon hearing Gu Qiwu, Ah Yong's gaze sank. He thought about it seriously and then realized that, of course, he knew who the so-called 'he' was referring to.

"Boss, if that's how it is, then the person who benefits the most would be him! Unfortunately, Boss, you have to take the blame for him. Boss, do you want to..."

Before Ah Yong could finish, Gu Qiwu had already lifted a hand to stop him from continuing. "Okay, let's just turn the page for this matter. Him getting promoted is a good thing for us. Qi Lei's already in shambles, Qi Qiming doesn't like him, and now upon getting hit with this blow, he might as well be crippled."

"Boss, you're right. Qi Lei and Mu Yuchen have always been on good terms. If we let him be promoted, it would do us no good. Even though the way Qi Feng cleared the obstacles was a little despicable, the results are powerful. I really didn't expect this fellow to be this merciless. I almost thought that there was a mishap. Unexpectedly, this reason cropped up. Boss, you're thorough with your analysis."

Ah Yong could not help but look admiringly at Gu Qiwu. He thought about it, then could not help but say, "Qi Lei is quite pitiful. He'd always thought so wishfully that..."

When Gu Qiwu heard him about to comment further, his eyes darkened and he suddenly said coldly as he turned to look away at the hazy night, "Drive."

Noticing that his boss's tone was not quite right, Ah Yong quietly shut his mouth and quietly walked over to start the car.

At this moment, Mu Yuchen was sitting cross-legged and meditating. He quietly combed through the many things that happened recently from start to end. He was about to get up when he suddenly felt like someone was staring at him. Then, he quietly opened his eyes and what greeted his sight was his own father, Mu Tangchuan.

Mu Tangchuan stood quietly outside the door, his gentle and handsome face colored with a hint of worry. He looked as if he had aged quite a bit as he silently watched him.

"Father? Why are you here?" Mu Yuchen frowned while a faint warmth could not help but flash past in his eyes. He propped himself up to get up.

Mu Tangchuan quietly stared at him for quite a while before pushing the door to enter.

"Have a seat." Mu Yuchen pushed the only chair in the room to Mu Tangchuan while he sat down on the bed.

Mu Tangchuan did not reject it. He sat down quietly, his gaze remaining on Mu Yuchen. After a while, he asked in a deep voice, "Did you do it?"

"No," Mu Yuchen answered swiftly.

"Was it Xiaye?" Mu Tangchuan asked again.

"No." Mu Yuchen's tone was very firm.

When Mu Tangchuan heard that, he nodded and said in a deep voice, "That's good then. If it's not you, then I won't let anyone recklessly frame my son!"

Upon hearing that, Mu Yuchen's gaze softened. "Father, you don't have to worry about me getting out. You and Mother should just stabilize your own matters. This incident can have huge implications. You and Mother have been quite pressured too."

"Enough, we're already here. Don't say these things now. These two days, I've been getting orders from your grandparents. They say that your mother and I care too little for you. I thought about it, and it's true that your mother and I haven't done well enough all these years. When she knew that something happened to you, your mother rushed back. She's not in a great state either."

Mu Tangchuan's tone contained a hint of reprimand as he fixed his eyes on Mu Yuchen. "Xiaye's already told me about the whole thing. Don't think that you'll be just fine like this. Wang Qin's already dead, so this is going to be a sticky situation. She's also someone influential in the field, and the backlash is bad."

"If I say I'll be fine, then I will be."

"Why are you still in here if you're fine? Are you at your wits' end?" Mu Tangchuan frowned and squinted at him as he asked.

"I just wanted to prove my guess back then, but afterward, it all happened too quickly," Mu Yuchen responded frankly.

"Your guess?" A puzzled looked flashed in Mu Tangchuan's eyes.

Mu Yuchen nodded gently and calmly lowered his gaze, his expression composed as usual. "Mmm, I have a way to prove my innocence. I just need some time."

"That means you're planning on staying here for quite a while then? It's not looking good at Glory World, and it's hard for Xiaye to hold on alone." Mu Tangchuan did not continue asking.

Mu Yuchen's gaze dimmed, and he said calmly, "I know. Tell her that I won't take too long."

"Okay, I will. Three days, in three days, if you can't completely resolve this matter, then go with my arrangements." Mu Tangchuan's tone was quite solemn while his eyes were filled with a determination that could not be rejected.

Mu Yuchen paused, and after that, he suddenly smiled gladly and nodded. "Thanks, Father."

Mu Tangchuan then lifted a hand to pat his shoulder. "Well then, you shall have to be wronged for the next few days."

Mu Yuchen cleared his throat and said with a lowered voice, "No worries, I can get used to it. It's much better than the army days, but it's cold at night. Father, can you ask them to prepare a cleaner blanket? And bring me two sets of clean clothes to change into. I haven't had a shuteye in almost two days." Mu Tangchuan raised his brows and looked at his son's handsome face before grinning. "Considering my abilities, I can get you some blankets? And clothes to change into? Do you think this detention center is a luxury hotel that you're staying at for work abroad? Spoiled brat!"

"Father..." Mu Yuchen frowned.

"Consider it an experience of life here. I'm leaving now!" Mu Tangchuan did not stay to negotiate. Before Mu Yuchen could speak up again, he already turned to leave the room.

As he watched Mu Tangchuan leave, Mu Yuchen's brows furrowed into a knot. He suddenly thought if it was him who brought this upon himself.

He had sacrificed so much to come to this horrid place...

After he stayed quiet for a while, someone suddenly came. It was a very young policeman holding clean blankets and clothes that Mu Yuchen usually changed into. He respectfully said to him, "Master Mu, it's quite cold and a little humid too. Everyone's changed to new sheets. This is yours, and here are some clothes for you to change into. Missus Mu specially sent it over."

When Mu Yuchen heard that, his brows that were furrowed slowly smoothened out. He quickly got up and asked, "Where's she?"

One could hear a hint of anxiousness from his tone.

The policeman said, "She's gone back, Master Mu. You still can't see any family members or people as you wish. Please understand!"

Mu Yuchen then sighed as he sat back down helplessly. The hands underneath his sleeves slowly tightened into fists. His heart that had always been calm finally could not help but begin to feel a hint of annoyance.

Chapter 819. Mastermind? (4)

The sky turned dark as the rain continued to fall. It was only 5 p.m. in the evening, but the sky became gloomy. The cars on the streets started turning on their lights. A black car was parked on the roadside.

Ah Yong came down from the car with an umbrella.

"Boss, we're here!"

Gu Qiwu got out of the car. He raised his hand and stopped Ah Yong as he stood under the rain and extended his arm towards him.

Ah Yong quickly handed him the two bouquets of white lilies. Gu Qiwu took the flowers and then instructed, "Wait down here." He pushed his sunglasses up his nose bridge as he climbed up the staircase.

Ah Yong turned around and watched as Gu Qiwu walk up the staircase, his expression solemn. He would accompany his boss here almost every year, but his boss would never let him go up with him. He did not know whose grave he was visiting as he was very mysterious when it came to this.

He had worked for a long time alongside his boss and knew that his boss kept a lot of things to himself. He was an extremely cautious and doubtful person. Even he could not gain his full trust, and his boss was also wary of his own wife. No one could enter his boss's office without his permission, including his wife.

However, he knew his boss had a long history of conflict with Glory World's Mu Yuchen. His boss probably would not have put in so much effort just for Ms. Lingsha and Ms. Weiwei, but if it was for Glory World... Could an enormous company like that just fall so easily?

His boss had said it himself. Mu Yuchen was a genius businessman. He might even be more talented than Qi Feng, and his boss rarely gave compliments.

Ah Yong never asked too many questions. His boss hated subordinates who talked too much, so he went back into the car and waited patiently.

The staircase felt endless every time Gu Qiwu came by, and he always felt exhausted when he finally arrived at his destination.

It was an old gravestone unlike the one beside it which was still quite new.

Mu Zixi. Date of birth, XX year XX month XX day. Date of death, XX year XX month XX day.

Gu Qiwu put the flowers onto the gravestone, staring at the photo for a very long while. "These are for you. You always complained that I never gave you any flowers in the past. What's so good about them? I never liked flowers because they wilt too easily, just like you."

Gu Qiwu took a deep breath, closing his eyes behind his pair of large sunglasses. He opened his eyes moments later and took out a cigarette and started smoking. His eyes never moved away from the photo. "Mu Yuchen is too smart. From the moment he auctioned that pen, I already guessed that he was starting to get suspicious."

He walked aside and stopped before Mu Lingtian's grave, studying Mu Lingtian's photo for a while. "Stay beside your mother. I'll take revenge for you. You're as innocent as your mother. How could you think of Qi Feng as a brother? He even did something stupid... Everyone thought Mu Yuchen was innocent, yet... you... you don't only have one sister."

He took out another cigarette and lit it up before putting it on Mu Lingtian's gravestone.

"It's a relief that you don't know about it. Rest in peace here. I hope you two will never be bothered."

Gu Qiwu looked up to the gray sky before he gave a final glance at Mu Zi's photo before throwing the cigarette in his hand away and leaving.

The stormy sky quieted down as Gu Qiwu's shoulders started to get wet after standing in the rain for so long. His tall figure seemed so lonely.

Gu Qiwu never expected there to be another tall figure behind a nearby gravestone. His handsome face was strained as his eyes were sharp and cold. He also had two bouquets of beautiful white lilies in his hand.

Who else could it be other than Su Chen?

Su Chen remained at his spot as he stared at the person who walked down the staircase. His face was strained as he felt depressed.

Mu Yuchen had told him to wait there, so he stood there since early morning. Just as he thought Mu Yuchen had miscalculated and was about to leave, Gu Qiwu actually came!

He heard everything Gu Qiwu just said and even recorded his voice. Although the recording was not perfect, it was good enough to hear what he said.

Su Chen slowly processed Gu Qiwu's words as he felt moody. He took a deep breath before heading towards Mu Zixi's and Mu Lingtian's graves.

•••

Several days passed by.

On the third morning since Wang Qin's death, in Qi Lei's private villa at the Grand Lakes Villa area.

Thud!

Together with the sound of the door being crushed, the lock fell onto the floor as the door was forcefully pulled apart.

Yang Sheng smelled the heavy stink of alcohol everywhere. He quickly rushed inside and looked around, finally finding Qi Lei near the thick curtains by the windows.

There were empty bottles everywhere. Qi Lei just sat on the floor with his back leaning against the cold wall. He was covered by the curtain, his face pale.

"Master Qi!" Yang Sheng sensed that something was wrong. His expression changed as he quickly rushed over to get Qi Lei up.

However, Qi Lei slumped onto the floor the moment he touched him.

"Master Qi! What's wrong?" Yang Sheng was shocked as he helped him up and touched Qi Lei's forehead...

Chapter 820. Remember Her (1)

It was burning hot!

He was having a fever!

"Master Qi! You have a fever! Go and rest on the bed! Hey, you, come over and help me!" Yang Sheng called out to the locksmith standing beside the door.

They managed to pull Qi Lei onto the bed. Yang Sheng then started looking around for medicine frantically.

"Master Qi, the last time, CEO Wang..." Yang Sheng stopped his sentence halfway as he realized her name should not be mentioned. He took a deep breath and looked at Qi Lei cautiously. Then, he calmed down when he did not react. He knocked himself on the head before continuing to look for the medicine box.

Qi Lei was completely sober, but he just felt sapped of strength. After drinking for several days, he was exhausted. He slowly opened his eyes and stared at the ceiling without moving an inch.

It took Yang Sheng some time to find the medicine box inside the drawer in the living room. He opened the box and saw many medications prepared such as gastric pills, paracetamol...

These were all prepared by Wang Qin beforehand, and now she was gone. It felt like a nightmare!

Yang Sheng stared at the pills for some time as his eyes started to get teary.

Wang Qin was pretty kind to him when she was still alive. He had been working for Wang Qin for many years and was arranged to stay with Qi Lei afterward. He was really grateful for the opportunity Wang Qin gave him, and now...

He took a deep breath before taking the paracetamol and a glass of warm water back to Qi Lei's bedroom.

He felt depressed when he saw Qi Lei staring blankly at the ceiling with a pale face. He went over and placed a glass of water and the pills on his bedside table. "Master Qi, you're having a fever. Please take the medicine, or else, you won't recover. It's been several days since you last ate anything."

Ding dong—

Dong dong-

Someone rang the doorbell as Yang Sheng spoke.

Yang Sheng was distracted for a moment. He glanced at Qi Lei before going to get the door.

To his surprise, he found Xi Xiaye and Li Si outside, but he hesitated for a moment before opening the door.

"Director Xi, Assistant Li, why are you two here? Please come in." Yang Sheng's expression was glum, but he still forced a smile as he spoke.

Xi Xiaye took a deep breath before she nodded. "I heard CEO Wang is going to be cremated today. The memorial service..."

"CEO Qi wants to keep it simple. CEO Wang never liked bustling events anyway. The funeral is supposed to be today, but Master Qi..." Yang Sheng took a deep breath as he closed his eyes.

"What happened to him?" Xi Xiaye asked as she looked straight at Yang Sheng.

Li Si's expression darkened as well. He could sense something wrong after taking a quick glance around the house. He started to feel depressed as he remembered Qi Lei's usual smile and thought about the kind of life he was living.

It was hard to imagine that a carefree, flirtatious person would actually be...

Yang Sheng took a pause. He inhaled a deep breath and then sighed. "Master Qi locked himself up in the house for several days. Today is CEO Wang's funeral, so I had a locksmith force the door open. I found Master Qi passed out on the floor with a fever. CEO Wang is gone now, but he needs to get himself together."

Xi Xiaye's heart sank as a sourness rose in the back of her throat. She turned towards Li Si as he gave her a sad glance, then she walked upstairs.

"I'll go and take a look at him."

•••

Her small figure soon disappeared at the end of the staircase.

Qi Lei had been reduced to such a state in just a few days.

Xi Xiaye watched Qi Lei as he stared at the ceiling blankly, and she frowned.

She thought he never cared about Wang Qin. He had always acted against his mother, yet he had been on the verge of breaking down when she passed away.

Xi Xiaye did not know how to comfort him. There was nothing she could do to bring Wang Qin back to life.

"Get up and take the medicine. Today is CEO Wang's funeral. You have to go and send her on her final journey no matter what." Xi Xiaye handed him the glass of water and the pills.

However, Qi Lei did not move at all. It was as if he did not hear anything.

"CEO Wang wanted you to take good care of yourself during her final moments. She can only rest in peace if you're well, Qi Lei." Xi Xiaye looked at the pills in her hands. "She's already gone. The living still have a life to live. You're going to suffer if you continue like this. There are a lot of things you need to do." She dragged the blanket away from Qi Lei.

Qi Lei's eyes reacted slightly when he felt cold. He looked at Xi Xiaye who was worried about him. His eyes turned red as he watched her. It felt like ice needles were piercing his heart which felt cold and painful. He felt suffocated.

He watched her quietly for a while before closing his eyes.

"Alright, get up and take the medicine. Then, have something to eat afterward." Xi Xiaye took a deep breath and held his shoulder. She glanced at Li Si behind her who quickly came up and held Qi Lei's other shoulder. Together, they helped him get up.

"Assistant Yang, could you please cook some simple porridge?" Xi Xiaye took the pills out and gave them to Qi Lei as she asked.

Yang Sheng was stunned for a moment. He then nodded. Relieved to see Qi Lei coordinating, he quickly rushed downstairs to prepare as he responded, "Yes, I'll make it right away!"