Loving 831

Chapter 831. Master Mu Returns (3)

Su Chen went quiet. He rubbed his nose and said, "If this is true, you have to be careful with Qi Feng, Ah Chen."

Mu Yuchen handed the tablet back to Li Si, glancing out of the window. "It's within my expectations. Tell Ah Mo he doesn't need to stay there anymore. Get him to come back."

"Master, aren't we looking for Qi Feng anymore?" Li Si looked at Mu Yuchen in doubt.

"He has something he wants here, so he'll definitely be back. Given the current situation, it'd best benefit your Master. Though Qi Lei did lose out on a great deal of influence, he still holds a certain amount of power when his mother, Wang Qin, was around, but with her death, most of the people who sided with her now follow Qi Qiming."

Su Chen shrugged as he glanced at Mu Yuchen. "Ah Chen, I hope he isn't someone who can't stand up on his own. I know you have an interest in Qi Lei. He has a good heart, but I can't sense the determination in him. He isn't really resolute to do something. That drive of determination could be something core that is needed in many critical moments. This has been proven many times in history."

Mu Yuchen's eyes darkened as he put one hand on his forehead. "I don't understand. Why would Gu Qiwu want Wang Qin dead? Did Qi Qiming ask him to do so? Or was it Qi Feng?"

This question had been troubling Mu Yuchen and was the only thing he could not understand throughout this incident. He felt that Gu Qiwu had no reason to kill Wang Qin. Everything had its consequences, and Wang Qin's death did not seem to bring Gu Qiwu any benefits, so why would he have done that?

Su Chen gave it some thought before saying, "If you're sure it's Gu Qiwu's plan, then find the murderer to pinpoint him. Maybe he'll tell the truth."

Mu Yuchen shook his head. "Not really. We don't have any evidence to show that Gu Qiwu ordered him to do so, and the murderer's identity can only be investigated by the police. We can't waste our time

and energy on this. Actually, I'm quite lucky to get out of this tight spot. I felt uneasy when I received a call from Ah Bao. Unfortunately, I was unable to save Wang Qin."

"Master, I think the perpetrator's initial target was not Wang Qin, or else, Gu Lingsha wouldn't have gotten the injury on her arm." Li Si remembered something.

Mu Yuchen's eyes turned icy when her name was mentioned. He then asked, "Did Xi Xinyi do anything lately?"

"Not really. I thought she would go look for Gu Lingsha and the others when Master Mu was arrested, but she was acting cautiously." Li Si smiled.

"She's not so much of a fool after all." Mu Yuchen extended his arm towards Li Si and said, "Let me take a look at the share market."

Li Si quickly found the share market page and handed the tablet to Mu Yuchen. "It's stabilized all thanks to Missus's effort. She gathered Vice President Zhang Lan and the others on the night you were detained. They came up with a solution and worked with Master Mo tirelessly after that. She even asked Elder CEO Shen for help regarding the South River project."

Mu Yuchen looked at the data graphs as his eyes turned gentle and warm. He blinked and looked out of the car window, observing the moving scenery as his empty heart filled up in an instant.

Su Chen's eyes never left Mu Yuchen. He noticed his expression and gave his shoulder an understanding pat. "Alright, it's getting late now. Let's head back now. We can rest during the weekend tomorrow. Let me down at the junction ahead. I'm going back to my office to get something. You don't have to send me back."

Mu Yuchen returned the pat on the hand on his shoulder as he said gratefully, "Zimo and you have been a great help. Thank you, buddy."

Su Chen laughed and started teasing him, "That's alright. We have a 5km weighted run this weekend. Are you coming?"

"Maybe next week. Come over to Maple Residence with Zimo this weekend. It's been some time since we last gathered around. Weather like this calls for a barbeque. Ah Mo should be home in time as well. Li Si, come over too," Mu Yuchen suggested as he looked outside at the warm light.

Su Chen snapped his fingers and nodded. "Alright, see you then!"

"Remember to bring your wife along as well. Ji Zitong is quite close to Xiaye, so they can chat together. It's been some time since you got married to Ji Zitong. When are you having your wedding reception?" Mu Yuchen asked Su Chen a sudden question.

Su Chen was stunned for a moment. He then hit his own forehead and gasped. "I almost forgot if you didn't mention it. I've been busy working in my office and was pretty worn out with what happened to you, so I haven't got the time to bring her home. Her mother has been feeling unwell lately, so she went back to take care of her. I haven't told my family I'm married. I'm not sure if my sister knows by now."

Li Si coughed and blinked his eyes when he heard Su Chen. He suddenly felt sad for Ji Zitong.

Master Su! You don't have the understanding that you're already a married man!

Mu Yuchen glanced at Su Chen, feeling uncomfortable under his stare.

Su Chen curled up slightly and stared back at Mu Yuchen. "Don't look at me like I'm your prey. Go back and look at Xiaye instead!"

Chapter 832. Master Mu Returns (4)

Mu Yuchen's gaze did not change. Instead, he glared at him sharply. In the end, his gaze stayed on his empty ring finger.

Su Chen looked over without realizing what was wrong, and Li Si started laughing on his own.

Mu Yuchen put one hand on his forehead helplessly as he said, "You'd better not go back so early today. Head over to Imperial Sky Jewellery City and pick a ring for her. You can't mistreat your woman no matter how stingy you are."

Su Chen's face blushed slightly and he coughed lightly. "I'm not being stingy. I just wanted to wait for a good time to pick out a ring. Damn it, we've been buddies for decades! Do I look like a stingy man to you?" Anger was his way of hiding his embarrassment.

"Pretty much!" Mu Yuchen gave a swift reply.

The chauffeur stopped the car and reminded, "Master Su, we've arrived at the junction."

Su Chen punched Mu Yuchen in embarrassment before getting out of the car while mumbling, "You bastard! I've been so worried about you in the past week, you little..."

Mu Yuchen just smiled as he reminded, "Don't forget about this weekend. I'll call Zimo. Bring Ji Zitong over."

Su Chen waved his hand angrily before heading towards his office. His office was just right around the corner, so it was a short walk.

The fact that he was married had not really settled in yet, especially when he got really busy. After being married for around half a month, he got really busy because of work and Mu Yuchen's matters. Most of the time, it would already be past midnight when he returned home and Ji Zitong would be asleep, but she would usually leave some food for him, much to his appreciation.

Chen Ling was sick several days ago, so Ji Zitong had gone back to take care of her. He did not know when she would return since they only had a short conversation on the phone last night.

On the way back to his office, Su Chen decided to take things slow. He would only bring Ji Zitong back to the Su residence next week. His family knew what had happened to Mu Yuchen, so they did not bother him lately, and it was a blissful period for him. However, he felt it was appropriate to have his parents meet his wife since they were already married.

He soon arrived before his station and swiftly walked into his office.

Before Su Chen could have anything to drink, Secretary He came up to him and handed him a document. "Chief Su, these are the promotional materials from the headquarters. The Head Chief wants you to do the TV promotion."

Su Chen raised his eyebrows and flipped through it, not sounding very pleased. "Why me? Let that peacock in the west of the city do it. I'm not going!"

He was not interested in things like this. In contrast, the Deputy Chief in the west was much more interested and would welcome it every day.

Secretary He was helpless against his superior's attitude, so he started trying to convince him, "Chief Su, why don't you go for once? Make our station proud! I know you don't care, but you should consider our feelings when only Chief Du gets seen on TV, Chief Su! Chief Huang at the headquarters said—"

Secretary He cleared his throat as he mimicked Chief Huang's tone, "It's an important show. We need someone with a good image to attend. With a build like yours, don't go and embarrass yourself. You are representing our bureau as a whole! Let Deputy Chief Su from the north go. He's young and handsome. I bet he can charm all the women even without saying anything! That's it! Case closed!

"Chief Huang actually mentioned you specifically! If you attended it, you'd be the star in our bureau!"

Secretary He shot Su Chen a glance full of expectations, yet the latter was frowning.

"What? Do I look like I'm a model? Are you guys done with the promotional articles? Have you guys gone to observe the civilians? Is the report on the public opinion done? Don't always think about those useless things. If anyone wants me to go, ask him to go instead!" Su Chen ranted in frustration.

In shock, Secretary He quickly nodded and replied, "Yes! You're right, Chief Su!"

"Shut up! Go and get me a cup of tea! I'll fire you if you bug me about this again! Go and call that peacock in the west. Tell him to take this document and say Chief Huang told him to do so. Chop-chop!" Su Chen threw the document onto the table.

The loud sound shocked Secretary He who nodded quickly. "Yes, Chief Su!" He was too afraid to say anything, so he quickly grabbed the document and fled from Su Chen's office.

Su Chen's frown softened a little when he heard the sound of the door closing.

He was one of the fastest rising officers in recent years. His career after leaving the army had been smooth sailing. Being in his position at such a young age was not easy, so a lot of people were not impressed. Many people assumed he only reached where he was today because of his background, but only Su Chen himself knew what he was capable of. He was one of the most proficient officers as he spent a lot of time familiarizing himself with all the different kinds of work in the bureau.

He actually did not want to leave the army back then, but his family did not want him to disappear all the time. Moreover, Mu Yuchen and Zhou Zimo had already left the army as well, so he felt that there was no point staying anymore, hence he left. He thought his current career would be easier, but he became even busier than when he was in the army!

The things he did in the army were mostly testing and training, but what about now?

Su Chen felt exhausted just thinking about it. He pinched the space between his eyebrows and grabbed the document in front of him.

Chapter 833. Pick Her Up From Work (1)

Su Chen thought about it for a while, then decided to drop the topic. When he finished handling the matters on his desk and finished his cup of tea. The sky had already turned dark outside, and Secretary He had gone home too.

He read through the final document before realizing that it was quite late. He lifted his hand to check the time on his wrist. It was almost 6p.m., already past office hours. Su Chen then swiftly tidied the things on his table up.

The car slowly drove out of the entrance of the Traffic Bureau. When he made a turn and saw a couple holding hands and passing by, Su Chen thought about it for a while before going to look for Ji Zitong at

the flower shop. She had not gone home for quite a few days, but she should be going back today, should she not?

Inside Smile flower shop.

Ji Zitong had been busy the entire day because one of the employees had taken leave for the past few days. She could hardly catch her breath with all the work. In the evening, the farmer from the flower farm had decided to come over to verify the accounts, so she was busy up till now. Finally, she was done with everything.

Chen Ling had accidentally sprained her waist a few days ago as she was walking down the stairs. Right now, she was resting at home. Her condition was quite bad a few days ago, but now it was much better. Of course, consequently, she could not come help her out at the shop.

She worked till quite late, and after a few days, she felt quite worn out. Ji Zitong planned on going home earlier that day, of course, back to Su Chen's. She had not been back for almost a week now. Last night, when they were on the phone call, she wanted to say something, yet in the end, he had work to rush to, so they just hung up.

As she thought about this, she made a move and began to swiftly close her shop.

Just as she was about to move that flower basket of champagne roses, a large hand was already a step ahead of her as he picked up the basket with one hand.

Startled, Ji Zitong quickly looked up to see Su Chen's steadfast and dashing face greet her sight. He had changed out of his dark work clothes, and the casual metallic gray suit he wore showed off his tall figure. He looked like an elegant gentleman, stunning Ji Zitong for quite a while.

"What are you looking at? Aren't you packing up?" Master Su asked unromantically, then brought the flower basket into the shop.

Ji Zitong was dazed for a moment. She then picked up the other flower basket and walked in as well.

The husband and wife moved quickly. After a while, they were done packing up.

"Is Mother alright?" Su Chen asked as he picked up the windbreaker she left on the rack.

Ji Zitong took it from him. "She's fine. It's just a sprain of her wrist. She was calling me about her pain a few days ago. We went to check it out at the hospital but it wasn't a huge deal. After that, I got some Chinese ointment from my father and applied it a few times, then she was fine."

As she said this, Ji Zitong put on her windbreaker because it was still a little chilly outside.

"How do you have time to come over? How's the thing with Chairman Mu?" Ji Zitong had been paying attention to Xi Xiaye's matters recently as well.

"He's just been released. I went back to the Bureau to get some things, so I decided to come over too. Are you going home today?"

Su Chen reached out with his long arms and helped her fix her collar that had turned inwards. His expression was calm, yet his tone was one of asking.

Ji Zitong paused before she nodded and replied calmly, "Mmm, Mother's fine. I'll call them to inform them, so they won't wait for my return."

Then, she quickly took her phone out and gave Chen Ling a call. After she hung up, Su Chen closed the shop.

He had just started the car when he suggested, "It's the weekend tomorrow. Since we'll be on break, let's get some good ingredients tonight and rewards ourselves. I've been having fast food every day these past few days, and I can barely stand it."

Upon hearing that, Ji Zitong who was in the front passenger seat raised her brows. She said without objection, "Haven't you gotten used to that before this? I remember that when I first moved over, you told me that you haven't used that kitchen for at least half a month."

Su Chen looked up and glanced at Ji Zitong. "That was a special phase when I was busy with work, so I naturally wouldn't have time to manage all this. In fact, it's hard to cook for just one person and I don't like eating leftovers."

"You're quite a pampered one. When we were in the army, I didn't see you have this habit. Once you joined the government, you've gotten quite a bit of temperament. In fact, you've become rather delicate," Ji Zitong responded casually.

When Chief Su heard her comment, he felt quite unhappy. He frowned and squinted at Ji Zitong before turning his gaze ahead again as he said softly, "Ji Zitong, do you realize that you have a very bad habit? It urgently needs to be tackled and rectified."

"What?" Doubt passed Ji Zitong's eyes as she looked at him calmly.

Su Chen's brows furrowed even more as he said in a serious tone, "Don't you realize that you often attack people with your words? Especially me. Every time I talk to you, you attack me at least once. This is a really bad habit. I'm fine listening to you because I'm tolerant, but if it's someone else, then that might not be the case."

"Listening to you, I can hear two critical points. Firstly, you, Su Chen, have a high tolerance. Secondly, I frequently attack you with my speech. So, which one is your main point? The first or the second?" Ji Zitong straightened her fingers as she spoke to him.

When Su Chen heard, he immediately chuckled. "What do you think?"

"I think that you were emphasizing more on the first," Ji Zitong said frankly.

Actually, Ji Zitong probably did not know that all three of the buddies, Su Chen, Mu Yuchen and Zhou Zimo, were all narcissists. That was why they were good friends.

Su Chen laughed out loud, not refuting it. "I'm telling the truth. I admit that I'm also praising myself, but your words are really making me uncomfortable. The days in the army are long gone. I've taken those experiences as one of my growth. Keeping some memories of it will do. There's no need to maintain that

lifestyle. Many people felt suppressed and almost broke down when they were in there. Once they got through it, only did they feel nostalgia for it."

Ji Zitong silently listened and did not say anything.

"Ah, humans. It's not a bad thing to live life a little simpler and more comfortably. Life is all about living the way we find best. What do you think?"

"This is just hope. If we really want that to happen, it might not be as easy as we wish. Look, it's like you, isn't it? Aren't you still rushing about?"

When he heard her remark, the curve on Su Chen's lips became wider. "What's wrong? Still holding a grudge over the fact that I hung up on you last night?"

Chapter 834. Pick Her Up From Work (2)

Ji Zitong immediately rolled her eyes at him. "Do you think I have the time for that?"

"No," Master Su answered very firmly.

Ji Zitong's stiff expression then began to ease as she inhaled and look out of the car window. The sky had already turned dark outside while the streetlights on both sides were lit up. She could still see couples holding hands on the sidewalk or young lovers walking past in each other's embrace.

Ji Zitong actually quite liked the feeling of going for a spin in the car on wide roads like these as she watched these people and the streetscape. Of course, the ride should not coincide with the traffic like it did this moment because it would only ruin the mood.

The traffic lights turned red, and the car was trapped in a gridlock.

Su Chen turned and saw that she looked extremely bored, so he reached out to play some very soothing Latin music in the car.

Ji Zitong suddenly remembered that when he first sent her home, he was also playing songs like these, so she could not help but ask him, "Do you like foreign style music too?"

"I don't have a special preference. I quite like country music and folk music. I can't be certain about which one I like either. It's like how in high school, I liked pop music, but after joining the military academy, we're so exhausted from training every day that I'm not interested in any music. Once I left, I started listening to more of these, and then just got used to them," Su Chen responded calmly.

"It looks like you weren't satisfied with that lifestyle either," she said with a wry smile.

"You silly! Who would be happy with that kind of highly stressful and challenging life? However, it really trains one's willpower. In the future, I'd want to throw my child in there to train him for a bit too. Let him know that his old man used to enjoy that kind of life."

However, when Su Chen said that, Ji Zitong could not help but feel her heart palpitate as she stared at him in a daze.

Seeing her like that, Su Chen was bewildered for a moment too. After a while, he realized what he had just said. Then, he cleared his throat and shut his mouth to focus on driving while looking ahead instead while Ji Zitong only turned away and continued looking out of the window.

The car sped all the way. About half an hour later, they finally reached the neighborhood in which Su Chen's villa was. The husband and wife went to buy ingredients from the nearby supermarket. After that, they rushed back home.

Naturally, dinner was still prepared by Su Chen since Ji Zitong's culinary skills were not that great. Even though Su Chen did not usually like to cook, now that he had a wife, he obviously had to show his demeanor as a man. However, Ji Zitong helped with the cutlery.

Su Chen ate very quickly. In fact, in recent times, the husband and wife were coordinated in dividing the work in the kitchen.

After dinner, Su Chen did not rush up to the study room as he usually did. Instead, he sat down in front of the television in the living room and switched it on. He took out some tea leaves and was about to make tea to casually pass the time while Ji Zitong cleaned up the kitchen.

As Su Chen fiddled with the tea leaves, he shouted toward the kitchen door, "I'm making tea. What do you want to drink? Dahongpao? Or Pu Er?"

Inside the kitchen, Ji Zitong, who was washing the dishes, paused and quickly answered, "I'm not drinking any of that. Give me a cup of lemonade instead!"

Even though this man was quite annoying sometimes, his culinary skills were pretty impressive. At least, they were much better than hers, especially the simmer-friend sweet and sour fish. Although it was such a huge fish, Su Chen only had a few bites while the rest had gone into her belly. She even had two bowls of rice!

Right now, Ji Zitong thought it was terrifying as she thought about it. Since when has my appetite increased? I wonder if this is considered eating and drinking unreasonably.

She did not need to worry that she would get fat since she was just the type who would never get fat no matter what she ate. Her weight would always be the same. Furthermore, she was almost 1.7 meters tall, so even if she added on a few kilograms, she would not look fat easily.

However, she was quite full from the meal right now. She washed her bowl and walked over towards the sofa, caressing her belly and feeling stuffed. At that moment, she did not care about the man who was watching her calmly now.

Su Chen could not help but clear her throat as he lowered his head and chuckled.

Ji Zitong bluntly gave him a cold look.

"The way you eat, if I brought you to a buffet, you definitely won't lose out." Su Chen laughed and then handed her a pill to aid her digestion. "Have this. Sit for a bit and then take a shower, then you won't feel so bad afterward."

Ji Zitong took the pill and the lemonade that he made for her. She opened the bottle and quickly swallowed the pill.

"I haven't eaten anything the whole day. I only had time to have a slice of toast since there were quite a lot of things to do at the shop these past few days. I almost couldn't catch my breath."

"That's your body. You should look after it. How can you not eat? If you can't handle it, then hire one or two more people. You're just passing time anyway. Do you have to do everything yourself? Can't you just be an arm-flinging shopkeeper?"

Su Chen watched as she laid there and shifted a little, seeming quite uncomfortable. He then took a pillow and helped her by putting it behind her back to lie on it.

"Even if I'm just passing time, I can't be making a loss. The shop isn't huge to begin with. If something didn't happen to my mother and Xiao Bei didn't take leave, I usually could handle it. Right now, both of them aren't around, so I was a little overwhelmed."

Ji Zitong did not know why she would even care to discuss matters of her little business with the man.

Su Chen's still gaze swept across her bright and moving little face. Suddenly, his eyes lowered and instantly fell onto her empty fingers. The words Mu Yuchen had said to her before quickly flashed in her mind.

He muttered to himself for a moment before suddenly telling her, "Don't go to the shop first tomorrow. Go somewhere with me."

"Where?" Ji Zitong turned to her side and silently looked at him.

Su Chen's eyes flickered for a while before he smiled mysteriously. "You'll find out tomorrow!" Then, he silently looked down and continued drinking his tea.

Nevertheless, Ji Zitong only examined him unhurriedly. When she saw that he was not planning on explaining, she did not ask him further and lowered her head to drink. "Right, if you're free next week,

find a time to visit my home with me. My father's been talking about it recently, and we're still newlyweds."

Su Chen was taken by surprise. After a while, he looked apologetically at her. "I'm sorry. I overlooked that. We'll go back to visit tomorrow. The day after tomorrow, Ah Chen's invited us to his place for a barbeque."

Chapter 835. Pick Her Up From Work (3)

"Are you going to Chairman Mu's place for a barbeque?" Ji Zitong muttered softly.

Su Chen nodded gently as he finished the tea in his cup before continuing, "Mmm, we buddies used to always gather together. Next time, you'll have to try blending into our lives too. You've probably met Ah Chen many times, and Zimo's a pretty easygoing person too."

Ji Zitong naturally knew the three of them. She pondered for a while, then nodded. "Mmm, got it."

"Xiaye's a pretty great person. In fact, you're quite close to her, so you can keep in touch with her more from time to time. This time it's considered a celebration for Ah Chen. Just leave the present to me."

Su Chen massaged the tension between his brows and got up with waning interest. "Okay, go upstairs when you're done drinking. I'm going upstairs for a shower. I'll prepare the bathwater for you."

Ji Zitong nodded silently while Su Chen's tall figure walked past her.

...

The cold night grew late and the moon hung high up in the sky. The crisp splendor of the moon shone all over the ground, reflecting the faint mist and engulfing the entire Grand Waves Villa in a mesmerizing haze. The cool breeze rustled past, turning the twilight into a light muslin dancing in the wind.

At the moment inside Maple Residence, it was also a time of glorious lights. The two rows of streetlights in the front yard were indistinctly releasing a faint luster. Unlike the haziness from a few days ago, right now it seemed to emit a clear and bright warmth.

Mu Yuchen went straight home after parting ways with Su Chen. When he reached Maple Residence, only Sis Wang and the few servants were at home. Mu Zicheng was at the old Mu residence because it had been an unusual period of time recently, so he stayed with Wang Hui, Aunt Fang and Aunt Lin there. Wang Hui and the rest had the experience and energy to take care of the child, hence Xi Xiaye felt assured leaving him with them.

After some thought, Mu Yuchen decided to cook, and properly reward his lady, Xi Xiaye.

When Mu Yuchen was busy in the kitchen, Sis Wang felt like she could not really help out. Then, she looked at the clock on the wall in the living room, and the time had slowly inched towards 8 p.m. It was already quite late, so then she voiced out her concern, "Master, Missus has been coming home quite late these past few days. Two days ago, she was also busy till 9 p.m. before going home. How about we call her tonight to urge her to come back? I'm afraid she still doesn't know that you've been released."

The busy Mu Yuchen then stopped what he was doing to turn and look at Sis Wang. He thought about it before a faint smile rippled across his handsome face and he said softly, "No worries. Let's wait. It's the weekend tomorrow, so it's not too late yet. You have all worked hard these past few days. Make some arrangements for only one or two people to stay back. All of you should get a break too." His tone was modest.

Sis Wang smiled gratefully. "It's nothing. Missus always looks after us too, so we haven't been tired out, but, Master, we were all very worried that something like this would happen, especially Missus. When I woke up in the wee hours of the morning, I would often still see the light in the study room switched on. Sometimes, it would be like that till daybreak. It was quite heartbreaking to watch."

Sis Wang was familiar with Mu Yuchen's life, so she knew about Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye's situation very well. Back then when he brought Xi Xiaye back to the Maple Residence for the first time, Ah Mo had called her over to serve them. She had witnessed all the hardships that Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye had gone through together, thus she felt a particular tenderness and concern for the couple.

Upon hearing that, Mu Yuchen paused. Moments after that, he sighed softly and quietly turned around to continue what he was working on. In a raspy voice, he said, "She can be like that. Next time when I'm not home, you should all watch over her. She can be like a little girl sometimes, and is rather stubborn."

When Sis Wang heard her employer, she instantly smiled. "That's true. I've heard that no matter how strong your wife can be outside, once she gets home, she'll be like an innocent little girl to her husband.

This is a good thing that's worth looking forward to, and it's a very common thing to refine a relationship between husband and wife."

Mu Yuchen chuckled softly without a word. He relaxed a bit and then continued, "Okay, make the arrangements. We don't need all of you to work now. Come back on the night when the weekend ends. I'll be home these next two days."

"Okay then, I'll make the arrangements and return home for two days," Sis Wang said knowingly. Naturally, she understood and would give the husband and wife some personal space.

Mu Yuchen nodded gently before Sis Wang then went out again.

Sis Wang had just left Maple Residence not too long when a black car drove into Grand Waves Villa, coated with the cold and hazy night breeze. It turned a few quiet corners before steadily stopping before the entrance of Maple Residence.

The Porsche car door was opened, revealing Xi Xiaye the way she always was. She dragged her worn-out body out of the car while her hand held a heavy black briefcase.

These past few days, she had been working till late at the office. In fact, all the recent problems had been quite worrying. Quite a number of things were affected by the first few days of the incident, but now it was slowly going back to the way it was. Still, she needed to watch over those things properly. For instance, today, she had gone to quite a few factories and shopping malls to inspect the situation, so she had no time to catch her breath. However, as long as she could stabilize the company as soon as possible, it was all worth it. That way, he would not need to be too worried when he got back.

Xi Xiaye locked the car and went into the villa with her briefcase in her hand.

Just like they had for the past few days, the lights at home were left switched on.

Sis Wang would not sleep before she returned. Actually, when she waited for her to get home these past few days, she would immediately serve her warm dishes and take care of her considerately.

Xi Xiaye had just reached home when she immediately lay down on the sofa. She almost could not pick herself up. With a sigh, she closed her eyes, feeling exhausted as she called out, "Sis Wang, bring me a glass of water please!"

Nevertheless, she had only laid down for a short while when a glass of warm water was brought to her. Without looking up, she just took it and drank it all down in a few gulps. She cleared her throat when she was done, and then frowned before handing the glass back. In between gulps, she found it a little odd. Why did she seem to catch a whiff of Mr. Mu's cold fragrance?

After that, she just thought that it was her own illusion since it had been like that for these past few days.

Chapter 836. Warmth (1)

"Do you want another?" Mu Yuchen chuckled as she was still unaware of him. Xi Xiaye was stunned when she heard his deep voice. Her eyes flew open and she stood up quickly as she looked over.

Mu Yuchen's handsome face appeared before her.

Xi Xiaye took a pause. She could not believe what her eyes were seeing, so she stared at the man for a long time. "Mr. Mu... is that really you? Are you back?"

Mu Yuchen gave her a gentle glance and nodded. "Yep, I'm back."

Xi Xiaye grabbed his huge hands and started to feel his warmth. Her eyes turned red, and all of a sudden, she broke down and teared up. She covered her nose and faced the other way. "I was so worried about you."

His heart softened as he wrapped his arms around her to comfort her. "What's there to worry about? I take good care of myself. I told you that I'd be fine.'

"I went to the police station several times and they didn't let me see you. It's been almost half a month. How could I not be worried?" Xi Xiaye raised her head and looked at him.

"You're such a worrywart. It's alright now, okay?" He patted her head gently, really missing her. "It must've been tough on you. I missed you a lot when I was inside."

Xi Xiaye hugged him tightly and nodded. "I don't think I could've held on any longer if you were still inside. Every day felt like a nightmare."

He laughed. "Doesn't seem like you've been well without me."

"What do you think?" She looked at him as she felt the warmth from his chest reach her, and she suddenly felt the chill inside fade away. Soon, she started to get closer to his lips.

He was delighted with her initiative. He held her tight as he lowered himself, and they kissed gently...

Xi Xiaye fell backward onto the sofa, his unique scent filling her nostrils. She shuddered slightly and wrapped her arms around his shoulders. They continued until she felt her shoulders become cold and she trembled.

He stopped his movements, fearing that he might not be able to control himself since she still needed some time to recover.

"I was too impatient..." He tried to calm his uneven breathing. Because her outfit had become messy as he had unbuttoned her shirt, he helped her fix her clothes.

Xi Xiaye grabbed her messy collar with a deep blush on her face. She looked down and said, "I went for a checkup several days ago."

"What did the doctor say? How are you doing?"

She did not gain much weight after giving birth like most other women and was still pretty slim. After this stressful period, she looked even thinner than before.

"She said it's fine. Give it another week or two and I'll..." She tried to avoid his gaze.

His arm around her waist tightened as he stared at her. "You'll what?"

Xi Xiaye caught the sparkle in his eye as she gave him a mysterious smile. "I'm going to let you suffer for a period of time since you made everyone uneasy."

Mu Yuchen chuckled. "I don't think I'd be the only one who suffered. Don't you miss me?"

He was getting more and more shameless now. Xi Xiaye looked away as she pushed his face to the side gently. "Don't look at me like that. Go and make me something to eat now. I'm hungry!"

He smiled and gave her a loving nodded. "Yes, Your Highness!"

He then walked towards the kitchen. "It's almost done now. Go wash your hands and eat. I made some of your favorites today as a reward for you."

"What did you cook?"

Moments later, the reunited couple sat down facing each other as they enjoyed their happy dinner.

Xi Xiaye briefly reported the company's situation to him during dinner, Mu Yuchen also gave her an overview of the whole incident, they exchanged opinions with each other, Mu Yuchen now had a good grasp of what happened outside when he was in jail.

The two of them went upstairs after dinner, they left the dishes to the servant.

"Let's head back to Mu Residence tomorrow, your grandparents and parents misses you, our son is with them as well, we'll then go back to Shen Residence in the afternoon, Xiao Rui misses you as well."

Xi Xiaye sat in front of the mirror brushing her hair after shower, she looked at Mu Yuchen who was helping to dry her hair behind him and said.

Mu Yuchen nodded, "Sure, come over!"

Xi Xiaye went over obediently, he grabbed her and made her sit on her lap, he then started helping her dry her hair.

"Mr. Mu, I was right beside CEO Wang when she passed away, she asked me to take care of Qi Lei, I was very heartbroken at that time and I promised her."

Xi Xiaye felt it was necessary to tell Mr. Mu about this.

He just gave a brief reply, "Mmm? What did you promise her?"

She extended her arms and hugged him, "I said we will treat Qi Lei like our younger brother and take care of him, what do you think?"

He raised his eyebrows and looked at her with a smile, "You have such an old brother now?

Chapter 837. Warmth (2)

Xi Xiaye frowned. "Aren't you just a few years older than him? He's probably around the same age as Ah Mo. What's wrong with him calling me his sister-in-law?"

"Up to you. I don't really mind anything. I feel sorry for the death of Wang Qin as well."

Mu Yuchen took a pause, his eyes darkening slightly before he continued, "Qi Lei is a pretty good guy. It's rare for someone to have an attitude like that especially having been born in a prestigious family. I feel sorry for his childhood, but constantly running away from it isn't going to help."

Xi Xiaye nodded in agreement. "It's tragic to have a father like that. On Qi Kai's end, Qi Qiming appointed Gu Lingsha to take over the South River project. That woman came over and put on an arrogant front, so I made sure she knew her place. I'm sure she was frustrated."

Xi Xiaye decided to tell Mu Yuchen what happened with Gu Lingsha the other day. She wanted his perception of her to be even worse!

"Mr. Mu, don't you think Gu Lingsha is really weird? Mother doesn't like her, and neither does CEO Wang. Although she looks quite pretty, I can sense something wrong within her. I've always felt an odd sense of dislike from the moment I first saw her. Moreover, I really think she has some other feelings for you. Don't get too close to her in the future, and don't talk to her either. She kept mentioning 'you won't be able to understand the conflict between Mu Yuchen and me' as if she really had something with you. I'm really annoyed about that..."

Xi Xiaye went on to complain about Gu Lingsha as well as express her dissatisfaction and hatred towards her.

Mu Yuchen had no idea his little woman would be this talkative. He started grinning as she kept on talking.

She was getting jealous, and her expression clearly contained anger with a hint of possessiveness. He liked what he was seeing and hearing!

That was right. He was hers, so this was how she should be acting!

Mu Yuchen was enjoying her concern. It was wonderful. Instead of thinking his little woman was sensitive, he wished she would be more like this in the future!

"I only have my eyes on you. Just ignore her. Don't see her again if she annoys you." Mu Yuchen just gave a brief reply after she finally finished talking. "I already told you she's not just what she seems like on the surface. Just let me handle it afterward. I'll think about something to help Qi Lei. I'll go to the Shen residence to find out what happened from Grandpa. You can take over Fu Hua when you've fully recovered. I know Grandpa helped us a lot this time."

"Mmm, he planned it from the very beginning. You aren't angry at me for seeking Grandpa's help, are you? I just don't think we can let the South River project stop. Furthermore, I felt a bit triggered by Gu Lingsha the other day." Xi Xiaye turned around and looked at him.

"Why would I? I'm proud that my wife is so decisive. Alright, let's go to bed early. We have to go and get our son tomorrow. I've missed him too." "Mmm, he's started smiling already. He's looking more and more like you. Mother said he looks very much like you when you were still a baby. He grabs your finger when you touch his hand. Ah, he's a real cutie! Xiao Rui likes him too. He always talks to the baby beside the cradle." Xi Xiaye was getting excited as they talked about their sons. She then suggested, "Hey, Mr. Mu, let's have a daughter once our son is older, shall we? We have two sons already. We just have a daughter left... Master Mu felt a headache come on. He threw the towel onto the chair and went to bed. "Do you really think I'd risk it? What if we get a son again? We already have two!" Moreover, he had been abstaining for half a year and really did not want to repeat this life anymore. In addition to that, he was not so sure if her body could take another pregnancy. Xi Xiaye frowned when she noticed he was not being cooperative. "Promise me!" "No!" "Mr. Mu..." "Go to sleep..."

Xi Xiaye fell asleep before they could reach a consensus. She had a good night's sleep in his arms. The sun was up high already when she woke up the next day.

She shifted her arms a little, and a pair of arms hugged her tightly as she moved. She turned over and saw the man still sleeping peacefully.

"It's still pretty early. Let me sleep a little more. Tell Grandmother that we'll go back for lunch."

He noticed her staring, so he changed into a more comfortable position and continued sleeping with her in his arms.

After sleeping on a rock-hard bed in jail for nearly half a month, Mu Yuchen felt like he was in heaven!

Xi Xiaye knew how he felt. She chuckled and pushed his hands on her waist away. "I'll let you sleep on your own. It's 9 a.m. now. Let me wash up and prepare breakfast. Sis Wang and the others aren't around."

"Thank you, my dear." He opened his eyes and crossed his arms behind his head, enjoying the view of her getting up and finding something to change into...

Xi Xiaye had already made breakfast when Mu Yuchen finally got up. The two of them quickly ate it and went to the Mu residence.

The weather was great today with the sun shining brightly outside. The weather was getting warmer during May, so Xi Xiaye wore a beige dress while Mu Yuchen wore a dark silver suit. They looked like they matched each other.

Mu Yuchen was the one driving today.

"Mr. Mu, let's give our son a nickname. I feel like his name sounds too formal and it's hard to make a nickname out of it. Xiao Rui is fine though." Xi Xiaye remembered what Wang Hui mentioned before, and she was now seeking approval from the man beside her.

His eyes were still focused in front as he asked, "What name do you want?"

"Let's call him Qiqi. I hope that we can all be peaceful and safe in the future."

Chapter 838. Warmth (3)

Mu Yuchen paused when he heard Xi Xiaye's reasoning. He turned over and looked at her with his hand on her knee. "Don't worry. I promise this won't happen again, alright?"

Her face softened as she gave a quick nod.

"Xiao Cheng sounds pretty good. It's a solid name. How about it?" His voice was filled with an unknown charm, so she could not help but nod.

Xi Xiaye's plan to change Mu Zicheng's nickname was foiled, but Master Mu had given Mu Zicheng a nice nickname as well, called Mu Xiao Cheng, Xi Xiaye complained that it sounded like the name of a naughty boy, but her son proved her wrong.

These were all talks about the future.

It was already 11 a.m. when they arrived at the Mu residence. Mu Tangchuan and Zhuang Shurong were present as well. Zhuang Surong even prepared the meal herself knowing the two of them would be visiting. Meanwhile, Wang Hui and Mu Yinan were playing with Mu Xiao Cheng in the living room.

Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye could hear the laughter of the elders as they entered the house—

"Look at him, he's smiling again! Oh gosh, this little thing looks more and more like Ah Chen when he was little. He looks just like this when he was still a baby. I'm going to flip through the photo album tonight. They look just the same!" Wang Hui spoke to Mu Yinan as she played with Mu Xiao Cheng.

Mu Yinan got closer and stared at Mu Xiao Cheng for some time. "I don't think so. All the babies look about the same at this age, but I think this little thing will look more like me in the future. This handsome boy will find a lot of girls falling for him!"

"Stop it, you geezer! Just how old do you think my great-grandson is for you to be telling him these. Don't get close to my great-grandson in the future. You bring a bad influence! Isn't that right? My cute little great-grandchild... This geezer here was one big bastard when he was young. You should never be like him when you grow up. Be more like your grandfather and father. Be a responsible person. Come shake my hand... Here... Yes... That's it..."

"Stop ruining my image in front of him!" Mu Yinan stared at his wife unhappily.

"Am I really ruining it? You're like that anyway. I'm not wasting my breath talking to you anymore. Go call Ah Chen and see if they are arriving anytime soon. It's almost 11a.m. and they aren't here yet!"

Wang Hui brushed Mu Yinan off. The two of them were really happy to be with Mu Xiao Cheng lately and always brought him out together to meet with their friends. It was satisfying.

Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye traded glances with each other before walking over. "There's no need to. We're back."

"Grandfather, Grandmother, and even Father are here as well?" Xi Xiaye spoke at the same time.

"You guys are back!"

They looked over when they heard Mu Yuchen's voice, and their faces softened when they saw Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye together.

Wang Hui was relieved and glad to see Mu Yuchen again. "We were really shocked when we first heard the news. Your parents were really worried."

"Let's forget about the unhappy past, it's alright as long as he's fine," Mu Yinan let out a sigh of relief, he then continued while looking at Mu Yuchen, "Let's eat first, come to my study room later, Tangchuan as well."

Mu Tangchuan and Mu Yuchen traded glances with each other before giving a nod.

Mu Yuchen heard a tiny voice. He then felt someone pulling at his shirt. Upon looking over, he noticed Mu Xiao Cheng waving his hands and legs while pulling his sleeve. With his cute little cheeks and a pair of huge, dark eyes like the stars in the sky, he was just adorable.

Mu Yuchen's face became gentler as his eyes softened. He quickly picked Mu Xiao Cheng up as he spoke in a kind tone, "Let me hold you for a while."

"Be careful!" Xi Xiaye put her bag aside and quickly went over.

Wang Hui and the others gave them some space.

Mu Xiao Cheng seemed to be recognizing his father. He wriggled around in excitement when his father held him while babbling unrecognizable words as he smiled. His eyes stared straight at Mu Yuchen.

Mu Yuchen held him carefully, he poked Mu Xiao Cheng's cheek and the baby started chuckling, his smile grew wider as he looked at his woman beside her, she was focused on their son as well.

Mu Yuchen suddenly felt like he had everything he needed, he would spend the rest of his life protecting all that he got.

"Why does he only look at you? Baby, look at Mother here. I'm right here... Can you see me?" Xi Xiaye felt ignored as her man was getting their son's full attention, so she pulled the baby's hand because she wanted him to look at her.

Mu Xiao Cheng totally ignored her. He just looked at Mu Yuchen and seemed like he wanted to talk to his father. Mu Yuchen grabbed his other hand as he gave Xi Xiaye a victorious gaze.

"It seems like our son prefers me more." Mu Yuchen snickered.

"He just hasn't seen you for quite some time and thinks you're new. Sons are always closer to their mothers." Xi Xiaye raised her brows and glared at him unconvinced.

Chapter 839. Warmth (4)

Not too long after lunch, Mu Yinan went upstairs to his study room and Mu Tangchuan followed him closely behind.

At this moment, inside Mu Yinan's study room, Mu Yinan was smoking while Mu Tangchuan elegantly steeped some tea. Upon getting a whiff of the faint of smoke, Mu Tangchuan brought the steeped tea to Mu Yinan. "Father, you haven't been well recently. You should smoke less and drink more nourishing beverages."

As Mu Tangchuan said that, he took the cigarette away from between Mu Yinan's fingers and put it out in the ashtray on the side.

"It's fine. Your mother's been watching me. I don't smoke often anyway."

Mu Yinan picked the tea up and took a sip. His aged eyes suddenly flickered with a faint light as he said in a deep voice, "I've gotten someone to find out more about Ah Chen's matter this time. I'm sure you know more than a little about it too, don't you?"

Mu Tangchuan sighed and nodded. "I've heard from the police bureau, and know a bit more from Li Si."

"Sigh, it was a slip of the tongue. Unexpectedly, it caused such severe consequences. Thankfully, back then, Ah Rong had objected. Otherwise, we might have brought harm to Ah Chen. We really can't be sure who did it this time. Was it Qi Qiming? Or Gu Qiwu and the rest? Speaking of Gu Qiwu, right from the start I've always thought that he... was too shortsighted. He has deep suspicions, and you suffered some loss under him back then too. All these years, the Mus and the Gus relationship has been fading. This might not be a bad thing for us," Mu Yinan lamented with some self-blame.

"Father, you don't need to blame yourself. The children all have their own thoughts. All these years, the Gu family hasn't been on good terms with us, especially when we reached Gu Qiwu's generation, so you don't have to care too much about it either. Actually, there isn't anything necessarily good about the so-called combining of prestigious families by marriage. Look at Qi Qiming and Wang Qin. Were they not a tragedy? As long as the children are happy, right now they don't care about those things. They aren't living as conservatively as the older generation like us."

Mu Tangchuan thought about it, then lowered his head to take a sip of tea.

"You've got a point. As long as they're happy, yet there aren't many people that can be understood thoroughly. You don't know that all these years, every time I think about your sister's incident, I'd feel extremely pained, but I never dared bring this up in front of your mother. You know how this incident is

like a thorn in her heart. All these years, Lingtian and Lingshi... Thankfully, you and Ah Rong are understanding. Lingtian's matter has been a sore thorn in Ah Chen's heart all these years. We can't rule out that the incident this time wasn't a trick from Qi Qiming and the rest. I'm a little worried," said Qi Qiming gloomily as he set his teacup aside.

"Father, alright, just leave these things for the children to worry about themselves. Why are you always thinking about this? Isn't it enough to just live life happily with Mother and me? About my sister, Lingtian's incident, and all of those things that have long passed, can't you just let them stay in the past?"

When Mu Zixi was brought up, Mu Tangchuan's expression seemed broody.

"Tangchuan, you don't know that even though your mother doesn't say it, she's just like me. This is still an unfulfilled wish. I think Lingshi and Ah Mo's wedding can be sped up. Even though you and Ah Rong treat them like your own children..."

When Mu Yinan said this, he suddenly could not continue. His aged eyes could not help but seem a little sorrowful.

When Mu Tangchuan saw that Mu Yinan was rather downhearted, he served him more tea as he advised, "Father, alright, don't be sad now. There's still time. If you want to look for them, you'll still be able to."

"Do you not have any news at all?" Mu Yinan looked up to Mu Tangchuan and asked.

News?

Ever since they found nothing out from before, he had not put in much thought into the investigation. If that man deliberately did not want to acknowledge his two children, even if he found him, what could he do? It would only add another burden to Lingshi's heart.

Sometimes, ignorance was bliss.



"Ah Chen, be honest with me. Was this time's incident really the work of Qi Qiming? As revenge for Qi Feng?"

"Grandfather, Father, there are many things I still can't be sure of, so I can't tell you the answers, but I do have something that I can tell you. Lingtian passed away in that car accident years ago while Gu Lingsha and Qi Feng lived. Before this, I sent Ah Mo and Lingshi to France to investigate this."

When Mu Yuchen finished, Mu Yinan and Mu Tangchuan's expressions sank.

Mu Yuchen sighed. He looked down at the teacup before him. Moments after that, he suddenly got up slowly and said with waning interest, "He's not doing too well. In fact, he might be returning soon. I hope that you two won't interfere with this. Just let me resolve the grudges between us. I don't want to implicate so many people. There's been too many who were involved all these years. I don't want to blow these grudges up, and I hope that you can both agree to this request of mine..."

Then, without waiting for their answers, Mu Yuchen's clear figure vanished out of the door.

Chapter 840. Ring

The afternoon sun was splendid, and the wet ground from before was dry now. The air was filled with the refreshing fragrance of fresh grass. Ji Zitong fed the goldfishes in the pond in the backyard. When she returned to the living room, she saw that Su Chen was by the coffee table pouring himself a glass of water to drink.

Su Chen looked at her and lifted the glass in hand as he asked, "Want a glass?"

Ji Zitong shook her head. She pointed to the backyard past the window behind her. "I've fed the fishes for you. They're pretty huge. Don't you plan on releasing them?"

"Soon, I've asked someone to get me some goldfish. It's been delayed because of the recent incident."

Su Chen finished the water in his glass, and then took his car keys. "Let's go. I'll bring you somewhere first. Tonight we'll go over to your parents' for dinner before coming home."

Then, before Ji Zitong could answer, his tall figure had walked ahead. She silently watched his figure	e
disappear out of the doorway. Moments after that, she slowly followed after him too.	

Su Chen drove very quickly all the way. When the car drove slowly into the Imperial Sky Jewelry City carpark, Ji Zitong was still a little surprised as she quickly turned to him. "Why are we here?"

"Let's get down first," Su Chen said before he got out of the car.

Ji Zitong followed him down. They locked the car before the husband and wife walked into Jewelry City.

When Su Chen brought her to see a row of wedding rings inside a high-end store, Ji Zitong realized that he had brought her there to buy their wedding rings.

At the counter, Su Chen pointed to one of the pairs of rings as he nodded to the shop assistant, and waved to Ji Zitong beside him. "I'd like to see this pair."

Ji Zitong walked slowly towards him too.

"Okay, Master Su!"

The shop assistant quickly brought out the pair of rings. The women's was a very elegant diamond ring with a minimalist pattern, but it looked very dainty and stylish. The gorgeous luster that seeped out caused Ji Zitong to be momentarily dazed.

In the midst of Ji Zitong's daze, Su Chen had already held up her hand and calmly slid the ring onto her ring finger. He examined it for a bit and thought it looked quite pretty. His deep and alluring voice brushed past Ji Zitong's ears. "It suits you quite well. We'll take this."

Ji Zitong looked down at it. The size was perfect. With such slender and fair hands, the ring enhanced her skin. She was quite pleased with it, so she gladly nodded and softly said, "It does look quite beautiful."

She rarely wore such accessories, but right now as she studied it, it felt quite amazing.

She moved her hand around to look and breathed in before looking at Su Chen. Upon seeing that there was a hint of satisfied tenderness in her eyes, she laughed softly and casually picked up the ring for men and pulled his hand over before slowly putting it on for him. It was quite suitable for him as she examined it. "It's almost as if it were tailor-made. You have a pretty good eye, Chief Su."

Su Chen was naturally very happy and he nodded calmly. "I told them to recommend some in the morning. Right now we're just here to get the goods. Alright, we'll go with this one then. Get a few more sets of accessories too. Don't all you women like these things?"

Ji Zitong was about to reject him when he had already turned to look at the counter. As he moved towards the counter on the side, his sharp eyes swiftly locked down on a few targets.

"This set, this set, and this one. We want this pair of jade bracelets too. Please wrap it up for me, and I want this jade bracelet too. Wrap this up on its own..."

In just a few minutes, Su Chen had already speedily chosen the things he wanted to buy without asking for Ji Zitong's opinion at all.

When the shop assistant saw that, she was a little stunned. Master Su, did you even take a look at how much these accessories cost?

Nevertheless, this was normal. When the Master and Master Mo came over to get things, they were all like this too.

...

After slightly over ten minutes, the husband and wife finally left the jewelry store with several bags. When they reached the car, Master Su handed the two bags in hand to Ji Zitong and said, "This is for Mother. The one on you and all of these are for you. Put them in the back seat first. Hold the one for Mother, so you don't get confused."

Ji Zitong glanced at the bags before her and her brows furrowed into a knot. She could not help but softly mutter, "What a spendthrift!"

Nonetheless, she just quietly put the things down and got into the car too.

Su Chen just smiled. "Aren't you happy that I'm showing such filial respect to your mother?"

"My mother's a classic stay-at-home woman. If she knew you spent so much unnecessary money, she would probably give us an earful."

When he heard that, Su Chen noticed that her expression was slightly gloomy. He then patted her on the shoulder. "Alright, there's no need to be calculative with me about these things. You are Missus Su right now, so you have a right to ask me to buy you things, other women would definitely be happy with these things, why do you look like I owe you millions instead."

"I don't care about these things. I was raised in a common family. Naturally, we can't compare to sons of big shots like you. It's not a bad thing to be simple and frugal. It might even be better to do more meaningful things with it. Take Director Xi as an example. She frequently provides financial aid to the orphanages and keeps an eye on pension funds."

Upon hearing that, Su Chen paused. The smile on his face froze as he then nodded. "I've learned! You're too serious. You need to fix that since you might lose out in life."

"Isn't it good to be serious? You don't have to talk about me like that," Ji Zitong muttered.

"It's not bad. It's just that it'd be easy for you to live in your own world. It's hard for those who are too critical of things to have friends. Those who know you well will know that you're frank, simple, and kindhearted, but before that, you can't be sure that those who don't know you well would be scared off

by you. It's good to know the ways of this world. That way, you won't lose out easily, especially since you have a business. Understand?" Su Chen looked at her intently as he guided her.

"Ways of the world..." Ji Zitong muttered softly. Seconds after that, she did not say anything and just turned to look out of the window. "Drive. It's getting dark."

Su Chen squinted at her as his gaze darkened. Then, he leaned over to help her buckle up before he silently started the car.