

Loving 941

Chapter 941. Warm (3)

Xi Xiaye patted Mu Zirui's shoulder. "That's great. You're still young, so learning and studying is your top priority right now. You can apply to a military school if you want to become a soldier, and you can fulfill my wish that I couldn't accomplish in the past."

"Don't worry, Mother, I'll become a general and bring you out in a tank—the kind with anti-air guns that can shoot down planes!" Mu Zirui smiled.

"I'll wait for that day then. Alright, clean up here and get ready to eat. Xiao Rui, remember to put your artboards together. I'll send you to school later."

"Don't be a bad influence on my son!" Xi Xiaye knocked Mu Yuchen's head.

Mu Yuchen smiled and gave her an innocent glance. He then looked over at Mu Zirui, just shrugging helplessly. They were indeed father and son after all.

"Mother, Father was teaching me to be a good man!" Mu Zirui explained.

"To be a good man?" Xi Xiaye looked at Mu Zirui and smiled. "My son, you're still a long way from being a man. You're just a little boy right now! Clean up your things and eat. Remember to bring your homework as well. Take it back to Maple Residence tonight."

"Yes, Mother!" Mu Zirui scratched his head and glanced at Mu Yuchen before packing up his bag.

Mu Yuchen helped him out as he glanced through his homework. "Remember to write while sitting in an upright position. Don't be like a little girl."

Mu Zirui straightened his back instantly. "I'll remember that, Father! Father, there's a parent-teacher meeting on the 10th of next month."

"The 10th? Have you gotten used to your new school?"

They had agreed to Mu Zirui's request, hence he skipped grades and was in primary school year 1 at the moment. They had plans to let him attend year 2 right away, but Xi Xiaye was worried that he might not have a solid foundation of knowledge, so he spent the last few months in year 1 classes. Anyway, they were going to take the exams to enter year 2 soon.

"Yep, the teachers are nice to me, and the students are willing to include me as well. However, can you please tell my teacher that I don't want to sit with girls? I want to sit alone."

"What's wrong with sitting beside a girl?"

"I don't like it...Actually, girls can be pretty annoying, except Mother."

"You little brat!" Mu Yuchen patted Mu Zirui's head. "Ask your mother to tell your teacher then."

"Okay..."

Xi Xiaye started packing stuff for Mu Zirui after lunch. Xi Mushan and Shen Wenna were staying at home during the break though they planned to make a trip to Europe with Shen Yue.

"Father, Mother, Mu Yuchen said France is pretty nice and Paris is known to be the country of romance. You guys can walk around there and even take a tour around Europe. He'll arrange a tour guide for you. You can go wherever you want and enjoy your two-month break," Xi Xiaye spoke as she cleaned Mu Zirui's hands.

Mu Yuchen was sitting on the sofa. He glanced at Xi Xiaye but did not say anything.

"We haven't decided where to go yet. It's a long period of time and I think it's great to relax, but are you sure you can handle the company well without me?" Shen Yue asked. He had a lot of free time recently and seemed much more energetic than before.

"Don't worry. I have Uncle Lan with me, and I've pretty much gotten used to how things work."

“Okay, your grandma always bugged me to bring her abroad when she was still around, but I was unable to fulfill the promise. It’s about time I do so.” Shen Yue looked a little sad as he mentioned it. “Alright, I’ll go back to my room and rest.” He got up from the sofa and left.

Xi Xiaye took a deep breath and looked at Mu Yuchen who gave her a pat on her shoulder.

“Your grandpa started missing your grandma more ever since he has more free time on his hands. He was staring at her photo this morning when I went to wake him up. I guess getting old can make someone miss the past more easily,” Shen Wenna explained when she noticed Xi Xiaye’s glum expression.

Xi Xiaye nodded. “I understand. Father, Mother, please move back here if possible. When I see the house being empty, I feel a little...Anyway, I’ll be sending Xiao Rui to school now. You should be getting to your office too!”

Without finishing what she wanted to say, she grabbed Mu Zirui’s bag as she signaled Mu Yuchen. He quickly got up, and they left the Shen residence after a brief farewell with Xi Mushan and Shen Wenna.

“I guess the children have a lot on their plate.” Shen Wenna sighed as she looked at the car going further away.

“Everyone has their own share of problems. Well, so long as they have a fulfilling life, it’s alright. It’s the afternoon. Let’s go out for a walk,” Xi Mushan said to Shen Wenna.

Shen Wenna looked at the green shade as she felt the wind brushing against her face. She nodded and walked forward.

Mu Zirui was attending a primary school in City S where he started off as a primary year 1 student.

Xi Xiaye drove near the school with Mu Zirui was sitting in the front passenger seat. She was giving him all kinds of reminders.

“Xiao Rui, I checked your homework just now. I don’t really encourage you to learn advanced knowledge now. The words that you circled are the words you don’t know, aren’t they? There is an order for learning, do you understand?”

“I understand that I shouldn’t wish to take the easy way out, but you’ve repeated this, like five times already!”

“Did I really? I think it’s just two times. I just want you to remember what I said.”

Chapter 942. Meeting (1)

They soon arrived at the school as they chatted along the way.

After Xi Xiaye parked the car, Mu Zirui swiftly grabbed his bag and got out.

“Let’s go. Your homeroom teacher should be in the office, shouldn’t she?”

Xi Xiaye wanted to help Mu Zirui to carry his bag, but he already slung it on his back. “It’s okay, Mother. I can do this myself. Teacher Wang should already be in school.”

“Mmm, I’ll go and look for her. Will you be alright heading to the classroom on your own?” Xi Xiaye smiled and patted Mu Zirui’s head.

Mu Zirui nodded. “Don’t worry, Mother, I can go back to Maple Residence on my own later as well. You don’t have to come and pick me up! I know how to take the train. Change from the third line to the second line, and get off at the Grand Waves Station!”

He beamed at her and ran off before she could even say anything.

However, Mu Zirui was not looking where he was headed as he talked to Xi Xiaye, so he bumped into someone as he just took several steps forward.

Thud!

“Xiao Rui, careful!” Xi Xiaye called out to him as a tiny groan reached her ears.

Mu Zirui got up quickly as he looked beside him and noticed that he had knocked down a beautiful little girl.

She looked around three or four years old with long blonde hair clipped with a butterfly hairpin. Wearing a pink dress, she held a pretty Barbie doll in her hand. Her blue eyes had dark rings around them while her expression seemed pale as well. It was obvious that she was not in good health.

She had some scratches on her arm from the collision. As she struggled to look up at Mu Zirui, her beautiful eyes teared up while she endured the pain.

“Xiao Rui!”

Xi Xiaye rushed over and checked on Mu Zirui. She then looked at the little girl and found herself stunned for a moment.

She was such a beautiful little girl with mixed parentage! She looked just like a living doll. However, she looked weak and her face was as pale as snow.

Xi Xiaye quickly helped her get up as she asked gently, “Are you alright? I’m sorry. Xiao Rui carelessly bumped into you. Oh dear, your arm is bleeding.”

The little girl was afraid at first, but she calmed down when she saw the gentleness in Xi Xiaye’s eyes. She just looked at Xi Xiaye quietly without saying anything.

Xi Xiaye held the little girl’s hand and brought her to sit down at a nearby stone bench as she told Mu Zirui, “Xiao Rui, go and get the medical kit from the car.”

“Yes, Mother!”

Mu Zirui gave the little girl an apologetic glance before running towards the car. He returned quickly together with the medical kit.

“I’ll apply some simple sterilization. Try to endure the pain. I’ll leave you with my phone number later. Can you tell your parents to contact me?” Xi Xiaye grabbed the little girl’s arm as she spoke gently to her.

The little girl looked at her without saying anything, but she struggled slightly with her arm and her face was getting paler as well.

“Don’t be nervous. My mother is handling your wound. I’m really sorry for bumping into you, but your wound needs to be sterilized, or else, you might get an infection. I promise it won’t hurt a lot. I’m really sorry!” Mu Zirui felt guilty when he saw the girl struggling. He bowed down to her and offered, “I’ll buy you some ice cream as an apology after my mother is done with cleaning your wound, okay?”

The little girl’s eyes brightened up when she heard Mu Zirui’s offer, but she still did not say anything.

Mu Zirui felt that it was odd. “Mother, could it be that she doesn’t know what are we talking about? She looks like a foreigner. Maybe she doesn’t understand us!”

Xi Xiaye raised her eyebrows although she felt that Mu Zirui made sense, she then repeated her son’s offer to the little girl in English.

The little girl then managed to utter a word, “Pain...”

Xi Xiaye and Mu Zirui traded glances. With a smile, Xi Xiaye consoled her, “I’m sorry. Try to endure it for a while. It’ll be fine soon.”

The little girl bit her lip and nodded as she looked at Xi Xiaye’s gentle expression.

“I’ll blow on it a little and you’ll be fine, alright?” Xi Xiaye lowered her head and cleaned the little girl’s wound as she puffed gently on the injury.

The little girl shuddered the moment the antiseptic was applied onto her wound. Xi Xiaye hugged her swiftly. "Don't worry, it'll be done in a moment. If you find it painful, then just hold me tightly, alright?"

The little girl teared up while her other hand gripped Xi Xiaye's shoulder as her little body shook. She actually felt warm as she hugged Xi Xiaye.

She liked this hug!

How fluffy! This lady is very pretty!

She looked at Xi Xiaye's long hair and did not let go of her even after Xi Xiaye patted her back, signaling her that it was already done.

"Mother..." the little girl mumbled quietly although she still did not let go of her grip. Her beautiful blue eyes just stared right at Xi Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye was stunned when she called her mother. Just as she was about to explain that she was not her mother, she heard a voice behind her,

"Weiwei!"

Xi Xiaye quickly turned around and noticed a man in a wheelchair.

The man looked fairly young with an elegantly handsome face. Xi Xiaye had an odd feeling about the aura he emitted. However, she had to admit that she was dazzled for a moment when she saw his face.

Chapter 943. Meeting (2)

However, it seemed like he had some problems with his legs since he was in a wheelchair with a man in a black suit wheeling him.

Xi Xiaye looked at him for a moment. She felt like he seemed familiar for some reason, but she could not remember where she had seen him before.

The man in the black suit wheeled him near Xi Xiaye and came to a stop. The man in the wheelchair glanced over at Xi Xiaye and Mu Zirui. His gaze then quickly shifted over to the medical kit, as well as the little girl's bandaged arm.

Xi Xiaye came back to her senses and she bowed to the man apologetically. "I'm sorry. Are you this little girl's father?"

Qi Feng's eyes seemed even. He fixed his gaze on Xi Xiaye as he put on a gentle expression. Instead of replying to her, he called out to the little girl, "Weiwei, come over here." His voice was deep and it sounded like his throat was not feeling very well.

Qi Weier unconsciously grabbed onto Xi Xiaye's long hair. She looked at Qi Feng and then looked back at Xi Xiaye. After that, she told Qi Feng, "She's Mother..."

"She's not your mother, Weiwei." Qi Feng frowned at Qi Weier's words, but he still spoke in a very gentle tone.

Qi Weier hesitated for a while before finally letting go of Xi Xiaye. She glanced at Xi Xiaye again before walking towards Qi Feng.

"Hello, Sir. I'm sorry. My son accidentally bumped into your daughter, and she got a scratch on her arm. I've already sterilized her wound and bandaged it up. If required, we can send her to the hospital for a check-up. We'll do everything we can. I'm really sorry!" Xi Xiaye apologized once again.

Qi Feng glanced at her, then he grabbed Qi Weier's arm and examined it carefully. To his relief, it was not a big issue. "It's fine. It's just a small wound, so don't worry about it."

"I'm sorry, Uncle, and to you. I didn't do it on purpose! Please forgive me!" Mu Zirui understood he had made a mistake, so he quickly apologized sincerely.

Qi Feng fixed his gaze on Mu Zirui for a while and smiled moments later. "It's alright. Do you attend this school as well?" he asked as he looked at Xi Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye straightened her back and tidied her messy hair. "Yeap, Xiao Rui just transferred over to this school not too long ago."

"How is it here? I'm trying to find a school for my child, but I'm not sure which one to go to even after visiting several schools," Qi Feng responded.

"Well, this is an affiliated school in City S. Overall speaking, it's one of the top schools and it enforces strict rules. His father spent a long time before finally deciding on this one."

Qi Feng nodded. "Alright, I got it. Thank you."

"Don't worry. Is her name Weiwei?" Xi Xiaye smiled at the little girl.

"Yes, she's called Weiwei."

"Do you want to get her checked in the hospital now?" Xi Xiaye was still worried as she looked at Qi Weier's arm.

"Don't worry. It's just a small wound. I'll get the family doctor to take a look at her after we get home." Qi Feng gave Morrison a signal.

As Xi Xiaye was about to say something else, her phone started ringing. It was a call from Assistant Xiao Mei, so she quickly answered.

"CEO Xi, it's almost time for the meeting. Aren't you here yet?"

Meeting?

Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment. Then, she suddenly remembered there was a meeting with the Planning Department that afternoon.

“Okay, I’ll head over right away.” Xi Xiaye hung up immediately.

“You can leave if you’re busy. Don’t worry about it,” Qi Feng said as she ended the phone call.

“I’m sorry. This is my name card. If there’s anything, just call me. I’m sorry for my son’s behavior.” Xi Xiaye found a name card from her bag and handed it to Qi Feng who politely accepted it.

“Quickly go to your class now, Xiao Rui. I’ll talk to your teacher the next time I come over. You have to be careful in the future, understand?”

Mu Zirui nodded. “Yes, Mother, I understand!”

“Mmm, go to your class now!” Xi Xiaye patted his head.

“Goodbye, Mother. Goodbye, Uncle, Weiwei!” Mu Zirui then swiftly ran into the school.

Xi Xiaye bade the father and daughter farewell before rushing to the company.

Qi Feng stayed there for a while as he looked at Xi Xiaye’s car went far away. He then took a glance at the name card.

Planning Director of Glory World Corporation, Xi Xiaye?

Qi Feng’s eyes darkened and a grin appeared on his face when he saw those words.

“First Master, was that Xi Xiaye?” Morrison asked quietly.

Qi Feng took a deep breath as he took another glance at the spot Xi Xiaye had parked her car just now. “What a special woman. No wonder Mu Yuchen fell for her.”

“Planning Director of Glory World Corporation. That’s a pretty high position. I wonder what this woman is capable of,” Morrison said as he took a peek at the name card.

“The fact that Mu Yuchen is interested in her is enough to prove that she’s different.” Qi Feng’s tone went cold when he suddenly remembered what Gu Lingsha told him before. She had had problems dealing with Xi Xiaye several times.

Qi Feng knew very well what kind of woman Gu Lingsha was. Six years ago, she was a weak girl who needed protection from others, but she had completely changed after that.

Chapter 944. Meeting (3)

Qi Feng thought about it as he looked at the name card for a moment before putting it into his pocket.

“Master, do we want to investigate her? I keep feeling like her background’s not that simple. Not long ago, someone saw the Elder CEO of Fuhua Real Estate bringing her along to attend some very important receptions. This person from Fuhua Real Estate is usually very low-profile too. Based on what I know, even our CEO Qi has invited them before, but they didn’t seem to give him face.”

Morrison did not know much about Xi Xiaye and the rest. He only knew a bit about the relationship between Xi Xiaye and the Xi family. Shen Yue was usually quite low-profile, thus many people would not have guessed his relationship with Xi Xiaye. Of course, Xi Xiaye and the others did not deliberately hide their relationship, so with a quick investigation, you would know all about it.

“No need. I know what to do,” Qi Feng calmly answered. He lowered his gaze and looked at Qi Weier who had not said a word but quietly stared ahead. He then consoled her, “Let’s go home, Weiwei. Your mother’s at home.”

“Father, I want Mother.” Qi Weier suddenly struggled for a bit as she looked up at Qi Feng with her blue eyes.

Qi Feng bent down slightly and pulled Qi Weier to stand in front of him. He fixed her skirt a little and asked softly, “Listen to me. Your mother’s at home. She’s very worried about you, so let’s go home. If you like this school, I’ll arrange it for you in the next two days and you’ll go here, okay?”

Qi Weier's pale face was startled, but she then nodded and seemed a little reluctant to leave in the direction that Xi Xiaye had left. Her little hand wriggled out of Qi Feng's as she sensed the wound that Xi Xiaye had bandaged earlier.

She did not know why, but she felt an unnamed friendliness from Xi Xiaye. She seemed really nice with that smile.

With a head of bright, dark, beautiful, long hair, she smelled amazing. Aunty Mary had said before that her mother had beautiful long hair like that, so she had a good feeling about Xi Xiaye. Furthermore, that little boy was very handsome just like Father.

"Get in the car!" Qi Feng ordered, then Morrison wheeled him ahead while Qi Weier stood where she was staring ahead for a while before she quietly followed after him.

The car was parked not too far away. Qi Feng had just gotten into the car when Morrison suddenly remembered the call earlier. He then turned to say to Qi Feng, "Right, Master, we have an update on Second Master. Before noon, Mu Yuchen's car was parked at the Grand Lakes Villa area. They saw Mu Yuchen's assistant, Li Si, bring a bag of things to the villa area. He probably went to Second Master's place."

When Morrison said that, Qi Feng's silent eyes darkened and his hands that were on his lap tightened slightly. "Looks like this little brother of mine is quite close to Mu Yuchen."

"Yeah, First Master, before you returned, he and Mu Yuchen have been getting along quite well. I don't know if it's purely because of partnership, or because of something else. Logically, there was some trouble between him and Mu Yuchen, so they shouldn't be this close," Morrison analyzed a little puzzledly.

Upon hearing that, Qi Feng's handsome face flashed with a cold smile instead. "Well then, you've underestimated Mu Yuchen's capabilities. In fact, Wang Qin was not a stupid woman either because we brought up the Han Corporation before that, so why wouldn't she have copied us and given Qi Lei a back up too? In fact, with my relationship with Shasha right there, she had long been aware of the crisis."

When he said this, the curve of Qi Feng's lips widened, yet the dim light in his eyes was oddly cold. "Wang Qin's far smarter than we expected, but in the grand scheme of things, I really am quite lucky."

“Master, after Wang Qin passed on, Second Master’s influence immediately collapsed, plus with CEO Qi’s current situation, you have to seize the opportunity and fight to get rid of all the threats!” Morrison’s voice was filled with firmness while his dark eyes were fixed on Qi Feng.

Qi Feng lowered his head and looked at his legs that could not move. He fell silent for a moment, and did not immediately answer.

“First Master, now’s a good chance. Indecision invariably leads to trouble. This opportunity won’t come often. If we can use this chance to wipe out Wang Qin’s influence, we won’t have to worry about any other threats later on. This is the internal information from Qi Kai. The reason Second Master could easily get City B’s project this time was mostly thanks to these people who were all trusted aides of Wang Qin,” Morrison said as he took out a document from the briefcase on the side and handed it to Qi Feng.

Qi Feng reached out to take it. Then, he flipped it open, took a few casual glances, and his eyes darkened. He browsed through it all the way till the end with an indifferent expression. After that, he calmly closed the document before smiling coldly. “It’s them! Back when I was in Qi Kai, I was always pushed aside by these people.”

He scoffed. The chill coloring his raspy voice made one shudder at the sound of it. “What plan do you have to take these people down without anyone suspecting?”

When Morrison heard his question, a smile flashed at the corner of his mouth as his eyes met with Qi Feng’s. “Actually, First Master, you already have a plan, don’t you?”

His laughter entered Qi Feng’s ears, and Qi Feng’s gaze suddenly looked a little complicated. He turned to look out of the car window. After a while, he said calmly, “We come from the same roots, so why the rush to destroy each other [1]? This isn’t a blackened name that’s easy to take on.”

Morrison instantly laughed and he said nonchalantly, “First Master, I like that you have an old saying that fits well. A wise man submits to circumstances. If Zhou Yu could get the help of the Eastern winds, why can’t we use this wind of ours? Besides, I don’t see Qi Lei treating you like a brother. He didn’t give you face last night.”

When he heard this, Qi Feng's expression sank and his hands subconsciously tightened again.

Upon seeing Qi Feng hesitating, Morrison added on, "CEO Qi has always planned to hand Qi Kai over to you. You'll have to face those troubles sooner or later. Now, you have a chance, and you're just getting rid of the obstacles in advance. I think you probably know best how it feels to be controlled by these people, Master."

Qi Feng took a deep breath and fixed his gaze outside the window. It seemed as if he was still hesitating about what decision to make when his expression started to shift.

Chapter 945. A Great Man Has To Be Ruthless (1)

When Morrison saw Qi Feng deep in thought, he did not disturb him. He just gestured at the chauffeur beside him who immediately understood and started the car.

The car slowly drove away from where it was, passing underneath the dense shade of the trees. Qi Feng's eyes shifted from dark to light. Apart from glumness on his handsome face, they could not read his emotions but could feel the faint gloom from him.

The air in the car felt stifling. Beside him, Qi Weier, who was beside him, had already fallen weakly asleep against Qi Feng. Qi Weier had autistic tendencies, so she would not usually speak. In a short while, she succumbed to sleep.

Qi Feng remained silent. After the car had driven for quite a distance and it felt like it had been a century-long, he lifted a hand to massage the space between his brows and his raspy voice finally said, "I'll let you handle it then. Don't leave traces of anything that can be used against us."

"Okay, I was just waiting for your word, First Master. I'll contact the men to get this done right away. Also, it's best if you be prepared. Once this information gets out, Qi Kai's shares will definitely be affected. It must immediately be followed up with a solution," Morrison reminded.

With a sigh, Qi Feng nodded silently. "Don't worry. Before we came back, they hinted about my marriage with Shasha. When the Qi and Gu family are connected by marriage, we can definitely take down those forces. Then, Qi Kai's shares will only keep going up."

Morrison instantly smiled and said a little mysteriously, “Looks like you and me are on the same page, First Master. That way, talks for City B’s project will definitely collapse and Qi Lei will really fall from grace. Then, no one can save him. Even if those old stubborn ones are capable, they’ll have no choice! When the time comes, and First Master, since you’ll be connected to the Gu family by marriage, hence stabilizing the entire Qi Kai. You’ll be able to call the shots in Qi Kai, you won’t have to suffer from any more threats, and you’ll be vindicated!”

“Mmm, when the time comes, arrange an idle position for him, then send him abroad for the sake of what’s left of this kinship.” One could hear the mixed emotions in Qi Feng’s raspy voice.

“First Master, you don’t have to be too worried. A great man has to be ruthless. Haven’t he and Wang Qin been scheming against you before this? Legitimacy belongs to the victor. Even though some kinship seems important, it could be as thin as paper. Benefits are the only thing we should be going after for eternity.”

A light flickered in Morrison’s eyes. He seemed to have already seen the way the whole of Qi Kai would be controlled by Qi Feng while he would be his most important trusted aide!

“You play by ear then. I’d like to sleep for a while. Wake me up when we reach home,” Qi Feng coldly instructed, then slowly shut his eyes almost a little melancholically.

“Okay!” Morrison answered before he took the laptop from the side to open before beginning to delegate the work.

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The scorching sun that had dazzled for an entire day finally faded away together with some of its heat in the evening, being washed away in the spectacular evening breeze. The faint sunset looked rather gentle.

On a certain pathway of the sightseeing river by the riverside, at the operation base of South River Project No. 1, Xi Xiaye had both hands on the railing before her as she looked at the gleaming reflection of the river surface. Bathed in this quiet and peaceful sunset evening breeze, she had become much more relaxed.

Her long hair gently swayed in the wind, and her slender body seemed like it was becoming frailer.

Mu Lingshi stood behind Xi Xiaye, watching her for a while before walking over.

“Sister-in-law!” Mu Lingshi’s voice was a little raspy. She stopped beside Xi Xiaye and put both her hands on the railings too.

“You’re here!” Xi Xiaye gently answered as she turned to look silently at Mu Lingshi.

Indeed, she saw that she looked wan, sallow, and sad. Her eyes contained no light either, and you could tell that she had been in pain these past few days.

“I thought you wouldn’t come.”

Xi Xiaye said calmly as she sighed, “You don’t look well. You don’t look like a new bride at all.”

A pale smile flashed across Mu Lingshi’s sickly and sunken face. “I’m fine. I’ve been dazed for quite a few days now, but today I’m feeling better. There’s no way I’d reject my sister-in-law asking me out.”

“The way you are right now is very worrying. Ah Shi, are you still in pain over that matter?” Xi Xiaye lowered her voice and asked calmly.

Mu Lingshi interlocked her fingers and gently held them together as she looked down silently at the surface of the river moving up and down. The refracting light shone on her frail face. She was quiet for a while before suddenly looking up. Taking a deep breath and blinking her eyes that could not help but become wet, she said in a hoarse voice, “Sis-in-law, I’m fine. I just feel a little sad, but don’t worry too much about me. In a few days, I’ll be fine.”

When Mu Lingshi finished, it made Xi Xiaye’s heart hurt even more. She felt a headache come on. Her gaze that was as calm as the breeze fell on her sister-in-law’s face, and she could clearly see the faint tears at the corner of her eyes. In the end, she could not help but advise, “Don’t be sad. Remember what your brother said, okay?”

Mu Lingshi's eyes turned hot and she quietly shut them, nodding hard, yet the bitterness in her throat surged up wave after wave to the extent that she could not neglect the ripples of pain in her chest.

"I know, Sis-in-law. Father, Mother, and our grandparents, you and Brother, all love me. However, the regretful thing is to them, Lingtian and I were just disposable burdens. My mother didn't seem to care for us while my father didn't want to acknowledge us either. As I think more and more about it, sometimes I don't know who I am anymore."

"I used to want to find this person and had always hoped to get their recognition, but in the end, I only stabbed my heart with a knife, then suffered the consequences of my own actions by sprinkling more salt on my wound," Mu Lingshi expressed difficulty. The moisture in the corner of her eyes refracted the faint colors underneath the tender rays from the remnants of the sun, yet to Xi Xiaye, it seemed oddly disheartening.

Xi Xiaye calmed herself for a while before thinking about it, then she answered softly, "Everyone's living for themselves, or perhaps for someone else. Just think those people that aren't worthy of your concern like they are the wind. It's in the past, so let it be. You don't need anyone's recognition. As long as you give yourself that, that's enough."

Chapter 946. A Great Man Has To Be Ruthless (2)

Xi Xiaye was carefully observing Mu Lingshi's expression when she spoke.

Mu Lingshi sniffled as she nodded. "I didn't really understand it before, but I get it now. Mother spoke to me for the whole night yesterday. I know all of you are doing this for my sake. I'm doing my best to get over this as well."

"Mmm, it's great that you have this mindset. I believe you can do it. You've survived harder battles, this is nothing." With such a warm tone of voice, Mu Lingshi took in Xi Xiaye's words easily.

"I remember feeling pretty devastated when my parents got divorced when I was still a little child. I was under my father's custody after they got divorced, but he was so busy that he hardly had any time for me. Every day, I'm afraid of nightfall because it makes me feel that I've lost everything and that I'm all alone in this vast world."

Xi Xiaye seemed a little lost when she was talking about her past. "In order to escape these suffocating feelings and the burden in my heart, I decided to go to boarding school...I thought that could help me relax."

"Sister-in-law, actually...I know what happened to you. I asked Brother about it, but he was never willing to talk about your past. I know he really loves you just like...just like how Ah Mo loves me," Mu Lingshi spoke up when Xi Xiaye did not continue.

Xi Xiaye smiled. "That's true. It's very obvious that Ah Mo loves you a lot. Ah Shi, you need to understand that happiness doesn't come easily, so you have to cherish it now that you have it. Never let go of it because of these small ripples. Whether you'll live a happy, carefree life or not all depends on you. It's okay to cry during sad times. You've always been a strong and brave girl. It's not like you to be this emotional."

Mu Lingshi turned towards Xi Xiaye as her eyes still could not help but tear up. She looked away and sniffed.

Xi Xiaye patted her shoulder as Mu Lingshi leaned onto her and sobbed, "Sister-in-law..."

Xi Xiaye hugged her tightly. "It's alright. You still have everyone here with you. You still have Ah Mo."

...

The two of them had no idea that a man was standing quietly nearby behind them, enjoying the evening breeze.

Mu Yuchen had been there since they saw each other. He listened to everything they said and was even touched to see them hugging each other under the sunset.

Was this not what he had always hoped for?

He could not help but wear a smile on his face after watching them for a while. He took a deep breath as he looked away. Lifting his head, he enjoyed the view of the sunset quietly.

After some time, Xi Xiaye's shirt was wet from Mu Lingshi's tears. When she raised her head from Xi Xiaye's chest, Mu Lingshi's face was full of tear stains. However, Xi Xiaye could see the relief on her expression.

Xi Xiaye smiled and handed her some tissue. "Here, use this."

"Thank you, Sister-in-law." Mu Lingshi grabbed the tissue. "I'm fine now. I feel much better after crying it out."

"That's great. Everything will be better once you get over it."

Mu Lingshi nodded. "Don't worry. I'll survive this. Please tell my brother that I'll return to work on Monday. Ask him to arrange my job for me as soon as possible."

"You can take several more days off, you know, and your honeymoon trip..."

"That can wait until November since it's a busy period right now...Okay, I should head back now. Remember to tell Brother that Mother is still waiting for me at home. Tell him he doesn't need to worry about me because I'm feeling much better now."

...

Mu Lingshi wiped her tear stains away and left.

Xi Xiaye remained stationary while she watched Mu Lingshi's back as she left. She did not ask her to stay. After some time, she let out a sigh of relief and tried to tidy her hair that had been messed up by the evening breeze. Then, she averted her gaze to the river.

"It's time to go back. It's getting late."

The man's voice suddenly came from behind her, and she soon felt the man's coat over her shoulders as he stopped right beside her.

Xi Xiaye glanced at him and noticed a peaceful expression on his face. "Why are you here?"

"I called your assistant, Xiao Mei. She told me you were meeting Lingshi here. I was nearby, so I came over to take a look," he replied.

"So...you heard our conversation just now?" she asked.

He chuckled and nodded. "I never expected you to be so impactful on Lingshi."

"Of course, I think I can be an extremely good friend to her." She put on a warm smile as she helped him fix his wrinkled collar. Suddenly, he grabbed her waist and pulled her close to him.

Dumbfounded, her head crashed right into his solid chest. She yelled, "What's wrong with you?"

He kept his grip tight as he whispered beside her ear, "Mrs. Mu, you're forever mine, and you'll never leave me, won't you?"

Xi Xiaye did not know how to react to this unexpected situation.

Chapter 947. A Great Man Has To Be Ruthless (3)

Dumbfounded for a moment, she turned towards him and noticed that he closed his eyes and stuck close to her neck.

She smiled after a while as she put her hand atop the huge pair on her waist. Her tone was gentle like flowing water as she asked, "What's wrong? Why did you suddenly ask something like that? This isn't like you at all!"

"Answer me first," he insisted on a reply as he tightened his grip on her waist.

She smiled helplessly. "I'll never be able to leave you if you continue to shower me with love."

He was not really satisfied with her answer. "Being unable to leave me is different from not wanting to leave me."

"Fine...I'll forever be yours, alright?" She waved her hand with the wedding ring that was shining under the rays of the sunset. "Do I not make you feel secure, Mr. Mu?"

"Aren't I the one who keeps providing you a sense of security?" He stared at her, quickly grabbing her hand and kissing the back of her hand as he smiled.

She shrugged and then looked at him. "Your question feels so silly. It sounds like what young couples would say. A lot of them make promises to each other but still ended up breaking..."

Mu Yuchen stopped her sentence halfway by pinching her. In her shock, she let out a tiny cry and glared at him.

"I'll assume that you gave me a certain answer then. Let's go back," he said in a very firm tone.

"I didn't give a certain answer at all. I have some conditions...Ah—"

Mu Yuchen flung her over his shoulder before she could finish her sentence. She yelled as she wrapped her arms around his shoulders and then gave him several angry punches. "What are you doing, bastard?!"

"Just checking if you've gained any weight." He was able to easily lift her up, so he walked ahead and shot her a glance.

"How do I feel?"

"Hmm...let me see. I guess you gained a little weight here, but this part has gotten slimmer..."

“Really?”

“Take a look for yourself.”

“Maybe I did gain a little bit of weight. Should I start losing weight?”

“It’s a must.”

“Are you saying that I’m fat now?” She was upset about his remark.

“No, I want you to be small enough that I can fit you inside my pocket...” He casually gave her an embarrassing reply.

In return, she chuckled and hugged him tightly. “You’re getting really good at sweet-talking now. where did you learn that from?”

He gave her a meaningful glance as he replied calmly, “I saw that on TV. Girls like guys from Korea who talk like this, don’t they?”

With a bright smile, Xi Xiaye left a kiss on his cheek. “How fashionable, Mr. Mu. You even know about Korean dramas!”

“Of course!”

“Actually, you’re much better than Korean guys. They can’t be compared to a charismatic gentleman like you, and I think that men in our country are much better looking.”

“I thank you on behalf of our fellow countrymen,” he gave her a cheeky reply.

“You’re welcome, Mr. Mu! It feels like it’s been a while since you last gave me flowers...”

...

It was night time when they arrived back at Maple Residence. Wang Hui and Mu Yinan were there, so they all gathered in the living room to watch TV after dinner while Mu Zirui went upstairs to do his homework.

Mu Yuchen had bought Xi Xiaye a big bouquet of champagne roses on the way back, so she was trimming the flowers while Wang Hui was helping out beside her.

“Xiaye, Xiao Cheng is about five months old now. I suppose your body will recover after another period of good rest, so it’s about time to prepare for a second child. One more daughter would be perfect.”

Wang Hui and Mu Yinan were relieved since Ah Mo and Mu Lingshi got married, and Wang Hui was eyeing Xi Xiaye like a predator watching its prey.

Xi Xiaye shuddered as she felt such a passionate gaze from her mother-in-law. Her hands stopped the movement with the scissors as she blushed and was about to reply to the remark. The man started defending her, “We already have two, don’t we? Do you think we have that much time to take care of them? Xiao Cheng is still so little. Just two children are enough.”

They wanted more?

Mu Yuchen truly did not want another one. He felt like a monk when she was pregnant, and she already had to spare a lot of time and effort on the kids. If there was another one, he would totally be neglected.

“What are you talking about? Our family can afford another one. You two just have to make babies, and we’ll take care of them. You don’t have to worry at all! Your parents decided only to have one child because they were busy with work! You two aren’t restricted, so you can have as many as you want! Xiaye, a daughter would be really nice. Dressing her up every day would be fun, wouldn’t it?”

Wang Hui glared at Mu Yuchen, but the expression in her eyes turned gentle again when she looked at Xi Xiaye.

“Grandmother, I think it’s better if you ask Lingshi and Ah Mo instead. I don’t like the idea of having too many children.” Mu Yuchen put away the magazine in his hand and stood up. “Let’s rest earlier. It’s Su Chen’s wedding tomorrow. We’ve been having a lot of great news lately. I suppose you can expect something from Ah Mo soon.”

Mu Yuchen glanced at Xi Xiaye who had just finished arranging the flowers. She cleaned up and got up. “Grandmother, we’ll talk about this again in the future. I still have some work to do. Good night!”

Mu Yuchen dragged Xi Xiaye towards the staircase before she could finish her sentence.

“You little brat! If it weren’t for me, you’d still be single! You heartless person! Old man, come out and watch TV with me,” Wang Hui nagged and called Mu Yinan to accompany her.

Chapter 948. Great Waves (1)

Su Chen and Ji Zitong’s wedding was held at a cathedral in the suburbs of City Z while the wedding banquet was held at Imperial Sky Hotel.

Early in the morning, Mu Lingshi had already gone over to help out. Mu Yuchen went straight to Su Chen’s side whilst Xi Xiaye accompanied Ji Zitong.

Ji Zitong did not have many friends and even fewer good friends. When Xi Xiaye went over, she was sitting alone in the dressing room after the makeup artist had finished with her makeup. The pure white wedding dress that she wore complemented her, making her look even more beautiful and moving.

Xi Xiaye stood behind Ji Zitong and looked at her in the mirror. She could not help but exclaim, “Zitong, you’re so beautiful!”

Ji Zitong’s bright and emotional face very quickly flashed with a faint smile as she looked appreciatively at Xi Xiaye and said softly, “Thank you, Xiaye.”

Xi Xiaye pulled her to sit down on the sofa. “I should be the one thanking you. You and I have technically worked together too, thanks to your protection back then, and there was Xiao Cheng too. Su Chen and Mu Yuchen are good friends. To see the two of you come to fruition is an extremely joyous thing. I can tell that Su Chen is quite sweet to you.”

Upon hearing that, a faint hint of rare tenderness flashed in Ji Zitong's eyes and she did not deny it as she nodded to say, "Mmm, he's really good to me. Indeed, he's a good man." You could see her blushing slightly. At this moment, her eyes were filled with a sliver of anticipation, but at the same time, there was a strand of bewilderment.

That feeling was one that Xi Xiaye clearly empathized deeply with because was this not how she had walked down a similar path too?

She used to be jealous of people's long-lasting romance such as the ones that spanned a few years or a decade, or even more lasting feelings that never changed like Ah Mo and Mu Lingshi, who grew up together as innocent playmates. However, later on, she finally understood that when it came to things like feelings, they sometimes had nothing to do with the length of time.

Some people loved each other for many years but did not end up together in the end. Perhaps, after moving away, the next day they could all be stepping into the halls of marriage. After all, no one could be sure of what the future held.

"I've been thinking a lot in this period of time. I've also been lamenting quite a bit. The more I go on with my days, the more I can understand how you and Chairman Mu felt." Ji Zitong fell silent for a while before looking up at Xi Xiaye again.

Xi Xiaye smiled gladly as she lowered her gaze and said calmly, "With the way we get married, a lot of feelings still need to be accumulated bit by bit because we weren't built on the foundation of loving each other. Later on, you'll slowly understand. Every meal that he makes for you, every time he stands up for you, and every time he consoles and protects you, these things will slowly accumulate. By the time you realize these things and ponder over them, you'd already have gotten in too deep."

Xi Xiaye's words made Ji Zitong recall the times that they had spent together. She thought about it for a long while before smiling silently. "He's good at everything. It's just that sometimes he'll be a little domineering. He likes to use that official jargon of his. Sometimes, he really drives me crazy."

"Well, Su Chen's like that, but Mu Yuchen thinks highly of his buddies. I believe that this time you've also gotten yourself an exceptionally good man." Xi Xiaye chuckled gently.

Before the laughter subsided, there was a knock on the door. Even before they could answer, a few rather young and beautiful girls donned in bridesmaids dresses entered through the door.

“Zitong, the groom’s car is here. They’re right downstairs!”

The bridesmaids were all Ji Zitong’s good friends. Right now, Su Chen had gone straight to the hospital to pick up the bride. They would have to rush to the cathedral in the suburbs right away while the banquet was at Imperial Sky Hotel.

Xi Xiaye reacted quickly and got up. Quickly, she said to the makeup artist as she helped Ji Zitong put on her veil, “Come, let’s get ready!”

The few bridesmaids helped her out too.

In a moment, they already heard the ruckus from outside the door. Xi Xiaye’s first reaction was to go and lock the door.

“Lock the door! Don’t let them in!”

“Zitong, this time I’ll definitely get your husband to give us more red packets. I want them to know that our Zitong isn’t that easy to marry. That way, they’ll know how to appreciate you after that!”

“Right, right, and the wedding vows! Remember to bring the wedding vows!”

“Where are my heels? Are they ready? Xiao Mei, hide them. Make them dizzy trying to find the heels!”

“I’ve hidden them well. There’s one on top of the cupboard. I’ll see how they can find them.”

...

Xi Xiaye's face contained a faint smile as she hosted the guests busily while Ji Zitong pursed her lips slightly.

Just as the group of them was in chaos, there was a knock on the door. The first person to speak out was a girl, "Hello, I'm the service provider sent over to put on the veil. We'll leave the door a little open, alright?"

"Pfft, how dare you play such childish games? Master Su, we'll have to see how sincere you are!" That woman's voice had just finished when the crowd laughed.

The people outside were quite frank. Before they could finish laughing, a few red packets were stuffed underneath the door, and at the same time, along with a card containing corny words of endearment. Xi Xiaye took a look at the corny words on the card. She was sure that this kind of rotten idea was probably only something Zhou Zimo could come up with!

Then, more than ten red packets were slid in too. They were still thinking about holding them back and extorting them for more when the door suddenly opened from the outside. All of them screamed, and Xi Xiaye immediately looked up too. What greeted her sight was Mu Yuchen's noble and handsome face.

"Chairman Mu!"

The people's eyes practically had pink bubbles in them as they were fixated on Mu Yuchen's handsome face. At this moment, Su Chen, Zhou Zimo, and the rest came in too. Xi Xiaye was shocked that Qi Lei was one of Su Chen's best men too!

Donned in a perfectly straight dark gray suit, he stood by the door and looked into the room with a devilish aura. His gaze very quickly stopped on Xi Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye wore a qipao dress today with a blazer on the outside. Her hair was tied up into a refreshing bun, and she looked clean and elegant.

Xi Xiaye smiled and nodded gently at him, then turned to look at Ji Zitong.

“Zitong, let’s go get married!”

Su Chen put the large bouquet of red roses into Ji Zitong’s hands, then he wanted to carry her up, yet the two bridesmaids beside her reminded at the same time, “Master Su, you haven’t found Zitong’s heels!”

Chapter 949. Great Waves (2)

When that was brought up, Su Chen remembered that his mother, Xie Jijia, had once mentioned some sort of etiquette, so he subconsciously looked down at Ji Zitong’s feet. Then, he lifted her skirt up and indeed found that her feet were bare. She did not have her heels on.

Immediately, a troubled look flashed across his handsome face. He muttered beside Ji Zitong’s ear as she smiled with pursed lips, “I just want to marry my wife. Why’s it so hard?!”

“Everyone, help look for the heels!” Su Chen then turned to say to Zhou Zimo and Mu Yuchen.

Zhou Zimo raised his brows and began to quickly look for it. Qi Lei helped out too. No matter how hard they looked around, they could not find it. Su Chen began to sweat nervously. However, Mu Yuchen, who stood frozen without moving, seemed so calm.

His calm gaze swept around the room briefly, and finally, it stopped on Xi Xiaye’s face. Because his gaze was just too obvious, Xi Xiaye had to turn away and ignore him. Even so, she could still feel his pressing gaze. After that, she turned away carefully and used the corner of her eye to sneak a look at him, yet she realized that his burning gaze was still on her.

Zhou Zimo and the rest had practically turned the entire room upside down. They only found the one on the cupboard, but there was still one more heel.

“Zitong, where’s the other one? Don’t miss the auspicious timing now. Let’s not overdo it! Don’t torment us now!” Su Chen looked miserably pressured.

Xi Xiaye took a look at the few men. She then looked to Mu Yuchen, hinting at a certain bridesmaid’s bag.

Mu Yuchen received the hint, then a smile flashed across his handsome face as he declared, "It's in that bag!"

Qi Lei walked over and indeed he found the other side of the heels in that bag. Su Chen then followed Secretary He's reminder to complete some simple etiquette before he finally managed to smoothly carry Ji Zitong out.

Everyone else followed suit too with Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye being the last two.

When they were walking out side by side, Mu Yuchen suddenly turned to his side and whispered into her ear, "I'd like to thank you on behalf of Su Chen for letting us pass."

Xi Xiaye stopped walking for a bit and squinted at him. "I didn't say anything. Do I look like the kind of person who'd be a traitor?"

"No, you don't! But I know that I'm an exception!" His tone was filled with certainty and the light in his eyes was unusually tender too.

She rolled her eyes at him and could not help but clench her fists before walking quickly ahead. He chuckled before chasing after her.

...

The grand and elegant wedding lasted for almost the entire day.

There was a wedding dress, a wedding bouquet, and a ceremony. Later on, there was a banquet too.

When all was done, it was already night time.

The entire Imperial Sky Hotel was reserved. The hotel was decorated jubilantly both inside and outside. When they were all done with the ceremony in the suburbs and had some fun, then rushed back, the hotel was already very lively.

The Mus, the Sus, and the Zhous had all arrived. They sat at the most front row. Meanwhile, Ji Zitong's parents, the Su parents, and so on were all sitting around the table.

Mu Lingshi had already changed into a professional black suit while wearing large black-framed glasses. As she ordered the subordinates around to work, she was no longer as gloomy as before.

The banquet was bustling. Su Chen and Ji Zitong had seven pairs of bridesmaids and groomsmen. At least, as they went around drinking, they could handle the alcohol.

Mu Yuchen and Zhou Zitong, who never left their table, could not escape the drinking either since most of the people attending the banquet were from the social scene. Glass after glass later, Xi Xiaye began to feel a little dizzy. Thankfully, Mu Yuchen would be concerned from time to time. Otherwise, she really dared not be sure that she could handle them all.

Upon seeing Xi Xiaye's beautiful face flushing red, he steadied her considerably as he chuckled and asked, "Go into the resting lounge to sit for a bit, hmm?"

Xi Xiaye coughed lightly and nodded. She held onto his arms and practically lay her weight on him. However, she still had on a faint magnanimous smile on her face.

Mu Yuchen helped her to the resting lounge and had just poured her a glass of water when there was an urgent knock on the door.

"Come in!" Mu Yuchen responded and his profound eyes looked to the door.

The door was immediately pushed open and Li Si's tall figure greeted his sight. When his gaze shifted, Mu Yuchen quickly caught sight of the solemnness on his face.

"Master, something's gone wrong!" Li Si practically rushed in as he exclaimed with a grave expression and was panting slightly. You could tell that he was worried.

"What's wrong?" Mu Yuchen asked softly as he frowned slightly at Li Si.

Xi Xiaye's heavy head seemed to have cleared up slightly. Her heart subconsciously tightened as she fixed her eyes on Li Si.

Li Si took a deep breath, calmed himself down, then said, "Indeed, just as you expected, Master, something's happened. Take a look at the news!"

Li Si said as he handed the tablet in his hand to Mu Yuchen, "Outside Qi Qiming's ward in Hospital T, reporters are surrounding the place. I don't know how the reporters got the news so quickly. They knew Qi Qiming was hospitalized because he had been pushed by Qi Lei. In fact, they've added all sorts of details up in regards to the fight between them. A lot of the speculation was about how Qi Lei isn't happy that Qi Qiming has a new game now, so he made a move on Qi Qiming. Also, look here, both father and son fell out because of a certain female artiste!"

As Li Si said this, his brows furrowed into a knot. "My God! What is this?! What do these media know apart from spewing nonsense?!"

Mu Yuchen's eyes flashed with a dim light after looking at the series of news.

"Master, it must be Qi Feng. It's definitely him! But our people have already been watching him closely. We didn't see them make any moves. Where did they release these information from?"

The other day, after Mu Yuchen tried to prepare for the worst, Li Si had also been more alert. Unexpectedly, they still could not prevent it, so indeed it was impossible.

"How did this happen?" Xi Xiaye's brows furrowed into a tight knot as she took the tablet from Li Si and flipped through the news on the screen. Her misty eyes instantly recovered with clarity. "Didn't Qi Qiming himself keep this matter a secret too?"

Chapter 950. Great Waves (3)

Xi Xiaye looked through it as her expression turned solemn. Then, she looked up at Mu Yuchen beside her.

"It's like that right now. Our people from the hospital informed us. A lot of people have found out that Qi Qiming's been hospitalized, and how he almost couldn't be rescued. The hospital corridor is filled

with flower baskets as the reporters have swarmed in. Qi Qiming himself probably can't quite handle it! Right now, all these negative news have leaked out, so I've told them to investigate. We roughly know that the news was leaked out this afternoon."

When he said this, Li Si paused and pondered for a moment before continuing, "I heard them say that it seems that all the press received an anonymous letter informing them of this news. Then, they went to the hospital, and returned afterward to report these things!"

Mu Yuchen's expression remained calm, not seeming to have any ripples, yet Xi Xiaye could easily catch a flash of gloom in his eyes.

"Master, what should we do now? Master Qi's probably received the news on his end too. If we let this go on, I'm afraid things won't look too encouraging," Li Si probed carefully.

"Get Qi Lei right away. Tell him to return to his villa right away. Don't be too public about it and just use the special path. I think there are probably reporters waiting to ambush him outside the hotel right now," Mu Yuchen said calmly after pondering for a moment.

"Alright, Master! I'll go tell Master Su and the rest too. Ask them to help cover up for a bit."

"Tell Zhou Zimo to help temporarily suppress the pressure from the media's end," Mu Yuchen said before he slowly got up and turned to Xi Xiaye. "Xiaye, go home with Grandmother and the rest first. I'm going to make a trip to the office."

Xi Xiaye nodded gently before she said a little worriedly, "Okay then, you two be careful too. I'll go look for Grandmother and the rest now. You'd better get going soon too."

"Mmm, if you're not feeling too well, then go home earlier. It should be ending soon anyway. I'll give Su Chen a heads-up."

...

Unassured, Mu Yuchen still sent her back to the banquet hall himself. Then, he briefly gave Su Chen a heads-up before leaving.

At this moment, Qi Lei, who Li Si called outside, still did not know what had happened. When Li Si called him outside with a solemn expression, Qi Lei was still looking at Li Si in confusion. "What's happened? Why do you look like that?"

"Master Qi, our Master would like you to use a special passage to leave first. Don't ask any questions right now. Assistant Yang's already waiting in the car at the carpark below."

"Mu Yuchen? What is it? The banquet hasn't ended yet! I'm the best man!" Qi Lei pulled at Li Si's sleeves and muttered unhappily.

"Oh, my dear Master Qi, how are you so relaxed? Something's happened! Quickly come with me. There's a bunch of reporters downstairs. We'll talk as we walk. You'll understand soon."

Li Si did not have time to explain too much, so he pulled Qi Lei and walked towards the special passage on the side. Qi Lei struggled for a bit, then helplessly let Li Si drag him away from the banquet.

The two of them used the special passage to reach the underground carpark where Li Si had arranged for Mu Yuchen's car to wait. As soon as he stepped out of the elevator, the car drove over. Qi Lei did not hesitate much before getting into the car where Yang Sheng was already sitting inside with a solemn expression.

"Chauffeur Wang, send Master Qi straight back to the Grand Lakes Villa area," Li Si said. Chauffeur Wang responded with a grunt before starting the car as Li Si quickly said by Qi Lei's window, "Master Qi, Assistant Yang's aware of the situation, so he will explain it to you. Our Master says that you can call him if there's anything you need."

...

After saying that, the car left.

In the car, Qi Lei's brows were furrowed into a knot as he looked at Yang Sheng who had a heavy expression in the front. He asked, "What happened?"

Worried, Yang Sheng turned to look at Qi Lei, then handed the tablet to him. "Master Qi, something's happened. In fact, I'm afraid that this time..."

Yang Sheng did not continue, but Qi Lei had already reached out to take the tablet. He looked at the screen, and in a short while, his handsome face immediately sank. He seemed as if gloomy clouds had covered his face in darkness. A chill instantly covered his obscure and unclear gaze. With a wave of his hand, the tablet flew to the side.

Qi Qiming was hospitalized? He did not know about that at all!

Where did the media get this information? Were some people too bored to be starting rumors!?

"When was this news circulated?" Qi Lei looked terrible as he asked Yang Sheng coldly.

"Should have been this afternoon. Practically all the press has reported this. It will be too hard to stop them. I'm afraid we've gotten into some trouble this time, Master Qi!" Yang Sheng said worriedly.

Qi Lei took a deep breath while his dark eyes flashed with a dark light. He took out his phone and looked through it. Although his phone was switched on, there were no missed calls. Did his calls get redirected?

He looked down and stared at that screen. For a long while, he did not move until the screen dimmed. He clenched his fists tightly and leaned against the chair as he could not help but shut his eyes tiredly in frustration.

"Master Qi? Are you okay?" Yang Sheng asked softly, his tone filled with concern.

"A few of the managers have called to ask what the situation is. Master Qi, with this incident, I'm worried that when we get to work on Monday...the company's shares...all of our hard work from before might be destroyed just like that. The managers are extremely worried too. What should we do?"

“Who planned this so deliberately? How could the press have known that CEO Qi was hospitalized? If even Master Qi didn’t know about it, how did they? Could it be a rival of Qi Kai’s?”

The only thing Yang Sheng could think of right now was Qi Kai’s rival because, given such an incident, he already knew that on Monday, Qi Kai’s shares would definitely plummet terribly. Initially, Wang Qin’s shocking death had already caused a huge impact on Qi Kai’s shares. Qi Qiming had spent a lot of effort to hold back the pressure and take South River Project No. 2 down before things started to look up. However, now with this...

In fact, these incidents were more or less surrounding Qi Lei. He could not think of who their Master Qi had provoked. Already in such dire straits, he now had to bear such pressure. Initially, they had gone to City B and basically initiated that project a done deal, but they had not signed the papers. With such a commotion being stirred up now, the deal was sure to fall through.