

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 101

Shi Wei's agent called the producer over at Xinhuang Entertainment to confirm the time of the audition and brought her to the headquarters of Xinhuang Entertainment. It was her first time at the Xinhuang Entertainment's headquarters. Even though she was quite well-known in the entertainment industry, she had never had the chance to utilize Xinhuang's resources.

The agency that she was currently with was not exactly small-scaled either, but it was still meager compared to Xinhuang Entertainment.

Based on her current situation, for instance, her agency had practically shunned her due to the horrendous scandal. But upon hearing that she was invited to the audition for Xinhuang's movie, her agency was willing to utilize her again. Shi Wei, however, was still irritated that her agency had done so and thought that they were too pragmatic.

After arriving at Xinhuang Entertainment, Shi Wei was impressed at Fu Chengyan's capabilities. It was rumored that Fu Chengyan did not even manage this company himself. Rather, it was managed by one of his menial personal assistants.

At that moment, Shi Wei felt that it was because of her relationship with Fu Chengyan, she had got this role, and she felt proud of that. Meanwhile, her agent was even more pleased with her for being called to an audition and said proudly, "Wei, just imagine if you had managed to get this role..."

"If?" Shi Wei glared at her agent, "There's no if. I must get it!" The role had been set aside for her all along, and the audition was just for show, "You don't really think those directors would pick on my acting skills, do you?"

The agent listened to her, tilted his brows, and grinned, “Wei, you have such good acting skills. The award would be yours in no time.”

“Of course!” Shi Wei lifted her head in pride as if she was the Queen.

In the meantime, the producer had informed Zhou Zheng upon Shi Wei’s arrival. They had long regarded Zhou Zheng as the center and backbone of Xinhuang Entertainment as he was always around.

Earlier on, Zhou Zheng had mentioned to the producers about Shi Wei’s coming and had asked them to look out for her. However, Zhou Zheng had also asked them to be vigilant about her, though she was someone whom he had brought in. Thus, the producer had taken heed to every order carefully and reported to Zhou Zheng the moment she arrived.

At the same time, Zhou Zheng was in the midst of reporting to Fu Chengyan when his phone rang. He looked at his phone and shuddered. Fu Chengyan immediately noticed and lifted his head to look at Zhou Zheng, “What’s the matter?”

“It’s a call from Xinhuang. They had informed me that Shi Wei is coming for an audition today. I guess this call is to update me on this matter.” Zhou Zheng reported as Fu Chengyan waved his hands at him, signaling for Zhou Zheng to pick up. Zhou Zheng picked it up instantly, “Hello?”

“Mr. Zhou, the one you had asked to take extra care of, has arrived. Do you really...” The producer hesitated, “Do you really want to give her the role?”

“Yes, of course. But hold on a second!” Zhou Zheng set aside his phone and asked Fu Chengyan, “Mr. Fu, Shi Wei is there. Do you have any further instructions?”

“Well, let her wait for a while!” Fu Chengyan said as he got up. Zhou Zheng saw that Fu Chengyan was getting his coat, so he hurriedly followed along, “Mr. Fu, you...?”

“I’m going to have a look!” Fu Chengyan’s lips curved into a thin smile and called Shi Nuan, “Are you busy with anything?”

Shi Nuan was pleasantly surprised that Fu Chengyan had called her at this hour. However, she was actually swamped at the moment. The top management of her company had informed her that the company’s tender document had leaked out. And that tender was supposedly under Shi Nuan’s care.

But Shi Nuan was positive that she had kept it well, so she did not expect things to go wrong. Even if she wanted to justify herself, she couldn’t.

The tender submission was going to take place this afternoon, Fucheng suffered a major loss when Shengyuan had abruptly reduced their orders, and they would be in hot water if things do not go well this time.

Earlier that day, Fu Yuqing had called for an emergency meeting, and Shi Nuan was the lamb to the slaughter when everyone put the blame on her. Shi Nuan had just got off the meeting, and she was apparently in a bad mood. Hence, when Fu Chengyan called, she was still upset about the earlier matter. “Can you just tell me what’s going on?” she asked in exasperation.

Since Fu Chengyan had called at this hour, it must have been something important.

Fu Chengyan immediately sensed that something was off with Shi Nuan, so he asked her back, “What happened?”

The whole incident regarding the tender document and everything else was regurgitated within that few minutes. After hearing the whole story, Fu Chengyan snorted while his slender fingers tapped at the steering wheel, “Why don’t you just quit if you’re unhappy?”

Shi Nuan had not expected him to say that and was stumped, “I have been considering it too. Actually, I’ve been thinking of resigning... if this did not

happen...” She felt her colleagues had been intentionally picking on her, and it probably had something to do with the incident between her and Fu Xicheng.

At that moment, Fu Chengyan curled his lips into a thin smile, “Let’s not talk about this anymore. I’m coming over to fetch you.”

“Fetch me? Where to?” Shi Nuan was surprised. “Don’t you need to work?”

“Don’t we all? But I’m pretty sure we need to take a breather right now. Besides, you have nothing to do at Fucheng now anyway. Am I right?”

Fu Chengyan was spot on. In fact, Shi Nuan had been ordered to suspend her work and pass it over to someone else. The top management had considered it a serious breach of trust and blamed it all on Shi Nuan. It was a plot to lay her off.

Nonetheless, Shi Nuan was not an idiot; she knew exactly what they were trying to do.

But after hearing Fu Chengyan’s words, her heart actually felt lighter. Shi Nuan laughed and replied. “Okay, I’ll wait for you then.” She hung up and started to pack her stuff. Pei was shocked at her demeanor and hurriedly came over to stop Shi Nuan, “Ms. Shi, what are you doing? This certainly has nothing to do with you. They will think that you’re leaving out of guilt!”

Shi Nuan looked at Pei and patted her hand lightly, “I’m not quitting. It’s just that I have nothing on my plate right now, and I just want to get off work earlier!” Shi Nuan smiled, “Pei, thank you for believing in me, but... you’d better get back to work. I’ll be taking my leave now.”

“Ms. Shi!” Pei frowned as she watched Shi Nuan strode towards the exit. She had a hunch that something was off with Shi Nuan. And the way Shi Nuan hesitated when she talked just now...

Shi Nuan headed downstairs, and she spotted Fu Chengyan’s car that was parked nearby. Just then, her phone rang, and it was Fu Chengyan.

Shi Nuan smiled and waved at the car. Then she hung up the phone and ran towards it. She went directly to the front passenger seat and opened the door. But to her surprise, Zhou Zheng was sitting right there, so she immediately shut the door and head to the backseat. "Mr. Zhou is here too!"

"Yes. How do you do, Madam!" Zhou Zheng was taken aback when he saw Shi Nuan opening the door. Fortunately, she was quick to go over to the back.

Fu Chengyan stared at Zhou Zheng, "Well, aren't you going to drive?"

"Yes, Master Chengyan!" Zhou Zheng took a glance at Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan. Then, he adjusted his posture and started the car.

What's Zhou Zheng doing here? She turned her head to look at Fu Chengyan, and he was impassively tapping at his knees, "Are you sneaking glances at your husband because you find him good looking?"

Shi Nuan was stumped at his remark and peeked at Zhou Zheng unconsciously. That was when she realized that he was surprised by the remark as well. Shi Nuan tried to stifle her laugh and act solemnly, "Yes, very much."

Fu Chengyan was seemingly delighted at her response, so he reached out his hand to take Shi Nuan's and placed them on his knees. He played around with her hand for a while and said, "I'll take you for a round at Xinhuang later!"

Shi Nuan was surprised, "Why are you taking me to Xinhuang?" Then it suddenly hit her, "Is Shi Wei going for the audition today?"

Fu Chengyan nodded his head, "You have nothing to do anyway, so just take it as an experience! Let's take a look at how good is your sister's acting skills."

Shi Nuan sensed Fu Chengyan's mocking tone right at that moment. She pursed her lips and said, "You're right. I have nothing to do now anyway!"

Although Shi Nuan knew that Shi Wei was an actress, she seldom watched dramas that Shi Wei starred in. To be exact, it was because she did not have to since Shi Wei had lived her life as though she was acting in those TV series.

Shi Nuan contemplated for a while and finally decided to reveal her thoughts about things that had happened today to Fu Chengyan. "I think this is they had planned this to get me to quit voluntarily."

"Are you upset about it?" Fu Chengyan asked.

Shi Nuan lifted her eyes and stared at Fu Chengyan and then at her hand that was placed on his knees. He was playing mindlessly with her fingers. Shi Nuan did not know the difference between her fingers and his own, nor did she understand the fun of playing around with her fingers. However, she thought to herself. Maybe it's because my fingers are more slender? More flexible?

"Hmm?"

When Fu Chengyan noticed that Shi Nuan was quietly staring at his hands, he took her fingers and rubbed them gently at his knees.

At that instant, Shi Nuan snapped out of her thoughts and smiled, "There's nothing to be upset about. What they did was pointless since I had been thinking about quitting. Well, since it's already at this stage, I'll just tender for my resignation tomorrow then. It's better for all of us anyway." She paused to think for a moment before she continued, "But this will wreck my reputation."

"Reputation?" Fu Chengyan snorted. "You care about that?"

Shi Nuan raised her brows in curiosity, "You don't?"

"You can find a job anywhere if you have what it takes." Fu Chengyan rubbed at the palm of her hands, and he drew something on it using his knuckles. Shi Nuan, however, only felt a ticklish sensation. She wanted to retract her hand

back, but Fu Chengyan had held it tight as his deep-set eyes gazed into her.
“Come to Shengyuan!”

Did I hear it correctly? Shi Nuan was taken aback by his sudden request, “What did you say?”

“Come to Shengyuan.” Fu Chengyan was serious this time. His lips curved into a thin smile as he looked at her stunned expression, and he lifted his hand to brush her cheeks, “I know what you’re capable of. Come to Shengyuan.”

Shi Nuan blushed and brushed off his hand that was touching her cheek, “I don’t think that’s appropriate.”

She stole a glance at Zhou Zheng unconsciously, and Fu Chengyan sneered, “Why are you looking at him?”

Zhou Zheng, who was at the driver’s seat, straightened his back and set his eyes on the road.

The discontent on Fu Chengyan’s face was evident, and Shi Nuan noticed it. She pouted and said, “I just don’t want to go through the back door.”

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Fu Chengyan tilted his brows and grinned, "You want to avoid suspicion from others?"

Upon hearing that, Shi Nuan shot Fu Chengyan a death glare. She felt like he was teasing her, but Fu Chengyan gave her a reassuring smile. He then pinched her hand lightly and sighed, "No one knows about us."

Shi Nuan's eyes met with Fu Chengyan's, and she felt like he was blaming her, albeit in a teasing manner. He's right. I was the one who didn't want to expose our relationship. But Fu Chengyan had consented to this too.

She did not force him back then. However, she peeped at Zhou Zheng for a split second and then back at Fu Chengyan again. It was obvious that she was telling him that there were some who knew about their relationship.

Fu Chengyan narrowed his eyes and glared at Zhou Zheng, giving him a warning.

There was no way Zhou Zheng could straighten his back further, and thus, could only protest silently in his heart. It's not like I wanted to know! Just then, Zhou Zheng cleared his throat and plucked up the courage to speak, "Madam, you can pretend that I don't exist at all. In fact, at times like this, I wish I could be invisible."

Shi Nuan was amused by his remark and looked at Fu Chengyan as she burst into laughter.

She found Fu Chengyan's assistant to be quite funny. He did not even blink when he said that he wished he could be invisible.

"Okay, then I'll pretend that you don't exist." Shi Nuan grinned.

Soon after, the car had reached the basement parking of Xinhuang Entertainment, and there were a few lots reserved for Fu Chengyan. Zhou Zheng then got off the car to open the door for Fu Chengyan, "Master Chengyan, Qin Hong had called again to rush things up. She informed that Shi Wei is throwing a tantrum."

However, Fu Chengyan merely pursed his lips, "Let her wait!" He had wanted to witness the extent of Shi Wei's tantrums.

Shi Nuan got off the car after Fu Chengyan and frowned upon hearing Zhou Zheng's words, "She's throwing a tantrum?" Shi Nuan was puzzled. Even though Shi Wei had not treated her well, she had always behaved in front of others.

As an actress, Shi Wei would take good care of her image on different occasions, and throwing a tantrum was the least expected.

"Yep, I think it has been quite some time." Zhou Zheng smiled as he commented. He was not at all surprised at Shi Wei's demeanor. It was even quite common among celebrities, as their images were at stake.

"What do you think, Master Chengyan?" Zhou Zheng glanced at Fu Chengyan and asked.

"Take her to the first recording studio, and keep the CCTV rolling." Fu Chengyan replied as he slid his hands in his pockets. He paused for some time before asking again, "Which script did you give her?" He was unfamiliar with the operations of the entertainment company since he had always delegated everything to Zhou Zheng.

Zhou Zheng thought for a while before answering, "It's a historical drama about spies. The second female lead is the antagonist, and her ending is quite tragic. Master Chengyan, do you want to change it?"

"No need!" Fu Chengyan nodded his head. "This one will do. Who's the director?"

"It's Mr. Chen. Chen Yuming. He is well known for being strict on set. On the other hand, he was quite upset that Shi Wei had been selected without auditioning this time."

Fu Chengyan frowned, "Then try to console him." He then turned his head over to Shi Nuan and said, "I'll bring you upstairs. You might have to come here often in the future."

"Okay!" Shi Nuan smiled as she thought about the shares that she had exchanged with Fu Chengyan and knew what he meant by that.

Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan went directly to the president's office while Zhou Zheng called Qin Hong, "Take her to the first recording studio. Is Mr. Chen here?"

"No. Mr. Chen said that the second female lead has already been set aside for Shi Wei and that her audition doesn't matter. He's quite upset at casting her, but what can we do?" Qin Hong did not understand Zhou Zheng's intention, so he asked, "Who is this Shi Wei? How did she get the second female lead role without even auditioning? Mr. Chen has had his eyes set on Bai Qing for this role. Surely he would be bummed out about this."

"It's not my intention either. This is an order from the top management. Though it's up to you guys on how you guys want to treat her." Zhou Zheng replied nonchalantly, "Just make sure to give her this role."

"Okay then!" Qin Hong had finally grasped the situation when he heard Qin Hong saying that it was an order from the top. "Then I'll bring her to the first recording studio then. Mr. Zhou, are you going to watch the audition?"

Audition? More like a good show.

Zhou Zheng's lips curved into a smile as he thought about Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan in the president's office, "Yep. I'm going to watch it. This is going to be a good one."

In the meantime, Shi Wei had been waiting for over an hour, and her patience was running thin. She would have thrown a tantrum already if her agent had not stopped her from doing so.

The staff here are seriously slacking! I mean, seriously, what are they even doing? I'm here because Fu Chengyan introduced me! Doesn't that mean anything? Fu Chengyan had promised to give her this role and that today's audition was just for show. She was here only out of respect for him. However, it seemed like the staff here did not take her seriously.

Shi Wei was frustrated at having to wait for such a long time in the guest room and was about to leave. "Let's go. This role had been set aside for me anyway!" Her agent hurriedly stopped her, "Wei, be patient. You know that Xinhuang is a big company. Although this role is most likely yours, we still have to cooperate in the future. It doesn't do us good if we displease them. Maybe they're just busy right now. Let's wait for a little longer."

"Wait, wait, wait. That's the only thing you know! Do you know how precious my time is...."

Just as Shi Wei was about to finish speaking, the door of the guest room swung open. A girl, who looked like the secretary, stood at the entrance and asked, "Are you Ms. Shi Wei? Ms. Qin and Mr. Zhou are already here. Please follow me to the first recording room!"

The girl was curt in her manner and did not seem excited at meeting a well-known celebrity like her. However, that didn't bother Shi Wei. She simply thought that the girl must have seen quite a number of superstars while working at an entertainment company like Xinhuang.

Yet, Shi Wei's face remained stern as she was afraid that the girl might have overheard her nasty remarks. Hence, she shot a glance at her agent and signaled him to do something. The agent was quick to respond and took out a red envelope for the secretary. "Pleasure to be here."

"There's no need to. I'm just a lowly secretary, and I could not do much to do take good care of a big celebrity like Ms. Shi." The girl then signaled for Shi Wei and her agent to follow in her direction, "Mr. Zhou came all the way here from the headquarters, and time is running out!"

Shi Wei flinched but still smiled, "Yes, I understand that Mr. Zhou is quite busy. Then kindly show the way, Miss." Shi Wei uttered but was clenching her teeth to herself. She did not actually care for Zhou Zheng.

How dare a lowly assistant like him behave in this manner. Who does he think he is? He's not Fu Chengyan nor the owner of the company.

Shi Wei was mocking him in her head, but her smile did not give her away. One might even find her smiles pleasant to the eyes.

After a while, the secretary led Shi Wei to the first recording studio and pushed the door open, "This way, Ms. Shi."

Shi Wei and her agent went into the recording studio, but there were only three people inside. She recognized Zhou Zheng from meeting him once at the Shi family house. The other one was the producer, Qin Hong. However, she did not recognize the last one. It was only after some time when she had found out that the third person was the deputy director and not someone of a respectable position.

She went over to greet them one by one. However, Qin Hong wasted no time and said, "Ms. Shi, I believe that you had familiarized yourself with the script that Mr. Zhou had given you last time. Let's begin straight away!"

Shi Wei was stunned by the abruptness and glanced awkwardly at Zhou Zheng. Yet, Zhou Zheng merely tilted his brows and nodded, “Ms. Shi, let’s start!”

Shi Wei’s face darkened. It was true that Fu Xicheng had passed her parts of the script, saying that it was from Zhou Zheng. But she had only skimmed through it and did not prepare herself for this audition as she had thought that the role was definitely hers. In fact, to show up out of respect for Fu Chengyan was already a big step for her since she knew that this audition was just for show.

Zhou Zheng looked quizzically at Shi Wei’s odd demeanor and asked, “Ms. Shi, did you not prepare for this?”

“No, it’s not that... It’s just...”

“Ms. Shi, my time is precious too. I deliberately came all the way from the headquarters just for this audition since Mr. Fu had instructed me to personally monitor this. The fact that you did not prepare for the audition had certainly caused me inconvenience!”

Shi Wei was stumped, “Mr. Fu? He had instructed you personally?”

“Of course. Xinhuang had invested a lot into this new drama. I understand that this is only the second female lead role, but this role is quite important to the storyline. You would even be able to take over the female lead if you’ve done well. I had thought that Ms. Shi would appreciate this opportunity given your experience before this.” Zhou Zheng shook his head before continuing, “Now it seems like the second female lead role is not good enough for Ms. Shi?”

“I... Um... I’m feeling under the weather recently and had been taking breaks. That’s why I wasn’t able to make progress on the script,” Shi Wei had not expected Fu Chengyan to personally ask about this, so she appeared to be very uncomfortable at that moment. Besides, Shi Wei could sense Zhou Zheng’s discontent from his tone.

“Feeling under the weather? It seems like you’re not in a good condition recently. Why don’t you take a break for a few days? We can wait, but Mr. Chen, the director of this drama, was displeased that I had allocated the second female lead role to you. Moreover, he already had his eyes on another actress...”

“Mr. Zhou, please give me some time right now to get ready. I’ll be ready in a minute!” Shi Wei panicked upon hearing what Zhou Zheng said.

Shi Wei knew the importance of getting this role. She was nearly cast aside by her company, but their attitude had improved when they knew that she had got a role with Xinhuang. Besides, she was also afraid that it would be near impossible for her to get back up on her feet again if she were to fail this time.

At that instant, Shi Wei bit her lip and started acting pitifully. Tears welled up in her eyes, and she held them back with a snuffle. She glanced at Zhou Zheng, trying hard not to let them fall. Zhou Zheng was shaken, right to the core, but it was not out of sympathy for her. He was just impressed at her inherent acting skills that she put to good use in real life. No wonder Fu Chengyan said he is bringing Shi Nuan to witness a good show.

“In that case, I’ll give Ms. Shi half an hour. It should be more than enough!” Zhou Zheng said as he acted to glance at his watch.

Shi Wei nodded immediately, “Yes, definitely!” She signaled for her agent to pass her the script.

Her agent, on the other hand, was flustered when he mouthed his response to Shi Wei, “We didn’t bring it!”

It was like the whole world had crashed. Shi Wei was stumped.

Puzzled, Zhou Zheng raised his eyebrows and asked, “What’s the matter?”

Shi Wei's facial expression was beyond awkward, and she could only stare back at Zhou Zheng, "Mr. Zhou, could you lend me a copy of the script? I had forgotten to bring it because I was rushing to come here just now!"

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“Forgotten?” Zhou Zheng’s face darkened as he muttered in a low voice and waved his hands to dismiss his thoughts, “Ms. Qin, please give the script to Ms. Shi!” He said awkwardly, “Ms. Shi, Mr. Fu had put a lot of emphasis into this drama in view of the huge amount of money invested into it. I would be in a difficult position if I don’t do well!”

Shi Wei started to realize the seriousness of the problem and shifted awkwardly as she cursed her agent silently for messing things up. “Yes, it is our fault this time. But there’ll be no next time, I promise. Please give me half an hour, Mr. Zhou. I...”

“Okay then!” Zhou Zheng pinched the middle of his brows and sighed. “Please hurry up, Ms. Shi. Mr. Fu still has some tasks for me.”

“Sure!”

Shi Wei was flustered and could not calm herself down. It would be a miracle to be able to memorize the script at this time.

She glowered at her agent, and it got him so nervous that he was at the point of sweating. At that moment, Zhou Zheng picked up a call, and his face fell, “Ms. Shi, I have to go back. As for the rest...” Zhou Zheng peered at Qin Hong, “Ms. Qin, I’ll leave the rest to you. Please take good care of Ms. Shi!”

“Noted, Mr. Zhou.” However, Qin Hong thought the task to be quite cumbersome, so she was stern toward Shi Wei. On the other hand, Qin Hong could do nothing since it was an instruction from the top management.

Shi Wei breathed a sigh of relief to herself when she heard that Zhou Zheng was leaving. However, she put on a reluctant face and shifted awkwardly and looked unwilling for him to leave, “Mr. Zhou, I’m really sorry for what happened today, I...”

“It’s fine. Please liaise with Ms. Qin. I really have to get going. Mr. Fu is rushing me!” Zhou Zheng waved his hands in frustration, clearly displeased with Shi Wei.

Shi Wei was exasperated at his remark but could only smile awkwardly as the air grew still.

After Zhou Zheng had left, Shi Wei was visibly relaxed. She then looked over at Qin Hong and asked, “Ms. Qin, how about you?”

“Though Mr. Zhou doesn’t have time, I do. Take your time, Ms. Shi. I’ll be waiting here.”

Qin Hong put on a casual smile as if she has no other matter to attend to and sat down to wait for Shi Wei.

Shi Nuan frowned as she looked at the CCTV footage; she did not expect Shi Wei to behave this way. At that instant, Shi Nuan had a renewed impression of Shi Wei. “I’ve never seen her in this manner!” Shi Nuan was obviously taken aback.

Right beside her, Fu Chengyan sneered as he turned off the footage, “Unexpected?”

Shi Nuan nodded, “I must be really stupid back then.” She had always put up with her family’s mistreatment towards her, thinking that maybe she had done something wrong. It was not until now that she had realized, sometimes people would just dislike a person for no reason and that their behavior was inexplicable, like Shi Wei, whom she had witnessed just now.

“You brought me here today to watch her put on a good show?”

Fu Chengyan beckoned Shi Nuan to come closer. Shi Nuan hesitated but went over obediently. Fu Chengyan hugged her into an embrace out of a sudden.

It threw Shi Nuan off, making her fall onto Fu Chengyan's lap. She was instantly flustered and glared at Zhou Zheng, "What are you doing? Let me go!"

However, Fu Chengyan merely grinned and rubbed his chin against her shoulders, "Don't move! Let me hug you for a while!"

Shi Wei could only sit there helplessly and let Fu Chengyan hug her. After a while, someone knocked on the door, "Mr. Zhou?"

Fu Chengyan let go of Shi Nuan instantly, and she got up quickly to straighten her shirt. Soon after, Fu Chengyan uttered, "Come in!"

Zhou Zheng came in but noticed Shi Nuan shifting awkwardly while she tugged at her clothes. He immediately realized that he had been intruding, so he coughed awkwardly, "Mr. Fu, Shi Wei is really a genius!"

Meanwhile, Fu Chengyan beckoned at Shi Nuan again. "You want to go for a walk?"

"For?" Shi Nuan asked.

Fu Chengyan grinned and peered at Zhou Zheng, "Since she's into tormenting herself, why don't you help her with it? I'll leave it up to you!" Fu Chengyan was not someone who liked to trouble himself with trivial matters like this. This time, however, it was all for the woman in front of him. He paused for a while and said, "Let's give her some more!"

"Fu Chengyan!" Shi Nuan bit at her lip. "Do you really want to do this?"

"You don't want to?" Fu Chengyan lifted his brows and looked at Shi Nuan with a solemn expression. "I won't if you don't want to!" He was not joking around. "But

do think through this carefully. Some people just would not reciprocate your kindness.”

Shi Nuan grimaced because she knew Fu Chengyan was telling the truth. “Then see to it yourself!” She was clear on the kind of person Shi Wei was. If Fu Chengyan had not troubled her, then Shi Wei would definitely focus on troubling her instead. Besides, the Shi family now knew that granddad had given her his shares.

“Okay!” Fu Chengyan waved his hand and signaled for Zhou Zheng to leave.

Zhou Zheng cast a glance at Fu Chengyan, then at Shi Nuan before leaving. He thought Shi Nuan was too kind to Shi Wei. If I were her, I would definitely take this chance to crush Shi Wei into dust. It was the survival of the fittest, and the weak ones would only be devoured clean by the strong ones. Zhou Zheng had always been with Fu Chengyan. And all this while, he had always regarded Fu Chengyan as the epitome of the fittest, a legend.

It’s no wonder that Shi Wei bullied Madam. She’s too kind. And in this cruel world, being too kind does no good for anyone.

“What are you thinking about?”

Fu Chengyan got up and walked over to Shi Nuan’s side after Zhou Zheng had left. He noticed that Shi Nuan was staring into space, so he reached out to comb through her hair, “Hmm?”

Shi Nuan just shook her head, “I just think that I’m starting to resemble Shi Wei. Yet, it seems like this is for the better!”

“You’re very different from each other.” Fu Chengyan sighed and fixed his gaze on Shi Nuan. He combed through her hair with his fingers and cupped her face in his palms. “She’s nothing compared to you,” he pointed out in a serious tone.

Her heart felt warm and fuzzy when she heard his words. Even if all this was a lie, she would still be happy.

“Come on since you’ve never been here. Let me bring you for a tour.” Fu Chengyan held her hands, and they stepped out of the office.

Earlier on, they had gone through the private walkway, so no one knew they were in the office. Everyone was surprised to see their boss, even more so at him holding hands with a girl – a very pretty one at that. Soon after, everyone was guessing at her identity. Is she a celebrity? Or the boss’s girlfriend?

Looking at everyone’s puzzled expression, Shi Nuan realized that Fu Chengyan was still holding her hands, so she tried to shrug him off, “Stop messing around. Let me go.”

Yet, Fu Chengyan smirked and merely held her hands even tighter as he walked in front, tugging Shi Nuan behind him. It was obvious that Fu Chengyan adored the woman. Besides, one could easily guess their relationship with just one look at the way Fu Chengyan held her hands.

Shi Nuan, on the other hand, thought that they were attracting too much attention. “I’m pretty sure everyone will know of our relationship by tomorrow!”

“You seem to really care about this?” Fu Chengyan turned over to ask Shi Nuan. Shi Nuan was stumped by his question but shook her head in reply, “Not at all.”

Fu Chengyan was pleased with her reply and patted her head. However, his sudden display of affection had drawn the attention of some of the girls nearby. Nonetheless, Fu Chengyan’s gaze never left Shi Nuan, “That’s good to know.” He chuckled and said, “Don’t worry, they won’t babble!”

“How do you know?” Shi Nuan did not believe him. She knew that rumors tend to spread like wildfire, especially rumors like these. She could already foresee how fast the news would travel. Everyone would surely be guessing who she was and why was she together with Fu Chengyan.

Previously, Shi Nuan minded the fact that she was with Fu Chengyan because she did not want others to know. Besides, what brought them together was just that piece of marriage certificate. However, things were different now that she had felt her relationship with Fu Chengyan was slowly improving.

Still, she knew how things would blow up if others had known that he had a girlfriend or even a wife.

It was like Fu Chengyan could read her mind. He knew what she was worried about and held her hands while pinching her gently, "This is my company and I set the rules. If even meager things like these are out of my control, how could I run a whole company?"

Shi Nuan was at a loss for words but understood perfectly, "Yes, you're right. There's no need to worry." She looked over the surroundings and started to see the department heads ushering the staff back to their cubicles. "It looks like I have worried too much." Shi Nuan heaved a sigh of relief.

Fu Chengyan grinned, "Let me introduce you to some of them!"

Then, he called Zhou Zheng, "Get all the department heads for a meeting in ten minutes!"

Zhou Zheng, who was still on the other end, was too surprised to even answer. Hence, Fu Chengyan retorted coolly, "Did you not hear me?"

"Yes, sir! I'll get to it immediately!" Zhou Zheng hung up the phone and notified every head of the department. He thought to himself. Is the boss trying to straighten everything out today? Then Shi Nuan will become the boss... or rather the lady boss of Xinhuang Entertainment?

Zhou Zheng thought of it and decided that he had to speed things up if that was the case.

Meanwhile, Xinhuang's management staff were all stumped to have received such a memo. They knew that Fu Chengyan was their boss, but it was actually quite rare to see him around.

Xinhuang may be the lead of the entertainment industry, yet it was just a minor business among Fu Chengyan's network of enterprises. Hence, it was not the norm for him to manage things directly.

And when all the managerial level staff had arrived at the meeting room, they saw a young woman sitting at the chairman's seat, with Fu Chengyan sitting beside her. They were even more taken aback at seeing Fu Chengyan holding the woman's hand the whole time. Soon after, some of them had noticed that she was the same girl that Fu Chengyan was holding when he went around the office just now.

So, what is the boss getting at?

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 104

Shi Nuan shrugged off Fu Chengyan's hands as she signaled for him to behave and smiled at those who had ushered in. She looked like an angel descended from heaven in comparison to the stern-faced and distant Fu Chengyan.

Seeing the look on their faces, Shi Nuan thought that they were being too serious. However, when she stole a glance at Fu Chengyan, she finally understood the reason behind their uptight demeanor.

Fu Chengyan skimmed through the team with a stern look, "Not sitting down?"

The managerial staff then rushed in and found their seats, setting their backs straight. Shi Nuan was amused with their tensed behavior. It would be normal for one to be serious in a meeting, but all of them looked like they were ready to sacrifice themselves.

Fu Chengyan glanced at Shi Nuan and saw that she was trying to keep a straight face. It was as if her smile was contagious. In the end, he gave up and slightly curled his lips into a thin smile.

They were once again stunned by Fu Chengyan's behavior. However, they were much more calm this time.

Fu Chengyan let go of Shi Nuan's hands and tapped his fingers on the table, forming a rhythmic pattern.

Slowly, the heartbeat of those in the meeting room followed suit. They did not understand the boss's intention of showing up abruptly today, nonetheless bringing a young woman along.

However, they knew that the two were closely related, especially since Fu Chengyan let the young woman preside over the meeting room. Thus, they had guessed the identity of the woman in their heads.

“I’m calling you guys here just to introduce someone.” Fu Chengyan spoke, and everyone held their breath while waiting for the next line.

Fu Chengyan’s gaze brushed past all of them and looked at Shi Nuan, “This is Shi Nuan, and she is the main shareholder of Xinhuang!”

The usually stern-looking crowd was now in an uproar upon the revelation, as their mouths hung wide open after hearing Fu Chengyan’s remark. But since it came out of Fu Chengyan’s mouth, it must be true.

Shi Nuan pursed her lips as she did not expect Fu Chengyan to announce her identity that bluntly. Then, she looked awkwardly at the heads of departments and smiled, “Greetings, everyone.”

“Greetings, Ms. Shi!” They replied in unison.

Fu Chengyan narrowed his eyes. At that moment, Shi Nuan thought that he was going to be enraged. But he did not, and grinned instead, “I just brought her here for an introduction, nothing else.”

They were quick to get Fu Chengyan’s intention and hurriedly nodded.

“From now on, Shi Nuan will be the de facto person-in-charge for Xinhuang. You guys can still look for Zhou Zheng as usual, but she’s the one to make the final call. As for me... I am also subject to her instructions. Is everyone clear?”

“Yes, yes!”

The boss had spoken with such clarity, how can we not get it!

They were just working on wages and had no say in the manpower shift, especially regarding the top management. Hence, they could only listen.

Although the managerial staff were clearly surprised at the shift, they had adapted quickly to the news as they were already veterans.

Qin Hong, however, seemed calm in comparison. She thought about Shi Nuan and Shi Wei's names and made some deductions. However, she was wrong in guessing that they were cordial toward each other since she was thinking about ways to appease Shi Wei as a means to butter up Shi Nuan.

But as soon as Qin Hong thought about Shi Wei's attitude, she felt helpless.

After all those years as a producer, it was the first time she had met someone that she disliked so immensely.

At that moment, Shi Nuan felt a pair of blazing eyes staring at her, so she turned over and saw Qin Hong. She immediately recognized Qin Hong as the producer for Shi Wei's audition and smiled in her direction while nodding slightly. Qin Hong was startled at Shi Nuan's friendliness and smiled back at her.

Just then, Fu Chengyan rapped at the meeting table, "I don't wish for others outside of Xinhuang to know of Shi Nuan's identity. Of course, I don't want to hear any gossips about it in Xinhuang either."

"Yes, we understand!"

When he had finished speaking, Fu Chengyan waved his hands to dismiss everyone, "Get back to work!" Then, he paused for a while and continued, "Ms. Qin, please stay back."

Qin Hong was surprised that Fu Chengyan had called her name, "Yes, Mr. Fu!"

The spacious meeting room was left with only the three of them after everyone had left, so Fu Chengyan smirked, "How's the audition for Shi Wei going?"

Qin Hong then knew that Fu Chengyan was somehow related to that Shi Wei, and she cast a glance at Shi Nuan.

“Why are you looking at her?” Fu Chengyan pursed his lips and tilted his brows slightly.

Qin Hong breathed in deeply before talking, “Mr. Fu, may I ask if Xinhuang is really going to sign Shi Wei for the role?”

“Do you have something to say about it?” Fu Chengyan replied impassively.

Instantly, Qin Hong shook her head in denial, “No sir. Ms. Shi Wei really has extraordinary acting skills that she even put to good use in real life. It’s my first time encountering someone like this.”

Shi Nuan smirked and understood that Qin Hong was a straightforward person. She knew that Qin Hong was also discontent with Shi Wei’s attitude just now.

Fu Chengyan tilted his brows at Shi Nuan, “This is the producer, Ms. Qin Hong. You can ask her whenever you have any doubts. Even though you won’t be here often, you’re still the boss. As for Shi Wei, why don’t I let her work under you directly? How do you feel about this?”

It was Shi Nuan’s turn to raise her brows at Fu Chengyan, “Are you asking for me to suppress Shi Wei?”

“No, I’m not saying that. She’s your sister after all. If you happen to turn her into an A-list celebrity, isn’t that considered as taking good care of her?” Fu Chengyan got up and reached out his hand to twirl the loose strands of her hair. “What do you say?”

Shi Nuan chuckled, “It seems like you’ve given it more thought than I have. I did not consider this when I exchanged my shares with you! But you’re quite cunning. I’m afraid Shi Wei will loathe me if she knows of this.”

“Well, nobody’s forcing her!” Fu Chengyan grin. Then, he saw Qin Hong’s expression, who had just come to a realization, and waved his hand to dismiss her, “You can leave now. As for this new drama, you need to console Mr. Chen and ask him to take one for the team.”

Qin Hong immediately understood Fu Chengyan’s intention. He’s asking me to stay so that he can teach me how to work?

But before Qin Hong left, she glanced at Shi Nuan and then at Fu Chengyan. She still thought that it was unbelievable for things to take such a turn.

Her boss had always seemed cool and impassive, so she did not expect him to be so...

Qin Hong’s colleague, who was also one of the managerial staff, was already waiting for her at the office. He saw her distraught demeanor and asked, “What’s with Mr. Fu today? And who is this Shi Nuan? I just feel like she’s...”

Right away, Qin Hong regained her composure and looked straight at her colleague, Zhang Qing, from the publicity department, “It’s nothing. Just that this Shi Nuan is not someone to take lightly. We have to listen to her starting right now. Didn’t you hear what Mr. Fu say just now? Even he also has to listen to Ms. Shi from here onwards.”

However, Zhang Qing refused to take Fu Chengyan’s words seriously, “I think Mr. Fu is just saying it for fun. She’s only a woman...” Zhang Qing suddenly noticed Qin Hong’s face that had instantly darkened at his words and realized that he made a mistake. He slapped himself as he said, “Ha-ha! I’m just kidding. It’s a joke! But Mr. Fu asked you to stay back?”

“It’s for that new drama. He wants me to console Mr. Chen.” Qin Hong felt helpless, “That Shi Wei...”

“I’ve heard of it too. She’s really coming out of nowhere... Plus, wait a minute. Shi Wei? The woman just now was Shi Nuan? Are they somehow related?”

“No, they’re not related!” Qin Hong did not forget Fu Chengyan’s words just now. He must have had a plan in mind by asking her to stay back just now. “Just do your job and don’t try to guess what’s on our boss’s mind. But I’m warning you. Just be more mindful when you see Ms. Shi Nuan next time. If you keep up with that attitude of yours, you’ll regret your words!”

Zhang Qing waved his hands to dismiss her worry, “Yeah, yeah.”

Meanwhile, Shi Wei was very displeased at Qin Hong’s impassive expression even after she had put on such a good show.

She then thought of her identity as the beloved daughter of the Shi family. People are always in all smiles when they see me. Why should this Qin Hong be any different? Besides, she was on the way to the A-list. Qin Hong surely knew her identity but still treated her as such.

And that Zhou Zheng, he is just a lowly assistant. How dare he disrespect me?

Shi Wei was even more exasperated thinking about it and hurled the script in hand as soon as she was in the car. It was handed to her earlier by Qin Hong. How dare she say such a thing to me? “Ms. Shi, you better take good care of this script and not lose it again!”

What does she mean by that? Huh?

Shi Wei had wanted to throw a tantrum right then and there but was stopped short by her agent, reminding her to take care of her reputation. Then only did Shi Wei not burst into rage. But she was boiling with fury, and she had nowhere to vent it.

“Some lowly producer. And she thinks she’s the boss! Fu Chengyan did not even say anything!”

“I know.” The agent immediately handed a bottle of water to Shi Wei in hopes of calming her down, “Drink some water and calm down. You did very well just now.

You were in character even in just a short while, and you even spiced up the atmosphere. Your acting skills have surely improved a lot.”

Shi Wei calmed down after hearing her agent and sighed aloud, “I’ve always been good at acting. Did you only realize it today?”

“Yes, you’ve always been good. But you’re even better now. Why do you care about that Qin Hong? Don’t forget that you know Fu Chengyan personally, and those people will only suffer when you get yourself back up through this drama!”

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 105

Shi Wei had thought that there was nothing to worry about anymore because of her connection with Fu Chengyan. It was just a drama, and it would more than suffice if Fu Chengyan had spoken up for her.

But it was clear that Shi Wei had taken it too lightly. Right on the next day after her audition, her role in the drama was again nearly threatened by her scandal.

Rumor had it that the director for this movie was displeased with Shi Wei being selected for the role. It was worse now that Shi Wei had been dragged into a scandal.

On the day she had finished the audition, rumors were going around saying that she was displeased with the producer at Xinhuang. However, Shi Wei had toned down her attitude, given the need to cooperate with Qin Hong in the future.

Yet, the news of her from a few years back began to surface on social media that night. She had paid for the news to be taken down, but now, that informant had something even more mind-blowing.

Shi Wei had gone to M Nation for a drama shooting for about a year when she was only eighteen or nineteen.

The pictures that surfaced online were that of Shi Wei hugging and being intimate with a man. There were even photos that were more explicit than that. Those were old photos, and one would not have guessed that it was Shi Wei in those photos.

But Shi Wei recognized herself straight away.

She scrolled through her social media in her room and suddenly saw herself topped the charts on the trending topics.

The sudden fame had astonished her, and she thought that her company had bought the trending position following her audition today to boost her popularity. But Shi Wei soon realized that it was not that case at all. Someone had leaked her indecent photos everywhere, and her fans, haters, and even keyboard warriors were all vilifying her.

Shi Wei's notification on Weibo was about to burst as she saw more and more posts about the scandal surfacing online. There was nothing she could do at that moment as she was panic-stricken.

All of a sudden, Shi Wei's phone rang, and it shocked her so much that she almost flung it across the floor. However, she calmed herself down and picked up the call. It was a call from the director of her managing company, "Shi Wei, would you mind give me a viable explanation for all these!"

"I... I have no idea! Director, someone must have framed me... I..."

"Framed you?" The director snorted at her reply, "I think your explanation is less than useless. You'd better think of how to settle this!"

"I..."

"Come to the office immediately!"

Shi Wei sat dazed as she stared at the phone. After a while, she came to her senses and changed her clothes before leaving.

Jiang Yu bumped into Shi Wei at the door and was curious to see her in a disheveled manner, "Wei, what's with you? Where are you going at this hour?"

“Mum, there’s no time to explain. I’m going to the office. If... If paparazzi or reporters show up, do not open the door or answer any of their questions, do you understand?”

With that, Shi Wei left in a hurry, leaving Jiang Yu stumped. She quickly went to Shi Jingzheng’s study and asked, “Zheng, do you know what’s up with Wei?”

Shi Jingzheng was busy at that moment and frowned when he heard Jiang Yu talking. “What could be wrong with Shi Wei? She’s busy all day anyway. Didn’t Fu Chengyan say he will help? Everything is in a mess, and father is still in the hospital. Can the two of you not add any more trouble?”

Upon hearing his words, Jiang Yu was displeased. Are you blaming me for what happened? She had wanted to retort but thought otherwise. Jiang Yu immediately surfed the social media while thinking about Shi Wei’s demeanor. After a while, she saw her daughter’s indecent photos circling around the web, making her slumped back in the chair. “No, I can’t let this happen to Wei, definitely not!”

Heated discussions were all over social media. Everyone was talking about how Shi Wei had lied to them, judging by the photos.

Shi Wei had always appeared as someone innocent and pure. Her fans adored her because of her impeccably innocent image as well. They even gave her the title “Princess Wei” and regarded her every move and temperament as immaculate.

After those photos and videos were leaked, her fans were aghast and could not believe their own eyes. However, they suffered a huge blow as more and more photos surfaced.

Her fans had wanted to defend her against those haters and keyboard warriors but soon were drowned in the lewd photos.

In the meantime, Shi Wei was reprimanded back at the office. It was true that she had a connection to Fu Chengyan, but it was only a second female lead role. Besides, it was only a verbal agreement for the role, and there was no contract.

Her agency thought that she was like a ticking time bomb that would explode any time and pull them under the bus.

Not long ago, the agency had just started, and they planned to make Shi Wei the rising star. However, they had to call off the plans because of the scandal.

As her personal agent, Guan Jing was in turmoil while trying to appeal to the company to help Shi Wei. However, the company did not seem like they wanted to get her out of this rut. It was as if Shi Wei had fallen into a trap as she would go up the trending charts again after falling back down from her company's effort. The two forces at play were both well loaded, and it just depended on who was willing to spend more on this.

However, it was obvious that her current agency did not want to save her. Guan Jing, as the veteran of the entertainment business, knew that Shi Wei was in trouble this time, as the other force did not seem like a menial one. Her agency had stopped their PR tactic, and they wanted to see what else was up on the other party's sleeves.

For that whole night, Shi Wei had not slept a wink. She could only wait for the top management to get her out of trouble. However, it seemed like she had lost all hopes as she could not even catch a glimpse of the top guns.

Guan Jing came out of the meeting room in a dejected manner and felt sorry for Shi Wei when he saw her looked that defeated. However, he was frustrated again when he thought about how Shi Wei had brought upon all these to herself.

At that moment, Shi Wei got up and went over to Guan Jing, "How is it? What did Mr. Li say?"

“There’s no other way. The other party is obviously cornering you! Who did you offend, Shi Wei?”

“I... I don’t know. You know that it’s normal to have some arguments in our industry, but it is abnormal to be picked on like this...” Shi Wei was stumped. There was no way someone could find out about the things she had done in the past unless the other person was set on pulling her under. That could be the only viable explanation for this elaborate scheme.

However, Shi Wei still had no idea whom she had offended for them to scheme against her this way.

“I don’t know what to do. Mr. Li has left. Shi Wei, you have to be mentally prepared.”

“What do you mean? Aren’t you my personal agent? You have to think of something! Are you going to let those people keep up with it? My career...” Shi Wei’s phone rang that instant. She checked the caller ID and saw that it was from Fu Xicheng. Her hands began to tremble uncontrollably.

Right beside her, Guan Jing saw the caller ID too. “Pick up. It’s from your fiancée!”

Shi Wei’s hands were still trembling, but she breathed in deeply to calm herself, “Hello, Xicheng...” Her voice sounded broken and shaky, and one would feel for her upon hearing it.

However, Fu Xicheng was in no mood to empathize with her. He had been displeased with Shi Wei recently and now there was another incident, “What actually happened? My line had been busy since this morning, and they were all from those paparazzi! Shi Wei, didn’t you say the ones before were fake news? Would you mind explaining this to me, then? Is this fake news too?”

Fu Xicheng was boiling with rage. He had pinned all his hope on Shi Wei since his relationship with Shi Nuan had gone to the point of no return. But what was Shi Wei getting at? “What do you take me for?”

“Xicheng, please listen to me. What you’re seeing is not the truth. Someone is trying to frame me. You have to believe in me. Yes, those photos are fake. It’s not me!” Shi Wei panicked. It was not easy for her to snatch Fu Xicheng away from Shi Nuan, and she had vowed to keep Fu Xicheng as her man.

“You don’t understand the entertainment industry. I have probably offended someone, and so they’re...”

“Enough. You’re really taking everyone for a fool! If you don’t explain yourself clearly this time, we...”

“Xicheng!” Shi Wei interrupted him. “Please don’t say it. I don’t like hearing it.” Shi Wei’s voice quivered when she said that and pouted her lips, “Never say that to me. This is really someone trying to sabotage me. You have to help me. Can you please go seek Fu Chengyan’s help? He will definitely help me!”

“Fu Chengyan?” Fu Xicheng spat out each word. “You want me to beg Fu Chengyan again?”

“But...”

Fu Xicheng did not wait for Shi Wei to finish her line before hanging up on her.

On the other end, Shi Wei was stunned. She clutched her phone tightly and stared blankly in disbelief. She could not believe that Fu Xicheng dared to reject her, lest hanging up on her!

No, Fu Xicheng is mine!

Shi Wei clenched her teeth and glanced at Guan Jing, “Why don’t you come up with something? You’re my agent! If you can’t even settle this, what kind of agent are you?”

“Shi Wei, you have to speak out of conscience!” Guan Jing was enraged as he did not expect Shi Wei to be such a two-face. “I can do nothing now that it’s been blown out of proportion. Mr. Li does not have any plans to intervene. Do you think an agent like me would have the capability to settle this and suppress all these gossips?”