

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 146

Shi Nuan was taken aback by Jiang Yu's sudden request. It hadn't been long since Shi Wei had left, and now her mother was here. She would truly be a fool if she didn't know that they had something up their sleeves.

She looked at Jiang Yu meaningfully. For some reason, Jiang Yu squirmed under Shi Nuan's interrogative gaze, but she quickly composed herself. She looked around the table and said, "It has been a while since I saw you, Nuan. Why? You don't even want to talk to me?"

Shi Nuan sneered internally. Well, what an Oscar-worthy act, Jiang Yu. I wonder if you've learned it from your daughter, or perhaps it's the other way around? She swept her gaze over Jiang Yu and remained in her seat.

Jiang Yu was angered, but she couldn't show it, for Shi Yunsheng, Jiang Shizheng, and even Fu Chengyan were here. The woman smiled. "I have something to give you, Nuan. Your sister is married now, so you're the only one I worry about. It has been a while since I talked to you. You're always so busy and not at home."

"Enough," Jiang Shizheng interrupted her impatiently. "You couldn't be a good mother to her, so how dare you criticize her? Is it not your fault my granddaughter chose to leave the family?"

"Father!" Jiang Yu did not expect her father to reprimand her in public, but since he was her father, she couldn't talk back. So, the woman shamelessly vented her anger on Shi Nuan. "What are you talking about? Shi Nuan's my daughter. How can you accuse me of doing that?"

Dad, tell him how I usually treat Nuan. You know I'm kind to her." Jiang Yu looked at Shi Yunsheng. She thought Shi Yunsheng wouldn't want to embarrass himself in front of Jiang Shizheng, so he couldn't side with the latter.

However, she was severely mistaken. Even though the old men did not get along well, they could work together for Shi Nuan.

Shi Yunsheng looked upset. "It's Wei's big day today. Why are you asking for Nuan instead of helping with the wedding? There are a lot of guests for you to greet, so busy yourself with that!"

"Father, dad." Jiang Yu was angry and frantic, but she couldn't give up now. Just then, her phone rang. "Hello, Yunwan? Yes, oh, he's here?" Jiang Yu looked around her. "Alright, then I'll go look for him. Don't worry, I'll take care of him."

Fu Chengyan's eyes gleamed. He then sent a text to someone and received a curt reply that said, 'I'm here.' Fu Chengyan smiled and met Shi Nuan's gaze when he raised his head. The man looked at her and nodded. Shi Nuan was perplexed, so she texted him, 'What's wrong?'

'Go with her then, since she wants you to,' he texted. "It's fine," he reassured her.

Shi Nuan relaxed and nodded. When she noticed Jiang Yu had ended the call, she stood up. "You have something to tell me, mom?"

Jiang Yu was surprised by Shi Nuan's abrupt change in behavior, but she didn't have the time to dwell on it. Su Yunwan had told her that her son was here but he didn't see Shi Nuan. She told Jiang Yu that her son had business to settle, so she asked if the meeting was off.

Jiang Yu would not let this opportunity slide. The woman had just been thinking about how she should take Shi Nuan away, when the girl agreed to come with her. She smiled. "Yes, come with me." Jiang Yu quickly grabbed her hand, worried that Shi Nuan might refuse her. Shi Nuan shuddered and wanted to fling

her mother's hand away reflexively, but Jiang Yu refused to let go. "I'll be taking Nuan then."

Shi Nuan said, "I'll go with mom for a bit, but I'll be back in a jiffy." She then looked at Fu Chengyan. "See you, Mr. Fu."

"See you, Ms. Shi." Fu Chengyan said with a hint of a smile. Jiang Yu was so focused on taking Shi Nuan away that she didn't notice the cold look Fu Chengyan gave her the moment she held Shi Nuan's hand. If it wasn't because Shi Nuan had called him, the murderous look would still be on his face.

Shi Nuan was ushered out of the banquet hall. When they reached the corridor, Jiang Yu suddenly let her go, her expression dark. "Why did you give me that look when I asked you to come with me? I am your mother. I won't harm you!"

Shi Nuan's brows drew together. "You took this the wrong way, mother. I did not mean that." Shi Nuan did not want to waste her time talking about this. "Do you have anything you need to tell me privately, mother?"

"Don't talk to me like that! I won't harm you!" Jiang Yu was frustrated seeing how humble and fake her daughter was acting, but she had more urgent matters at hand, so she pushed her anger down. "Your sister and I are worried about you. She's married now, so now it's your marriage I'm worried about."

Worrying about my marriage? Shi Nuan frowned, not willing to comment on this. Over the years, Shi Nuan had seen her mother's true colors. To her, Jiang Yu was only her egg donor and nothing more. Shi Nuan had no feelings towards her mother – her biological family had exhausted all her emotions. "I am still young, so you don't have to worry about my marriage, mother."

"What are you talking about?" Jiang Yu was upset to hear her refusal. "I am doing this for your own good. Now, look alive, and pull yourself together. You look like you just woke up. The man I'm going to introduce to you in a moment is my good friend's son. He's a powerful man, so you'd better watch your tongue and don't mess around!"

Jiang Yu used the pretext of doing this for Shi Nuan's own good, but Shi Nuan knew what her mother was planning. She disliked what Jiang Yu was pulling, for this was nothing more than an act of removing her as a threat toward Shi Wei. Did she say he's a powerful man? So the family is planning to use me as a bargaining chip, huh? No matter what it was, Shi Nuan would never do it. "You might have not understood me, mother. I won't even go on blind dates now, let alone marrying someone."

"Are you trying to send me to my deathbed, you brat?" Jiang Yu moved to slap Shi Nuan, but the latter wouldn't let her do as she pleased, so Shi Nuan took a step back. Even though her expression was inscrutable, Shi Nuan was thoroughly sick of her mother's antics. "I do not mean to anger you, mother, but I will not agree to what you just said."

"How dare you!" Jiang Yu gnashed her teeth. "Do you know how much I've work on this meeting? How dare you talk like that, you ingrate?" Jiang Yu was crossing the line. "Do you know how many women want to marry him, you ingrate?"

Shi Nuan pursed her lips and stood her ground. "Then let those women marry him. All I know is that I won't marry him, ever."

"Say that one more time!"

"Mrs. Shi?" A familiar voice interrupted their argument. Jiang Yu froze and glared at Shi Nuan. "You'd better watch your tongue!" She warned before looking over Shi Nuan's shoulder to smile at the newcomer. "Might you be Su Bancheng? Yunwan's son?"

Shi Nuan was taken aback, then she frowned at her mother who was beaming at someone behind her. When the woman turned around and saw who was there, the corner of her lips twitched.

The man was in a brown suit, its cutting accentuating his sturdy figure. He seemed to be perpetually smiling, and he radiated a noble air despite his languid look. If it wasn't because she recognized, Shi Nuan would have thought the man

was Prince Charming. She had a complex look on her face, then she said to the man, “You—”

“Hello, I’m Su Bancheng.” He said, his smile distant. “You must be Mrs. Fu, the one my mother mentioned.”

“Yes, I am.” Jiang Yu was also attracted by this outstanding man before her. Her eyes were practically glued to him. At this moment, she regretted introducing Shi Nuan to a man like him. Jiang Yu thought someone like Shi Nuan was unworthy of a man like this, but now that the plan was already in motion, so she couldn’t go back on her promise. She forced a smile and said, “Here, let me do the introductions, Bancheng. This is my second daughter, Shi Nuan. Nuan, this is Su Bancheng, or you can call him Mr. Su. He’s Yunwan’s son, the one I’ve been talking about.”

Shi Nuan opened her mouth and looked at the man dumbly. Su Bancheng?

She knew who he was, but still extended her hand anyway. The reason? She saw a mischievous glint in the eyes of “Su Bancheng.” “Hello, Mr. Su.”

“Ah, your reputation precedes you, Ms. Shi.”

Jiang Yu thought this first contact between them was nice, so she said, “Alright, let’s talk in the room. I did tell your mother that I’d let you two know each other.” She then brought them into a waiting room, then the woman grabbed Shi Nuan’s hand. “Talk to Mr. Su nicely and don’t mess around,” she cautioned with a threatening tone.

Shi Nuan squinted, and for the first time in a while, she didn’t go against her mother. Jiang Yu thought Shi Nuan had taken a liking to Su Bancheng, so she said, “Alright, I have guests to entertain, so you entertain Mr. Su for a bit, okay?” When she was exiting the room, the woman looked at Shi Nuan with a warning glare. Once the door was closed, Shi Nuan whipped her head to look at the man. “Su Bancheng? When did you become Su Bancheng?”

The man sighed and shook his head. A moment later, he smiled innocently, and the noble gentleman seconds ago was replaced by a mischievous child, as if by magic. “Hey, sister-in-law, I wonder if Chengyan will kill me when knows I’m your blind date.”

Shi Nuan narrowed her eyes. “No, my blind date is Su Bancheng, not you, and he knows that I’m here.”

Su Shaoqing arched his eyebrow and smiled. “Man, your mother’s a weird one. To think that she’s trying to settle your marriage on Shi Wei’s wedding day.”

“So, who’s Su Bancheng?”

“My cousin.”

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Shi Nuan got the answer to her question. So he's actually related to Su Bancheng. Does that mean that Fu Chengyan had known beforehand?

"Hey, but if he's your cousin, why haven't I heard of him?" Shi Nuan was still confused, for she was unfamiliar with the name. If this guy was a famous one, she should have at least heard of him.

Su Shaoqing smiled. "Have a seat, Nuan." Su Shaoqing paced the room languidly and poured a cup of tea for her. "He's my aunt's son. His name is actually Jiang Shengfan, surely you have heard that name before. My aunt was married to Sheen City's Jiang family, and my cousin is the heir."

That resolved one question, but it created for confusion. "Jiang Shengfan? So why are you guys calling him Su Bancheng?"

Su Shaoqing said, "It's the conflict of the past generations. My aunt had cut ties with the Jiang family, while my cousin would come here every year. The Jiang family calls him Jiang Shengfan, but you know my family's case. If I am not going to be its heir, then my cousin would take the place. Hence, my grandfather insisted on changing his name."

That answered where Su Bancheng came from. "Only a select few in this city know who my cousin is, so keep this a secret, Nuan."

"Of course I will. But what's up with my mother being friends with your aunt?" It was unlike Jiang Yu to introduce her to someone that had a background as powerful as Su Bancheng.

“This is also a story of the past. My aunt was kidnapped and hurt back then, but your mother saved her, so she owed her one.” Su Shaoqing said it like it was an offhand comment. “So that’s why she wants to call in this favor.”

“So you’re not here just for Yan?” Shi Nuan was clear about the situation now. “You know how my mother is, so please tell your cousin that I’m sorry about this situation when you go back.”

Su Shaoqing arched his eyebrow and smiled innocently. “It’s fine. I know my cousin well. He hates it when people force him to do something, so your mother has crossed him this time,” Su Shaoqing said. “But it’s not going to be easy to explain to your mother either.”

Shi Nuan smiled bitterly. “You don’t have to care about me.” Even though she was Jiang Yu’s daughter, Jiang Yu had treated her as one. No matter who she had arranged as Shi Nuan’s blind date, Shi Nuan would never agree to it. Moreover, she was already married to Fu Chengyan.

After a while of sitting around in the waiting room, Fu Chengyan called her. She looked at Su Shaoqing for a moment before accepting the call. “Yan!”

“Where are you?” He asked. Shi Nuan looked at Su Shaoqing again. “I’m in the waiting room with Mr. Su. Do you want to come over?”

“No. You guys come to us in a bit.” Fu Chengyan chatted with her for a bit, but Su Shaoqing barged into their conversation. “What’s going on, Chengyan? You were the one who asked me to come here, so why are you calling her? Worried that I might do something?”

Shi Nuan was shocked. Just as she was about to say something, Fu Chengyan replied, “You’re too insignificant to be considered a threat, Shaoqing!” She noticed the corner of Su Shaoqing’s lips twitching, his expression dark. The woman quickly hung up and told him, “Let’s go out right now, Mr. Su.”

The moment they got up, Shi Nuan and Su Shaoqing heard the sounds of someone moaning. Shi Nuan turned around in suspicion and met Su Shaoqing's gaze. He had heard the moans too, and there were rustling noises in the room. It sounded... erotic.

Su Shaoqing arched his eyebrow and smiled. "From what I know, your sister rented the whole place, right?"

Shi Nuan blushed, for she noticed the mockery in his eyes. She heard the sounds too. Shi Nuan was already a grown up, so she was embarrassed, for she clearly knew what those sounds implied. Shi Nuan wanted to leave the place immediately, but the moans were getting louder making her feel flustered. "Um..."

"Shh!" Su Shaoqing placed his index finger on his lips, signaling Shi Nuan to keep quiet. "Don't you want to watch, Nuan?"

"No!" Shi Nuan shook her head. "Let's go!" We can't watch this! However, she then heard someone screaming, "Harder, Xicheng!" That made her heart jump. She knew that she and Fu Xicheng were over, and she had no love for him, but it was still awkward hearing someone screaming his name during sex, and she didn't know how to process this.

Su Shaoqing heard it too, so he gave Shi Nuan a look. He knew Shi Nuan was easily embarrassed, so he smiled. "You can go to Chengyan now. I'll eavesdrop on this."

"Um..." Shi Nuan wanted to say something, but Su Shaoqing had already opened the window to the balcony and jumped to the other side. When he peered inside, he saw two bodies entangled in a passionate embrace, and they were none other than the bride and the groom – the stars of the day. He quirked an eyebrow and smiled. He pulled out his phone and recorded the scene. Su Shaoqing tsk-tsked, lamenting the fact that society had fallen. They have guests out there, and yet here they are, going at it like rabbits in the waiting room.

Instead of leaving, Shi Nuan stood by the door. It took a while before Su Shaoqing came out, looking nonchalant. Shi Nuan was blushing crimson now, but Su Shaoqing still looked calm and unbothered. Frowning, she urged him to leave, "Let's go, Mr. Su."

Su Shaoqing arched his eyebrow. "Aren't you curious about what happened inside, Nuan?" Shi Nuan looked up at him coldly. For some reason, Su Shaoqing felt that the look she gave him was eerily similar to Fu Chengyan's glare. There was an instant where Su was actually afraid of her. Holy shit, did she get influenced by Fu Chengyan after being with him all this time? Su Shaoqing shivered. "Please don't look at me like that, Nuan. You're scaring me."

Shi Nuan looked away and pursed her lips. "Let's go."

The frivolous look in Su Shaoqing's eyes dimmed, and his smile froze. He looked back at the waiting room, his eyes gleaming.

Shi Nuan and Su Shaoqing entered the banquet hall at the same time. Everyone was still having fun, but they immediately noticed that Shi Nuan, who left earlier, had come back with another partner, who was also as handsome as her first one. Barely anyone there knew who Su Shaoqing was, but they unanimously found him was handsome and dashing. When they saw the man walking together with Shi Nuan, they started to make guesses about Shi Nuan's relationship with him.

Song Rongrong and Su Yian knew who Su Shaoqing was, so the girls turned to looked at Fu Chengyan. However, they were surprised to find Fu Chengyan sitting there calmly, talking with both of Shi Nuan's grandfathers, as if he wasn't affected by it.

They then looked at Shi Nuan and winked at her. Shi Nuan saw them too, so she smiled at them. Next to Shi Nuan, Su Shaoqing grinned at Song Rongrong, his eyebrow arched. Song Rongrong shuddered and rubbed the goose bumps on her arms. "Holy sh*t. That b*stard is going to be the end of me."

Su Yian chuckled. “He didn’t do anything to you. I think you’re just too prejudiced.”

“I am not prejudiced.” Song Rongrong smacked her lips and snorted. “I just don’t like him. Hey, by the way, why is Shi Nuan walking with him?”

Shi Nuan reached her table and began to make introductions. “Grandpa, this is Su Shaoqing. Shaoqing, this is my grandpa, and well, he’s also my grandpa. One from my mom’s side, and one from my dad’s side.” Shi Nuan paused when she reached Fu Chengyan before continuing, “And this is my husband, Fu Chengyan!”

Fu Chengyan’s hand trembled. Even though only the ones at this table could hear what Shi Nuan was talking about, Fu Chengyan still felt delighted. He looked up at her, his eyes shining brighter than the sun. The man smiled politely as he greeted his friend, “Hello, Mr. Su.”

Su Shaoqing forced a smile, and the corner of his right eye twitched. He looked at Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan, feeling like something bad was going to happen when he saw Fu Chengyan smiling. Even so, he tried to be calm and smiled innocently. “Your reputation precedes you, Mr. Fu. And now I see that you’re more than what the rumors say about you.” He forced himself to finish that sentence.

Fu Chengyan poured a cup of tea for Su Shaoqing. “Have a taste, Mr. Su.”

“Thank you.” Su Shaoqing took the tea and looked at the pair of elderly men. “Hello, Mr. Shi, Mr. Jiang.”

“What a polite young man!” Even though Shi Yunsheng was old, the man was as perceptive as ever, so he knew who this Su Shaoqing was. Even so, he felt perplexed, for he did not expect Su Shaoqing to be the blind date Jiang Yu had set up for Shi Nuan. How did she know someone like Su Shaoqing? And judging by how he interacts with Fu Chengyan, it’s obvious that they know each other.

“Grandpa, mother wanted me to have a blind date with Su Bancheng, Mr. Su’s cousin.” Shi Nuan went to Shi Yunsheng and whispered to him when she noticed his visible confusion. “Su Shaoqing and Chengyan are friends. They knew what mother had been planning since a while ago, and Su Shaoqing’s cousin doesn’t want to go for the blind date either, so he asked Su Shaoqing to take his place.

That answered Shi Yunsheng’s question, and he liked Fu Chengyan even more. The old man then looked at him approvingly. Looks like entrusting Nuan to him will be a good choice after all.

Fu Chengyan noticed the approving look Shi Yunsheng was giving him, so he smiled and glanced at Shi Nuan. She happened to be looking at him too, and for the first time in a while, she blushed.

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Su Shaoqing squinted, and he complained internally. Chengyan is really getting bolder now. How could he flirt with Shi Nuan at a place like this? The man faked a couple of coughs and tapped his fingers on the table. "Don't ruin your image, you two."

Fu Chengyan smirked. "Why? You have a problem with that?"

Su Shaoqing pouted. "No, though I do have something for you. It's good stuff." He then sat beside Fu Chengyan and wrapped his arm around the latter's shoulder, but Fu Chengyan flung it away heartlessly. He glanced at Su Shaoqing coldly, then the latter retracted his arm and chuckled. "Hey, I just forgot about it for a bit."

The bigshots were all gathered at this table. Everyone wanted to take this chance to get acquainted with a bigshot like Fu Chengyan, but the man gave off an intimidating vibe. When they noticed how Fu Chengyan responded to Su Shaoqing, they didn't even dare get close. All they did was watch from afar.

Shi Nuan was talking to her grandfathers. Since they weren't interested in a banquet like this, they felt bored after having a few bites of food. "If you feel bored, Nuan, you can go back. Your grandfather and I will be leaving too."

"Now?" Shi Nuan looked around her. Even though they were halfway through the banquet, not many had left yet. However, she nodded after taking their age into account. "Yan and I will send you guys back then."

"No need for that." Jiang Shizheng quickly refused. "I'll chat with your grandfather and go for a walk outside. It's stuffy in here."

Shi Nuan wanted to protest but Fu Chengyan gave her a look that quieted her down. "Take care, Granddad and Grandpa."

"We know. We have our respective drivers. We'll go over and tell your parents that we're leaving now."

Shi Nuan saw them off before sitting down. After her grandfather left, only three were left at this table, making it look... empty. Shi Nuan felt awkward, so she fidgeted a bit. Fu Chengyan noticed her discomfort and glanced around. "Call your friends over."

"Can I?" Shi Nuan asked elatedly. "I'll call them over then." She looked down and texted Song Rongrong and Su Yian, telling them to come over. The invitation was timely, as Song Rongrong and Su Yian felt suffocated sitting at their table. Even though everyone there used to be classmates, after years of separation and leading different lives, they had no common topic. Everyone had changed after working for a few years, and that irked them both. They had been tempted to leave for quite a while now.

Now that Shi Nuan had called them over, they quickly obliged, though the girls tried to tone their excitement down. "Hello, Mr. Fu, Mr. Su," Su Yian greeted them politely. Song Rongrong almost called Fu Chengyan 'dear Yan,' but she stopped just in time. She sat down and tugged on Shi Nuan's arm. "Will we attract too much attention sitting here?"

"I don't think so," Shi Nuan said. "Don't worry. You guys are my friends, and I invited you guys over."

Song Rongrong chuckled and looked at Su Shaoqing. "Hey, why are you here, Mr. Su?"

"Why can't I be here?" Su Shaoqing retorted. "You guys can be here, so why can't I?"

“Hey, you said you have something for me,” Fu Chengyan interrupted him. “Give it to me.”

Su Shaoqing beamed innocently, though it felt eerie. The girls thought the smile looked cunning. Su Shaoqing sent the video he recorded in the waiting room to Fu Chengyan. “I went to see Nuan earlier, but I stumbled upon something awesome. Tsk tsk, take a look for yourself. This is a great show.”

Fu Chengyan glanced at the video and looked at Su Shaoqing. “Did she see it?”

When Shi Nuan felt someone looking at her, she raised her head and met Fu Chengyan’s fiery gaze. The woman looked at him, bamboozled. “What’s wrong?” She mouthed.

Fu Chengyan looked back at Su Shaoqing. “Well?”

“Hey, I know what I should do, okay? Don’t worry, Nuan didn’t see it. I asked her to exit the room,” Su Shaoqing guaranteed. “I swear on my soul. She can’t see this kind of stuff, right? It’ll desecrate her eyes. I recorded it out of impulse. Maybe you’ll need it someday, hmm?”

Fu Chengyan glanced at Su Shaoqing cryptically. Su Shaoqing shuddered, feeling that he had come here today for nothing.

“Oh, hey, they’re back.” Su Shaoqing tittered. “Wow, his stamina is surprisingly good.” Su Shaoqing kept his voice down, but Shi Nuan heard it anyway, and she blushed. Song Rongrong and Su Yian heard it too, but since they didn’t know what had happened, the girls thought it sounded peculiar. When they saw how smug Su Shaoqing looked, the girls made a unanimous decision to stay clear of Su Shaoqing. Fu Chengyan tapped on the table as a warning for Su Shaoqing.

Shi Wei had changed into another set of clothes when she came out, holding Fu Xicheng’s arm. They looked flushed, as if they had a happy wedding. They went at it for a while back then, and Fu Xicheng rammed into her without holding back,

so Shi Wei was teetering on her weak legs right now. She had to lean against Fu Xicheng for balance. "I love you, Xicheng," she said breathily, feeling satisfied.

Fu Xicheng had a complex look on his face after hearing that confession, but still he smiled. "I love you too, Wei." He knew that his marriage with her was already set in stone now. Even though he didn't want this, the man told himself not to dwell on it when he thought of the Shi family's shares he would get, as well as how cruel Shi Nuan was to him. The moment he looked up, Fu Xicheng saw Shi Nuan still sitting with Fu Chengyan, and another man had appeared at their table. He had never seen that man before, but he looked as outstanding as Fu Chengyan. Fu Xicheng clenched his fists as violent thoughts flashed through his mind.

Shi Wei felt his fury, so she followed his gaze and saw Shi Nuan. When Shi Wei noticed Fu Xicheng's expression, jealousy reared its ugly head. However, the woman went on with her sweet façade. "What are you looking at, Xicheng?"

"The man sitting with Shi Nuan."

"Oh, that's probably Mr. Su."

"Mr. Su?" Fu Xicheng squinted. "Do you know him?"

Shi Wei shook her head and smiled. "I don't, but my mother does. The man is called Su Bancheng. My mother says she's her best friend's son, and he's also a part of the Su family. Mom said that since we're now happily married, she couldn't bear to see Nuan being alone. See, she introduced a great guy to her. We don't have to feel guilty toward her anymore, Xicheng."

Her mother introduced this man to Nuan? Fu Xicheng was furious, but he couldn't say anything about it.

"Do we need to say hi, Xicheng?" Shi Wei saw the displeasure in his eyes, but she didn't care. She needed Fu Xicheng to face the truth right here, right now. She wanted him to know that it was impossible for him to be with Shi Nuan, and

that he was forever hers. Even if it meant that Shi Nuan would be able to marry an outstanding man, she didn't mind it. Her goal was simply to get rid of Shi Nuan.

"No." Fu Xicheng turned away. "We have a lot of guests today, so let's entertain them."

As the banquet was neared its end, everyone started leaving. Since Jiang Yu had invited Su Shaoqing today on the pretext of a blind date, she forced Shi Nuan to cling to him as he left. Shi Nuan had no choice, so she texted Fu Chengyan and asked him if he could send her friends back first.

When the banquet was over, Shi Nuan was about to get into Su Shaoqing's car to leave, but someone stopped her. The person was none other than Qin Yue. This man had once saved Shi Nuan, and he had his eyes on her during the banquet. He tried to talk to her multiple times that night, but he had no chance to do so. Now that the banquet was over and Shi Nuan was going to leave, he went up to her in a hurry.

Even though they used to be classmates, it had been years since they last met. Aside from the unexpected episode during the gathering back then, Qin Yue had no way to contact Shi Nuan, nor did he have a chance to spend some time alone with her.

"Please wait, Shi Nuan!" Qin Yue rushed over when he saw that she was getting into Su Shaoqing's car. "Shi Nuan."

Su Shaoqing opened the door and let Shi Nuan in first, a proof that chivalry was not dead. They paused when Qin Yue called out to Shi Nuan. When Shi Nuan looked back and saw Qin Yue coming over, impatience surfaced in her eyes. Nevertheless, she was courteous and asked, "Can I help you, Qin Yue?"

Qin Yue looked at Shi Nuan, then at Su Shaoqing. "Can we talk, Shi Nuan?"

Su Shaoqing arched his eyebrow, but he didn't move. Qin Yue pursed his lips and said, "Um, can you leave us alone, sir? Or you can go back on your own for now. I need to talk with Nuan in private. I can send her home later."

Shi Nuan said nothing, and Su Shaoqing did not budge. However, he quirked an eyebrow, and sneered almost imperceptibly. The man smirked, closed the door, and leaned against the car languidly.

Qin Yue was frustrated by the turn of events, so he looked at Shi Nuan. "Nuan..."

"Just say what you have to say, Mr. Qin. Mr. Su is my friend."

"But I..."

"I'll be going home if there's nothing else now." Shi Nuan's expression remained indifferent, though her reply was harsh. Just as she was about to open the car door, Qin Yue quickly grabbed her hand.

Almost instinctively, Shi Nuan flung his hand away and took a step back. "What are you doing, Mr. Qin?"

Qin Yue felt dejected seeing how Shi Nuan was treating him, but he mustered up his courage and confessed, "I like you, Shi Nuan. I know you know that. You were hurt back at the gathering, so I didn't manage to tell you anything. Today, I want to tell you that I've loved you for a long time now. Will you become my girlfriend?"

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“Shi Nuan?”

Qin Yue got even more nervous when he noticed that Shi Nuan appeared seemingly inattentive and impatient. He wanted to step forward but he was intimidated by Shi Nuan’s frosty eyes. His body stiffened and he remained there, waiting for her answer.

Shi Nuan glanced at Qin Yue coldly and then she frowned. She did not miss the look on Su Shaoqing, who was obviously waiting for a show. Shi Nuan was upset. No one would have been pleased by a love confession under this situation.

The surroundings were awfully quiet. The autumn breeze was refreshing but yet rather chilly. Qin Yue was feeling a bit cold- he was not sure if it was because of the breeze or the look on Shi Nuan’s face. She looked indecipherable.

“Mr. Qin, you saved my life earlier. I didn’t get the chance to thank you. Since we are here today, I want to thank you for saving me that day. Anything else?” Shi Nuan stared at him and replied in a flat and neutral tone.

Qin Yue was stunned momentarily as he did not expect Shi Nuan would say that. “Nuan, that was a simple effort. I would have helped anyone, needless to say the girl whom I happened to admire. Shi Nuan, what do you think? I am very fond of you. Will you be my girlfriend?”

Qin Yue continued his confession as he glanced at Su Shaoqing, who was still leaning on the side of the car door. He thought to himself that although this man was good looking, he had no manners at all.

Qin Yue obviously preferred to have the conversation with Shi Nuan in private, but Su Shaoqing would not give them any space. Instead, he just stood there and watched.

Su Shaoqing played his role as an audience and he was expecting a show. He had always been frivolous hence, needless to say, social etiquette did not concern him. Moreover, Su Shaoqing was always interested in gossips, especially when they were about Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan. He would not miss any of it.

On the other hand, Qin Yue needed to work on his self-awareness and sensitivity to other people. Obviously, Shi Nuan had expressed herself very clear, but he still demanded an answer.

Shi Nuan took a deep breath and pinched her eyebrows, "I got it. Anything else?"

"Shi Nuan! Answer me!"

When Qin Yue saw Shi Nuan's unconcerned look, he raised his tone, "I confessed to you, but you still owe me an answer."

Shi Nuan could not care less and her remaining little patience had just vanished. She knitted her eyebrows, raised her head, and looked at him coldly, "Mr. Qin, you have stated that more than three times and I have answered you more than three times. What more do you want?"

"What? I... I didn't get an answer," Qin Yue froze in shock in reply to Shi Nuan's sudden cold and harsh stare.

"I did. I just thanked you for saving me. And I said that I got it. But you are still dwelling. Isn't that obvious? You saved me and I expressed my gratitude. However, being grateful doesn't mean that I need to like you. Mr. Qin, we were classmates, I don't want to screw up our friendship."

Qin Yue opened his mouth but could not find his tongue. Shortly after, he argued, "But you didn't tell me that you don't like me."

Shi Nuan curled her lips, "That still doesn't mean that I like you. I tried to reject you implicitly and politely and now it is my fault? You still demand for an answer. Actually, do you need my answer?"

Or do you simply need the answer that you want to hear? If my answer is not the answer that you want, are you going to dwell on this forever?" Shi Nuan's cold voice sounded extremely impatient, harsh, and aggressive.

She had always been tame and kind, but this was too much for her. "Since you demand for an answer, then here is my answer. Mr. Qin, I do not like you, not even the slightest bit. Are you satisfied now? Are we done?" Shi Nuan responded coldly and firmly.

The surroundings were very quiet, one could hear the light wind breezing through. It fluttered the strands of hair on Shi Nuan's cheeks. Her eyes were frosty and harsh as if they were meant to pierce one's heart and soul, causing frostbite on Qin Yue's heart. "I have liked you for so many years, Shi Nuan."

"That is none of my business. I have no control over that. It doesn't mean that I have to be responsible for your feelings."

"Shi Nuan, how did this happen? We have known each other for so many years. You have always known that I like you. You were not repulsive of me back in the days. I thought you will grow fond of me in time," Qin Yue felt a pain growing deep down into his heart.

"Not every fondness brings mutual feelings from the other party. Qin Yue, I hope you can understand. Whether you like me or not, I have no control over it. But that doesn't give you right to blame this on my conscious."

"What about him? I have heard what your mom told you. She introduced him to you on a blind date. You could spend time with him. Why are you rejecting me?"

Qin Yue found Su Shaoqing very unpleasant to look at. He saw him as an eyesore especially since he was sitting at the main table tonight. Both of Shi Nuan's grandpas sat at that main table, and Fu Chengyan too. Fu Chengyan was both the guest of honor and Shi Yunsheng's friend. He had every reason to sit there. However, Shi Nuan invited Su Shaoqing to sit at that table too.

Although this man looked nice-looking and wealthy, Qin Yue had never heard of him. To him, Su Shaoqing was just like him.

Su Shaoqing quirked his eyebrows as he did not expect to be the target of envy as a bystander. He slightly lifted the corners of his eyebrows and showed his interest with a smile. Su Shaoqing looked stunningly handsome, sometimes he looked even more beautiful than a lady. Especially with his almond-shaped eyes, countless girls fell for him. In addition, he was always gentle, humble and courteous, which was why people would feel a relaxing spring breeze when he was around. Most people would probably be fooled by his appearance if they had not known him well enough.

Su Shaoqing kept quiet with his almond-shaped eyes fixated at Shi Nuan. His smile cued her of his wild intentions.

Shi Nuan pursed her lips, she knew that Su Shaoqing was bold, but she could not do anything about it. She gave Su Shaoqing a side-eyed look to warn him to stay put. However, these eye contacts between them appeared as flirts to Qin Yue. "Shi Nuan!"

Shi Nuan knitted her eyebrows, "What does it got to do with you? I decide who I want to spend my time with."

"What about me?"

"You? I told you, you are my friend. Mr. Qin, I won't be able to give you the answer that you want," Shi Nuan rejected him in an ice cold tone.

“Shi Nuan, you don’t have to be my girlfriend for now. But at least give me a chance, please? We have known each other for years. I know you for who you are and you know about my conduct and characteristics too. On the contrary, this Mr. Su is new to you. You have only met him once. You don’t even understand him. Since you are willing to give him a chance, why not give me a chance too? I am not asking too much, but I am just begging for your benefit of doubt. Just once, that’s all I need. I believe you will fall in love with me!”

“That’s enough! This has nothing to do with time. It’s about what I want. I don’t want to spend time with you. I don’t want to give any chance to you. It doesn’t matter how long we have known each other. I don’t like you. I didn’t like you before, I don’t like you now and I will never ever like you in the future and forever and ever,” Shi Nuan really could not take it anymore.

“You...”

Qin Yue took a step backward, he never expected Shi Nuan to be so heartless to say this. In his impression, Shi Nuan was kind and generous instead of so rejective. “Are you doing this because of this man’s status? Or is it because he is richer than me?”

Shi Nuan felt a pinch on her head; she decided that she could not talk sense into Qin Yue. “Think whatever pleases you. You and I don’t stand a chance anyway. Mr. Qin, you have wasted enough of my time. I’ve said enough. This conversation ends now. Please don’t disturb me ever again.”

Shi Nuan opened the door, jumped into the car and shut the door swiftly.

Qin Yue stared gloomily at the car door that Shi Nuan shut and his fists were tightly clenched. He raised his head and saw Su Shaoqing, who was at ease and relaxed. Qin Yue perceived Su Shaoqing current presence as a mock to him, as if he was there to embarrass him.

Qin Yue glared at him fiercely, “Don’t get cocky because you are rich. Nuan is just confused for now. She will learn the truth about you. She will like me eventually.”

Su Shaoqing curled his lips and wrapped his arms around his chest. Truth be told, if it was not for Shi Nuan, he would not even set eyes on a man like him. How could he tolerate his yelling directed at him?

“Mr. Qin doesn’t seem to understand the situation. Shi Nuan doesn’t like you, with or without my presence,” he laughed coldly. Su Shaoqing’s sharp tongue was on par with Li Heng’s. “No matter what you do, it is impossible for Shi Nuan to like you, let alone for her to fall for you- not even the slightest chance,” he paused and stood up straight.

He gave Qin Yue the side-eye.

Su Shaoqing was tall and slender. When he stood up, the differences in their appearance were obvious. Su Shaoqing was far more superior. “Since you like Shi Nuan, you should know her well. Just now, you defamed the girl you like to turn the tide for your own interest. The way I see it, your feelings for her probably weren’t real. Men long for things they could never get, this is men’s vile nature. Some men could win the hearts of the women they like, some couldn’t. Mr. Qin belongs to the latter, which also happens to be the most incompetent kind,” Su Shaoqing curled his lips slightly as he placed one hand into his pocket.

Su Shaoqing walked past the front of the car and got into his seat, not giving Qin Yue the opportunity to speak at all. He simply stepped on the accelerator and sped off.

The supercar’s recoil made the dust dance in the air around Qin Yue. His expression looked dark and his fists were clenched hard. A few moments later, he released them. He stared powerlessly at the back of the car until it disappeared from his line of sight. He felt frustrated.

He had to admit that Su Shaoqing was telling the truth. But he could not accept it. He had liked Shi Nuan for so many years. He thought if he tried hard enough, Shi Nuan would notice his efforts eventually and accept him.

When Qin Yue learned that Shi Nuan was together with Fu Xicheng, he chose to let her go. After knowing Fu Xicheng turned his back on Shi Nuan and married Shi Wei instead, Qin Yue was furious at Fu Xicheng. He felt that Fu Xicheng had failed and betrayed Shi Nuan. At the same time, he was grateful that Shi Nuan was single now. That meant he had the opportunity to be with her.

But....

Shi Nuan, I like you and I believe that you will like me eventually.

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 150

When Su Shaoqing sent Shi Nuan back home, they met Fu Chengyan, who just got down after changing into a set of clean loungewear. Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows and said, "Well, that's late."

Shi Nuan removed her shoes and passed a pair of indoor slippers to Su Shaoqing, "Please make yourself at home, I'll go get you some water."

Fu Chengyan lifted his eyebrows and looked at Su Shaoqing. He responded with a smiley face and teased, "Too bad you weren't there, Chengyan. It was quite a show!" Su Shaoqing spoke as he sat down. He then made himself comfortable by placing his feet on the coffee table but Fu Chengyan kicked his feet back and said, "Mind your manners!"

Su Shaoqing was in a good mood. He smiled at Fu Chengyan and teased him again, "You need to be careful. Your wife just received a love confession. That fella confessed to your wife in front of me!"

"Who?"

Fu Chengyan's face turned terribly scary and he glanced at Su Shaoqing coldly.

Shi Nuan just happened to walk out with two cups of water. She passed one to Su Shaoqing then another to Fu Chengyan and explained, "Don't listen to him. He was just my classmate. There is nothing going on between us." Su Shaoqing looked as if he was enjoying the chaos.

"OK," Fu Chengyan was comforted with her presence. He received the glass of water and took a sip. He noticed that Su Shaoqing was not planning on leaving,

so he continued, "I still have something to discuss with Shaoqing. Why don't you go get a shower and rest?"

"Sure," Shi Nuan glanced at Fu Chengyan and Su Shaoqing. She figured they probably had something important to discuss, so she left to give them some privacy.

After Shi Nuan left Fu Chengyan's sight, he turned to Su Shaoqing and questioned gloomily, "Her classmate? Which one?"

Su Shaoqing curled his lips and smiled innocently with a spark in his eyes, "I knew you weren't going to let it go." Even though Shi Nuan comforted Fu Chengyan promptly, with his temper, he was not going to let anyone taint Shi Nuan. "Remember that reunion last time? Your wife was bitten by a snake. The classmate was the one who saved her."

Once Su Shaoqing finished his sentence, he could feel the temperature drop down. He could not help sighing, "Chengyan, don't be dramatic. He likes your wife, that's all."

"That's not allowed!"

Fu Chengyan tried to recall the man who saved Shi Nuan and immediately squinted his eyes, asking, "What did he say to May?"

"Nothing much though. According to my observation, your wife was not attracted to him at all. So, you don't have to worry. Comparatively, you are one of the most capable men in Jiang City. Now the problem is with my brother," Su Shaoqing said.

Fu Chengyan furrowed his eyebrow, "Su Bancheng is not interested in May." If not, they would not have reached their mutual agreement.

"Right, he is not interested. But my aunt owes it to your mother-in-law. You know Jiang Yu's nature. Now that they can finally form ties with Su Family, they won't

give up easily. This could probably keep your wife busy for a while. In fact, my brother would be a nice choice- they have good taste!" Su Shaoqing gloated.

Fu Chengyan looked at Su Shaoqing but it was difficult to tell what was on his mind.

It crept Su Shaoqing out, "Why are you looking at me like that?"

"Well, I still have you on my side. So from now on, you are responsible for your role as Su Bancheng," stressed Fu Chengyan as he stood up and looked at Su Shaoqing condescendingly.

"What? Where did this come from? Come on, Chengyan, be sensible. I only promised you and my brother to help out once. It was a desperate measure. You can't have me pretend to be him every single time. And she is your wife. Are you really OK with that?" Su Shaoqing protested and narrowed his almond-shaped eyes with dissatisfaction.

Su Shaoqing felt a sense of numbness rippling across his scalp. The thought of Fu Chengyan and Su Bancheng plotting against him together troubled him, "I treated both of you as my brothers, I don't deserve this!"

Fu Chengyan curled his lips, his narrowed eyes looked smiley but full with conspiracies. He tapped on Su Shaoqing's shoulder to comfort his anxiousness, "I believe in you. You will play this right in my favor. OK now, time's up. You should go now."

Fu Chengyan chucked Su Shaoqing out mercilessly. He went to the bedroom to check on Shi Nuan and found that she was taking a shower. He then proceeded to his study room.

To attend the wedding today, he postponed a lot of work. He still had to prepare the documents for tomorrow's meeting. Hence, Fu Chengyan buried himself with work once he entered the study room.

After Shi Nuan had her shower, she waited for Fu Chengyan for a while in the bedroom. When he did not show up, Shi Nuan checked the hallway and realized the lights in the living room were off. She headed to the study room and found Fu Chengyan busy working.

Shi Nuan curled her lips and was preparing to leave but Fu Chengyan had already noticed her presence. "Can't sleep yet?"

Shi Nuan paused and moved towards him. She glanced at the files in Fu Chengyan's hand, asking, "What are these?"

"The development of West City. It hasn't been confirmed yet. The project tendering starts next month and I need to prepare for it," said Fu Chengyan as he closed the file and signaled Shi Nuan to come near him.

Once Shi Nuan was close enough, Fu Chengyan stretched his slender arm and grabbed her. She fell in a sitting position on Fu Chengyan's lap. "Hey, I thought you have got work to do," Shi Nuan blushed and lowered her head.

"Almost done. You couldn't sleep?" Fu Chengyan's deep but clear voice disclosed a slight hint of self-restraint.

Shi Nuan nodded, "I feel energetic today. Probably because I have been lazy and spent too much time at home. I was slacking around."

"Really? It wasn't because of what happened today?" Fu Chengyan chuckled and pecked on Shi Nuan's lips gently. His large hand squeezed her fingers then pinched on her phalanges softly.

Shi Nuan was momentarily stunned and she tilted her head to meet with Fu Chengyan's deep dark eyes. Unsurprisingly, she detected a slightly different emotion from his usual even-tempered eyes. She paused shortly before giggling and then she leaned her head on his shoulder. She shrugged her shoulders to relax herself and said, "Yan, is that jealousy I sense?"

There was a rare ripple of emotion in Fu Chengyan's deep eyes, "Who said anything about jealousy?"

One of his hands was wrapping Shi Nuan's waist while another hand squeezed on her fingers, he increased the pressure on both sides and said, "How could that be possible?"

Shi Nuan held back her laughter; she was forced to straighten her back to meet with Fu Chengyan's eyes. She bit her lips and said, "Right, not jealous at all." But the smile in her eyes revealed her emotions.

Fu Chengyan's eyes darkened as he claimed his rightful ownership over Shi Nuan with a kiss upon her lips.

Before Shi Nuan could make a sound, her seductive lips were sealed. Shi Nuan blinked, as soon as their eyes met, she shut her eyes hurriedly and followed Fu Chengyan's lead, responding slowly.

Undeniably, Fu Chengyan was extremely in control in this aspect. He gradually led Shi Nuan's emotions while deepening the kiss. It seemed that so much time had passed when Fu Chengyan's lips finally separated with Shi Nuan's. Fu Chengyan lightly rested his forehead on hers and his fingers rubbed on her cheek gently. He was panting softly when he said, "You are mine. Do I need to be jealous?"

"No. You don't," Shi Nuan's mind was cloudy, she was still in a daze because of Fu Chengyan's kiss. She could care less for the jealousy.

However, her heart was contented. No matter what Fu Chengyan said, she was happy. It showed that Shi Nuan meant everything to Fu Chengyan. "You are not jealous and you don't need to. Because other than you, I could not have loved anyone else. There is no chance for you to be jealous."

"That's more like it. But still, I won't go easy on you. Tell me, what's going on with that man?" Fu Chengyan pinched Shi Nuan lightly.

Shi Nuan was puzzled- she thought Fu Chengyan's irregularities today were because of Shi Wei and Fu Xicheng's wedding as well as the blind date with Su Shaoqing. She never expected that Qin Yue was the reason instead.

When she realized what was on Fu Chengyan's mind, she despised Su Shaoqing in her heart. How could he tattle tell to Fu Chengyan?

Shi Nuan felt the pressure on her waist, even though Fu Chengyan's force was not aggressive, she could still feel some aching. She complained lightly, "Go easy. What's that for?"

His mildly warm tongue licked Shi Nuan's earlobe while he asked with his deep voice, "What are you thinking about?" Shi Nuan could not help but shiver lightly. She stopped Fu Chengyan from going further. Fu Chengyan would not stop, "How could you think of another man when you are with me?"

"No!" Shi Nuan muttered in denial. She looked at Fu Chengyan and showed her dissatisfaction. Why would you deny such overbearing jealousy? It is so obvious! You are overthinking when I was just slightly distracted. Shi Nuan thought to herself secretly. "Another man? Are you kidding me? A perfect man like you is right in front of me. It makes no sense not to pay full attention to you."

Shi Nuan bit her lips, her eyes rolled and she circled Fu Chengyan's neck with her hands. She leaned forward and whispered in his ear, "I see that now- you have no self-confidence. Mr. Fu, you have to know that you are the best of all people in Jiang City. How could I leave my elite husband behind for any other man? That would be silly!"

Shi Nuan's words pleased Fu Chengyan greatly. Her breath tickled his neck when she whispered. He buried his head in Shi Nuan's neck and bit her gently, "You are not silly. That's why we have found each other. But I am not confident that those annoying flies would leave you alone. Look what happened today- too many people were looking at you. I don't like it!"

Shi Nuan was utterly dumbfounded by his remarks. “No one was staring at me. You were the one who attracted all the attention at the wedding banquet. Don’t you know that? Not only a bunch of women stared at you, but men too! I should be the one who is jealous.”

Shi Nuan flung her arms around Fu Chengyan’s neck, “Yan, actually you look cute when you are jealous!”