

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 251

“What a fool.” Fu Chengyan brushed a kiss across her forehead before he trailed kisses from her nose to her lips. Shi Nuan relaxed and followed his guide by kissing him back.

She started going all out ever since she married Fu Chengyan.

Fu Chengyan deepened the kiss upon sensing her reaction. In the end, he picked her up and went upstairs.

They enjoyed a passionate night. However, in another house, the air was heavy.

Song Jingyu was already upset at Shi Wei that night. After that, she started investigating Shi Wei and found out the woman had just been signed to Xinhuang. Shi Wei was married, but her reputation wasn't that great. That was why Song Jingyu believed the scandal between Shi Wei and Fu Chengyan was real. It was more than she could bear.

Of course, even though she had changed her target to Shi Wei, Shi Nuan wasn't to be underestimated. Shi Nuan had danced with Fu Chengyan once, but Song Jingyu couldn't forget what happened that night. She was certain if it wasn't for Shi Nuan, the woman dancing with Fu Chengyan would be her.

Plus, Song Jingyu found out Shi Nuan and Shi Wei were sisters through her investigation. They were sisters, but they were on opposing sides.

Song Zhenyan read the outcome of Song Jingyu's investigation, too. Although she was against Song Jingyu's actions, her son was distancing himself from her, so she turned a blind eye to Song Jingyu's schemes.

When Song Jingyu saw the photo of Shi Wei and Fu Chengyan holding hands, she crumpled the newspaper in anger.

“Aunt Song, look at how arrogant Shi Wei is! She leeches off Yan’s power. Look, that day—”

“Okay, I get what you mean. Indeed, she is dangerous. Do whatever you want,” Song Zhenyan massaged her brows. “Shi Nuan is fairly complicated, too. She looks exactly like Shen Qianan. Even if she’s innocent, Yan...”

“Yes, you’re right. I’ve sent men to follow them for the past few days. I’ll find out who Yan’s woman is!” Song Jingyu gritted her teeth. Not long after, she received a text.

Song Jingyu unlocked her phone and a vicious glint appeared in her eyes. She smiled smugly before exclaiming, “Aunt Song, look at this. Shi Wei is such a fool. She just showed up the airport!”

“This...” Song Zhenyan was astounded when she saw the photos taken.

“Did you do this?”

Song Jingyu smirked as her eyes gleamed dangerously. “Let’s see if she has the ability to take Yan away from me. After I ruin her reputation, Yan’s company will discard her immediately. If Yan refuses to help her, she will be completely doomed.”

“Jingyu, think about it. She’s from the Shi family.”

“So what? They are nothing compared to the Song family.” Song Jingyu couldn’t be bothered about the Shi family.

The Shi family was not an influential family in Jiang City. To her, they were of no importance.

“You’re right. I’ll leave it to you to decide. But remember, don’t go head-to-head with Yan. You and Yan are currently in a strained relationship. There’s no need to strain it further over someone irrelevant. You know well our family isn’t as influential as before. If Yan—”

“Aunt Song, don’t worry. I won’t do anything to Yan. All I want is for the women around Yan to disappear. He belongs to me. He can only marry me!” A determined smile appeared on Song Jingyu’s face.

The woman posted the photos she had received to all video sites and forums at once.

In this era, even the smallest flame would spread like wildfire. It took less than an hour after Song Jingyu posted these photos online for the netizens to discuss animatedly about them. The topic rose quickly to the top spot on the trending list.

Song Jingyu was pleased and beamed with delight as she read through the degrading comments the netizens posted.

Meanwhile, Zhou Zheng hacked into Song Jingyu’s phone and laptop to find the information she had received. He also found out her IP address. After seeing how Song Jingyu caused an uproar in less than an hour, he felt he better understood her capabilities and the extent of her reach.

Women are scary creatures. If you offend them, you’ll end up in calamity, he thought.

Zhou Zheng reported everything to Fu Chengyan. “Mr. Fu, Song Jingyu is currently investigating Mrs. Fu. I’m afraid she can’t go home with you for now. Worse, she even sent someone to follow her, so...” He trailed off. Although he couldn’t see Fu Chengyan’s expression, an icy blast of air attacked him instantly.

Zhou Zheng couldn’t stop himself from shuddering. “Mr. Fu? Are you there?”

“Go on.” Fu Chengyan told him. The man was holding his phone in one hand, and his other hand was stroking Shi Nuan’s back. Shi Nuan had already fallen asleep out of exhaustion. The icy aura surrounding Fu Chengyan disappeared instantly as a warm smile lit up his face. “Go on, what else did Song Jingyu do?”

“Shi Wei got swarmed by the paparazzi upon her arrival at the airport. It caused a tremendous commotion. Amidst the commotion, the man Song Jingyu sent attacked Shi Wei. Our men took action, too. Both parties took photos and videos of the incident,” Zhou Zheng’s lips quirked up into a smirk. “Song Jingyu isn’t a fool. She knows how to use the public opinion to attack Shi Wei. The uproar has generated a barrage of comments, so Shi Wei is in deep trouble. Mr. Fu, do we need to interfere?”

Fu Chengyan’s curved his lips as his brows arched up. There was a hint of a smile in his eyes. “We’ll stay put for now. Let’s see how they react.”

“Got it, Mr. Fu!” We are going to watch in safety while the others fight, and we’ll swoop in to reap the benefits when both are bruised and battered. When two fight, the third rejoices! Mr. Fu is going to wait until both Song Jingyu and Shi Wei got hurt after their fight before he takes action. By then, both women would be harmless, and he can also use Song Jingyu to test the limits of the Song family.

“Mr. Fu, get some rest. I’ll hang up now.” Zhou Zheng hung up, secretly relieved that he didn’t disturb Fu Chengyan at a crucial moment. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have gotten away unscathed.

Shi Nuan was terribly exhausted. She was half asleep when she sensed an itching sensation on her back, like something was scratching her. She waved her hand and turned. When she opened her eyes, she met Fu Chengyan’s heated gaze. Her husband was staring at her unwaveringly. Immediately, Shi Nuan was wide awake. She covered back as her eyes widened. “What are you doing? I’m sleepy!”

“Nothing.” Fu Chengyan stretched his arm out to pull her into his embrace. The man pressed his slightly chilly lips to her forehead and kissed the corner of her eyes. “Go back to sleep if you’re sleepy.”

“Okay.” Shi Nuan yawned and went back to sleep. When she woke up again, it was almost eight at night. The sky had already gone dark.

Shi Nuan rolled around on the bed, but all she touched was the covers. The heat beside her had already dissipated. The woman’s mind cleared as she blinked her eyes. She squinted and rubbed her bleary eyes before shoving the covers aside to get out of bed.

The drapes had already been closed, so the scenery outside wasn’t visible. Shi Nuan went to pull the drapes open. It was complete darkness out there. She could hear the night breeze blowing by and rustling the leaves.

Shi Nuan stretched lazily and turned to see Fu Chengyan standing at the door of the bedroom. There was a small bowl in his hand, but she had no idea what was in it.

Fu Chengyan had expected her to wake up at this hour and appeared in time. He frowned when he saw Shi Nuan standing by the windows with only her pajamas on. His frown deepened when he realized she was barefoot.

Shi Nuan sensed his foul mood and reacted immediately. After putting on her slippers hastily, she ran over to Fu Chengyan and shot him a pacifying smile. “Yan, how do you know I’m awake? What is this? The color...” Shi Nuan leaned closer to take a sniff. Indeed, the smell was horrible. She held her nose and asked, “Yan, why is this in your hand?”

The strong odor invaded her nose. It was ginger.

Fu Chengyan arched his brows. “Because of someone.”

“Me?” Shi Nuan pointed at herself. “What about me? I’m not sick. Why are you giving me this? Oh, I know. Are you going to drink it because you’re sick? Drink it now. I’ll watch you finish it.”

Something flashed across Fu Chengyan's eyes when he heard Shi Nuan's words. The man was amused by Shi Nuan's obvious refusal to drink it. "Your voice seemed hoarse this afternoon. It is easy to catch a cold or develop a fever in this season, so you have to drink this ginger soup. I've tried it, and it's not hot at all."

"Ah? No." There was a miserable look on Shi Nuan's face. "I'm not sick. You must've heard wrongly this afternoon." There's no way I'll drink that horrible concoction!

Fu Chengyan wouldn't let it slip. He grabbed her hand. "Be good. Otherwise, you'll suffer if you catch a cold."

"No, you can drink it if you like. I'm not sick. Even if I am, I won't drink this. I'll just take some medicine."

"Every medicine has a side effect, so we should avoid eating medicine whenever we can. Plus, I'm merely taking precautions. Be good and finish this in one gulp. It isn't as bad as it seems." Fu Chengyan even took a sip. His face remained unchanged. "Look, I think it's okay."

"I won't drink it, no matter what!" Shi Nuan refused to drink the ginger soup. Shi Nuan didn't hate ginger – She would even use it to cook and eat dishes that included ginger, but that was about it. She simply could not stand how potent the ginger soup was.

"You can drink it yourself."

"Hmm?" Fu Chengyan arched his brows. "Are you sure you won't drink it?"

"No!" Shi Nuan shook her head firmly.

Fu Chengyan sounded forlorn. "I'll drink it myself then."

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Shi Nuan widened her eyes as she watched Fu Chengyan finish the bowl of soup. She hadn't expected he would drink it himself. But before she could express her delight, her eyes widened once again. She was rendered helpless as Fu Chengyan lifted her chin and pressed his warm lips to hers.

Her tastebuds exploded at once. Besides the familiar warm breath, the strong taste of ginger flooded her mouth. Shi Nuan wanted to shove Fu Chengyan away, but the man's arms were wrapped around her tightly. There was no way to escape.

Slowly, the ginger soup filled Shi Nuan's mouth. She glared at her husband, and she even tried to close her mouth, but Fu Chengyan wouldn't let her do so. When he finally released Shi Nuan, half a bowl of the ginger soup ended up in Shi Nuan's stomach.

Fu Chengyan released his grip on Shi Nuan's hand as his mouth quirked into a devilish smile. He couldn't help but shake his head upon seeing the furious expression on Shi Nuan's face. Reaching out, he wiped the corner of Shi Nuan's lips.

Shi Nuan slapped his hand away unhappily. Pursing her lips, she demanded, "Why did you do that? You are not allowed to enter the bedroom tonight."

Fu Chengyan shook his head in resignation. "Enough. You're an adult, so listen to me since you're sick. Look, you even walked around barefoot in winter. Don't you know how cold it is?"

He continued in a stern voice. “Tell me. Do you often walk around like this when I’m not around?”

“I...” Shi Nuan never expected Fu Chengyan would turn to blame her. Her anger disappeared as she went over to Fu Chengyan. Swinging his hand back and forth, she tried to pacify him in an adorable voice. “I know it was my fault, so stop scolding me. I won’t do this again. Just now, I went to the window because I wanted to breathe in some fresh air.”

“Hmm?” Fu Chengyan raised his brows upon seeing Shi Nuan’s endearing behavior. He stroke her nose and said, “Okay. You must be hungry. I’ve prepared some food, so let’s go downstairs and eat.”

The next morning, they went to work separately. This time, it was on Fu Chengyan’s request. It didn’t take long for Shi Nuan to realize the reason behind it. Shi Wei wasn’t the only target – Shi Nuan also had a bullseye on her back.

Song Jingyu might have an obsession, but she wasn’t a fool. The rare occasions where she acted like a fool just so happened to be in front of Fu Chengyan. When it concerns Fu Chengyan, Song Jingyu would lose control of her emotions. But as long as she didn’t see the man, she’d act normally.

When Shi Nuan drove onto the highway heading towards Shengyuan, she realized someone was hot on her trail. It didn’t take a genius figure out who it was.

Fu Chengyan kept a distance from Shi Nuan. The car he drove today was pretty ordinary, and no one knew he owned this model. Hence, it was easy for him to fly under the radar. He clearly saw the car tailing Shi Nuan. Someone from the Song family had sent this man. Fu Chengyan narrowed his eyes. So the Song family found out about Xi. That is why they sent someone to follow her.

Fu Chengyan made a call to Shi Nuan. “Someone is following you.”

“Yes, I noticed it, too. What about you?”

“Nothing,” Fu Chengyan paused, “It might be an inconvenience for you for the time being.”

Shi Nuan wasn't really bothered, so she replied, “I'm fine. I can bear with that. We can relax after everything blows over, but you deal with it before the new year arrives, or we won't be able to enjoy it.”

“Okay, I'll solve it as soon as possible!” Shi Nuan's worry was also Fu Chengyan's concern.

Song Jingyu is obsessed with me. She is mentally ill. I'll always be desirable to her because she can never have me. The only reason she yearns for me is because I'm out of her reach. What about the Song family? Song Jingyu has an obsession, but not everyone in the Song family has an obsession. The only reason is that they want to use Song Jingyu to achieve something. Song Jingyu got their approval to continue her actions because they want something from me.

“I'm afraid you can't return to Wutong Residence for the time being.”

“Okay, got it.” Shi Nuan answered. She sounded nonchalant, but Fu Chengyan sensed she was down.

Shi Nuan was indeed upset. She knew she had to do this to avoid trouble. However, talking the talk was a world's difference from walking the walk.

Shi Nuan's lips twitched as she sighed, wondering when she became this melodramatic. Yes, she was once sentimental, but this was the first time she had ever felt this way.

“Are you upset?”

“No,” Shi Nuan shook her head. “I'm not upset. I won't go back to Wutong Residence today, then. Luckily, my rented house is still there. I'll go tidy up the place after work to move in. Yan?”

“Yes?”

Fu Chengyan felt slightly upset, too. “What’s wrong?”

“Nothing,” Shi Nuan shook her head and realized Fu Chengyan couldn’t see her doing so, hence she continued, “I’ll miss you.”

“Okay, be good. It’s just for the time being. After this, you can move back here.”

“Okay.”

Shi Nuan hung up and heaved a long sigh. “Shi Nuan, cheer up. There’s nothing you can’t get through!” After this problem gets solved, our lives will go on smoothly. Otherwise, Song Jingyu’s frequent interference will be terribly annoying, too.

After Fu Chengyan hung up, he shook his head helplessly. His face became stoic as he called Zhou Zheng. “From now on, tell Jiang Hu to keep an eye on my wife 24/7.”

“Mr. Fu?” Zhou Zheng was pretty shocked. He had just arrived in his office and the first task he received was such a stern order. “Okay, I’ll inform Jiang Hu now and tell him to select a few of his best men. But Mr. Fu, is someone trying to harm Mrs. Fu?”

“The Song family. I think they’ve targeting her. Tell Jiang Hu to keep an eye on her personally!”

“Yes!”

Zhou Zheng’s expression turned serious, too. So the Song family isn’t only planning on marrying Song Jingyu to Fu Chengyan. What else do they have up their sleeves?

When Shi Nuan came to work, she noticed everyone's gaze was fixated on her. Some even pointed fingers at her.

The annual meeting had been packed with people, so even if everyone knew about Shi Nuan's existence, not everyone saw her face clearly.

The moment Shi Nuan entered Shengyuan, some people started gossiping about her.

"She's the woman who got to dance with Mr. Fu? Why does she seem ordinary to me?"

"Yes, she isn't as pretty as our receptionist."

"I heard this woman had connections. She pulled strings to enter Shengyuan back then. I think she also knows Mr. Zhou."

"Tsk, is she just some dumb blonde? Or is she Mr. Zhou's lover?"

"Stop it. How dare you talk nonsense? Mr. Zhou is Fu Chengyan's right-hand man. If he hears you, you'll get into deep trouble."

"Seriously?"

"I know this woman. She works in the project management department. It is said that she is intimate with Mr. Lin, too!"

Shi Nuan narrowed her eyes and turned to glare at the people behind her.

She pursed her lips in annoyance. At first, she had planned to ignore them. Office gossip was an inevitable temptation in every workplace. Harmless gossip, be it true or not, would be shared over lunch and tea breaks to pass time.

However, it just so happened that Shi Nuan was in a foul mood, so these people might end up in the line of her fire. Shi Nuan's brows were knitted together as she stopped in her tracks. She pivoted and approached those female colleagues instead.

Today, Shi Nuan had a long coat on which made her seemed intimidating. Plus, she was also wearing a pair of high heels. Her imposing manner could obliterate the women in no time. She narrowed her eyes as the corners of her lips twitched into a mirthless smile. "We are colleagues, so I normally won't say anything if you gossip about stuff you are not sure about. But it's early in the morning. We haven't even had lunch yet, and you're already gossiping in front of me. It's rather unkind of you to do so."

Shi Nuan's arrival obviously stunned the women. They didn't expect her to question them in public.

They were used to gossiping about everything. Even if they gossiped in front of the subject involved, no one would dare to confront them. However, Shi Nuan was an unpredictable woman.

Shi Nuan arched her brows as she glowered at the stunned women icily. "How I entered this company is none of your business. I didn't go against the law, and I did not use underhanded methods. As for who I am related to, that is also my private affairs, and it has nothing to do with you. Plus, how bold of you to gossip about Mr. Zhou and Mr. Lin."

"Y-You! Why are you so smug? Everyone knows you used unethical means to enter Shengyuan. If you didn't, how did you manage to get promoted so quickly?"

"Oh? Just because I rose in ranks quickly, I must've used unethical means? Can I assume you think I'm pretty enough to use unethical means, then?" Shi Nuan scoffed. "We are of the same sex. I know men look down on us, but turns out even women speak of women with levity? You might be servile, but not everyone wishes to live like you!"

Shi Nuan's voice was terrifying, and it sent chills down their spines.

She pursed her lips. "I am not that capable, and I admit that luck played a part in my entry to Shengyuan, but you have gone too far. I don't know why you are prejudiced towards me, but I hope you remember that we are in Shengyuan, a top organization in Jiang City. I believe you are capable as you got recruited to work here. So, don't ruin it just because you like to gossip!"

After Shi Nuan had vented out her anger, she felt much better.

Suddenly, someone started clapping from behind. Shi Nuan turned and was startled to see who it was. "Mr. Lin?"

"I didn't expect to see such an interesting scene early in the morning. Ms. Shi was right." Lin Yu nodded in admiration before turning to the other women, his gaze turning sharp. "We are at work now. Did the company hire you to gossip? Hmm? Why are you still standing here?"

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After the crowd dispersed, Shi Nuan looked straight at Lin Yu. “Thank you, Mr. Lin!”

“You’re welcome. Don’t forget, I was involved in the gossip, too.” Lin Yu arched his brows as he chuckled, “What’s wrong? Are you upset because they gossiped about you?”

Shi Nuan shook her head. “Not really. But it’s working hours, so I don’t think it’s a good idea to discuss this at work.” Besides, she was now in the eye of the storm, so she couldn’t allow anyone to get anything on her, especially if that someone was Song Jingyu.

Fu Chengyan told her he would take care of this, but she thought it would be better to take certain precautions of her own. Based on the few interactions she had with Song Jingyu, the woman was tough and unwilling to take no for an answer. Coincidentally Shi Nuan was afraid of people who wouldn’t give up.

Lin Yu’s lips curved up in a smile when he saw how troubled Shi Nuan was. “Let’s go up. Don’t forget, we still have to work. After taking two days off, have you forgotten everything?”

“Of course not. I didn’t just laze around at home for the past few days. I’ll show you the proposals I’ve prepared later.”

Both of them went upstairs while talking about work, blissfully unaware that someone had already taken photos of them and sent them to Song Jingyu.

In the office, Song Jingyu was seated at her desk. The other secretaries were busy with work, and even Mai Qi was busy arranging work. Only Song Jingyu had nothing to do.

She stared at the man and the woman in the photo for a long time before pocketing her phone. Turning to Mai Qi, Song Jingyu realized she had her head down, obviously busy with something. Song Jingyu hesitated, but when she recalled what Song Zhenyan told her this morning before she left for work, she convinced herself to go to Mai Qi.

Mai Qi was taken aback when she noticed a shadow, but she didn't raise her head. Song Jingyu turned impatient upon seeing Mai Qi's reaction, but held her impatience back and whispered, "Mai Qi, do you have time now?"

Raising her head, Mai Qi knew what Song Jingyu was planning upon hearing her voice. Sneering silently, she remained expressionless and glanced at Song Jingyu, "Ms. Song, can't you see?" She pointed at the files and reports on her table.

Song Jingyu's face immediately fell. But upon recalling Song Zhenyan's instructions this morning, she took a deep breath and forced out a smile. "Can I talk to you? It won't take long. I won't waste too much of your time and delay your work."

Mai Qi paused before arching her brows, "Go ahead, then."

Song Jingyu glanced around, "Let's talk somewhere else. We can't talk about this here."

Mai Qi looked around before nodding reluctantly, "Fine, I'll give you five minutes. I'm afraid these would keep me busy all morning."

"Okay, let's go to the pantry."

Mai Qi followed Song Jingyu to the pantry. Although Song Jingyu disliked and looked down on Mai Qi, she didn't show it on her face. When they arrived in the pantry, Song Jingyu took out some coffee she bought, "I asked my friend to help me buy this coffee from Germany. Try some. The taste is great. It's rare to get such excellent coffee locally."

Song Jingyu pretended to open the jar. Mai Qi smirked when she heard Song Jingyu's words, "No need for that. I shouldn't be drinking something this expensive. Plus, I don't have much time. Ms. Song, please make it short. As long as it's my job, I'll do it well."

Song Jingyu froze, "It's nothing, actually. That night, I lost control of myself and did something terrible. I-I just want to apologize to you. Mai Qi, you won't be mad at me, right?"

The woman reached over to hold Mai Qi's hand. Mai Qi was bewildered. She felt goosebumps all over her body. Wow, this Song Jingyu can really act well. Is she flattering me because of Fu Chengyan? I know how much she despises me, but look at what she's doing now.

"What's wrong? Are you really mad at me?" Song Jingyu pouted at Mai Qi unhappily. People would think Mai Qi had bullied her if they didn't know any better.

With an icy glare, Mai Qi sneered, "Ms. Song, you must be joking. I have no right to be mad at you. Plus, we are not close at all, so there is no reason for me to be mad. You have no need to be concerned about this. After all, no one can control you in Shengyuan. I'm merely a secretary, so I can't control you either. I am busy, so I have to go."

"Mai Qi!" As Mai Qi was about to leave, Song Jingyu gritted her teeth and exclaimed, "Must we talk this way? I know I was wrong that day. But I was too upset and thought—"

“Ms. Song, you don’t have to do so. I’m merely a white-collar worker and am not someone influential. I’m Mr. Fu’s secretary, so I do whatever he orders me to do. Ms. Song, you should know about Mr. Fu’s temper. That’s all I have to say.”

Mai Qi left right after saying her piece. Song Jingyu could only stare at her retreating figure furiously.

She realized Mai Qi had never intended to help her at all. The woman accepted her gifts and helped her because Fu Chengyan told her to do so. This meant Fu Chengyan knew about the rigged box.

Song Jingyu clenched her teeth. The more Fu Chengyan hated her, the more she wanted to be with him. Her end goal was to marry him.

“Just wait and see. You will end up being mine!”

Mai Qi returned to her seat and let out a long sigh. Right then, Zhou Zheng summoned her to his desk. “If Song Jingyu comes to you for help, do whatever she tells you to do.”

“What?” Mai Qi was astounded. She didn’t know what Zhou Zheng meant. “But Mr. Zhou, Song Jingyu has ulterior motives, and she—”

“No matter what, do everything she tells you to do,” Zhou Zheng gestured. “You and I work for Mr. Fu. I believe you know how he thinks.”

Mai Qi nodded. She knew Fu Chengyan despised Song Jingyu, or else all those incidents wouldn’t have happened. But she could not stop herself from asking, “Mr. Zhou, why didn’t you tell me earlier? I had just rejected Song Jingyu. What should I do?”

“You do nothing. Don’t worry. After Song Jingyu finds out no one else will help her, she will come back to you.” Zhou Zheng spoke with certainty.

Mai Qi was uncertain at first, but upon recalling how Song Jingyu begged her for help, she nodded. "Okay. Mr. Zhou, anything else?"

Since Zhou Zheng waved his hand to dismiss her, Mai Qi went back to work.

In fact, Zhou Zheng was right. Song Jingyu came to Mai Qi again at noon. She said she wanted to buy Mai Qi dinner later. After hesitating and putting on a show, Mai Qi agreed. "Okay, then."

"Great! After work, I'll wait for you in the basement parking lot. We'll go shopping together." Song Jingyu gazed at Mai Qi, full of disdain for her. Well, you keep saying no, but you can't resist it when I lure you with money!

On the other hand, Mai Qi was wondering, When would Mr. Fu deal with Song Jingyu? She's too annoying.

Shi Nuan was busy the whole day. Because it was the first day of work after a holiday, many tasks were piled up. Everyone was busy with work, too. When Shi Nuan was finally able to take a breather, it was almost time to get off work.

She had just finished packing up when Yuan Jia came over and knocked on her desk excitedly, "Nuan, let's go shopping today."

Shi Nuan raised her eyebrows, "Why do you suddenly want to go shopping?"

"Well, we haven't met for days, and the new year is approaching. I was thinking of buying a few outfits for myself as a reward," Yuan Jia glanced at Shi Nuan. "Hmm, something is off. You always say you don't have time when I ask you to go shopping, but where and when did you buy this outfit?"

Shi Nuan couldn't help but smile. "I am not picky with my clothes," she told Yuan Jia. When she remembered she couldn't go back to Wutong Residence for the time being and had to keep a distance from Fu Chengyan, her heart sank in despair.

Sometimes she would wonder – was this the right thing to do? She and Fu Chengyan had already registered their marriage. Why would they need to hide it from the public? But upon recalling the complicated situation, which included the Shi family who was watching her closely, together with the Fu clan and Song family who were at odds, Shi Nuan could only hold back her emotions.

“What’s wrong?” Yuan Jia could sense that something was wrong with Shi Nuan’s mood. She shook Shi Nuan’s arm gently. “I was talking about shopping, but why are you so upset?”

Shi Nuan shook her head and kept her thoughts hidden. “I’m fine. Okay, let’s go shopping.” She hadn’t cleaned up her rented home for some time, and she needed to buy some stuff as well. Since she couldn’t go back to Wutong Residence, she had no choice but to go back to her previous home. Shi Nuan was thinking of buying some daily necessities. “Let’s go to the shopping mall. I need to buy some things for my home.”

“Yes. Let me pack up now. We’ll leave right away!”

Yuan Jia hopped back to her desk happily to pack up while Shi Nuan shook her head upon seeing Yuan Jia’s reaction. Her phone rang, and she saw Fu Chengyan’s name on the screen. “Hello?”

“It’s me.” Fu Chengyan’s low voice resonated. Shi Nuan was surprised. “Yes, I know.”

“I’m sorry we can’t go back home together today, May.”

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Upon hearing his voice, the sadness which she had bottled up resurfaced. She raised her head and stared at Yuan Jia's direction. "It's fine. I can go home by myself. I haven't terminated my leasing contract yet, so I'm thinking of moving back later. My stuff can be moved back slowly. Don't worry, after everything ends, I'll be back."

Fu Chengyan sighed, "I really didn't want this to happen."

"Me neither," Shi Nuan chuckled after hearing Fu Chengyan's childish sigh. "But it's not a good time right now. Yan, I really want to be with you forever and for your family to accept me."

"I know," When Fu Chengyan heard her confession, the frosty air around him dissipated. His lips quirked up in a smile. "Okay, you can head there first."

"Okay," Shi Nuan chuckled, "I'm going shopping later."

"With whom?" The air of animosity reappeared almost immediately.

Shi Nuan was taken aback by Fu Chengyan's reaction. "My colleague. I'm not sure if you remember her – she sat beside me at the annual meeting. Her name's Yuan Jia. When Mr. Lin got the prize that day, she even wanted me to go see it with her."

"It's her?" Fu Chengyan vaguely remembered the woman. He immediately relaxed when he learnt that she was going shopping with a woman. "Go have fun with your colleague. Buy whatever you want. Did you bring the card I gave you back then?"

“Yes, I did,” Shi Nuan was impatient. “Don’t worry, I’ll use your card. Anything else?”

“That’s it.”

“Okay, goodbye!”

“Goodbye!”

Shi Nuan hung up and kept her phone. She was caught off guard when she saw Yuan Jia right in front of her. She patted her chest in shock. “You scared me!”

“I did? Are you feeling guilty? Who are you talking to? You were smiling so sweetly. Was it your boyfriend?” Yuan Jia giggled, her eyes hinting at something.

Shi Nuan glared at Yuan Jia exasperatedly and nodded. “Yes, it was my boyfriend. Are you satisfied now? I told him I am going to abandon him for you.”

“Really? Nuan, you are so good to me!” Yuan Jia flung her arms around Shi Nuan in delight. “Let’s go now!”

The shopping mall they went to was near Shi Nuan’s place. Shi Nuan only bought some daily necessities, but Yuan Jia ended up with so many shopping bags she had to ask Shi Nuan to help her with some. Luckily, Shi Nuan drove her car here. When they were finally done with shopping, Shi Nuan gave Yuan Jia a ride back home before going back to her rented house.

When the landlady saw Shi Nuan, she was astounded. “Ms. Shi, why are you back so suddenly?” She spotted the stuff Shi Nuan had just bought and asked in surprise, “Ms. Shi, are you moving back? Did you have a fight with your boyfriend?”

The landlady knew Shi Nuan had a boyfriend because of the commotion that happened back then. Although she didn’t get to see Shi Nuan’s boyfriend in

person, he seemed to be an influential man. But since Shi Nuan was back, the landlady's imagination went wild, and she gazed at Shi Nuan pityingly.

Shi Nuan was not aware of the thoughts that raced through the landlady's mind. She was already exhausted from the day's events, but she still had to clean up her place. Preoccupied with her own thoughts, she simply shot the landlady a smile and said, "Yes, I haven't ended the contract yet, so I'm moving back now."

The landlady noticed Shi Nuan's smile was forced, so she shook her head. "Young lady, there are plenty of fish in the sea. Most men are scoundrels. Listen to me, you'll find a better man in the future."

"Eh?" Shi Nuan realized her landlady thought she had been dumped.

She lowered her head to look at herself, utterly speechless. Fine, I might seem upset because I am exhausted. She must've misunderstood. "You are mistaken. We didn't break up. I moved back because something came up."

"Oh, I see." The landlady thought Shi Nuan was too proud to admit it, hence she nodded and went along with Shi Nuan. "Well, let me help you with this. It must be terribly heavy."

"No need!" Shi Nuan rejected her offer. "I can do it myself. It's late, so I'll get going. I don't want to disrupt your rest."

It took Shi Nuan some time to dismiss the landlady before she could open the door to her room. But the moment Shi Nuan went in, she was shocked.

Glancing around, she thought she was at the wrong place.

Back then, when she moved away, she had thrown away most of the furniture and decorations. The other furniture was covered with a white cloth to prevent dust from settling. But now, the entire room had changed beyond recognition. All the furniture was new, and the furnishings seemed different, too.

Shi Nuan blinked. Was she hallucinating? But when she opened her eyes once again, the same scene greeted her. She couldn't help but giggle after realizing that Fu Chengyan must be behind this.

Not long after, Fu Chengyan called her. "Are you back home?"

Shi Nuan glanced around. If she wasn't certain that Fu Chengyan wasn't here, she would've guessed he had installed a GPS tracker on her. "Yes, I just reached home. But... Yan, did you send someone to clean up?"

"Yes, how do you find it?" Fu Chengyan nodded. "I had little time, so I told Zhou Zheng to send someone over. I don't know if I can trust him."

"Don't worry, he did a good job. I thought I would have to clean until midnight, but the whole place is already squeaky clean. Everything I need is also here." Shi Nuan closed the door and wandered around the room. "Don't you trust Zhou Zheng?"

"Yes." Zhou Zheng was his right-hand man. He trusted him, naturally. Zhou Zheng could handle work well, but he wasn't sure if the man could handle his private matters with the same fastidiousness. "I'm glad you like it."

"Yan," Shi Nuan plonked onto the sofa. The place was great, but she had already moved into Wutong Residence for around six months, so in her heart, that was her home. Even if this place was well-renovated, it was just a place for her to stay temporarily.

"What's wrong?"

Fu Chengyan heard a crack in Shi Nuan's dejected voice. His heart wrenched upon hearing it. The man frowned. "What's wrong, May?"

Shi Nuan sniffed and shook her head, thinking she was being way too emotional. She remembered that Fu Chengyan couldn't see her and continued, "It's nothing. Everything is great here. Are you back home?"

“Yes.” Fu Chengyan glanced at the pile of documents and files beside him. There was a photo frame in his hand, illuminated by the dim light. The photo inside was of Shi Nuan and him. Fu Chengyan’s face softened. “Do you miss me?”

“No!” Shi Nuan was quick to deny, but she immediately regretted saying that. Biting her lip, she asked, “What about you? Do you miss me?”

“Yes, I’ve never stopped missing you. I wish I could fly to you right now!” Fu Chengyan rarely spoke words of love, but when he did, it was shockingly sweet.

Shi Nuan couldn’t stop herself from smiling. “I miss you too, Yan. I was lying to you. I really miss you. I don’t want to be separated from you for even another second!”

Fu Chengyan felt his heart melt upon hearing her confession. He could no longer focus on work. “Be good.”

“Okay, since you’re already at home, and I am at mine, there’s nothing to worry about now. I just returned, and I’m reeking of sweat, so I need to take a bath now,” Shi Nuan told him lightly. “Rest earlier. Good night!”

“Good night!” Fu Chengyan hung up. He stared at the phone with a sharp gleam in his eyes. The man clutched his phone tightly for a long time before releasing it.

Meanwhile, Shi Nuan was afraid she’d miss him too much, so she hastily hung up. Tossing her phone aside, she went to take a shower in the bathroom. It took half an hour for her to clean herself up.

Shi Nuan dried her hair and sat in the living room in a daze. As she was bored, she took the remote control and flipped through the channels available on TV.

She had been living here for so long, so she should be used to living alone. But why did she feel so awful just after leaving Fu Chengyan for one day? Why was the environment here so unfamiliar to her?

Shi Nuan always thought of herself as a philosophical and carefree person. Even when she got betrayed by Fu Xicheng and Shi Wei, she wasn't as anxious as she was today.

Shi Nuan couldn't watch the TV anymore, so she switched it off and went into her bedroom.

She sat on the bed, burrowing herself in the covers. The room was chilly as it was currently winter. Back in Wutong Residence, Fu Chengyan would hug her to sleep, so she had never felt cold before. But now, even though she was all curled up under the covers, she couldn't warm herself up. Shi Nuan took her phone and scrolled to Fu Chengyan's name in her WeChat.

She clicked on Fu Chengyan's profile photo and exited. Click, exit. Click, exit. She repeated the same action countless times. Her finger was already numb. When Shi Nuan glanced at the time on the screen, she was shocked.

It was already half-past eleven. She had been clicking in and out for more than more hour!

Shi Nuan slapped her head hard. "Shi Nuan, get a hold of yourself!" She was doing fine before she got to know Fu Chengyan. Why was she acting like she had been possessed?

Thud! Suddenly, Shi Nuan heard a loud sound. Snapping back to reality, she felt her hair stand on end. Could it be a thief at this hour?

Shi Nuan trembled in fear upon that thought. She hurriedly climbed up from her bed and searched her entire room for something to protect herself before going back for her phone. When Shi Nuan was fumbling around, the footsteps came closer. Shi Nuan could feel her entire body tensing up. She held her phone in one hand and a pair of scissors in the other. The door creaked open. Shi Nuan was about to speak when she spotted the tall figure at the door.

"Yan!"

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 255

Shi Nuan rushed over to the door. She made sure to fling aside the things in her hands before throwing herself into Fu Chengyan's arms. When her body came into contact with the familiar heat, her anxious heart finally calmed down.

It was as if Shi Nuan was hugging an extremely rare and valuable item, and she refused to let go. She was afraid it might be a dream, and Fu Chengyan would disappear if she released him.

Fu Chengyan sensed the anxiety of the woman in his arms. He wrapped his arms around her and patted her back consolingly. "Hey, I'm here. You're not dreaming. I'm right beside you."

Shi Nuan tightened her arms. "I know. I can recognize you by your warmth. Yan, why are you here?" She thought he would either be asleep or busy with work at this hour. However, the man drove from Wutong Residence to her place in the middle of the night.

It would take at least an hour to reach here from Wutong Residence. That meant Fu Chengyan had already left Wutong Residence ages ago.

There wasn't any hint of coolness on the man. He must've remained downstairs for some time to warm himself up before coming to her.

Shi Nuan's arms were wrapped tightly around Fu Chengyan's waist. She refused to let him go. Fu Chengyan had no choice but to comply. He didn't pry her hands away. Instead, he reached out to caress the back of her head. "Why? Are you unhappy that I'm here?"

“I am happy.” Why would I be unhappy? ”But it’s late. And... Didn’t you say that Song Jingyu sent someone to follow me? If the man she sent sees us together, we—”

“Don’t worry. They won’t know I’m here.” Fu Chengyan patted her head. “I won’t leave. Will you let go now?”

Shi Nuan shook her head. “No.” No matter what Fu Chengyan said, she refused to let go. “It isn’t a good idea to be here late at night. You—”

“You mean I have to go back now?”

“No!”

Shi Nuan cut him off without hesitation. She clung onto Fu Chengyan desperately with her limbs. “This is my territory. You can’t come and go as you please,” Shi Nuan looked up at Fu Chengyan. “The moment you step into my territory, you are mine. You must listen to me!”

She jabbed her finger at Fu Chengyan’s chest. “Got it?”

“Got it.” Fu Chengyan’s eyes crinkled up into a smile. He loved seeing Shi Nuan acting so arrogantly. The man reached up to take Shi Nuan’s finger and squeezed it slightly. He brought the finger to his lips and kissed it gently. “My Queen.”

Shi Nuan arched her brows, seemingly pleased at how Fu Chengyan addressed her. She nodded and relaxed her grip on him. The next moment, she tightened her arms again and demanded, “Say, why are you here past midnight? You better tell me the truth!”

“You don’t know why am I here?” Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows. He shook his head at Shi Nuan’s childish demeanor, but went along with her anyway. The man took Shi Nuan’s hand and wrapped his other hand around Shi Nuan’s waist. With a slight twist, he pinned Shi Nuan to the wall.

He held Shi Nuan's hand against the wall as he leaned closer to her, his eyes narrowed. Shi Nuan's heart beat erratically when she felt his warm breath on her face and neck. She was so shy that she flushed a bright red.

Fu Chengyan's initial passiveness was gone as he took charge. Even though she had made the first move, he would always end up taking the lead.

Shi Nuan pursed her lips and looked at him. She tried to struggle, but Fu Chengyan leaned closer to her. His gaze had darkened, and a deep emotion twinkled in his attractive eyes.

Shi Nuan didn't move an inch as she stared at Fu Chengyan's eyes, utterly mesmerized.

A smile lit up Fu Chengyan's face when he saw Shi Nuan's reaction. He leaned closer and pressed his warm lips on Shi Nuan's earlobes. His hot breath tickled her ear as he chuckled and said, "To make love to you, of course."

His words sent tremors to Shi Nuan's heart. Her eyes widened, showing her astonishment.

Shi Nuan shoved Fu Chengyan away. She blinked a few times before swallowing hard.

Fu Chengyan was amused by her reaction. He reached out to touch her neck. "What are you doing? Under normal circumstances, you'd be flinging yourself at me right now."

"I never did that! You're so wicked!" Shi Nuan's cheeks were blooming red. "I was just thinking that you are an honorable man most of the time. Although you aren't really a gentleman, you will not act this... Mm! Mm!"

Before Shi Nuan could finish her words, her babbles were muffled by a pair of lips. Shi Nuan's eyes widened as she gazed at the handsome face in front of her. Fu Chengyan's tongue traced the shape of her lips skillfully.

Shi Nuan closed her eyes and moaned. She followed his lead and responded to his passionate kiss.

It was an intense and long lovemaking session. When both of them were finally satisfied, Shi Nuan was already exhausted. She didn't move as she lay on her stomach beside Fu Chengyan. Her hands reached out to clutch Fu Chengyan's hand.

Fu Chengyan was leaning on the bedrest when Shi Nuan did that out of instinct. His gaze softened immediately. The man squeezed Shi Nuan's hand. "I won't leave."

"Mm, I know." I just want to hold your hand.

Fu Chengyan smiled and shook his head. He reached over to trail kisses from her forehead, brows, all the way to her jaw. "Little minx, did you cast a spell on me?"

"Yes!" Shi Nuan rolled over on top of Fu Chengyan's body. Her hand started cruising his body. "I cast a spell on you. The spell lasts for a lifetime and is unbreakable!"

"Really?" Fu Chengyan grabbed her restless hands. "Be good, or else you'll be the one who suffers later." Does she not know that she shouldn't tease men in their most sensitive state? Well, well.

Shi Nuan's eyes flickered as she giggled. "Yan, have you been here for a long time?"

"Yes."

Fu Chengyan nodded. An unnoticeable vicious glint flashed across his dark eyes. "We'll have to bear with this situation for now. I'll solve the problem soon."

“I know. You never wanted this to happen,” Shi Nuan wasn’t an unreasonable person. “I don’t want to force you. I’m not afraid to stay here alone, but I’ll miss you so much.”

She hated being away from him. They were married but had to be separated this way.

Fu Chengyan took her hand and kissed it gently. “I’m sorry you feel that way.”

“I’m fine. You, on the other hand, have to work and worry about this. I feel bad for you.” He was just in his thirties, but had so much on his back.

People praised him for being capable, and he was the heir of the Fu clan, the famous Mr. Fu from Jiang City. But the more she got to know him, the more she realized he was just an ordinary man.

Like any ordinary person, he would feel exhausted, annoyed, and there were times where he needed someone to rely on.

“Yan,” Shi Nuan wrapped her arms around Fu Chengyan’s waist. “We are in no hurry, so take your time.”

“Okay,” Fu Chengyan’s eyes sparkled. “Don’t worry, I won’t let us suffer.”

This matter had to be dealt with sooner or later. Before Shi Nuan showed up in his life, he wasn’t in a hurry. But since Shi Nuan was here and had married him, he needed to clear the obstacles. He wanted her to live in a pure world without challenges and worries. He would be the only focus of her prosperous world.

“I know, and I trust you.”

Shi Nuan yawned out of exhaustion.

Fu Chengyan looked down at Shi Nuan before he glanced at the time. "It's late. You should sleep."

"Okay!" Shi Nuan nodded. She squinted and moved closer to Fu Chengyan before landing a kiss on his lips. "Good night, Yan!"

"Good night, May!" Fu Chengyan watched Shi Nuan close her eyes and fall into a deep sleep. His gaze was soft as he lowered her to the bed and pull the covers over her.

The man was about to get out of bed when Shi Nuan suddenly grabbed his hand. Fu Chengyan turned to her in resignation. He patted the back of her hand. "Hey, I'm not leaving. I'll be back after a quick shower."

Shi Nuan's knitted brows became smooth again. She refused to let him go even in her sleep.

Fu Chengyan was radiating a blissful tenderness. His whole figure was covered in that gentle aura. The softness in his heart existed because of her.

Shi Nuan slept well that night. There was a warm body right next to hers, providing her constant heat, like a stove. When she finally opened her eyes, she met his dark gaze. She squinted her eyes as a huge grin appeared on her face. "Good morning, Yan."

"Good morning." The man's deep voice seemed especially melodious this morning.

Shi Nuan buried herself in Fu Chengyan's embrace. "I thought you had left and that last night was a dream!"

"No, I'm real." Fu Chengyan placed her hand on his chest.

Shi Nuan's palm was placed next to Fu Chengyan's heart. She could feel the heat from his chest and his thumping heartbeat echoing her own. The man's pounding heart anchored her – it was so lively and real.

Shi Nuan smile and threw herself into his arms. "Fantastic!"

"It's getting late. Get up." Fu Chengyan pulled her up from the bed. Shi Nuan gasped and flung her arms around Fu Chengyan's neck. "Be careful!"

"I'm not going to drop you."

"Shouldn't you leave soon?" Shi Nuan glanced at her watch. "It's pretty late now. If Song Jingyu's men see us—"

"Don't worry. You can leave earlier, and I'll leave after they leave." Fu Chengyan brought her to the bathroom. He held Shi Nuan in his embrace as he squeezed the toothpaste for her. "Brush your teeth."

Shi Nuan pursed her lips. "Let me go. How can I brush my teeth like this? I'm an adult. Stop treating me like a child!" Shi Nuan saw how she clung onto Fu Chengyan like a koala bear through the mirror. She was never this coy! "Let me down!"