

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 356

Fu Chengyan glanced at him but gave him the cold shoulder. Instead, he turned to nod slightly at Su Yunwan. “Good evening, Mrs. Su!”

“Good evening!” Su Yunwan nodded, her eyes darting back and forth between Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan. “Why didn’t you tell me that you’ve gotten married?”

Fu Chengyan chuckled. “My marriage with Nuan is very low-key. Only my good friends know about it. I plan to let you know when I have a wedding reception!”

Su Yunwan gave a slight nod. “You’re so lucky. Ms. Shi is a gentle and graceful girl. It’s Bancheng’s loss for not being able to be with her,” said Su Yunwan with a smile. Fu Chengyan and Su Bancheng looked at each other and smiled simultaneously.

“Mom, Mr. Fu and Ms. Shi were married long before she knew me.”

“Oh, really?”

Su Yunwan was a little surprised and looked at Shi Nuan in suspicion. “But the Shi family seems to...”

Shi Nuan smiled awkwardly. “Only my two grandfathers know about my marriage.”

Su Yunwan now understood. “It’s up to you young people to decide for yourselves. Like these two brats, despite their age and no matter how many times I’ve nagged at them, they still don’t have a girlfriend. They’re no match for

you, Mr. Fu!” Su Yunwan knew that it was the family matters of the Shi family so she didn’t dwell on it. Instead, she changed the subject and complained about Su Bancheng and Su Shaoqing.

Su Shaoqing raised his eyebrows slightly. Obviously not wanting to continue with this subject, he said, “Aunt Su, it’s getting late now. Besides, we have been standing at the gate of the Shi residence, which isn’t very appropriate!” He then shot Su Bancheng a look and the latter also seconded, “I think Mr. Fu and Mrs. Fu still have something to do.”

“Well, don’t forget to invite us to your wedding reception!”

“Of course!”

After saying goodbye to the Su family, Fu Chengyan left with Shi Nuan. Sitting in the car, the latter’s depressed mood—due to Fu Chengyan’s absence earlier—was now completely gone. Shi Nuan kept chatting happily with Fu Chengyan. “By the way, Yan, why did you go to Fu residence today? What happened there?”

Tightening his grip on the steering wheel, Fu Chengyan shook his head with a frown and said, “It’s nothing!” He paused. “The old man is just pulling a new trick.”

Sensing that Fu Chengyan didn’t want to bring it up, Shi Nuan reckoned that Old Master Fu must have asked him to divorce her. Hence, Shi Nuan lost the mood to continue with the subject. ““Have you had dinner, Yan?”

Fu Chengyan turned his head and said with a slight frown, “You didn’t eat?” His voice rose slightly in pitch but it carried an affirmative tone.

Shi Nuan was stunned for a moment before she hurriedly cooked up some excuses with a silly smile. “Umm... It’s all because there were too many guests today, and...”

“And you were pestered by the Shi family members?” Fu Chengyan sounded displeased. “You don’t need to entertain them.”

Shi Nuan heaved a sigh. “Do you think I want to?” In fact, she did avoid the Shi family members, but Jiang Yu just would not leave her alone. She had already fled to the yard but Jiang Yu still managed to find her. “Forget it. Let’s not talk about these unpleasant things. You must be hungry, too. I’m craving hot pot now. Why don’t you go with me?”

Shi Nuan reached out and shook Fu Chengyan’s arm as her head turned coquettishly with her movement. Fu Chengyan narrowed his eyes and finally shook his head to yield to her request. “Okay. Where do you want to go?”

“Just the one we usually go to. There should not be so many people now.” Shi Nuan let go of Fu Chengyan’s arm in excitement. “I’m in a good mood now, so it’s my treat!”

Fu Chengyan shook his head once again and stretched out his hand to stroke the tip of Shi Nuan’s nose. “Don’t worry. I still have the money for this; I won’t let you go hungry!”

The mood in the Fu family home changed because of Fu Chengyan’s attitude.

Although Fu Zhengyun had brought Shen Qianan back, the former was actually dissatisfied with her as well. Fu Zhengyun was particularly displeased after seeing Shen Qianan’s son. But he had no other choice now. In order to make Fu Chengyan divorce Shi Nuan, the substitute, he could only use Shen Qianan.

Once Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan divorced, Fu Zhengyun figured he still had ways to deal with Shen Qianan.

Fu Zhengyun was of the opinion that neither Shi Nuan nor Shen Qianan was worthy of Fu Chengyan.

The mood in the Fu family was tense, to say the least. Fu Heng was obviously on Fu Chengyan's side. Meanwhile, Ning Xin was not in good health. Although she had become a lot better after the operation, Fu Heng still did not want her to overexert herself, so he brought her upstairs to rest early.

Fu Zhengyun took Shen Qianan upstairs to have a talk, leaving Fu Sheng and Song Zhenyan sitting downstairs in silence.

Fu Sheng couldn't describe his feelings at this moment. After all, he was the one who matchmade Fu Chengyan with Shen Qianan in the first place. But after Shen Qianan had done what she did, Fu Sheng also found it hard to continue supporting her. Coincidentally, Fu Chengyan sent her abroad at that time. Nothing happened in the past few years, so the recent turn of events caught them off guard.

"Hmph! Let me tell you, Fu Sheng. I don't like Shi Nuan, but this Shen Qianan is even more annoying." Song Zhenyan was irritated whenever she saw Shen Qianan and especially Yu. She was, in fact, on the same page with Fu Zhengyun in this regard.

Fu Sheng shot Song Zhenyan a puzzled look. "Are you saying that you're taking the side of Yan and Shi Nuan?"

Song Zhenyan sneered. "Do you think I'm stupid? I won't even bother myself with this mess of your family."

The hatred Fu Chengyan had for her had now grown stronger. Due to what Song Jingyu and her brother did the last time, Fu Chengyan's attitude toward Song Zhenyan became worse. Upon Shen Qianan's return this time, Song Zhenyan was able to observe the way Fu Chengyan treated the Shen Qianan—which was far from how one would usually treat one's ex-lover. Song Zhenyan knew that there was no possibility of them getting back together.

Fu Sheng was at a loss for words for a while before he finally nodded. "It's good, too, that you stay out of it. Father is determined to get Yan to divorce Shi Nuan

this time. The fact that he went so far as to get Qianan to come back shows just how dissatisfied he is with Shi Nuan.” But Old Master Fu was equally dissatisfied with Shen Qianan, so it appeared that neither could marry into the Fu family.

It was just that Fu Sheng didn't quite understand one thing. *Shen Qianan is not a fool, so she couldn't have overlooked this. Why did she still choose to come back? Why did she choose to listen to Father?*

Fu Sheng stared at the stairs with a solemn expression.

Looking at Fu Sheng, Song Zhenyan snorted coldly and then rose to her feet. “Whatever. It has nothing to do with me either way. It's getting late. I'm going to bed.”

After Song Zhenyan finished speaking, she went straight upstairs to sleep, but she knew in her heart that the Fu family would soon be plagued by restlessness.

Meanwhile, Fu Zhengyun looked at the child in Shen Qianan's arms inside his study on the second floor. After a moment of silence, he said, “Starting tomorrow, Song Zhenyan and Ning Xin will look after Yu while you will work at Shengyuan!”

Shen Qianan immediately looked up. “But Grandpa, Yu is...” Shen Qianan knitted her brows slightly. “Yu is still young. He can't do without me!”

“Is that so?” Fu Zhengyun shot Shen Qianan an indifferent glance. “You should know that if it weren't for me, you wouldn't even be able to enter Z Nation. Ms. Shen, I hope you can understand that although you're from the Shen family, you've been abandoned by them.”

Shen Qianan went pale and clenched her fists slightly. “What do you want me to do?”

Feeling pleased with her response, Fu Zhengyun raised his hand and passed a pile of documents to her. “This woman's name is Shi Nuan, Yan's wife!”

Shen Qianan was shocked. Carrying Yu in one hand, she took the documents from Fu Zhengyun over with her other hand. She trembled. Fu Zhengyun's words put her on tenterhooks. "What did you say? Yan's married?"

She knew that as a normal man, Fu Chengyan would have started seeing someone after the incident three years ago which made him loathe her. However, she never expected he would be married.

"Yes, Yan is indeed married. The purpose of me bringing you back is very simple—find a way to break them up."

Fu Zhengyun fixed his dark eyes on Shen Qianan. "As long as you can separate them, I can set you up for life, and you can even return to the Shen family!"

Shen Qianan's lips trembled slightly. She looked up with her shimmering dark eyes. "When did he get married? Does he..." *Does he not love me anymore?*

"Six months ago. Go through these documents tonight. I will take you to the office tomorrow. Remember this: do whatever you can to separate them!"

Shen Qianan returned to her room after coming out of Fu Zhengyun's study. She opened the file after settling Yu down, but the moment she opened the file, a plain face came into view, striking her like a bolt of thunder.

Shen Qianan reached out her hand to touch her face in disbelief, and then looked at the young and tender face on the file.

She looks so much like me!

Shen Qianan's hands trembled slightly. She wanted to touch the photo but didn't have the courage to do so.

With her head down, her eyes never left the photo. After a long time, she looked up, brimming with tears.

Yan, Yan!

So you haven't forgotten me? That's why you even married a woman who looks exactly like me?

But if you still love me, why marry someone else? Even if we have the same face, we're not the same person, are we?

Gripping the thin sheet of paper, Shen Qianan was imagining countless possibilities in her mind.

During the three years of exile by Fu Chengyan, she had been wanting to come back. She did not do so, however, because she knew what Fu Chengyan was capable of doing. She had known Fu Chengyan for many years since she was young. He was a merciless, stony-hearted man no matter whom he dealt with.

He crushed the only hope she had after she made a mistake three years ago. He even made the Shen family stay out of the matter. On the day she was sent away by him, she wished that he could visit her and tell her he regretted his decision.

But he did not visit her at all, not even once.

For three years, she had been looking for a way to return, but it was absolutely impossible! Initially, she thought that Fu Chengyan didn't love her anymore. But now she found out that this woman with the exact same face as hers was his wife!

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Chapter 357

The next day, Shi Nuan was about to head out with Lin Yu so she waited outside the office building early in the morning. When Lin Yu came, she waved at him. “Over here, Mr. Lin!”

Lin Yu raised his eyebrows and walked over with a smile. “Why are you here so early?” Having said that, he still opened the car door and got into the car. “Sorry, someone borrowed my car last night!”

Shi Nuan flashed him a smile. When she saw that Lin Yu had buckled his seat belt, she started the car. “It’s okay. Although my car is not as good as yours, it can still be used.” Shi Nuan then glanced at Lin Yu. “What music do you want to hear?”

“Anything.”

Shi Nuan nodded. “Umm... I’m sorry, Mr. Lin, due to some personal reasons some time ago, I—”

Lin Yu gave a nod of understanding but was momentarily taken aback when Shi Nuan mentioned “personal reasons”. He then responded, “Is everything alright now?”

Shi Nuan blinked. “Yeah.”

“I was talking about her,” clarified Lin Yu. Looking at the puzzled expression on Shi Nuan’s face, a realization suddenly dawned on him. “It seems that you probably don’t know.”

“What? Who is she?” Shi Nuan was intrigued, as it was the first time Lin Yu asked her about someone else.

Lin Yu shook his head slightly. “Nobody.” After a short pause, he added, “How is Pei Huan doing?”

Shi Nuan frowned. “Do you know Pei Huan, Mr. Lin?” Shi Nuan did not realize that Lin Yu actually knew Pei Huan. She did not see the two getting in touch even after Pei Huan had been back for so long.

Lin Yu nodded. “Well, we’re old acquaintances. But she left for three years before this, so we haven’t seen each other for a long time.”

Shi Nuan gave a mental nod and then looked at him as if she had realized something. *Considering that he rejected Su Yian, does he have a crush on Pei Huan?*

However, Shi Nuan didn’t probe further. “Mr. George will also be there today. As for Prosperous Group... Li Heng has gone abroad, so Li Xufan is in charge now. Are we going to meet up with Li Xufan for a talk?”

“Yeah.” Lin Yu opened the file in his hand and looked through it. “In fact, the preparatory work has been done and we only need to wait for the tender from Prosperous Group. After that, we’ll kick-start the operation on our side.”

After nodding in acknowledgment, Shi Nuan glanced at the file in Lin Yu’s hand and saw the dense rows of handwritten numbers on it. “Did you work late again yesterday, Mr. Lin?”

Lin Yu was stunned for a moment before he smiled. “Yes. I have nothing to do at night anyway!”

“Actually, Mr. Lin, you can go somewhere and make more friends!” As a matter of fact, Shi Nuan wanted to say that it seemed to be a waste for an eligible bachelor

like Lin Yu to be staying at home alone. Moreover, Lin Yu had good looks and a good job, so it would not be hard at all for him to get a girlfriend.

Lin Yu didn't speak anymore after hearing her words. He simply gave a faint smile and continued to study the documents with his head down.

Shi Nuan shrugged her shoulders and stopped talking upon sensing Lin Yu's disinterest.

Shengyuan Group

For the first time in forever, the chairman came to the office today, and his visit was even filled with ostentation. Before he came, the manager of the human resources department was asked to receive him while senior managers of various departments were also asked to attend the meeting. A young woman followed behind the chairman. She was dressed in a white suit, radiating a distinctive air of elegance. What was even more surprising was the woman's face. If one weren't paying close attention, one might really confuse this woman with Shi Nuan.

In fact, some people had really mistaken her for Shi Nuan. After Fu Zhengyun and Shen Qianan passed by, a few people gathered around and started speculating. "Oh my, isn't that Shi Nuan from the project management department? Why is she standing next to the chairman?"

"My thoughts, too. Who really is Shi Nuan? Not only was she suddenly placed at the project management department six months ago, but she's also walking alongside the chairman now."

"Yeah. This woman—"

"No, she's not Shi Nuan," someone from the crowd chimed in.

Everyone looked at the source of the voice and saw the young receptionist. Flushing, she added hesitantly, "I saw Ms. Shi this morning. She went out with Mr. Lin earlier in her Ferrari."

That was because Shi Nuan's Ferrari was too eye-catching, which didn't match her usual style. Besides, for a woman with an identity like Shi Nuan, everyone thought that she should not be able to afford a Ferrari. As more people started gossiping about her private life, they naturally developed a deeper impression of her.

"Moreover, Shi Nuan was wearing a black coat today, not a white suit. Look, this lady also has a different fashion style." Shi Nuan's usual outfits were relatively sophisticated and classy, while the woman following the chairman dressed completely differently.

As a result of the receptionist's words, everyone started to wonder: *Who is this woman? Considering that she is walking with the chairman, she must be someone important.*

"But why does that woman look exactly like Shi Nuan?"

Shen Qianan followed Fu Zhengyun all the way; she naturally heard their conversation.

Generally, no ordinary people, particularly a good-looking woman, liked being compared to others—especially with a woman who looked exactly alike.

Not only does Shi Nuan look like me, but she is also Fu Chengyan's wife now.

When Shen Qianan thought of this, the frown on her face grew deeper and her hands balled into fists. But the moment she entered the elevator, the look on her face completely changed. "Grandpa, is Shi Nuan at Shengyuan, too?"

“Isn’t that obvious? Why do you think I let you join Shengyuan?” Fu Zhengyun glanced at Shen Qianan. “Look at yourself and compare yourself to Shi Nuan. You have lost even before you meet her!”

Shen Qianan pursed her lips. “Old Master Fu, I respect you as Yan’s grandfather but it doesn’t mean that you can insult me as you like. Don’t forget that you asked me to return!”

She enunciated each word slowly while clenching her fists. “No matter how good Shi Nuan is, she’s nothing but my substitute. Now that I’m back, Yan will definitely accept me again.”

If she didn’t see the documents last night, she might not be as confident. After she saw Shi Nuan’s face, she knew that Fu Chengyan had not forgotten her, after all. *The reason why he didn’t let me come back was definitely that he couldn’t get over what happened.*

It doesn’t matter. Since I’m back now, I’ll certainly win back his heart!

Fu Zhengyun snorted and said nothing in reply.

He did not care what Shen Qianan would do, as long as she could make Fu Chengyan divorce Shi Nuan. As for what would happen after that, he had the means to control the situation.

Fu Zhengyun and Shen Qian stepped out of the elevator and were greeted by Zhou Zheng. “Chairman, why are you here?” After saying this, he fixed his gaze on Shen Qianan, feeling shocked. “Ma... Ms. Shen?”

No, she is definitely not Shi Nuan.

Although Shen Qianan and Shi Nuan looked alike, their dispositions were completely different. *Why did Shen Qianan come back at this time?*

As if something inside his brain clicked, Zhou Zheng looked at Shen Qianan and remembered that Fu Chengyan had asked him to come out. “Chairman, are you here to see Mr. Fu?”

Fu Zhengyun pursed his lips and shot Zhou Zheng a displeased look. “Where’s Yan? How dare he not show up when I’m here?”

“Mr. Fu is busy with work, Chairman. The morning meeting later—”

“Speaking of morning meetings, that’s fine, too. Qianan, come to the conference room with me. I will personally announce your position at Shengyuan later!”

Fu Zhengyun then left with Shen Qianan.

Zhou Zheng was left gaping at the two as they walked away.

What happened?

Not only is Shen Qianan back, but she is also joining Shengyuan? What’s going on?

Doesn’t Chairman loathe her? Yet, he actually brought her here personally. He’s clearly sending Fu Chengyan a message that he’s the boss!

The thought of Fu Chengyan’s frosty face and indifferent gaze made Zhou Zheng swallow hard. *Should I just quit my job now?*

But when he thought of the generous remuneration, he closed his eyes, gritted his teeth, and took a deep breath before knocking on the door of Fu Chengyan’s office. “Umm, Mr. Fu, your grandpa is here with Ms. Shen. He also said that he will announce her position in the company later in the meeting. Umm...”

Zhou Zheng reported everything to Fu Chengyan in one breath. Only after that did he sense a change of atmosphere around him.

The initially gloomy look on Fu Chengyan's face gave off a hint of murderous intent. He looked up and shot Zhou Zheng a baleful glance. "What did you say?" The emphasis he placed on each word caused Zhou Zheng to feel that his boss wanted to kill someone, even though he had spoken in his usual tone.

Zhou Zheng swallowed hard again. "Your grandpa brought Ms. Shen here. He said he'll announce Ms. Shen's position at the meeting, so you—"

This time, before Zhou Zheng could finish speaking, he heard Fu Chengyan let out a cold snort, followed by the sound of a pen breaking.

Zhou Zheng suddenly felt a chill on his neck, as if Fu Chengyan had broken his neck instead of a pen.

Zhou Zheng gave a hollow laugh. "Heh, well, Mr. Fu... It's almost time for the meeting!" Zhou Zheng didn't want to die, but still, he couldn't help but remind him.

Fu Chengyan got up and stepped away from his desk. Holding his suit jacket in one hand, he picked up a document with the other and threw it at Zhou Zheng. "I don't want to see Liu Yuan of the overseas department here, starting tomorrow."

"Huh?"

Zhou Zheng was stunned. When he came back to his senses, Fu Chengyan had already left his office and disappeared from sight.

A momentary confusion came over Zhou Zheng as he glanced down at the document that Fu Chengyan had thrown over. The corner of his mouth could not help but twitch involuntarily. *Is he angry? Liu Yuan from the overseas department was an employee Fu Zhengyun brought in way back. He has always been in charge of overseas affairs, and Boss never seemed to want to reassign him anywhere else. But this time...*

At a total loss for words, Zhou Zheng closed the file to look for Fu Chengyan.

Generally, no one could change Fu Chengyan's decision. Even in face of Fu Zhengyun—— Shengyuan's largest shareholder——Fu Chengyan showed no fear in standing his ground.

Considering that Fu Chengyan dares to lay his finger on the overseas department by directly targeting Liu Yuan, Old Master Fu must also be serious this time. If not, Fu Chengyan would not

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The higher-ups of the company all gathered at the conference room to attend the daily morning meeting. Every single one of them was sitting stiffly and nervously with their eyes trained on Fu Zhengyun and Shen Qianan.

Having ants in their pants, they found it easier to stand than to remain seated. They were extremely restless; it was mainly due to the presence of the chairman of the company. Fu Zhengyun had not been involved in the internal affairs of the company for years. Although some of his trusted aides from back then were still in employment, the chairman was no longer a force to be reckoned with after being idle for such a long time.

In fact, his absence had always been a calming factor because it was a sign that everything was going well for the company. Now that the man had suddenly made an appearance, everyone couldn't help but associate it with the recent calamity that had befallen the magnificent Li Group. Within a month's time, the Li clan's company that had lasted for a century ended up going bust because of Li Heng.

No one understood why Li Heng would decide to bring the family business to ruination when he was only one step away from becoming the patriarch of his family.

The Fu clan, like the Li clan, was a prestigious family that had been enjoying its fame for more than a century. That made it hard for people not to wonder whether the same thing would happen to them too.

At the same time, everyone was dying to know who the woman dressed in full white and standing behind Fu Zhengyun was. Not only did she look similar to Shi

Nuan, but she also exuded a distinguished aura that led them to think that she came from a powerful family.

Just as the higher-ups were busy gossiping among themselves, the door of the conference room suddenly opened from the outside. Mai Qi and Zhou Zheng shifted themselves to the two sides of the door, making way for the man who had just arrived. It was Fu Chengyan. One of his hands was holding his suit jacket draped over his back, while the other was cozily tucked in his trouser pocket. Despite looking laid-back and relaxed, no one could gauge what was on his mind from the look of his brooding eyes.

He gave those higher-ups, who were sitting with their backs ramrod straight, a fleeting glance before moving his eyes to his grandfather. Throughout the entire process, he did not even spare a glance at Shen Qianan.

As for Shen Qianan, she had been fixing her gaze on him from the very moment Fu Chengyan walked through the door. All she could think about was how the man had failed to move on from her over the past three years. He actually missed her so much that he even married a girl who looked the same as her to be her replacement.

Fu Chengyan had no clue what she had been thinking about. Nonchalantly, he averted his eyes away before tossing his suit jacket on the chair where he sat down.

Unlike the domineering and businesslike posture he usually adopted, he sat by resting one hand on the table and another on the knee of his lifted leg. With a smirk, he announced, "Let's begin. Why're you guys looking so uptight? The chairman is only here to feel the hustle and bustle of working life after staying at home for too long a time!" Then, he looked at Zhou Zheng and shouted an instruction at him, "Mr. Zhou, please show any unauthorized personnel in this room to the door."

Although he didn't refer to Shen Qianan directly, what he said was clear enough for everyone to infer it that way. At least, it was very obvious to all the higher-ups of the company, who were made up of elitists. Fu Zhengyun was not an

unauthorized personnel as he was at the top of the company hierarchy. Therefore, the only possible person Fu Chengyan could be referring to was Shen Qianan, who had an unknown identity and background.

However, Shen Qianan was there together with Fu Zhengyun. Although everyone was skeptical about her presence, none of them had the guts to drive her out.

All of them immediately looked in the direction of Shen Qianan when Fu Chengyan gave such an instruction to Mr. Zhou.

With her face flushed with embarrassment, Shen Qianan stared at Fu Chengyan with her eyes brimming with imploration. In what sounded like an aggrieved tone, she ventured, “Yan, I...”

Fu Chengyan furrowed his brows in response to her voice. Behaving as though he just noticed her presence, he met her eyes and wondered, “Ms. Shen, do you see yourself as a close friend of mine?”

“I...”

“Since you aren’t an employee, am I wrong to ask you to leave?”

Fu Chengyan’s voice sounded so icy that it made it difficult for anyone to defy his order. Shen Qianan’s face turned as pale as a sheet in response to his question. She threw a miserable stare at Fu Zhengyun and pleaded, “Grandpa!”

Everyone was left aghast when they heard the way she addressed the chairman.

Furiously, Fu Zhengyun smacked the table hard and thundered, “It was I who allowed her to be here. As my granddaughter-in-law, does she even need permission before she starts to work here?”

There was no doubt – his remark was enough to cause a great stir. To everyone’s utter surprise, the woman turned out to be Fu Chengyan’s wife.

Fu Chengyan's face fell considerably upon hearing his grandfather. Tapping the table gently with his slender fingers, he chuckled, "Your granddaughter-in-law? Grandpa, is Ms. Shen here married to one of your illegitimate grandsons out there that I do not know?"

Both Fu Zhengyun and Shen Qianan were rendered speechless.

At the same time, everyone gasped in shock.

They couldn't believe they were lucky enough to be allowed a sneak peek into the family drama of the Fu clan.

"Y-You're hopeless..."

"Did I say anything wrong?" Looking at his grandfather's pale face, Fu Chengyan could tell that his anger had hit the ceiling. Fu Chengyan rose to his feet and rested one hand on the table. "Was it a wrong guess? Or, did she marry the son of one of our relatives?"

Clenching his walking stick tightly, Fu Zhengyun growled, "You bastard, Qianan is your..."

"Who's she to me?" Fu Chengyan raised his voice slightly as he cast an oblique glance at Shen Qianan. "Ms. Shen, care to enlighten me?"

Shen Qianan thought the situation humiliating. She plucked up every ounce of courage she had in herself to be here only because she thought Fu Chengyan still harbored feelings for her, but he was just not manly enough to admit it. It was to her utter dismay that he clearly did not care about her – not even a little.

Feeling embarrassed, Shen Qianan placed a hand on Fu Zhengyun's shoulder to hold him still. "Grandpa, forget about it. Since Yan doesn't think it's a good idea for me to work here, I'm not going to force him. After all, I don't really have any talents that will be helpful to him. I don't mind staying at home. I can keep you company that way."

Everyone immediately jumped to the conclusion that Shen Qianan was Fu Chengyan's wife as soon as she said that.

Meanwhile, though Fu Chengyan was looking extremely grim, he was still able to keep his cool. Staring intently at Shen Qianan, it was only after a long while did Fu Chengyan ask with a smirk, "Grandpa, does it mean you're going to let her stay in any event?"

It was obvious that Fu Zhengyun was ready to go all out to defend Shen Qianan. "Yes, Qianan has to stay by your side at Shengyuan!"

Fu Chengyan got his message well. Fixing Shen Qianan an evil stare, he moved his eyes away and countered, "Grandpa, do you think this is enough to make me do things as your wish? Or, do you think her presence is enough to make me cave in?"

"You..."

Fu Chengyan snorted icily. "Since no one was able to threaten me three years ago, do you think this girl here will be able to do the magic now?"

He then looked back at Shen Qianan in a way so nonchalant that it was as though she was a stranger to him. "You'd better watch out."

He marched out of the conference room right after saying that, leaving no chance for Fu Zhengyun to retort in any manner.

Zhou Zheng and Mai Qi exchanged an uncertain glance. After announcing their departure, they, too, walked out of the room.

Zhou Zheng immediately dashed over to keep up with Fu Chengyan. "Mr. Fu, what should Mrs. Fu do now that Ms. Shen is back and has shown her presence here at the company?"

Fu Chengyan paused in his tracks. Narrowing his eyes, he asked, “Where is May now?”

“Oh, Mrs. Fu’s gone to meet Mr. George with Mr. Lin this morning. Also, our collaboration project with Prosperous Group is about to begin. This morning, Mr. Lin already handed the final schematic diagram of the project for your approval. As Mr. Li is now in C Country, Li Xufan will be the person in charge of this project.”

Fu Chengyan nodded. “Is Liang Lin still there?”

“Yes, Liang Lin is currently there to assist Li Xufan.”

“I’ll let you take charge of the communication with them then.” Fu Chengyan’s pace came to a halt as he turned around to examine Mai Qi, who was standing rooted to the spot. Zhou Zheng frowned at her. “Mai Qi, why are you looking like your soul has wandered elsewhere?”

“Huh?” Only then did Mai Qi break out of her trance. “Oh, nothing.” She quickly caught up with them, but her mind was still preoccupied with their conversation just now.

So, is Mr. Fu really married? Is his wife Ms. Shi from the project management department instead of that Ms. Shen in the conference room just now?

No wonder Mai Qi felt that Fu Chengyan cared about Shi Nuan a lot more than other people. As it turned out, that was not just a mere misconception – it was the truth.

But then again, Shen Qianan and Shi Nuan literally look the same. Mr. Fu doesn’t seem too interested in Shen Qianan, but the chairman treats her very nicely.

“What have you been thinking about?” Looking at the distracted expression on Mai Qi with a frown, Zhou Zheng snapped, “As someone who’s working for Mr. Fu, I can’t believe you even dare to be this absent-minded!”

“Uhm, I...” Looking slightly awkward, Mai Qi hesitated before asking, “Mr. Zhou, is it true that Mr. Fu is married? Is his wife Ms. Shi from the project management department?”

Shhh! Zhou Zheng waved his hands at her frantically to stop her from talking. “This has to stay between the three of us. No one else is supposed to know about this for the time being.”

Mai Qi quickly nodded. “I’ve got it.”

Zhou Zheng gave her a solemn nod back. “Well, you may head back to work now.”

Shaking his head, it was only after he made sure Mai Qi had walked far enough away did he make his way to Fu Chengyan’s office and knock on the door. “Mr. Fu!”

“Come in!”

As soon as he pushed the door open, he was greeted by the sight of Fu Chengyan standing in front of the desk. Both his hands were tucked in his trouser pockets, and there was an impassive expression on his face. “Send some of our men to keep an eye on Shen Qianan.”

“Mr. Fu, I don’t quite understand this.” Zhou Zheng felt the entire matter confusing. “Was Ms. Shen... sent here by the chairman?”

Fu Chengyan smirked. “Do you think my Grandpa is capable of making that happen all by himself?”

Looking grim, Zhou Zheng asked, “Mr. Fu, do you think there’s something fishy with Ms. Shen’s return this time?” After some contemplation, he elaborated on his analysis. “Ever since Ms. Shen was sent away from the country by you three years ago, she’s been trying very hard to come back. However, she isn’t

supposed to be back without your permission. So, it must have been the chairman who got her back through some means.”

Yet, Fu Chengyan simply shook his head. “Just get someone to keep an eye on her. I want to know everything about her – who she keeps in touch with and what she does in her free time.”

“Yes.” Zhou Zheng nodded in acknowledgment. “What about...”

Sensing his hesitation, Fu Chengyan cast a glimpse at him and urged, “Just tell me.”

“What about Mrs. Fu...” Zhou Zheng couldn’t help but be slightly worried because Shi Nuan looked exactly the same as Shen Qianan.

Back then, even Zhou Zheng had harbored the assumption that Mr. Fu only married Shi Nuan as a replacement for Shen Qianan. Thus, he thought it was only natural for Shen Qianan to think of it in the same way, too.

Now that Shen Qianan had returned and secured a job at Shengyuan, it was only a matter of time before the two women bumped into each other. Even if they did not meet in person, they could easily learn about each other’s presence through their colleagues.

Will Shi Nuan get the wrong idea when she finds out about the existence of a girl who used to be her husband’s fiancée who strikingly resembles her?

What Zhou Zheng received in response was a baleful glance from Fu Chengyan, who looked sullen with his lips pursed.

Feeling a chill creeping down his spine, Zhou Zheng immediately regretted bringing Shi Nuan up. “Uhm... Mr. Fu, I’ll go and carry out your instruction right now. I...”

Seeing how swiftly he took to his heels, Fu Chengyan's eyes softened a little. He kept his eyes downcast, though, still looking glum.

Everyone seems to think that I've been taking May as that woman's replacement all along.

What a huge misunderstanding that is...

Fu Chengyan felt slightly troubled as he knitted his brows together – something that rarely happened to him. He made his way to the French window, where he glanced down at the street view. It was only until a special ringtone started blaring out from his phone was his mind pulled back to reality. At the sight of the caller ID, his eyes softened considerably as he picked up the call. “Hello!”

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 359

“Yan, it’s me!”

“Hello!” Fu Chengyan chuckled. “Zhou Zheng told me you went out early this morning. How’s the discussion going with Mr. George?”

“We just reached our destination. I’m calling you to confirm whether Mr. Lin has given you the final schematic diagram.”

“Yes, he’s already passed me that.” Fu Chengyan cast a fleeting glance at the document placed on his desk. “Is there anything wrong?”

“Oh, Mr. George here just approved the diagram.”

“Well, I’ll take a look at it first.” Fu Chengyan sat down at his desk and flipped through the schematic diagram. “I think there’s no problem with the diagram. You guys are allowed to proceed. Is Lin Yu with you right now?”

“Nope, he’s still talking to Mr. George. I’m going out to buy some snacks for him. He doesn’t look well because he skipped his breakfast this morning.” Shi Nuan paused for a beat before she continued, “Yan, can I ask you a question?”

“Sure. What is it?”

Fu Chengyan put the schematic diagram aside. Shi Nuan’s voice seemed to have a soothing effect on him as he could feel his tensed muscles slowly start to relax.

Shi Nuan hesitated for a moment, trying to phrase her question in her mind. It took her some time before she asked tentatively, “Did Mr. Lin have a thing for Pei Huan before?”

Fu Chengyan was stunned by her question for several seconds before letting out a chuckle. “What led you to have that sort of suspicion? Did you notice anything unusual?”

Judging from his answer, Shi Nuan knew that her guess was right. “Mr. Lin just rejected my bestie, Su Yian. She told me that it was because he’s still struggling to move on from a girl he can never be with. I had no idea who she was referring to at that time. However, when I was having a chat with Mr. Lin earlier, we somehow mentioned Pei Huan, and he actually asked me how she was doing! He certainly looked like he had moved on from her, but I could still feel his lingering feelings for her...”

“I don’t know much about it because it’s a matter between Huan and him. Huan once told me that Lin Yu used to be her neighbor and that he did try to ask her out before. However, nothing happened between them because Huan had already been going out with Li Heng at that time. Any more questions?”

“Uhm, no, that’s all.” Shi Nuan did not probe as she was not a nosy person. Yet, she decided to ask one more question after some contemplation. “Did you lure Mr. Lin into joining your company by using his feelings for Huan back then?”

Suddenly, Fu Chengyan reached out to give the middle of his brows a massage. “Shouldn’t you get back to work by now?” he urged in a resigned tone.

Shi Nuan raised her brows and giggled. “Fine, I’m going to grab some snacks for Mr. Lin now. Otherwise, he might launch a complaint on you for abusing him if he falls sick.”

This woman is going to be the death of me!

While Fu Chengyan was shaking his head with a smile, Shi Nuan added, “Yan, what’d you like to have for dinner? I can head back home earlier after I finish my work with Mr. Lin.”

“Prepare anything you like. Would you like Shaoqing to come over and join us later?”

Shi Nuan raised her brows in response to his suggestion. She was able to tell that he had some business to discuss with Su Shaoqing. “That’s a good idea. We probably can’t finish all the food by ourselves. Look, I’m afraid I have to hang up now because it’s time I get back to work.”

Shi Nuan hung up on him first. Meanwhile, Fu Chengyan only put down his phone quite sometime after that with his eyes looking pensive.

His grandfather was someone who did not expect his orders to be defied. Now that it was his intention to keep Shen Qianan at the company, no one was audacious enough to object to the idea except him.

In fact, Fu Chengyan had made it fairly clear that he was against the idea that morning by storming out of the conference room halfway through the meeting. However, the human resource department was not bold enough to go against Fu Zhengyun’s intention.

On top of that, Fu Zhengyun went as far as directly arranging for Shen Qianan to be Fu Chengyan’s personal secretary. It was clear to everyone in the company what the man was trying to achieve.

People began speculating whether Shen Qianan would become the future president’s wife. *Will she become the wife of the future patriarch of the Fu clan?*

Yet, they kept their speculation to themselves because Fu Chengyan’s abhorrence toward Shen Qianan was very obvious.

Just like that, the necessary formalities and arrangements for Shen Qianan's employment were completed. Fu Zhengyun brought her to the twenty-seventh floor and made the official announcement of her recruitment. At the same time, the man issued a warning to all the employees working there. All of them were to look after Shen Qianan, and they couldn't be more aware of what that warning meant.

Also, all employees understood that although Shen Qianan was under the chairman's wings, she was not at all to the liking of the president.

Mai Qi was giving Shen Qianan a furtive once-over when the latter greeted her in an amicable tone, "Hi, my name is Shen Qianan. I'm really looking forward to working with you."

Thinking it would be rude of her to pull a long face in response to her friendliness, Mai Qi offered her hand and replied with a pleasant smile, "I'm Mai Qi, the head secretary."

"Hello, Mai Qi!" Shen Qianan quickly took Mai Qi's outstretched hand in an affable manner.

The corners of Mai Qi's lips twitched uncomfortably, but she managed to maintain a pleasant face. "Ms. Shen, I guess you aren't familiar with the work here because you're new. Here are some documents for your reference. Feel free to ask me any questions if there's anything you find difficult to understand."

Mai Qi walked away after leaving a pile of old files to Shen Qianan. The smile on Shen Qianan's face disappeared as she glanced down at the pile of files with a deep crease on her forehead.

Shi Nuan stopped by the market to fetch some fresh ingredients for dinner on her way back home after work. When she reached home, she couldn't help but be surprised to find Fu Chengyan, who had reached home even earlier than her. "Yan? How come you're home so early? Was there not much work to do at the office today?"

“Yeah, there was nothing much to do. What have you got there?” Fu Chengyan put down the document he was reading and stood up to help her with the shopping bags. Delighted to free herself from the task, Shi Nuan giggled as she followed him to the kitchen. “I went to the market because I clocked out of work early. It’s very easy to get fresh food since it’s located near our neighborhood. By the way, where’s Mr. Su?”

“Oh, he’s on his way here.” Fu Chengyan nodded while keeping everything in the fridge. Then, he reached out to play with a strand of hair that had fallen in front of her forehead. “Are you tired?”

Warmth filled up Shi Nuan’s heart at the softest tone she had ever heard from him. “I’m feeling alright. In fact, Mr. Lin and Mr. George did most of the work while I was only there as their assistant.” She then added cheekily, “Which one of us is going to cook dinner?”

“I’ll do it because you must be tired.” With that, Fu Chengyan reached out to pick up the apron. Shi Nuan grabbed it before him and helped him put it on. She then stood on her tiptoes and placed a light kiss on his jaw. “I’m glad you’re being so considerate.”

Fu Chengyan’s eyes were brimming with delight upon hearing her compliment. He stroked the tip of Shi Nuan’s nose affectionately as he said, “While I prepare dinner, you go upstairs and enjoy a foot bath. The meal will be ready by the time you finish.”

“Okay!”

Shi Nuan accepted his kind gesture without hesitation. After all, they had been married for half a year already, and they had long learned to become natural and real with each other.

Watching Fu Chengyan busying himself in the kitchen with the apron on put a contented smile on Shi Nuan’s face. Then, she trotted her way upstairs and

made herself a foot bath as per his suggestion. As it turned out, it worked wonders on alleviating her sore and aching muscles.

By the time she made it back downstairs, Su Shaoqing had already arrived. He was doing great at making himself at home by sitting leisurely on the sofa in the living room. However, the sight of another man sitting beside him piqued her curiosity.

Despite feeling puzzled, she still made her way over to them at a quick pace. “Hi, guys!” She stared straight at Su Shaoqing and Su Bancheng.

Wearing his usual good-natured expression, Su Shaoqing waved at her and said, “Nuan, it’s nice to see you! I hope you don’t mind the plus one I’ve brought along with me?”

Shi Nuan pursed her lips as she cast a friendly look at Su Bancheng. “Of course not. It’s my honor to have another Mr. Su here. Besides, I have no right to turn anyone down since I’m not the head chef on duty tonight.”

“Oh, I’m sure Chengyan won’t mind,” Su Shaoqing said while waving his hands dismissively. “Nuan, I’m really impressed by how you’re able to convince Chengyan to do the cooking. In fact, you’re the only one who has such an honor. You know what, not even...” Suddenly, Su Shaoqing stopped short before he blurted out anything inappropriate. “Will the food he prepare enough for one more person?”

“Don’t worry; I’m sure it will be enough!” Smiling, she took a seat at another end of the sofa. “Mr. Su, what made you decide to tag along?” she asked Su Bancheng.

“Oh, we came here together from the hospital as Bancheng visited me earlier today. You have no idea how tough life has been for Bancheng lately. Ever since his mother knew about your marriage with Chengyan, she’s found a new passion in regularly arranging blind dates for him.”

In spite of Su Shaoqing's sympathetic tone, for some reason, Shi Nuan could feel that he was actually gloating.

Obviously, Su Bancheng could feel it too. He cast a supercilious glance at Su Shaoqing as he snapped, "You're also at the right age to get married. Why don't I ask your father to arrange some blind dates for you too?"

"Oh, please don't do that to me!" Su Shaoqing frantically held up his hands in denial. "You know I'm a free spirit. I don't want to be tied down by marriage so soon! Uhm... I think Chengyan is calling for me. Let me go and see whether he needs any help!"

With that, Su Shaoqing made a run for it and vanished out of sight. Shi Nuan couldn't help but burst out laughing before shaking her head in resignation.

A faint smile emerged on Su Bancheng's face too. "Please don't mind him. He is used to behaving in this manner."

Shi Nuan nodded. "I understand."

"In fact, I have something to discuss with Mr. Fu too."

Shi Nuan nodded, feeling puzzled as there was no need for Su Bancheng to inform her that. Shortly later, Su Bancheng posed her a question. "Ms. Shi, I'm wondering whether you know this person."

"Who?"

"Xu Chuyan."

Shi Nuan froze as that name rang a bell in her head. However, that memory came and went too fast. She failed to identify the owner of the name. "I'm sorry, I don't remember much about that person. Is she related to you in any way?"

Su Bancheng knitted his brows slightly before shaking his head. “Nope.”

Shi Nuan was confused. “May I know what prompted you to ask me that question then? I should be able to remember her if I know her. Is there any chance that you have the photo of Ms. Xu? It might be able to help me remember her!”

Su Bancheng shook his head. “I don’t have her photo.”

“Hmm... In fact, what led you into thinking that I might know her?” Shi Nuan really could not seem to recall anything about the mysterious woman.

Su Bancheng fell silent and stop answering her. Thinking that it was inappropriate to probe, Shi Nuan secretly memorized the name he had given her.

The woman must have been someone very important to Su Bancheng, judging from how he had made an effort to ask Shi Nuan about her. *Should I ask Chengyan about the woman later and let him do some digging?*

When Su Shaoqing reached the kitchen, he couldn’t help but marvel at how deftly Fu Chengyan was preparing the meal. “Before this, I thought it was good for you to do some household chores once in a while. Now that you’ve started doing it regularly, I suddenly stop seeing it as such a great idea. It’s all because I’m often forced to be drown in the sweetness of your relationship with Nuan!”

In response, Fu Chengyan cast him a sideways glance and snapped, “Don’t you think you’re complaining way too much for a person who gets to enjoy a free meal?”

Su Shaoqing pursed his lips in displeasure as he leaned against the counter in a laid-back manner. “Just cut to the chase. Tell me why you need me here, will you?”

Fu Chengyan paused for a moment before telling him, “You’ve learned about Shen Qianan’s return, haven’t you?”

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 360

“Damn it, how am I supposed to know about her return? Hold on, were you unable to make it to the Shi residence yesterday because you went to meet Shen Qianan? Holy cow, don’t tell me you still have feelings for...”

“I went back to Fu Residence because the butler gave me a call telling me my grandfather was dying.” Fu Chengyan ended his sentence with a cold snort and an icy glint in his eyes.

Su Shaoqing looked dumbfounded. “Something doesn’t add up. Didn’t your grandfather think Shen Qianan was not good enough for you back then? I can still remember how much he used to resent her and that look on his face when he couldn’t wait to kill her to vent his anger! Why is he suddenly taking her side now? Is he resorting to the childish trick of using Shen Qianan as his pawn to destroy Nuan?”

Su Shaoqing stroke his jaw contemplatively. When he saw the ominous look on Fu Chengyan’s face, he couldn’t help but roll his eyes when he realized his speculation was right. “I can’t believe he’s really doing such a thing! Your grandfather is certainly very... intriguing.”

“He’s so insistent on breaking Nuan and you apart though he hates Shen Qianan too. I’m shocked that he still cares to punish you like that at his age.” While condemning Fu Zhengyun, Su Shaoqing was observing Fu Chengyan’s expression too. “Anyway, it’s only a matter of time before Nuan finds out about Shen Qianan. The point is, they literally look the...”

“I’m very sure I know which one I love.” Fu Chengyan frowned at Su Shaoqing without him realizing it, making Su Shaoqing shudder in fear. “Why are you

shooting daggers at me? It's not like I'm accusing you of anything. Look, you know yourself well, but what about the rest of the people?

There's no way they'll know what is on your mind. To make matters worse, you really did meet Shen Qianan before marrying Nuan. That's a fact. Anyone is bound to get the wrong idea, let alone Nuan."

Su Shaoqing shook his head and sighed. "What are you planning to do about it now?"

"I didn't meet her first!" Holding the knife, Fu Chengyan emphasized sternly with his lips pursed. "I didn't."

"Uhm... What do you mean?" Su Shaoqing thought he had heard him wrongly. At the same time, he was intimidated by the grim expression on Fu Chengyan's face as well as the knife in his tight grip. It seemed highly likely that the latter would slaughter anyone who offended him with that knife he was currently holding.

Touching his neck subconsciously, Su Shaoqing decided to take a few steps back to maintain some distance from him.

Meanwhile, Fu Chengyan fixed an icy gaze on Su Shaoqing, putting emphasis on each and every word he was about to say. "I didn't meet Shen Qianan first. I met May before her!"

This time, Su Shaoqing got his message loud and clear. He was stupefied for a few seconds before exclaiming, "Are you saying that you actually knew Nuan first? Boy, you really are great at keeping secrets! Since you met Nuan first, why did you date Shen Qianan instead of her then?"

Su Shaoqing was deterred from continuing his sentence by Fu Chengyan's lethal stare. "Who told you I even dated her before?"

Huh?

“Did you not?” Su Shaoqing tried to recall what had taken place over the past few years. Indeed, he had often seen Shen Qianan appearing together with Fu Chengyan at various places, but Fu Chengyan had never introduced her as his girlfriend or fiancée.

“Wait a minute. Does it mean you’ve never had feelings for Shen Qianan?” That piece of information was too shocking that Su Shaoqing needed some time to process it. Anyone who did not know Fu Chengyan well enough would assume the man was lying. But as his long-time buddy, Su Shaoqing knew that Fu Chengyan couldn’t be more serious about it, judging from his flinty face.

Su Shaoqing fell silent for a short while to ponder over everything. “Seems like everybody has been having this misunderstanding about you all along. But then again, why did you let Shen Qianan shadow you wherever you went at that time if you had no feelings for her at all?”

Fu Chengyan knitted his brows and fell silent.

“Is there a story behind it?”

“That is none of your business.” Pursing his lips, Fu Chengyan chided, “Just leave if you aren’t going to help me with the food.”

Su Shaoqing thought there was no point in staying either. Before leaving the kitchen, he reminded Fu Chengyan, “Here’s a tip for you, bro – you should act fast and decisive when it comes to relationships. Although your relationship is Nuan is pretty stable now, you can’t be sure how much damage your dirty little secret is going to cause. If you love Shi Nuan deeply enough, I think that there are certain things you should share with her. Trust me; you won’t want to risk letting her find out about it herself.”

After Su Shaoqing left the kitchen, Fu Chengyan fell silent as he got lost in thought.

Shen Qianan...

He narrowed his eyes in disgust at the thought of that woman. Although he had never had feelings for her, he did keep her by his side back then to his personal advantage. Besides that...

His eyes darkened slightly as he let out a sigh. As long as Shen Qianan did not do anything too damaging, he would leave her alone as a way to repay the help she had offered him back then.

He turned to look in the direction of Shi Nuan, who was chatting with Su Bancheng in the living room at the moment. His eyes gleamed with an inscrutable emotion.

Shi Nuan seemed to be able to sense his eyes landing on her. She whirled around to meet his penetrating gaze from the kitchen. She stiffened as her cheeks turned rosy. Having cast a tentative glance at the two guys in the living room, she rose to her feet. "Gentlemen, please make yourself comfortable while I go and check on Yan in the kitchen."

Su Shaoqing flashed her a roguish grin. "Nuan, are you going to get all lovey-dovey with your husband again?"

Shi Nuan smiled bashfully. "Mr. Su, since you know your way around our house very well, would you mind helping me to give your cousin a house tour?"

With that, Shi Nuan made her way to the kitchen and was just in time to see Fu Chengyan tasting the soup. "Yan, do you need any help?"

"Your clothes will be reeking of grease if you stand there. Why don't you go outside and chat with Shaoqing and his cousin?" Fu Chengyan waved dismissively at her and urged, "Go on. I can handle it by myself."

"You certainly can, but by the time you finish everything, we'll be having this meal as supper," Shi Nuan couldn't help but tease. "Why don't you let me take over from here? You should go out and talk to Mr. Su. Don't you have some things to discuss with him?"

“It’s fine. It’s not urgent.”

The couple went on to churn out a sumptuous spread of exquisite delicacies. By the time, the two of them walked out of the kitchen, Su Shaoqing and Su Bancheng were already sitting at the dining table. They didn’t wait until they were invited. When Shi Nuan was busy scooping rice into several bowls, Su Shaoqing did not hesitate to stretch his arm over. “Nuan, thanks for the food.”

She smiled craftily as her arm moved past his outstretched hand to pass the bowl of rice to Su Bancheng instead.

Su Bancheng nodded in appreciation while taking the bowl of rice and a pair of chopsticks from her.

Su Shaoqing immediately protested, “Hey Nuan, you can’t be this unfair! Besides, shouldn’t you be worried that Chengyan might get jealous because of your special treatment toward Bancheng?”

Both Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan froze upon hearing his remark. Staring at Su Shaoqing with his eyes filled with amusement, Fu Chengyan made a brutal comeback. “I might get jealous? At least I know how it is to be jealous while you don’t even know what’s that!”

Su Shaoqing was rendered speechless and made a wise decision to keep his mouth shut.

In the meantime, Su Bancheng was wearing a faint smile while staring at his cousin wryly. “Shaoqing, you must be a troublemaker, aren’t you?”

“Hey, what trouble can possibly be created by a person as mature and responsible as me?”

Suddenly, Shi Nuan burst out laughing at their banter, causing all eyes to land on her at once. “Hey, shouldn’t we focus on enjoying this meal? Mind you, this is something money can’t buy because it was prepared by Yan.” While talking, Shi

Nuan picked up some greens with her chopsticks and put them into Fu Chengyan's bowl. "Yan, come on. Dig in!"

After dinner, Shi Nuan volunteered to clean up the table while the three guys headed off to have a chat. Fu Chengyan came to check Shi Nuan, who was looking busy as a beaver. "Why don't you leave everything in the washbasin first? I'll do the dishes later."

"It's fine. I can finish everything before you even know it. You go ahead and join them!"

She flashed him a reassuring smile while shoving him away from the kitchen.

Fu Chengyan gave her an appreciative nod before heading upstairs to the study, where Su Shaoqing and Su Bancheng were waiting for him.

As soon as he was there, Su Shaoqing somberly rose to his feet. "Let's get straight to the point here. Why did you need us here?"

Fu Chengyan glanced at them with his lips pursed. Then, he walked past Su Shaoqing to take a document out from a safety box and then handed it to Su Bancheng. "How much do you know about the Jiang family?"

Su Bancheng stiffened. He took the document and gave it a quick scan before returning it to Fu Chengyan. "What do you need me to do for you?"

"Jiang Shizheng!" Fu Chengyan announced. In the meantime, Su Shaoqing eyed them both puzzledly.

After a moment of hesitation, Su Bancheng asked, "What?"

"Let me put it this way – I'd like to know everything about the relationship between Jiang Shizheng and Jiang Shilin."

Su Bancheng froze upon hearing that. Finally, his eyes, which had been looking as calm as a pool of still water, flickered in response. “What makes you think I will help you?”

Fu Chengyan narrowed his eyes on him and uttered, “Xu Chuyan.” Keeping both hands tucked in his trouser pockets, he continued, “I’ll help you track that woman down if you help me with my case.”

Fu Chengyan was never one who fought battles he couldn’t win. Therefore, he already had some leverage ready before asking Su Shaoqing to bring Su Bancheng here. As per his expectation, Su Bancheng’s expressionless face flinched at the mention of Xu Chuyan.

Su Bancheng put the document aside. “I must say that you’ve got yourself a great bargain here with me.”

Fu Chengyan smirked. “I’m sure we’ll work well together.”

Su Bancheng nodded. “If that’s all you want to talk about, I should get going then!”

“Hey, hold on!” Su Shaoqing couldn’t understand a single word of their conversation. “Are you guys talking in riddles? I know who Jiang Shizheng and Jiang Shilin are too! Eh, isn’t Jiang Shilin your grandfather, Bancheng?” Only then did Su Shaoqing start to get a clearer picture of their conversation. “But Jiang Shizheng is Shi Nuan’s grandfather.”

Sounding confused, he started throwing a barrage of questions at the other two. “Do you guys think they are somehow related to each other? Who’s Xu Chuyan? Bancheng, I know that you’ve not dated anyone for years. Is Xu Chuyan your...”

Su Shaoqing was forced to swallow the remaining part of his question when Su Bancheng shot him a glare. The latter chuckled coldly. “You’d better mind your own business first before you start meddling in mine!” After picking up the

document from the table, he turned to Fu Chengyan. "Please give me some time."

Fu Chengyan nodded. "I need the information on the Jiang family to be as comprehensive as possible."

A slight trace of annoyance flashed in Su Bancheng's dark pupils. "Mr. Fu, don't you think you're being too demanding?"

Fu Chengyan retorted, "For your information, Prosperous Group is the developer of that project at Mount Emerald in Sheen City."

Upon hearing that, Su Bancheng's face softened a little. "Let's work well together then!" he said with a smile at last.

As Su Bancheng was leaving, there was no reason for Su Shaoqing to prolong his visit. Minutes before he walked out of the house, he looked at Fu Chengyan worryingly. "Look, I still think you should come clean with Nuan about that matter. Also, you'd better do it sooner rather than later!"

"What's the thing he has to come clean with me?"