

Married at First Sight 4321-4325

Married at First Sight

In reality, Shen Xiaojun barely needed to take care of the baby. He only looked for her when he needed to eat. Sometimes, he was fed with formula, so she didn't even have to wake up for him.

Haitong glanced at her friend.

After so many years of friendship, Shen Xiaojun instantly understood the look.

She touched her face and asked, "Tongtong, have I gained weight?"

"Not fat," Haitong said with a smile. "Just a little round."

Shen Xiaojun sighed. "Come on, I know I've gained weight. I eat, sleep, wake up, and eat again—just like my son. We've basically been living like pigs for a month. It'd be strange if I didn't gain weight."

She had been taking supplements every day, recovering well, but her weight was increasing fast.

She had already told Su Nan that once her confinement period was over, she was going to start losing weight.

"I need to lose weight, I really do," she muttered.

Haitong laughed. "You're not fat at all. You don't need to lose weight. Besides, you're breastfeeding, so of course you're eating more—it's perfectly normal."

Her good friend had always been a foodie.

Su Nan chimed in, "See? I keep telling you you're not fat, and now Tongtong is saying the same thing."

Still not convinced, Shen Xiaojun turned to Audrey. Audrey smiled and reassured her, "You're not fat."

Finally satisfied, Shen Xiaojun stopped talking about losing weight.

The family of three stayed for about ten minutes before heading off to visit other important relatives with the baby.

Haitong and the others remained at the Su house until the afternoon before heading home.

Since Kathryn and her husband were coming, Haitong asked Zhan Yin to drop her off at the Shang residence first, and then she returned home with Audrey and the others.

When she saw Kathryn, Haitong smiled and complimented her, “Long time no see, Kathryn. You look even more beautiful.”

Kathryn was glowing with happiness, the radiance of a newlywed.

Kathryn returned the compliment with a smile. “Tongtong, you’re still as beautiful as ever. I’ve seen a lot of pregnant women, but you’re by far the most beautiful one I’ve ever seen.”

“After giving birth, you need plenty of rest,” Audrey advised. “Take at least six months before going back to work. Don’t rush it—childbirth takes a toll on a woman’s body. If you don’t recover properly, the effects can last a lifetime.”

Haitong smiled. “Aunt, I haven’t even given birth yet.”

“I know,” Audrey said. “But it’s important to be careful.”

Haitong understood well—she had helped take care of her sister after childbirth and knew what to expect.

Just then, Su Nan came downstairs, carrying his son, with Shen Xiaojun walking beside him.

Su Nan had been smiling all day.

Shen Xiaojun’s confinement period had gone smoothly. She ate well, slept well, and barely had to worry about the baby. Su Nan, her mother-in-law, and the nanny took turns caring for him. All she had to do was rest and recover.

Everyone gathered around to see the baby.

Haitong, being pregnant, decided to stay back. Audrey held her hand, making sure she didn’t get too close, worried someone might accidentally bump into her.

Before long, Shen Xiaojun and Su Nan walked over.

“Tongtong!” Shen Xiaojun greeted her friend with a bright smile.

Haitong took out a red envelope she had prepared and gently placed it in the baby’s arms.

The little one was dressed in a brand-new outfit, a gift from his grandmother. It was a tradition that on a baby's full moon day, the grandmother would buy their first set of clothes.

"Is he asleep?" Haitong asked.

She lightly touched the baby's soft little face.

"He's much heavier than when he was born," she said, noticing how well he was being cared for.

Shen Xiaojun nodded. "Yep. He eats, sleeps, wakes up to poop, then eats again and goes right back to sleep. He's so easy to take care of."

To her, her son was the easiest baby in the world—hardly ever crying or making a fuss.

Shen Xiaojun barely needed to take care of the baby. He only looked for her when he was hungry, and sometimes, he was fed formula without even needing her.

Haitong glanced at her friend.

After years of friendship, Shen Xiaojun immediately understood the look. She touched her face and asked, "Tongtong, have I gained weight?"

"Not fat, just a little round," Haitong said with a smile.

Shen Xiaojun sighed dramatically. "I'm definitely fat. I eat, sleep, wake up to eat again—it's like I've been raising myself along with my son. It'd be strange if I didn't gain weight!"

She had been taking daily supplements, recovering well, but the extra nutrition was making her put on weight quickly.

She had already told Su Nan she planned to lose weight after her confinement period. "I need to lose weight. I must lose weight."

Haitong laughed. "You're not really fat. Besides, you're breastfeeding—it's normal to have a bigger appetite."

Her friend had always been a foodie.

Su Nan, standing nearby, chimed in, "See? I told you you're not fat. Even Tongtong agrees!"

Still unconvinced, Shen Xiaojun turned to Audrey. Audrey simply smiled and reassured her, "You're not fat."

Finally satisfied, Shen Xiaojun let go of the idea of dieting—at least for now.

The little family stayed for about ten minutes before heading off to visit more relatives with the baby.

Haitong and the others remained at the Su household until the afternoon before heading home.

Since Kathryn and her husband were visiting, Haitong asked Zhan Yin to take her to Shangjia first before returning home with Audrey and the others.

As soon as she saw Kathryn, Haitong smiled warmly and said, “Long time no see, Kathryn! You’ve become even more beautiful.”

Kathryn, glowing with the joy of newlywed love, looked radiant.

She returned the compliment with a bright smile. “Tongtong, you’re still as beautiful as ever. I’ve seen many pregnant women, but you’re the most stunning one I’ve ever met.”

“Of course! I’ve always been this beautiful,” Haitong said playfully, touching her face with a smug expression.

Everyone laughed.

The group returned to the living room.

After some casual conversation, Kathryn took out two invitations—one for Audrey and one for Haitong.

“Cousin, Tongtong, Pedro and I have officially registered our marriage, and we’ve set a date for the wedding. It’ll be in half a month,” Kathryn said, her eyes filled with anticipation as she looked at Audrey. “Cousin, I hope you and your family can come celebrate with us.”

Audrey took the invitation, opened it briefly, then closed it and handed it to her husband.

Mr. Shang didn’t look at it, simply taking it from her.

Instead of immediately confirming whether she would attend, Audrey first asked about Kathryn’s health. She was relieved to learn that Kathryn’s injuries had healed and that the troubles in Jiangcheng had been resolved.

She also knew how well Pedro treated Kathryn.

After offering Pedro a few words of advice, Audrey finally said, “Tongtong probably won’t have given birth yet by then, so I’ll go with my husband. I can’t promise that Xiaofei and

her siblings will make it, though. They're really busy and might not be able to find the time."

Kathryn quickly nodded. "I understand. Just having you and my cousin-in-law there would make me really happy."

She had also brought plenty of gifts for Mr. Fei.

Mr. Fei knew Kathryn was innocent, but he still felt distant from her. To him, she was Feng Yue's biological daughter, and while she seemed to be doing well now, he wasn't sure what kind of person she would become in the future.

It was only after Kathryn willingly handed over the Feng family's leadership and assets to Liberty that Mr. Fei's opinion of her softened slightly. But he still didn't like her much.

Now, using exhaustion as an excuse, Mr. Fei retreated to his room, avoiding any interaction with Kathryn.

Kathryn had originally wanted to ask Audrey and her husband to bring Mr. Fei to her wedding, but after thinking it over, she didn't dare say it out loud.

After all, it was clear that Mr. Fei didn't like her.

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Secondly, Mr. Fei is elderly and in poor health. He relies on daily medication, which is specially prepared by the genius doctor and his apprentice. These medicines aren't available in regular pharmacies or hospitals.

I heard that the ingredients used to make them are incredibly rare. Most come from medicinal plants cultivated by the genius doctor and his apprentice, or they are collected by experienced herbalists from all over.

Mr. Fei is still alive today thanks to the unwavering support of his old friends, who go to great lengths to provide him with these precious medicinal herbs.

"Uncle Zhong won't be attending," Audrey suddenly said, as if reading Kathryn's thoughts. "He's old, and traveling long distances is inconvenient for him."

Kathryn nodded in understanding. "I know."

At that moment, Haitong spoke up. "I don't think I'll make it to your wedding either. Even going out feels exhausting these days."

Kathryn smiled and nodded. She had already expected this.

Whether Haitong could attend or not was her choice, but Kathryn still wanted to send her an invitation.

Zhan Yin added, “Tongtong is pregnant and due soon. I won’t be able to go either, but I’ll have someone send wedding gifts to Miss Feng and Mr. Fang on our behalf.”

“Thank you,” Kathryn said sincerely, then turned to Haitong with concern. “When’s your due date?”

“One more month.”

Kathryn nodded. As long as Haitong didn’t go into labor early, Audrey, her husband, and Liberty would be able to attend the wedding.

By the time Haitong gave birth, Kathryn and Pedro would likely be on their honeymoon.

She thought about it and decided that after the baby was born, she would give the red envelope and gifts she had prepared to Liberty, so she could bring them back for Haitong.

By the time Haitong’s baby turned one month old, Kathryn would have returned from her honeymoon—just in time to join the celebration.

“That’s right, I’ve always been this beautiful.”

Haitong playfully touched her face, pretending to admire herself.

Everyone laughed.

The group returned to the hall.

After some casual conversation, Kathryn took out two invitations—one for Audrey and one for Haitong.

“Cousin, Tongtong, Pedro and I have officially registered our marriage, and we’ve set a date for the wedding. It’ll be in half a month,” she announced with excitement.

She turned to Audrey, her eyes full of anticipation. “Cousin, I really hope you and your family can come celebrate with us.”

Audrey took the invitation, opened it for a quick look, then handed it to her husband.

Mr. Shang didn’t even glance at it—he simply took it and set it aside.

Instead of responding immediately, Audrey first asked about Kathryn’s health. She was relieved to hear that Kathryn had mostly recovered from her injuries and that the troubles in Jiangcheng had been resolved.

She also knew how much Pedro cherished Kathryn.

After offering Pedro a few words of advice, she finally said, “Tongtong won’t have given birth yet by then. My husband and I will come, but I can’t promise if Xiaofei and her siblings will be able to make it. They’re extremely busy and may not have time.”

Kathryn quickly nodded. “I understand. I’m just happy that you and your husband can be there.”

She had also brought many gifts for Mr. Fei this time.

Although Mr. Fei knew Kathryn was innocent, he always kept his distance from her. To him, she was Feng Yue’s biological daughter. While she was doing well now, he couldn’t be sure what kind of person she would become in the future.

It was only when Kathryn willingly gave up her position as the head of the Feng family—handing everything over to Liberty—that Mr. Fei’s opinion of her softened slightly. Even so, he still didn’t like her very much.

Now, using the excuse of being tired, Mr. Fei retreated to his room, avoiding Kathryn altogether.

Kathryn wanted to ask Audrey and her husband to bring Mr. Fei to the wedding, but after thinking it over again and again, she couldn’t bring herself to say it.

After all, it was clear that Mr. Fei still disliked her.

Mr. Fei was old and in poor health. He had to take medicine every day, but the pills he relied on were specially prepared by a renowned doctor and his apprentice. They weren’t available in regular pharmacies or hospitals.

It was said that the ingredients used to make those pills were extremely rare. Most were either grown by the doctor and his apprentice or gathered by experienced herbalists from remote places.

Mr. Fei was still alive thanks to the unwavering support of his old friends, who spared no expense to provide him with these precious medicinal herbs.

“Uncle Zhong won’t be attending,” Audrey suddenly said, as if reading Kathryn’s thoughts. “He’s old, and traveling such a long distance would be too difficult for him.”

Kathryn nodded in understanding. “I know.”

At that moment, Haitong spoke up. “I don’t think I’ll be able to attend either. Just going out tires me these days.”

Kathryn wasn’t surprised. She had expected this for a while.

Whether Haitong could come or not was entirely up to her, but Kathryn still wanted to send her an invitation.

Zhan Yin added, “Tongtong is due soon. I won’t be able to make it to the wedding, but I’ll make sure gifts are sent to Miss Feng and Mr. Fang.”

“Thank you,” Kathryn said sincerely. She then turned to Haitong and asked, “When’s your due date?”

“A month from now,” Haitong replied.

Kathryn nodded. As long as the baby didn’t arrive early, Audrey, her husband, and Liberty would still be able to attend the wedding.

By the time Haitong gave birth, Kathryn and Pedro would probably be on their honeymoon.

She decided that once the baby was born, she would send the red envelopes and gifts she had prepared through Liberty.

Since she would be back from her honeymoon by then, she could still join in celebrating the baby’s one-month milestone with a drink.

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“When you give birth, I’ll be on my honeymoon. When the time comes, I’ll prepare a gift and a red envelope for the baby, and your sister will bring it back. When your baby turns one month old, don’t forget to invite me for the full moon wine celebration—I want to share in the joy.”

Kathryn said sincerely, “I want to have a baby sooner.”

Hai Tong smiled. “Okay.”

Audrey invited Kathryn and her husband to stay for dinner.

After dinner, the couple left and returned to Jiangcheng.

Hai Tong stayed at the Shang residence until after eight in the evening before heading home with her husband.

Since Youyou Villa is far from the city, and Hai Tong is now in the late stage of pregnancy and could give birth at any moment, the young couple moved back to the city from the villa.

They settled in their home at Mingyuan Garden, which is closest to the hospital.

It was the same house they lived in when they first got married—the place where their relationship deepened.

Now that they've returned, aside from the old lady's occasional visits, it's just the two of them. To Hai Tong, Mingyuan Garden feels like her and Zhan Yin's true home.

The old lady had returned from the Su family.

When the couple arrived, she was sitting on the sofa watching TV, hugging a plush goose pillow.

Zhan Yin didn't bring the dogs and cats he usually kept. Ever since Hai Tong became pregnant, the pets were kept away to avoid any risk of toxoplasmosis—even though they regularly receive checkups and vaccinations.

Better safe than sorry.

The entire Zhan family is being very cautious.

The old lady used to cuddle her pet cat while watching TV. With no pets around now, she settles for hugging the plush goose pillow instead.

“Grandma.”

“Grandma.”

The couple walked in one after the other.

Seeing that the old lady was still awake, Hai Tong called out to her while walking over.

“Grandma, you're still up?”

The old lady smiled kindly. She stood up and looked at Hai Tong with affection. “You hadn't come home yet—how could Grandma sleep?”

“What took you so long?”

Hai Tong approached the old lady, gently took her arm, and the two of them sat down together.

“Kathryn and Mr. Fang got their marriage certificate and sent invitations to my aunt and me. My aunt invited her over for dinner. After dinner, I discussed some business with Xiaofei before heading back.”

“Actually, I came home quite early. Before I got married, I wouldn’t get home until after eleven most nights.”

Not to mention Zhan Yin, who often came home in the middle of the night.

“Kathryn and Pedro are married?”

The old lady said, “Pedro is a good choice. It’s best that she picked him. He’ll be loyal to her for life.”

The head of the Feng family will always have a loyal, capable assistant—someone who supports them in both life and death.

Spending so much time together naturally builds a bond. It’s unrealistic to say feelings don’t develop. Most end up attracted to the family head, but few actually get to marry the one they’re loyal to.

Kathryn and Pedro are the first couple to do so.

Even though Kathryn didn’t take over everything in the Feng family, she was once the designated successor.

Pedro is also an elite talent, trained at the All-Round Assistant Base.

He will stay loyal to Kathryn for life.

Kathryn married him without worrying he might ever change his heart.

“They’ve been in love for a long time,” Hai Tong added.

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Kathryn once said she only wanted a child, not a husband, and even considered borrowing a seed from Pedro. But things turned out well in the end. I hope she finds happiness for the rest of her life.

The old lady nodded, then looked at her granddaughter-in-law’s rounded belly with a tender gaze. “Tongtong, you’re a lucky star. Everyone who has a good relationship with you ends up happy.”

“That’s their own choice. They deserve their happiness. I don’t take credit for it,” Hai Tong replied.

The old lady smiled. Regardless, she believed her eldest grandson’s wife was indeed a lucky star.

Zhan Yin brought over two cups of warm water—one for each of the two most important women in his life.

“Wife, you said you were thirsty in the car. Have some water first,” he said.

Hai Tong took the cup of warm water.

The old lady said to Zhan Yin, “When you and Tongtong go out, remember to bring a thermos and water. That way, she can drink whenever she’s thirsty.”

“Grandma, we weren’t going far,” Zhan Yin explained.

“Even if it’s nearby, you should still be prepared. You didn’t think it through enough,” the old lady gently scolded.

She was the kind of person who only ever found fault with her grandson—never with her granddaughter-in-law.

Zhan Yin smiled. “Yes, yes, I didn’t think it through enough.”

As long as his wife’s needs weren’t met immediately, his grandmother would always lecture him the moment they got home.

“Go help Tongtong run her bath. I’ll chat with her for a bit. When it’s ready, come call her,” the old lady instructed.

Hai Tong said, “Grandma, I can run the bath myself.”

But whenever her husband was home, he always took care of it for her—drawing the bath, bringing her clothes, and if she allowed it, even helping her bathe.

This man looked after her in every possible way.

People who know Zhan Yin often say that it was Hai Tong who changed him.

No one had ever seen Zhan Yin’s gentle and thoughtful side before. He used to leave people with the impression of being cold and indifferent.

“If you let Zhan Yin go, then what’s the point of having a husband? Of course he should take care of you and be your support. If something happens, you should be able to rely on him. Otherwise, you’d always feel like your husband is useless.”

Hai Tong burst out laughing. “Grandma, Zhan Yin is your grandson. He won’t be happy if he hears you say that.”

Zhan Yin smiled wryly and said, “It’s fine. I’m used to it—I’ve gone numb.”

Their grandmother had always loved her granddaughter-in-law more than her grandson.

But without grandsons like him, how could she have a granddaughter-in-law?

“Wife, keep Grandma company and watch some TV. I’ll go get your clothes and run your bath. Do you want a midnight snack? If so, eat first before showering.”

“I don’t feel like eating. My stomach feels pushed up after just a little food. I’ve been out all day, and I’m a bit tired. I’ll just shower and go to bed early.”

Zhan Yin went back to the room.

The old lady watched him walk away, then turned to Hai Tong and said, “Tongtong, Yin’s really been trained well by you. I can hardly believe he’s my eldest grandson.”

“It’s all thanks to you, Grandma. I didn’t train him at all. He loves and pampers me sincerely.”

But the old lady was convinced that Hai Tong had trained her grandson well.

She said, “That’s why I say— a good husband needs to be trained. Of course, he must also truly love you.”

“You’re sure you don’t want a midnight snack? Pregnant women should eat small meals more often.”

“Not now. I ate a lot at my aunt’s house. She kept piling food onto my plate. Xiaofei nearly got jealous.”

Hai Tong gently touched her belly. “If I get hungry in the middle of the night, I’ll call Zhan Yin to cook for me.”

It wouldn’t be the first time she’d woken him up for a late-night snack.

“That’s fine. As long as you’re hungry and want to eat, you must eat your fill—no matter what time it is.”

“Don’t worry, Grandma. I won’t treat myself badly.”

The old lady smiled. “Grandma knows your personalities—and I really like them.”

At that moment, Zhan Yin came out of the room.

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“Grandma, while I was away, you spoke badly about me to my wife again.”

The old lady replied, “If you were doing well enough, who would have anything bad to say about you? If you’re still worried that Grandma might speak ill of you, it means you’re not doing well enough and need to work harder.”

“Haitong is about to give birth. Are you ready to be a father? You should ask Sunan for advice—he’s great with babies. The baby gained six to seven kilograms during the confinement period. That kind of growth in just a month is impressive.”

Compared to other thin babies, Shen Xiaojun’s son is chubby.

But not the unhealthy kind.

“Xiaojun was well cared for during her confinement. She looks healthy—you can tell she was taken care of properly. On the other hand, Sunan looks a bit thinner. Taking care of a newborn is exhausting.”

Newborns sleep when they’re full and wake to eat. If they’re breastfed, they often cry for food again within an hour. Formula-fed babies do slightly better.

In short, they need to be fed frequently. A newborn doesn’t know day from night—he’ll eat whenever he’s hungry.

It’s exhausting for the adults looking after him.

Zhan Yin said, “Grandma, once Tongtong gives birth, I’ll hand my current work over to my second and third brothers. They’re both married and just returned from their honeymoons.”

“There’s no good news from them yet, so for now, we can focus on the business.”

“When the time comes, I’ll do what Sunan did—take care of Tongtong and help raise the baby during the confinement period.”

If someone had said this a few years ago, Zhan Yin wouldn’t have believed it, even under threat.

He used to be a workaholic. Work always came first, and he would scold anyone who interfered with it.

But a few years later, President Zhan was actually saying he wanted to be by his wife’s side during her confinement.

No one could have predicted such a transformation.

When Shen Xiaojun gave birth, Sunan stayed by her side throughout her confinement. He not only took care of both mother and child but also shared the confinement meals with her.

If he hadn't, Shen Xiaojun might have put on a bit more weight.

Sometimes, Sunan would return to the company—but only for important meetings. He would rush home as soon as they were over.

Occasionally, Sunan would return to the company. At most, he would go back to attend an important meeting, then hurry home afterward.

Everyone at Zhan Group is saying that President Su has lost interest in work.

Some even whispered that, before long, their general would follow the same path.

The old lady nodded. "Tell the second and third sons to take on more responsibilities. The seventh and eighth have good experience, so we can assign them additional work."

"The one who's idle now is Laojiu. Once summer vacation starts, we'll place him in the company to learn and prepare for the future."

Jiu Shao, who was fully focused on preparing for the college entrance exam, trembled in fear.

He wasn't even an adult yet... well, he became one not long ago.

The school had held a coming-of-age ceremony and invited their parents to attend.

He was now eighteen—officially an adult.

How had time flown by so quickly? He remembered that when his eldest brother and sister-in-law got married, he was only fifteen or sixteen. Now, he was eighteen.

Once they become adults, they're treated like workhorses. Because the Zhan family is wealthy and powerful, and the nine brothers must share the load, they all bear heavy pressure.

Zhan Yin had no objections.

He hadn't been an adult yet and still had to go to the company during every winter and summer vacation to study—without pay.

After reaching adulthood, one had to continue working at the company to earn a salary, though it started at the lowest pay grade.

"Wife, the bathwater is ready. Go take a bath first."

Zhan Yin helped his pregnant wife up.

The old lady gestured for Haitong to shower first.

Once they entered the room, Zhan Yin asked gently, “Tongtong, do you need my help?”