

Married at First Sight Chapter 4401

“Mom, can we go to Aunt’s house to see my little brother?”

“Didn’t we just visit this morning?”

Yangyang said, “That’s why I want to go again. My little brother is so cute right now.”

“Alright, let’s go to your aunt’s house. If you want, you can stay overnight.”

“But you have kindergarten tomorrow. It takes a while to get back to the city from the villa, and you’ll need to wake up very early to avoid being late. So it’s better not to stay overnight—let’s head back early.”

Yangyang pouted and said, “I wish summer vacation would start already.”

Liberty rubbed his head and replied, “It’s still a little early, but summer break will come soon after Children’s Day.”

“Mom, we’re going to perform on Children’s Day. Will you come watch me?”

Without hesitation, Liberty said, “Of course. I’ll definitely come back to watch your performance.”

No matter how busy she was with work, she always tried to be there for anything related to her child, never wanting to let him down.

Yangyang smiled, content.

The family of three went to Youyou Villa to visit Haitong and her baby boy.

When she saw them arrive, Haitong said, “I thought you had already left for Jiangcheng.”

Her sister had mentioned that after recovering at home post-delivery, she would return to Jiangcheng for work and come back when the baby turned a month old.

“I was supposed to go today, but I’ve decided to leave tomorrow.”

She planned to wait until Yangyang left for kindergarten so he wouldn’t feel too sad.

Yangyang quietly went to see his sleeping little brother.

While the adults were distracted, he gently reached out and poked his brother’s cheek—carefully and softly—afraid that using too much strength might hurt him.

While the adults weren't paying attention, Yangyang reached out and gently poked his little brother's face, using only the lightest touch—he was afraid that pressing too hard might hurt him.

Sure enough, the little guy kept sleeping soundly.

Liberty and her sister chatted about Yangyang's earlier question—asking which park she had been swinging in—which made Haitong laugh.

After a while, Yangyang grew bored of watching his always-sleeping little brother and decided to head to the foot of the villa to play with his friends. He said goodbye to his mother and aunt, then ran off happily.

The family of three stayed at Youyou Villa until nightfall and returned to the city after dinner.

The rest of the evening passed in silence.

The next morning, Liberty personally dropped her son off at kindergarten. Afterward, she headed to the airport and flew to Jiangcheng.

Duncan remained in Wancheng for the time being. When he returned, he still had matters to handle at his company.

He planned to fly to Jiangcheng again in a couple of days.

After Haitong was discharged from the hospital, the young masters of the Zhan family gradually departed as well. Each had their own careers and life goals—especially Zhan Yiyang, who was still unmarried.

When he arrived in Haicheng, it was already past four in the afternoon. Instead of going home, he headed straight to the Du Group and waited at the company gate for Du Yumeng to finish work.

He even brought her a bouquet of flowers and a set of jewelry.

In the past, Du Yumeng only accepted flower bouquets and often refused other valuable gifts like jewelry.

Du Yumeng quickly realized that Zhan Yiyang had come.

For the first time, she left work early.

Zhan Yiyang had expected to wait until around six o'clock to see her. So when he saw her walking out earlier than expected, he was momentarily stunned, thinking he might be imagining it.

She was supposed to be going home for a few days, and although he had called and texted, she rarely replied. But now, knowing he was waiting at the gate, had she rushed out just to see him?

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Maybe, I just miss her.

Thinking that Du Yumeng might be missing him too, Zhan Yiyang's mood instantly lifted. All the exhaustion from his flight vanished. Smiling, he walked forward holding a bouquet of flowers.

"Yumeng."

Du Yumeng stepped out of the company building and stopped in front of him.

Zhan Yiyang gazed at her with tenderness in his eyes. He wanted to hug her, but didn't dare act impulsively.

After all, she hadn't agreed to be his girlfriend yet—she hadn't even admitted to being the Changeling Fox.

But ever since hearing the truth from his grandmother, Zhan Yiyang no longer fixated on whether she was really the mysterious fox. He was certain now—she had to be the one he liked. His grandmother wouldn't lie, and the hints from his brother and sister-in-law had been clear. He had just been too slow to put the pieces together.

His grandmother was a wise and capable woman. If she had chosen Du Yumeng, she must have known all her aliases.

So he simply needed to trust his grandmother.

According to his brothers, while their grandmother could be mischievous and loved teasing her grandchildren, she never took marriage matters lightly.

When choosing potential partners for her grandsons, she would thoroughly investigate—from gathering information through various channels to personally meeting the woman and assessing her character. Only after ensuring the person was truly good would she allow her grandsons to pursue them.

In fact, the reason his sister-in-law ended up saving his grandmother was due to his grandmother's scheme. She had deliberately fallen, waiting for Haitong to help her and take her to the hospital.

In today's society, many people are hesitant to help an elderly person who falls, even those from wealthy families, for fear of being scammed.

Haitong had thought of this at the time. She asked bystanders to take a video and made note of the nearby surveillance cameras before she dared to help the old woman and send her to the hospital.

Everyone is cautious these days, and Haitong was no exception. Coming from an ordinary background, she feared being falsely accused and losing everything if she couldn't prove her innocence.

Fortunately, the old lady had no intention of exploiting anyone. She simply took a liking to Haitong and wanted to find a way to connect with her.

And sure enough, just a few months later, Haitong and Zhan Yin got married. Sure enough, just a few months later, Haitong and Zhan Yin had a flash wedding.

To this day, Haitong still didn't know that the old lady had deliberately fallen, waiting for her to step in and help.

The old lady saw her as a savior and repaid her kindness generously—bringing her the happiness she enjoyed today.

“Yumeng, these flowers are for you.”

Zhan Yiyang offered the bouquet in his hands to Du Yumeng.

“And this jewelry set—I think it would look great on you. Please accept it. It's just a small gift from me.”

He then held out the jewelry box.

Du Yumeng looked at him silently for a moment before taking the bouquet. After a quick glance, she took the red gift bag and said, “I already have plenty of jewelry. You don't need to buy me more.”

“What you have is yours; what I give is mine.”

Zhan Yiyang was thrilled she accepted the gift. To him, it felt like a small but meaningful breakthrough.

It also seemed that after just a few days apart, her attitude toward him had softened. Maybe being away made her realize how much she missed him—that she might already love him and couldn't bear to be without him.

No, Du Yumeng had fallen for him last year. But he had failed her, forcing her to let go.

Now, he was determined to win her back, to make her fall in love with him again and give him another chance.

“Why are you smiling like that? Did you strike gold while you were away?”

Seeing him grin so foolishly, Du Yumeng couldn't help but tease.

Zhan Yiyang chuckled. “I just love seeing you smile, Yumeng. I missed you so much. A day without you feels like three years.”

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Du Yumeng gave him a sharp look. “I haven't seen you in a few days, and you're still the same—smooth-talking. I can't tell what's genuine and what's just empty flattery.”

“I don't dare believe you, Zhan Yiyang. I prefer mature, steady men—not ones who talk nonsense and make promises they don't keep.”

Zhan Yiyang quickly responded with a serious expression, “Yumeng, I am mature and steady. I'm not just being glib—I'm speaking from the heart.”

Wasn't he mature enough?

Zhan Yiyang honestly believed he was. In his mother's teasing words, he was nearly thirty—rounding up, that made him middle-aged.

“In a few years, I'll qualify as middle-aged,” he thought with a wry smile.

“Alright, I'm just teasing. You're so tense.” Du Yumeng couldn't help but laugh again. “When did you get here?”

Seeing how nervous he looked only made her more amused. He clearly cared how she saw him. The fact that her words could unsettle him showed just how much he loved her.

She no longer appeared before him in disguise as the fox. She wanted him to understand that the woman he loved was Du Yumeng—not some fantasy version of her.

She wanted him to love the real Du Yumeng.

“I just arrived,” he said. “Got off the plane and took a taxi straight here. I haven't even gone home yet.”

Du Yumeng looked him up and down. “You don't look tired at all.”

Zhan Yiyang: “.....”

“You came straight here after your flight and waited outside the office just to give me flowers and jewelry? Nothing else?”

Like treating her to dinner or watching a movie, perhaps?

Zhan Yiyang caught on immediately and said, “Of course I want to treat you to dinner! But it wasn’t time to get off work yet, and I know how busy you are, so I didn’t dare disturb you. I just waited here.”

“Yumeng, are you done for the day? If you’re free, let’s go to the hotel now. By the time we order, it’ll be just about dinner time.”

And if it’s a little early, well—there’s nothing wrong with that either.

It wouldn’t hurt to have dinner a bit earlier.

Du Yumeng smiled and said, “Wait here for me. I’ll head back to the office and get my car.”

With that, she turned around and walked back inside, carrying the bouquet and the red gift bag holding the jewelry set.

Zhan Yiyang was briefly stunned, then replied cheerfully, “Okay, I’ll wait right here.”

She didn’t reject him.

In the past, if he asked her to dinner ten times, she’d only agree two or three.

Most of the time, she declined.

She would say she was busy, had client dinners scheduled, and couldn’t make time for him.

Once, he even followed her shamelessly to the Haicheng Hotel, only to find she really was entertaining clients.

Being a businessman himself, he understood the demands and compromises involved in doing business.

He empathized with her and felt a deep sense of pity.

He vowed that once he successfully won her over, he would love her, cherish her, and spoil her for the rest of her life—never letting her work so hard or suffer so much again.

She had so many cousins. There was no reason she should carry all the burdens alone. She wasn’t even the Du family’s heir.

After Du Yumeng returned to the company, Zhan Yiyang remained waiting outside. Just two minutes later, a black Mercedes pulled up beside him.

He instinctively turned to look and saw Xiang Yang lower the window. With a half-smile, he said, “Still waiting outside, Fourth Young Master Zhan? Has Meng Meng kicked you out again? Want a ride? I can take you in.”

“I can come and go freely at the Du Group,” Zhan Yiyang replied coolly.

After all, he was Mrs. Du’s godson—and Yumeng’s brother.

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His company and the Du Group had recently established a partnership, and he was the person in charge of managing the collaboration.

As a result, Xiang Yang frequently visited the Du Group to discuss project matters.

Zhan Yiyang had to admit—he was indeed a bit envious of Xiang Yang’s ability to come and go freely at the Du Group.

He still needed permission to enter.

Other visitors at least made it to the front desk before being stopped; he was halted right at the entrance.

Still, today, Xiang Yang’s words didn’t trigger any jealousy in Zhan Yiyang.

He politely declined the offer and said, “Mr. Xiang, please go ahead. I’ll wait here for Yumeng. She just went to get her car. We’ll be heading to the Haicheng Hotel for dinner shortly.”

“Oh?” Xiang Yang raised an eyebrow. “Mengmeng’s free to have dinner with you now? Isn’t it still work hours? I actually came to see her about something urgent. I’m afraid she may not be able to leave just yet.”

Zhan Yiyang instantly regretted blurting that out. Why did I say anything so soon?

He replied quickly, “You can speak to someone else. Sister Du should be able to help.”

The eldest Du daughter was Yumeng’s cousin, and Zhan Yiyang respectfully called her “Sister Du.”

Xiang Yang said, “But Yumeng has always been my contact. President Du isn’t too familiar with the project details.”

“I’ll find Mengmeng first. Once we wrap up our business talk, the three of us can head to dinner. My treat.”

He said it on purpose.

Although he was there for work, it wasn’t essential to meet with Du Yumeng.

He simply didn’t like how quickly Zhan Yiyang was earning her forgiveness and making progress in pursuing her.

His own love life had been far from smooth, and seeing Zhan Yiyang succeed so easily irritated him.

Yes, he was a little jealous of Zhan Yiyang.

Zhan Yiyang came from such a good family—it was enough to make anyone envious. Zhan Yiyang’s family background was so strong that even Xiang Yang couldn’t help feeling envious and jealous.

The Zhan family had numerous in-laws, all connected to influential and affluent families. If the Zhan family ever faced difficulties, any one of those relatives could step in to help.

It was nothing like the situation he and A Yan were in—good things take time, he reminded himself with a sigh.

After realizing his feelings for A Yan, Xiang Yang confessed to her via WeChat and phone, making it clear that he saw her as a potential partner, not a sister.

But A Yan replied that they were no longer a suitable match. Although her family’s troubles had eased somewhat, they were far from fully resolved.

That relief had only come thanks to assistance from the Du Group’s overseas branches.

A Yan was deeply grateful to her godmother, Mrs. Du, and her godsister, Du Yumeng.

Mrs. Xiang, also her godmother, had distanced herself from A Yan’s family when they hit financial trouble. She offered no support, and Xiang Yang’s efforts to help privately had earned him scoldings from his parents.

Mrs. Xiang even reached out to A Yan directly, warning her that she was no longer worthy of Xiang Yang and should stay away.

Rumors spread that Xiang Yang had returned to China to build his career, and that his future wife would come from one of Haicheng’s elite families. The only thing left unsaid was that he would marry Du Yumeng.

But Du Yumeng didn't love Xiang Yang—she only saw him as an older brother.

While the Du family never voiced their opinion openly, it was obvious they favored Zhan Yiyang.

Compared to the Xiang family, the Zhan family was a better match for Du Yumeng in every way.

Their values and reputation far surpassed those of the Xiang family.

Even a fool would choose the Zhan family.

Besides, Du Yumeng genuinely loved Zhan Yiyang.

Xiang Yang still saw her as a sister, but when he watched Zhan Yiyang enjoying the happiness he longed for, he couldn't help feeling jealous. And he wasn't the only one—there were surely many others envious of Zhan Yiyang too.

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Xiang Yang was about to drive into the Du Group when he saw Du Yumeng's car pulling out.

Recognizing his car, Du Yumeng also stopped. She honked, signaling to ask whether she or Xiang Yang should give way.

Xiang Yang yielded. He pulled his car to the side, allowing Du Yumeng to drive out. Then he got out and walked toward her vehicle.

"Mengmeng, where are you heading? Haven't you finished work yet?"

Xiang Yang asked knowingly, pretending he had just arrived.

Du Yumeng got out of her car as well. She replied, "Brother Xiang Yang, I'm leaving early today. I've handed over my tasks to others, so you'll need to find someone else to assist you."

"Yi Yang just arrived. I'm going to have dinner with him."

Xiang Yang said, "Can't we wait until after work to eat together? I'll treat you."

"Where did Fourth Young Master Zhan go? Did he just arrive? I thought he'd been waiting here for a while, and I was going to take him inside to find you."

Du Yumeng smiled and said, “Sister Tong gave birth. Yi Yang went back to visit—it’s his first nephew, and he really cherishes him.”

“Now that Sister Tong has been discharged and is recuperating at home, Zhan Yiyang has come over. The Zhan Group plans to invest in Haicheng, and he’s leading the project.”

Xiang Yang already knew this.

He also knew that Du Yumeng’s heart was completely with Zhan Yiyang.

Although the Du family had been upset after Zhan Yiyang previously rejected Yumeng, they didn’t seem to hold it against him after he ended up in the hospital coughing from eating chili peppers during a live broadcast.

Clearly, the Du family favored Zhan Yiyang. The Zhan family’s power was immense, and Zhan Yiyang himself was exceptional.

Xiang Yang couldn’t help but feel even more envious and resentful.

“Brother Xiang Yang, you can just look for Vice President Lin. He and I are both handling the cooperation with your company. Since I’m not around, you can work with him.”

She was clearly hinting.

“Is that so? All right, then. Would you mind if I joined you two for dinner? My work isn’t that urgent.”

“Is that so? All right, then. Do you mind if I join you for dinner? Work isn’t urgent.”

Xiang Yang intentionally wanted to be a glaring third wheel.

Du Yumeng hesitated briefly but declined his request. She said, “Brother Xiang Yang, Zhan Yiyang just arrived, and I have a lot to discuss with him. It’s fine if you come along, but you mustn’t interrupt us while we’re talking.”

“To avoid making things awkward for you, it’s probably better if you don’t come with us.”

“Maybe another time.”

She smiled and added, “I’ll treat you to a meal another day. Or you could come to my house for dinner this weekend. My mom often asks about you. Since our companies are working together, she keeps saying that next time she sees you, she wants to invite you over for a meal.”

“She even said that if you’re coming, to let her know in advance—she’ll personally cook all your favorite dishes.”

Xiang Yang smiled. “Godmother is so thoughtful. I’ll turn down all my appointments this weekend and spend the day at your place.”

“Great, I’ll let my mom know.”

Xiang Yang nodded. Although her godmother clearly favored Zhan Yiyang, she was still kind and warm toward her godson.

He had been busy with work lately and hadn’t visited the Du family in a while.

His own mother often reminded him to drop by the Du family’s house whenever he had the chance—to chat with his godmother, talk about family matters, and maintain his presence in front of her and the rest of the family.

Xiang Yang nodded again. “Then I won’t keep you. Go enjoy your dinner.”

Du Yumeng smiled once more and waved at Zhan Yiyang.

While she had been talking with Xiang Yang, Zhan Yiyang was tactful enough not to approach. He gave her space and didn’t eavesdrop on their conversation.

He could tell that Yumeng had no romantic feelings for Xiang Yang.

No matter how Xiang Yang tried to act, Zhan Yiyang simply saw it as putting on a performance.