

## Marry Me Quick Novel Online Free - Chapter 645 – 650

### Chapter 645 The Inconvenience

Ziyue was amused, looking at his mischievous expression, “Why are you making it so secretive? It’s not like we’re onto any dirty plan but a short island getaway.”

Muchen said earnestly all of a sudden, “I don’t want anyone to interrupt us.” She was taken aback and moved by his somber reaction, “Mm.”

Muchen was infatuated by her coy concord and gave her a peck on the lips, but a peck was not enough. He pulled her into his arms.

Ziyue was reluctant, “Um... there are people around...”

They were in business class. Although the other passengers couldn’t see what they were doing from their seats, it was still a public place.

Muchen ignored Ziyue’s unwillingness and pulled her to him, shrouding her petite body with his steady build.

Ziyue was relieved that Muchen was sensible enough to know when to stop and not create a scene.

Before letting go of her, he naughtily bit her lip to express his displeasure.

Muchen quietly panted, “Inconvenient.”

Ziyue slapped his arm as she felt embarrassed by his teasing. But Muchen seized her hand and kissed her lips, saying, “Next time, we’ll have to take a private jet. Just the two of us. We can do whatever we want.”

Ziyue widened her eyes in disbelief and warned, “Let go!”

Before this, she thought he needed a break after overworking himself. But after seeing his sleazy behavior, she was annoyed at herself for being naïve to worry for him.

He continued asking, as if he didn’t hear her objection, “I’m serious. What do you think?”

“I think your mind is filthy thinking about all the nonsense!” Ziyue replied with a hum, then looked away.

Muchen looked at her delicate profile and smoothed out her cascading hair.

Ziyue’s hair used to be wavy. But this year, she didn’t have time to treat her hair at the hair salon and only managed to trim it to look neat.

Her hair was still long but gradually returned to its natural straightness. She looked even more demure with her naturally straight long hair.

Muchen couldn’t quite remember what Ziyue was like when they argued in the past.

But no matter her behavior and looks, she was still his favorite.

As he continued staring at her, he couldn’t help but reminisce about their tender moments in the past.

After a five-hour flight, they arrived at their destination. Muchen had booked a

hotel in advance, although he didn't bring anything.

It wasn't exactly a hotel, though.

This island wasn't a popular tourist spot, nor was it well-developed.

The population was scarce, and there weren't many tourists. Although there were a few hotels on the island, they were subpar.

Fishing was the primary source of income for most of the locals.

The island was a paradise with abundant tropical fruit crop production, marine products, and pleasant weather.

The accommodation Muchen had booked blew Ziyue's mind.

It was a simple double-story cabin on the beach, but the well-manicured plants in the courtyard made the environment feel conducive and relaxing.

"I looked up the other hotels, but they had no unique features and subpar ambiance. I came across this cabin by chance and thought you would like it, so I contacted them." Muchen stood beside her and explained, "I didn't expect the owner to agree to rent it to us. Do you like it?"

Ziyue hummed and nodded. She loved it.

"Mr. Qin!" The owners of the cabin, a very amiable elderly couple, suddenly appeared. Ziyue was surprised when she saw they were of familiar ethnicity and spoke a mutual language.

"Are you also from Country Z?" Ziyue was delighted to meet her fellow countrymen abroad. She felt like she was home.

"Yes, we were from Country Z. When Mr. Qin contacted us, we agreed because he was sincere, and you are also from Country Z. You are a beautiful couple. Is this your wife?" The grey-haired old lady asked. Her eyes were bright, and she looked very spirited.

Muchen replied, "Yes, this is my wife."

"Just call me Ziyue, Grandma." The old lady looked friendly, and Ziyue liked her.

The old lady squinted at Ziyue and complimented, "Good, good! Very good!"

Then, she took her hand and led her inside, "Come on in. You must be tired and hungry after a long flight. I've prepared some food for you. After you eat, take a shower and rest. Then, we'll go fishing at sea..."

The old lady was in top form, judging by her radiance and agile movement.

Ziyue felt light-hearted and reckoned she must have been an exuberant person in her younger days.

After walking some distance, the old lady patted her head and turned to Muchen, who was following them, "Hey, boy. Follow my husband to get the clothes and toiletries we've prepared for you."

Ziyue couldn't help but burst out laughing. Boy?

She had never heard anyone call Muchen boy before. She turned to look at him and saw that he froze and looked somewhat bewildered.

Ziyue also followed suit but in a teasing tone, "Boy, quickly go get the things." Muchen narrowed his eyes and mouthed at Ziyue to call him hubby. Ziyue raised her chin, snorted at him, and left with the old lady.

Though the old lady was spirited, all her senses were deteriorating.

Her cooking tasted inconsistent. Some of the food was too bland, and some too salty.

But Ziyue and Muchen were very understanding and didn't make a fuss. They quietly finished the food made by the old lady.

After they finished eating, Muchen complimented, "It tasted great. Thank you, Grandma."

Ziyue was a little surprised. It was rare to see Muchen so docile and gentle.

In their room, Ziyue stated, "You seem to like Grandma a lot."

Muchen kept quiet and was busy organizing the things he had picked up from the old lady earlier.

He had asked the old couple to get these necessities for them beforehand.

Although Muchen told her the couple had helped them with the purchase, in actuality, it was he who personally sought a clothing store on the island, contacted them, and had them delivered to the old lady's house.

After a while, Muchen finally said, "They are kind people."

He spoke monotonously, but Ziyue could sense the nuance in his voice. It was rare to see Muchen so emotionally expressive.

Ziyue hugged him from behind, "If you like it here, we can come and visit more often. I like it here, too."

After saying this, there was no response from Muchen.

"I'm talking to you."

"Mmm."

Chapter 646 She Does Know How to Give Orders

They had their meal and went to shower before resting in their room.

By the time they woke up, it was already dusk.

Ziyue checked the time on her handphone and realized it was almost five.

As they neared the end of summer, the weather was no longer scorching hot when it turned five o'clock in the evening.

Muchen was in deep slumber, not showing signs of waking up anytime soon.

Ziyue moved his hands away from her waist softly and discreetly without waking him up. She then lifted the quilt to get out of bed.

A gust of wind blew into the room when she opened the windows.

The pleasant air breeze felt refreshing to the touch. She decided to open all the other windows to let the cold wind in and turned off the air conditioner.

After that, she turned around to look at Muchen. He was still fast asleep.

She went to the bedside and stared at him for a short moment before changing out of her old clothes and going downstairs.

It was a modest house with a warm and welcoming interior. They stayed on the second floor, while the old couple stayed on the first. Their legs were weak, so it was difficult for them to climb the stairs. Moreover, they were not keen on walking upstairs.

“This hasn’t ripened. Why did you pick it?”

“That’s impossible! It’s not sour anymore. We just had it yesterday.”

“The one I ate was sour.”

“Why do you have such picky taste buds?”

“Old coot!”

Ziyue walked down to the first floor and heard a commotion happening. She could tell from the voices that it was the old married couple.

She followed the source of the noise and saw them picking pears underneath a pear tree.

The pear tree was huge. The old married couple was too long in the tooth to climb the pear tree. Hence, they made a tool specially used to pick the fruit. It was a long pole with a sickle tied to the end. Directly underneath the sickle was a basket that could catch the pear as soon as it was cut with the sickle. Ziyue was amused by the tool.

“Grandma Qi, what are you doing?” Muchen had previously mentioned to her that the old grandpa had the surname Qi.

“Yueyue, come over here! We’re picking some pears. They’re really sweet.”

As soon as Grandma Qi saw her, she waved at her enthusiastically.

Ziyue was momentarily stunned with the nickname Grandma Qi had called her by. After a while, she finally regained her senses and walked towards her.

“Weren’t you saying that they were too sour just now?” Grandpa Qi was strenuously picking the pears and couldn’t help but sneer at her sudden change of attitude.

Hearing his interjections, Grandma Qi glared at him and said, “Don’t talk nonsense.”

Grandpa Qi pouted his lips and murmured silently to himself before he continued to pick the pears.

Ziyue was humored by the way the old couple interacted. She found them adorable.

She noticed that Grandpa Qi was struggling to pick the pears. So Ziyue walked nearer to him and offered to help, “Grandpa Qi, let me help you.”

“How would a young lady like you know how to do these things? Let me do it.”

Grandpa Qi was firmly opposed to letting her pick the pears.

“Don’t worry. I have good eyesight, and it isn’t difficult.” It didn’t look too difficult for an inexperienced person like herself.

Grandpa Qi gazed at her in disbelief. “If you could pick a pear, I’ll bring you to the sea to catch fish tomorrow.”

When Grandma Qi heard how he challenged her, she slapped his back and reprimanded him, "What nonsense are you saying? How could a young lady go to the sea? Also, what will you do out there with your frail body?"

The old couple kept bickering with each other, but the atmosphere was warm and cozy.

Ziyue heart fluttered with a sudden thought. How great would it be if she could spend her golden age with Muchen in a place with a beautiful landscape like this?

They both ended up getting into another round of bickering while conversing with each other

Ziyue walked over without saying anything and took over Grandpa Qi in picking the pears.

The old couple was too focused on their conversation. After a short while, they finally realized that Ziyue had already started picking the fruit. They anxiously advised her, "Be careful and hold onto the pole firmly. Make sure you don't trip."

"I'm okay."

Ziyue was clenching her jaws as she held onto the pole. It looked easy when she observed it from afar.

However, she could feel the strain in her arms and was slowly losing balance.

"Be careful!"

Grandpa Qi was as agile as a squirrel when he caught the pole, preventing her from tripping.

"I'll do it."

This time, Ziyue didn't try to refute him. She let him take the reigns as she sat by the side, peacefully eating her pears.

These pear trees were all planted by Grandma Qi. Every fruit was extraordinarily fresh and had no harmful pesticides, like the ones sold at the grocer. Ziyue couldn't help herself and munch on the juicy pears.

"Ziyue!"

Suddenly, Muchen's voice traveled into the garden.

Ziyue, who had just taken a bite of the pear, quickly replied to Muchen as soon as she heard his voice, "Muchen, we're picking pears in the garden."

After a while, Muchen walked out of the house and into the garden.

He was amazed by the sight of a lady sitting on a rock as she nibbled a pear.

Occasionally, she would steal a glance at Grandpa Qi picking pears from the tree; the corner of her lips lifted into a meaningful smile as she made her observations known. The lush greenery surrounded them on all sides, the air leaving a pleasant taste in their mouths. In Muchen's eyes, they were the very picture of a nostalgic fairy tale from a bygone era.

As soon as she lifted her head, Ziyue saw him.

He hadn't changed out of his old clothes, and his hair looked long as he hadn't trimmed them for a long time. His messy hair showed that he was in a rush to find her when he realized she was not in bed.

Ziyue scampered to him with the pear in one hand and made him follow her by grabbing his hand with her other hand. "Quick, give a hand to Grandpa Qi." Muchen sauntered behind her. He tilted his head and saw her lips covered with pear juice. He then murmured, "She does know how to give orders."

Ziyue giggled and shoved the pear into his mouth. "Try some. It's delicious." Muchen arched his brows and scoffed, "The skin's not peeled."

Ziyue was about to reply, "It's fine if you don't want it," but Muchen took the pear and rotated it to take a bite of the part that Ziyue had nibbled on before. A flush crept up on Ziyue's face at his bold actions.

It was usual for them to share a pear, but she had angled it so he could take a bite from the part she hadn't eaten. Nevertheless, he purposely ate the part she had bitten. And he did it in front of the old couple.

The heat on her cheeks grew warmer.

"It's sweet. Not bad." Muchen munched on the pear and passed the remaining pear to her. He walked straight to Grandpa Qi and offered him help, "How many more do you need? Let me help you."

Ziyue was dumbfounded, and she stayed silent.

She had to accept that she wasn't good at picking pears.

Muchen was tall and strong. Even though the pole was long, it didn't bother him at all.

Besides the first few failed attempts, he had easily picked the rest of the pears.

The sun was sinking below the horizon when Grandma Qi finally said, "We'll return home to prepare dinner. Two of you can have fun outside. I'll get the old man to call you when dinner's ready."

Before they could reply, Grandma Qi had already pulled Grandpa Qi to the house, leaving them to stare in bewilderment at each other.

"Why do I feel like Grandma Qi treats us like kids?" Ziyue muttered. She felt awkward after the old folks abruptly left them alone.

Chapter 647 Couldn't Persuade Him Otherwise

Muchen looked unamused by the way the old couple treated them. "If they had kids, they would be older than us. So aren't you still a kid in their eyes?"

Ziyue curiously asked a question, "Do they have children?"

It seemed like a heartwarming way to spend their golden age in this place.

However, humans are social animals. Everyone lives within a community, has families, and connects with others in society. Although people often say they want to have a peaceful life after they retire, how many of them could stay on a remote island far away from their families and friends?

After all, she wouldn't be willing to stay in Country J forever. Yunzhou City was the place she was born and grew up in. She was most familiar with the city where her friends and family were. But the Su Family was not worth mentioning, albeit her current thoughts. She believed everyone would want to live where they feel a stronger sense of belonging and connection. Muchen contemplated for a while, pondering over Ziyue's question. "I went into their room when I was looking for you just now, and I saw an old picture of them with a young man. It should be their son." "They have a son?" Ziyue was puzzled by the new-found information. "He has passed away. I learned about it when I did a background check on them." Their trip here was kept a secret. They didn't let anyone know or bring anyone else with them. Despite their secrecy, they still had to take utmost precautions. Before he arrived, he had already looked through information about the old couple. Ziyue sighed helplessly, "I see." Two old parents who lost their child living on a small island. When they are no longer mobile, there wouldn't be anyone left to take care of them. Muchen turned around to look at Ziyue. Then, with a heavy heart and solemn voice, he said, "Life doesn't always go the way we want, nor can anyone be fully satisfied with their life." His tone was layered with emptiness and despair as if a sudden wave of grief had overcome him. Ziyue wasn't sure if he was trying to cheer her up or if he was recalling unpleasant memories. Ziyue held his arms tightly and said, "Why do you look so down? That's not how you normally are." Muchen raised his brows and replied, "You are feeling down, not me." "Then why did you say that life doesn't always go as we wish and that no one can be fully satisfied with their life? Are you telling me you're not satisfied with your life? Am I not enough for you? So you need to find another woman?" Ziyue questioned him with a gaze that could cut through steel. She then pinched his waist with her long and slim fingers. However, discreetly, her eyes were widening in anticipation of Muchen's subsequent actions. Finally, when Muchen extended his arms to hug her, she stood up swiftly and pushed him into the water. As Muchen fell into the water, she ran away toward the shore as fast as she could. "I saw Grandpa Qi walking towards us. He's going to ask us to return home for dinner. I'll leave first! Haha!" Ziyue was cackling with joy as she skipped towards the cabin.

Hmph! She was outraged when he tossed her in the water.

She had to take her revenge!

Muchen stood up and stared at the back of Ziyue, who was already with Grandpa Qi. After she spoke to Grandpa Qi, he turned around to wave to Muchen and left the beach with Ziyue.

Muchen shifted his gaze to his drenched body and let out a flustered smile. A ripple formed around him as if a stone had been thrown into the peaceful lake.

Within a split second, his smile was replaced by a mixed emotion of tranquility and gloom.

He walked back to shore with his head hanging.

The skies were turning darker. Before he could reach the cabin, night had fallen.

Muchen looked like a lost child as he stood in darkness.

Night. Alone. These alarming nouns suddenly seeped into his mind.

He stayed where he was without moving.

His clothes were completely drenched, but he didn't feel cold when the wind blew.

His heart felt icy cold.

"Muchen!"

Suddenly, a bright light shone at him, and the familiar voice of Ziyue slowly neared.

Muchen snapped out of his gloomy thoughts as if he was woken up from a nightmare. Then, in anticipation, he walked forward and called her name, "Ziyue?"

"Why did you take so long? Grandma Qi has already prepared dinner, and everyone's waiting for you! Don't tell me you're pissed at me and don't want to return to the cabin?" Ziyue initially doubted it but slowly realized it could be true, knowing how petty he was.

Muchen grasped her hands tightly and took the flashlight away. While he stared at her delicate facial features, a thousand emotions flooded across his face as if he had something he wanted to tell her. Eventually, he swallowed down his words.

He turned around and knelt in front of her. "Get on."

He wanted to carry her on his back.

Ziyue was startled by his request and quickly shook her head. "Don't bother. I can walk by myself."

Muchen replied, "It's dark, and there are no street lights."

Isn't there a torchlight?

However, Ziyue couldn't persuade him otherwise.

Chapter 648 You'll Get to See Zixi Soon

Ziyue leaned steadily on his back. She shined the torchlight to guide him back to the cabin.

Muchen's clothes naturally dried themselves from the sea breeze.

"You can let me down now. We'll head back faster if I walk by myself." Ziyue worried he would catch a cold in the breezy night weather.

However, Muchen was as stubborn as a cow.

"We'd reach the cabin in no time if I carried you on my back as well."

Muchen immediately quickened his pace.

Ziyue felt that Muchen was exceptionally competitive and stubborn today. He wouldn't let anyone else have it their way.

He was fine when they first arrived on the island. But what happened?

"What happened to you?" Ziyue mulled over his odd behavior before asking him.

As she turned to look at him, the light on the torchlight started to sway.

His gorgeous side profile looked delicate in the slight shimmer of light.

Ziyue couldn't resist giving him a peck on his cheek.

Muchen suddenly froze.

Before Ziyue could say anything, he had put her down and calmly said to her, "We're here."

Ziyue finally realized the place they arrived at was the garden entrance of Grandma Qi's cabin.

They could faintly hear the conversation between Grandma Qi and Grandpa Qi.

"Why haven't they come back?"

"They're a young couple who have lots of energy. Let them play around for longer."

"Old coot, why are you still so immature at this age?"

"That's not what I meant."

Ziyue felt her cheeks turn red when she overheard their conversation.

Why did his words make her feel like they did something inappropriate or shameful?

"Let's go inside!" She pulled Muchen's hand.

She couldn't tell if Muchen had heard their conversation. In the next moment, he held her hands tightly.

Ziyue wouldn't let him hold her hand, so she immediately flung his hands away. "I'll go in on my own. Hurry up and come in."

She scampered towards the garden with her hands covering her face as she felt the heat rising in her cheeks.

Luckily, the old couple didn't tease them at the table.

Ziyue understood that they had no ill intentions, and their innocent banter earlier was only a playful remark.

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The next day, Grandpa Qi wanted to take them to the sea.

The faces of Ziyue and Muchen were masked with confusion as they stared at each other. Even though they wanted to go to the sea, it could be strenuous for Grandpa Qi, despite his fit appearance.

Ziyue had never seen Muchen in a straw hat and tacky clothes. Even though it didn't suit his style, it didn't affect his overflowing charisma.

Ziyue stared at him in admiration. As she walked closer to him, she said softly, "You're the most good-looking fisherman I've ever seen."

Muchen raised his brows, "There's no point complimenting me. I've never tried fishing before."

"I'm genuinely impressed by you. It's not to pressure you," Ziyue said with a pouty face as she felt wrongly accused.

Muchen bit his lips, and he looked far across the sea. He held onto her shoulders and pointed to the front, "Do you see it?"

"What is it?" Ziyue's gaze followed the direction he pointed in, but she didn't notice anything special other than the vast sea.

She thought Muchen fooled her. Ziyue got irritated and held her fist towards him, "That's enough!"

"Dolphin." Muchen swiftly held onto her fist and lifted her chin with his other hand to make her look closely.

Ziyue focused her eyes on the vast sea. As the boat moved further towards the sea, her vision of the sea expanded. Suddenly, her eyes widened as she squealed excitedly, "It's really a dolphin! I've only seen them in the aquarium!"

Muchen turned his head to gaze at her. A warm smile spread across his face when he saw her excitement overflow, looking as if she was about to jump around in joy. However, his smile was short-lived as his expression turned solemn the next second.

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Everyone on the boat was focused on experiencing the fun at sea instead of catching fish. Nonetheless, with the fish they caught, they could enjoy another dish at the table while keeping the remaining catch inside the pond for their meal some other day.

Among everyone there, Ziyue seemed most excited and astounded by the view, like a kid that had just ventured out of their house for the very first time. In that way, they spent several days here walking by the seaside, swimming, picking fruits, and helping the old couple care for their vegetables. Their days were mundane and ordinary.

However, Ziyue had never felt this wholesome and satisfied before.

She would hope for Zixi to be here whenever she had time to herself.

If only their family could be together...

Muchen was quick-witted. He knew she was thinking of Zixi when she started to space out.

He told her, "You'll get to see Zixi soon."

Chapter 649 Important Person

Ziyue finally returned to her senses. She wasn't sure when Muchen had started standing behind her.

"What did you say?" She wasn't sure if she had heard him right.

However, Muchen didn't say a word.

Ziyue held onto his hand, pestering him to reveal the truth, "Tell me honestly, do you have a plan?"

"What do you think?" Muchen wouldn't answer her straightforwardly. Instead, he gave her a vague answer that kept her on edge.

Ziyue's eyes lit up with a glint of hope. Muchen had mentioned something similar several times in the past.

He wouldn't lie to her. He was confident it would work out if he were to bring this topic up.

Ziyue tip-toed and gave a light peck on his lips; she couldn't conceal her excitement as she looked at him with glimmering eyes, "Thank you!"

Muchen wrapped his arms around her waist and pulled her closer as he kissed her.

Their lips parted apart as he gave her a deep, long kiss.

It was supposed to be a sweet moment, but Ziyue could feel a twinge of despair and earnest longing from their kiss.

Muchen wouldn't let her out of his embrace, even after their lips drew apart from each other. He was hugging her tightly as if they were conjoined twins.

An epiphany came upon Ziyue.

He was hiding something from her, and it wasn't a simple problem.

During the past few days, he had occasionally stared at her wistfully as if he was spacing out. She thought that he was feeling too tired and needed time to recuperate.

However, seeing how it happened repeatedly, she was sure something was up.

She knew more than anyone that Muchen was always levelheaded and cautious.

Therefore, his unpredictable actions must have been caused by something significant for him to behave this way.

He tried his best to remain composed as he wanted to conceal the truth from her. But it must have been weighing a heavy burden on his heart.

It had been three years since she first met him in Lumiere Jade House.

As someone who had been through thick and thin with him, it was hard to miss these obvious signs.

Even though Muchen had his walls up, he would only let his guard down in front of Ziyue. That was how she got closer to his inner thoughts and feelings. However, if he was determined to build these walls again to hide the truth from her, there would be no way for her to discern his thoughts.

Ziyue leaned onto him and reached out her arms to wrap around his waist.

She gently asked, "Are you also thinking of Zixi?"

She moved closer to him to give him a warm and comforting embrace. She knew he would feel better with her presence.

Ziyue immediately denied, "No, I'll go."

It was unexpected for Muchen to ask her for help. Of course, she would agree to help him without any hesitation.

After hearing her answer, Muchen lifted the corner of his lips as he led her by her waist toward the exit.

Ziyue looked at him in amusement as they walked together. His eyes were lit up with a childlike glee.

A sense of relief washed over Ziyue. His worries must've stemmed from this business partnership. That was why he acted strangely the past few days.

But what kind of business partnership could make Muchen this happy?

Since she had known him, she had never seen him overjoyed by a business endeavor.

Although puzzled with a million thoughts, she had to bury them aside when they reached the hotel.

The company gathering involved all the management staff.

Muchen wanted to reward everyone's hard work for working overtime throughout the past few weeks, so he chose the best hotel in the city. Since it was located in Country J's capital city, the hotel was also the best in the country.

Muchen was filthy rich; his spending here would be considered trivial to him.

Nevertheless, it made everyone there thrilled to bits.

A smile lit up the corners of Ziyue's lips after witnessing the delighted faces of everyone else around her.

An employee offered a toast to Muchen, but Ziyue refused the person as she remembered he had an ongoing stomach problem and couldn't drink alcohol.

"His stomach is still recuperating, so he can't drink. Can he toast with water instead?"

Ziyue was the president's wife. As she rejected him politely, the person naturally accepted the request.

However, Muchen waved his hands in disagreement as he said, "It's alright. I can take this much."

Ziyue refuted him softly, "Muchen."

Muchen stood up and whispered in Ziyue's ears, "It's too happy of an occasion to refuse a drink. My stomach hasn't bothered me recently anyways. I'll be alright, darling."

His last word lingered for a few moments.

Usually, he called her by her full name and rarely called her 'darling.' He had a good voice, so when he purposely lowered his voice to call her 'darling,' it sounded alluring and coy.

How could Ziyue reject him? She turned her head to the other side and tried to keep her calm while she sipped her juice. She turned back and saw him staring at her as he waited for her permission. She felt the heat rising in her face and hurriedly replied, "It's up to you. Drink if you insist."

Chapter 650 I'm Sure There Is, Let's Sit and Wait

Muchen lifted the corner of his mouth as he called the waiter to pour him some wine and made a toast to the person who approached him.

He stood up and straightened his back.

When others saw him standing, they started approaching him for a toast.

Muchen accepted every toast but couldn't drink much, so he only took a small sip to show respect.

Despite that, his employees were satisfied with his showmanship.

After all, this was the first time they saw Muchen being so friendly after working with him for so many years. Not only did he accept their toast, but he also greeted them kindly and warmly.

They had never seen this side of Muchen, so they felt startled by his approach.

There were plenty of employees that came up to him. Despite only taking a small sip each time, he had already finished half a bottle of wine after a round of toast.

Ziyue wanted to stop him from drinking more, but her words couldn't escape her mouth as she didn't want to spoil his employees' mood.

Muchen's stomach problems hadn't recurred in quite some time, and it was a rare occasion whereby everyone was having fun, so why not let him be? After all, he had already controlled himself.

By the time the crowd dispersed, the only one fully sober was Ziyue.

Even Chuan and Ke were tipsy, and their speeches were slurred.

Ziyue glanced around and saw some employees lying unconscious on the table while the others had gone to the washroom. Her head felt dizzy looking at them.

She turned around and saw Muchen lying on the chair with squinted eyes staring at the ceiling. His cold and stern face had a hint of redness.

Ziyue placed her palms around his face and felt heat radiating from him.

When he felt the touch of her hands, he immediately opened his eyes and stared grimly in her direction.

But his gaze slowly softened when he saw that it was Ziyue.

When she saw his half-lidded eyes opening, she said, "Stay here. I'll get people to send your employees back home. Wait here for me."

Due to the influence of alcohol, Muchen had a much-delayed reaction. He only responded to her after a short pause.

He held onto her hands and gently told her, "Let Chuan handle it."

Ziyue turned her head to look at Chuan.

Chuan was together with one of the managers. He pointed towards the plate, saying, "Why is there a chicken here? Get the manager here. There's a chicken here."

The manager replied with a sluggish tone, "No, it's a cake!"

"Chicken!"

"Maybe next time. There are no stars today."

"No."

She didn't know how to respond to him.

Ziyue tried to explain patiently to Muchen that no stars were visible that night, but he insisted on seeing the stars.

Also, he insisted on watching the stars from the highest mountain in the city.

His behavior left Ziyue dumbfounded. He was doing fine, but why is he acting like a kid now?

He wouldn't listen to her. When she said "No," he took his keys and wanted to drive up the mountain alone.

How could he go up the mountain in this state?

Ziyue ran out of ideas to stop him, so she had no choice but to drive him up the mountain.

She was afraid she might doze off on the way to the mountain, so she downed two cans of coffee before getting in the car.

Later, she realized that it was unnecessary as Muchen kept babbling about ceaselessly on the way up.

Ziyue would answer him initially but stopped responding when he started to blurt out nonsense she couldn't understand.

When he got bored, he started reciting poems.

Mandarin, English, French.

He would recite them in all the languages he knew.

Ziyue was dumbfounded and humored by his unpredictable acts.

As she counted, she realized he could speak seven to eight languages. She didn't know he was adept at using these many languages.

After pondering for a while, she said, "When we're back in Country Z, you'll be responsible for teaching Zixi foreign languages."

She couldn't tell if he had heard what she said as Muchen continued to recite his poem, not acknowledging her comments.

During their two to three hours ride to the top of the mountain, one had their eyes on the road while the other focused on reciting poems.

When they finally arrived at the mountaintop, Muchen was the first to leave the car.

He stared at the dark sky and looked at Ziyue, who came down belatedly, "Where are the stars?"

Ziyue hurriedly went to support him as she was afraid he would fall. "I told you there aren't any stars today, but you insisted on coming."

She could see Muchen's face clearly with the headlights shining at them.

After a short pause, he chuckled, "I'm sure there is. Let's sit and wait."

He turned around and walked backward two steps. Suddenly, he grabbed Ziyue's waist to lift her onto the car hood.

Ziyue almost jumped out of her skin when he picked her up out of the blue.

"What are you doing?"

#### Chapter 651 Just for Tonight

Muchen's smile remained plastered on his face as he instructed, "Sit properly."

Ziyue had to stabilize herself by putting her hands on the hood.

Muchen slowly let go of his hands when he saw her seated steadily.

He returned to the car to turn off the headlights and grab his coat. After he closed the doors, he went to the front again and sat beside Ziyue.

He wrapped the coat around her back and assured her, "I'm sure there are stars tonight."

As they sat down, Ziyue felt her eyelids become heavier.

She yawned and laid her head on Muchen's shoulders. "Why do you want to see the stars today? There isn't any today. I've checked the weather forecast. It's going to rain tomorrow."

It was going to rain, so there wasn't a chance of seeing the stars that night, but she still drove him up here as it was rare for him to act this "recklessly." He seemed like he was in a jovial mood, so she couldn't bear to reject him.

The things she could fulfill for him were too little. When presented with a rare opportunity where he innocently requested to see the stars under the influence of alcohol, how could she reject him?

Many young couples enjoy spending their time up here. But despite being a Friday, no one was around due to the weather.

The only sound that filled the silence was the occasional rustle of the wind.

Ziyue leaned on him, her eyes slowly closing as she caved into her exhaustion that piled up over the night. That was when she heard a confident voice from Muchen, saying, "They will appear."

"If you say so..." Ziyue tried her best to stay awake, but her eyelids were getting heavier as time passed. After a while, she finally said to him, "I'm really tired."

"You're not allowed to fall asleep." Muchen was demanding and unbothered about her situation.

It caught her by surprise, and she shuddered away some of her sleepiness. She couldn't see Muchen's face clearly in the darkness, but she knew he was observing her.

"Why don't you let me take a nap?"

"You have to see the stars."

Ziyue was reluctant to repeat to him again that the stars would not appear tonight.

She was worn out, but she would get woken up by Muchen whenever she started dozing off.

Finally, she jumped down from the hood to walk while fighting away the drowsiness.

It was pitch black around her. Ziyue extended her arms out to fumble around in the dark before she caught onto his hands. She could sense that Muchen was still wide awake. However, she still couldn't understand why he insisted on seeing the stars.

"Muchen," called Ziyue.

She whispered, but her voice was amplified in the darkness.

She couldn't see Muchen's face as he was looking down. His voice was emotionless as he replied, "Stay by my side for one night. Just for tonight. I don't feel like sleeping tonight."

The realization finally dawned upon her after she regarded his words. He had purposely acted drunk from the start. And he wasn't here to see the stars; he didn't want to fall asleep.

As she mulled over the reason, she couldn't help but ask him, "Why don't you want to sleep?"

From what she could recall, she knew that Muchen had insomnia in the past when he found out she had suffered a "miscarriage."

However, she was confident he no longer had the same struggles recently. She had the habit of waking up in the middle of the night to have a glass of water, and she would see him sleeping soundly by her side every time she woke up.

Moreover, he was having such a good time today.

She was struggling to figure out what could be the reason when he finally replied, "Because I'm happy."

"Alright. If that's the case, let's talk about random things." Ziyue attempted to jump into the car but couldn't get up despite exerting her full strength.

She felt embarrassed and wanted to erase Muchen's memories of her failed attempt.

She could hear a faint giggle coming from Muchen. After that, she heard rustling sounds beside her, and within a split second, she was carried into the car.

Muchen swiftly got up and sat by her side again.

This time, both of them were on the roof of the car.

Muchen lay down with his legs bent. Ziyue could make up the silhouette of his body thanks to the moonlight that shone faintly in the dark.

Soon after, he said, "Have I told you before about how it felt when I first met you?"

Ziyue shook her head but realized Muchen couldn't see her, so she replied, "No, you haven't."

Muchen said, "You were very kind, pretty, and cute."

Ziyue's eyes widened in surprise at the sudden compliment made by Muchen. "I was just average." She was well-loved by many when she was younger.

By the way, how old was Muchen at that time?

Ziyue used her fingers to count as she slowly recalled the past. She was nine when her father, Yizi, went to jail. Yizi and Qin Li were already together before he was sentenced. Muchen must have seen her before without her knowing. In that case, Muchen would've seen her when she was only seven or eight years old.

Muchen was older than her by five years, so he was at most thirteen or fourteen at that time.

Ziyue snorted in contempt when she finally figured out their ages. "You already knew how to judge someone's appearance at that young age?"

Muchen had no intention of denying it when he replied indifferently, "Of course, but the main reason was that my mom liked you."

Ziyue rolled her eyes at him and pinched his cheeks. "I see. You found me pretty and cute because your mom liked me."

Muchen answered her in a calm and composed manner, "You're also pretty and cute on the bed."

His sudden flirtation left Ziyue's mouth aghast, completely at a loss for words.

After a long silence, she finally lost her temper as she announced, "What a coincidence! You're not cute at all on the bed. You look like a suited beast!"

She clenched her jaws tightly as the last few words slipped out of her mouth.

...

The night went by with Ziyue feeling in a daze.

Although they planned to stay up overnight, she couldn't resist the drowsiness and fell asleep.

When she woke up the following day, she was already buckled up in the passenger's seat as Muchen drove beside her.

Muchen's coat was placed on her as she lay flat on the adjusted car seat.

When she started to move, Muchen turned to look at her and said, "Stay there and don't move. I'll stop the car for you to stretch. You must feel sore after sleeping in this position for a long time."

Hearing that, Ziyue tried to move her body, and indeed, it was sore everywhere.

Muchen stopped the car for her to get down. She looked outside the window and realized they were almost reaching the city as the sun cast an orange glow in the skies.

Muchen pulled her up to sit straight and gave her a light massage on her arms and legs. After she felt better, he started the car again.

"You can rest for a little while more when you're home. I'll ask Chuan to pick you up so you can go to the airport together."

Ziyue was startled as it had slipped her mind that Muchen wanted her to pick an important person from the airport.

Ziyue didn't oppose his suggestion. She then asked him out of habit, "What about you?"

Muchen froze with a hint of nervousness before he replied to her in a composed manner, "I have other things to do."

"Okay."

Ziyue realized it was the first day of the presidential election and muttered worriedly, "Today..."

Muchen comforted her, "It'll be alright."

Chapter 652 Make Sure She Returns Home Safely

When they arrived at Mogwin Castle, the sun had risen, and the sky was painted blue. The tranquil and warm atmosphere radiated through their surroundings.

Before they entered, Ziyue saw several people walking out of the castle. After a closer look, she finally realized the person right in the middle was Yuchuan. She couldn't believe that the first person she met in the early morning was Yuchuan.

She turned around and glanced at Muchen. He exchanged a comforting nod in her direction and held her hands to guide her inside.

When they walked closer to him, Muchen greeted him, "Grandpa."

Ziyue followed suit and greeted him the same way.

When he saw them, Yuchuan's brows were knitted into a tight knot.

“Where were you all night?” Yuchuan shifted his gaze from Muchen to Ziyue with contempt written all over his face before he looked away. Ziyue dropped her head and stared at her shoes. That was when she realized her shoes were filled with mud. She almost forgot that they were up in the mountains last night. Their clothes were crumpled and unpresentable, and their shoes were also dirty. They were in a mess. She was flustered by how they looked and couldn’t blame Yuchuan for glaring at them condescendingly. Mogwin Family was a noble family with strict rules, so there was no doubt Yuchuan was upset when he saw them in a messy state. Muchen stood firmly before him as he solemnly articulated, “There was a company gathering last night which ended late. We spent the night elsewhere.” Yuchuan was evidently displeased by Muchen’s action but had to leave for his appointments. Ziyue noticed that Qin Zheng, who was standing on the side, had been checking the time to remind him about his schedules. “Don’t forget what day it is today. Stay alert, and don’t cause any trouble. I’ll leave first as I have something planned.” Yuchuan had targeted his words at Muchen. However, he looked over Ziyue patronizingly once more before he left. Ziyue was taken aback at the way his eyes glazed over her figure. When they returned to their room, Ziyue asked Muchen, “I feel that Grandpa has a bad impression of me.” Muchen was taking off his shirt in front of the mirror. And without stopping his actions, he gave her a meaningful grin, “Doesn’t he have a bad impression of everyone?” He knew his grandpa better than anyone else. He was egoistic, with a strong emphasis on protecting their reputation. He was stubborn with his ways and despised anyone who didn’t align with his requirements. Ziyue could feel the deeply-seated resentment Muchen had towards his grandfather. She shrugged off the thought and went to the washroom to turn on the water faucet. She had no intention of saying anything more. The resentment between Muchen and Yuchuan couldn’t be easily resolved. They are people with outstanding abilities who couldn’t accept their differences, and neither could they withstand having to be in the same space as each other. Nonetheless, their relationship never fell apart. Ziyue didn’t have the foggiest idea about the nature of their actual relationship.

She only knew Muchen cared for Yuchuan despite his aloof attitude towards him.

...

After their bath, they had breakfast together. Muchen then got ready to leave the house.

It wasn't a work day, so the only reason Muchen would be in such a rush would be the presidential election.

Muchen held onto his tie as he walked down the stairs.

Ziyue walked to him and took the tie from him. She wrapped it around his neck and tied it neatly before adjusting his collar. After pausing briefly, she said, "Stay away from these matters next time."

But in her heart, she knew it was difficult to stray away from these political matters once a person obtained a significant status and power. Nevertheless, Ziyue hoped he wouldn't take part in such issues.

Ziyue understood intuitively that Muchen would encounter more difficulties leaving once he started becoming more involved in the political landscape.

Muchen's dark beaded eyes stared at her with reassurance. He held her hands tightly, comforting her, "Don't worry."

Ziyue locked eyes with him momentarily before she shifted her eyes away and nodded.

The next moment, she could feel his breath close to her face. At the turn of her head, her eyes caught onto his, but this time, their noses were almost touching. He was demanding a kiss from her.

Muchen didn't spare a second of hesitation to kiss her when she turned around.

After the kiss, he patted her head, and, using his gentlest tone, he said, "I'll have to leave now."

Ziyue had a steely glint in her eyes as she replied, "Alright."

Why did he act this way early in the morning?

Muchen didn't move away and continued, "Aren't you going to call me darling?"

Ziyue's eyes flashed with nervousness, "What happened to you? You're acting weird."

Muchen's eyes lingered on her with a strange gaze. Shortly after, he retreated his hands and washed away the emotions in his eyes, leaving an indiscernible smile. He said to her, "Don't women like men who are gentle and kind? Do you hate it?"

Ziyue was rendered speechless.

"I like men who are demanding and unpredictable like you. Are you satisfied now? Hurry up and leave!" Ziyue couldn't bear another second of his flirtatious attitude and pushed him out of the door as she spoke.

Muchen no longer clung to her when he left.

On the other hand, Chuan looked exhausted and pale today. He must've not rested well after their gathering last night.

Although Ziyue had stayed up all night, Chuan was in a worse state than her. Sitting inside the car, she worriedly said, "Why don't we let the driver take us there."

Chuan shook his head and rejected her offer, "I'm alright. There's no need to call the driver."

Soon after, he started the car and drove towards the airport.

"How important is this person such that Muchen would ask me to help him receive them from the airport?" Ziyue was eager to know who this person was.

Chuan replied, "You'll know when we reach the airport. Honestly, I didn't get much information about this person as well."

It was reasonable that it was kept as a secret if they held such importance to Muchen.

It was a long drive to the airport. Ziyue took a nap as she was feeling drowsy. She faintly heard Chuan's conversation on the phone as she was sleeping.

"Yes, I'm at the airport... I'll settle it... definitely.... boss..."

Ziyue got up and massaged her arms, which were feeling sore. She then turned her head to look towards Chuan with an overwhelming curiosity.

When Chuan noticed she was awake, the words he was about to say were swallowed back in immediately.

He looked at Ziyue and said, "Boss, Mrs. Qin and I will go in now."

Ziyue knew he was on the call with Muchen, so she didn't interrupt them.

After a moment of silence, Chuan wanted to ask if he should pass the call to Ziyue when he heard Muchen's voice.

His voice was hoarse when he said, "You can go in now. Remember to make sure she gets home safely. Don't make a single mistake."

Chapter 653 Please Ask Them to Stop the Plane

Chuan felt a surge of uneasiness and worry, but he kept a straight face, pretending as if he had only received a simple order, "Alright."

He put down the call.

Before he could keep his phone inside his pockets, Ziyue bombarded him with a string of questions. "Was it Muchen? What did he say? Has he completed his work?"

Chuan uttered with a serious tone, "Mr. Qin asked if we'd arrived at the airport. As the client has a special status, he's monitoring the progress here."

Ziyue nodded and slowly removed her belt. "Has the client arrived? Do we get out of the car now?"

"Yes, they're here."

He followed her down the car.

They walked in front with bodyguards following behind them.

Recently, whenever she wasn't with Muchen, she would be assigned several bodyguards to protect her. She was used to it and didn't find it uncomfortable. Ziyue didn't notice it in the car as she never paid attention to her surroundings, but now that she exited the car, she realized they were not in the international airport.

Ziyue felt puzzled about the situation. Before she could ask, Chuan explained, "The client took a private jet."

She was becoming increasingly interested in the identity of their mysterious client.

She wanted to confirm with Chuan if he was really unaware of the client's information. But she couldn't voice her queries when she saw how stern he looked.

When they entered the airport, she saw a private jet parked outside.

The atmosphere was heavy as the bodyguards were lined up on both sides of the boarding area.

Ziyue halted her footsteps.

Chuan noticed she had suddenly stopped and turned around to ask, "Mrs. Qin, is there something wrong?"

Ziyue openly shared her suspicions. "What is happening right now? Who are we here to receive? Is it Zixi?"

She made a bold assumption, but it wasn't unreasonable, seeing how things were unfolding.

Chuan and Muchen wouldn't expose any information about the client.

Moreover, Muchen often mentioned that she would meet Zixi soon.

Her observation of such details only made her suspect such a possibility. However, it seemed impossible.

After all, it was a sensitive period. If Zixi were here, it wouldn't be beneficial to anyone. Muchen wouldn't act in such a reckless manner.

"Mrs. Qin, why don't you follow me and see since we're already here?" Chuan seemed more at ease as they had already reached the airport.

Ziyue didn't resist anymore as she knew that Chuan was only following orders. Furthermore, Muchen had made a genuine request to her previously.

But the client was arrogant. He wouldn't get off the plane to greet them.

Chuan moved aside and gestured for her to walk in front of him. "Mrs. Qin, please walk in the front."

Ziyue followed his will and went in front of him.

She proceeded to climb up the stairs of the private jet, but an uneasy weight lingered in her heart.

As the strange feeling dawned on her, she slowed down her footsteps.

Behind her, Chuan felt anxious when she slowed down, but he lowered his head so she couldn't read his expressions.

Ziyue trusted her instinct. She knew that something wasn't right!

She stopped immediately. And as she was about to turn around, a bodyguard approached her from the cabin.

He stared at Ziyue and said, "Are you from LK Group?"

"Yes." Ziyue nodded.

"Our client has waited for a long time." The bodyguard stepped back and gestured for Ziyue to walk inside.

Ziyue was only a few steps away from entering the jet. Despite her inner alarms ringing, she continued walking up.

The situation seemed suspicious, but she believed in Muchen.

After all, he was jovial and pleasant last night.

"You can follow me."

Once Ziyue was inside, the bodyguard led her to the back of the cabin while Chuan followed closely behind.

The private jet wasn't as big as a passenger aircraft, but the facilities were exceptional.

Ziyue turned to look behind her and saw Chuan walking forward without hesitation.

After taking a few more steps, she heard a loud bang from the back.

It was loud but not unfamiliar, so it must have been the sound of the cabin door closing.

Ziyue's paused her footsteps abruptly. The uneasy weight she felt started creeping all over her body, but she couldn't understand why.

If the client were important to Muchen, he would be here to welcome him out of respect instead of letting her and Chuan receive the client.

It was reasonable that Muchen could be busy because it was the first day of the election.

However, Muchen had always been thorough in his plans. If he knew he couldn't make it today, he would set an alternative date to meet with his 'client'.

These assumptions only applied if the 'client' actually existed.

Since the establishment of LK, there have been very few clients personally received from the airport by Muchen.

Muchen had been busy the past few days. As his secretary, although she helped him handle some of his matters, she never truly knew what kept him busy.

Ziyue was stormed with anger and confusion as she turned her head around and stared at Chuan. "There's no client, isn't there?"

Chuan had already ordered someone to close the cabin door, and the airplane was already moving forward, ready to take flight.

Throughout their journey here, he was afraid that Ziyue would unravel their intentions. So now that Ziyue had caught on to what was happening, he felt intense relief, as if he no longer carried the burden of keeping this secret to himself.

Ziyue tried to reign in her anger but couldn't regain her composure.

She interjected Chuan before he could explain, "Muchen wants to send me back home and lied to me that there was a client here. He pretended to be happy yesterday to fool me into trusting him."

She started her sentence, hoping to get an answer from Chuan, but eventually started rambling to herself.

She had to be right.

She couldn't go against him if he were that determined to lie to her.

He had always been able to achieve what he set out his mind to do.

As she ruminated over the revelation, the plane slowly sped up. She had to hold onto the cabin wall to stabilize herself during take-off. "Make them stop the plane! I'm getting down!"

Chuan answered without sparing a second, "No, I can't."

Just then, she saw the bodyguards that stood firmly behind Chuan. It was apparent that they were there to stop her.

After experiencing a light shake, they took off from the ground.

Ziyue could feel her blood boil as she pushed Chuan aside to run towards the door.

The bodyguards blocked her.

"Chuan, I need to get off the plane. Please ask them to stop the plane. I can't leave now. I can't leave Muchen." Ziyue's voice was trembling as she uttered her words.

Chapter 654 It Would Put Everyone in a Difficult Position

There were more bodyguards than needed to stop one lady.

And within the airplane, the only one they would listen to was Chuan.

She turned around and begged Chuan to let her off.

Chuan's face was clouded with guilt and worry. He seemed to be moved by her earnest request.

But he was reminded of the difficulties Muchen had to go through for her to return to her country.

He had to take Ziyue back to her country, no matter the circumstances. It was Muchen's direct order to him.

"Mrs. Qin, the plane has already taken off. There's no way for it to stop now. Why don't you take a seat, as the flight will be long."

Chuan wasn't going to be easily swayed by her anymore.

“What about Muchen? What is he up to? Why aren’t you staying here?” She still couldn’t wrap her head around everything.

Ziyue was bewildered by the sudden change of events. Muchen had planned all this, and she had no clue about it.

Was he good at deceiving her, or was she too naïve to trust his every word? Chuan’s eyes froze at the flood of questions. He then answered dryly, “Mr. Qin will settle everything here.”

In reality, Chuan was also kept in the dark as to Muchen’s unforeseen plans for Ziyue’s return.

His only clue was the recent information he had received from Muchen. He told him that the assets would be transferred back to their home country and he would find a suitable time to send her back to her home country.

Muchen didn’t specify the reason.

Before this, they were preoccupied with work.

“He will settle it! He will settle it! It’s easy to say, but he’s only human. He has been busy with LK Group, and Princess Aika got him involved in the presidential election. Moreover, who knows what trouble Gritty would cause him? Not to mention even his grandpa is against him. He’s all alone in Country J, constantly getting targeted. He wouldn’t have anyone to talk to if I left him.”

Ziyue felt overwhelmed thinking about the hardships he had to go through by himself. Her palms covered her face as she said, “Although I couldn’t help him much when I was around...”

She couldn’t help him much if she had stayed, but she could at least care and provide companionship by his side.

He had to work from day till night and suffered from stomach problems.

Ziyue felt more emotionally tormented as she mulled over her dreadful thoughts. The feeling was suffocating, as if a lump of cotton was stuck in her throat.

She rubbed off her tears, and with her visibly bloodshot eyes, she pushed the bodyguard away and walked straight to Chuan to grab him. “Ask them to land the plane back where we came from. I need to get down!”

Chuan didn’t move an inch from where he stood.

Suddenly, he waved his hands at the bodyguard to make them leave.

His face turned stone cold when he said solemnly, “Mrs. Qin, you must calm down. Mr. Qin has been informed of your departure. If you return right now, it will put everyone in a difficult position.”

The underlying meaning of his message was that Muchen had decided on this date and time for a specific reason.

Based on how much Muchen cared for Ziyue, he wouldn't want her to leave his side for a second. His decision to send her home would only mean her staying in Country J was no longer safe.

Or he wasn't able to protect her anymore.

Chuan had his head all over the place with his work. But now that he had time for a breather, Ziyue's words triggered him to think of this alternative reason. Following the realization, he kept his guard up no matter how earnestly Ziyue begged him to reveal the truth to her.

Although what he concluded from his observation of Muchen's actions wasn't positive, he didn't let it show on his face.

He felt uneasy and worried about Muchen's circumstances. Despite his sincere concern and best wishes for Muchen, there was a lingering sense of resentment towards him.

He had been through thick and thin with Muchen for over ten years, but he chose to hide something crucial from him.

While returning to Yunzhou City, Ziyue didn't exchange a single word with Chuan.

Chuan had wanted to speak up several times but decided to keep his mouth sealed.

...

The plane landed at Yunzhou City.

It was a last-minute trip back to Yunzhou, where no one knew about their arrival. Hence, there wasn't anyone there to receive them from the airport.

Ziyue felt jittery throughout the journey and couldn't get any rest on the plane. Once they landed, she immediately called Muchen.

She couldn't care less about the time difference when she made the call.

"Have you arrived?" Muchen's voice sounded hoarse and exhausted. That was when she realized it was in the middle of the night in Country J.

Although Muchen was feeling drowsy, it wasn't because he was woken up from his sleep.

Instead, it was because he hadn't been sleeping all this while.

Ziyue felt a knot in her chest when she heard his voice. Her grip tightened on the handphone. Although she had contemplated the questions she wanted to ask him during the flight, the only sentence she could express at that overwhelming moment was, "How can you do this to me?"

How could he send her home without saying a word?

Didn't he say they would discuss everything together, no matter how difficult it was?

How could he make this decision without considering her feelings?

The night was getting darker on the other end of the phone call.

Muchen could sense her tears welling up from the tone of her voice. His face tensed up at that thought. After a while, he moved his body to relieve the sore in his back from sitting too long.

He took a deep breath before replying, "Haven't you missed Zixi? Aren't you happy you can see him soon?"

When his last word left his mouth, the call ended abruptly as she scolded, "Jerk."

Muchen's eyes quivered slightly. After a few moments of silence, he finally laid his handphone on his table.

He raised his arms to rub his eyebrows. He felt the exhaustion weighing on him after recently dealing with a heavy workload.

...

Ziyue regretted ending the call.

He sounded tired and hadn't gotten any rest despite how late it was there.

Before he let her go, he pretended to be drunk to spend more time with her at the mountaintop. He even pestered her the whole night, wanting to talk to her.

Recalling what had happened that night, he must've felt sad to let her go.

Regardless, she couldn't speak to him calmly after being tossed into a plane without her consent.

"Mrs. Qin, it's time to get off the plane." Chuan suddenly appeared beside her.

Ziyue looked outside the window. It was the view she grew up with.

She nodded, "Alright."

Soon after, she left her seat and went down the private jet.

Ziyue stood in the middle of the airport. She lifted her head and saw the unique landmarks of Yunzhou City, but it felt like she was in another world.

In reality, she had only left this place for a few months.

Chuan reminded her, "Mrs. Qin, head this way."

Although they didn't inform anyone about their arrival, they prepared a driver to fetch them from the airport.

Ziyue lifted her head and saw a few black cars lined up at a distance with bodyguards on standby.

Bodyguards followed her wherever she went, making her seem like an upper-class lady from an affluent family background.

Ziyue was no longer resisting them as she was already here.

Even her passport was with Muchen, so she could do nothing to escape.

Chapter 655 Zixi Couldn't Recognize Her

She didn't bring any luggage with her since this was an unplanned schedule that was forced upon her.

However, when she went through the stuff in her handbag, she found a stash of cash, a few credit cards, and her identity card inside.

But she didn't have her passport.

She would typically bring cash and a card when she went out, but only the amount that was enough for her to use.

Muchen must have prepared the extra cash and card. Since she was still in a daze this morning, she didn't even realize when Muchen had left them inside. She couldn't have imagined that Muchen had all these details planned out from the very beginning.

Muchen had mentioned to her before that no one could be fully trusted in this world.

Despite her suspicions, could she have taken precautions over his deliberate plan to send her home?

It was impossible.

If she could prevent it from happening, Muchen would no longer be the Muchen she knew like the back of her hand.

Even if years passed, she still wouldn't be up to par to be an opponent on equal standing grounds with Muchen.

Ziyue sat leaning on the car window as she was engrossed in the familiar views passing by swiftly.

...

The car stopped at the Cloud Bay Hilltop Villa.

Chuan exited the car to open her car door and respectfully uttered, "Mrs. Qin, we're here."

After they left, the villa was left empty. But they weren't away for long, and people still came to tidy up the house, so it didn't feel abandoned.

Ziyue stood still at the entrance of the villa. Then, after a short moment, she went in.

A maid was cleaning up the garden when they went in. When she heard the sound from outside, she immediately went out to inspect the noise.

However, Ziyue was already entering the villa when the maid took the first few steps in.

The maid's eyes widened as she called, "Mrs. Qin?"

Why didn't anyone inform them that Mr. Qin and Mrs. Qin were coming home?

Ziyue nodded at her and went inside right away.

She wasn't in the mood to talk.

There was not a single person living inside the villa.

Muchen was still in Country J.

Zixi and Beef were still with Jingshu.

Ziyue turned around and looked at Chuan as she said, "Let's go to Jingshu's place."

It was a weekday. Jingshu should be in the office, and since Xia was his secretary, she would also be there.

Chuan nodded and informed the bodyguard to drive to Yunteng.

...

The receptionist at Yunteng was someone new.

Ziyue walked in and noted the unfamiliar face of the lady at the reception. However, when the receptionist saw Ziyue, she suddenly cried out, "Mrs. Qin!" Surprised at the unexpected identification, Ziyue thought they must've met before.

"I'm here to find President Bai. Is he here?" Ziyue smiled respectfully at the receptionist.

"Yes, he's here." The receptionist nodded repeatedly, like a little chick bobbing their head.

"Thank you. I'll go straight up then." Since the receptionist knew her, she could save the hassle of identifying herself.

The bodyguard stayed on the ground floor while Chuan followed behind her. Since she got on the private jet from Country J, Ziyue had been carrying a heavy burden in her heart. But knowing that she would see her son soon, she felt relieved and excited.

Both of them went directly toward Jingshu's office.

She realized Xia wasn't there when she passed by the secretary's office.

Didn't the receptionist say that Jingshu was in his office?

Did he have a last-minute appointment? Or is he in the meeting room?

Chuan was on the same page as her. He suggested, "Maybe he's in the meeting room. Why don't we look in his office to see if Zixi is there? I'll head over to the meeting room."

"Sure." Ziyue nodded as she thought that it was a good idea.

Hence, they went their separate ways.

Jingshu's office was shut tightly.

Ziyue reached out to turn the knob. When the door was slightly ajar, she could hear noises from some cartoon series emanating through the room.

Her face lit up with glee. Zixi is inside!

She quickly walked in, and Zixi was sitting on the sofa as expected.

He was kneeling on the couch, playing with the building blocks. A laptop playing a cartoon series was placed on the coffee table before him.

Maybe he was too engrossed in his building blocks. Or perhaps the sound of the cartoon was too noisy to hear her footsteps. Nonetheless, he didn't notice someone had entered the room.

As they hadn't seen each other in a while, Ziyue realized that Zixi had gotten fatter.

It must not have been easy for Jingshu to care for a child alone.

But he did a great job in taking care of Zixi.

Summer had passed, and the weather was getting colder. Zixi wore light green sports attire, and his squishy cheeks were slightly blushed. Moreover,

his black-beaded eyes were focused on the building blocks intensively. Ziyue could feel her heart melt at the sight of her son.

She slowed down and halted her footsteps two steps away from Zixi.

She nervously covered her mouth, trying to control her excitement.

Could Zixi have forgotten about her?

She was taken away so abruptly by Yuchuan that time...

Her son was just within touching distance, but she was too jittery to speak.

At that moment, Zixi must have sensed something as he lifted his head and stared at her.

Ziyue was filled with overwhelming joy and amazement as soon as they locked eyes. After a few tries, she finally managed to call him, "Zixi..."

Zixi's black-beaded eyes darted around as he tried to figure out who was the person standing in front of him.

Ziyue's face tensed up; her palms were sweating rigorously. Zixi couldn't recognize her.

The next moment, his eyes widened, and he softly uttered, "Mommy?"

His voice was very soft, and his words were almost indiscernible as he tried to figure out if the person in front of him was his mother.

Ziyue was brought to tears to know that he still remembered her. She approached the sofa and knelt down in front of it, her eyes shining with excitement. She cheerfully said, "Yes, it's Mommy. Mommy is back."

Zixi's eyes were gleaming with joy. He reached out his hand to touch her hair.

After confirming it was his mother, he giggled and exclaimed, "Mommy!"

"Yes, dear. Mommy is here." Ziyue carried him up and gave him a peck on his cheek. She secretly wiped away her tears before locking her eyes with him.

"Zixi is such a good boy. You still remember Mommy." Ziyue embraced Zixi as she sat down on the sofa, looking at him dotingly. She hugged him tightly and wouldn't let go for a moment.

Zixi also hugged her tightly around the neck. He stared at her happily and started touching her hair again.

He seemed to be curious about her hair.

Kids are one of a kind. They can be entertained by anything.

"Ziyue!"

Suddenly, the office door was flung open intensely and made a loud bang.

Soon, hurried footsteps followed along with Xia's voice.

She was panting. It was clear that she had sprinted over in a hurry.

Ziyue turned around and saw Xia rush in.

Her smile slowly spread across her face as she advised, "Slowly."

Xia ran to her with her gleaming eyes, "Oh my, you're back!"

Chapter 656 Go Back to Country J Because He Needs You

Ziyue was affected by Xia's emotions, and the smile on her face deepened. "That's right. I'm really back, but..."

She paused and continued, "I left quickly, so I didn't have time to buy anything. I don't have a decent present."

"Do we need such formalities between us?!" Xia pursed her lips and sat down in front of Ziyue. She looked around and asked with surprise, "Why did you return alone? Where is Mr. Qin?"

"He's still in Country J. I returned first." Ziyue's gaze dimmed when Muchen was mentioned.

At this time, Jingshu walked in, and his gaze fell on Ziyue. He asked half-jokingly, "You're really back?"

Ziyue smiled at him. "I haven't seen you in a long time. Thanks for taking such good care of Zixi."

She was genuinely thankful to Jingshu.

Jingshu waved his hands and put them into the pockets of his pants. He clicked his tongue. "You're being too polite!"

The smile on Ziyue's face widened.

She was being quite formal, but her thanks were due.

Jingshu raised his head to look at the time. He said, "You haven't eaten yet, have you? Let's go to Lumiere Jade House?"

"Alright. It's on me," Ziyue said.

Thus, they went to Lumiere Jade House.

At the table, Jingshu only talked about trivial matters and didn't mention Muchen.

In the past, she met Jingshu often when they were in the country. Perhaps she was somewhat prejudiced against him because of his family background and the rumors about him.

This time when she returned, she truly felt that Jingshu was very calm and collected.

He didn't ask anything, but he was like an all-knowing mirror.

They were old friends, after all. With Jingshu around to keep the atmosphere lively, they ate happily.

On the way back, Ziyue went to buy things, and then Jingshu and Xia followed her to Cloud Bay.

After all, it had been a while since someone had stayed in the villa. Although servants looked after it and Ziyue could just instruct them if she needed anything, they weren't as thoughtful as her friends.

Back at Cloud Bay, while Xia brought Zixi to make fruit juice, Jingshu asked Ziyue, "Did Muchen say when he can come back?"

Ziyue shook her head.

This confirmed Jingshu's guess. His voice was confident. "He deliberately chose the first day of the presidential election to send you back."

"Yes. Muchen wanted me to return. I'm no match for him." Ziyue sighed. Her voice was slightly frustrated.

Jingshu could roughly guess what had happened. Muchen wouldn't have informed Ziyue beforehand that he wanted to send her back. He would have lowered her guard first, then forcefully sent her back when she wasn't aware. Ziyue would have refused if Muchen told her beforehand that he wanted to send her back. With his personality, they would have argued. Then, would he still have been able to send her back ruthlessly?

To put it simply, Muchen's bark was worse than his bite to the people around him.

"Don't get angry at him. He's been like this for decades. He doesn't talk about his concerns and does what he thinks is right. Sometimes I feel like punching him."

There was a smile on Jingshu's face. It was clear he was consoling her.

When Ziyue thought of Muchen's situation, she couldn't smile.

She shook her head. "I was initially slightly angry, but I'm just worried now. Muchen has been busy, and I thought he was busy with work and the presidential election. But now, when I think about it, I think there must be more."

Jingshu felt the worry in her voice, and his expression was slightly grave. "My brother investigated Gricy previously. After the trail of clues ended in Yunzhou City, all the information led overseas. However, working out of the country is difficult because of the many formalities. The process is complicated, and it takes up a lot of energy. Therefore, it was temporarily put aside."

Gricy was the most extensive international mafia organization, after all. If they committed an offense in Country Z, it was natural that the country would send people to deal with it.

However, it would be challenging to deal with them once these people were outside the borders.

The Bai family had significant status, and Yunan had a high rank in the army. However, the overall situation had to be considered.

Ziyue furrowed her brows. "Your brother?"

She pondered for a moment and remembered Yunan.

She didn't have a good impression of Yunan. She stayed away from him if she could.

Jingshu felt the displeasure in her voice. He smiled and said nothing more.

...

Because Ziyue had just returned and needed to rest, Xia and Jingshu left shortly.

Zixi had to take his afternoon nap too.

After Ziyue coaxed him to sleep, she carefully pulled her hand away from Zixi's little hands.

Every child was attached to their mother.

Even when Ziyue had left for a few months, Zixi still liked her. He wanted to hold her hand even when he was sleeping.

Ziyue pulled her hand out and stroked his face. She kissed his face before getting up to leave.

She was tired after such a long flight but didn't want to sleep.

When she pulled the curtains, she saw Chuan smoking in the garden.

Chuan had wanted to leave, but Ziyue had asked him to stay. She wanted to talk to him.

She walked out of the lounge, and a chilly breeze greeted her.

Chuan sensed someone behind him. He turned and saw Ziyue, so he quickly extinguished the cigarette in his hand. He greeted her respectfully. "Mrs. Qin." "Let's talk in the lounge." After that, she turned and walked in first.

The two sat in the lounge, and Ziyue said, "Go back to Country J. He needs you."

She could tell that Chuan was actually very worried about Muchen. She was, too.

The Nan siblings were Muchen's important and capable assistants. LK Group had significant influence, so the Nan siblings, who were associated with the company, had excellent reputations in the industry. Someone had even tried to poach them from under Muchen at a high price.

Of course, the person failed.

To be honest, Muchen and the Nan siblings had a history of friendship.

Conservatively speaking, he had done them a favor by giving them a new lease of life. They would never betray Muchen.

But now, Muchen had assigned Chuan to Ziyue, the more capable of the two siblings.

Yunzhou City was a place she was familiar with.

Her father was jailed when she was nine, and she had lived in the Su family for so many years without anyone to love and care for her. Now, she was an adult, a wife, a mother, and a company boss. She could stand on her own.

However, she relied on Muchen because he had always been beside her.

Relying on someone is always a bad habit of human nature.

Chapter 657 She Feared You Would Misunderstand

It seemed like Chuan didn't expect Ziyue to want to talk to him about returning to Country J.

His expression flickered momentarily, but it passed in the blink of an eye.

When he spoke, his expression was firm. "Boss wants me to stay in Yunzhou City."

Before leaving Country J, Muchen had told Chuan not to return but to stay in Yunzhou City and take care of Ziyue, Zixi, and Muchen's properties.

Ziyue felt Chuan's hesitance.

She thought of something and suddenly smiled.

"Aren't you angry, Chuan? He told you to send me back without a word, but I think he didn't say anything to you, right? He sent you away at such a critical juncture..."

Ziyue didn't finish her sentence. She wanted Chuan to figure out what she was implying.

Chuan furrowed his brows.

To be honest, he was pretty angry.

How could the boss send me away at such a critical moment?

Doesn't he believe in my abilities? Or is he not as satisfied with me as before?

"Alright, I'm going to be with Zixi for his afternoon nap. Go back and think about it. When you've made your decision, tell me when you're leaving. I'll send you off."

After Ziyue finished speaking, she slowly went upstairs.

Muchen was capable, but she was still worried.

Although Ke was still in Country J, she was a girl and was limited in various ways. Chuan was a man. It was simpler and more convenient for men to get along with each other.

In the end, as Ziyue had expected, Chuan decided to return to Country J.

Muchen didn't expect it either. He had confiscated Ziyue's passport but not Chuan's. It was a miscalculation on his part.

After Chuan decided, he made preparations. He went to Lumiere Jade House and dealt with some matters. He would head back to Country J in less than two days.

Ziyue didn't have anything to bring to Muchen. She took a few of Zixi's drawings and gave them to Chuan so he could take them to Muchen. She also gave Chuan some pictures of her and Zixi.

The women in Country J were tall and sensual. What if Muchen's thoughts went astray?

She had to make him always think of her and Zixi.

Therefore, when she gave the photos to Chuan, she said, "Give these pictures to Muchen and tell him to bring them everywhere he goes. He's dead if he dares to go out and fool around."

Chuan's eyelids twitched uneasily when he heard it.

It was nothing to give Muchen the pictures, but Chuan didn't dare say those words to Muchen.

Even when Chuan felt he wouldn't dare say anything when the time came, he still nodded at Ziyue.

Ziyue pursed her lips and smiled. "It's almost Zixi's third birthday. I'm going to organize a grand birthday party. Muchen must come back, and you must be around to host it."

Chuan was surprised and momentarily dumbstruck.

He couldn't deny that his respect toward Ziyue before the trip to Country J was because of Muchen. Now, part of his current respect for Ziyue was because he did, in fact, feel that Ziyue was worthy of Muchen.

"I will relay your words to the boss, Mrs. Qin."

Chuan said solemnly as if making a vow before he turned and entered the car. As Ziyue watched the car leave, she returned to the house.

She had been busy with meaningless things for the past two days and hadn't brought Beef back yet.

She would go and pick Beef up with Zixi today.

That dumb dog. Ziyue wasn't the least bit worried that Beef wouldn't recognize her. After all, when she returned after two years previously, Beef could still recognize her.

She told Jingshu in advance that she wanted to bring Beef home, so he didn't go to the office in the morning.

Xia came out of the kitchen and saw that Jingshu still wasn't dressed. She was slightly surprised. "Aren't you going to the office today?"

"I'm the boss. I come and go as I like." Jingshu took a peach from the coffee table and bit into it before turning to look at Xia.

When he noticed her in office wear, he said, "If the boss isn't going to the office, why is the secretary wearing such formal clothes? Change."

He held the peach with one hand as he lay lazily on the couch. He waved his other hand like an elderly man.

Xia glanced at him. She felt that something wasn't quite right with Jingshu today.

"What's up with you? Are you ill?" She walked toward him as she spoke, reaching out to feel his forehead.

Although he had never been quite right, he was serious about work.

To her surprise, he reached out and blocked her hand before it touched his forehead. He enunciated each word at the top of his voice. "Why are you getting physical? How rude!"

Xia looked at his feigned seriousness and snorted in disdain as she pulled her hand back. "If you're not going to the office, I will look for Ziyue. I can bring Beef to her."

She had wanted to take leave since Ziyue was back, but Ziyue had been busy the past few days. They could only meet on the weekends, so she didn't need to take leave.

"Did I let you leave? Although we're not working at the office, today's a working day. I can deduct your salary!" Jingshu was slightly worried when he heard that she wanted to leave.

He didn't tell Xia that Ziyue would come and pick Beef up in a while because he had selfish motives.

"Are you done, Bai Jingshu?!" Xia's patience was drained. Why is this man so unreasonable today?

At that moment, a voice rang in the lounge.

The voice slowly came closer. The two could tell that it was Ziyue.

"Ziyue?" Xia glanced at Jingshu doubtfully before she walked to the door. She suddenly thought of something halfway there and shrieked before running toward the stairs.

As she ran, she said to Jingshu, "Don't let Ziyue know I'm living with you!"

"I already know." Ziyue's voice slowly rang from the back.

Xia's figure stiffened, and she pulled back her extended leg. She turned to look at Ziyue and forced a laugh. "Ziyue, why are you here? I... It's because I'm Jingshu's secretary. It's so late, but he isn't at the office yet, so I came to rush him to go to the office..."

She stuttered as she spoke while giving Jingshu a meaningful glance.

But Jingshu didn't look at her. He clearly didn't want to receive any distress signals from her.

Jingshu threw his unfinished peach into the trash before smiling and standing up. "We just started living together not too long ago. She feared you would misunderstand, so we didn't tell you."

He had a solemn expression.

Ziyue shook her head gravely. "There are no misunderstandings."

Everyone knew about Xia and Jingshu. The two were like children who squabbled. Although they had never been together officially, everyone knew it was only a matter of time.

Chapter 658 Second Son

Xia immediately explained when she heard what Jingshu said. "What do you mean by that? It's because my lease was up, and I'm your secretary, so I moved in to work with you!"

"Oh." Jingshu tilted his head indifferently. It was evident he didn't take Xia's words to heart.

Ziyue had brought Zixi with her. Jingshu waved at Zixi. "Come here, Zixi. Give Uncle Bai a hug."

Zixi had lived with Jingshu for the past few months, and they were close. Zixi immediately smiled at Jingshu and extended his arms. "Uncle Bai!" "You have no conscience. You haven't seen me in a few days but haven't called me..." Jingshu walked to the couch as he carried Zixi and spoke softly to him.

Ziyue looked away from the two and looked at Xia.

She hadn't said anything. She smiled at Xia, and Xia immediately explained, "It's not what you think..."

"What do I think?" Ziyue blinked and looked at Xia blankly.

"You... Ah! How annoying." Xia knew Ziyue was feigning ignorance. Xia grabbed her own hair restlessly and didn't know what to say.

Although she and Jingshu stayed under the same roof, they slept in different rooms. The two were more like housemates, but how they got along was no different from an ordinary couple.

They went to work together during the day, went grocery shopping after work, cooked together at night, and went out on dates on the weekends.

Even so, she told herself that it was alright if neither of them said anything and if she didn't admit it.

But she never thought Ziyue would suddenly return.

Ziyue had previously analyzed it with her. Xia couldn't afford to anger Jingshu's family.

But she liked Jingshu. She couldn't control it and couldn't persuade herself to leave.

Ziyue knew what Xia was thinking about. Love always makes people lose their minds. It never gave people a chance to stay clear-headed and rational.

Ziyue pursed her lips and smiled when she saw Xia's troubled expression. Her voice was slightly encouraging. "Why do you need to care if you follow your own heart? As long as he has feelings for you, everything else doesn't matter."

She couldn't retreat when nothing had happened. Perhaps taking a step forward would make things different.

If Xia didn't take that step out and tried to be with Jingshu, she would never know if she could be happy with Jingshu.

It might be possible if she took one step out. But if she retreated now, everything would be impossible.

Sometimes, the impulsiveness and courage that came with youth were pretty good qualities.

Upon hearing it, Xia suddenly widened her eyes. "Ziyue..."

"What I want to say is what you're thinking of." Ziyue went forward and held Xia's hand. She didn't need to say a word.

It's not easy to meet someone I like. Since there's a chance, why don't I take it?

"Mm." Xia nodded heavily.

Ziyue hugged Xia. Then, Ziyue seemed to suddenly think of something and hit her head. She said, "I called Jingshu before I came. Didn't he tell you?"

"Ah?"

Ziyue didn't seem to see the confusion on Xia's face. Ziyue asked, "Take me to see Beef. Where is it?"

Men are so petty. Muchen was like this, and so was Jingshu.

Jingshu deliberately didn't tell Xia that Ziyue was coming to pick Beef up today because he wanted Ziyue to advise Xia.

She used to be prejudiced against Jingshu but had seen his changes in the past two years. He would have continued to be promiscuous in the past two to three years if he didn't genuinely like Jingshu.

Perhaps he was pretending to curry favor with Xia, but he couldn't have kept the act up for two to three years. Furthermore, she could see Jingshu's character.

Xia had always been apprehensive. Half of it was because of what Ziyue had said to her.

Relieving Xia's concerns was a way for Ziyue to help Jingshu.

It would be great if love could find a way between them and they could stay happy.

They had to be happy.

...

When Xia went out for a jog in the morning, she took Beef along. After returning, it ran to the backyard by itself to play.

Xia led Ziyue to the backyard and pointed to Beef, rolling around on the grass.

"There. Do you see it?"

Beef hadn't gained or lost weight. It looked like it was in great spirits as it rolled around on the grass.

Ziyue's lips couldn't help but curve to reveal a smile. After a moment, she called out, "Beef."

Beef, who had been rolling around on the grass, stopped at once.

It tilted its head, seemingly thinking that the voice was slightly familiar. It seemed to ponder before turning. When it saw Ziyue, it ran to her frantically.

It ran to her quickly, and its ears stood up.

It ran to Ziyue and jumped up as it leaped on her while barking happily.

Ziyue reached out to hug Beef and stroke its head. It immediately tilted its head and rubbed its head against Ziyue's hand. It was acting more coyly than Zixi.

If it could speak, it must have been saying, "Hugs! Kisses! Carry me!"

“Alright, alright. Calm down. We’re going home in a while.” Ziyue stroked its head before letting go and putting it down.

Beef wasn’t satisfied and still wanted to leap on its female master, but realized she had turned and started walking to the back.

It could only follow her and run circles around her.

Ziyue turned to glance at Beef. It was still so energetic.

Jingshu and Xia had to work, so Ziyue didn’t stay long. She left with Zixi and Beef shortly.

Back home, Beef seemed to inspect its territory. First, it ran to its room and slipped around, then ran up and down frantically between floors.

Its behavior seemed to prove it was delighted to be home.

Tired from running, it fell asleep at Ziyue’s feet. It even put its head on her legs.

Ziyue happened to be sitting on the couch at that moment. She felt the weight at her feet and looked down. She noticed Beef looking at her with its round and wide eyes.

“You must be tired. You’re so playful even when you’re so old.” Ziyue couldn’t help but stroke its head.

She had watched Beef grow up. It felt like her second son.

Beef rubbed against her hand in enjoyment. It suddenly got up from the floor and ran to the entrance before returning with a shoe.

It was a man’s cotton slipper.

Other than Muchen, there was no other man at home.

Beef held the cotton slipper with its mouth and left it at Ziyue’s feet before running around her.

The smile on Ziyue’s face dimmed. She faintly understood what Beef meant.

Beef must have realized Ziyue was in a lousy mood, so it stopped gradually. It sat on the floor and looked at Ziyue quietly, looking extremely obedient.

Chapter 659 As It Turns Out, Someone Had Incited You

Ziyue was amused by Beef’s actions.

This isn’t a dog. It’s basically a human.

“He won’t come home for the time being. He’s still overseas and has many things to do...” As Ziyue spoke, she stopped. Why was she talking to a dog? It didn’t understand her.

Beef had been with Muchen longer. It had a deeper relationship with Muchen than with her.

Border collies were intelligent dogs. Ziyue felt that Beef could understand her.

“Mommy!”

At this time, Zixi, who had been taken upstairs to change, ran down.

Ziyue turned to see him running down the stairs with his short legs moving as fast as he could, and her heart lifted.

She got up and quickly walked to him. "Slow down, Zixi."

Zixi ran to her. When she caught him, he hugged her legs and said, "Want to go to school. Go to school."

"Alright. You can go tomorrow." Ziyue recalled Jingshu had mentioned that he had found a kindergarten for Zixi.

...

At the international airport of Country J.

Chuan got off the plane with a pale face. He had silently cursed Country Z's medicine manufacturer countless times.

He was airsick, so when he returned, he bought medicine beforehand.

Before flying in from Yunzhou City, he had also bought medicine but never thought it wouldn't work. He was near death after the journey.

He found a spot to sit down and called Ke weakly.

When the call went through, he heard Ke's harsh voice. "Say what you need to. I'm busy."

"Airport. Come pick me." After that, Chuan hung up.

On the other end, Ke, who had been preparing for a meeting, was really busy. But after she heard what Chuan had said, her actions stopped.

Airport? Didn't he return to Country Z with Mrs. Qin?

This time, someone called out beside her. "Mr. Qin."

"Mr. Qin, we can start. Everything is ready."

"Mm."

Ke put her cell phone down and turned to look at Muchen. She hesitated about telling Muchen.

She thought about it and walked to Muchen's side. She said softly, "Boss, something came up..."

"What is it?" Muchen was looking at a document. He raised his head to look at her when he heard her voice.

Today's meeting wasn't crucial, but he didn't want anyone absent.

And Ke wouldn't usually delay her work because something had come up last minute.

"I have a friend at the airport that I need to pick up..." Ke was slightly terrified when she saw Muchen's expression.

"Is he crippled? Can't he get a cab?" Muchen glanced at her expressionlessly.

Actually, Ke wanted to say she was going to pick Chuan up. Still, she knew Chuan had gone against Muchen's orders by returning, so she tried to help Chuan hide it from Muchen for the time being.

Chuan sounded quite weak on the call just now.

Muchen had previously told her that Chuan had gone back and wouldn't return for the time being. But now that Chuan was back in Country J, he had undoubtedly gone against Muchen's orders, and Muchen would be furious.

Ke's heart twisted and turned. Ultimately, she summoned her courage and said, "He's not feeling well."

After that, she heard Muchen sneer. His voice was frosty. "Is your friend named Nan Chuan?"

Ke was silent.

She felt that her boss wasn't human. It seemed like no one could hide anything from him.

Before Ke could react, Muchen said, "He's airsick? Let him die at the airport."

Ke was dumbstruck.

If she hadn't known Muchen for so many years, she would think Muchen actually wanted Chuan to die.

But she knew that Muchen was just being stubborn.

Therefore, Ke secretly arranged for Chuan to be picked up and taken to the doctor.

Chuan had bad airsickness. She was afraid he would really be ill.

...

The meeting was slightly extended. When it ended, Muchen returned to the office and saw Chuan waiting while hooked up to an IV.

When Chuan saw Muchen walk in, he immediately greeted Muchen. "Boss." Muchen glanced at him and said nothing when Muchen saw how pale Chuan looked. He directed his gaze at the couch.

Chuan understood it at once, so he immediately sat on the couch.

After he sat down, Muchen sat down across from him.

"Chuan, you had better give me a reason to persuade me. Otherwise..."

Muchen's voice was deep. He was clearly angry.

Chuan felt slightly guilty when he heard Muchen's tone.

But when he thought about it, Mrs. Qin had asked him to return. What did he have to fear?

"Mrs. Qin said you need me." He summoned his courage and tried to seem bold and confident.

When Muchen heard it, he glanced at Chuan. "That's what I thought. How would you have dared to come back on your own? As it turns out, someone had incited you."

Chuan was dumbfounded.

When did it sound like I'm a coward?

Alright. I've never had much courage in front of Mr. Qin anyway.

Muchen was slightly angry, but Chuan was already there. He had taken such a long flight and been airsick. He was enraged, but he didn't vent it.

"Go back and rest."

After that, he stood up and walked to his desk.

Chuan was in slight disbelief. Is that all?

He was prepared to be on the receiving end of Muchen's wrath. He thought there would be more.

Just as Muchen was about to call Ziyue, he raised his head and saw that Chuan hadn't left, so he said impatiently, "Why are you still here?"

Chuan left immediately.

Muchen had been calling Ziyue every day for the past few days.

But whenever Ziyue answered the call, she gave him the cold shoulder.

He knew she was angry at him.

However, he knew she would get over it in a few days. She couldn't keep it up for too long. Therefore, he persisted and called her every day.

The call went through quickly, but Ziyue said nothing.

Is she still angry?

Muchen figured out the time and realized it was dinnertime in Country Z. He asked her, "Have you eaten?"

"I'm eating now." Ziyue's tone was indifferent.

Upon listening closer, he could hear the soft noises of cutlery moving.

He went straight to the point. "I've seen Chuan."

On the other end, Ziyue was cutting Zixi's food up. When she heard what Muchen said, she wiped her hands at once and held the cell phone. She was slightly nervous but feigned calmness as she said, "Oh."

She had told Chuan to call her when he was back in Country J so she could prepare herself, but he had forgotten to do so!

Muchen asked, "Did you ask him to come back?"

His voice wasn't much different from before. Of course, Ziyue couldn't hear any emotion.

Ziyue thought about it. Since Muchen had made her return, she made Chuan go back. It felt fair.

"Yes. What can Chuan do in the country? Who can do anything to me in my territory?"

Muchen said, slightly amused, "Country J is also my territory. Who can do anything to me?"

Chapter 660 Hide

Ziyue was at a loss for words. After a few seconds, she mumbled, "It's different."

Before Muchen could say anything, she changed the topic and asked him, "Did Grandpa look for you?"

Muchen had taken the opportunity to send her back during the presidential election when Yuchuan was too busy to bother with him. She guessed that Yuchuan would find fault with Muchen when he learned about it later.

Ziyue also knew it wasn't because she was important or terrific to Yuchuan. To Yuchuan, her presence controlled Muchen.

When she thought about it, it seemed like it wasn't a wrong choice for her to return to the country.

"Are you being concerned for me now? You're not angry anymore?" There was a trace of a smile in Muchen's voice as though he was in a good mood. Ziyue was slightly annoyed. "I'm asking you a question. Can you be serious?!" Muchen was a dishonest businessman who attacked cunningly.

He had already sent her back. What could she do?

He did it because he knew she wouldn't actually get angry.

Ziyue sighed silently. She couldn't keep being mad at him and ignoring him.

Actually, she was most worried about losing contact with him right now.

Country J and Country Z were so far away from each other. A plane ride would take multiple hours. What would she do if something suddenly happened one day and there was no news of him?

She felt that Muchen was capable of doing such a thing.

"Don't worry. You're in Country Z, and you're far away. He can't make you come here again, and I'm not someone who can be easily influenced. Don't worry. If you're bored and have nothing to do, go out shopping. Don't let your imagination run wild."

Don't women like shopping and buying things?

"Promise me that you can't lose contact with me no matter what happens. You have to call me no matter what time it is." Ziyue was feeling vaguely uneasy.

Muchen was momentarily silent before saying, "Mm."

"What do you mean by that? Promise that you'll do it!" Ziyue was displeased at his response. He's trying to humor me? No way!

Muchen's free hand tapped twice on the table and he said, "I promise."

Then, he heard Zixi's pleading voice ring on the other end. "Mommy, I want to talk to Daddy."

Ziyue turned and saw that Zixi had put down his utensils. He was looking at her with wide eyes like Muchen's. The corners of his mouth were dirty, and his gaze was slightly expectant.

Her heart suddenly went soft. She felt that she should show Muchen how his son looked.

"Your son wants to talk to you," Ziyue told Muchen on the phone before passing it to Zixi.

When Zixi took the phone, he sat up straight with an earnest expression and spoke into the phone with a baby voice, "Daddy!"

The child's baby voice rang in the phone and he seemed more tender and lovely.

Muchen's gaze couldn't help but soften. His voice was gentle. "Have you finished your dinner?"

“Mm. I have. There was meat and vegetables... I don't like eating vegetables...” Zixi spontaneously announced the food on the table and talked endlessly about what he liked and disliked.

Ziyue felt sorry for her son, so she personally cooked every meal.

And now, Zixi was at an age where he was learning to speak. Ziyue would usually point things out to Zixi when she saw something while cooking or when they were out.

At his age, he quickly learned to speak. He would remember something after Ziyue taught it to him.

Ziyue didn't know what he said on the phone to Muchen. Zixi listened earnestly and would answer occasionally. His tiny figure was exceptionally amusing.

The father and son spoke for a while. Ziyue looked at the time. It was time for Zixi to bathe and sleep.

Ziyue made a gesture at Zixi, and he had a reluctant expression. “I have to bathe and sleep.”

He held the cell phone with both hands and asked, “Did you see my drawing?” Drawing?

Muchen furrowed his brows slightly. What drawing? Chuan didn't give it to me?

But Zixi's voice was filled with anticipation. Muchen couldn't bear to disappoint Zixi, so he said, “It's excellent.”

Zixi returned the cell phone to Ziyue, perfectly satisfied after receiving Muchen's approval.

Ziyue spoke to Muchen for a while before ending the call. After that, she led Zixi up the stairs to bathe and sleep.

...

Ziyue filled his bathtub and put some balls and a rubber duck in it. When she turned to help Zixi remove his clothes, she realized that Zixi had taken off most of his clothes.

The child had poor coordination, so he took his clothes off with some difficulty. Ziyue extended her hands to help him, but he turned her down.

Zixi twisted his body to avoid Ziyue's extended hands. He mumbled, “No... Do it myself...”

Ziyue couldn't help but laugh. “Alright. Do it yourself.”

She felt that Zixi was very delightful like that. She crouched at one side and watched him take off his clothes.

He pulled one side of his pants out and almost fell down. Ziyue reached out and caught him in time. He fell on Ziyue and raised the other leg with his pants still on. He shook it hard before the pants came off.

She thought anything Zixi did now was fascinating.

...

Muchen ended the call. He got up and walked to the window.

LK Group's building was very tall, and his office was at a high level. He had a broad field of vision, and when he looked out, it felt like he overlooked everything.

In the past, he liked the feeling of overlooking everything from a tall place. But he liked it less these days.

In the past, he never thought that excessive wealth and extensive power would someday become a burden.

He lit a cigarette and puffed on it with all his might before removing it.

His lonely gaze fell on the lit cigarette. He thought to himself. If Ziyue were here, she would get angry at me again.

But if he didn't smoke, he would feel empty.

'Knock knock!'

There was knocking at the door. From the sound of it, it seemed urgent.

He immediately put aside his lonesome expression and extinguished the cigarette. His voice was steady and cold. "Come in."

He had just walked to sit at his desk when the person knocking came in.

It was none other than Ke.

She wore formal clothes, and her hair was on her shoulders. Her makeup was exquisite, and she looked resolute.

When he saw that it was Ke, a trace of confusion was intertwined in Muchen's voice. "What is it?"

Chuan is clearly feeling unwell. Ke should be arranging for Chuan to rest and see the doctor. Why is she looking for me in a hurry?

"Old Mr. Qin is rushing here. Boss, should you hide or..." Ke was cautiously paying attention to Muchen's expression and waiting for him to speak.

"Why should I hide?" Muchen's expression darkened. He had a bone-chilling coldness to him.