

## Marry Me Quick Novel Online Free - Chapter 775 – 800

Chapter 775 Set a Trap for Her, Waiting for Her to Fall Into It

Su Ziyue believed she must be conceiving a daughter this time, or she wouldn't be acting so much like a baby.

And despite Qin Muchen's firm attitude, he couldn't resist Su Ziyue's pestering and coaxing. Ultimately, he gave in and took Su Ziyue to Jingcheng City with him.

Su Ziyue didn't mean it when she said Qin Zixi could take care of her, but never did she think Qin Muchen took it seriously and brought Qin Zixi along. What could she say about that? Qin Muchen couldn't possibly expect Qin Zixi to really take care of her, could he?

Then again, it was good that Qin Zixi tagged along as well. They could treat it as a trip.

...

When An Xia woke up, everything was pitch black.

She tried to move her body and realized that her hands and feet were tied up. After a moment of confusion, she remembered that she had been kidnapped. Unable to move or see anything, she was about to call for help when she heard the voices of two men outside.

"Is she really Bai Jingshu's wife?"

"It's her, no doubt about it. She looks exactly like the person in the photo."

"She's not that good-looking, though."

"Maybe she's good in bed."

An Xia really wanted to curse. Am I really that ugly?! I'll have you know that I still stand out in a crowd, alright?! Though I lack a little when standing next to Bai Jingshu, that is. But how can you people judge others on their appearance?! Shouldn't you appreciate others for their inner qualities?!

She really wanted to retort, but she didn't know what was going on at the moment. So, she decided to play dead and stay unchanged to adapt to any situation.

It was unbelievable that she had been kidnapped right at the entrance of the Bai Residence.

She closed her eyes and organized her thoughts. Strangely, she didn't feel scared.

After a while, the door was pushed open, and one of the men said, "Why hasn't she woken up yet?"

The other quickly replied, "Splash some water on her, and she'll wake up."

Instantly An Xia dared not play dead anymore. She quickly sat up straight and cried out, "Don't! I'm awake. I'm fully awake!"

It was winter, and there was no heating in the room. If they splashed cold

water on her, she might freeze to death.

As a true Southerner, she couldn't withstand the cold.

One of the men went up to her, removed her blindfold, and pinched her chin. He leaned in close and said in a menacing tone, "D\*mn it! You woke up and didn't make a sound, pretending to be dead!"

Her chin hurt from the pinch, so she dared not speak anymore as a growing sense of fear surged within her.

The man looked at her with a sinister expression. "Speak up, you mute!"

Enduring the pain in her chin, An Xia twitched the corner of her lips and said calmly, "You're really handsome."

Her inexplicable comment stumped the man for a moment before he burst into laughter.

"You're interesting, woman, and you have good taste. I used to be the school's heartthrob!"

An Xia was speechless. She meant nothing of it, but who'd have thought the kidnappers were upright and actually believed her?!

Still, she didn't dare let her guard down and seized the chance to ask, "Why did you kidnap me?"

"So you know you've been kidnapped, eh? But you don't seem to be afraid of us." The man looked at her with great interest.

An Xia pursed her lips and was about to speak when the other man said, "

Kun, why waste time with her? We just need her to lure Bai Yunan over..."

His gaze became lecherous, latching to An Xia like a sticky snake. He rubbed his hands together and said, "We're going to dispose of her anyway, so why not let me have some fun first?"

The man called Kun turned around and glared at him. "Can't you think of anything else besides women, Lao Wu? If you really want a woman, go play with Bai Yeqi's wife. She's prettier than this one."

An Xia looked at Kun in surprise. She thought the man didn't seem entirely evil; his features were rugged, and he didn't look like a thoroughly wicked person.

However, when he mentioned "Bai Yeqi" in passing, An Xia became suspicious.

She pinched her stiff hands and asked, "When you say the Bai family, do you mean the one in the military compound?"

Kun glanced at her, and the scar on his face appeared somewhat sinister.

After a while, he said, "Duh!"

An Xia's heart skipped a beat. "Did you also kidnap her?"

Kun suddenly burst into laughter. "It's thanks to her that we were able to capture you."

An Xia was stunned for a moment, and after a brief daze, she realized what

Kun meant—Shu Yanian helped them kidnap her.

“You’re in cahoots with her?” An Xia looked at them warily, her heart pounding tightly.

“Cahoots with her? A woman like her still isn’t worthy of it. Our target is Bai Yunan.”

An Xia felt inexplicably relieved when she heard that they weren’t in cahoots with Shu Yanian. “What’s the point of kidnapping me then? I’m not Bai Yunan’s wife!”

“Oh, but you’re his sister-in-law. He won’t ignore you.”

“Why didn’t you kidnap Shu Yanian instead? She’s also his sister-in-law!”

“That’s why she helped us capture you.” Who knew where Kun got all of his patience to entertain An Xia for so long.

An Xia finally understood the general picture at this point. These people had a grudge against Bai Yunan, and their ultimate goal was him. Whether they kidnapped her or Shu Yanian made no difference. She only ended up being the hostage because Shu Yanian helped them.

Lu Qingyou had warned her to be cautious, and she had taken the advice seriously. However, she never expected that Shu Yanian had set a trap for her, waiting for her to fall into it without even facing her directly.

Just then, Lao Wu’s phone rang. He glanced at the screen and said to Kun, “It’s that woman.”

At that, Kun took the phone and put it on speaker. Immediately after the call connected, an unfamiliar and strange voice came through.

“Have you captured her?”

The caller had evidently used a voice changer.

Kun replied, “We caught her.”

“Look after her, then. This is all I can do for you. Don’t contact me again.”

Although An Xia had spent a short time with Shu Yanian, she could still make out the latter’s tone.

She didn’t expect Shu Yanian to be so malicious.

She might appear knowledgeable and reasonable, but in reality, she was quite clueless.

An Xia could overlook the matter if it was just some petty scheming between women, but these people were after Bai Yunan.

On a smaller scale, Bai Yunan was the heir of the Bai family. If anything happened to him, nothing good would come of Shu Yanian either. On a larger scale, Bai Yunan was a decorated senior military officer. If anything happened to him, it would have significant consequences.

Shu Yanian probably thought she was being discreet, but Bai Yunan wasn’t a pushover. After serving in the military for so many years, he had strong investigative abilities, and it wouldn’t take long for him to trace things back to

her. The young woman thought she was smart, but she couldn't even figure this out.

At this moment, An Xia wasn't worried about herself but about Bai Jingshu. She was afraid that Bai Jingshu would act impulsively and do something foolish.

#### Chapter 776 Mentally Unstable

Bai Jingshu might appear to be a spoiled young master, but he was actually kind-hearted.

Initially, she really disliked him, but the more she got to know him, the more she discovered his many unique qualities that others didn't have.

Although he rarely expressed himself, she knew that she held an important place in his heart.

All she could do was pray that Bai Yunan could hold Bai Jingshu back and prevent him from causing trouble.

After answering the phone, Kun went out with Lao Wu, and An Xia finally had time to inspect the room.

The wallpapers had begun peeling off, appearing mottled and dilapidated.

There were windows, but security bars were installed over them, and through the windows, she could vaguely see the residential buildings outside. This should be an old neighborhood in Jingcheng City.

She wasn't familiar with Jingcheng City, so she couldn't guess the approximate location at all.

An Xia took a deep breath while leaning against the wall to calm herself down. She thought Kun seemed extraordinary and intelligent, while Lao Wu seemed short-sighted, easily bribed, and lustful. She had to be on guard against the latter.

The room was empty, with nothing else in it. The ropes on her hands and feet were tightly bound, and she couldn't untie them or find anything sharp to cut the ropes.

With great effort, she managed to get up from the ground and jumped to the window. Her chin scraped against the surface, leaving her mouth tasting of rust, but she finally managed to open the window.

The floor was high, and when she looked down, she couldn't see if there was anyone below.

Suddenly, she saw a cup-sized bonsai on the windowsill. Of course, the plants inside had already withered, and the flowerpot was small enough to fit through the gaps of the security bars.

She was about to push the small flowerpot down with her chin, hoping to hit someone and attract attention, but then she thought, what if it didn't hit anyone?

She bit her lip and knocked her head against the wall, breaking the skin but not drawing blood.

Forget it. I shouldn't hit my forehead against the wall. What if I hit too hard and end up disfiguring myself?!

She turned her back and struggled to drag her bound hands forcefully across the window ledge, immediately cutting a bloody gash.

An Xia gritted her teeth and let the blood drip onto the small flowerpot. After both the inside and out were stained with blood, she pushed the flowerpot down.

Surely, a flower pot stained with blood would arouse suspicion among passersby, right?

After doing all this, she sat down against the wall, panting heavily, her heart beating rapidly.

Doing something to save herself was better than sitting and waiting for death. Minutes and seconds passed, but Kun and Lao Wu didn't return, and no one came knocking on the door.

By the time it got dark, An Xia began to feel desperate.

Fortunately, her injury was on her palm. After clenching her fist, the wound stopped bleeding. Otherwise, she'd have bled to death if she waited for someone to save her.

She lost track of time and was starting to feel drowsy against the wall when the door to the room opened.

The room was illuminated as Lao Wu and Kun walked in.

An Xia slowly sank down.

Both of their expressions were grim, and Kun entered and squinted, his eyes fixed on her, while Lao Wu's gaze lingered on her body as if he had already stripped her naked.

A chilling feeling spread throughout her body, and she dared not utter a word.

Kun approached a few steps closer and looked down at her. "Bai Yunan and his people are looking for us everywhere. It's obvious that you are important to them."

That was expected. Bai Yunan cared a lot about Bai Jingshu, and he wouldn't ignore his affairs.

"Let's make them wait for a night. Tomorrow, when they become anxious, we'll arrange a rendezvous for you to see them. How about that?" Kun spoke with a hint of a smile as if he was talking to an old friend.

This sent shivers down An Xia's spine, and she didn't dare to respond.

Kun patted her face. "What are you afraid of? We won't do anything to you. Our target is Bai Yunan."

His words were strange, like he was trying to reassure her.

An Xia furrowed her brows and carefully examined Kun. Oddly enough, she felt a sense of familiarity in him, yet she couldn't remember ever meeting him before.

She believed she must've gone mad from being tied up for a long time, or why else would Kun seem familiar to her?!

Meanwhile, Kun took out a wad of cash from his pocket and handed it to Lao Wu. "Go out and have some fun. Come back when you've had enough."

Lao Wu looked delighted. "An escort doesn't cost this much, Kun!"

"Find a few more, then," said Kun as he fished for his cigarette. "Find some pretty ones."

"Alrighty, thanks, Kun!" With that, Lao Wu dashed off.

An Xia had never imagined that one day she would be sitting in front of two complete strangers, discussing finding escorts.

With Lao Wu gone, she felt somewhat relieved. After all, that man had been staring lecherously at her, and his gaze screamed 'creepy.'

But Kun obviously didn't have such thoughts.

He took a drag and sat on the floor before her. After blowing out a smoke ring, he asked, "Where are you from?"

An Xia thought Kun was either mentally unstable or super lonely to be engaging in small talk with her.

"Either way, I'm not from Jingcheng City," An Xia replied cautiously, avoiding mentioning that she was from Yunzhou City.

He quirked a brow in response, appearing somewhat terrifying, and speculated on his own, "Judging by your height, you must be from the southern region, right?"

An Xia really wanted to retort, but she held back since this person was a kidnapper with her life in his hands.

Kun didn't mind An Xia's silence and continued to guess, "From your accent, are you from around Yunzhou City?"

This time, An Xia was stupefied.

Based on her woman's intuition, a bold conjecture emerged in her mind. She pursed her lips and dared not ask about her inner speculation.

Seeing that An Xia hesitated, Kun said, "What's wrong? Did I guess right?"

An Xia hesitated for a moment and asked, "Have we met before?"

As soon as she spoke, she saw Kun's fingers, holding the half-smoked cigarette, tighten suddenly as his countenance changed.

Could it be that he really knows me?!

Kun stubbed the cigarette on the floor, got up, and went to another corner to rest with his eyes closed, ignoring her.

An Xia was filled with doubts. Kun didn't deny it; did it mean that he really knew her? But she didn't dare to ask further.

Lao Wu didn't return that night. The room had no heating, and An Xia spent the whole night feeling drowsy. She didn't dare sleep despite being exhausted.

Finally, as dawn broke, Kun left, leaving An Xia alone in the room. She had been starving for a whole day and night, feeling weak and even starting to imagine someone knocking on the door.

"Is there anyone inside..."

She was even beginning to imagine voices.

Wait!

An Xia jolted and struggled to move to the door, knocking on it with her head.

"Someone's inside! Please save me!"

Chapter 777 Run!

Nothingness came from the other side of the door for a moment before the door shook violently following a loud bang.

Then, the person outside raised their voice. "Step back. I'll break the lock and save you."

Only then did An Xia realize her rescuer was a woman with a soft tone, probably a gentle and kind person.

"Okay." An Xia responded and moved aside, leaning against the wall.

Soon after, the door was forced open, and An Xia was beyond delighted.

However, she was stumped when she saw the somewhat familiar face.

"It's you!"

Standing in front of her, holding a brick in her hand, was Su Yige, whom she hadn't seen for a long time.

Having just smashed the lock, Su Yige's forehead was still covered in fine sweat. Her skin was fair and supple, and her long hair cascaded down her shoulders. She still had that pure, untainted appearance, like a white lotus emerging from the mud.

The description wasn't derogatory.

Mixed emotions overcame An Xia right then, for she used to call Su Yige a f\*cking b\*tch, never imagining that she would cross paths with the latter one day.

Su Yige was also shocked; her eyes slightly widened as she called out, "An Xia?"

An Xia nodded in affirmation. She knew some of what Su Yige had experienced, and Su Ziyue said Su Yige had changed for the better.

Then again, she couldn't afford to be picky under such circumstances. So, she anxiously said, "We can talk later, but now, help me untie the ropes."

"Alright." Su Yige didn't hesitate and started untying An Xia's ropes.

The ropes were tied tightly, so Su Yige had to exert some effort to untie them. The two ran down the stairs.



It was an old-style residential building without an elevator.

While running, An Xia asked Su Yige, "Can I use your phone?"

Her phone had been taken away by the two kidnappers long ago, and she had no idea where it was.

With that, Su Yige handed her phone to An Xia and said, "I already called the police before I came."

"Thank you," said An Xia after taking the phone, then dialed a number she knew by heart. But surprisingly, nobody answered.

She tried calling twice, but neither call got through, and she was getting desperate.

Among the numbers she could remember, besides Bai Jingshu and her family, was only Su Ziyue's.

She had no idea when the police would arrive. Although Su Yige reported the incident, the process would take time, and they couldn't be sure either when the kidnappers would return. So she had to contact others in the meantime.

Her call to Su Ziyue was connected in two shakes, but it sounded a little noisy on the other end of the line.

"Hello, who is this?"

"It's me, An Xia."

"An Xia?!" Su Ziyue's tone couldn't hide her surprise. "An Xia, where are you? Are you okay now?"

Su Ziyue also knew that something had happened to me?

"I'm at..." Alas, An Xia didn't know where she was.

At that, Su Yige took the phone and gave a detailed address.

Meanwhile, An Xia looked at Su Yige suspiciously, wondering how she could be so familiar with the location.

As if having read her mind, Su Yige explained, "I'm planning to move back to the country lately, so I asked an agent to help me find a house. I didn't expect to be deceived by a fake agent and ended up in a run-down, old residential area."

"But why did you come knocking on the door?"

"I came to see the property yesterday and noticed the flowerpot. I thought it was just someone's prank. Plus, I was in a bad mood after being deceived, so I ignored it. But I couldn't stop thinking about it, so I came first thing in the morning," Su Yige spoke frankly, not like she was lying.

An Xia didn't pay much attention to those details. All in all, Su Yige saved her, and she owed her a debt of gratitude now.

Meanwhile, on the other end of the line, Su Ziyue made out Su Yige's voice and exclaimed with surprise, "Su Yige?"

"It's me." Su Yige smiled.



Just then, a man's voice came from downstairs, full of energy. "They're over there!"

"Run!" An Xia was the first to react, pulling Su Yige and quickly running upstairs.

Su Yige held onto the phone tightly, the call still connected. An Xia urgently said, "Ziyue, find a way to contact Bai Jingshu..."

There was no need for extra words; she needed to conserve her energy to escape.

Each floor of the building was occupied with no corridors or windows. Jumping out of a window wasn't an option.

Finally, they reached the rooftop on the top floor. Plus, it was overcast, and the cold wind blew in chilling gusts.

An Xia's heart felt like it was about to jump out of her chest. She tightly held Su Yige's hand, and both were extremely nervous.

The person who came up was Lao Wu, whose face was dark, seeming like he had 'played' all night.

He blocked the door upon reaching the rooftop, and he grinned triumphantly, looking relaxed, when he saw that An Xia and Su Yige had nowhere to escape.

"Oh, not running anymore? Go on, run. Why aren't you running anymore?"

Lao Wu's gaze shifted to Su Yige's face, and he immediately showed a lecherous expression.

Su Yige had a somewhat 'wh\*re-ish' appearance, the type of innocent-looking girl that many men liked.

"My, my, what do we have here? A pretty girl has come to save you, eh?!" Lao Wu stared straight at Su Yige with lustful eyes.

At that, An Xia stepped forward and positioned herself between Lao Wu and Su Yige, trying to divert his attention. "Do you really think that by capturing me, you can lure Bai Yunan here? Even if you manage to lure him, can you really kill him?"

"Whether he comes or not, it's none of your business. Anyway, neither of you will leave here alive!" Lao Wu looked disdainfully at An Xia, fully aware of her intentions.

"We're all going to die sooner or later anyway, so why don't we all have some fun together?" He said with a vulgar gesture that was sickening.

An Xia remained composed and subtly squeezed Su Yige's hand before shifting her gaze to a nearby iron pipe.

Su Yige understood immediately and responded with a silent squeeze.

With that, An Xia moved to the side and walked straight toward Lao Wu, who furrowed his brows slightly, caught off guard by her sudden action.

An Xia walked up to him and slapped him across the face. Then, she scolded fiercely, "Pervert!"

She hit him hard, her voice crisp and loud. After the strike, her hand felt slightly numb.

Lao Wu was momentarily stunned, only then realizing that An Xia had run over to slap him.

"F\*ck!" He cursed, immediately grabbing An Xia's hair and throwing her to the ground before growling through gnashed teeth, "You b\*tch! How dare you hit me!"

The floor was cold and hard, but fortunately, An Xia was wearing thick clothing, so she was just sore from the fall and not injured.

"Why wouldn't I dare? I'm not afraid of you!" She endured the pain and kept talking to Lao Wu, trying to distract him.

Meanwhile, Su Yige took the opportunity to grab the iron pipe.

"F\*ck, I'd have f\*cked you if Kun hadn't been holding me back all this while. You talk tough, but I'll make you beg for mercy!" He continued using vulgar language while loosening his belt.

Chapter 778 I'm Fine, Really

Though An Xie said she wasn't afraid, deep down, she was still terrified.

She suppressed her disgust and slowly moved backward as she watched Leo Wu take out his ugly thing, all while her gaze gradually calmed.

"Someone like you, born into unfortunate circumstances, with no one to discipline you, and not willing to learn, that's why you ended up on the wrong path. Without money, you probably can't even find a woman willing to sleep with you willingly. You really are a failure..."

While diverting Leo Wu's attention, she would glance behind him.

Behind Leo Wu, Su Yige had already closed in, raising the iron pipe in her hand, so her job now was to distract Leo Wu for as long as possible.

Leo Wu was so enraged by An Xie's words that his features contorted, and he viciously said, "You bitch, I'll make you believe!"

An Xie inched along the ground, slowly moving backward.

Su Yige quietly approached behind Leo Wu, and just as he was about to pounce on An Xie, she raised the iron pipe and struck him hard on the head.

Leo Wu's body stiffened for a moment, and he only managed to turn his head to glance at Su Yige before collapsing to the ground.

An Xie was momentarily stunned but quickly reacted. She got up from the ground, walked to Leo Wu's side, and kicked him hard a few times, confirming that he had really passed out.

Indeed, men who were driven by lust would become fools.

She looked at Su Yige, unable to conceal the surprise in her tone, "I didn't expect you to be so capable, Miss Su!"

She genuinely didn't expect Su Yige to knock out the tall and burly Lao Wu with a single blow.

Su Yige smirked, her smile faint. "Living as a woman, you inevitably encounter some unexpected incidents."

An Xie nodded. That was indeed the case.

She couldn't help but size up Su Yige again, noticing how much she had changed.

Then, she took a glance at Lao Wu, took the iron pipe from Su Yige's hand, and delivered another harsh blow to his head before saying to Su Yige, "Let's hurry and leave. They still have another accomplice who might come out soon."

An Xie felt a stroke of luck, hoping that Kun hadn't returned so quickly.

However, An Xie, who had been fortunate throughout her life, wasn't favored by the goddess of luck this time. They had just descended one flight of stairs when they saw Kun coming up the stairs.

After all, unlike the brainless Lao Wu, Kun was relatively smart and not easily deceived, making it difficult to deal with him.

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Alas, unlike the brainless Lao Wu, Kun was relatively smart and not easily deceived, making it difficult to deal with him.

Their first instinct was to run.

The only place above where they could hide was the rooftop. However, Lao Wu was still on the rooftop and could possibly wake up at any moment.

Regardless, they had no other choice but to return to the rooftop.

Once on the rooftop, they shut the door tightly. However, the latch was rusty from years of neglect and didn't look secure at all.

An Xia used her body to support the door panel, while Su Yige kept watch over Lao Wu to prevent him from waking up.

Before long, they heard footsteps, and An Xia's heart almost jumped to her throat.

"Lao Wu, are you here?"

It was Kun's voice.

An Xia's face turned pale with anxiety, and she even held her breath.

Getting no response, Kun assumed that Lao Wu wasn't there and muttered, "Where did this guy go?"

Then, An Xia heard Kun's footsteps gradually receding until it was completely quiet outside. Finally, she breathed a sigh of relief and sat down on the ground.

She smiled at Su Yige and was about to say something when the door panel was suddenly rammed against.

An Xia was taken aback and quickly got up to support the door panel.

However, it was too late; Kun had already barged through the door.

An Xia looked at him with a pale face, too afraid to move.

Kun walked over and lifted her up, his hand gripping her throat tightly. "Quite capable, aren't you? And you have someone helping you."

"No matter what your purpose is, you won't succeed!" An Xia's nerves were tightly strung, and she was gasping for breath.

"The six of us were adopted by Gricy since we were kids. We would've died long ago if it weren't for the organization. But Bai Yunan, he not only destroyed the organization but also killed our brothers. Shouldn't he die?"

Kun's eyes widened, glaring fiercely at An Xia.

"He shouldn't die!" An Xia firmly declared.

With her throat being squeezed, her breathing heavy, she spoke rapidly, "He's a soldier defending his homeland. Even if he dies, it would be on the battlefield, not as a result of your revenge. Even in death, he will be respected. As for all of you, you're like maggots living in the dark sewer, forever hidden from the light, forever despised by people."

Her words made Kun furious, his eyes turning red, and he tightened his grip, saying, "You're asking for death!"

An Xia's breathing became increasingly short, but she continued to signal Su Yige, who was not far away, to escape.

Even if she was destined to die that day, she didn't want to involve Su Yige. She just remembered that Su Yige seemed to have a child, and though the woman was despicable in the past, she had changed now and deserved a chance for a new life.

No one deserved to die, nor was anyone not afraid to die.

An Xia simply didn't want to involve Su Yige.

Su Yige shook her head and suddenly seemed to think of something. She dropped the iron pipe in her hand and ran out.

An Xia felt a little disappointed. Zi Yue wouldn't have left her behind and run away.

Kun heard the commotion behind him and turned to look, but he couldn't afford to release An Xia and chase someone else, so he had to give up.

He glanced at An Xia, whose face was starting to turn purple, and quickly released his grip.

Suddenly, the sound of approaching footsteps came from downstairs, and An Xia's face lit up; it must be Bai Jingshu coming to rescue her.

Kun's expression changed, and he lifted An Xia, walking toward the edge of the rooftop. He took out a dagger from somewhere and pressed it against An Xia's neck.

An Xia finally caught her breath, but the knife against her neck prevented her from making any sudden movements.

Soon, a group of people rushed in through the dilapidated iron door.

An Xia found Bai Jingshu at first glance. His hair was a bit messy, and he was still wearing yesterday's clothes, looking somewhat disheveled.

His eyes quickly met An Xia's, his pupils contracted, and he was about to run

toward her, but Kun stopped him, saying, "Stay where you are. Don't come any closer!"

Only then did Bai Jingshu notice the dagger pressed against An Xia's neck. His eyesight was good enough to see the blood staining the blade, and he quickly halted, his voice tinged with panic, "An Xia!"

An Xia finally felt relieved now that she saw him. "You've come," she said, smiling at him.

Bai Jingshu nodded, his eyes fixed on Kun's every move, his hands clenching and relaxing.

An Xia didn't look much better; her face was pale, and a dagger was held against her neck while she stood at the edge of the rooftop, at risk of losing her life at any moment.

Bai Jingshu stood just a few steps away from her, but he couldn't do anything. An Xia, on the other hand, was calmer than him, and she comforted him, "Don't be nervous. I'm fine, really."

Chapter 779 Maybe It'll Be a Son

Bei Jingshu perted his lips and nodded somewhat mechanically.

Just then, another person entered through the iron door, tall and dressed in black.

An Xie couldn't help but widen her eyes. What is Mr. Qin doing here?!

Kun didn't care who else had come unless it was Bei Yunen. He scanned the crowd and roared when he didn't see Bei Yunen anywhere. "Where's Bei Yunen? Is that bastard too afraid to come?"

He became so worked up that as he spoke, the dagger pressed against An Xie's neck tightened.

An Xie looked up and closed her eyes in fear when she took a glance below. Shoot, it's so high!

Bei Jingshu's voice quivered, "Let her go. I'll give you whatever you want. I can even arrange a plane to send you abroad."

However, Kun was resolute. "I don't want anything except for Bei Yunen to die!"

An Xie looked around and didn't see Bei Yunen. Thankfully, Bei Yunen hadn't come.

"I'll give you ten minutes. If Bei Yunen doesn't show up, I'll jump from here with your women!" Kun stared at Bei Jingshu intensely, his expression extremely sinister.

An Xie knew Kun wasn't just saying it. He wasn't afraid to die at all.

He and Leo Wu had already lost his life and death aside.

Bei Jingshu felt his heart jump to his throat as he tried to calm Kun, "Let's not do anything rash. We can talk anything through..."

Aside, Qin Muchen suddenly made a strange gesture with his hand while the

two weren't looking, and the next second, Kun froze, his eyes widened with disbelief and unwillingness.

Before Bei Jingshu could react to the situation, Qin Muchen already ran over, knocked the dagger out of Kun's hand, and pulled An Xie over to Bei Jingshu. Bei Jingshu instinctively caught An Xie, and when he looked up, he saw Kun already collapsed on the ground, his eyes wide open, no longer breathing. Under his head, red crimson was gushing out.

Finally, Bei Jingshu came around and asked Qin Muchen, "Hed Yunen arranged a sniper?"

Qin Muchen glanced at An Xie and said, "He didn't arrange a sniper."

"Was it him then?" An Xie immediately reacted and asked.

Qin Muchen nodded in affirmation and directed his men to take Leo Wu, who was still unconscious, and Kun's body away, leaving An Xie and Bei Jingshu to themselves.

Meanwhile, Bei Jingshu held An Xie in his arms, still feeling lingering fear. He didn't know how he had made it through this day and night.

Bei Jingshu parted his lips and nodded somewhat mechanically.

Just then, another person entered through the iron door, tall and dressed in black.

An Xia couldn't help but widen her eyes. What is Mr. Qin doing here?!

Kun didn't care who else had come unless it was Bai Yunan. He scanned the crowd and roared when he didn't see Bai Yunan anywhere. "Where's Bai Yunan? Is that b\*stard too afraid to come?"

He became so worked up that as he spoke, the dagger pressed against An Xia's neck tightened.

An Xia looked up and closed her eyes in fear when she took a glance below. Shoot, it's so high!

Bai Jingshu's voice quivered, "Let her go. I'll give you whatever you want. I can even arrange a plane to send you abroad."

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He and Lao Wu had already cast life and death aside.

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Qin Muchen nodded in affirmation and directed his men to take Lao Wu, who was still unconscious, and Kun's body away, leaving An Xia and Bai Jingshu to themselves.

Meanwhile, Bai Jingshu held An Xia in his arms, still feeling lingering fear. He didn't know how he had made it through this day and night.

Bai Jingshu kissed her hair, forehead, and finally her lips with bloodshot eyes before asking, "Are you really okay? Let me see."

Seeing how nervous he was, An Xia spread her arms and turned around in front of him, saying, "See, I'm perfectly fine. I'm not lying. I'm really okay."

Still, the sharp-eyed Bai Jingshu immediately noticed the wound on her palm. He grabbed her hand, looked at the now congealed wound, and pressed it against his lips with an aching heart before carrying her in his arms.

"Let's go back first."

"Put me down. I can walk!" An Xia exclaimed. However, Bai Jingshu paid no attention to her plea.

...

Many cars were parked outside the residential area, and An Xia found Bai Yunan in front of one of them, still wearing protective gear.

He was just about to light a cigarette when he saw Bai Jingshu carrying An Xia over. At that, he put the lighter back and approached them, asking, "Are you okay?"

An Xia, still in Bai Jingshu's arms, replied bashfully, "I'm fine."

Bai Yunan nodded and didn't say anything more. Instead, he went aside and lit a cigarette.

Just then, Qin Muchen rejoined the group and frowned when he saw Bai Yunan smoking glumly. With that, he went over to him and asked, "Nervous?"

Bai Yunan didn't respond but handed a pack of cigarettes to Qin Muchen.

He was indeed a little nervous, worried that he would miss. If anything happened to An Xia, Bai Jingshu would never forgive him.

Qin Muchen, of course, didn't accept it. "I quit smoking for my daughter," he

mumbled.

"Your child isn't born yet. How do you know it's a daughter?! Maybe it'll be a son," Bai Yunan sneered after recovering from his stupefaction.

There was a hint of schadenfreude in his tone.

At that, Qin Muchen mercilessly retorted, "Alright, forget about having a son. Shall I remind you that you don't even have a wife, not to mention that you're older than me!"

Bai Yunan was at a loss for words. He felt that as long as he remained unmarried and childless, he would forever be at a disadvantage in front of Qin Muchen.

You son of a b\*tch! Must you hold a grudge like this just because I showed a bit of interest in your wife in the past?!

On their journey back, Bai Jingshu held An Xia's hand tightly.

An Xia's had already calmed down at this point, and she thought that Bai Jingshu was overreacting.

She tried to comfort him, but it didn't work, so she tried changing the subject.

"Why did Mr. Qin come to Jingcheng City?"

"Su Ziyue couldn't reach you on the phone, so she called me. When she found out you were in trouble, she rushed over."

"Really?" An Xia suddenly felt a bit surprised and flattered. But very quickly, she realized some things didn't add up.

"Su Ziyue is pregnant now. How can she run around?! What if she strains herself? Mr. Qin treats her like a precious gem. Could he really allow her to come to Jingcheng City?"

"That's their business."

Touche.

The group went straight to the Bai Residence.

As soon as An Xia got out of the car, she quickly let go of Bai Jingshu's hand and ran toward the house because Bai Jingshu had mentioned that Su Ziyue was at the Bai Residence.

"Ziyue!" she called out to the young woman as she ran.

Su Ziyue had received a call from Qin Muchen earlier and knew that everything was going smoothly. She had been waiting for them and heard An Xia's voice from afar.

She walked out while holding Qin Zixi's hand. Qin Zixi was also delighted to see An Xia and called out from a distance, "Aunt Xia!"

"Zixi is here too!" An Xia went up and hugged Qin Zixi while kissing him on the cheek.

Qin Zixi silently wiped the saliva off his face.

Then, An Xia gave Su Ziyue a bear hug and complained, "You're pregnant. Why are you running around!"

Su Ziyue immediately replied, "It's still early; I'm just three months in. There's no problem."

Meanwhile, the others behind An Xia approached them.

In the crowd, Su Ziyue saw Qin Muchen and waved at him, flashing a smile.

Qin Muchen quickened his pace and walked up to her, his voice gentle, "Are you okay?"

"What could possibly happen to me when you've only been gone for an hour?"

Su Ziyue felt that Qin Muchen was becoming more and more naggy.

Qin Muchen quirked a brow in response and reached out to pinch her face, but she slapped his hand away.

He didn't mind and just chuckled, holding her hand, and turned to the others, saying, "We'll be leaving."

Next, the Bai family had family matters to deal with. He and Su Ziyue, being outsiders, shouldn't stay any longer.

Although An Xia had many things to say to Su Ziyue, given the current situation, they could only resolve everything before further conversations.

## Chapter 780 I Won't Sign, I Won't Divorce

Qin Muchen and Su Ziyue had just left when Lu Qinghan and Lu Qingyou arrived.

"Where's Qin Muchen? I heard he came with his wife?" Lu Qingyou asked, looking around excitedly only to find no Qin Muchen or Su Ziyue. Ultimately she withdrew her gaze with disappointment.

Without intending to, she turned and saw Bai Yunan staring coldly at her.

She blinked, feeling confused. What did I do to offend him this time?

An Xia, on the other hand, understood the mystery in Bai Yunan's eyes and walked up to Lu Qingyou, saying, "They've already left. I'm going to find them later. You can come with me."

"Sure!" Lu Qingyou nodded vigorously.

With that, she ran off like the wind, swift and agile.

"Let's go inside. Everyone is waiting for us," Bai Yunan said grimly and walked ahead, entering the house first.

Meanwhile, An Xia whispered to Bai Jingshu, "Why is your older brother so easily annoyed by Qingyou?"

Bai Jingshu smiled and replied, "It's normal."

Once they entered the house, they stopped talking, for every member of the Bai family had gathered in the hall, and the atmosphere was grave.

An Xia's gaze unexpectedly met Shu Yanian's.

Shu Yanian looked at An Xia, who returned unscathed, with seethed hatred, but she couldn't act on it.

She had to maintain a caring and magnanimous appearance. Upon noticing

the bloodstains on An Xia's neck, she exclaimed in surprise, "Miss An, are you injured?"

An Xia smirked and implied, "Thanks to you, it's just a minor injury."

Shu Yanian's expression changed slightly, believing An Xia had already found out that she had helped those two capture her.

She clenched her hands tightly, desperately trying to come up with a plan.

However, the more nervous she became, the less she could think of anything.

Suddenly, a scornful snigger came from the side. She turned her head and saw her husband, Bai Yeqi, looking at her with a mocking expression.

She was taken aback and reached out to hold his hand, saying, "Yeqi..."

Unexpectedly, Bai Yeqi brushed her hand off, his face sub-zero.

For a moment, Shu Yanian thought she was in a glacier cave. Has Bai Yeqi also discovered something?

She took a gander at the members of the Bai family. Though none of them looked at her, she thought they had already seen right through her.

Just then, Aunt Liu came over with the first aid kit and said to An Xia with concern, "It's good that you're okay."

"Yep." An Xia nodded and smiled at her.

Aunt Liu left with a smile. What a sweet girl.

Old Master Bai and Bai Mingxu remained silent throughout. It was only after Bai Jingshu finished treating An Xia's wounds that Bai Yunan spoke, "Since everyone is here today, let's discuss some family matters."

At that, he turned to Shu Yanian. "Do you want to explain yourself, or should I do it for you?"

Shu Yanian didn't expect Bai Yunan to be so direct. Regardless, she was Bai Yeqi's wife, yet he didn't give her due respect nor treat her as a member of the Bai family.

Yet, when something happened to An Xia, Bai Yunan put his work aside and helped Bai Jingshu search for her.

She seethed with anger, but she had to endure it.

She looked at Bai Yunan, puzzled, attempting to make a final struggle, "What are you talking about, Yunan?"

"I'll speak on your behalf, then," Bai Yunan sneered, his handsome face showing no mercy.

Shu Yanian was taken aback by Bai Yunan's icy gaze. Before she could retort, Bai Yunan coldly said, "You initially approached Jingshu with the intention of marrying into the Bai family, but when you realized that it wouldn't work, you learned about my schedule through Jingshu, arriving at the hotel I stayed in, pretending to have a chance encounter. You even had someone drug me, but I caught you red-handed. Then, you targeted Yeqi. I didn't want my own brother to be deceived by a woman, so I told Yeqi about it. But even

so, he truly loves you and is still willing to marry you. Yet you... How many times have you tried to harm Yeqi? Have you ever thought about it?"

"I don't understand what you're saying, Yunan. I really haven't done any of those things..." Shu Yanian's face turned ashen as she looked at Bai Yeqi, hoping he would say a few words to defend her.

She grabbed Bai Yeqi's arm, her face full of pleading, "Yeqi, hear me out..." However, Bai Yeqi pushed her hand away, his eyes filled with even more derision.

Bai Yunan caught every movement between the two and spoke with coldness and authority, "As for your instigation of the kidnappers to abduct An Xia, it depends on how Jingshu wants to deal with you. I won't go into detail about other matters."

At that, she looked up at Bai Yunan, who was dressed in protective gear, with short and neat hair, and sharp eyes, giving off a cold and serious aura, the typical appearance of the Bai family members.

They were protective of their own, and for a woman like her who had done things that were detrimental to the Bai family, they wouldn't show any mercy. Her only lifeline now was Bai Yeqi.

She thought that they wouldn't know about what she had done, but she clearly overestimated herself and underestimated the Bai family's abilities.

Shu Yanian now realized that denying everything was futile; nothing she did would go over their heads.

"I've learned my lesson, Yeqi. I won't do these things again. Please, beg them to spare me, okay?" Shu Yanian cried and begged Bai Yeqi. He was her only hope now.

"I'm a bit tired and will turn in now." Bai Yeqi pulled his hand away from her, stood up, and turned to walk upstairs.

An Xia watched Bai Yeqi's departing figure and felt a sense of desolation.

She never expected that Shu Yanian had seduced Bai Yunan and even attempted to harm Bai Yeqi.

Bai Yeqi must've loved Shu Yanian deeply, or how could he tolerate her time and time again?

At the same time, Bai Jingshu also understood what Bai Yunan meant by 'not a good match.'

He felt a mix of shock and relief.

"Sign the divorce agreement, and we'll see you in court." Bai Yunan threw the divorce agreement to Shu Yanian's front mercilessly.

"I won't sign, I won't divorce! Yeqi loves me so much. He won't abandon me!"

Bai Jingshu, with inexplicable anger, charged up to Shu Yanian, slammed the pen in front of her, and barked, "How are you worthy of his love? Sign it!"

Although he and Bai Yeqi had different mothers, they were still blood brothers.

Even if they didn't get along, they couldn't simply stand by and watch one another be played by a woman.

"Jingshu, I did all this because of you. We can be together again once Yeqi is gone. How can An Xia be worthy of you? I know you don't love her!" With her doings exposed, Su Yanian knew exactly what would be awaiting her, and she was already devastated, her words becoming incoherent.

Bai Jingshu sneered and waved his hand. His two subordinates came forward, holding Shu Yanian's hand and forcing her to sign the agreement. However, Shu Yanian still attempted to struggle. "I won't sign, I won't divorce! Yeqi!"

#### Chapter 781 Where To?

No matter how much Shu Yanian struggled, she was eventually forced to sign the divorce agreement.

An Xia didn't sympathize with the woman, but as a woman herself, she couldn't help but feel a bit sorry for her.

On the other hand, she had a different view of Bai Yeqi. She never expected Bai Yeqi to be so devoted.

"Although you and Yeqi have divorced, what's yours will remain yours. We won't take anything from you."

An Xia glanced at Bai Yunan, her eyes showing a hint of confusion. But she quickly understood that Bai Yunan wanted to play both sides.

Having been a daughter-in-law of the Bai family, Shu Yanian naturally wouldn't be treated unfairly during the divorce. She would receive her share of the money and the house, but that wouldn't stop them from suing her.

The Bai family wouldn't let Shu Yanian off easily. She would face imprisonment, and even if they gave her money, she wouldn't be able to spend it.

Shu Yanian sat there with a blank expression, not saying a word. It was evident that she had completely collapsed.

No one in the Bai family sympathized with her, and Bai Yeqi probably had his heart broken, which was why he went upstairs early.

"Escort Miss Shu out," Bai Yunan commanded emotionlessly, and two of his men obliged at once, supporting Shu Yanian as she staggered out.

An Xia sighed and heard Bai Jingshu say, "I'll take An Xia back to rest." With that, Bai Jingshu pulled her up.

Old Master Bai turned grim at once and slammed his hand on the armrest of the sofa, angrily saying, "Go back? Where to?"

Bai Jingshu looked up at Old Master Bai indifferently and said, "To Lu Qinghan's apartment. Our original plan was to return to Yunzhou City today." At that, An Xia discreetly pinched his palm.



She could sense that although Bai Jingshu's tone was cold, there was some resentment as well.

He didn't want to live in the Bai Residence, but it didn't mean that he should strain the relationship. After all, they were family, bound by blood, and though they had some minor conflicts, they couldn't cut ties with each other.

Bai Jingshu, who rarely showed a strong attitude, became firm and resolute. He stood there, not speaking or moving.

Old Master Bai was so angry that he was breathing heavily. Bai Mingxu's countenance wasn't looking any more pleasant either.

Bai Yunan pondered for a moment and was about to speak when Bai Yeqi's voice came from the stairs, "Stay at home. It's more convenient."

An Xia looked up in surprise and saw Bai Yeqi slowly walking toward them. Meanwhile, the astonishment on the faces of the others present was even more cautious than that of An Xia.

Bai Yeqi approached slowly, his body still not fully recovered, his face pale, and his lips very faint, giving him a somewhat delicate appearance.

He lowered his head and looked at Bai Mingxu. "Dad, you were willing to let me marry Shu Yanian back then, so why can't you agree to Jingshu marrying Miss An? Moreover, Miss An is much better than Shu Yanian, isn't she?"

Although his words were devoided of emotions, the sarcasm was apparent.

Bai Mingxu's favoritism toward Bai Yeqi was no secret in the Bai family, but no one had ever stated it explicitly so openly.

Bai Mingxu looked at him in astonishment, "Yeqi, you..."

"Dad, you don't really favor me intentionally. You just feel guilty about Yunan and Jingshu's birth mother. When you face them, you feel guilty and awkward, but when you face me, you find a little balance, so you deliberately favor me."

Bai Yeqi usually kept a low profile at home and didn't speak much. Nobody expected him to be the first to bring up the father-son relationship.

Bai Mingxu clenched and loosened his fists, "Yeqi, you're exhausted."

"Dad, is it so difficult for you to admit your mistakes? Haven't you noticed that Jingshu and Yunan don't want to return to this house anymore? Yunan rarely came home before Jingshu returned. Is this what you and Grandpa wanted?"

Bai Yeqi's expression remained calm as if he was talking about something insignificant, not about his own family.

"Yeqi, go upstairs and rest." It was Bai Yunan who spoke, his tone firm.

Strangely enough, Bai Yeqi said indifferently, "I'll go rest."

...

Bai Yeqi's words caused quite a stir in the family.

Whether his words did anything, Bai Jingshu didn't leave with An Xia again.

Instead, they went upstairs together.

Once in the room, Bai Jingshu kissed An Xia and said, "Rest for a while. I'll go



prepare the bath for you.”

An Xia looked at his tired eyes and swallowed the words, ‘I’ll do it myself,’ nodding with a smile. “Okay.”

She knew he was in a bad mood and wanted to do something for him.

An Xia sat down by the bed and saw Bai Jingshu’s phone on the bedside table. She thought of Su Ziyue and picked up the phone to dial her number. The call was quickly answered.

“An Xia?”

“Ziyue, where are you and Mr. Qin staying? We’ll come and find you tonight.”

“No rush. You rest first before coming to find us. We don’t have any urgent matters and will be staying in Jingcheng City for a few days.”

“Alright.”

An Xia chatted briefly with Su Ziyue and was about to hang up when she remembered to tell her about Su Yige.

“You’ve met Su Yige, right? I didn’t have time to see her when I came back, but she helped us a lot this time.”

There was a moment of silence on the other end of the line, and Su Ziyue said, “Yeah, I met her. Let’s talk about this later. Go rest.”

At that, An Xia bid Su Ziyue farewell and hung up the phone.

Now that she was completely idle, An Xia finally felt tired and hungry.

She lay back on the bed, on the verge of falling asleep, when Bai Jingshu came out of the bathroom.

He walked over and ruffled her hair. “Tired?”

An Xia turned over and threw herself into Bai Jingshu’s arms, “And hungry…”

She was not only tired but also very hungry.

“Go take a shower first, and after you’re done, there will be something to eat.”

Bai Jingshu hugged her and gently patted her back, his voice oh-so gentle.

An Xia nodded but didn’t move.

Bai Jingshu chuckled, but when he thought about how she had been taken away for a whole day and night, his calm heart suddenly panicked again.

Thankfully, fate was kind to him.

He tightened his embrace and said, “I’ll carry you to the bathroom, then.”

An Xia mumbled in agreement and then trustingly nestled in his arms.

With that, Bai Jingshu carried her into the bathroom and bathed her without any distractions. Just as he wrapped her in a towel and carried her out, there came a knock at the door.

Immediately after, Aunt Liu’s voice came through. “Young Master Jingshu, I brought some food for Young Madam Xia.”

Bai Jingshu got up to open the door and took the tray from Aunt Liu, saying, “Thank you, Aunt Liu.”

“Don’t mention it.” Aunt Liu disapproved of his words, then added, “I only

prepared something light and simple for Young Madam Xia. I'll make something delicious later in the evening."

Chapter 782 They Genuinely Care About You

Seemingly thinking of something, Aunt Liu smiled at the mention of An Xia. Bai Jingshu simply nodded, "Sure."

At that, Aunt Liu sighed and glanced into the room, asking, "Is she doing okay?"

"She suffered some superficial injuries, but now, she's out cold from exhaustion and hunger."

"That child, I told her to eat something earlier, but she insisted that she wasn't hungry." Aunt Liu couldn't help but frown.

Bai Jingshu had asked Aunt Liu to make some food for An Xia when they had just arrived home, but the young woman didn't touch any of it and insisted that she wasn't hungry.

Now, it was evident that she was indeed famished; she was just enduring it. However, she didn't have to behave like that.

After telling him to look after An Xia, Aunt Liu left.

While Bai Jingshu carried the tray inside, An Xia, who was on the verge of falling asleep, woke up after smelling the aroma of chicken congee.

Aunt Liu had prepared a simple meal: a bowl of chicken congee, a plate of greens, and soft pastries.

An Xia's sense of smell became especially sensitive as she was famished at this point.

At that, she climbed out from under the blanket only to feel rather chilly. She looked down in response, only to find herself stark naked.

She grabbed the blanket at once and wrapped herself tightly. Her mind had cleared up a little as well at this point, and she glared angrily at Bai Jingshu.

"Why didn't you dress me?"

Meanwhile, Bai Jingshu was busy taking the food from the tray and placing it on the table. Upon hearing her complaint, he looked up at her and defended himself, "I hadn't had the time."

An Xia's face turned crimson when she remembered that he had just bathed her, but very quickly, she was distracted by the fact that her hair was dry. At that, she asked, "Why didn't you wash my hair?"

In response, Bai Jingshu glanced at her and said, "How about I help you eat your meal as well?"

"Bai Jingshu!" An Xia threw a pillow at him.

However, he smiled, for he knew his new wife was merely throwing a tantrum out of embarrassment.

He wasn't angry at all. Thinking of her hunger, he decided not to tease her anymore. He found her some pajamas, sat down by the bed, and went to pull

her blanket.

“Y-Y-You...” An Xia stuttered, freaking out. He’s not going to dress me, is he?! Seeing that she stuttered and was unable to form a coherent sentence for a long time, Bai Jingshu decisively pulled back the blanket and helped her dress.

When he finally looked down to check on An Xia, he found her face as red as a ripe tomato, making him unable to resist kissing her on the cheek.

Then, he picked her up and said to her as though coaxing a child, “Time to eat!”

Has he gone mad?! An Xia mused.

After sitting down, An Xia awkwardly said, “I can sit by myself...”

The thing was... she had nothing but pajamas on.

She didn’t dare to tell Bai Jingshu she wanted to put on underwear. Ultimately, she decided to get it herself later, as for now, food.

Bai Jingshu kept her on his lap and in his arms. She genuinely couldn’t accept being in this position.

“Alright.” Bai Jingshu didn’t make things difficult for her and placed her in the chair before sitting across from her, riveting his gaze on the young woman.

Feeling much more at ease, An Xia began eating heartily.

She looked up inadvertently, and having suddenly thought of something, she asked him, “Have you eaten?”

Bai Jingshu shook his head. “Not yet.”

He barely ate anything from the moment she was kidnapped. Even now, he didn’t feel hungry. Instead, his heart was filled, content at the fact that his beloved was now eating before his eyes, unharmed.

He used to scoff at those who were content with love alone, but now, he was one of them.

As long as An Xia was by his side, right in front of him, he felt content. Hunger and cold seemed to fade away.

Of course, An Xia was oblivious to his nonsensical thoughts, and she didn’t pay him any more attention either, wholly focused on filling her stomach.

After she finished eating, Bai Jingshu started clearing the plates.

“You go to sleep first. I’ll take these dishes downstairs,” he said and then left with the tray in his hands.

His tall and straight figure disappeared outside the door. After the door “thumped” shut, An Xia finally came back to her senses.

She sneaked into the wardrobe and found some underwear to put on before returning to bed.

Alas, she found it difficult to fall asleep when she closed her eyes.

She thought Bai Jingshu would return soon, but he still had yet to return after she waited for a while.

She thought about going out to find him, but she was afraid of running into other members of the Bai family and making things awkward. So, she could only wait.

...

After taking the dishes to the kitchen, Bai Jingshu paused when he passed Bai Yeqi's room. He raised his hand and hesitated for a moment before making up his mind and knocking on the door.

No one responded from inside, so Bai Jingshu spoke up. "It's me."

Soon, shuffling footsteps that sounded rather lethargic came from inside the room, and Bai Yeqi appeared from behind the door after a while.

His face was beyond pasty, and his voice was somewhat hoarse, "What is it?" Bai Jingshu averted his gaze and looked elsewhere. "You didn't have to say those things earlier."

Bai Yeqi smiled, but a hint of bitterness laced it. "I didn't say them because of you. I just wanted to express myself. Get them off my chest. Do you get it?"

Bai Jingshu said no more when he saw how his half-brother was behaving. He simply hummed a response and turned to leave.

The next second, he heard Bai Yeqi say, "I envy you. Dad and Yunan seem to feel indebted to you, and they genuinely care about you."

Bai Jingshu looked back at him and spoke slightly mockingly. "Does Dad not treat you well?"

"What kind of person do you think Shu Yanian is, and what do you think she has done? Do you think Dad hasn't looked into her, given his character?"

Bai Jingshu was slightly taken aback.

His half-brother was right. Bai Mingxu might not be a qualified husband, but he was certainly a powerful leader.

He acted decisively and efficiently.

He must've known that Shu Yanian had tried to seduce Bai Yunan, yet he still let Bai Yeqi marry her.

"Don't tell me you don't get it when even Shu Yanian does." Bai Yeqi suddenly smiled, a hint of desolation in his expression. "It might look like Dad always favored me and treated me well, but does he treat me that well? The same goes for Shu Yanian; she never loved me."

Bai Jingshu looked at Bai Yeqi as if he was seeing him for the first time, carefully sizing him up.

He never hated Bai Yeqi, for he knew his half-brother was never at fault.

They never really interacted before, and it was only after the incident with Shu Yanian that they grew distant.

"You're a part of the Bai family. Always have, always will," Bai Jingshu stated plainly, unable to conjure up more sentimental comforting words.

Bai Yeqi still appeared listless. Changing the subject, he asked, "Is Miss An

okay?”

“She’s fine,” Bai Jingshu replied and then turned to leave.

Bai Yeqi smiled bitterly as he watched Bai Jingshu’s figure disappear around the corner, truly envious of his younger half-brother.

Chapter 783 Make Me a Father

Bai Jingshu thought An Xia had already fallen asleep, so he gently closed the door and tip-toed inside when he returned to the room, only to find An Xia playing with his phone.

At that, he quirked a brow, walked over, and snatched the phone from her.

“I thought you were exhausted. Why aren’t you asleep?”

“Hey!” An Xia sat up immediately. She was watching a funny tweet and was caught off guard when Bai Jingshu unexpectedly took the phone away.

“Give me the phone. Let me finish watching!”

She was sleepy initially, but since he hadn’t returned for a long time, she took his phone and started browsing around, getting more awake as she looked at different things.

“Go to sleep.” Bai Jingshu glanced at her and casually tossed the phone aside before taking off his clothes and lying down.

An Xia pouted, turned her back to him, and pulled the blanket over her head. She looked very childish, showing no sign of the fear she experienced when being kidnapped.

At that, Bai Jingshu reached out and pulled her into his arms, his lips lightly pressed against her ear as he whispered, “Turn around and look at me.”

“I’m going to sleep. Why should I look? I’ve seen you enough.”

“Turn around and let me look at you then,” he reiterated, cooing.

An Xia turned around slowly and hugged him, closing her eyes as sleepiness began taking over.

Bai Jingshu reached out and tucked her hair behind her ear, then held her a little tighter, asking, “Were you scared?”

“A little.” An Xia’s drowsy voice came.

Bai Jingshu fell silent and kissed her from her forehead down. “It will never happen again.”

Silence responded to him, and he looked down to find his beloved had already fallen asleep.

At that, he gazed at her for a long time before finally falling asleep alongside her.

...

An Xia woke up in the middle of the night without a clue of the exact time as the room was pitch black. When she reached out to her side, she found no one there.

“Bai Jingshu?” She sat up, turned on the bedside lamp, and the dim light

illuminated the room, making things clearer in her sight.

A tall figure approached, and when Bai Jingshu was almost at the bedside, he said, "Awake?"

An Xia was startled. "Why didn't you turn on the light? What time is it now?"

"It's almost 1 a.m." Bai Jingshu sat down by the bed.

He had changed into loungewear, and there was a hint of the scent of shower gel on him.

"Are you hungry? I'll get you something to eat."

"It's fine. I'll go downstairs." An Xia lifted the blanket, and while getting out of bed, she couldn't help grumbling, "It's not like I just gave birth."

Bai Jingshu smirked knowingly, but An Xia didn't notice it.

It was quiet in the Bai Residence at this late hour, as everyone else had already gone to sleep.

The two of them made their way to the kitchen, where Aunt Liu had left them plenty of food, all of it rich and sumptuous.

An Xia smiled happily. "Oh, I love Aunt Liu."

"I'll heat them up. You wait outside." Bai Jingshu picked up the dishes and put them in the microwave while urging An Xia to go outside.

Naturally, An Xia obliged.

It was almost 2 a.m. by the time they finished their meal.

An Xia, feeling satisfied, went upstairs but found it difficult to fall asleep once she returned to the room.

Bai Jingshu turned off the light and pulled her into his arms. "Sleep. We'll visit Muchen and the others tomorrow."

"I can't sleep." An Xia tugged at the blanket. She really wasn't sleepy anymore.

"Let's do something else then." Bai Jingshu's voice sounded somewhat seductive in the pitch-black room.

"What do you have in mind?" An Xia replied, only to realize belatedly what Bai Jingshu meant.

She truly wasn't sleepy. After having eaten to her heart's content and knowing she was safe, the mischievous side of her emerged, and she provocatively replied to Bai Jingshu, "Let's do it then!"

This woman!

Bai Jingshu was only trying to scare her. Considering what had happened, he wanted to give her some time to relax and hadn't actually intended to do anything. But she had to go and provoke him instead of accepting his affection.

Bai Jingshu's hand, which was holding her waist, slid beneath her clothes skillfully, and his voice became hoarse. "Don't beg for mercy later."

"Be gentle then—" An Xia pleaded softly.

Alas, before she could finish her sentence, Bai Jingshu had already flipped over and removed her clothes.

Kisses rained down like raindrops, accompanied by Bai Jingshu's husky voice. "What if you're not content with me being gentle?"

An Xia would be lying if she said she hadn't regretted it at this point. She shouldn't have provoked Bai Jingshu.

He was in the prime of his youth, and since they met, he hadn't been with any other woman. His demand was indeed a bit overwhelming for her.

An Xia chickened out and pleaded softly, "Just once, please..."

"How is once enough?!"

"No, no, it's enough! Once is more than enough!" An Xia was close to tears.

She really didn't want to discuss this with Bai Jingshu at all.

She could only be grateful that the lights were off; otherwise, she would have had no place to hide her embarrassment.

Of course, Bai Jingshu wouldn't stop after just once, but he also didn't go overboard. However, he deviated from his usual style and didn't use too many tricks. He seemed unusually eager and quickly got to the point.

They hadn't done it many times, as Bai Jingshu felt bad for her. He always took his time with foreplay, guiding her, but this time he didn't.

Afterward, An Xia felt all sweaty and wet, and Bai Jingshu wasn't in a much better state either.

Feeling uncomfortable with the stickiness, An Xia moved her body and grumbled discontentedly, "Let go of me."

Instead, Bai Jingshu held her even tighter.

He leaned down and kissed An Xia, saying, "Make me a father, will you?"

Whether a girl or a boy, an adorable child like Zixi would be nice."

An Xia's heart stirred. This was the first time Bai Jingshu had mentioned wanting a child.

Though they had already obtained their marriage certificate and were legally married, she had felt a bit unreal during this time, as if she were floating, like in a dream.

Bai Jingshu's mood slightly dampened when An Xia hesitated, and he said, "If you don't want to have one now—"

"Okay," An Xia replied before he could finish his sentence.

"Really?" Bai Jingshu couldn't hide the joy in his voice. He kissed An Xia's lips heavily and said, "Let's go another round."

No more. I want to sleep!

...

The next day, An Xia and Bai Jingshu met up with Su Ziyue and her family at the hotel.

When the two entered the hotel room, they found Qin Zixi and Qin Muchen



sitting face to face, staring at each other without moving, their eyes seemingly filled with hostility.

“What’s going on with them?” An Xia whispered to Su Ziyue, who felt rather helpless upon recollecting the reason.

At that, she said irritably, “They argued in the morning over who gets to squeeze the toothpaste for me. I did it myself in the end, but it came to this. They’ve been at it for over ten minutes now...”

An Xia genuinely couldn’t figure out how a thirty-year-old man and a three-year-old child could argue over something as trivial as squeezing toothpaste.

Chapter 784 She Couldn’t Mistake the Voice

Bai Jingshu, who was standing behind An Xia, guffawed mischievously upon hearing Su Ziyue’s words.

At that, An Xia turned her head, kicked him, and glared at him as she whispered, “What’s so funny?!”

Bai Jingshu shrugged innocently in response. But it is funny.

Still, he still shook his head solemnly.

With that, he sat down next to Qin Zixi, only to find that the little guy had already started to look around.

Bai Jingshu picked him up and teased, “Look at how fierce and stingy your father is. Come on, man up. Don’t be his son anymore. Come home with me. I’ll take care of you!”

At that, Qin Zixi turned to take a gander at him, crossed his arms, and puffed up his cheeks like a little old man. “You and my daddy are in cahoots. If I leave, my mom will be wholly his! Hmph!”

Bai Jingshu twitched the corner of his lips in response and looked up at Qin Muchen, only to find the latter glancing at him expressionlessly.

A chill ran down Bai Jingshu’s spine. Did I say something wrong?

An Xia and Su Ziyue chatted for a while aside before approaching the men.

Very quickly, they picked up the strange atmosphere.

“What are you guys doing?” An Xia went over and carried Qin Zixi into her arms.

“Aunt Xia.” Qin Zixi smiled sweetly.

“You are getting cuter by the day, Zixi.”

“You should have a baby, too, then.”

An Xia almost choked on her own saliva. “Do you know what having a baby means?”

“Daddy said that Mommy will give birth to a sister for me. Aunt Xia, can you also give birth to a sister for me?”

“Um...” An Xia looked up at Su Ziyue, who immediately beckoned to Qin Zixi and took him over. “How about you go draw? Mommy and Aunt Xia have something to talk about.”

“Okay.” Qin Zixi obediently went back to his room.

After that, Su Ziyue asked the waiter to bring tea and snacks, and they chatted for a while without mentioning An Xia’s kidnapping.

They had lunch together, and after a while, An Xia and Bai Jingshu decided to head back to the Bai Residence.

Before leaving, Bai Jingshu put his arm around An Xia’s shoulder and said with a rare hint of embarrassment, “Since you guys aren’t rushing back, how about you stay until our wedding? We can go back to Yunzhou City together then.”

Su Ziyue, being more perceptive as a woman, immediately asked, “Has the date been set?”

An Xia looked quizzically at Bai Jingshu at that. When have we decided to hold a wedding banquet, and why am I not aware of it?!

Qin Muchen, who was behind Su Ziyue, said, “Sure.”

...

On their way back, An Xia asked with hesitation, “When have we decided to hold a wedding banquet? Why am I not aware of it?!”

Bai Jingshu, with a hint of a smile still on his face, took a gander at An Xia and replied, “I don’t know either.”

An Xia pressed her lips together in response, but before she could speak, Bai Jingshu continued, “We can’t have a big wedding banquet, so we can only invite some close friends. If you prefer a lively celebration, we can have another wedding ceremony later...”

Bai Jingshu wore a smile on his face as he talked about the wedding enthusiastically, and An Xia thought he looked more like the bride-to-be while she herself was surprisingly calm.

Regardless, she was touched.

Though Bai Jingshu never brought it up, the wedding never slipped his mind. What Bai Yeqi said the day before caused quite a stir among the Bai family members. After two generations of unfortunate weddings, Old Master Bai and Bai Mingxu probably no longer had the intention to interfere in Bai Jingshu and An Xia’s affairs anymore.

Thus, Bai Jingshu put their wedding on the agenda, and in the following days, he was busy preparing for the wedding.

At the thought about how Bai Yeqi had just divorced Shi Yanian, An Xia felt it was rather inappropriate for her and Bai Jingshu to be hastily preparing for a wedding. However, Bai Jingshu was indifferent to it. “He’s over thirty, not three. He wouldn’t care about such trivial issues when he has lost his wife.”

At that, An Xia poked his shoulder. “That’s nonsense!”

Bai Jingshu held her hand, pulled her into his arms, and leaned close to her face, whispering, “I’ve been working hard these past few days. Don’t you think

I deserve a reward?”

An Xia tiptoed and kissed his face. “Alright, back to work.”

Still unsatisfied, Bai Jingshu cupped her face and kissed her deeply. After the kiss, he leaned in and whispered softly in her ear, “This is just the appetizer. I’ll save the rest for when I come back tonight.”

An Xia understood him at once, but before she could react, Bai Jingshu had already run off.

She received a new text from Su Ziyue. It was Su Yige’s phone number, which she had asked for.

She was too preoccupied to thank Su Yige that day, but later she realized she couldn’t get in touch with her at all, so she sought help from Su Ziyue.

The relationship between the two cousins was somewhat strange. They used to have conflicts, but now they seemed to get along well, and Su Ziyue appeared to have been in contact with Su Yige all along.

Su Yige had helped her after all, so she should thank her in person no matter what.

She rendezvoused with Su Yige at a cafe for afternoon tea.

When she arrived, Su Yige was already waiting there.

The young woman was dressed in a simple white down jacket and jeans. Her hair was tied into a ponytail at the back. Her face looked plain, completely devoid of the arrogance and fussiness she had as the eldest young lady of the Su family.

When she saw An Xia approaching, she waved at her and greeted, “An Xia.”

“Just arrived?” An Xia sat down, feeling somewhat unaccustomed to the new Su Yige.

“Yeah.” The latter smiled and handed her the menu. “I just ordered a cup of green tea. Take a look and see what you’d like.”

This down-to-earth Su Yige was a bit strange to An Xia, but she quickly adapted to it.

The two chatted about casual topics, making small talk.

Mid-conversation, An Xia got up to go to the restroom, and Su Yige took out her phone to pass the time.

She opened the photo album and looked at pictures of her son.

Having been abroad for nearly two years, she still wished to return. However, she didn’t want to return to Yunzhou City. So she decided to settle down in Jingcheng City instead. Her son was still too young, so she entrusted someone to take care of him while she came back first. Little did she know that she was scammed by a fake agent she found online, only to end up saving An Xia inadvertently.

It seemed fated. She hadn’t wanted to trouble Su Ziyue initially, but somehow, the latter found out about it anyway.

She really missed her little bundle of joy.  
Suddenly, a shadow was cast before her.  
Thinking An Xia had returned, she looked up before tucking her smile away.  
Lo and behold, it was a pale-faced man.  
The man had a slender figure and a deathly pale complexion. Despite that, he was actually quite handsome, albeit a bit thin, giving off a somewhat delicate and effeminate vibe.  
Su Yige felt strange as he sized her up but still politely asked, "Is there something I can do for you, sir?"  
Just then, An Xia returned, and when she saw Bai Yeqi, she exclaimed in surprise, "Yeqi?"  
Bai Yeqi turned around, and his eyes flashed subtly when he saw An Xia. He nodded at her and asked, "Is this your friend?"  
An Xia hesitated for a moment but nodded in affirmation.  
"Mind if I join you here?" he asked and sat down without waiting for a response.  
An Xia parted her lips, feeling that Bai Yeqi was acting a bit strange.  
Su Yige didn't expect the stranger to know An Xia. Still, she thought there was something oddly familiar about his voice.  
An Xia and Su Yige weren't very familiar with each other, to begin with, and they had few topics to discuss. They were already planning to leave when Bai Yeqi suddenly appeared, making them even more uncomfortable.  
Su Yige took the initiative and said, "It's getting late. I think I'll head back first."  
Bai Yeqi stood up, lowered his head to look at Su Yige, and politely asked, "Where do you live, Miss Su? I'll give you a lift."  
Is Bai Yeqi interested in Su Yige? An Xia wondered.  
Su Yige also found the situation somewhat perplexing. "No need. I can easily take a taxi home."  
"Let me drive you."  
Suddenly, a familiar voice flashed through Su Yige's mind.  
Let me help you... It's enchanting here...  
The familiar yet distant voice became clear in her mind, and her face turned pale all of a sudden.  
It was him! The man she spent a night with at Lumiere Jade House. He was the father of her child!  
Although she wasn't fully conscious at the time, the voice had left an impact on her, and she couldn't be mistaken about it.  
She looked up sharply at Bai Yeqi and found him gazing back at her with a deep intensity.

Chapter 785 Acknowledging Ancestry

Su Yige's face stiffened as she clutched her bag tightly. She couldn't be bothered to conceal her discomfort and said, "See you."

She hurriedly departed without waiting for An Xia to say anything.

Thinking Su Yige was behaving strangely, she turned to look at the retreating figure and found her bumping into the corner of a table from walking too fast.

An Xia winced at the sight of it, but Su Yige didn't even pause for a moment.

In fact, she even ran away.

An Xia was puzzled, wondering what was going on with Su Yige. It was like she was being chased by a ghost.

At that, she turned to Bai Yeqi and noticed that he was holding his phone with one hand, as if sending a message to someone, with an unreadable expression on his face.

Could it be that Bai Yeqi spooked Su Yige?

An Xia pondered for a moment, then asked, "Yeqi, what did you say to her just now?"

"Nothing," Bai Yeqi replied indifferently.

Seeing An Xia's suspicious look, he added, "I didn't have a chance to say anything before you came."

An Xia didn't want him to misunderstand, so she said, "I didn't mean anything by it."

"Mm."

The two of them weren't very familiar with each other, but because of what had happened, An Xia thought Bai Yeqi wasn't as difficult to approach as she had initially thought.

Still, that was as far as it went.

An Xia cleared her throat awkwardly and mentioned, "Are you leaving now? I'm about to leave too."

"I still have some things to take care of," Bai Yeqi said, then asked her, "How are you going back?"

An Xia sensed a hint of concern in his words and shook her head, saying, "I'll take a taxi back; it's convenient. You go ahead and take care of your business."

Bai Yeqi nodded and didn't say anything more.

On her way back, An Xia kept pondering, feeling that Bai Yeqi and Su Yige were acting strangely. However, logically speaking, they shouldn't know each other.

Bai Yeqi didn't immediately leave either after An Xia left. Instead, he sat quietly and ordered a cup of coffee for himself.

Not long after, his phone rang.

Bai Yeqi answered the call and casually said, "No need to alarm her. Just have two people follow her. You come back."

It was unclear what the person on the other end said, but Bai Yeqi replied with a simple 'Mm' before hanging up.

...

An Xia coincidentally ran into Bai Yunan, who was leaving, when she returned to the Bai Residence.

She stopped in her tracks and called out, "Yunan."

Bai Yunan didn't stop his steps. Instead, he only glanced at her and nodded in acknowledgment.

Suddenly, Kun came to An Xia's head.

The kidnapper was shot dead by Bai Yunan, and she was saved, but she never asked about the aftermath because of the lingering fear. However, Kun behaved as if he knew her, making her curious.

"Yunan, I... I have something to ask you."

Bai Yunan halted and turned to look at An Xia, who seemed eager to speak. He seemed to be in a rush, for he checked the time on his wristwatch before asking her, "What is it?"

"It's about Kun. Did you find out anything about him? He seemed to act like he knew me before," she asked, looking nervously at Bai Yunan, who frowned and pondered for a moment before replying, "He was from Yunzhou City in Cheng'an County. He dropped out of the primary school affiliated with County No.1 Middle School in fifth grade and spent a few years as a small-time thug in Cheng'an County. After that, he left Cheng'an County and joined Gricy's gang."

At that, he paused for a moment and asked An Xia, "Does that ring a bell?"

An Xia nodded thoughtfully, "I'm also from Cheng'an County."

Bai Yunan had other things to attend to, so he didn't linger and left.

Whether Kun and An Xia knew each other in the past wasn't something he cared about. After all, Kun was already dead; these details no longer mattered.

Meanwhile, An Xia walked absentmindedly toward her room.

She remembered that year when she encountered a group of people beating up a young thief on her way home from school.

She couldn't remember exactly how old she was at the time. Was it thirteen? Fourteen?

The thief seemed to be about her age and was being brutally beaten, his face covered in blood.

After the attackers left, cursing and grumbling, An Xia felt both scared and sorry for the young thief. She hid nearby and watched for a long time, noticing that he never got up. After hesitating for a moment, she went over and dragged him to a nearby clinic.

An Xia's family had become well-off at that point, and she had a lot of pocket

money, so she had the money to pay for his medical expenses.

After that, she never saw him again.

It had been so long that she couldn't remember what he looked like. She vaguely recalled some features, and they resembled Kun.

With these thoughts in mind, An Xia arrived at the door of her room.

She pushed the door open and sat quietly on the sofa for a long time.

It had been many years since that incident, and she had long forgotten about the bloody, brutally beaten young boy. Little did she expect that they would cross paths again after so many years.

Kun probably recognized her early on, or he wouldn't have stopped Lao Wu from touching her.

If it weren't for Kun's protection, she might've already been...

It was an ironic assumption, yet an undeniable fact.

As the ancients said, "Good deeds will be rewarded."

...

An Xia and Bai Jingshu's wedding was simple.

The guests who came to congratulate them were all influential figures, many of whom An Xia had only seen in the news before, and it was then that An Xia finally realized she had married into a prestigious family.

Su Ziyue and her family also attended the wedding.

An Xia had also invited Su Yige, but she didn't show up. Instead, she sent a wedding gift through Su Ziyue.

An Xia already thought something was strange between Su Yige and Bai Yeqi—it could also just be her imagination—she thought Su Yige didn't show up because she was avoiding Bai Yeqi.

After changing into her second wedding dress, An Xia couldn't help but gossip with Bai Jingshu, whispering, "Do you think Yeqi might know Su Yige?"

"How could they know each other?" Bai Jingshu turned to her, looking puzzled.

An Xia pouted in dissatisfaction, then found a chance to bring the matter up with Su Ziyue.

After hearing her out, Su Ziyue fell silent momentarily before saying, "Is she afraid of Bai Yeqi?"

"I think so. It was just the three of us that day. She'd be afraid of me if not Yeqi. But Bai Jingshu said they couldn't possibly know each other."

An Xia felt more confused as she spoke.

Su Ziyue's eyes flickered, and she urged An Xia, "Today's your big day. Why are you so concerned about other people? Stay with me any longer, and I guarantee Bai Jingshu will come and carry you away."

At that, An Xia looked over at Bai Jingshu. Sure enough, he was standing not far away, staring at her with squinting eyes.



She blinked at him, patted Su Ziyue's shoulder, and said, "I'll go over now. Let's continue this chat later."

After watching An Xia walk away, Su Ziyue returned to her seat and quietly asked Qin Muchen, "Do you know who Gong Shuzhe gave Su Yige to that night at Lumiere Jade House?"

Qin Muchen was busy peeling shrimp for Qin Zixi, and he casually glanced at Su Ziyue before replying, "Why? Does she want to acknowledge her son's ancestry?"

In response, Su Ziyue pinched Qin Muchen's waist ruthlessly. "What nonsense are you talking about? I'm just casually asking. You always have prejudices against her, but she has changed a lot now."

"Just casually asking?" Qin Muchen wiped his hands and said, "That means you're dying to know."

"Qin Muchen!"

Alas, the man began serving Su Ziyue dishes expressionlessly. "Eat more. You eat even less than Zixi. I gave them a massive red envelope. Who knows when it'll pay off? We should eat as much as we can."

Su Ziyue was rendered speechless.

Chapter 786 Lu Shichu's Side Story Part 1

As time went on, Su Ziyue noticed that Qin Muchen's sense of humor was growing by the day.

However, it was mostly dark humor.

Qin Zixi lowered his head and gobbled up all the food in his bowl. Then, he wiped his mouth with a tissue and looked up at Qin Muchen, saying, "Daddy, I need to go to the restroom."

Qin Muchen put down his spoon and took Qin Zixi to the restroom.

Before leaving, he reminded Su Ziyue, "Don't wander around."

There were other people at their table, and although Qin Muchen's voice was not particularly loud, it was still audible to those nearby.

With an uneasy expression, Su Ziyue nudged him and urged, "Hurry up!"

She couldn't help but feel that he was becoming increasingly nagging.

Seeing Su Ziyue glaring at him, Qin Muchen didn't even get mad. Instead, he broke into laughter.

Qin Zixi sighed. I really need to get to the restroom quickly.

Qin Muchen took Qin Zixi to the restroom and ran into Bai Yunan in the corridor.

Today was Bai Jingshu's big day. As the eldest brother, Bai Yunan naturally had to be busy entertaining guests. He had already had quite a few drinks, and his face was slightly flushed.

Qin Muchen glanced at him and didn't want to talk to him at all.

However, Bai Yunan walked up to him and reached out to touch Qin Zixi's

head. "Qin Zixi."

Clearly in a hurry, Qin Zixi clutched his stomach and urgently exclaimed, "I've got to use the restroom!"

Bai Yunan was left momentarily speechless by the unexpected situation.

With his hand over his mouth, Qin Muchen restrained the urge to laugh.

Fortunately, they were just a stone's throw away from the restroom, so he pointed the way and let Qin Zixi go in by himself.

Qin Zixi rushed into the restroom with his short legs.

Bai Yunan watched him go before turning back around.

As soon as he did, he noticed Qin Muchen staring at him.

Raising an eyebrow, Bai Yunan remarked, "Why don't you go take a look at him?"

Qin Muchen put his hand in his pocket and tilted his head slightly. "No matter how I look at him, he's still my son."

What a childish person!

Bai Yunan pursed his lips. Looking at Qin Muchen's self-righteous appearance, he didn't know what to say for a moment.

I've never encountered such a petty man before!

But what can I do? This is so annoying!

Suddenly, he remembered something and gave Qin Muchen a sly smile. "Su Ziyue's old friend is coming today. They might have already met."

Bai Yunan hinted and didn't say more.

Qin Muchen frowned. Su Ziyue's old friend in Jingcheng City?

As he thought about it, his expression turned serious, and he turned to go back to the banquet hall.

However, Bai Yunan timely stopped him. "Your son is still inside using the restroom. Aren't you going to check on him?"

Heh.

Having a son doesn't make you superior!

Qin Muchen's face darkened as he went to the restroom to find Qin Zixi.

...

The dishes at the hotel banquet were all delicious, but Su Ziyue, being pregnant, had a selective appetite and ate slowly.

There were few people at their table. It was specially reserved by Bai Jingshu for them, and there were two empty seats next to them.

Qin Muchen and Qin Zixi hadn't come back yet, and she felt that they had been gone for quite some time. She contemplated whether to call Qin Muchen when a clear and pleasant female voice reached her ears.

"Shichu, what are you standing there for? Come over here, we're sitting here.

Bai Yeqi reserves these seats for us."

Looking up, Su Ziyue coincidentally bumped into a girl who was speaking.

She was very young and also very beautiful.

When Lu Qingyou saw Su Ziyue, she was stunned for a moment. Pointing at her, she opened her mouth wide and walked over excitedly. "Are you Su Ziyue?"

"You are..." Su Ziyue could tell that this girl had a good relationship with the Bai family, yet she couldn't place her name.

"I'm Lu Qingyou, living right next to Bai Yeqi's house. This is my cousin..." Lu Qingyou turned her head and caught sight of her cousin limping away.

In a hurry, she caught up with him and held him back, asking, "Hey, where are you going?"

Following Lu Qingyou's running direction, Su Ziyue looked over. When she saw that familiar figure, she froze in place.

Feeling unsure of what to do at first, Su Ziyue eventually mustered the courage to stand up and approach them.

Meanwhile, Lu Qingyou was still tugging at her cousin and wouldn't let him leave.

Su Ziyue walked over. Standing in front of him, she choked out a name that was both strange and familiar.

"Shichu."

In the past, Qin Muchen had told her that Bai Yunan had learned about Lu Shichu's situation, but he showed leniency and allowed Lu Shichu to join the National Research Institute.

After they had gone through so much, the relationship between Su Ziyue and Lu Shichu was no longer as pure and innocent as it once was.

Despite the uncertainty of meeting again in the future, Su Ziyue hoped that as long as he was alive and living honestly, it would be enough for her.

She never thought that she would meet Lu Shichu today.

Lu Shichu kept his head slightly lowered, looking frail and thin. Spending long hours in the research room had given him a pale complexion, and he held a crutch in his hand for support.

He stared at the ground and didn't lift his head to look at Su Ziyue.

Lu Qingyou, standing by the side, felt that something was off between the two of them and tentatively asked, "Do you know each other?"

Su Ziyue immediately sorted out her emotions.

She turned her head and smiled at Lu Qingyou. "You two haven't had lunch yet, right? Come, let's sit here."

Lu Qingyou was stunned by Su Ziyue's smile, finding her really beautiful.

After a few seconds, she finally reacted and tugged Lu Shichu along. "Shichu, let's sit down first."

"I have some matters in the research room, so I'm not going to join you now."

Lu Shichu pulled Lu Qingyou's hand down. Then, he bypassed Su Ziyue and

made his way outside.

Su Ziyue lifted her hand slightly as if she wanted to say something, but then she withdrew it.

Lu Qingyou clearly sensed that something was off with Lu Shichu's emotions and weakly called out, "Shichu..."

Lu Shichu was walking quite fast, clearly already accustomed to walking with a crutch.

Su Ziyue felt an unusual sense of relief in her heart. Shichu is standing tall again.

Lu Qingyou glanced at Su Ziyue's reddened eyes and felt a little unsure. "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine. Let's have a seat first." Su Ziyue held her hand and walked toward the dining table.

Lu Qingyou sensed that there was something unusual going on between her cousin and Su Ziyue, but since she wasn't close to Su Ziyue, she didn't ask too much.

Lu Shichu and their family were distant relatives, but their parents had a good relationship. Hence, after Lu Shichu came to Jingcheng City and joined the National Research Institute, Lu Qingyou's family had always taken good care of him.

When Qin Muchen returned with Qin Zixi, he scanned around and didn't see Lu Shichu, which made him slightly suspicious.

Is Bai Yunan lying to me?

"You're back." Su Ziyue saw the two of them return and smiled at Qin Muchen. Turning to Lu Qingyou, she introduced, "This is my husband, Qin Muchen, and this is our son, Zixi. Say hi to Miss Lu."

Qin Zixi obediently greeted, "Hello, Miss Lu."

Lu Qingyou smiled warmly and replied, "Hello."

Qin Muchen felt a bit sensitive to the surname "Lu" and couldn't help but take another look at Lu Qingyou.

Chapter 787 Lu Shichu's Side Story Part 2

In the evening, Bai Jingshu hosted several tables to entertain close friends and acquaintances.

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Since they were all young people, both Old Master Bei and Bei Mingxu didn't attend and went home to rest directly.

Lu Qingying's family also made an appearance briefly at the wedding banquet and noon and were still staying at the hotel.

Knowing the evening activities were meant for the young crowd, Lu Qingying declined Bei Jingshu's invitation. Bei Jingshu didn't insist and instead brought

their daughter, Cheng Qiulu, to join in the fun.

Cheng Qiulu, about to graduate and currently interning, had been swamped with work lately, but she managed to make time for Bei Jingshu's wedding.

On their way, Bei Jingshu walked alongside Cheng Qiulu.

As they walked together, he showed concern for her recent situation. Since the Bei family consisted of three brothers, Bei Jingshu naturally felt close to Cheng Qiulu, who was a clever and clear-headed girl and also his half-sister from the same mother.

"Have you been busy lately? I tried calling you a few times to grab a meal together, but it seemed like you were always tied up," Bei Jingshu teased playfully.

Cheng Qiulu chuckled awkwardly, her mind seemingly lost in thoughts. She stammered, "Well, yes, I've been quite occupied lately."

Amused by her hesitant response, Bei Jingshu joked, "Oh, are you dating someone now? Scared I might discover your little secret, so you decided to meet up with me?"

Cheng Qiulu swiftly denied, "No, not at all!"

Feeling that her denial wasn't entirely convincing, she added, "If you don't believe me, you can ask Qingyou. We're renting a place together outside."

She and Lu Qingyou were not just classmates but also close friends.

Bei Jingshu casually asked and didn't press further when he sensed her nervousness.

As they entered the private room, Bei Jingshu introduced Cheng Qiulu to everyone, and Bei Yunen pulled out the chair next to him, saying, "Qiulu, come and sit here."

Bei Jingshu was bound to be toasted by others tonight. As the eldest brother, Bei Yunen naturally had to take care of his younger sister.

Cheng Qiulu was a bit afraid of Bei Yunen on normal occasions, but she knew that he also cared for her. If not, he wouldn't always remember to have Lu Qingyou bring her birthday gifts.

On the other side of Bei Yunen sat Lu Qingyou. As soon as Cheng Qiulu sat down, Lu Qingyou playfully winked at her and said, "Qiulu, I have something to tell you later."

Bei Yunen lightly knocked on Lu Qingyou's head and urged, "Eat first."

Lu Qingyou pouted unhappily, straightened her posture awkwardly, and started eating slowly.

In the evening, Bei Jingshu hosted several tables to entertain close friends and acquaintances.

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Bai Jingshu casually asked and didn't press further when he sensed her nervousness.

As they entered the private room, Bai Jingshu introduced Cheng Qiulu to everyone, and Bai Yunan pulled out the chair next to him, saying, "Qiulu, come and sit here."

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Chang Qiulu, about to graduate and currently interning, had been swamped with work lately, but she managed to make time for Bai Jingshu's wedding.

On their way, Bai Jingshu walked alongside Chang Qiulu.

As they walked together, he showed concern for her recent situation. Since the Bai family consisted of three brothers, Bai Jingshu naturally felt close to Chang Qiulu, who was a clever and cheerful girl and also his half-sister from the same mother.

"Have you been busy lately? I tried calling you a few times to grab a meal together, but it seemed like you were always tied up," Bai Jingshu teased playfully.

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to talk to you later.”

Bai Yunan lightly knocked on Lu Qingyou's head and urged, “Eat first.” Lu Qingyou pouted unhappily, straightened her posture awkwardly, and started eating slowly.

At that moment, Bei Jingshu arrived with An Xie.

“This is my sister, Qiulu,” Bei Jingshu introduced.

Cheng Qiulu stood up with a smile and greeted, “Hello, An Xie!”

Cheng Qiulu bore a striking resemblance to Lu Qingying.

An Xie smiled and exchanged a few words with her. When she turned around, Bei Jingshu asked her, “Are Muchen and the others really not coming?”

An Xie nodded and replied, “They are bringing Zixi with them, and Ziyue is pregnant. With so many people here, they decided not to come.”

In their social circle, marriage often came later in life, so they were genuinely happy for Bei Jingshu's wedding. However, with so much joy, it was easy to get carried away.

As the clock neared 10.00PM, Bei Yunan planned to accompany Cheng Qiulu back to her room.

However, she shook her head and politely declined, “It's okay. I'll go by myself.”

Seeing Cheng Qiulu about to leave, Lu Qingyou promptly put down her cutlery and stood up. “I'll walk with Qiulu.”

Bei Yunan frowned, but before he could say anything, Lu Qingyou had already guided Cheng Qiulu outside.

Once the two girls were out of the private room, they began chatting away.

Cheng Qiulu inquired, “Didn't you say your cousin would come too? I didn't see him.”

“I brought him here at noon, but he left after seeing someone,” Lu Qingyou explained. Since Cheng Qiulu didn't know Su Ziyue, she simply referred to her as “someone.”

“Who is it?” Cheng Qiulu was curious.

“You wouldn't know even if I told you. If you can genuinely win my cousin's heart, maybe he'll reveal it himself.”

Hearing this, Cheng Qiulu slowed down her steps.

“What's wrong? Let's keep going.”

“I have something to attend to. You go back to your room first.”

“Qiulu!”

Lu Qingyou only managed to call her name, but Cheng Qiulu was already quite far away.

Once outside the hotel, Cheng Qiulu bought a bowl of porridge and a few side dishes from a nearby shop before taking a taxi to Lu Shichu's place.

Since Cheng Qiulu was close friends with Lu Qingyou, and Lu Shichu was Lu

Qingyou's cousin from another branch of the family, it was only natural for her to know him.

She had never met the man extraordinary as Lu Shichu before.

The first time they met, he was seated in a wheelchair, emanating an air of refinement and gentleness.

Since then, she had been captivated and sought opportunities to be around him.

As the taxi came to a halt, Cheng Qiulu stepped out and looked up at Lu Shichu's floor. She noticed that the lights were off.

He probably hadn't returned yet.

With no other choice, she squatted by the nearby flower bed and waited patiently for Lu Shichu to come back.

At that moment, Boi Jingshu arrived with An Xio.

"This is my sister, Qiulu," Boi Jingshu introduced.

Cheng Qiulu stood up with a smile and greeted, "Hello, An Xio!"

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"This is my sister, Qiulu," Bai Jingshu introduced.

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In the laboratory, Lu Shichu had initially planned to work on the experiment overnight, but his mind was in disarray, and he couldn't find peace.

Frustrated, he removed his mask, turned around, and sank into the chair. His eyes deepened as he recalled Su Ziyue calling him, and a smile gradually formed on his face.

He had always held onto the hope of seeing Su Ziyue again one day.

He couldn't predict when that day might arrive—maybe in the distant future, when he accidentally spotted her amidst the vast sea of people on the street. Since arriving in Jingcheng, he had kept himself busy and content with work, yet his heart still felt hollow.

He filled his time with work, conducting experiments and writing reports.

Yet, during his moments of leisure, thoughts of Su Ziyue easily crept into his mind.

They had known each other for over two decades, and his affection and protectiveness toward her had become ingrained habits.

Even though he knew she was leading a happy and peaceful life now, he couldn't help but worry and care for her.

Checking the time, he realized it was already close to midnight.

Removing his lab coat, he put on his coat and decided to heed beck. The winter night in Jingcheng was chilly, and with the late hour, the streets were sparsely populated.

When he arrived downstairs at his residence, it was well past midnight. As Lu Shichu was about to enter the building, he caught a faint sound nearby. Curious, he listened more intently and realized it was someone breathing. Walking around a cluster of green plants, he discovered Cheng Qiulu sitting on the ceramic tiles by the flower bed under the streetlamp. While felling asleep, she was cradling something in her arms and was leaning against the lamppost.

A hint of surprise flashed in Lu Shichu's eyes as he approached her.

"Miss Cheng."

Cheng Qiulu didn't react at all.

He had no choice but to gently pet her shoulder.

She finally woke up.

As soon as she saw Lu Shichu, her eyes immediately lit up with clarity and brightness.

"Shichu, you're back!"

Cheng Qiulu was clearly overjoyed. Holding the teacup, she attempted to stand up, but her legs had gone numb, and she tumbled forward.

Reacting swiftly, Lu Shichu reached out and supported her.

As they were close to each other, Cheng Qiulu caught a whiff of his unique and refreshing scent.

Her face immediately turned red, and she spoke with a slight stutter. "S-Shichu... my legs are numb..."

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Chapter 788 Lu Shichu's Side Story Part 3

Lu Shichu nodded in acknowledgment. Seeing that Cheng Qiulu had regained her balance, he released his hold on her and took a half step back. He calmly asked, "Is there something you want to talk to me about?"

Cheng Qiulu noticed that Lu Shichu still remained distant, just as he had been before. It seemed as though he was deliberately drawing a clear line between them. A hint of disappointment washed over her clear eyes.

Trying to conceal her emotions, she lowered her gaze and tightened her grip on the takeout in her hand. It was then that she remembered the true purpose of her visit.

Then, she handed the takeout to Lu Shichu and said, "You haven't had dinner yet, have you? I came from the hotel nearby and brought you something." She didn't dare to mention that she bought it specifically for Lu Shichu because she was afraid it might burden him.

At times, she wondered if he secretly found her bothersome. Perhaps, his gentleness and composure were merely out of consideration for her friendship with Lu Qingyou, so as not to make things awkward for her.

Lu Shichu's gaze fell upon Cheng Qiulu's cautious yet hopeful expression, and a subtle twitch in his brow gave away that he was moved by her.

Her nose was slightly red, which clearly showed that she had been waiting for quite some time.

Cheng Qiulu and Lu Qingyou were the same age, and both exuded genuine beauty and youthful charm that was clear and untainted.

He envied their youthfulness and was touched by their passionate sincerity. Yet, his heart had long sunken into the depths of the past, and no disturbance could stir ripples in his heart.

As Cheng Qiulu anxiously waited for his response, her facial expression gradually shifted. "Shichu, you—"

Lu Shichu interjected gently as he maintained his usual soft tone. "Thank you for your kindness, but I'm not hungry. It's getting late now; you should go back."

Cheng Qiulu stubbornly maintained her posture, still holding out the takeout to him. She stood her ground, but tears shimmered in her eyes. "Shichu, I didn't mean anything else. I just—"

"I don't have any other intentions. I'm simply not hungry, and you're making me feel troubled. My time is precious, and every moment I stand here talking to you takes away from my sleep."

Lu Shichu's expression remained indifferent and distant, but his tone was not cold. He had always been gentle and composed. However, the more he acted this way, the colder Cheng Qiulu perceived him to be.

For so long, Lu Shichu had treated her like this.

She felt wronged and thought he was being excessive.

She raised her head, and tears immediately overflowed from her eyes. "Do you really want to spend your whole life in the laboratory? No matter what has happened or what you've done, you deserve to experience love and get married!"

Before this, she never dared to speak freely in front of Lu Shichu, fearing she might upset him. These bold and candid words were something she had never dared to utter before.

Lu Shichu's expression remained unchanged, as he regarded her with the gentle gaze of an elder toward a younger one. "Love and marriage are normal



aspects of life, but not everyone must go through them. At your age, perhaps love is the most important thing, but in my world, the laboratory is everything. I won't develop feelings for you, and you don't need to waste your time on me." His words left Cheng Qiulu feeling hopeless.

Lu Shichu had been straightforward and made his stance clear, and she couldn't pretend to be ignorant.

"You won't know unless you try. How can you be so certain you won't like me?" She clung to the hope that he was just using this as a way to reject her and wanted to persist a little longer.

"No need to try. If it won't happen, it won't. Go back now."

After saying that, Lu Shichu headed straight into the building.

Reluctantly, Cheng Qiulu caught up with him. "It's so late now. Are you going to let a girl like me go back alone? Won't you walk me home?"

"You're already an adult, so you're responsible for your own safety," Lu Shichu replied, not bothering to look back as he left her with those words and stepped into the elevator.

Cheng Qiulu watched helplessly as the elevator door closed. She squatted down and cried uncontrollably.

After crying for a while, she sat on the stairs in a daze.

Just then, a call from Lu Qingyou brought her back to her senses.

"Qiulu, where are you? It's so late now, and you haven't come back yet?" Lu Qingyou's voice carried a hint of concern.

With a heavy nasal tone, Cheng Qiulu replied, "Everything's fine. You go to sleep first."

Then she hung up the phone.

Lu Qingyou, perceptive as ever, sensed something was amiss from Cheng Qiulu's voice. As she recalled how hurriedly Cheng Qiulu had left earlier, she understood what was going on.

At this late hour, Lu Qingyou didn't dare to venture out alone, so she decided to find Bai Yunan.

Bai Yunan was in a good mood, having enjoyed time with friends. He had just returned to his room, taken a shower, and was getting ready to sleep when he heard a knock on the door.

Who on earth would come to me at this hour?

The urgency of the knocking left him with a clue.

Opening the door, he was greeted by none other than Lu Qingyou standing there.

Lu Qingyou wasted no time in stating her purpose. "Yunan, Qiulu went out earlier, and she still hasn't returned. I just talked to her on the phone, and her mood doesn't seem right. I suspect she might have gone to find Shichu."

As soon as Bai Yunan heard her words, his face darkened, and he hastily

grabbed his coat and prepared to go out.

Lu Qingyou quickly followed him.

Looking back at her, he frowned tightly. "What are you following me for? Go back and sleep."

These two little girls can be quite a handful.

Undeterred, Lu Qingyou persisted and grabbed his clothes. "I want to go with you. You will probably scold her, but we're good friends, and we stand together in difficult times."

Amused by her determination, Bai Yunan decided not to argue further.

When they arrived downstairs at Lu Shichu's place, they saw Cheng Qiulu curled up into a ball.

Lu Qingyou cautiously glanced at Bai Yunan, who wore a chilling expression, and she didn't dare to say anything.

"Cheng Qiulu!" Bai Yunan walked over and lifted her up.

The night was exceptionally cold, and Cheng Qiulu was already numb from the cold.

Seeing Bai Yunan, she was momentarily dazed before realizing the situation.

Her voice was hoarse as she called out, "Yunan, why are you here?"

Bai Yunan, being experienced and knowledgeable, didn't need to ask many questions to understand what was going on.

Taking on the role of an elder brother, he sternly said, "Cheng Qiulu, do you think you can gain sympathy from Lu Shichu by staying here all night? I know men better than you do. If he doesn't have any feelings for you, no matter how much effort you put in, it's all futile. You're my little sister, and I can find any kind of man you want. There's no need to lower your worth and relentlessly pursue a half-disabled man!"

Cheng Qiulu's eyes turned red. She couldn't bear to hear Bai Yunan talk about Lu Shichu that way.

"Yunan!"

"Now come back with me immediately and never come to find him again!"

Bai Yunan's severe tone left Cheng Qiulu with no choice but to comply, and she reluctantly followed him back.

On the way back, Lu Qingyou was too scared to say a word.

...

The next day, Lu Shichu headed to the laboratory early in the morning.

As he changed his clothes, Bai Yunan appeared to look for him.

Lu Shichu glanced at him and calmly said, "I'm sorry, but unrelated personnel are not allowed inside. General Bai, if you have something to discuss, we can step outside."

Bai Yunan noticed the sign on the door that read "Unauthorized personnel not allowed." Before leaving, he made a quick remark, saying, "Let's talk outside."

## Chapter 789 Lu Shichu's Side Story Part 4

Lu Shichu calmly changed back into his clothes and stepped out to meet Bai Yunan.

He poured a glass of water for Bai Yunan. "We only have plain water here, so please make do with it, General Bai."

Most people in the research institute had certain quirks and similar habits, and they mostly stuck to drinking water and nothing else.

"Thank you," Bai Yunan replied, taking the glass and sipping from it before setting it down.

Lu Shichu sat across from him and remained silent as he waited for Bai Yunan to say something.

"Are you getting used to the place here?"

Lu Shichu looked at Bai Yunan in surprise.

He knew why Bai Yunan came to find him today, but he didn't expect these unrelated questions to be the first ones asked.

Concisely, Lu Shichu answered, "Yeah."

Bai Yunan nodded slightly, taking another sip of water to conceal his unease. He couldn't help but feel a bit embarrassed—he was a grown man, yet here he was meddling in his sister's love life.

Nevertheless, he was determined not to let Cheng Qiulu and Lu Shichu be together.

After some contemplation, Bai Yunan finally broached the subject. "Qiulu always comes to find you and causes you a lot of trouble, right?"

Lu Shichu looked at him and gave a nearly imperceptible nod. "I've indeed been troubled by this, but she won't come to find me anymore in the future."

Bai Yunan's lips twitched. Why does it sound like he is annoyed with Qiulu?

The Bai family was fiercely protective of their members. In his mindset, Bai Yunan always believed that there were no men out there who wouldn't be into his sister, except the one she was not into herself.

"General Bai, let's be honest. I have no interest in your sister. My focus is solely on my research, and I have no intention of pursuing any romantic relationships. If you can persuade Miss Cheng to give up on me, it would be beneficial for both of us, and I would have fewer troubles."

Lu Shichu stood up after finishing his statement. "I have work to attend to. Feel free to take your time, General Bai."

With those words, he walked into the laboratory.

Bai Yunan's voice followed from behind. "Someone wants to see you."

Lu Shichu's steps hesitated for a moment, and he turned to look at Bai Yunan. His eyes flickered momentarily before he regained his composure.

"I don't want to see anyone," he retorted icily, then continued into the laboratory.

Bai Yunan watched Lu Shichu enter the laboratory. After standing there for a few seconds, he eventually walked away.

Before the incident with Gricy, he had crossed paths with Lu Shichu.

Lu Shichu was Lu Qingyou's distant cousin from a different branch of the family. Despite not sharing much blood relation, their families maintained a strong connection and had a good relationship. However, due to the reserved nature of Lu Shichu's parents and the geographical distance between their cities, they didn't interact frequently. Nonetheless, an undeniable bond persisted between them.

Because of this relationship, their families would occasionally come together for gatherings. As fate would have it, Bai Yunan's family lived as neighbors to Lu Qingyou's family, and that was when he first met Lu Shichu.

Upon learning about Lu Shichu's connection with Gricy, Bai Yunan even discussed it with Lu Qingyou's father.

In their conversation, Lu Qingyou's father subtly conveyed that Lu Shichu was a good-natured person and that he should look out for him.

Armed with this advice, Bai Yunan would not cause any harm to Lu Shichu, even if Qin Muchen never sought his assistance.

As time went on, Bai Yunan couldn't help but notice a remarkable change in Lu Shichu. This transformation wasn't merely surface-level, but it emanated from within.

...

Lu Shichu was absent-minded the whole day.

Not for any other reason, but because of Bai Yunan's last sentence.

'Someone wants to see you.'

Who could it be?

In the sprawling city of Jingcheng, he could easily narrow down the possibilities.

It had to be either Qin Muchen or Su Ziyue.

However, he doubted that Qin Muchen would actively seek him out.

So, that left Su Ziyue.

Did he want to see her?

Undeniably.

Yet, at the same time, he was conflicted; there was a part of him that didn't want to face her.

Since the Gricy incident concluded and he arrived in Jingcheng City, Lu Shichu realized that nothing had stirred his emotions—except for matters concerning Su Ziyue.

At noon, his assistant went out to run an errand and returned looking hesitant to speak.

Lu Shichu looked up and inquired, "What's wrong?"

The assistant, being a graduate student, possessed commendable abilities. In contrast to others of his age, he displayed a remarkable level of maturity, a quality that resonated well with Lu Shichu's preferences.

The assistant rarely hesitated like this, as if he had something to say but struggled to find the right words.

"If you don't want to say, then don't force yourself."

If he had no intention of sharing, Lu Shichu had no interest in pressing for information either.

The assistant glanced at Lu Shichu's tall yet indifferent figure and uttered, "Miss Cheng is outside."

It seemed like she had been waiting for a long time.

The assistant was familiar with Cheng Qiulu as she had visited Lu Shichu on previous occasions.

Without even lifting his head, Lu Shichu advised, "Channel that energy into your research. You'll eventually achieve something remarkable."

Blushing at his nonchalant words, the assistant lowered his head and did not dare to say anything further.

Lu Shichu was aware that Cheng Qiulu wouldn't easily give up.

He understood that in their youth, people were filled with passion, patience, and courage.

However, as time passed, these qualities often diminished, leaving them timid and compliant—much like himself.

Though he didn't truly have a passion for research, being a doctor seemed acceptable too.

Yet, his destiny had long slipped out of his control.

Since then, he did many things half-heartedly.

If it hadn't been for his parents, he wouldn't want to enter the research institute. He would have been fine with sitting in jail, and he truly didn't have any concerns about it.

Having done something wrong, he accepted the consequences without fear.

For the next few days, Cheng Qiulu lingered outside the research institute, hoping to see Lu Shichu.

The guards on duty couldn't stand it anymore as they questioned why a young girl would stand outside in such freezing weather.

However, Lu Shichu remained indifferent, colder than anyone else around him.

He simply stayed inside the research institute, and his assistant couldn't take it anymore. "Mr. Lu, why not go and see Miss Cheng?"

When Bai Yunan sent Lu Shichu to the research institute, he kept his relationship with Gricy a secret. Except for the higher-ups, nobody else knew about it.

Given his past as the leader of “K7,” the authorities respected him and appointed him as the director.

Lu Shichu didn’t object to the position.

With an expression of displeasure, Lu Shichu glanced at his assistant and sternly replied, “She’s out there causing trouble in my life every day. Do I have to meet her?”

“Just consider it for Miss Cheng’s persistence—” The assistant paused, genuinely feeling sorry for Cheng Qiulu.

Lu Shichu turned back to his work, maintaining his composure as he calmly remarked, “Persistence often goes unrewarded in this world. Don’t bother trying to convince me. I won’t go to see her. If it’s too much for you to handle, you can meet her instead.”

No one understood the essence of persistence better than him.

Over the years, he had persistently and patiently loved Su Ziyue, even entertaining thoughts of taking someone’s life at some point.

In retrospect, it all seemed futile.

Nevertheless, he held no regrets.

The assistant was taken aback, as the first part of Lu Shichu’s sentence sounded particularly melancholic.

Chapter 790 Lu Shichu’s Side Story Part 5

However, Lu Shichu’s last sentence struck a chord in his heart.

He genuinely thought Cheng Qiulu was a nice person.

Lu Shichu had watched Su Ziyue grow up. His assistant was younger than Su Ziyue and attended one of the top universities in the country. Among his batch of graduate students, he was the most outstanding and highly intelligent but lacked a bit of emotional intelligence.

With his rich life experiences, Lu Shichu could easily discern the changes in the young assistant’s emotions.

As expected, in the days that followed, the assistant would rush to the door whenever he had a moment.

As time passed, he would be the fastest one to leave when it was the end of the workday.

Lu Shichu stood in the corridor, gazing through the window as he watched the assistant open the car door for Cheng Qiulu. The two of them chatted and laughed as they drove away.

He couldn’t help but smile. The vibrancy of youthful life and love was always a sight to behold.

As for himself, he couldn’t feel that vitality or love anymore. He was content with observing others.

He thought it was time for him to move back to his place. Starting tomorrow, Cheng Qiulu might still come, but she wouldn’t be waiting for him anymore.

Lu Shichu changed his clothes, grabbed his car keys, and strolled leisurely to the parking lot.

As he drove past the supermarket, he decided to go in and buy some groceries.

These days, he appeared busy yet fulfilled, all because he dedicated every minute to something meaningful.

He devoted his energy to conducting experiments, carefully selected a box of fresh pork, and then put effort into preparing a hearty dinner.

In doing so, he felt that life still held plenty of meaningful things.

As he returned to his residential area, he parked the car in the garage and carried the bags into the building. There, he noticed two familiar figures standing nearby.

One step, two steps, three steps...

He couldn't pretend not to have seen them.

He reluctantly looked up, his gaze briefly passing over Qin Muchen and Su Ziyue before averting his eyes.

Su Ziyue was the first to speak. "Are you off work now?"

She held a small bag in her hand, clad in a camel-colored cashmere coat, with a smile directed at him.

However, beneath the smile, he could sense her uneasiness.

He felt the same way too.

"Yeah," he replied casually from about two meters away and began walking toward them.

Standing next to her, Qin Muchen remained tall and imposing.

He glanced at Lu Shichu's leg before shifting his gaze away.

Lu Shichu was still undergoing rehabilitation. Although rainy days brought some pain, the dry and cold weather in the city allowed him to manage as long as he kept warm.

With an indifferent expression, Qin Muchen asked, "Aren't you going to invite us to your place?"

His tone seemed almost like he was asking a stranger to step aside.

However, if one observed closely, a flicker of discomfort could be seen in Qin Muchen's eyes.

Qin Muchen wasn't a generous person. Although he was reluctant, he knew Su Ziyue wanted to see Lu Shichu, so he followed along.

Since arriving in Jing City, Lu Shichu hadn't even had the chance to meet his parents. Su Ziyue had expressed her wish to see him, but he had repeatedly declined her requests.

Fate always had a way of bringing people back together, but he didn't expect it to happen so soon.

Lu Shichu smirked, a hint of a faint smile playing on his lips. "Of course, you're



all more than welcome.”

He naturally led the way and guided them to the room.

As they stepped inside, Lu Shichu opened the door and said, “No need to take off your shoes. Just come in like this.”

Once Su Ziyue was in, she glanced around the room. It was simple yet tidy, reflecting Lu Shichu’s preference for simplicity and cleanliness.

Carrying the groceries into the kitchen, he added, “Please wait for me. I’ll put the groceries in the fridge.”

Qin Muchen stood up and trailed Lu Shichu into the kitchen.

He took the bags from Lu Shichu’s hands and said, “I’ll help you put them away. You go out and talk to her.”

Despite his cold expression, it was clear how unwilling he was.

Lu Shichu found it somewhat amusing, yet at the same time, he felt a twinge of jealousy.

“Okay,” Lu Shichu replied naturally, handing over the items and giving instructions on where to put them and how to arrange them.

Qin Muchen skillfully completed the task.

Although Lu Shichu didn’t want to admit it, he knew that Qin Muchen was also very good to Su Ziyue.

Qin Muchen expressed his love in a different way.

He was a bit more dominant and assertive.

However, if Su Ziyue had chosen him, Lu Shichu speculated that he might have exhibited the same assertiveness as Qin Muchen did.

It had been a long time since he entertained such impossible thoughts.

Leaving the kitchen, he caught sight of Su Ziyue sitting on the sofa, her gaze wandering around. Despite being a wife and mother now, she exuded a familiar aura that effortlessly connected her to the girl he had known years ago.

Time had passed, but memories of Su Ziyue as a child and their shared past remained vivid in his mind.

Amid her curious glances, Su Ziyue spotted Lu Shichu standing not far away, and his eyes were fixed on her.

A warm smile graced her lips as she called out, “Shichu.”

Lu Shichu returned her smile, planning to get her a cup of warm water.

However, he hesitated, realizing that he hadn’t been there for a while, and he wasn’t certain if the water from the dispenser was still safe to drink.

Opting for caution, he decided to use the kettle to boil fresh water. After plugging it in, he approached Su Ziyue and explained, “It’s been a while since I stayed here, so there’s no warm water.”

Su Ziyue shook her head and replied, “I’m not thirsty.”

Her complexion seemed much better than before.

The last time he saw her, she was lying pale on a hospital bed, and her life was hanging in the balance.

Although he wanted to examine her closely, he knew it wouldn't be appropriate, so he merely stole a glance.

The room was well-heated. After Su Ziyue entered, she took off her coat.

As the coat came off, Lu Shichu immediately noticed her slightly protruding belly.

Feeling his gaze upon her, Su Ziyue blushed slightly and nervously tucked her hair behind her ear. "It's been over three months, almost four months now.

Zixi said he wants a little sister, but I don't know if it'll be a boy or a girl."

Lu Shichu smiled warmly and responded, "Either one would be wonderful."

He smiled warmly at her, just as he used to.

However, deep down, Su Ziyue couldn't help but feel a tinge of bitterness.

Her emotions overwhelmed her, leaving her struggling to find her voice.

Lu Shichu handed her a tissue and teasingly remarked, "Seeing each other after all this time, and you're already crying?"

Taking the tissue from him, she covered her eyes and chuckled softly without saying a word.

She knew speaking might unleash her tears.

Qin Muchen observed them from a short distance, shuffling his feet before eventually retreating to the kitchen.

Suddenly, he felt like having a smoke.

However, upon reaching for his pocket, he realized that he no longer carried cigarettes.

He brushed it off, recognizing that it was good for Su Ziyue to see Lu Shichu.

Otherwise, she would always hold him in her heart, and he didn't want Lu Shichu to become an indelible mark in her life.

After calming herself, Su Ziyue looked up at Lu Shichu and said, "It's all because you've been refusing to see me."

Although her words carried a hint of complaint, her tone held no real resentment.

Lu Shichu gazed at her and sighed. "I've been too busy."

Both of them left certain things unspoken.

Sometimes, words weren't necessary to convey everything.

Chapter 791 Lu Shichu's Side Story Part 6

There were many things they wanted to say, but it felt challenging to express them after they finally met.

Apart from exchanging pleasantries, it was difficult to bring up some topics after everything that had happened.

Feeling restless, Qin Muchen paced back and forth in the kitchen before he couldn't contain himself any longer and stepped outside.

Both of them looked at Qin Muchen, and he raised an eyebrow and calmly sat down next to Su Ziyue, asking, "What were you guys talking about?"

Lu Shichu rose from his seat and suggested, "It's getting late. Why don't you two stay for dinner? I'll cook."

He had initially considered asking them to leave, but Su Ziyue clearly didn't wish to depart.

Lu Shichu had grown accustomed to accommodating Su Ziyue's wishes.

"I'll help you." Qin Muchen followed closely behind Lu Shichu and entered the kitchen.

Su Ziyue felt a little taken aback, sensing that Qin Muchen was behaving strangely.

As she sat on the sofa for a while, she couldn't shake the feeling that something was amiss.

Two grown men cooking in the kitchen while she sat alone on the sofa seemed a bit off to her.

Yet, she was immensely happy that the two could finally coexist peacefully.

What brought her even greater joy was the fact that Lu Shichu was willing to see her. His leg had healed, and he could stand up again.

Meanwhile, Lu Shichu and Qin Muchen entered the kitchen. The atmosphere in the narrow kitchen became somewhat tense.

Lu Shichu prepared the ingredients while Qin Muchen washed them.

Surprisingly, the two men worked together seamlessly.

Su Ziyue observed them from the doorway for a while. With a peculiar expression, she turned back and returned to the living room.

What she didn't know was that after she left, the two men in the kitchen slowed down their movements and started talking.

Qin Muchen initiated the discussion, asking, "Is your leg better?"

"I think so," Lu Shichu replied vaguely.

"Seeing you like this puts us at ease."

Lu Shichu's chopping motion paused slightly as he responded, "Is that so?"

In his mind, he secretly yearned for her to keep him in her thoughts if he refused to meet her.

Whether he played the role of the older brother who had been there throughout her growth or the person who had saved her husband's life, as long as she remembered him in her heart and cared about him, it would be enough.

That was his selfish desire.

For a fleeting moment, he hoped that Qin Muchen still harbored the same pettiness he once did.

However, he recognized that Qin Muchen had grown more shrewd now.

Although he minded it in his heart, Qin Muchen still wanted to appear

generous.

If Su Ziyue wanted to see Lu Shichu, he would bring her to see him.

Su Ziyue was familiar with Qin Muchen's personality. Knowing how petty he had been in the past, she was deeply moved by his newfound generosity.

Lu Shichu suddenly thought of an internet term, "angelic b\*tch."

He realized that this term also suited Qin Muchen's current behavior.

A mocking smile appeared on Lu Shichu's lips as he asked, "And what about you?"

"I'm doing great. I have a wife and a son." Qin Muchen knew that Lu Shichu was asking about his illness.

He was truly doing well now.

Nothing was more important than having Su Ziyue by his side. As long as Su Ziyue was there, they could overcome anything.

After that, the two men didn't say much.

They had a peaceful dinner.

Before parting ways, Qin Muchen went to the parking lot to get the car, while Su Ziyue and Lu Shichu walked to the entrance of the residential area together.

When they reached the entrance, Lu Shichu said to her, "Ziyue, the past is behind us now. I'm doing fine, so you don't have to blame yourself or worry anymore. Just live a peaceful life with Qin Muchen."

His words were intended to free Su Ziyue from any psychological burden.

However, he didn't expect that his words would actually provoke Su Ziyue.

Turning to look at him, she wore a faint smile and replied, "What do you mean by that? Are you trying to cut ties with me? Do you think you'll be all alone in Jingcheng while I live a peaceful life with Qin Muchen in Yunzhou City? Let me tell you, that's impossible! I still owe you for all the kindness you've shown me. We can't cut ties. After I give birth, I'll send you an invitation, and I'll come to visit you during the holidays."

Her expression was exactly the same as when she stubbornly refused to listen to him when they were younger.

Lu Shichu was momentarily stunned, and it took him a few seconds to react.

With a smile, he gazed at Su Ziyue without uttering a word.

Indeed, cutting ties with her was impossible.

In their younger years, he cared for her because she was the well-behaved and adorable little girl from the neighbor's house.

As time passed, he pitied her when her father was imprisoned.

There were reasons for his actions in the past.

However, as they grew older, he found himself doing everything for her without any specific reason.

Simply because she was Su Ziyue.

The line between love and other emotions had blurred, and the name “Su Ziyue” had become deeply ingrained in his very being.

Qin Muchen had already driven the car over and stuck his head out of the window.

Lu Shichu noticed Qin Muchen and finally said to Su Ziyue, “Alright.”

Su Ziyue was overjoyed and glanced back three times at him before she left. After watching the car disappear, Lu Shichu turned around and slowly walked toward the elevator.

Su Ziyue and Qin Muchen left Jingcheng City the next day.

He received a farewell text message from Su Ziyue in the lab.

For a moment, it felt like time had reversed.

He remembered a similar situation when she was eighteen and forced to go abroad. Even though he was also overseas at the time, she sent him a farewell text message at the airport.

Back then, apart from An Xia, she had no friends in the vast Yunzhou City, and no one cared about her.

He was the only son of the Lu family, and his parents had expectations of him. When he was seventeen, they sent him abroad to study.

From a young age, Lu Shichu displayed exceptional talents and was aware of some of the situations Su Ziyue faced when she went to the Su Residence.

His father had advised him that complete peace between people was rare.

Even the closest individuals would have conflicts and arguments over trivial matters. It was a natural part of life.

In the first few years after he went abroad, Su Ziyue would still complain to him, but as time passed, she gradually shared less and less.

When he returned to visit his family, she would only share good news and spared him from any worries about her troubles.

He heard some rumors about her during her senior year of high school when he called home. He even asked his parents to bring Su Ziyue to live with them.

However, Su Ziyue had expectations for her own family, and the Su Family wouldn’t agree due to reasons of pride and reputation.

Sometimes, family ties didn’t necessarily bring warmth. In necessary times, they could push one deeper into the quagmire.

It was also the same year that he received an international award and caught the attention of Gricy’s people.

They threatened him with his family and used Su Ziyue as leverage.

At that time, he was already in the process of applying to return for graduate studies.

While Su Ziyue was forced to go abroad, he found himself facing threats from Gricy’s people.

After coming to Jingcheng, he often wondered if things would have turned out differently between him and Su Ziyue if he hadn't been targeted by Gracy's people and faced those threats. Maybe Qin Muchen wouldn't even have a place in her life.

Nevertheless, such speculation only existed in his imagination.

In the eyes of others, he had always been an outstanding person from childhood to adulthood. He had envisioned a simple life as a doctor, saving lives and marrying a kind and lovely wife, living the most ordinary life.

However, life had different plans in store for him.

Fortune was unpredictable, and misfortune lay beyond expectations.

For him, fate had always been absurd.

Chapter 792 Lu Shichu's Side Story Part 7

Lu Shichu's life returned to normal after not seeing Su Ziyue and her husband. It was calm and fulfilling. Cheng Qiulu never contacted him again, and he was satisfied with that.

He liked the peaceful life.

Every weekend, he would make a phone call to his family and then go to see his rehabilitation doctor in the afternoon. In the evening, he would go to the seaside to release animals.

When he was busy, he didn't have time to do these things during the day, so he could only go out at night. Sometimes, he would sit by the seaside for a while.

He spent all his free time in the laboratory.

He was a good-looking man with outstanding abilities and dedication. He always put on a smile whenever meeting people. Naturally, everyone had a good impression of him.

After a while, some of the senior colleagues in the research institute began to set Shichu with someone else.

When Lu Shichu couldn't refuse them, he would go on a few dates.

The ladies, who were introduced by the senior colleagues, were excellent and beautiful. Lu Shichu was a polite gentleman, so the ladies had a good impression of him.

However, nothing came of it in the end.

The senior colleagues who introduced the ladies to Lu Shichu were very curious as to why none of them worked out.

It was a unanimous answer. The ladies wanted to get a boyfriend who would take care of and cherish them, not someone who solely focused on medical research.

Lu Shichu was a gentleman. Even though he agreed to go on those dates, he wouldn't say anything rude. He would make sure to bring up one thing.

"There is one thing I think I need to mention in advance. I am very busy with

work, and I can only spend ten minutes talking to my parents on the phone every week. If we get together, I will never be the first one to arrive when it's New Year's or when you are sick. I'm sorry about that."

Every lady reacted generously when they heard this, but after spending some time together, they all retreated.

Lu Shichu was passive in keeping in touch with them, so they would approach him first.

When they asked him out for a movie, he would only arrive after the movie ended. The reason for that was because of an experiment that he couldn't leave midway.

When they asked him to have a meal, he would order deliveries for the other party on the account that he didn't have time spare to dine out.

Situations like that happened a lot of times.

Whether it was young ladies who envisioned fairy-tale-like love or careerwomen who were the same age as Lu Shichu, they eventually gave up. His love life became the was a concern to his colleagues. Among them, his assistant was the most worried for him.

His assistant and Cheng Qiulu were already at the stage of discussing marriage.

The assistant was smart when it came to work, but he was rather dense when it came to matters of relationships.

He always thought that if he and Cheng Qiulu were together, Lu Shichu might not have remained single.

Lu Shichu knew what his assistant was thinking and found it hilarious, concluding that he was really dense.

During lunchtime, he invited his assistant to a cafe.

The assistant sat across from Lu Shichu, looking like a middle school student who had been called in by the headmaster for dating too early.

He awkwardly called, "Mr. Lu."

Lu Shichu looked at him with a gentle expression. "Have you set the wedding date with Miss Cheng? When are you planning to give me the invitation?"

"We are preparing for it," the assistant replied, looking somewhat surprised.

"Don't forget to send me an invitation when the time comes."

"Okay."

It wasn't until the two of them returned to the laboratory that the assistant realized the purpose of Lu Shichu inviting him for coffee.

During the National Day, his assistant and Cheng Qiulu got married. Lu Shichu took the rare opportunity to take half a day off and attend their wedding.

When his assistant and Cheng Qiulu came to his table to toast, she looked surprised.



Although she had rarely seen Lu Shichu in recent years, she still habitually called out, "Shichu?"

He smiled at her and raised his glass. "Best wishes."

Cheng Qiulu looked at the smile on his face and her eyes flickered slightly.

This was probably the only genuine smile she had seen from him ever since they knew each other.

Lu Shichu sincerely wished them the best.

Lovers who truly loved each other deserved sincere blessings.

For some inexplicable reason, the uneasiness in Cheng Qiulu's heart disappeared when she saw that smile from Lu Shichu.

When he was about to leave, he ran into Bai Jingshu and An Xia.

Their daughter had just turned one year old and was babbling and learning to speak. She clung to Bai Jingshu's leg and wanted to walk. "Daddy, Daddy, Daddy..."

Bai Jingshu's smile never faded from his face. He bent down, carefully supporting her and not letting go. He spoke softly, "Be careful, sweetheart. Take it slow. Do you want me to carry you?"

The little girl struggled to free herself from his hand. Realizing that she couldn't, she pouted and was about to cry. In the end, he let go of her.

As soon as he let go, the little person turned around and walked toward Lu Shichu.

At first, she walked with quick and steady steps. Lu Shichu watched her approach him with a bouncy gait, which elicited a smile on his face.

She's adorable.

When she was about to reach Lu Shichu, she started to wobble. Lu Shichu was afraid she would fall, so he squatted down and reached out to support her. However, the little bundle of joy jumped into his arms with drool. "Daddy, Daddy..."

Bai Jingshu, who caught up with her, became awkward. "Baby, look this way. I'm over here."

He reached out to carry his daughter back, but she held onto Lu Shichu and refused to let go.

Only then did Bai Jingshu see noticed that the person holding his daughter was Lu Shichu. He was slightly stunned.

His daughter didn't want to get down from Lu Shichu, so he apologized before looking at his daughter with a loving gaze. "She can understand us now. She has become more mischievous. You—"

"It's okay." Lu Shichu carefully held the little girl and smiled. He lowered his head to look at her. He tentatively tilted his head and said, "Give me a kiss."

The little girl immediately kissed him on the cheek loudly before giggling.

It melted his heart. He suddenly wanted to have a daughter too.

Bai Jingshu was slightly hurt by that because his daughter had kissed other men at such a young age.

...

A few more years passed. Lu Shichu's workaholic routine finally took a toll on him. He was admitted to the hospital.

When he was discharged, he had lost twenty pounds.

During these years, the research institute made significant breakthroughs in medicine and developed many new drugs.

After being discharged, Lu Shichu submitted his resignation to the institute.

The leaders acknowledged his efforts throughout the years and noticed that his health was declining, so they approved it.

Although he had entered as a criminal, his achievements over the years had already made up for it.

Lu Shichu returned to Yunzhou City and took six months to recuperate before his health gradually improved.

On a spring weekend, Su Ziyue's family of four planned to go on an outing.

They invited him, and Bai Jingshu was coming along too.

After arriving, he realized that besides Su Ziyue's family, Bai Jingshu's family was there too.

Bai Jingshu and An Xia usually lived in Yunzhou City and only returned to Jingcheng City when necessary. It seemed normal to have them there.

However, there was also a woman among them who was Qin Zixi's teacher.

She was a few years younger than him. She seemed gentle and dignified.

Su Ziyue's ulterior motive was revealed.

Indeed, he was approaching middle age, and the people around him were concerned about his love life.

The teacher was a total wife material.

After the outing, Su Ziyue talked to him privately, "What do you think of Zi Xi's teacher?"

Lu Shichu smiled and replied, "She's nice."

Su Ziyue's eyes lit up and continued, "So, do you have any plans to keep in touch with her?"

Lu Shichu remembered that when he went out in the morning and stood in front of the mirror to tidy up his appearance, he found that he had grown white hair. There were fine lines at the corners of his eyes too.

Time had left its mark on him.

However, Su Ziyue still looked young and energetic like she was in her twenties. Time was being generous to her.

She was lucky.

Pulling his senses back, he shifted his gaze elsewhere and vaguely said, "Let's leave it to fate."

Su Ziyue knew that this matter had fallen through again. She worried for Lu Shichu.

When one was young, dreams and love were everything. As one grew older, he longed for warmth and companionship.

Lu Shichu couldn't live alone for the rest of his life. It would be so lonely with no one to take care of him when he was sick and no one to share his joy.

Lu Shichu's attitude was gentle yet firm, so Su Ziyue couldn't force him too much. She never had the intention of introducing him to someone else afterward.

However, she would often invite Lu Shichu to have meals at her place.

As a result, Qin Muchen, the childish guy, became unhappy. The two middle-aged men would tease each other every time they met.

"Hey, you grew more white hair again?"

"You seem to have gained weight again. If you don't pay attention to your diet, be careful of high blood pressure."

They would bang the table and almost start a fight. Su Ziyue asked her two sons to appease the men respectively.

The same scene never failed to happen every time the two men met. As time passed, Su Ziyue became accustomed to it.

The following year, Lu Shichu's parents passed away one after another, and he began to feel lonely.

He adopted two children, who were rescued from a fire in the hospital.

Although the parents couldn't be saved, the twin children had minor injuries.

Lu Shichu adopted the twins and took care of them carefully.

He brought the twins to Su Ziyue's house as guests. Whenever he teased Qin Muchen, Lu Shichu would always bring something up—"I have a son and a daughter, don't get jealous."

It touched Qin Muchen's sore spot because he wanted a daughter.

However, Su Ziyue gave birth to another son. She knew that he wanted a daughter, so she discussed whether to have another child with him.

Yet, Qin Muchen felt sorry for her and didn't want her to get pregnant again.

That night, Qin Muchen solemnly called his two sons into the study. "When you two grow up, whoever can marry the little sister from the Lu family will receive an additional ten percent of the company's shares."

When Lu Shichu heard this, he called his daughters over and advised them, "Stay away from those two brothers from the Qin family. They will snatch your candy and dolls."

They nodded innocently and said, "Okay."

When Su Ziyue told An Xia about this, the latter burst into laughter. "You're not that old. Why are you acting like a child!"

Meanwhile, Bai Jingshu caught a different point. He quietly pulled his own

daughter aside and said, "Darling, stay away from the two brothers from the Qin family in the future."

### Chapter 793 A Drunkard Since Childhood Bai family and Lu Family's Side Story

When Bai Yunan returned to the Bai Residence, it was already late at night. The place was quiet.

He didn't inform anyone about his return in advance, but Aunt Liu had left a light on in the hall for him.

After Bai Jingshu and An Xia's wedding, they stayed at home for a while before going back to Yunzhou City. Bai Yeqi was busy with something, so he rarely came back home.

It was said that he had found a new partner.

Bai Yunan couldn't help but sneer at that thought. Both of his younger brothers had gotten married and found a new love life. He was the only person staying single.

It was no wonder that his parents would nag at him as soon as he came home.

If he had informed them in advance that he was coming back, his parents would definitely set up a blind date for him.

That's why he had to come back quietly late at night.

Work alone was hectic enough, and now he had to endure being nagged at home. No matter how energetic he was, it could be tiring for him sometimes. He quietly entered his room without disturbing anyone. He let out a sigh of relief as soon as he entered the room.

Turning on the light, he casually threw his coat on the couch and began unbuttoning his shirt to go to the bathroom.

However, he noticed that there was a bump beneath the bedsheet.

Someone's sleeping in his bed?

He usually folded the bedsheets neatly, even at home. He walked over to the bed in large strides and pulled the bedsheets down to reveal Lu Qingyou's face, which turned red due to the heat beneath the bedsheet.

Bai Yunan frowned. What is she doing here? He approached a bit closer and caught a faint whiff of alcohol.

Bai Yunan's face turned cold, but he placed the bedsheet back gently.

She was stepping up her games. She didn't even call him to bother him anymore, let alone ask him out for meals on weekends. Instead, she came to his house to drink and even slept in his bed while he was away.

It was most likely that the old man had brought her over to drink again.

She had been a drunkard since childhood. He wondered why she liked drinking so much. Bai Yunan stared at her face for a while as his throat suddenly felt dry.

It was probably because the heating in the room was too strong, and he wasn't used to the temperature yet.

So, he turned and went into the bathroom. After taking a shower, he found a blanket and lay down on the couch.

The couch was quite cramped, so he felt uncomfortable. Although he slept until dawn, he kept having strange dreams.

Lu Qingyou was hungover but shared good alcohol with the old man. Thus, she woke up early and didn't have much of a headache.

She got out of bed and saw a man lying on the sofa, so she quickly shrank back.

Why is Yunan back? Didn't Aunt Liu say that he wouldn't come back last night?

As a soldier, Bai Yunan was always alert. He was used to waking up early too. At that moment, he opened his eyes to see her sitting on the bed in her fluffy pajamas while looking at him blankly.

Her bangs were messy and her eyes appeared groggy. She was dazed.

People tend to react slowly when they woke up.

He didn't pay attention to her and kneaded his brow. Then, he got up and went into the bathroom.

Hearing the sound of water coming from the bathroom, she finally came back to her senses.

She got up and sat on the sofa, where the warmth of Bai Yunan's presence still lingered.

He quickly came out of the bathroom, neatly dressed.

Lu Qingyou had always admired Bai Yunan's speed in dressing and grooming. Five minutes was all he needed.

"Yunan, why did you come back?" She picked up a pillow from the side and hugged it, feeling less awkward.

Ever since Bai Jingshu and An Xia's wedding, she hadn't seen Bai Yunan often. Even when they did meet, they only exchanged simple greetings.

It had been a long time since the two of them had been in a closed space together, especially in his room.

He answered concisely, "It's the weekend."

He would come back home every other weekend.

"Oh." Lu Qingyou did not know what else to say.

When she used to pester Bai Yunan often, she didn't think it was a big deal that he was sparing with his words. Now that they didn't see each other often, she felt his aloof attitude.

Although she had tried her best not to care, she still felt a sense of loss.

Bai Yunan looked down at her from above and saw her expression clearly. He was about to say something but suddenly stopped.

Although Lu Qingyou was wearing a coral fleece pajama set, Bai Yunan had seen her enough to know that she wasn't wearing anything underneath. She was always careless in front of him, and she didn't bother to care about these things. He had mentioned it to her a few times, but every time he did, she would impatiently say that she was aware of it. She would get angry at times too.

He felt helpless. He had watched her grow up, and she was also classmates with Cheng Qiulu. To him, Lu Qingyou was just like a younger sister to him, just like Cheng Qiulu.

He pondered for a moment and then put on a serious face. "Lu Qingyou, do you just sleep anywhere after drinking? Don't you know how to protect yourself?"

Lu Qingyou was already feeling a bit down. When she heard this, her face turned pale.

Did he mean that I shouldn't have slept in his bed?

The tip of her nose felt sour as she pursed her lips while looking at him. "It's just sleeping on your bed. Is it necessary to be so angry? Don't you know that you can sleep in Jingshu's room when you come back? You could have woken me up at the very least!"

It's not like I never slept in his room before, so why is he so angry? He must've found someone out there, just like the people online said.

Bai Yunan furrowed his brow. "That's not what I meant."

"What do you mean then?" Lu Qingyou stood up and quickly walked out. "If you're not happy, I won't stay at your house anymore. It's not like I'm dying to live in your house."

He quickly caught up with her and pulled her back. "Are you just going to leave like this?"

"What else can I do? Let you scold me again and then leave?" She couldn't break free, so she glared at him.

Her pouting face tickled his urge to laugh, but he held it back. That was her habit. Her cheeks puffed up when she was angry.

Bai Yunan's tone softened a bit. "Change your clothes before going back."

Lu Qingyou lowered her head to glance at her clothes. She realized something, and her face turned even redder.

It wasn't that she wasn't aware of the boundaries between men and women, but she didn't expect him to come back in the middle of the night.

Another reason was that she never cared about these things in front of Bai Yunan. After all, when she was a child, Bai Yunan even changed her diapers...

Let's stop thinking about the past, she thought to herself, and her face became even redder.

He was still holding onto her. She glared at Bai Yunan fiercely. "Let me go." He then let go of her. As soon as Lu Qingyou regained freedom, she rushed into the bathroom like a rabbit, hugging her clothes.

She quickly came out again, neatly dressed. She didn't say a word to him before running away.

#### Chapter 794 Give Up

Aunt Liu was making breakfast when she saw Lu Qingyou running down like a gust of wind. She quickly called out, "Qingyou, aren't you staying for breakfast?"

Unfortunately, Lu Qingyou had already run far away and didn't hear her at all. Aunt Liu looked at the time and muttered to herself, "It's still early, what's going on?"

Not long after, Bai Yunan came down.

"Aunt Liu." He sat down at the dining table.

She looked at him and was stunned for a moment before smiling. "Since when were you back?"

"Last night." He took a sip as his mind drifted away.

Lu Qingyou returned home and wanted to quietly sneak back upstairs, but she was caught by Mrs. Lu.

Mrs. Lu pulled her ear, bringing her to the sofa.

Lu Qingyou covered her ear and cried out in pain. "Mom, Mom... It hurts..."

Why is she twisting my ear?

With a stern face, Mrs. Lu sat down in front of her with a serious attitude.

Among the entire Lu family, Lu Qingyou was most afraid of Mrs. Lu because everyone else in the family doted on her. Mrs. Lu was very strict with her.

Seeing Mrs. Lu's stern expression, Lu Qingyou didn't dare to say anything and hung her head down.

"You should go to the Bai Residence less often in the future."

Lu Qingyou couldn't help but defend herself, "Old Master Bai invited me for dinner and drink. He's old lonely, so I kept him company."

"I didn't say you shouldn't have dinner at the Bai Residence, I just want you to be more careful in the future. The Bai family is full of boys, and Yunan is a grown-up. No matter how good your relationship is, he is still a man. Old Master Bai and Commander Bai have been looking for a partner for him recently. You should go to their house less often to avoid trouble."

Lu Qingyou felt terrible because Old Master Bai and the others were looking for a partner for Bai Yunan again.

Mrs. Lu looked at Lu Qingyou's expression and her tone became unusually serious. "Qingyou, tell me, do you still have feelings for Yunan?"

"W-What kind of feelings?" Lu Qingyou forced a smile and turned her head to look elsewhere.



“No matter what kind of feelings you have for him, stop it. You’ve known Yunan since you were born, and he cares about you, but he doesn’t have romantic feelings for you. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have waited this long when you’re already twenty. Give up.”

Mrs. Lu’s words were cruel to Lu Qingyou, but she knew it was the truth.

When she was in her early teens, her classmates would secretly write love letters and go on dates, but all she could think of was Bai Yunan.

As she grew older, she knew that she and Bai Yunan were considered childhood friends. Although there was a slight age difference, she didn’t mind it.

Besides her father and brother, he was the person who treated her well.

However, several years had passed and Bai Yunan’s attitude had never changed.

Her family had advised her, so she had been keeping her distance from Bai Yunan, refraining herself from meeting him or hearing news about him.

Her silence made Mrs. Lu realize that her tone was too harsh, but she couldn’t beat around the bush. She was afraid her silly daughter wouldn’t give up on her feelings.

Lu Qingyou spent the morning at home in a daze. In the afternoon, she didn’t want to stay at home anymore, so she called Cheng Qiulu.

Cheng Qiulu took a long time to answer the phone. Lu Qingyou wondered what she was up to.

“Qingyou, what’s up?”

Lu Qingyou felt a pang in her chest. Did she have to have something to talk about in order to call Cheng Qiulu?

“Where are you? Let’s hang out.”

Cheng Qiulu hesitated. “Well, I have something to do right now...”

“What is it? Where are you? I’ll come to you.” Lu Qingyou went to get her clothes.

Before she could hear Cheng Qiulu’s response, she heard a man’s voice on the other end of the line. “Qiulu, be careful!”

Lu Qingyou hung up the phone in pain.

Just a few days ago, Lu Qingyou felt sorry for her, and now Cheng Qiulu had already found a partner.

In the end, Lu Qingyou aimlessly wandered the streets all alone. Her mother’s words were right. She felt that she should try to get to know other boys.

She was about to graduate from college and yet, she had never been in a relationship.

She called Lu Qinghan, who stayed at the bar at night and slept during the day. His routine was messed up.

Awakened by the ringing tone, he squinted at the dialer’s ID, which showed Lu

Qingyou's name. He sighed and sat up, sounding a bit helpless. "My dear sister, tell me, to what honor do I own this?"

He felt like a failure as an older brother because his younger sister was closer to the neighbor's older brother than to him.

"Brother, could you introduce someone to me? I want to start dating."

"Pfft... Cough!" He happened to be getting up from the bed to get a glass of water. He choked when he heard that.

"Really?" He couldn't believe that she would come to her senses so quickly.

"Yeah. Just be quick."

After hanging up the phone, Lu Qinghan pondered for a while and realized that Lu Qingyou and Bai Yunan were not as close as before. It seemed that she had come to her senses.

He began to search for a partner for her. The next morning, he drove a flashy sports car back to the mansion and pick her up.

She went to the hair salon and bought a new outfit, then hurriedly went on the blind date.

When they arrived at the restaurant, he stayed in the lobby while Lu Qingyou would be meeting a new guy in a private lounge.

He patted her shoulder and said, "Go ahead. I'll wait for you here. If that guy is unreliable and you want to leave, just call me if you wanna beat him up."

Lu Qingyou looked at him disdainfully. "You're still acting like a teenager even though you're so old. You can't stop talking about fighting and killing."

He was rendered speechless. He merely wanted to show off in front of his sister and made himself appear dependable as the elder brother.

After watching Lu Qingyou enter the private lounge, Lu Qinghan called a waiter to order a cup of green tea.

While he was scrolling through his phone, a group of people came out of another private lounge. A familiar voice caught his attention. He looked up and met Bai Yunan's gaze.

Jingcheng City was a big place, but there were only a few places they would frequent. Thus, it was easy to run into each other.

Bai Yunan whispered a few words to the person next to him before approaching Lu Qinghan.

Bai Yunan watched Lu Qingyou and Lu Qinghan grow up since they were little. Lu Qingyou, being a girl, was treated a little better. On the other hand, Lu Qinghan sometimes suffered because of Bai Yunan.

Lu Qinghan straightened his back, nervous. He took a sip of his tea.

"What are you doing here?" Bai Yunan narrowed his eyes and sat down in front of him.

Chapter 795 I Make My Own Decisions

Lu Qinghan nervously swallowed a mouthful of saliva and said, "Waiting for my sister."

"Qingyou?" Bai Yunan had already guessed that Lu Qinghan might be with Lu Qingyou when he saw him here. After all, Lu Qinghan usually stayed at the bar and rarely came out.

"Yeah, she..." Lu Qinghan hesitated for a moment.

Should I tell him that Lu Qingyou's on a blind date? Would it be okay to say that? Wait, I am Lu Qingyou's older brother. Is it wrong for me to set up a blind date for my younger sister? he justified his actions.

"Qingyou asked me to introduce someone to her. They are in the private lounge."

Surprisingly, Bai Yunan's expression changed, and his tone became serious.

"In the private lounge?"

"Yes, the private lounge is quiet and easy to talk in." Lu Qinghan felt a little uneasy.

Bai Yunan snorted coldly. "You left her alone with a stranger? Aren't you afraid that the guy has ulterior motives?"

Lu Qinghan was stunned and explained to him, "No, Xi Luo is the son of my mother's colleague. My mother knows him too. He's a decent man. You can rest assured."

Bai Yunan couldn't bother to listen to that as he asked directly, "Which private lounge is it?"

"Yunan, you really have nothing to worry about. Everything will be fine." Lu Qinghan had made up his mind to help his sister find a good match. Xi Luo was someone he carefully selected, so he wouldn't let Bai Yunan interrupt the blind date.

Judging from Bai Yunan's expression, Lu Qingyou and Xi Luo might end up in an awkward situation if he was present.

...

Meanwhile, Lu Qingyou and Xi Luo were chatting absentmindedly.

They were the same age. He had a gentle and refined appearance, which made people have a good impression of him.

Lu Qinghan was a little resistant to this blind date. She was aware that Xi Luo was the son of her mother's colleague. Since they would see each other often in the future, she had to behave in her best decorum.

Moreover, it was her own idea to ask Lu Qinghan to help her find a partner. Apart from Bai Yunan, she hadn't really looked at any other men. Maybe, she could give it a try.

"Try this, it's a new dish here." Xi Luo placed a dish on Lu Qingyou's plate. She came back to her senses and said, "Thank you."

Then, she ate it without even looking at it only to get choked on the food.

She coughed as tears welled up in her eyes. He immediately stood up and patted her back, handing her a glass of water.

At this moment, the door was open to reveal Bai Yunan. He was tall and imposing, and his strong presence made the air oppressive. The room felt somewhat cramped.

Noticing that Xi Luo was so close to Lu Qingyou, he became furious.

He walked over and pushed Xi Luo away, glaring. "What are you doing?"

Xi Luo was polite by nature. It wasn't an act.

He wasn't angry at Bai Yunan's attitude. He calmly looked at Bai Yunan, and when he recognized the man, he was momentarily stunned.

Bai Yunan's presence was too strong, stronger than that of an ordinary person. Before Xi Luo came, he had learned some information about Lu Qingyou's family.

Jingcheng was a big city, and there was only one Bai family.

Before he could speak, Lu Qingyou finished drinking the water and looked up at Bai Yunan. "What are you doing here?"

Bai Yunan glanced at her, displeased with her attitude. At the same time, he realized that Xi Luo wasn't doing anything indecent to her.

Still, he wouldn't apologize.

Is it so difficult for him to get a girlfriend that he's actually going on a blind date? Also, how bad is her situation that she has to secretly go on a blind date?

Before Bai Yunan came in, Lu Qingyou and Xi Luo were not particularly awkward. Now, the three of them sat in the private lounge, feeling equally awkward.

Xi Luo, who read the room, excused himself.

After he left, Lu Qingyou looked at Bai Yunan with an unhappy expression.

"What were you doing?"

"Why did you go on a blind date without telling me?"

She was vexed. She honestly perceived Xi Luo as a decent man and wanted to get to know him better, but Bai Yunan barged in and drove him away.

Bai Yunan didn't think there was anything wrong with his actions. He calmly said, "Answer me."

"Why should I? I want to get a boyfriend. That's it. Is that not allowed? Why do you intervene in every single thing I do? Do you want to control my diet and sleep schedule too?"

Apart from when she was rebellious at fifteen or sixteen, Lu Qingyou hadn't spoken to Bai Yunan in this tone for many years.

He laughed in anger and stared at her angry face. "So, you're saying that I'm being meddlesome?"

"What else? I'm an adult. Please don't treat me like a child. I have my own thoughts and judgment. I make my own decisions."

Since he didn't consider being with her, he shouldn't meddle in her relationships so that she wouldn't have false hope.

Perhaps for him, she was just another younger sister.

However, he played a special role in her twenty-one years of life.

Silence filled the room.

In the meantime, Lu Qinghan was leaning against the door outside, trying to overhear the conversation.

To his dismay, he could only hear muffled voices and couldn't make out what they were saying.

Despite the frustration, he didn't dare to enter the room. He was really useless as an older brother.

At that moment, the door suddenly opened, and he almost fell onto the floor.

Lu Qingyou shot a disdainful look at Lu Qinghan, who had barely stabilized himself, and left.

He scratched his head and glanced inside to see a grim Bai Yunan sitting right there.

Lu Qinghan closed the door and swallowed a mouthful of saliva before catching up with Lu Qingyou.

She was leaning against his car, hugging her arms. She was lost in her thought. He opened the car door and let her get in.

She seemed calm. Lu Qinghan reached out and pinched her face. "What did Yunan say? You look like an old lady right now."

She turned her head to dodge his hand. "Nothing."

Indeed, Bai Yunan didn't say anything. After she said that she would make her own decisions, he stared at her coldly until she couldn't sit still and left on her own.

He seemed very angry. But so what? It's not like this is the first time I made him angry.

Noticing her apathy, Lu Qinghan didn't say anything further.

Chapter 796 If You Don't Get Down, I'll Leave

In the evening, Bai Yunan returned to Bai Residence. When he passed by the entrance of Lu Residence, he ran into Aunt Lu taking out the trash.

He stopped and called out to her. "Hi, Aunt Lu!"

Aunt Lu turned her head and noticed him. She smiled and greeted back, "Hey, Yunan. Have you been busy lately? It feels like I haven't seen you in a long time."

"Yes, I've been quite busy lately." Bai Yunan nodded slightly and glanced toward Lu Residence's courtyard while asking casually, "Where's Qingyou?" Aunt Lu didn't think much of it and grinned at him. "Oh, she's not at home."

She's hanging out with her friends and will be back later."

Upon hearing this, Bai Yunan furrowed his brows slightly. He raised his wrist to check the time and noticed it was already 8.00PM, yet she hadn't returned. Did she go out on a date with that guy named Xi Luo?

The more he thought about it, the more likely it seemed. His temper returned, but he wouldn't show it in front of his elders.

When he returned to Bai Residence, his expression turned cold.

He casually took off his coat and threw it on the couch, then took out his phone to call Lu Qingyou.

Suddenly, he remembered the things she had said in the private room at the restaurant during the day, and his expression darkened.

Since she didn't want him to meddle in her affairs, why should he be a busybody?

Tossing his phone onto the coffee table, he leaned back on the couch lazily, lost in thought.

Soon, Bai Yeqi came in whistling.

Since Bai Yunan was in a bad mood, everything seemed unpleasant to him.

Bai Yeqi had his coat hanging on his arm and his steps were light, clearly in a good mood.

He glanced at Bai Yunan, who was sitting on the couch with a gloomy face, and greeted, "Hey, bro."

Bai Yunan glanced at him and nodded slightly in response.

Innocently, Bai Yeqi walked over to sit beside him and asked with concern, "What's wrong with you?"

"Nothing." He couldn't possibly say that he was upset because of Lu Qingyou, could he?

After hesitating, he asked, "Do you know Xi Luo?"

"Xi Luo?" Bai Yeqi pondered for a moment and answered, "I've heard of him. He's not a bad person."

Taking a deep breath, Bai Yunan uttered, "Go upstairs."

He didn't feel like talking to Bai Yeqi at all.

In fact, Bai Yeqi had heard a little about the blind date between Lu Qingyou and Xi Luo, and judging from Bai Yunan's expression, he could roughly guess what was going on.

Standing up, he threw in a casual remark. "I heard they went on a blind date. I'd say they're quite compatible with each—"

Before he could finish his sentence, Bai Yunan got up and went upstairs instead.

Bai Yeqi watched Bai Yunan's back and shook his head.

He was already in his thirties and was always sharp at work, so why did he become a fool when it came to matters of the heart?

...

For two weeks in a row, Lu Qingyou hadn't seen Bai Yunan. During this time, she met Xi Luo a few times and they had a few meals together.

Although there was a slight age difference between them, there was no generation gap. Xi Luo had a mild personality, was knowledgeable, and was gentlemanly. He was actually considered someone Lu Qingyou liked. Being with him made her feel very comfortable.

Even if they couldn't be together in the end, it would be nice to be friends. On this day, Cheng Qiulu went home to visit her parents, leaving Lu Qingyou alone.

In the middle of the night, she received a call from Bai Yunan.

"Yunan?" After answering the phone, she squinted at the number on the screen to confirm that it was indeed Bai Yunan's call. Then, she sat up, half leaning against the headboard as she asked, "What's the matter?"

Why would he call her in the middle of the night?

She still had work tomorrow!

"Come down." Bai Yunan's voice sounded a little strange, and his speech was slower. It didn't sound as strong and cold as it usually did.

Lu Qingyou instantly became alert. "Are you downstairs?"

Without saying much, she grabbed her coat and ran downstairs.

Under the streetlight, at the cold entrance of the small neighborhood, Bai Yunan's jeep was parked conspicuously.

Lu Qingyou went straight for the passenger seat, opened the car door, and noticed Bai Yunan sitting inside. She couldn't help but exclaim, "What's wrong with you? Why are you here in the middle of the night?"

The light from outside the car window shone in. Half of Bai Yunan's face was hidden in the shadows, making him appear somewhat gloomy. At this moment, Lu Qingyou finally smelled a hint of alcohol.

"Have you been drinking?" she questioned while raising her foot to get into the car and sitting in the passenger seat.

Bai Yunan stared at her, looking at her carefully for a while before his voice became hoarse. "A little."

She didn't believe him at all judging from how slow his speech was and how strongly he reeked of alcohol.

Lu Qingyou sighed. "You should get out first."

Bai Yunan shook his head, his gaze slightly sluggish. "I'm not getting out."

"If you don't get out, I'll leave." Lu Qingyou pretended to get out of the car and leave.

Just then, Bai Yunan grabbed her arm. "Don't go."



It was already deep into winter, so the weather was getting colder. The temperature outside was even more chilling.

Lu Qingyou tugged at her clothes. "Let's talk upstairs. It's too cold here."

On such a cold night, she couldn't just let him drive back alone when he was nearly drunk.

Without uttering another word, Bai Yunan nodded and obediently followed her lead up the stairs.

Once he entered the room, he started looking around, taking in his surroundings.

He had sent Lu Qingyou home a few times before and knew that she lived here, but he had never been upstairs to see it for himself.

After looking around for a while, he walked over to Lu Qingyou, who was pouring water for him, and said, "The house is alright. It's just a little small."

Lu Qingyou looked at him strangely. "It's not as good as home, but it's considered quite big for me and Qiulu."

After saying that, she handed the glass of water to him. "Drink some water."

Bai Yunan took it and stared at the water in the glass for a while before slowly drinking it.

Lu Qingyou secretly thought to herself, How much did he drink?

Bai Yunan had a good tolerance for alcohol because he often went on missions and would drink strong liquor to keep warm in the wilderness. That was how his alcohol tolerance gradually built up.

Based on what Lu Qingyou remembered, he had been drunk before, and when he did, he would become slow in his reactions and unusually... obedient.

As for the specific details, she couldn't quite remember.

After Bai Yunan finished drinking, he handed the glass back to Lu Qingyou, indicating that he had finished.

Seeing him holding the cup with a look of anticipation, Lu Qingyou blinked her eyes and silently took the cup. Then, she turned around to pat her chest.

He acts so differently from his usual self. It's cute...

She seemed a bit nervous too, her heart beating fast.

When Bai Yunan noticed that Lu Qingyou turned around and didn't speak to him, he tilted his head to look at her and called out to her in confusion, "Qingyou."

Lu Qingyou suddenly felt slightly annoyed.

He's so annoying! Why did he come to me after drinking? We haven't seen each other for so long that I almost forgot about him!

Now that he came to find her, she had ruined all her progress.

Lu Qingyou turned her head to look at him. "I'll call my brother to come pick you up."

## Chapter 797 I'll Protect You

At this time, apart from the night owl Lu Qinghan, she couldn't think of anyone else to pick up Bai Yunan. Anyhow, she couldn't rest assured if he went back alone.

Little did she know, as soon as Bai Yunan heard this, he frowned. "I'm not going back."

Lu Qingyou was speechless but found it somewhat amusing. Bai Yunan was quite interesting when he was drunk.

"Even if you don't want to go back, you have to. It's not appropriate for a grown man like you to stay here," she remarked.

She wondered if Bai Yunan understood what she was saying because he lowered his head to look at her with a meaningful gaze. "If I go back, you will go and see that annoying brat, Xi Luo."

"Annoying... brat?"

She couldn't relate Xi Luo with the term 'annoying brat' at all.

"I know what that annoying brat is up to. Don't go out with him," Bai Yunan said, his eyebrows slightly furrowed. He didn't have his usual sharpness, but instead showed a hint of gentleness.

"I think he's pretty nice," Lu Qingyou replied. Sensing that the two of them were getting too close, she took a step back.

Biting her lip, she asked, "Do you care if I meet other men?"

Bai Yunan's reaction was slower than usual, and it seemed like he was pondering her words. After a few seconds, he uttered in a serious tone, "Don't meet other men. All of them have ulterior motives."

Lu Qingyou almost burst out laughing. She suppressed the laughter at the corner of her lips and asked him, "What about you?"

"I'll protect you." This time, Bai Yunan answered quickly.

Lu Qingyou shuddered and suddenly felt like hugging him.

With that thought in mind, she did it.

She reached out to hug his waist and bury her head in his chest.

When she truly felt herself in his embrace, she realized just how much she missed him.

At the thought of the two of them marrying somebody else in the future, and how they would never be able to hold each other like this and have intimate conversations, she felt her heart clench and it felt suffocating.

Leaning against his chest and listening to his strong and steady heartbeat, Lu Qingyou muttered, "Okay. I won't see other men anymore, and you shouldn't see other women too, okay?"

The response she received was the steady and dense sound of the man's breathing.

Afterward, she felt a weight on her shoulder.

He had fallen asleep.

...

When Bai Yunan woke up, he felt a slight headache.

The fragrant smell in the blanket told him that he wasn't at home or in his own apartment.

His first reaction was alertness, but when he turned his head and saw the photo on the bedside table, he relaxed.

How did he end up at Lu Qingyou's place?

Last night, he was dragged out for drinks by Bai Yeqi until late.

If he had known that he would come to Lu Qingyou after drinking, he wouldn't have come even if he were beaten to death.

Then, he got up and went to the bathroom to freshen up.

Standing in front of the mirror, his gaze swept over the pink toothbrush and the towel with a cat pattern, and he felt a strange sensation.

After Lu Qingyou grew up, he consciously or unconsciously kept his distance from her and rarely entered her room.

The feeling in his heart was somewhat strange.

After a quick wash, he opened the door and went out.

The apartment wasn't big and only had a few rooms.

He walked straight to the next room without knocking on the door and was about to enter.

As soon as the door slightly opened, he froze.

A beautiful girl with fair skin appeared before him. His gaze traveled down from her fair neck to her ankles before he realized what he was doing and quickly closed the door.

He didn't look where he was going and ended up bumping into the couch.

The couch was made of solid wood and was heavy. When he bumped into it, it made a creaking sound that was unpleasant to the ears.

The sound jolted him back to his senses.

Seeing a water dispenser nearby, he walked over and poured himself a large glass of cold water to calm down.

He didn't expect that Lu Qingyou happened to be changing clothes.

Due to his job, he was cautious in everything he did, which had become a habit.

He opened the door without making a sound and happened to see Lu Qingyou with her back turned, not noticing him.

His first reaction upon seeing her body was not to immediately close the door, but rather, he felt a burning desire within him. He felt like a voyeur, which ignited his inner ball of fire.

He irritably wiped his face and went to the bathroom.

When Lu Qingyou came out and saw no one in the living room, she went into

her own bedroom.

Last night, after Bai Yunan fell asleep, she had a hard time dragging him into her bedroom, so she had to sleep in Cheng Qiulu's room.

There was no one on the bed, but she heard the sound of water running in the bathroom. Is he taking a shower?

She had to go to work later, but she could make breakfast now.

After scavenging through the refrigerator, she decided to make spinach casserole since she had limited skills in cooking.

She never cooked at home. In her teenage years, she read about some relationship tips online and had a sudden urge to learn how to cook, but in the end, she didn't learn much.

Instead, after her internship, she started learning how to make simple food with Cheng Qiulu.

Although the casseroles she made were average, they were still edible.

While combining all the ingredients in a pot, she heard the sound of the door opening behind her.

She turned around and saw Bai Yunan walking toward her with wet hair.

When he approached, she noticed that his complexion was somewhat pale.

She reached out to touch his forehead and asked worriedly, "Why do you look so pale? Are you feeling unwell?"

As soon as her fingertips touched his forehead, he dodged.

However, Lu Qingyou could feel the coldness of his forehead.

She furrowed her eyebrows. "Why are you so cold?"

Bai Yunan put on a cold expression to conceal his discomfort.

How could he not be cold after taking a cold shower in the middle of winter?

"I'm fine. I felt warm when I woke up this morning, so I took a cold shower," he answered calmly. When his gaze fixated on her slender and fair neck, an image of what he had seen outside the door flashed through his mind involuntarily.

She had a fair and delicate body, a slender waist, and a graceful figure...

Suddenly, he felt his body heating up.

His expression became extremely serious as he looked at Lu Qingyou, who was shocked to hear that he had taken a cold shower. In a cold voice, he uttered, "I'm leaving."

Only then did Lu Qingyou react and stop him. "Have breakfast before you go. I'm making spinach casserole. Look."

As she spoke, she motioned for Bai Yunan to look at the pot of ingredients.

Bai Yunan glanced at her, his expression somewhat strange. "You can cook?"

He couldn't describe the feeling. He once thought that he knew her the best, but he didn't even realize that she could cook now.

Lu Qingyou was unaware of the complex thoughts running in his mind, but

she felt a little embarrassed, so she tucked her hair behind her ear, saying, “I only learned how to make a casserole from Qiulu. I don’t know how to cook anything else.”

Bai Yunan looked at her naive face and suddenly realized that she had really grown up. She was no longer the mischievous and troublesome girl from his childhood who always worried him.

As he sat down at the dining table, his gaze was heavy as it fell on her. He just couldn’t look away.

Chapter 798 Dare Not Move or Turn Back

“Here, try it.” Lu Qingyou walked over to him with the casserole. “Move aside so you don’t block my way.”

She knew that Bai Yunan had a good appetite and could eat a lot, hence she made a big portion for him.

Accidentally, she touched the side of the pot and winced in pain. After rubbing her hand on her clothes, she turned to the kitchen to get her two plates.

Meanwhile, Bai Yunan held his spoon, his expression still somewhat serious.

In life, it was normal to encounter bumps and bruises. When he went on missions, he often came back with injuries all over his body.

However, he couldn’t bear to see Lu Qingyou get hurt, not even a small wound.

She used to be a delicate young lady when she was a child. If she burned her finger or scraped her skin, she could cry for a long time.

Later, when she grew older and saw him seriously injured in the hospital, she no longer complained about her minor injuries.

“Try it. Isn’t this the first time I’ve cooked for you?” Lu Qingyou had already sat down in front of him, her expression somewhat excited.

She had always wanted to cook a meal for him and hence was very happy at the thought of it.

She finally got the chance this day.

Bai Yunan lowered his head and started digging in.

Lu Qingyou asked, “How is it?”

Bai Yunan didn’t lift his head. “It’s alright.”

Although Lu Qingyou knew that her cooking skills weren’t great, hearing him say that still made her feel a little disappointed.

However, seeing Bai Yunan finish even the last bit of the casserole made her feel contented.

She ate slower and had a smaller appetite. After eating about half of it, she put down her cutlery.

“Are you full? Should I cook some more?” She was worried that Bai Yunan hadn’t eaten enough.

Bai Yunan’s gaze fell on the plate in front of her and asked, “Have you had

enough?”

“Yeah.” Lu Qingyou lowered her head and glanced at her own plate. She hoped he wouldn’t say that she was wasting food.

The next moment, Bai Yunan took her bowl and quickly finished what was left in it.

He drank half a cup of water, put on his jacket, and looked at her. “Are you going to the company? I’ll drive you there.”

Lu Qingyou thought about how he also had to go to work and quickly refused, “Don’t bother. I have my own car.”

Bother?

She calls it a bother?!

Bai Yunan’s expression turned cold as he uttered, “You’ve been burdening me all these years, and now you’re calling it a bother?”

Lu Qingyou’s face stiffened. She couldn’t understand what he meant.

“What?”

Bai Yunan realized that his tone was off and took a deep breath. In a demanding tone, he uttered, “I’ll drive you to work now. See you downstairs.” He knew that Xi Luo had not only driven her to work but also picked her up after work.

Lu Qingyou couldn’t understand him. They were just fine a moment ago, but Bai Yunan was upset again.

...

Bai Yunan drove Lu Qingyou to the company but didn’t leave immediately.

He sat in the car and lit a cigarette. Just then, Bai Yeqi called him.

When the call connected, Bai Yeqi asked, “Where are you?”

Bai Yunan put off the cigarette in his hand and answered, his tone laced with a hint of anger. “Bai Yeqi, did you do it on purpose last night?”

He asked him out for a drink intentionally, got him drunk, and then instigated him to find Lu Qingyou.

Although he had gotten drunk last night, he didn’t forget everything.

In fact, he recalled most of the things that happened last night.

Bai Yeqi completely disregarded Bai Yunan’s anger and replied calmly, “Does it matter whether I did it on purpose or not? If you didn’t want to look for Qingyou, could I have forced you to go? Admit it.”

On the other end of the phone, Bai Yunan frowned upon hearing his words.

Bai Yeqi sat in the car and casually put out the cigarette in the ashtray. He looked up and saw Su Yige coming out of the breakfast shop. Without caring about what Bai Yunan wanted to say, he spoke directly. “I have something to do, we’ll talk later.”

Su Yige finished her breakfast and was about to hail a taxi to the real estate agency to look at houses.

Since she was currently living in a rented house, she intended to buy a house. She had to settle down here before she could bring her son back.

In truth, she wanted to return to Yunzhou City because, after all, that was the city where she was born and raised.

However, the events of the past had left her with trauma, hence she couldn't go back.

Life abroad wasn't bad, but she was used to living in Country Z, so she decided to return and settle down.

When she met Bai Yeqi, she was doubtful. However, apart from the time she coincidentally encountered Bai Yeqi when she went to meet An Xia, she hadn't seen him again.

Bai Yeqi seemed to recognize her back then, but he didn't look for her afterward.

When she came to think about it, Bai Yeqi was a member of the Bai Family. Even if he was born out of wedlock, he was still someone way out of her league.

She no longer had expectations for love and marriage and just wanted to focus on taking care of her son.

Since Bai Yeqi didn't come looking for her, she decided to stay in Jingcheng City in order to provide a better life for her son.

She went to the real estate agency and surveyed several houses. When she was on her way back, she sensed that someone was following her.

She stopped for a moment, nervously clutching her bag, not daring to move or turn back.

She was afraid that when she turned back, a creepy stalker would be standing right behind her.

Sneakily, she reached into her pocket and found her phone before running toward the entrance of the residential area.

As long as she made it to the security office of the residential area, she would be safe.

However, there was still some distance to the entrance of the residential area, and it would take about seven or eight minutes to run over.

As she ran, the person behind her also started running as the sound of footsteps grew closer.

She felt the approaching danger and couldn't help but turn her head. The person following her had already grabbed her hair.

Her hair was long, and the stalker easily grabbed onto it.

The person was wearing a hat, so she couldn't see his face clearly. He pressed a dagger against her waist and held her tightly while seething, "Come with me, or I'll kill you."

As he spoke, he forcefully pressed the dagger against her waist.



The dagger was sharp, and it easily cut through her coat. Su Yige could already feel the cold touch of the weapon.

What else had she not experienced throughout her life?

Frankly speaking, she had gone through way worse.

The nervous feeling quickly disappeared, and she calmed down. "Alright, I'll go with you. If you want money, it's all in my bag. I can give it to you, and I haven't seen your face, so you can take the money and leave. I won't report it to the police."

She tried to negotiate with the perpetrator.

This person was skilled and definitely experienced.

She couldn't get into trouble because she had to take care of her son.

The perpetrator hesitated for a moment while holding her, then roughly pulled her toward the woods nearby.

Lush greenery was found around the neighborhood, and there were very few people during the day.

Su Yige felt anxious and dare not defy him.

Once they reached the woods, the perpetrator immediately snatched her bag.

She breathed a sigh of relief, but the next second, someone appeared out of nowhere and kicked the perpetrator to the ground.

She was stunned for a moment, and after coming back to her sense, she quickly ran to the side.

When she looked up, she saw Bai Yeqi.

Though it was winter in Jingcheng City, businessmen like Bai Yeqi wore suits all year round. When the weather turned cold, they would just drape on a coat to keep warm.

None of the men from the Bai Family was bad at combat. Bai Yeqi quickly subdued the perpetrator, prompting him to cry out in pain. He stepped on his hand and kicked the dagger aside before picking up Su Yige's bag.

Chapter 799 I Owe Him

Su Yige wasn't expecting to see Bai Yeqi there.

How could he be here?

Bai Yeqi's branch office and the Bai Residence were in completely opposite directions in this neighborhood. It made no sense that he would be here.

Could it be that he came to look for me?

However, she dismissed the thought as soon as it crossed her mind.

There was no way that Bai Yeqi would look for her, whom he had only spent one night with.

He walked up to Su Yige with a bag in his hand and handed it to her.

Su Yige glanced at him and accepted the bag. "Thank you."

Bai Yeqi looked at her before suddenly saying, "You don't seem afraid at all."

Bai Yeqi was a slender man with fair skin. He had a somewhat effeminate

appearance. She had sensed a hint of melancholy in him when she saw him last time.

“Huh?”

She looked at Bai Yeqi and got distracted by his appearance. So, she didn’t catch what he said.

Bai Yeqi only gazed at her before asking, “Where do you live? Let me take you back.”

“It’s okay, I’ll be fine. No need to trouble yourself. Thank you for today.” Su Yige felt uneasy as he didn’t sound like he was here by chance.

She didn’t want to get too involved with Bai Yeqi, so she turned around to leave.

Just then, she noticed the thug lying on the ground, holding a knife, struck at Bai Yeqi out of the corner of her eye.

“Watch out!” She barely had time to warn Bai Yeqi as she reached out to pull him away.

However, Bai Yeqi reached out his arm and blocked the attack just as the knife was about to get to Su Yige.

Blood instantly gushed out. But, Bai Yeqi was wearing a black shirt. So, only a wet patch could be seen on him.

Bai Yeqi was genuinely furious, and he didn’t even notice the injury on his hand. He approached the thug and beat the crap out of him before making a phone call to put an end to the situation.

He noticed Su Yige was still standing idly, looking at him in a daze after that. He approached her as if nothing had happened. “Let’s go.”

“But... Your arm...” Su Yige stared at his torn sleeve. It was clearly wet and sticky, indicating he had suffered an injury.

“It’s just a minor injury.” He appeared unconcerned as he said indifferently. Even abnormalities in his complexion wouldn’t be noticeable due to his fair skin.

Su Yige initially wanted to keep her distance from him, but she couldn’t simply ignore him now that he was injured while saving her.

Moreover, he was the biological father of her baby nevertheless.

She let out a soft sigh before saying, “Let’s go to a hospital.”

She went ahead to get a cab after that.

Bai Yeqi squinted at her back and paused briefly before he eventually followed her.

...

In the hospital, Su Yige asked Bai Yeqi to wait while she went to queue up for registration.

She asked with concern when she noticed his uneasy look, “How do you feel?”

Bai Yeqi only shook his head. "I'm alright."

He didn't need to wait and queue up in the hospital actually.

He was entitled to special privileges even as an illegitimate son born of the Bai family.

But, he decided not to bring it up when he saw Su Yige's attention and care for him.

Doctors would come to their home whenever he fell ill or got injured since he married Shu Yanian years ago.

Besides, he knew that Shu Yanian didn't genuinely want to marry him.

So, he found himself inexplicably touched.

Was it because of his age now that even such actions could affect him?

Meanwhile, his hand seemed to be in a worse condition. The pain was starting to numb him.

He only furrowed his brows as he wondered if Su Yige would get upset if he were to tell her that he could rightly skip the queue now.

Just then, the director of the hospital hurried over with a crew of medical personnel.

The director's forehead was covered in cold sweat even though it was the winter season now.

He walked up to Bai Yeqi and respectfully addressed, "Mr. Bai."

Bai Yeqi was casually sitting in a chair, and he raised his head when he heard that. Then, he furrowed his brows slightly and understood the situation shortly after.

Su Yige, who had been keeping an eye on Bai Yeqi's condition, also noticed what was happening.

She quickly realized that these people rushed over because they knew who Bai Yeqi was.

It made sense that there was no need for registration for someone like Bai Yeqi.

She overlooked this by accident.

She walked to them and heard the director say, "Did you injure your arm, Mr. Bai? Come with us. We'll take an X-ray and treat it accordingly."

Bai Yeqi let out a sigh and replied when he saw Su Yige approaching, "Alright."

Su Yige didn't leave him following that.

Bai Yeqi's injury was more severe than she had imagined.

The wound was deep enough to reveal the bone.

The doctor took an X-ray, and fortunately, the injury hadn't reached the bone, but it required quite a few stitches.

Su Yige watched in fear as the stitches were being done. She even turned her head to the side on a couple of occasions during the process.

They left the hospital together after Bai Yeqi's wound was taken care of. Su Yige hailed a cab at the roadside, and she opened the door, saying, "Get in."

Bai Yeqi glanced at her and did as she said.

However, Su Yige closed the door from the outside following that, and Bai Yeqi's expression immediately changed.

"Wait."

He stopped the driver who was about to leave, and he used his uninjured hand to open the car's door.

"What do you mean?"

Su Yige looked at him puzzled. "Aren't you going home now? Do you want to go somewhere else?"

Bai Yeqi got out of the cab and looked down at her from a higher position with his gaze exuding intense pressure.

"Are you leaving me to go back like this?"

His voice was calm.

But, Su Yige could sense his dissatisfaction.

She was grateful to him as he saved her. That was why she stayed by his side at the hospital, doing what she could to help.

What else did he want from her?

Money? No way, he never had short of that.

What else could it be that he wanted?

Su Yige asked tentatively, "Can I treat you to a meal?"

She couldn't think of any other way to thank him.

Bai Yeqi seemed to lack nothing after all.

Could she help him find it even if there was something he wanted?

Bai Yeqi appeared to have eased slightly, and he said severely, "I will inevitably be questioned if I go back like this. So, I can't go home."

Bai Yunan would definitely mock his incapacities and clumsiness.

Bai Mingxu would definitely ask how he got injured, and he wouldn't be able to hide it when that happened.

Su Yige's expression changed slightly. "What do you mean?"

Did he want to stay at her house?

Bai Yeqi only stared at her. "I'll stay at your place."

Su Yige's expression immediately stiffened for a moment, and she replied, "Okay."

Her response surprised Bai Yeqi. He thought she would refuse.

But, Su Yige didn't know Bai Yeqi's intentions at that instant.

It would mean trouble for her no matter what his intentions were.

She went along with him now that she owed him.

She would have to move out if he wanted to stay in her place.

## Chapter 800 Birth Certificate

Su Yige became much more cautious when searching for a new house after being deceived by the intermediary last time.

Although it was more expensive than the market valuation, the communities around it were pleasant.

However, she knew she wouldn't be able to stay there for long.

Su Yige bought daily necessities for Bai Yeqi in the supermarket near where she lived.

Bai Yeqi only followed quietly behind her as he became increasingly curious about her private life.

He didn't even know why he had someone tailing her these days.

Perhaps it was because she bore a resemblance to Shu Yanian.

He hadn't been treated well by Shu Yanian, and that was why he always felt discontented. Besides, the brief encounter he had with Su Yige made him curious about her, leading him to pay more attention to her.

That was what he thought to himself.

However, Su Yige said after she had finished showing him around the apartment, "I'll take my leave now..."

"Where are you going?" Bai Yeqi's expression suddenly changed. Where else could she possibly go?

Su Yige was surprised at how quickly he changed his mood.

She replied in a serious manner, "It is inappropriate for a man and woman to stay in the same place. I can't continue living here if you're staying at my place."

Bai Yeqi narrowed his eyes as his expression carried a hint of threat.

He suddenly smirked teasingly. "Now you're being virtuous."

Su Yige's face instantly turned pale.

She didn't know why Bai Yeqi came to Yunzhou City back then, and she had no idea why Gong Zeyang brought her to Bai Yeqi's bed.

It was such a long time ago, and she didn't want to delve into it anymore.

Su Yige was betrayed by the person she loved the most.

She had loved Gong Zeyang so deeply and blindly that she lost herself in love.

She couldn't quite recall why she had loved him so much even now. Perhaps it was just out of habit. Gong Zeyang was the only person she had ever loved since her childhood after all.

What hurt her the most was how Gong Zeyang handed her over to Bai Yeqi even though he was already treating her poorly.

She was pathetic.

Bai Yeqi's words suggested that he had recognized she was the woman back then.

She was surprised that he still remembered her.

Su Yige asked coldly, "You're right, I wasn't a decent person before. But, life goes on. Can't I change for the better?"

Bai Yeqi realized he might have chosen poor words at that instant.

However, he couldn't apologize to her now, could he?

"I'm leaving."

Su Yige picked up her bag and left following that.

...

She descended the stairs and sat down shortly after leaving.

She felt cold throughout her body as she buried her head in her knees.

In truth, she wished she had a wise father who could guide her through all the rights and wrongs like Su Ziyue did, from the moment she was born.

Su Yige liked Su Yizi when she was young.

Su Yizi was very gentle with the children. He was always smiling and approachable. Unsurprisingly, most children adored him.

However, her grandmother and parents told her that her uncle was a bad person who would take everything away from the Su Family.

She didn't fully understand what they meant at that time.

They would often whisper in her ear, persuading her that Su Yizi was a bad person, so she ended up perceiving him that way. Her belief was further cemented when he was later imprisoned because of that incident.

They also told her that Su Ziyue would replace her in the Su Family after Su Ziyue joined the Su Family and that she must drive her away.

All of those felt as if they had happened a long time ago, looking back on the past events now.

What kind of a family would do that?

They were full of schemes and jealousy. Everyone was in it only for their own interests.

Su Yizi and Su Ziyue didn't seem to resemble the Su Family members.

Otherwise, Su Yizi wouldn't have met such a tragic fate now that she thought about it.

She contemplated death multiple times during the time when she first went abroad after being betrayed by those she loved most.

Even the baby in her womb was an illegitimate one.

But, she might never become a mother in this lifetime if she decided not to give birth to the baby.

She lived in the hospital for a long time, feeling desolate and gloomy back then.

Her attending physician was a middle-aged woman, who was beautiful and graceful. She would often bring her own child to visit Su Yige at the hospital.

Many people would help her when she went out occasionally as soon as they noticed she was pregnant.

She realized that there was still kindness in this world at that time.

She still encountered kind people despite her miserable circumstances, and she felt deeply grateful.

Thankfully, her condition gradually improved after the baby was born.

All the pain and despair in the past no longer seemed as terrifying after the passage of time.

However, she was entangled with the last person she wanted to be involved with now. There was still trouble for her after all.

Involving herself with Bai Yeqi was a gamble far too risky.

The Bai Family would undoubtedly take her son away from her if they found out about his existence.

Su Yige took a deep breath and slowly descended the stairs.

She knew that she couldn't bring her son back to the country for now.

Bai Yeqi was right where she was just before she left a few minutes later.

He looked at Su Yige as she descended the stairs, and he pondered something for a moment before taking out his phone to make a call.

"Go and investigate what she has been up to in the past two years."

He was curious about Su Yige. She appeared entirely different from before.

In the Bai Family, his relationship with Bai Jingshu had become even more tense ever since he married Shu Yanian.

The two of them had always been competing against each other in secret.

Bai Jingshu was motivated because of Bai Mingxu, but what about him? The answer was Shu Yanian.

It wasn't worth it to go through all that trouble for a woman like Shu Yanian, looking back at it now.

He decided to visit Yunzhou City to check on how Bai Jingshu was doing over there back then.

He headed straight to Lumiere Jade House, a well-known establishment as soon as he arrived.

However, the news of his visit was somehow leaked, and he was invited to dinner before he could find Bai Jingshu.

Gong Zeyang seemed to be looking for individuals to assist him in his business project during the dinner as he noticed everyone was trying to gain his favor by pleasing him.

Eventually, Gong Zeyang became drunk as the night wore on, and Su Yige came to pick him up.

Su Yige's demeanor bore some resemblance to Shu Yanian.

Bai Yeqi couldn't help but glance at her a few times.



He found Shu Yanian unresponsive and unwilling to tend to him after being married to her for several years. He even felt envious of Gong Zeyang at that time.

As a result, Gong Zeyang had misinterpreted Bai Yeqi's glances at Su Yige as interest in her, and he masterminded the events that followed.

Perhaps it was because he wanted to get back at his wife, or Su Yige was a beauty, Bai Yeqi didn't hold back and spent the night with her.

Bai Yeqi merely wanted someone to keep an eye on Su Yige back then. He didn't plan to delve into her life over the past two years.

Little did Su Yige know that her worst fear had already come true.

...

Su Yige returned to the apartment during meal times to cook for Bai Yeqi for the next two days.

Bai Yeqi also refrained from saying anything inappropriate.

The atmosphere was peaceful.

However, Su Yige noticed Bai Yeqi sitting impatiently on the couch this morning, appearing as if he had been waiting for a long time.

She approached him and inquired after a moment of hesitation, "What's wrong?"

Bai Yeqi only stared at her indifferently before handing her a birth certificate.

Chapter 800 Birth Certificate

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She had loved Gong Zeyang so deeply and blindly that she lost herself in love.

She couldn't quite recall why she had loved him so much even now. Perhaps it was just out of habit. Gong Zeyang was the only person she had ever loved since her childhood after all.

What hurt her the most was how Gong Zeyang handed her over to Bai Yeqi even though he was already treating her poorly.

She was pathetic.

Bai Yeqi's words suggested that he had recognized she was the woman back then.

She was surprised that he still remembered her.

Su Yige asked coldly, "You're right, I wasn't a decent person before. But, life goes on. Can't I change for the better?"

Bai Yeqi realized he might have chosen poor words at that instant.

However, he couldn't apologize to her now, could he?

"I'm leaving."

Su Yige picked up her bag and left following that.

...

She descended the stairs and sat down shortly after leaving.

She felt cold throughout her body as she buried her head in her knees.

In truth, she wished she had a wise father who could guide her through all the rights and wrongs like Su Ziyue did, from the moment she was born.

Su Yige liked Su Yizi when she was young.

Su Yizi was very gentle with the children. He was always smiling and approachable. Unsurprisingly, most children adored him.

However, her grandmother and parents told her that her uncle was a bad person who would take everything away from the Su Family.

She didn't fully understand what they meant at that time.

They would often whisper in her ear, persuading her that Su Yizi was a bad person, so she ended up perceiving him that way. Her belief was further cemented when he was later imprisoned because of that incident.

They also told her that Su Ziyue would replace her in the Su Family after Su Ziyue joined the Su Family and that she must drive her away.

All of those felt as if they had happened a long time ago, looking back on the past events now.

What kind of a family would do that?

They were full of schemes and jealousy. Everyone was in it only for their own interests.

Su Yizi and Su Ziyue didn't seem to resemble the Su Family members.

Otherwise, Su Yizi wouldn't have met such a tragic fate now that she thought about it.

She contemplated death multiple times during the time when she first went abroad after being betrayed by those she loved most.

Even the baby in her womb was an illegitimate one.

But, she might never become a mother in this lifetime if she decided not to give birth to the baby.

She lived in the hospital for a long time, feeling desolate and gloomy back then.

Her attending physician was a middle-aged woman, who was beautiful and graceful. She would often bring her own child to visit Su Yige at the hospital. Many people would help her when she went out occasionally as soon as they noticed she was pregnant.

She realized that there was still kindness in this world at that time.

She still encountered kind people despite her miserable circumstances, and she felt deeply grateful.

Thankfully, her condition gradually improved after the baby was born.

All the pain and despair in the past no longer seemed as terrifying after the passage of time.

However, she was entangled with the last person she wanted to be involved with now. There was still trouble for her after all.

Involving herself with Bai Yeqi was a gamble far too risky.

The Bai Family would undoubtedly take her son away from her if they found out about his existence.

Su Yige took a deep breath and slowly descended the stairs.

She knew that she couldn't bring her son back to the country for now.

Bai Yeqi was right where she was just before she left a few minutes later.

He looked at Su Yige as she descended the stairs, and he pondered something for a moment before taking out his phone to make a call.

"Go and investigate what she has been up to in the past two years."

He was curious about Su Yige. She appeared entirely different from before.

In the Bai Family, his relationship with Bai Jingshu had become even more tense ever since he married Shu Yanian.

The two of them had always been competing against each other in secret. Bai Jingshu was motivated because of Bai Mingxu, but what about him? The answer was Shu Yanian.

It wasn't worth it to go through all that trouble for a woman like Shu Yanian, looking back at it now.

He decided to visit Yunzhou City to check on how Bai Jingshu was doing over there back then.

He headed straight to Lumiere Jade House, a well-known establishment as soon as he arrived.

However, the news of his visit was somehow leaked, and he was invited to dinner before he could find Bai Jingshu.

Gong Zeyang seemed to be looking for individuals to assist him in his business project during the dinner as he noticed everyone was trying to gain his favor by pleasing him.

Eventually, Gong Zeyang became drunk as the night wore on, and Su Yige came to pick him up.

Su Yige's demeanor bore some resemblance to Shu Yanian.

Bai Yeqi couldn't help but glance at her a few times.

He found Shu Yanian unresponsive and unwilling to tend to him after being married to her for several years. He even felt envious of Gong Zeyang at that time.

As a result, Gong Zeyang had misinterpreted Bai Yeqi's glances at Su Yige as interest in her, and he masterminded the events that followed.

Perhaps it was because he wanted to get back at his wife, or Su Yige was a beauty, Bai Yeqi didn't hold back and spent the night with her.

Bai Yeqi merely wanted someone to keep an eye on Su Yige back then. He didn't plan to delve into her life over the past two years.

Little did Su Yige know that her worst fear had already come true.

...

Su Yige returned to the apartment during meal times to cook for Bai Yeqi for the next two days.

Bai Yeqi also refrained from saying anything inappropriate.

The atmosphere was peaceful.

However, Su Yige noticed Bai Yeqi sitting impatiently on the couch this morning, appearing as if he had been waiting for a long time.

She approached him and inquired after a moment of hesitation, "What's wrong?"

Bai Yeqi only stared at her indifferently before handing her a birth certificate.