

Marry Me 181

CHAPTER 181

Seeing that he was stopping whatever he was doing, a gleam of hope lit up in Su Ziyue's eyes which saw her nodding forcefully. "Yes."

Qin Muchen rejected her suggestion in a frigid tone, "It's not necessary."

Did she ask to have a talk so that she could tell him she was leaving him?

He could not allow that to happen.

Even though she was not willing to have his child and even though she might love another man, she could not go anywhere else but stay by his side as long as he refused to let her go.

That thought made him feel much better at once.

"Please listen to me... Argh! Hmm..."

Without giving her a chance to persuade him further, Qin Muchen lowered his body and kissed her forcefully as he removed her clothes in an adept manner.

After feeling her body around with his hands, he pushed himself into her recklessly without even removing his own clothes.

His invasion felt so painful that Su Ziyue had to arch her back to cope with it; she felt like screaming in pain but her lips were blocked by his. Out of habit, her slender fingers moved toward his shoulder to form a tight grip around it.

She felt pain but Qin Muchen did not feel any better either.

After pushing himself slightly deeper into her, he looked up and moved his mouth away from hers. With a hoarse voice, he said, "Relax..."

The further he went inside, the more pain she felt. As soon as he got out of her, she yelled at him, "Scram!"

Qin Muchen's face fell as soon as he heard her. "No way."

Prior to this, she was unwilling to have kids with him. Was she trying to stay chaste now?

What would follow after that?

Would she want to divorce him?

His face darkened as he pulled his necktie out, lifted both of her hands over her head and tied them tightly together with the necktie.

While he was still neatly dressed, she was left totally naked; the stark contrast was enough to make her feel embarrassed to begin with.

Now, she was panic-stricken as both of her hands were tied up by him. "What are you doing? Let me go..."

"I think I've already made it obvious enough. I'm surprised that you still have no idea what I'm doing..." After tying her hands, he withdrew his hands before biting her lips and whispering to her, "Why are you asking me such a dumb question?"

Trying hard to put up with the pain, Su Ziyue bit her lips to stop herself from groaning as part of her silent protest.

...

When she woke up the next day, her whole body ached.

She wanted to say something but once she opened her mouth, her throat felt so sore as though she had swallowed a mouthful of sand; she felt slightly dizzy too.

Then, she moved her hands to touch the space beside her. As her mind felt fuzzy, she spoke habitually, "Qin Muchen..."

At the time, Qin Muchen was washing his face in the bathroom. As the door was not properly closed and was left unlatched, he could vaguely hear her voice.

She seemed to be calling his name.

In fact, he had not considered many things before he decided to come over to the condominium last night. He had merely wanted to make sure she was home, and he had also thought about the possibility that she would already have consumed the contraceptive pills.

Nonetheless, he did not expect that he would freak out.

He lost it the moment he learnt that she had really eaten the pills, which meant that she would rather hurt her own body than have kids with him.

Although he was thinking that he might have heard her wrongly, he still walked out of the bathroom.

"Qin Muchen." In a trance, Su Ziyue saw a familiar figure walking toward the bed.

After a pause, he approached her and glanced down at her with a blank face. "What's wrong?" he asked in an indifferent tone.

Su Ziyue's eyelids fluttered and her vision was still blurry. "I'm feeling unwell." Her raspy voice sounded coquettish as it was imbued with traces of distress.

Her voice caused flutters in Qin Muchen's stomach. Soon, his eyes started losing some of the edges and the iciness in his voice wore off a little as he asked, "Which part of your body is feeling unwell?"

He sat down on the edge of the bed and moved one hand to feel her forehead.

Her forehead felt slightly cold to his touch. Just as he was about to withdraw his hand to feel his own forehead, his hand was grabbed by a pair of soft and tender hands.

Su Ziyue dragged his hand deeper underneath the blanket and muttered softly, "I feel pain over here too..."

After they ended their session last night, he had cleaned her but he had not dressed her. Therefore, his hand could immediately feel the smooth and soft sensation of her skin.

In an instant, he had an erection.

Frustration flashed across in his face without him realizing before he retrieved his hand swiftly to touch his forehead.

He reckoned she was having a mild fever. Her voice when she was calling his name was hoarse and she was looking dazed and disorientated now.

Although he indeed wanted to vent out his fury on her, it was never his intention to make her ill.

Watching how she looked with her eyes shut and a frown on her forehead, he was seized by both remorse and distress.

He moved his hand to stroke her face. "Su Ziyue?"

Without opening her eyes, she only let out a groan in acknowledgement.

"Dear?" he called tentatively again.

Still keeping her eyes shut, she replied, "Yes..."

Indeed, she was too ill to be thinking straight as she was responding to him no matter how he addressed her.

Looking concerned, Qin Muchen gave her cheeks a peck before walking out of the room to give Nan Chuan a call. "Get me Lu..."

He immediately stopped halfway and said instead, "Get a female doctor to the condominium unit Su Ziyue used to stay in."

Nan Chuan was stunned when he received the instruction from Qin Muchen. Curiosity got the better of him as he started thinking about the reason why his boss and his wife had abandoned the mansion to stay at the small condominium unit instead and he was impressed by how romantic they were.

Tsk, a female doctor...

...

After making the call, Qin Muchen returned to the bed to check on Su Ziyue before walking away to get her some clothes.

Fortunately, she did not move everything from here to Cloud Bay back then.

After he found a set of clothes, he went back to the bed and removed the blanket in preparation to get her dressed.

She pressed herself tightly into his arms, refusing to leave the blanket once she got out because she was feeling too cold. "I'm freezing..." she mumbled.

It was only then did Qin Muchen realize that the heater in the room was not on.

Last night, he had had a rather rough session with her and on top of that, she had been walking amidst the cold and windy weather outside before she went home. On top of that, he had neglected to turn on the heater in the room before they slept. Because of those reasons, she fell sick.

Holding her in his arms with one hand, Qin Muchen used his free hand to pull over the blanket and wrapped it tightly around her. "Are you warm enough now?"

Su Ziyue, who snuggled deeper into his arms, muttered, "Yes..."

Her movement sent his heart racing faster and his eyes looking milder. After a moment of silence, he asked, "Then shall we have a baby together?"

"Okay," she answered right away without hesitation.

In an instant, Qin Muchen felt an overwhelming happiness inside him.

Yet, he soon calmed down to remind himself that she had only agreed to it because she was not thinking straight in her current state.

After keeping her in his arms for some time, he helped her change into her clothes, turned on the heater and left the room.

Soon, Nan Chuan and the doctor arrived.

“Mr. Qin.” After bringing the doctor into the unit, Nan Chuan gave his surroundings a scan before asking, “How’s Mrs. Qin?”

Qin Muchen snapped, “Are you very free today?”

Nan Chuan cleared his throat before explaining to him with a solemn look, “I was worried that the doctor might not be able to find her way here. And I don’t think it’s okay to ask someone else to bring her here either.”

“Okay.” Qin Muchen only replied to him in an impassive tone before bringing the doctor into the room.

Although Nan Chuan was curious about Su Ziyue’s condition, he was sensible enough to stay outside and wait.

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Although Nan Chuan was waiting in the living room, he could still vaguely hear the doctor’s voice because the wall between the living room and the bedroom was very thin. Yet, he could not hear what she said specifically.

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Someone ringing the doorbell with urgency woke Su Ziyue up. She first sat upright on the bed before making her way to answer the door with her head feeling heavy and her steps unsteady. As soon as the door was opened, An Xia’s anxious face came into her sight which became clearer after she gave the middle of her brows a massage. “An Xia?”

Seeing how pale Su Ziyue looked, An Xia asked anxiously, “Ziyue, what’s wrong? Why are you so pale?”

“I’m fine...” Still feeling slightly groggy, Su Ziyue lowered her head to glance at the clothes she was wearing. It was only after a moment of contemplation did she remember what had happened the previous night. Her expression changed slightly because of it. After stepping to the side to let An Xia in, she changed the subject of their conversation by asking her, “Don’t you need to go to work today?”

“Why do I have to go to work? It’s Saturday!” An Xia shot her an annoyed look. After stepping into the unit, she randomly touched a piece of furniture and found her fingers covered by a layer of dust. She showed Su Ziyue her fingers and said, “Did you stay here last night? Look how dirty this place is.”

As it had been a long time since she last stayed there, it went without saying that the place was dusty. Besides, she did not have time to clean up the place last night at all.

Noticing she was keeping mum, An Xia stared at her with a frown. "Did you have a row with Mr. Qin again? You did not pick up any of my calls and I have no idea where Mr. Qin stays. So, I just decided to come here to try my luck and surprisingly, you're really here."

After that, An Xia walked in while Su Ziyue followed behind her while muttering, "My phone was dead."

An Xia, who could sense that Su Ziyue was in an unusually depressed mood, wanted to ask her about it but in the end, she changed her mind. She then went to take a cloth instead to help her clean the room. When she spotted the bag which was used to carry intravenous drip in the dustbin, she turned around to ask her, "Were you sick?"

"I've recovered now." Su Ziyue walked over and was lost in thought when she caught sight of the bag in the dustbin.

An Xia decided not to probe, seeing that she was in good spirits despite her pale face. As she was squeezing the cloth dry, she asked, "I suppose you haven't had your meal, right?"

Shaking her head, Su Ziyue too got another cloth so that she could join An Xia in cleaning the room. Yet, An Xia glared at her just as she took the cloth. "You should go and take a seat in your current state. Let me order takeout for you so that you can sleep after eating. I'll make you dinner later."

"Dinner? What time is it now?" Su Ziyue gaped at An Xia in astonishment, thinking that it was still morning.

"It's two in the afternoon." An Xia showed her the watch on her wrist.

Stunned for a second, Su Ziyue did not say anything else. When the food ordered by An Xia for her arrived, she ate it obediently and went to bed to take a rest. By the time she woke up, An Xia had already cleaned the place and she was just getting ready to go out to buy some groceries. When An Xia noticed she had woken up, she suggested, "Let's go together then."

"Okay." Su Ziyue looked a lot better after the nap.

They went out after getting changed. An Xia, who was walking ahead of her, was checking her phone at the same time. While she was scrolling through her social media, a notification came to inform her that she had received a new message. She clicked on the notification to find that she had received a new message from the account named 'Mr. Bai—The Strongest Man in the Universe'.

Mr. Bai—The Strongest Man in the Universe: 'How's it going? Have you found Su Ziyue?'

The Adorable Miss An: 'I did.'

Mr. Bai—The Strongest Man in the Universe: 'Oh, I see. What are you doing now then?'

An Xia's eyes widened. As Su Ziyue was calling her name from behind her, she only replied to him with a sentence: 'Hehe, don't think you can get away with it by changing the subject of the conversation. Who promised to do a strip dance together with the ladies who exercise at the park if I manage to find her?'

"What are you doing?" Su Ziyue saw An Xia's evil expression as soon as she approached her.

An Xia started laughing ominously and said, "Bai Jingshu, that fool, promised to do a strip dance at the park if I manage to find you by today!"

She emphasized 'strip dance' but it was not what Su Ziyue's attention was drawn to. "Bai Jingshu? Do you chat with him a lot?" Su Ziyue turned to glance at her phone and noticed that her social media app was open. It seemed like they were already friends with each other.

An Xia blinked and said earnestly like a child who had just been caught doing something naughty, "He was the one who added me..."

"Oh..." Su Ziyue smiled thoughtfully and added, "You could have rejected it."

Looking stumped, An Xia gave another excuse by saying, "I had no idea it was him..."

"Okay." Su Ziyue nodded with only a smile and didn't say another word.

For some reason, An Xia felt a burning sensation on her face, which was a reaction she was not supposed to have because it was Bai Jingshu who had added her first.

...

Qin Muchen had just finished dinner with Bai Jingshu at Lumiere Jade House. It was only when the dinner ended did he lean on the chair and give the middle of his brows a massage, looking exhausted. Although he had drunk rather heavily just now, he did not feel intoxicated at all.

Bai Jingshu, who was busy doing only God knew what on his phone beside him, was looking somber. Two minutes later, he placed his phone right in front of Qin Muchen and said, "Mr. Qin, the mission of doing the strip dance at the park will be assigned to you then."

"I can assign this project to you too as a gesture of appreciation." Without turning to look at him, Qin Muchen made a simple remark which was enough to leave Bai Jingshu speechless.

"Come on. Did you really have to go so far to convince An Xia to look for Su Ziyue? It's all your fault that I have to do a strip dance at the park now!" His reputation and image was at stake. How could he do

something like that which was highly likely to make him less sought after among ladies? Yet, he would look like a coward if he did not keep his promise.

“Let me have a look.” Qin Muchen, who couldn’t care less whether he was going to strip dance or not, turned around and snatched his phone from him.

Mr. Bai—The Strongest Man in the Universe: ‘How’s it going? Have you found Su Ziyue?’

The Adorable Miss An: ‘I did.’

Mr. Bai—The Strongest Man in the Universe: ‘Oh, I see. What are you doing now then?’

The Adorable Miss An: ‘Hehe, don’t think you can get away with it by changing the subject of the conversation. Who promised to do a strip dance together with the ladies who exercise at the park if I manage to find her?’

There were no more messages from her after that.

After staring at the screen for a moment, his slender fingers tapped on the screen before sending out a message. Bai Jingshu’s heart gave a lurch when he noticed what he did. “What did you just send?”

Qin Muchen answered him calmly, “I’m helping you to turn the tables on her.” After making the statement, he turned to glance at Bai Jingshu before turning his attention back to the phone

When An Xia saw the new message from him on her phone, she thought she had misread it. Quickly, she took a screenshot of the message first before sending her reply: ‘I’m going out to get some groceries with Ziyue now to make dinner. You should get ready to do the strip dance because I’ve taken a screenshot of your message.’

...

Without her realizing, An Xia had revealed their whereabouts through her reply. At the sight of her message, the crease on Qin Muchen’s forehead smoothed lightly. He supposed Su Ziyue had more or less recovered now judging from the fact that she could go out to get groceries.

Bai Jingshu, who had been restless throughout the process, snatched his phone back while Qin Muchen was looking distracted. Immediately, he saw the reply Qin Muchen had just made on his behalf: ‘As long as you tell me what you are doing now, I’ll keep my promise.’

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Bai Jingshu tried several times to delete that message but all he received was a notification telling him: ‘Request can’t be processed because the message was sent more than 2 minutes ago.’

He went ballistic and turned to roar at the culprit, “Qin Muchen! What you did will cost you our

friendship!”

“I think hitting the gym should be your top priority now or Miss An might laugh at your bad shape when the time comes.”

Qin Muchen did not look like he had had alcohol at all judging from how coherently he spoke and how calm he looked.

Although Qin Muchen’s comment only made Bai Jingshu even more frustrated, at the same time, he thought he made sense and he could come up with nothing to rebut him because there was nothing wrong with his comment.

Since he could not avoid the humiliating experience either way, the least he could do was make sure he did it in the coolest manner.

Ignoring the mess in Bai Jingshu’s mind, Qin Muchen took his suit jacket and walked out of the private room.

Lying sideways on the sofa, Bai Jingshu stared at the ceiling blankly. He was confident that he would be able to come up with the perfect plan to dodge the bullet this time.

...

After leaving the private room, Qin Muchen loosened his tie on his way to the washroom.

When he turned the corner, he was nearly knocked into by a man who was walking toward him.

Qin Muchen reacted promptly by stepping sideways. As for the man, he lunged forward directly and stumbled onto the ground.

He took a closer look at the man and found that he was someone he knew.

After recognizing him as Gong Zeyang, Qin Muchen walked past him with a cold face but to his surprise, Gong Zeyang had already gotten to his feet, albeit unsteadily, and grabbed his arm to stop him.

Qin Muchen only cast a glimpse at him before looking away. “Let me go,” he demanded.

After making sure his footing was steady, Gong Zeyang narrowed his eyes to look at the man in front of him before letting out a sneer. “Qin Muchen! It’s you...”

In a frosty manner, Qin Muchen shook off his hand and was ready to turn around and leave when Gong Zeyang’s joyous voice came, “Tomorrow... I’m going... to call off my engagement. Then, I’ll get Ziyue back... As for you...”

Qin Muchen did not grant him the chance to continue the remaining part of his sentence.

He grabbed him by his collar and drove his knee upward viciously. It caused Gong Zeyang so much pain that his face was distorted and he could not utter a single word.

Watching his agonized look, Qin Muchen confronted him with a darkened face, "Are you sure about that?"

"Ziyue has always... had a crush on me..."

Putting up with the intense pain which was sending his insides topsy-turvy, Gong Zeyang's voice slowly became more stable. A triumphant look appeared on his face when he noticed the malice which was slowly emerging in Qin Muchen's eyes.

"I understand Ziyue well. Because her mother died of obstructed labor, she was born with the fear toward childbirth and I don't believe she'll be willing to have kids with you..."

Gong Zeyang had had some drinks before this too but he was actually getting more and more sober now.

Something dawned upon him when he noticed the drastic change taking place on Qin Muchen's face. Letting loose an unbridled guffaw, he added in a disdainful voice, "I told you the same thing last time. It's the truth whether you believe it or not."

While Gong Zeyang was gaining more and more confidence the more he talked, Qin Muchen's face turned scarily bleak.

Qin Muchen had almost never had a worthy opponent throughout the twenty-seven years of his life and he had never seen Gong Zeyang as one at all.

He only reacted this way because he had happened to hear about Gong Zeyang's decision to call off his engagement and happened to bump into him on that day.

As Gong Zeyang had been talking gibberish in a drunken fit that time, Qin Muchen had him taken out of the restaurant. Yet, those things he said kept on resounding in his mind after that.

I'm the one Ziyue loves, not you.

She won't be willing to have your kids.

I'm sure she will come back to me.

He had thought about proposing, having a wedding ceremony and having kids.

Those things which he did not expect to happen in the near future had emerged in his mind all at once.

He had never been a reckless man but after listening to those things said by Gong Zeyang, he had made a beeline to get a ring and decorate the room as if he was possessed.

He had wanted to create a very romantic atmosphere, expecting a happy ending in which Su Ziyue would be nodding with a smile as she agreed to marry him.

Although the preparation of the marriage proposal would cause disruption to his original schedule, he believed he would be able to handle them well.

Yet, the final outcome had turned out to be something out of his expectation.

It was the first time Qin Muchen, whose plan had never failed, doubted himself.

Suddenly, he went out of his short-lasting trance to watch Gong Zeyang, who was slowly recovering from a pompous laughter.

Qin Muchen scoffed at what he said. "The truth?"

He then turned around and left after smoothing out the creases on his shirt.

He would reveal to Gong Zeyang what was the truth.

A trace of malice flickered in Gong Zeyang's eyes while he watched Qin Muchen leave.

Assuming Qin Muchen's relationship with Su Ziyue now was nothing compared to the bond he had with her since childhood, he was very sure that he could get Su Ziyue back.

...

On the other side, Su Ziyue saw An Xia laughing non-stop with her phone in her hands as soon as they got into a taxi.

After giving the taxi driver the address, Su Ziyue asked, "What's going on?"

"Look at this. Bai Jingshu, that egomaniac, is going to do a strip dance at the park. I'll make him do it on Christmas and he might just make the headlines the next day..." She started another round of rumbling laughter right after that.

Su Ziyue looked at the reply from Bai Jingshu on the screen of her phone which said: "As long as you tell me what you are doing now, I'll keep my promise."

In that message, Bai Jingshu sounded very keen to know what An Xia was doing and it did not really

sound like something he would usually say.

Based on his personality, he was more likely to rebut An Xia's message or start an argument with her.

The tone of the message sounded slightly like Qin Muchen's...

With that thought in mind, Su Ziyue looked away from the phone to stare out of the window instead with a despondent look.

She couldn't remember what time they had ended everything last night and she had no idea when he had left.

She only remembered having woken up once to extreme discomfort and then falling asleep again later on. Judging from the intravenous drip bag in the dustbin, she reckoned he must have gotten a doctor there to check her condition.

Even though he had treated her so abominably, he had been kind enough to get a doctor for her.

Should she feel grateful for his generosity?

...

Su Ziyue and An Xia bought a lot of things and it filled the fridge to its brim.

An Xia was the cook for the night while Su Ziyue was her assistant.

When An Xia inadvertently turned sideways to look at Su Ziyue, she was impressed by how deft and quick her movement was around the kitchen. "I'm surprised by how well Mr. Qin has educated you. You're getting better and better at doing household chores." It was only after An Xia finished making the remark did she realize she had mentioned Qin Muchen again.

Keeping her eyes downward to conceal the gloominess in her eyes, Su Ziyue turned around and flashed her a smile. "What's so surprising about that? I can cook too. I remember that I bought a fish just now. Let me cook that."

"Are you sure you're not kidding?" An Xia's jaw dropped.

After casting her a glance, Su Ziyue said, "Get ready to be dazzled by my cooking skills."

Skeptically, An Xia removed the apron she was wearing and handed it to her before making a dash to the living room to pour herself a glass of water. Then, she walked to the windows and waited for the water to get cooler.

As soon as she glanced down at the streets, she spotted a familiar figure standing beneath a lamp post

in the residential area.

Was that Mr. Qin?

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Su Ziyue's unit was located on the seventh floor. Although An Xia had quite good vision, she could only guess based on her intuition because the sky was getting dark at the moment.

The only thing she was sure was that the figure was a man. Dressing in full black, he was seen looking up at the sky every now and then from where he stood, looking very sorrowful.

An Xia stayed by the window for a long while until Su Ziyue called for her. "An Xia, come on and have a taste of the fish dish I just made."

"Okay, I'm coming." An Xia twisted her head to give the figure standing below the lamp post one last glance, thinking that she was probably imagining things.

As busy a man as Mr. Qin, why would he do something so meaningless?

...

Although she did not think the man was Mr. Qin, she still found an excuse to persuade Su Ziyue to head downstairs after dinner.

"You'll take out the trash while I do the dishes."

After glancing at the dustbin which was full, Su Ziyue tied it up and told An Xia, "I'm not bringing the keys with me so you'll have to open the door for me later."

"Okay," An Xia responded to her without turning around.

Su Ziyue then took the trash downstairs. When she was on her way back after getting rid of the trash, she bumped into Li Jingqi who was walking toward her.

Su Ziyue had no idea what she had done to offend her again to deserve the icy snort from her as soon as she saw her. "Do you guys really have to take out trash together? I've never seen a couple so clingy with each other. Mind you, couples who love to show their affection to the public tend to break up faster!"

After that, she stole a glance at somewhere behind her and stared at Su Ziyue disdainfully before walking away with her hips swaying left and right.

When Su Ziyue looked in the direction where Li Jingqi had just glanced, she immediately saw a pair of dark and gloomy eyes.

It belonged to Qin Muchen.

Dumbfounded, she stood rooted to the spot.

Standing there somewhat apprehensively, she was at a loss of what to do at the moment.

Qin Muchen stared at her unflinchingly. After pausing for one second, he strode off in her direction.

Even though it was winter now, he was only wearing a suit with a shirt inside; his full and pure black attire gave him a stern and somber look.

At that juncture, a wind came blowing their way, causing Su Ziyue to pull the standing collar of her down jacket closer to herself to cover her chin.

When he got closer to her, she asked with her eyes blinking, "Why are you here?"

Qin Muchen, who was wearing a poker-face, answered, "I dropped my keys to the mansion at your place."

His voice sounded slightly aloof but he did not hold back from giving her a thorough once-over.

Her body was wrapped in a thick and heavy down jacket with no special design and her long wavy hair was tied back in a ponytail. As her chin was covered by the down jacket, only her soft and tender face was revealed, and the eyelashes which covered her watery eyes fluttered as though she was very nervous.

She looked more mellow and soft than usual at the moment.

Under his stare, Su Ziyue couldn't resist but gulp before mumbling softly, "Oh, did you?"

From what Su Ziyue knew, he had always been a steady man and he was not the sort of person who would be careless enough to drop the keys to their house.

Qin Muchen did not answer her question.

After giving it a thought, Su Ziyue questioned, "So, do you want to go and look for it yourself or do you want me to go and look for it and bring it down to you?"

He didn't answer her and just walked ahead of her.

Tucking both hands into her pockets, she followed him with her head held low and at the same time, she deliberately kept a distance between them.

Qin Muchen turned sideways slightly and noticed her behavior; his eyes turned bleak but he did not

make any comment.

...

They then made a peaceful journey back to the unit.

When Su Ziyue went on to press the doorbell, she explained herself after noticing the impatience in his face, "I didn't bring the keys with me because An Xia is here."

Qin Muchen did not respond to her when the door was pulled open by An Xia from inside.

An Xia was not surprised to see the two figures, one taller than the other, standing outside.

Yet, she still reflexively shuddered at the sight of Qin Muchen, who was wearing too little for the weather and standing there with a deadpan look.

"Hi, Mr. Qin! Were you passing by? Come on in and take a seat." All smiles, An Xia greeted Qin Muchen before quickly pulling Su Ziyue, who was not looking too happy, inside.

Qin Muchen merely cast a frigid glance at An Xia, who was behaving like the owner of the place, before stepping into the unit.

Shrinking into herself in fear, An Xia still bit the bullet and put herself in front of Su Ziyue.

Although Mr. Qin was a very intimidating man, she needed to help Su Ziyue because she was her best friend.

In fact, she had already spotted him from the windows just now.

At that time, she had only made a wild guess and she had never thought it would be him.

Noticing how listless and dejected Su Ziyue appeared while she was standing next to Qin Muchen, An Xia was sure that he must have bullied her. Thinking that Qin Muchen was here to make peace with Su Ziyue, she had decided to create a chance for them to bump into each other just now, which was a decision she regretted making now.

Su Ziyue patted An Xia's hands and shook her head at her before approaching Qin Muchen and saying, "I have no idea where you put the keys. You're free to look around yourself."

With that, she switched on the television and pulled An Xia over to take a seat at the sofa.

Qin Muchen frowned.

Had he just been ignored?

He turned around to cast Su Ziyue a glimpse with his brows raised before making his way straight to the bedroom where he removed his suit jacket and started changing the bedsheets.

Although Su Ziyue was watching the television together with An Xia, her attention was still on him.

Assuming that he was only looking for the keys, she did not overthink when he was seen flipping the bedsheets.

It was An Xia whose curiosity was piqued. "What is he looking for?"

Su Ziyue answered her listlessly, "Keys."

"Oh." Cautiously, An Xia cast another glance at the bedroom before pressing on, "In that case, why is he looking for it on the bed?"

Su Ziyue was left stumped and speechless by her question.

With her lips pursed, An Xia put on a grin before taking another look at Qin Muchen. "What are you guys arguing over this time? Mr. Qin doesn't seem like he is genuinely angry because he wouldn't have come all the way here to get the keys then. He can always ask Nan Chuan to get it done for him."

An Xia's words made a lot of sense. If it was any other day, Su Ziyue would definitely be convinced by her to patch things up with Qin Muchen.

However, this time was slightly different to all the previous arguments they had.

"Yes." Su Ziyue only nodded without making any comment.

Thinking that she was convinced, An Xia patted her shoulder soothingly and said, "Alright, I'm off then."

"No, you should stay since it's late." When Su Ziyue was pulling her back, she saw Qin Muchen walking out of the bedroom.

With the suit jacket removed, he was now only wearing a thin shirt with his sleeves rolled up which added some warmth to him.

"Did you find it?" she asked.

"Nope." While he was talking, he shot a look at An Xia which was an obvious signal for her to go.

Yet, it went unnoticed by Su Ziyue who was eager for him to leave. "Tonight..."

Speaking at a slow speed, he cut her off by saying, "I'm spending the night here and I just changed the sheets."

CHAPTER 185

As soon as Su Ziyue heard him, she turned to look at the bedroom and found that the bedsheets had indeed already been changed.

When did he do it?

Silently, An Xia retrieved her hands from Su Ziyue's hold and flashed her a wide grin. "I've got to go since it's getting late. Please rest early too."

No matter how slow on the uptake Su Ziyue was, she could understand that looking for the keys was just his excuse to stay.

With an icy face, she grabbed An Xia to stop her from going. "I can't allow you to go back home alone at this hour. You should just stay for the night."

An Xia turned her head away from Qin Muchen, not daring to meet his eyes.

She hoped Su Ziyue would just let her go.

If she stayed there for a second longer, she would be chilled to the bone under Qin Muchen's stare; that man was an outright human freezer!

Although the heater was switched on at full blast in the unit, it was reduced to a mere decoration in Qin Muchen's presence.

Without saying a thing, Qin Muchen fished out his phone and said to the person he had just called, "Come over and send Miss An home."

An Xia mustered up her courage to ask, "Who did you just call?"

Qin Muchen first cast a glance at Su Ziyue before answering An Xia, seemingly only for the sake that she was Su Ziyue's bestie, "Bai Jingshu. He said he's coming over here now."

"Damn it!" An Xia exclaimed before swiftly grabbing her bag. While she was on her way out, she told Su Ziyue, "Ziyue, I've gotta go now because that egomaniac will kill me!"

Prior to this, she had made a silly decision to tell him her plan to make him do a strip dance at the park on Christmas. In the end, he replied to her with a message saying, 'From now on, you'd better pray you can stay alive until Christmas.'

Yet, just as An Xia arrived at the gate of the residential area, her way was blocked by Bai Jingshu's sports

car. "Hey flat-chested girl, Muchen asked me to give you a ride home. He he," he said.

Oh, f*ck off!

No matter how tumultuous her emotion was inside, An Xia still appeared as calm as a pool of still water on the outside. "Mr. Bai, you really don't have to."

An Xia wanted to make a run for it right after that but Bai Jingshu had already foreseen her move. Immediately, he opened the car door which had not been properly closed by him and got out of the car to haul her back.

Grabbing her by the collar, he pulled her toward himself and confronted her with a sly smile, "Miss An, why are you running away from me? Since we're such good friends with each other now, your safety is guaranteed as long as you're with me."

Knowing well that she was doomed, An Xia feigned calmness and shot him a vicious glare before twisting her head away from him.

Bai Jingshu pinched her cheeks bemusedly before shoving her into the car after opening the door. "An Xia, your days are over!" he said nastily.

The next instant, the luxurious sports car sped away like an arrow in flight.

"Argh—" An Xia's high-pitched shriek came shortly after.

Bai Jingshu brought the sports car to a flying speed while he threatened her, "Are you sure you still want me to do the strip dance?"

An Xia kept her eyes widely opened and glowered at him with her teeth gritted. "Obviously!" she yelled.

Bai Jingshu then curled his lips upward into an evil smirk. "Don't regret your decision."

With that, he accelerated.

Five minutes later, An Xia's quivering voice said, "Bai Jingshu, please slow down... I can't take it anymore!"

Bai Jingshu's face went rigid when he heard her. "Shut up!"

...

The sound of the door being closed reverberated in the condominium unit before silence was restored.

Qin Muchen broke the silence by speaking in his usual tone, "It's getting late. Let's go to bed."

After that, he turned around and made his way to the bathroom.

Su Ziyue strode forward and pulled his arm. "Wait a minute!"

Qin Muchen's pace came to a halt as he turned sideways to face her. "Yes?"

She loosened her hold on his arm and asked, "What does this mean?"

Looking at his arm which was now freed of her hold, a sense of loss seized his heart.

What does this mean?

She had just been seriously sick earlier in the morning. Even though An Xia had already taken care of her, he could only feel assured if he took care of her himself.

At the same time, he secretly scoffed at himself because all he could think of was her although she was unwilling to have kids with him.

He had been kept on edge just because she was sick.

Without answering her question directly, he merely asked her back, "Do you want to live separately?"

As though he did not want to know her answer, he said the next second, "But I don't have such a plan."

After that, he made his way straight to the bathroom.

With both hands clenched, Su Ziyue returned to the sofa with her face as pale as a sheet.

Staring blankly at the television screen on which images were flickering continuously, she could not understand the content of the show at all because her mind was left in a turmoil.

She was baffled as to the reason why her relationship with Qin Muchen had deteriorated in this way.

On that day in the presidential suite, she had wanted to offer him an explanation but he had refused to listen. The same thing had happened last night too.

The same went to the argument they had on his birthday. Without saying anything or asking any questions, he had given her the cold shoulder because he was angry.

If An Xia had not reminded her, she would not have thought that he might have gone to her office to look for her that day.

It had never occurred to her that he might have gotten the wrong idea after chancing upon Gong Zeyang

in her office because she had done nothing unfaithful.

What about this time?

It could not have been just a coincidence.

As soon as the news about the cancellation of the engagement between Gong Zeyang and Su Yige started to spread, he had immediately brought her to a presidential suite, offered her a wedding ring and flowers and asked her to have kids with him all of a sudden.

If everything he had done was because of Gong Zeyang, did it mean that he had actually never believed that she loved him?

With a creak coming from behind as the door was being opened, the air inside the unit seemed to turn oppressive in an instant.

She knew Qin Muchen was walking out of the bathroom.

Slightly apprehensively, she took the television remote control and changed the channels absent-mindedly; her body went rigid as she did not dare to turn around.

However, Qin Muchen had already reached her.

Placing his large palm on her small hand, he took the remote control from her and switched off the television. "Go and take a shower," he urged in a slightly deep voice.

She moved her hands and tried to snatch the remote control back from him. "I want to watch it for a while longer."

Taking advantage of his height, Qin Muchen lifted the remote control up in the air and urged in an emotionless tone, "You should sleep early."

Su Ziyue, who could detect impatience in his voice, withdrew her hands and said, "You may go to bed first."

What did he mean by asking her to sleep early? Did he mean it literally?

Suddenly, she felt terrified about having s*x.

Due to his rough action, she was still in pain up until now. As the part that was painful was unspeakable, she could only endure it herself and didn't dare to share it with anyone else.

It seemed like there was no one she could confide in either.

That thought left her in an even fouler mood. Without responding to Qin Muchen, she rose to her feet and made her way to the bathroom.

As soon as she turned around, she saw that Qin Muchen's tall and muscular body was wrapped in... her towel.

The sight gave her a strange feeling, but she decided not to overthink it and continued her way to the bathroom because after all, that was not the first time he had used her stuff.

...

She only walked out of the bathroom after taking her own sweet time and drying her wet hair slowly inside.

Qin Muchen was leaning against the headboard with both eyes closed. The blanket was pulled upward to his waist on which he placed both hands naturally and his torso was left naked. With his black and bushy eyebrows furrowed together, his handsome face looked even more charming under the lights.

In Su Ziyue's perception, he looked harder to approach now.

Suddenly, Qin Muchen opened his eyes and his dark pupils turned to land on Su Ziyue. "Are you going to spend the entire night standing there?"

CHAPTER 186

A flicker of doubt emerged on Su Ziyue's face while she tugged at the corners of her pajamas top. "Are we really just going to sleep?"

Qin Muchen raised his brows and his eyes dimmed when he answered her, "Of course. What else would you like me to do?"

Su Ziyue let out a sigh of relief secretly. Without waiting for him to speak again, she moved forward briskly, lifted the blanket and climbed into bed.

Turning sideways to look at Su Ziyue, who was lying so close to the edge of the bed as if she just couldn't wait to sleep on the floor, Qin Muchen's eyes turned cold. In the end, he thought better of making any more comments and got into bed after switching off the lights.

As the room darkened, Su Ziyue was able to relax much of the tension in her, probably because she could no longer see Qin Muchen's face. After pushing the blanket lower down, she lay on her back with her eyes widely opened in the darkness because she did not feel sleepy at all.

When she finally felt sleepy some time later and after making sure the man beside her was not moving, she relaxed, closed her eyes and soon fell asleep.

But not long after, she woke up again to a start as soon as she sensed a stir beside her.

A pleasant male's voice came from the darkness. "What are you afraid of?"

You.

Clutching the blanket tightly, Su Ziyue did not make a sound.

Once again, Qin Muchen spoke, this time with impatience, "Aren't you going to talk?"

She responded to him indifferently, "I had a nightmare, that's all. I'm feeling sleepy now."

The room plunged into silence again. She had no idea when Qin Muchen fell asleep but she only managed to doze off after midnight.

...

Qin Muchen was not on the bed when she woke up the next morning.

Somehow, a voice in her mind prompted her to get out of the bed and make a dash toward the kitchen as soon as possible; she did not even bother to put on her slippers.

The dining table was empty.

After rummaging through the kitchen, she found nothing.

Inside the fridge, there was no trace of food other than the ingredients which An Xia and her had bought yesterday and some unfinished dishes.

Qin Muchen did not prepare breakfast.

She checked the time and found that it was nine in the morning.

How enigmatic and unpredictable did one have to be in order to have the ability to control one's feelings and emotions so well?

Although Qin Muchen usually kept his emotions hidden, she could still feel his love during the time he treated her well.

But she could no longer feel it from what had taken place over the past few days.

Was he really tired of her?

...

Su Ziyue spent a long time sitting on the bed in a daze before going to the bathroom to wash up.

She felt a bit better after that.

Looking at her reflection in the mirror which looked awful, she let out a lengthy breath, thinking that the worst that could happen was getting a divorce. In fact, it was not too big a deal because she could even get a share of his wealth after that.

That was what she told herself. While she was putting on makeup, she dialed An Xia's number.

"Ziyue..." An Xia's voice sounded dispirited and feeble.

Su Ziyue, who was doing her brows with a brow pencil, said, "What's going on with you? Let's go out shopping and get ourselves bankrupted."

"It's all Bai Jingshu's fault, that b*stard!" At the mention of Bai Jingshu, An Xia immediately exploded with fury like a robot with a fully-charged battery.

Taken aback by her exclamation, Su Ziyue accidentally brought the brow pencil beyond her brows. Yet, she couldn't be bothered by it because she was alarmed by An Xia's tone. "What did Bai Jingshu do to you?" she pressed on anxiously.

Although she did not see Bai Jingshu as a jerk, he was, after all, still a philanderer. All this while, he had never taken An Xia out despite being very close with her.

An Xia, who just realized Su Ziyue had gotten the wrong idea from her panicked tone, quickly clarified, "Last night, I suffered from car sickness because he drove his car at full speed to send me back home. Do you know how that b*stard treated me? He shoved me in the car like he was carrying a gunny sack! I'm a girl, not a gunny sack..."

Su Ziyue found her complaint hilarious.

Trying hard to hold back her laughter, she went along with what she just said. "Yes, you're not a gunny sack and Bai Jingshu is indeed a b*stard. So, Miss Gunny Sack, please get out of bed now so that we can go shopping later."

...

She and An Xia met each other at the shopping mall.

After spending the entire day walking around the mall, they were exhausted.

An Xia still prattled on after glugging down one whole bottle of water. "Why would anybody fall in love

with a man like Bai Jingshu? Not only is he a womanizer, but he's also mean and petty... What exactly do those women see in him..."

"They love his looks and money," Su Ziyue spelt it out for her after handing her a peeled orange.

An Xia was left wordless.

She took the orange from her and ate it in silence. Well, she had to admit that Bai Jingshu was indeed quite handsome and rich because after all, he was Mr. Qin's friend.

"But there's nothing good about him."

"Does that matter since you're not his wife?"

An Xia said after a pause, "... It doesn't matter."

"Well, that's it then." Su Ziyue took a seat on the sofa next to her and turned on the television.

Two familiar faces were shown on the television screen.

An Xia too saw Gong Zeyang and Su Yige on the television. "What's going on? Are they officially calling off their engagement?"

Su Ziyue answered her with a frown, "This isn't an official press conference."

What was running on the television was only an interview of the couple. Su Yige was seen holding Gong Zeyang's arm tightly with an affable smile on her face. They still looked like a perfect match for each other.

"Mr. Gong, do you have any thoughts you'd like to share regarding the rumors surrounding your engagement with Miss Su?"

Gong Zeyang answered the reporter's question with a calm look, "In fact, I'd prefer to reveal my decision at a more formal occasion but as a businessman who values integrity, I must answer your question honestly now. Yes, Yige and I are preparing to call off our engagement because we don't think we're right for each other. Even though we will no longer be in a romantic relationship, we're still good friends who grew up together."

"He's a businessman who values integrity?" An Xia let out a sneer before she commented, "I think Gong Zeyang looks even more despicable than Bai Jingshu."

Su Ziyue did not say a thing because she was focusing on Su Yige, who was standing next to Gong Zeyang.

Not interested in the empty rhetoric Gong Zeyang said later on, she was surprised to see that Su Yige did not have a fallout with Gong Zeyang or offer anything in rebuttal at all throughout the entire process.

On top of that, Su Yige even went along with Gong Zeyang's statement by saying to the reporter, "We've broken up with each other in peace and our families remain as friends with one another. Any collaboration in business between the two families won't be affected because of what happened between us. Thanks for everyone's concern."

"Is this really Su Yige?" An Xia sprung to her feet from the sofa and turned to look at Su Ziyue in shock. "Do you believe her?"

"I don't believe her either but she's really Su Yige." Squinting, Su Ziyue examined Su Yige on the screen and carried on, "But I'm sure she didn't do it willingly. Perhaps Gong Zeyang had some goods on her and she had no choice but to say things as per his instruction."

An Xia, who was confused, asked, "Why did he suddenly call off the engagement after it has lasted for so many years?"

The question sent Su Ziyue thinking despite it not being An Xia's intention.

Although she had never been on good terms with those two, the sudden cancellation of their engagement after being together for so many years still came as a surprise for her.

Seemed like it was true that humans were fickle.

CHAPTER 187

Su Ziyue spent the entire day with An Xia.

After having dinner at a restaurant, they returned to their respective places.

Su Ziyue hesitated for several seconds before she pushed open the door of her unit.

Inside the pitch black unit, she could detect the presence of no one else other than herself, which meant Qin Muchen was not there.

She felt relieved first and then a mild sense of loss.

Trying to stop herself from overthinking, she went to bed after washing up.

She took a long time to fall asleep and she wondered whether it was because the space beside her was empty.

...

The next day was a Monday.

Su Ziyue put on the new clothes she had purchased yesterday with An Xia and set off to the office after applying some makeup.

...

Everyone knew about the cancellation of Gong Zeyang and Su Yige's engagement after the interview was aired yesterday.

The moment Su Ziyue stepped into the office, she could sense the subtle difference in the atmosphere.

Although she did not mean to eavesdrop, she could still catch snippets of conversation around her talking about the matter.

"Have you heard about Young Lady Su and Young Master Gong's decision to call off their engagement?"

"I watched their interview yesterday. Do you think the decision was really made in peace?"

"That's too much of a coincidence. Didn't Young Lady Su go overseas for several months before this? Could she have had an affair there... so..."

While Su Ziyue was walking to her office, comments of such a nature could be heard everywhere.

To be honest, she secretly relished listening to those slanderous remarks from her fellow colleagues.

In fact, she was also curious about the real reason behind their breakup.

"Good morning, Director Su!" A group of female colleagues, who had been gossiping about Su Yige and Gong Zeyang just now, immediately stopped their discussion when they saw Su Ziyue and greeted her instead.

Su Ziyue nodded at them in response to their greetings.

Just as she stepped into her room, she received a call from Su Youcheng.

"I suppose you've reached the office? Please come to my office now!" Su Youcheng's voice sounded as stern as usual and he hung up on her right after he gave her his instruction.

Looking unruffled, Su Ziyue kept away her phone and made her way to Su Youcheng's room.

When she reached his office, she knocked on his door steadily and only pushed the door open and walked inside after getting his acknowledgement.

She found Su Yige, who looked dispirited, there too.

Ignoring Su Yige directly, she beamed at Su Youcheng and asked, "Grandpa, how can I help you?"

As one shouldn't treat a smiling person with hostility, Su Youcheng spoke calmly with a deep frown on his forehead although he was in a fit of anger, "Take a seat. I have some questions for you."

Su Ziyue took a step back and sat down opposite Su Yige. "Please go ahead."

Noticing Su Ziyue was looking composed with a clear conscience, Su Youcheng narrowed his eyes slightly and asked, "Have you been secretly keeping in touch with Gong Zeyang?"

"I don't really understand your question." Su Ziyue's expression turned slightly somber. Despite telling her grandfather that she was confused, something had already dawned upon her inside.

In the end, Su Yige, who was sitting directly opposite her, spoke before Su Youcheng could. "Ziyue, I had no idea that you've always had a crush on Zeyang. If you had told me earlier, I would have given up on him. But what you did has brought great embarrassment to me..."

Suddenly, her voice turned croaky and she seemed too grief-stricken to be able to finish the remaining part of her sentence.

Su Ziyue's eyes turned cold at once because it was obvious Su Yige was implying something with her words.

Instead of speaking right away, she only cast Su Yige a glance before turning to face Su Youcheng.

A trace of fury slowly emerged on Su Youcheng's face when he noticed Su Ziyue's indifference.

Su Yige was his granddaughter whom he had watched grow up and on whom he had pinned high hopes. At first, he had assumed that nothing could ever go wrong with her engagement with Gong Zeyang and it had never occurred to him that something like this could happen at the eleventh hour.

Su Youcheng stared at Su Ziyue and said to her in a tone which was not at all pleasant, "Ziyue, you have to be clear that even though Zeyang is not going to marry Yige, he isn't going to marry you either!"

This time, Su Ziyue understood the purpose of this meeting completely.

She was sure Su Youcheng was angry to learn that Su Yige's engagement with Gong Zeyang had fallen through. So, Su Yige was now trying to pin the blame on her.

She was trying to manipulate Su Youcheng into thinking that Su Ziyue was the culprit behind Gong Zeyang's decision to call off the engagement.

This way, Su Youcheng would surely take his anger out on Su Ziyue.

After analysing the entire matter, Su Ziyue only found it hilarious.

Su Yige was the sort of person who was always up to no good.

“Grandpa, I’m really confused by what you said. I’m married and I have a very close relationship with my husband. I’m not interested to know whether Gong Zeyang is going to marry me or not nor have I ever thought about the issue before.”

Su Ziyue made a forthright statement without trying to protect Su Youcheng’s ego.

Considering that she was already married, Su Youcheng, as her senior, had actually just told her that she would not become some other man’s wife. Su Ziyue could not believe his grandfather had just said something as inappropriate as that.

Su Youcheng’s face looked pale and sullen and he was left speechless in an instant.

“Ziyue, don’t you think you should come clean already at this juncture?”

Suddenly, Su Yige rose to her feet and confronted her with her face imbued with rage, “Do you dare say that you have never met Zeyang at all during the time I was overseas? You’re the reason why Zeyang decided to call off the engagement!”

Right after she made that allegation, she twisted her head to the other side and pretended as though she was wiping her tears away. She was acting like a pathetic elder sister who had her fiancé snatched away by her younger sister who was much loved by everyone else.

“I can’t say for sure that I did not meet him at all because it’s easy to bump into someone you know in a small city like Yunzhou City. Also, don’t assume everyone is interested in the guy you fancy. I’ve told you before, you might see him as a treasure but he’s nothing to me!”

Su Ziyue finished her statement loud and clear with an undaunted expression on her face.

She was not going to be made into her scapegoat that easily!

In her agitation, Su Yige let out a shrill shriek, “Su Ziyue!”

“That’s enough!” Suddenly, Su Youcheng yelled to stop the fight, and the way he looked at Su Yige turned somewhat somber. “You couldn’t even watch your man well and you didn’t even discuss with us first before you called off the engagement. Is there anything you aren’t brave enough to pull off?!” he condemned.

Su Youcheng had been away over the weekend and he had directly gone to bed after he returned home

last night. Coupled with the fact that the people at home had intentionally kept him in the dark, he had only learnt about the matter when he reached the office this morning.

He immediately summoned Su Yige over to ask her about it. Tactfully, she told him that Gong Zeyang and Su Ziyue had had an affair during the time she was overseas. That was what prompted Su Youcheng to ask Su Ziyue to be here.

Frightened by Su Youcheng's stern look, Su Yige mumbled, "Grandpa..."

Calling off the engagement had never been her intention but Gong Zeyang had compelled her into doing so by threatening to expose her past involvement in drugs.

The Gong family and the Su family had been friends for many generations and had collaborated with each other in business for years. She only dared to keep her decision to call off the engagement as a secret from Su Youcheng because she did not think it would cause any dire consequences.

But now, it seemed like she was wrong.

Icily, Su Youcheng stared at her and said crossly, "The Su family won't clean up your mess this time!"

CHAPTER 188

Su Yige turned to look at Su Youcheng, her eyes brimming with panic. "Grandpa!"

The dissolution of marriage contracts between wealthy families could be a big or trivial matter depending on the situation.

However, regardless of whether it was a wealthy family or an ordinary family, the bride was always the one at loss if their marriage contract was cancelled.

Plus, the Su family was one of the major families in Yunzhou City. If no one from the Su family came forward to explain this matter except for Su Yige, it would mean that she was no longer being taken seriously by the Su family.

In other words, they had not broken up peacefully as she had mentioned and there was another side to the story.

"Get out!" Su Youcheng was obviously still furious. He turned around and returned to the desk, as if he didn't even want to take another glance at her again.

Meanwhile, Su Ziyue stood aside and looked at them coldly.

Su Youcheng was in fact asking Su Yige herself to find a remedy for the situation when he said that the Su family would not come forward to help her.

Although he did not know why Su Yige agreed to dissolve the marriage contract, it was obvious from Su Yige's expression that something terrible must have happened.

Su Ziyue then glanced at Su Yige before turning to look at Su Youcheng and said obediently, "Grandpa, if that's all you have to say to me, I will leave first. I still have a lot of work to do."

"Leave then! Leave now!" Su Youcheng waved his hand impatiently.

Then, Su Ziyue turned around and left.

Su Yige also knew that Su Youcheng was in a bad mood now, so it was evident that he would not listen to whatever she was going to say. Thus, she went out after Su Ziyue.

...

After Su Ziyue returned to the office, Su Yige caught up with her and went in as well.

"What's up?" Su Ziyue glanced back at her while taking off her jacket before sitting down at her desk.

After Su Yige locked the door, she walked to Su Ziyue and said, "You must be very proud of yourself now, eh?!"

"Why would I be?" Su Ziyue blinked innocently.

Then, she casually reached out and flipped through the documents in front of her. "You have been a project director before too so I'm sure you know that I'm quite busy with work, which is why I don't want to waste time on these unnecessary emotions."

As she spoke, Su Yige's expression darkened at a speed visible to the naked eye.

"So, why are you here? If you have something to tell me, just say it now. If not, I'm going to continue working. I'm extra busy at the end of the year."

Su Ziyue spoke while flipping through the documents before looking up at Su Yige.

Su Yige had always been good at controlling her emotions. Although she was furious, she managed to suppress the anger inside her when she thought of her goal.

Something flickered in Su Yige's eyes as she took two deep breaths and calmed herself down before walking up to Su Ziyue and holding down the document she was flipping through. "Let's make a deal."

Su Ziyue looked at the hand on her file and fell silent for a moment before looking up at her. "Are you sure that you even have anything I want?"

Su Ziyue sneered disapprovingly.

However, Su Yige was not infuriated by her reaction at all. "If you help me, I will tell you where your father is currently being locked up."

Thud!

The pen in Su Ziyue's hand fell to the ground. Then, she raised her head abruptly to look at Su Yige; the shock and ecstasy on her face was so intense that they could not be concealed.

But soon, the shock and ecstasy turned into suspicion.

Su Yige clearly saw the expression on her face, and a victorious look flashed in her eyes. "You just need to tell me your answer."

Su Ziyue looked at the confident Su Yige and gradually calmed down before asking her aloud, "Do you really think that I will still believe you and make a deal with you after all that you've done to me?"

Su Yige had always butted heads with Su Ziyue. Although they were arch nemesis, she felt that she knew Su Ziyue well.

Su Yige knew how desperately Su Ziyue wanted to find her father.

Therefore, when she saw Su Ziyue again, she suddenly thought of this idea.

She had expected Su Ziyue to agree for sure, but to her surprise, Su Ziyue did not believe her at all.

This was the only way Su Yige could think of right now. Zeyang was determined to dissolve their marriage contract and he knew that she had taken drugs before. If she did not agree, he would expose her.

She didn't want her whole life to be ruined just like this.

If it was revealed that she was addicted to drugs, she would fall miserably from the heights of her success.

Precisely because she had anticipated the consequences, she decided to agree to Zeyang's request after weighing the pros and cons.

The most important thing at present was to find a way around the dissolution of the marriage contract without harming her reputation.

Therefore, she must persuade Su Ziyue no matter what.

And the person who had made her get involved with drugs was Qin Muchen, Su Ziyue's husband!

Thinking of this, hatred filled Su Yige's eyes for an instant before quickly disappearing.

"I know a lot more than you. Don't forget that my dad handled all your dad's affairs back then."

Su Yige raised her chin extremely confidently.

Yet, Su Ziyue was more concerned about the second half of her sentence. "Your father was the one who handled it?"

"So, no one knows about your dad better than my dad. You can trust me. This is your only chance." Su Yige was so desperate to make Su Ziyue believe her and make a deal with her that she didn't even notice the hidden meaning in Su Ziyue's words.

"Really?" Su Ziyue asked her while narrowing her eyes. "So even Grandpa doesn't know where my dad is, right?"

Su Yige frowned slightly, feeling that something was off with Su Ziyue's question. However, she still nodded. "Yes. If you want to know where your dad is being locked up, you have no choice but to make a deal with me."

If her father's affairs had been handled by Su Yuanming back then, then there was a possibility that Su Yuanming had used unscrupulous means to slander her dad.

She had thought that the perpetrator was Su Youcheng, but to her surprise, she had gotten it all wrong. It was Su Yuanming all along, not Su Youcheng.

Even though she was feeling a mixture of emotions, Su Ziyue still looked at Su Yige indifferently. "Tell me more about the deal."

Hearing that, Su Yige gave her a satisfied smile.

That was right. Su Ziyue should always be under her control.

Su Yige crossed her arms in front of her chest arrogantly and said, "It's very simple. You just have to admit in front of the media that you got involved in the relationship between Zeyang and I and caused us to break up. I will deal with the rest."

This way, she could preserve her reputation as the supreme Miss Yige of the Su family.

As for Su Ziyue, her reputation was already terrible anyway. It did not really matter if her reputation was smeared even more.

“So...” Su Ziyue said thoughtfully as a smile flashed across her face.

You call this simple?

Once she confessed her involvement in Su Yige and Zeyang's relationship, she would probably not only be criticized by the public, but she might even be driven out of the Su Group by her grandfather.

Then, Su Yige would get everyone's sympathy and be forgiven by Su Youcheng.

CHAPTER 189

This was indeed a good idea.

Su Yige would completely benefit from this while Su Ziyue had to take the blame.

Su Yige was cunning indeed.

Su Yige had guessed one thing right. Indeed, she wanted to know where her father was.

She was desperate to find out her father's location.

However, she had no news of him for so many years.

If Su Yige had proposed this to her when she had just returned to China, she might have agreed without hesitation.

That was because finding her father was the most important thing to her at that time.

But now, although she still wanted to find her father, she had scruples about any decision she made.

This was because she was not just Su Ziyue; she was also someone's wife now.

Thinking of Qin Muchen, Su Ziyue's expression darkened. She no longer had the mood to continue discussing this with Su Yige.

“That's the deal. Pick a time, preferably today, and I will get some reporters here. Then, you just need to play your part.”

Su Yige thought that Su Ziyue would definitely agree to her request, so she directly stated the plan.

Su Ziyue nodded. “Oh, let me consider it first.”

Hearing this, Su Yige's expression changed. “What? You want to consider it?!”

“Yeah, of course I have to. This isn't just some trivial matter.” Su Ziyue leaned back lazily and said,

“Please leave first. I have a lot of things to deal with and I need some time.”

As Su Ziyue said that, she lowered her head to look at the document.

Seeing the inattentive look on her face, Su Yige realized that Su Ziyue had no intentions of agreeing at all.

“Su Ziyue, how dare you mess around with me?!” Su Yige glared at her, her eyes bursting with flames of fury.

“I wasn’t.” Su Ziyue shrugged and shook her head. “I have no interest in you, nor do I want to mess around with you. I just really need some time to consider this deal.”

At this moment, someone knocked on the door from outside.

Knock! Knock!

There was a crisp knocking sound, causing the both of them to stop talking.

Su Ziyue got up to open the door, but Su Yige immediately stopped her. “Su Ziyue, you have no choice but to agree!”

“Get out of the way.” Su Ziyue hated Su Yige's arrogant tone. She was tired of Su Yige commanding her around ever since they were children.

Yet, Su Yige did not move away.

Seeing this, Su Ziyue sneered and kicked Su Yige's calf.

“Ow—!”

Su Yige turned to the side with pain. Then, Su Ziyue ignored her and walked straight to the door.

The one who had knocked on the door was An Xia. When she saw Su Ziyue, she asked aloud, “Why did you lock the door?”

“We were discussing some matters,” Su Ziyue said and opened the door to let An Xia see Su Yige who was still in the office.

When An Xia saw Su Yige, she almost blurted out ‘You b*tch!’.

Fortunately, she stopped herself from cursing in time.

“Please come in. We can talk in my office.”

Su Ziyue brought An Xia straight in, leaving Su Yige, whose calf was in pain, to stand there in a weird posture.

As an outsider had come in, Su Yige couldn't continue talking about the deal. Thus, she turned around and limped out.

After Su Yige went out, An Xia asked Su Ziyue in a low voice, "What's the matter?"

"It's nothing. She was just being crazy as usual." Su Ziyue just smiled, not wanting to elaborate.

There was no need to explain it to An Xia because she would never agree to Su Yige's request anyway. She was not that stupid.

If she really did that, it would not only ruin her own reputation, but also Qin Muchen's.

She was very grateful toward him for accepting her past, so she would never do anything that would leave a stain on his reputation.

She would have really become a grave sinner if she had stained the reputation of a high and mighty person like Qin Muchen.

Although it was likely that she might not be able to be together with him for long, she still missed him so dearly. She was already in a mess just after one day of not seeing him, so she could only use work to drown out her emotions.

As a result, she completed the work that would normally take a day and a half in a day.

Perhaps due to the bad luck Su Yige had brought to her early in the morning, it started to rain when she got off work.

After working overtime for an hour, Su Ziyue finally came out and stood at the entrance of the Su Tower, looking at the rain with a slight frown.

She didn't bring an umbrella when she left this morning as she didn't think that it would rain.

And now, she had to go out of the building to hail a cab.

With no other choice, Su Ziyue ran out with her bag over her head. She had to go home no matter what, so she ran out into the rain.

Su Ziyue ran to the side of the road, but still no cab passed by her.

While Su Ziyue was feeling anxious because she could not get a cab, a black Bentley slowly stopped in

front of her.

Seeing the black Bentley, Su Ziyue felt inexplicably excited.

The next second, the window of the car was rolled down. When she saw the person inside the car, she felt a little disappointed.

It was not Qin Muchen in the car.

Was she so emotional when she saw the car because he drove a black Bentley as well?

Yet, the person behind the car window was a complete stranger.

He was an energetic-looking man in a suit and leather shoes, and he was so good-looking that others tended to trust him easily.

Unlike Qin Muchen's mysterious persona, this man looked particularly gentle and down to earth.

Although this man had little wrinkles, Su Ziyue could still tell at a glance that he was already in his thirties.

He then opened the door and got out of the car with a delicate, long-handled black umbrella. He was tall and slender and looked like a northerner.

He walked up to Su Ziyue and looked at her calmly and politely before saying with uncertainty, "Miss Su?"

Su Ziyue looked surprised. She then said with hesitation, "Hello..."

He stretched out his arm and moved the umbrella a little to cover Su Ziyue from the rain before saying, "Miss Su, I was the one who sent you to the hospital last time. You even sent me a text message after the incident. I didn't bring that phone with me on my business trips, so I only saw your message when I came back. "

He spoke very tactfully with a slight apologetic tone.

Finally, Su Ziyue remembered that incident.

When she was going home on Qin Muchen's birthday, she had gotten into an accident...

After all, she was the one who had hit his car. Yet, not only did she not compensate him afterward, but he even sent her to the hospital.

Su Ziyue weighed her words for a moment before saying awkwardly, "Are you that kind car owner from

previously?"

"I'm far from kind. Anyone would send the injured to the hospital first in such a situation." His smile was as refreshing as a spring breeze.

Su Ziyue immediately took a liking toward him. "I've always wanted to thank you. What a pleasant surprise to meet you today. Hello, I am Su Ziyue."

With an unabated smile on his face, he stretched out his hand to Su Ziyue. "Hello, I'm Feng Xingyan."

Su Ziyue reached out to shake hands with him.

"Miss Su, where are you going? I'll give you a ride." He then looked up at the sky. His brows were slightly furrowed for an instant before quickly easing up as if he didn't like rainy days.

"Mr. Feng, if it is convenient for you, I would also like to invite you to dinner." She should indeed thank Feng Xingyan. She rarely encountered kind people nowadays.

Feng Xingyan smiled again. "Sure thing."

After that, he turned his body slightly and motioned for her to move forward.

He held the umbrella and walked to the front of the car with Su Ziyue before opening the door for her to go in like a gentleman. Then, he went to the other side of the car and got in before driving off.

CHAPTER 190

Although she did not know Feng Xingyan's occupation, it was obvious from his demeanour and temperament that he was not working an ordinary job.

Thus, Su Ziyue naturally couldn't treat him to dinner at some cheap restaurant.

After some pondering, she took him to Lumiere Jade House.

When they arrived at Lumiere Jade House, the rain did not stop and got heavier instead.

It was the middle of winter so the rain felt particularly chilly.

Thus, Su Ziyue shuddered violently when she got out of the car.

She shrank into herself and took a deep breath, thereafter she felt a little better.

Feng Xingyan held the long-handled umbrella above her head as his eyes fell over her body. "You wear too little."

His words didn't sound frivolous at all. Instead, he sounded a little helpless, and his tone sounded somewhat like the tone of an elder caring for the younger ones.

Su Ziyue was wearing the suit that she bought yesterday. It was very delicate and it was in the color she liked—pure white. She only wore a close-fitting warm top inside with her long legs exposed, and she looked dazzling in her high heels.

She pinched her cuffs and smiled. "Yeah."

Then, Feng Xingyan fell silent and walked in with her.

As soon as they entered the Lumiere Jade House, Su Ziyue suddenly became a little nervous.

She was not sure if she was worried about encountering Nan Chuan or Qin Muchen.

This was the peak hour, so the place was crowded. There were no more private rooms available, but fortunately, there were some tables in the hall which were unoccupied.

After ordering the food, Su Ziyue took the initiative to chat with him so that they would not fall into awkward silence.

She suddenly recalled that Feng Xingyan's phone number was a number from Jingcheng, so she asked him, "Mr. Feng, are you from Jingcheng City?"

"Yes." Feng Xingyan nodded slightly. "I'm here to negotiate a contract."

As for the details of the contract, it had nothing to do with Su Ziyue.

"I'm really sorry about what happened last time. Your car..." Su Ziyue then looked up at him.

The smile on Feng Xingyan's face stiffened slightly. "Don't worry about it. It has already been fixed."

Su Ziyue weighed her words and said, "Although I know that you're not short on money, it was still my fault. I want to compensate you for the car reparation fees..."

Feng Xingyan nodded. "Alright. I will send you the invoice later."

Su Ziyue nodded.

Soon, a waiter came over to serve the meal, so Su Ziyue stopped chatting with Feng Xingyan.

Before eating his meal, Feng Xingyan took out his phone and tapped on it before putting it away.

It was not until the end of a meal that Su Ziyue found out that Feng Xingyan had muted his phone.

"Sorry, I have to go out and make a few phone calls first," Feng Xingyan said. When he saw Su Ziyue nodding at him, he got up and left.

When Feng Xingyan left, Su Ziyue reached out and massaged her shoulders.

When they were eating just now, Feng Xingyan had been sitting upright silently during the entire meal. His dining etiquette was perfect.

Thus, Su Ziyue dared not move as well. In the end, Su Ziyue suffered from a sore back.

Although she knew that many aristocratic families were very strict with regards to etiquettes, Feng Xingyan was on a whole other level! His family must have been especially strict with him!

Su Ziyue was horrified just thinking about it. Fortunately, the Su family had not raised her this way.

Feng Xingyan went out for a long time. When Su Ziyue checked the time for the third time, Nan Chuan appeared.

"Miss Su!" When Nan Chuan saw Su Ziyue, his eyes lit up as if he had found his savior.

"Nan Chuan..."

Su Ziyue was taken aback for a moment. What a surprise that she met Nan Chuan here.

"When I heard from the staff that you were here, I didn't believe it. What a pleasant surprise! I'm glad that you're here. Please come with me now," Nan Chuan said while dragging her outside.

Unable to resist the muscular and tall Nan Chuan, Su Ziyue had no choice but to be dragged away by him.

"Where are you taking me? Let go of me first!" Su Ziyue felt that it was improper for a man to hold her like this, not to mention how painful it was!

"Sorry, sorry. I was too anxious." Nan Chuan immediately let go of her hand, but still continued to tug her hand as he said, "Miss Su, come with me to see the boss. He has been organizing dinners here for the past two days. He even slept in the private room last night. And now, he's drinking with a few other people. I don't have the guts to—"

Nan Chuan paused and coughed twice before saying, "Mr. Bai and I tried to persuade him, but he refused to listen to us. If you were the one who persuaded him, he would definitely listen to you. Did you argue with him again?"

Otherwise, he wouldn't have drunk so recklessly in the private room for a day and night.

Nan Chuan sounded like he had already become accustomed to Su Ziyue and Qin Muchen arguing.

However, the conflict between Su Ziyue and Qin Muchen was more than just a simple quarrel this time.

However, she didn't even explain the situation to An Xia, so naturally, she wouldn't explain it to Nan Chuan.

Her focus was entirely on Nan Chuan's words. "What did you say? He slept in the private room last night?"

"Yeah. I only found out this morning when I came here." He had never seen his boss in such an out-of-control state, but he didn't intend to tell Su Ziyue this.

Nan Chuan babbled about how much alcohol Qin Muchen had drunk here in the past two days along the way. Soon, they arrived at the door of the private room.

When Nan Chuan was bringing her over there, they carefully avoided the crowd. After all, Qin Muchen's identity had not been revealed yet.

He just took Su Ziyue to the door of the private room before saying, "Miss Su, you should go in by yourself. I'll be leaving first. Please don't tell him that I was the one who brought you here."

With that said, he immediately slipped away.

Su Ziyue stood alone at the door of the private room with her hand raised. Still, she did not push the door open.

Would Qin Muchen really listen to her?

Thinking of what had happened the previous few days, she became more and more uncertain.

However, Nan Chuan said that he had been here drinking and holding dinners here in the past two days. She knew that he must have been holding dinners as the vice president of Yunteng. However, the company was owned by Bai Jingshu, not him. Did he really need to work so hard?

Moreover, with his ability, did he really need to drink to solve the issues of the company?

Obviously not.

No matter what the reason was, he should not have drunk for two days in a row. That was extremely harmful for his health.

As Su Ziyue was hesitating at the door, the private room door was suddenly opened from inside.

A fat man with a protruding stomach appeared at the door. He reeked of alcohol and he had obviously had a lot to drink.

The alcohol smelled bad, so Su Ziyue moved aside to avoid him. However, her wrist was grabbed by the fat man, who then smiled lustfully. "Oh, you're so hot. Did President Qin invite you over here to have fun with us? "

Disgust flashed in Su Ziyue's eyes. Before she could speak, the fat man turned around and shouted in a certain direction in the private room, "Mr. Qin, did you invite this hottie over? She's mine!"

Su Ziyue looked in the direction of his gaze and saw Qin Muchen looking over here with a glass in his hand.

The two stared into each other's eyes. Qin Muchen glanced at her blankly, then raised his head and drank the alcohol in the glass.