

# Marry Me 201

## CHAPTER 201

After Nan Chuan left, Qin Muchen went to the washroom to wash his face.

Examining his own reflection in the mirror with a blank look, he found himself still looking slightly flustered, then he walked out after a while.

By the time he came out from the washroom, Bai Jingshu and Gu Hanyan, who had been waiting for him at Lumiere Jade House just now, had arrived.

He reckoned they had made their way over after calling Nan Chuan.

“Muchen, are you alright?” Gu Hanyan approached Qin Muchen anxiously as soon as she saw him, a look of concern on her face.

Qin Muchen only responded to her indifferently, “I’m alright.”

“Why...” Just as Gu Hanyan was about to pose him another question, the door of the surgery room was pushed open.

Qin Muchen immediately turned around and walked over. “Doctor, how’s she doing?” he asked anxiously.

“We’ve taken care of her wound and stitched it up. Luckily, the wound isn’t too deep so the injury isn’t too serious. After...”

The doctor was interrupted by Qin Muchen’s icy voice, “Are you sure it’s not serious when it requires stitching?” He frowned deeply, his eyes brimming with concern and rage. As a person who had gotten used to giving orders to his subordinates, he started giving out an intimidating air, causing the doctor to hold his head slightly down to avoid his eyes as best as he could.

“But... it’s not life-threatening. All she needs is enough rest and she’ll be able to leave the hospital after some time.” The doctor looked up at Qin Muchen apprehensively right after that as he was unsure whether what he said was to his satisfaction.

It was only when Qin Muchen heard that Su Ziyue’s injury was not life-threatening did he feel slightly relieved.

...

He followed Su Ziyue’s stretcher all the way to the general ward, where he verified her condition with the doctor and nurses again before allowing them to leave.

He then turned around to face Bai Jingshu and Gu Hanyan, who had been following him all that while. "You guys should head home first."

Because Gu Hanyan was still here, he reckoned the sight of her wouldn't please Su Ziyue when she woke up.

He still remembered the sarcastic tone Su Ziyue had used to talk to Gu Hanyan when she visited them last time.

Although what she had done was not something glorious, he still found her adorable when she was at it.

Bai Jingshu, who knew his presence was not going to be helpful, nodded in agreement and said, "Well, we'll get going then. Just call us if you need help." With that, he told Gu Hanyan to come along with him.

After Qin Muchen finished dealing with them, he took a seat beside the bed to check on Su Ziyue.

As she was lying on her side, he needed to lower his body in order to see her face clearly.

Her face, which was usually fair and rosy pink, looked as pale as a sheet at the moment. Both her eyes were closed, but her long and curly eyelashes were not fluttering like how they usually were.

Most of her body was enveloped in the white blanket which made her look low-spirited.

The sight of her brought a throbbing pain to his heart and caused his chest to tighten. He brushed away her hair which had scattered over her forehead before giving her a soft peck. Then, he grabbed hold of her hands and stayed that way.

That was what Gu Hanyan saw when she suddenly turned around at the entrance.

No matter how good she was at bluffing herself, all she could see in Qin Muchen's eyes now was love and affection.

Without her realizing, she clenched her hands tightly into two fists.

Qin Muchen, a guy who she had had a crush on for years but did not reciprocate her feelings, had actually fallen in love with a girl who had appeared in his life out of nowhere.

Moreover, the girl had a bad reputation and she did not come from a prominent background; her mother had passed away when she was little and her father was a prisoner.

Gu Hanyan did not see herself inferior to Su Ziyue in any way. Why did Qin Muchen fall in love with Su Ziyue but not her?

She wouldn't give up that easily!

...

When Su Ziyue regained consciousness, she was greeted by a stretch of whiteness as soon as she opened her eyes. She stared blankly for a moment before she decided to get up from bed.

To her surprise, a searing pain surged through her back as soon as she moved.

She let out a soft groan, which startled and awakened Qin Muchen who was sprawled by the edge of the bed.

While he pulled himself together, his eyes gleamed with hope when he saw that both her eyes were open, and his face broke into a smile without him realizing. "You're finally awake."

Suddenly, she thought of what had occurred before this. "Are you alright?" Her weak voice sounded unusually soft and gentle.

The smile on Qin Muchen's face slowly vanished when he heard her question. Tightening his grip on her hands, he gazed at her intently and answered her, "I'm fine."

Su Ziyue, who was unconvinced, questioned him again, "Really?"

Qin Muchen's voice turned slightly raspy this time. "Yes."

It was only after she got his confirmation did she let her eyelids droop and mumbled, "That's great."

Qin Muchen heard her although her voice was barely audible.

Throughout his life, he too had been injured and admitted to the hospital before. Everytime he suffered such a misfortune, there had never been a shortage of people showing concern for him.

Being different from the young masters of other wealthy families, getting injured and sick was common back in those early days when he was on his own, trying to build his own career. At that time, there were many people around him who would always remind him to take care and be careful...

In his opinion, getting injured and sick were inevitable.

Yet, there had never been anyone who actually felt relieved to see he was fine after "taking a knife" for him.

It was as though in Su Ziyue's eyes, shielding him from the attack was something she ought to do. Yet, she was just a delicate girl while he was a strong man who wouldn't be affected much by small injuries.

At that moment, waves ravaged Qin Muchen's heart, causing the barriers and walls in his heart to

crumble. In the end, the waves headed straight to the deepest corner of his heart, and Su Ziyue's name was left in its wake.

...

After he calmed himself down, he asked her whether she was hungry in a gentle voice.

With her eyes half-closed, Su Ziyue thought there was something different with Qin Muchen's voice compared to his usual tone. Yet, she still nodded at him because she was indeed slightly hungry.

Seeing her reaction, Qin Muchen helped her up and carefully helped her lean sideways on the head of the bed before turning around to fetch a thermal flask which he had brought early that morning.

A mouthwatering scent permeated the air inside the ward as soon as he opened the cap.

Taking a deep breath, Su Ziyue asked in a weak voice, "Is it shredded chicken porridge?"

"Yes." After answering her, he edged closer to her and spooned some porridge to feed her.

Su Ziyue was stunned for a second when she remembered that she had yet to patch things up with him prior to this. Because of that, she did not feel comfortable to let him feed her the porridge because it was something quite intimate.

After a pause, she suggested, "I can handle it myself..."

This time, Qin Muchen did not say anything. Holding the spoon in midair with no intention to withdraw it, persistence was written all over his handsome face.

Su Ziyue had no choice but to open her mouth so that he could send the spoonful of porridge into her mouth.

Throughout the process, she dared not glance at him too much, and her pale face was tinged with a layer of pink.

After she was full, Qin Muchen then used the same spoon and started having the porridge too.

Su Ziyue parted her mouth, intending to make some comments, but in the end, she dropped the idea because after all, it was not his first time doing something like that.

He looked like he was slightly hungry judging from how fast he ate despite his elegant table manners.

Su Ziyue fixed her gaze on him, amused by how he looked when he was eating from the thermal flask.

Soon, he finished the remaining porridge after quickening his speed so that he could move forward and

claim her lips.

His kiss felt somewhat eager as he pried open her lips to capture her tongue, sucking on her.

After the kiss, Qin Muchen said calmly, "It'll be more than just a kiss next time if you look at me that way again."

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Watching Qin Muchen in consternation, Su Ziyue's mouth hung slightly agape, and she found herself having difficulty speaking.

Qin Muchen, who appeared unperturbed, rose to his feet and went to wash the thermal flask.

Soon, he came back, one hand holding a glass of water and the other holding an empty glass with a toothbrush perched on top of it.

"Brush your teeth." He placed the glasses on the table next to Su Ziyue and handed the toothbrush to her before placing a plastic basin in front of her.

Su Ziyue was left speechless by his actions.

After some hesitation, she said, "I can actually get out of bed."

Qin Muchen only responded to her with a glance before taking the toothbrush from her hand. "Open your mouth," he instructed.

So, was he going to help her brush her teeth?

Under his icy and penetrating gaze, she opened her mouth in silence.

With one hand keeping the plastic basin still and the other holding the toothbrush to brush her teeth, he did the task in a very serious and meticulous manner with a slight frown on his forehead. Every now and then, he would remind her to keep her mouth open and not to grit her teeth.

He then helped her clean her face...

After getting everything done, he helped her lie down and tucked in the corners of her blanket. "Sleep."

Not taking into account his not-so-gentle face and icy tone, he behaved just like the perfect husband, treating her even better than before.

Su Ziyue, who was served by him like a child, pulled up the blanket and tried to cover her face with it as soon as she lay down.

She thought this whole situation was embarrassing no matter how she looked at it.

Qin Muchen made her lay on her side. Noticing that she did not close her eyes, he asked stiffly, "Does your wound hurt?"

Although she could not gauge much of his emotions from his voice, she could still detect a slight trace of worry and anxiety after listening to him more attentively.

"I'm okay..." As soon as he mentioned her wound, she immediately felt pain radiating from her back. Yet, it was bearable probably because of the effects of the drugs.

"Go on and sleep then." Qin Muchen caressed her head and watched her to make sure she went to sleep.

Su Ziyue had no choice but to close her eyes obediently. Everything which had transpired so far felt so surreal as though she was in a dream. She had gotten injured then patched things up with Qin Muchen all of a sudden.

Yet, had she really just made peace with him just like that?

She closed her eyes and dozed off again.

Standing by the bed, Qin Muchen fished out his phone to give Nan Chuan a call after he was sure she had fallen asleep. "Come to the hospital now."

...

Su Ziyue was staying in a VIP ward which was a spacious room which included a living room.

When Nan Chuan entered the ward and saw that the living room was empty, he went deeper inside and found Qin Muchen still staying beside the bed.

He approached him and called, "Mr. Qin..."

Qin Muchen turned around and shot him a look with his poker-face, signaling for him to keep quiet.

Nan Chuan had no choice but to oblige. In fact, his voice was not that loud at all.

Qin Muchen threw one last concerned glance at Su Ziyue before heading out with Nan Chuan.

"Who hired them?" He made his way to the living room and bent his tall and slender body to sit down on the sofa. Sitting cross-legged, his face looked somber.

"It was Mu Ninghui and Su Yige," Nan Chuan reported the results of his investigation to his boss.

Qin Muchen fell into a lengthy silence after he heard Nan Chuan. With his eyes narrowed, no one knew what he was thinking because his expression was complicated and indecipherable.

Nan Chuan, who was standing next to him, held his head slightly low because he dreaded seeing his boss in this state the most.

He understood that his boss was furious because Su Ziyue was injured, but he was unsure how his boss was going to deal with the two culprits.

As Qin Muchen had not responded after a long while, he asked tentatively, "How do you think we should deal with them?"

Qin Muchen merely lifted his hand, an indication for him to be quiet and patient.

"You stay here. I'll go and handle it myself." With that, Qin Muchen stood up and smoothed out the creases on his suit jacket.

It was after midnight, and it had been around six to seven hours since Su Ziyue woke up from the surgery. As he had been staying at the hospital all that while, his clothes no longer looked neat and tidy.

But, he couldn't care less about his attire.

"Mr. Qin." Nan Chuan was slightly taken aback to learn that Qin Muchen was going to handle the matter himself.

Qin Muchen fixed him an intent gaze and ordered, "Get a maid to take care of her and to stop her from flipping and hurting her wound. You have to stay here too, and you're not allowed to leave until I come back."

"Okay..."

...

With his men, Qin Muchen headed straight to the Mu Residence.

It was three in the morning. Some of the street lamps in the courtyard and some lights inside the mansion were still on.

One of his men then pressed the doorbell, which was then answered by a maid who was on night duty. "May I know who you are looking for?"

After working at Mu Residence for years, the maid knew that the Mu Family enjoyed a very respectable social status in Yunzhou City. Because the family used to have visitors who came in the middle of the

night, the maid never expected that Qin Muchen and his guys were here to look for trouble.

Without thinking too much, she opened the door for them.

“Sir and Madam have gone to sleep. The Young Master is also...”

Just as the maid was trying to explain something to them after she opened the door, one of Qin Muchen’s men shoved her away and snapped, “It’s none of your business.”

Then, they charged toward the living room, causing a stir which woke the butler up.

As soon as the butler saw Qin Muchen and his men walking over in a menacing manner, he soon realized that they didn’t come with good intentions.

“Sir, what are you doing?”

Qin Muchen approached the butler and demanded with a blank look on his face, “Get Mu Ninghui here.”

“Sir, the Young Master went to sleep very early today. If you have anything to discuss with him, you can do it tomorrow...”

Qin Muchen only responded to him with a sneer before directly making his way upstairs.

The butler yelled at him from behind, “Sir, you’re trespassing, and you should know that the Mu Family is not somebody you can afford to offend.”

Qin Muchen turned around to cast an icy glance at the butler, who took two steps back without him realizing before he was seized by Qin Muchen’s men.

“I’ve never given a damn about the Mu Family.” Penetrating coldness emerged in Qin Muchen’s eyes.

In fact, he had never taken the Mu nor the Su Family seriously at all. He had been cautious all this while just because he was in the middle of getting to the bottom of things, and he did not want his intentions to be exposed.

Yet, the gravest mistake they had made was hurting Su Ziyue.

Although he had been furious at the time when Mu Ninghui nearly raped Su Ziyue, he had merely crippled one of his legs as his punishment.

The main reason was because at that time, Su Ziyue was not as important to him compared to now. Therefore, he deemed that punishment sufficient to assuage his anger.

But this time, he even had the urge to kill him.



After heading upstairs, Qin Muchen's men started searching the rooms one by one and finally located Mu Ninghui in one of them.

Mu Ninghui, who woke up with a start when they kicked open the door, sat bolt upright in his bed. Still fuzzy-minded, he mumbled, "Who the hell are you guys..."

The next instant, Qin Muchen walked over to haul him out of bed and threw him on the floor before stepping on his face.

Sneering, he asked, "Young Master Mu, can't you recognize me anymore?"

Shock flickered on Mu Ninghui's face when he saw Qin Muchen's face. "It's you!"

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"Ha!" With a sneer, Qin Muchen squatted down and gripped Mu Ninghui by the collar of his pajama top. "I'm surprised you still can recognize me with one glance although it's been a long time since we last met!"

Qin Muchen was here!

Not only had he been hauled out of bed while he was asleep in the middle of the night, the person who did that was Qin Muchen, the culprit who had crippled one of his legs!

"Why are you here?! Where are my bodyguards? Where's the butler?" Mu Ninghui struggled hard, trying to get to his feet.

Yet, Qin Muchen's hold on his collar was like a vice.

Frustrated and anxious as he failed to free himself from Qin Muchen, it was only when he turned around and spotted Qin Muchen's men did he start to panic.

Qin Muchen remained unstirred no matter how hard Mu Ninghui tried to scream for help.

Out of nowhere, a dagger materialized in his hand which he then pressed against Mu Ninghui's chest. With his head slightly tilted to one side, he threatened with a sinister face, "Do you think I'm brave enough to kill you?"

His chest suddenly tightened when the image of Su Ziyue moaning in pain in his arms flashed across his mind, and he gripped the dagger tighter.

He felt a driving urge to kill Mu Ninghui.

But, he was not sure whether Su Ziyue would detest him after knowing that he had murdered someone.

After all, the life Su Ziyue had been living was way simpler than his.

As someone who survived in a world which only valued gains and profits, he had dealt with both the police and gangsters before. Therefore, he did not attach much importance to a human life.

“Argh! S-Stop what you’re doing right now! You can’t afford to offend my family...”

Mu Ninghui, who felt a mild pain at his chest, was so frightened that he started screaming, a layer of sweat forming on his forehead.

At that moment, the things Su Yige had told him before replayed quickly in his mind. According to her, Qin Muchen was just a poor lad working as a vice president in a small company with no backer.

Although Qin Muchen and his men looked very intimidating now, he kept trying to use that excuse to make himself feel better.

“P-Please calm down. I’ll try my best to fulfill all your requests, and I won’t call the police. If... you’re after money, I can give it to you because my family has plenty of money...”

Feeling his confidence crumbling bit by bit because of Qin Muchen’s domineering aura, Mu Ninghui did not dare to continue talking.

Qin Muchen responded to him with an icy snort. “Your family has plenty of money?”

“Yes, that’s right. My family has tons of money. How much do you want? I can write a check for you right now!” As the only son of his parents, Mu Ninghui had grown up under the indulgence of his family. Although he was an idle man who had accomplished nothing, he was much loved by his family and was allowed to spend lavishly.

That was the reason why he had gone astray.

The Mu Family had risen to become an important and prestigious family in Yunzhou City due to the abundant talents the family boasted.

“In that case, I’d love to see how much time I’d need to make your family bankrupt.”

“What do you think?” he asked Mu Ninghui after making that statement.

Finally, Mu Ninghui was seized by a spasm of fear because he realized that Qin Muchen was going to walk his talk judging from the confidence in his eyes.

Although he sounded presumptuous, Mu Ninghui was somehow convinced by it, and he believed that Qin Muchen meant what he said and would be able to execute his threat by making his family bankrupt.

Yet, as someone who had never met any obstacles in his life, it ticked him off to suffer two major setbacks because of Qin Muchen.

With his neck stiffened, he refused to say anything.

After a moment of silence, Qin Muchen, who had at first planned to cripple his other leg, changed his mind.

Since Su Ziyue was injured, he wanted Mu Ninghui to suffer something even worse than her injury by a thousand times. Yet, it would only be a matter of time before he would recover from any injury, and it would not be sufficient to just cripple him.

Qin Muchen then looked at one of his men and demanded, "Get me the gun."

He took the gun from the man who obediently fished it out for him and said, "Bring the butler here."

Soon, the butler was brought into Mu Ninghui's room.

"Have you called the police?" Qin Muchen's airy tone turned the butler's legs into jelly. "I-I haven't..." he answered.

"Are you sure? But I can already hear police sirens." Qin Muchen aimed the gun at the butler, who immediately slumped to the ground with a thud.

Appearing unruffled, Qin Muchen said, "Well done."

Then, he stuffed the gun into Mu Ninghui's hands and pointed at the butler. "Shoot him now or I'll shoot you. Make your own choice." While Qin Muchen was talking to him, he brandished the gun at the same time. Mu Ninghui was terror-stricken as soon as he spotted the gun.

Without thinking, he followed Qin Muchen's instructions and snatched the gun from him. "I'll shoot him!"

He fired a shot at the butler as soon as he seized the gun from Qin Muchen as if he was worried that Qin Muchen might go back on his word.

Following a bang, blood flowed out from the butler's arm.

The next instant, the police siren could be heard blaring from the courtyard of the mansion. The police barged into the mansion less than one minute later and arrested Mu Ninghui red-handed.

...

Mu Ninghui was brought away by the police right away. Mr. and Mrs. Mu, who had been detained by Qin Muchen's men in their mansion, had no idea what had taken place when they saw their son being taken away by the police.

"Who on earth are you guys?!" Mrs. Mu leaned against the doorframe and yelled at Qin Muchen.

Qin Muchen stopped in his tracks and turned around to give Mrs. Mu a glance with his pensive eyes before he left.

When he got back to the car, his subordinate who was in charge of driving turned around and asked him with some confusion, "Mr. Qin, is that all you're going to do to him?"

They had assumed that they were here for a fight, so they were all itching for some action, but to their surprise, they were just there to watch Mu Ninghui fire a shot at his butler.

Qin Muchen glanced at him with an impassive look. "We live in a society governed by law and order. How can we hit somebody at our whims and fancies?"

His subordinate, who was left speechless, turned around and started reminiscing the old days when Qin Muchen preferred to solve problems with violence.

Soon, he heard Qin Muchen make another comment, "Things are different now compared to the past. Don't settle everything with violence. Besides, not everyone is worth the effort."

After Mu Ninghui, a rich young master who had spent most of his life doing nothing, was sent to prison, he just needed to pull some strings to make sure Mu Ninghui got the treatment he deserved from the people inside.

On top of that, he was bound to be sentenced to prison for around seven to eight years for committing assault with a firearm. Only God knew whether he would still be alive by the time his term ended.

Even though Mu Ninghui was backed up by his family...

As what he had told Mu Ninghui before, he would carry out the interesting experiment to see how much time he needed to bankrupt his family.

It had been a long time since he last personally took action, and he was forced to do so by them.

...

By the time he returned to the hospital, Su Ziyue was still asleep.

Nan Chuan did not dare to leave because of his orders.

“Mr. Qin.” When Nan Chuan spoke, he deliberately edged closer to his boss, but he did not detect any smell of blood.

Did he not do anything?

Of course, Qin Muchen couldn't care less about what was on Nan Chuan's mind because his eyes were glued on the bed.

Seeing that Su Ziyue was not sleeping too soundly, he patted her back and said to Nan Chuan, “You may go.”

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“Why don't I stay for a while longer? Boss, you should take a nap since you've been awake for the entire night.” It was four in the morning, and the sun had already risen.

Nan Chuan had suggested that out of kindness because he was worried about Qin Muchen's health. In the end, all he got was an unusually frigid stare from Qin Muchen, who asked him with a faint voice, “Do I need you to take care of my wife?”

Nan Chuan chuckled in his mind. Of course not, he thought. Yet, he only dared to make such a comment in his mind.

Still looking all smiles, he asked again, “Boss, do you need anything else? I can bring it here for you.”

“Bring my laptop here.”

“Okay.”

...

Su Ziyue had a fitful sleep the entire night. Every time she wanted to flip to the other side, she would be stopped by an unknown force. She woke up at the crack of dawn, and as soon as she moved, Qin Muchen, who was lying next to her, said, “Don't move.”

Her heart shook the moment she heard his voice. Over the past ten or so days, she had never heard his voice when she woke up in the morning. Now that things had returned to how it used to be before they had their argument, she felt like she was in a dream.

“Let me help you sit up.” Qin Muchen's voice came once again, interrupting her train of thought.

Before he offered to help her, he seemed to have first placed something on the bedside table. After helping her sit upright, he made her lie on her side again. Su Ziyue twisted her head and saw that he had placed a laptop on the bedside table. Qin Muchen then turned to fiddle with his laptop before turning back to check on her.

Although she felt lethargic after her sleep, she still had quite a good rest. Color had started returning to her face, which had been pale the previous day, but she still looked a far cry from how she usually looked. But her progress was satisfactory enough.

Qin Muchen tilted his head and headed straight for her face to kiss her. Su Ziyue, who forgot to dodge it, spotted the black circles beneath his eyes as soon as she looked up; she also noticed the weariness on his face which he failed to conceal. Qin Muchen moved away from her after she gave him a soft push.

“Did you stay awake for the entire night yesterday?” Su Ziyue asked him.

“I was busy with work,” he seemed to be unwilling to elaborate and only replied to her in an apathetic tone before getting out of the bed. After that, he took his laptop and busied himself with it for a while before he helped Su Ziyue brush her teeth and wash her face. He did it in the same way as the previous night.

Su Ziyue still felt slightly awkward during the process. Then, the doctor visited her and left after telling her the condition of her body and prescribing some medicine for her.

...

An Xia came to the hospital to visit her in the afternoon. “This year is indeed one full of disasters and suffering for you,” she commented. She frowned at the sight of Su Ziyue who was lying sideways on the bed, unable to move.

Last time, she was poisoned by Su Yige, and now, she got stabbed by a gangster. Luckily, she survived both times. She had been informed of the fact that Su Ziyue was all right by Nan Chuan, whom she had asked when she was outside just now.

Su Ziyue flashed her a faint smile. “It’s okay. Good fortune will follow after disasters.”

“I can’t believe you still have the mood to smile!” An Xia shot her a glare before she started peeling an apple for her. While she was at it, she questioned Su Ziyue, “Why did you suddenly encounter a bunch of gangsters? Why didn’t you just give them money when they asked for it? Staying alive is more important, and besides, you’ve got plenty of money.”

Nan Chuan had not given her a detailed account just now, and he only told her that Su Ziyue had bumped into a bunch of gangsters. Indeed, those guys who had intercepted Su Ziyue and Qin Muchen were a bunch of thugs.

“Okay, I’ll give them money the next time something like this happens.” Curling the corners of her lips upward into a smile, Su Ziyue went along with what she said as warmth spread in her heart.

But her comment did not please An Xia at all. “Next time?!”

Su Ziyue quickly rectified, "There won't be a next time. I'll be safe and sound for the rest of my life."

"That's more like it." After cutting the apple into several pieces, An Xia fed some of them to Su Ziyue.

In Su Ziyue's opinion, An Xia treated her even better than her parents. Yet, the memory she had of her father was frozen at more than ten years ago because she had not seen him since then. Everytime she thought about it, her heart would fill with sorrow.

After some chit-chatting, An Xia looked like something had just struck her all of a sudden when she said, "Mu Ninghui was arrested for assault. Do you know about it?"

Astonishment flickered on Su Ziyue's face. "Was he? Who did he assault?"

"Apparently he hurt the butler who works for his family. I wonder why the butler called the police and why his parents, who treat him like the apple of their eyes, let him get arrested without doing anything to help. Don't you think it's strange?"

Mu Ninghui had a bad reputation in Yunzhou City, and almost everyone who lived in the city knew how much Mu Ninghui's parents indulged him. The countless bad deeds and mischiefs Mu Ninghui had done in the past were all covered up by his family in the end. Surprisingly, Mu Ninghui was actually arrested for hurting his family's butler this time, and the news had become widespread.

For a prominent family like the Mu Family, assaulting a butler was not a big deal at all. It was something which could be easily covered up, or they could offer the butler some money and send him away. But the strange thing was, the butler did not choose to settle it in private. Pulling her mind back to reality, Su Ziyue agreed with An Xia. "It is rather weird."

"What's more, the share price of Mu Group fell sharply, and it's still falling right now. From what I've heard, many companies have already canceled their partnerships with them. In my opinion, they must have offended someone to suffer like this..." An Xia stared at Su Ziyue with her eyes widened as if she was trying to get some clues from her.

Although Su Ziyue was injured, she was still nosy and curious about the matter. After giving it some thought, she asked An Xia, "Who do you think is capable of sabotaging them in Yunzhou City?"

An Xia fell silent and mulled it over for a while before answering, "In my opinion, there are two possible scenarios. The first one is that the Su Family and the Gong Family have joined forces, but this isn't likely because after all, they have to maintain a harmonious relationship between the families. As for the second scenario..."

Su Ziyue, who did not enjoy suspense, urged, "Spill it."

"Of course it's Mr. Qin!" An Xia stared at Su Ziyue unflinchingly. "Other than Mr. Qin, who else do you

think has such power?"

Qin Muchen? It was not totally impossible, but what could be his motive for doing so?

At that juncture, Qin Muchen happened to open the door and walk inside. He had changed into a fresh set of clothes. Still dressed in full-black, he gave off a tranquil yet mysterious aura. Although people wearing such dark colors would usually go unnoticed, it did not stop him from attracting attention.

"You girls have chatted for two hours already. It's time to take a break." He walked over and served Su Ziyue a glass of water.

An Xia covered her eyes in a melodramatic way as she exclaimed, "Can you guys be more considerate? It's not right to bully me like that!"

Qin Muchen glanced at An Xia. "Are we bullying you?"

An Xia shrunk her neck and explained in a hushed tone, "You guys are bullying me by behaving all lovey-dovey in front of a single person like me."

Qin Muchen seemed to understand her as he nodded at her. Then, he stared at her with his eyes brimming with disdain. "This is nothing. I've even helped her brush her teeth."

Stunned, An Xia could sense his intention to show off from his tone. Su Ziyue averted her head in embarrassment. "What nonsense are you talking about..." Can he not share stuff like that to others? It was outright embarrassing.

"It's the truth." Qin Muchen turned around to place the glass down on the table, looking unflustered.

Su Ziyue was speechless.

## CHAPTER 205

Su Ziyue had spent the subsequent week staying in the hospital, where she was personally served by Qin Muchen like an empress.

In the beginning, An Xia was surprised by his meticulous care, but she slowly got used to it after some time. Every now and then, she would remind Su Ziyue that Qin Muchen must be doing it out of pure love.

Su Ziyue could not say for sure whether it was true love or not, but she could obviously feel that Qin Muchen had been treating her more nicely than before.

Over the week, they had gotten along well with each other, and none of them brought up their previous argument.



Several times, Su Ziyue had tried to ask him about the attack, but he did not reveal anything to her.

The doctor officially confirmed that she could be discharged from the hospital, seeing how well she had recovered from her injury.

She couldn't help but feel overjoyed in response to that announcement.

She was able to recover fast because An Xia had frequented the hospital to take care of her over the past week. On the day she was going home, she did not ask An Xia to come because she was feeling alright other than some mild pain.

She lied on her front on the bed so that the doctor could remove her stitches. After seeing the doctor holding a forceps and a blade in his hands, she quickly turned back around and kept her eyes tightly shut as she bit into one of her hands.

From what she had heard, suture removal could be painful.

Qin Muchen, who was standing next to her, frowned as soon as he noticed her reaction. With a look of displeasure, he turned to face the doctor. "Please be gentler."

The doctor nodded, thinking that he hadn't even started yet.

Seeing that Su Ziyue was still keeping her eyes closed, Qin Muchen stepped forward to caress her head and hold one of her hands. He stared at her wound before giving the doctor another glance.

Under Qin Muchen's watchful eyes, the doctor started his task with great trepidation.

Su Ziyue could feel something being extracted from the skin of her back; it was a novel yet slightly scary sensation which only came with a little pain. Nervously, she held Qin Muchen's hands.

Qin Muchen, who misinterpreted her reaction and thought she was in pain, roared at the doctor, "Didn't you hear me just now when I told you to be gentler?!"

The doctor's hands trembled because of Qin Muchen's angry outburst. He turned to face him, but it only triggered him to howl at him again, "Why're you looking at me?! Do it faster!"

The doctor was speechless.

Su Ziyue cast a confused glance at Qin Muchen, thinking that he was in a particularly bad mood today.

Why did he yell at the doctor when he did nothing wrong...

Fortunately, the process was completed in a short time. While the doctor was giving her some instructions, she suddenly thought of a question which she then voiced out, "Will my wound leave a

scar?"

Out of instinct, the doctor glanced at Qin Muchen first as he contemplated how he should phrase his answer. "Judging from the condition of the wound, it's very unlikely that the wound won't leave a scar..."

So, did he mean that the wound would leave a scar?

Although she had already expected it, she couldn't help but feel disappointed to hear it from an expert.

"I've got it. Doctor, thank you so much." Su Ziyue smiled at the doctor without saying anything further.

No one could reject the smile of a beautiful girl.

Su Ziyue's smile left a good impression on the doctor immediately. After telling her some things that she needed to take note of after she returned home, the doctor left the ward at a brisk pace under Qin Muchen's menacing stare.

"Do you have bad blood with that doctor? Why did you yell at him for no reason at all and pull long faces at him?" Su Ziyue voiced her displeasure with Qin Muchen's attitude.

In fact, she already had the urge to ask him about it just now, but she had decided not to because the doctor was there, thinking that men tended to be very sensitive with their ego and pride.

Without answering her question, Qin Muchen only removed her patient uniform and helped her get up. "Did it hurt?" he asked.

"I didn't feel much pain. I just thought it would be very painful."

She couldn't resist the urge to touch her back, but her hand was smacked away by Qin Muchen. "Don't touch it. Let's head home."

With that, he helped her to her feet and led her out of the ward.

As one who was born with long limbs, he deliberately walked slower to match her pace.

Deep down inside, Su Ziyue felt slightly annoyed because he brushed her off just like that instead of answering her question earlier.

...

Nan Chuan was already waiting for them at the main entrance of the hospital.

When she neared the entrance, she spotted An Xia there too.

Holding a bouquet of flowers, An Xia approached her and said, "Ziyue, congratulations on your recovery."

"Thanks." Just as Su Ziyue was ready to take the flowers from her with a smile, she was intercepted by Qin Muchen halfway.

As his phone rang shortly after that, he turned around and stepped away to take the call.

It was only on that day did An Xia realize that the reason Su Ziyue was injured was more than because of a mere robbery by thugs.

After Qin Muchen turned around, his back facing them, An Xia inched closer to Su Ziyue and whispered, "Why did you do something so silly? As a skilful and agile person, of course Qin Muchen could have avoided the stab."

Nan Chuan had also recounted how Qin Muchen had single-handedly knocked out over ten gangsters to An Xia. Although An Xia was slightly taken aback by it, she deemed it reasonable because he was the great Mr. Qin after all, who was not an ordinary man to begin with.

In her opinion, Qin Muchen would have been fine even if Su Ziyue did not block the knife for him.

Looking impassive, Su Ziyue said with resignation, "I didn't think too much at that time."

As soon as her voice trailed off, she looked up as though she could sense Qin Muchen's presence and saw that he had come to her side.

She was unsure whether he overheard An Xia's comment just now or not, and if he did, would he think that she had deliberately blocked the knife for him for some ulterior motive?

Nonetheless, Qin Muchen did not give her time to entertain the wild thoughts in her mind because he straightaway opened the door of the car and asked her to get inside.

...

Throughout the week Su Ziyue had been hospitalized, Qin Muchen did not touch his laptop again or attend to work other than that first day.

Therefore, Su Ziyue urged him to go ahead and handle his work once they reached home.

And Qin Muchen went to the study without arguing.

It was after he had gone to the study did she stealthily go to search for her phone.

In this digital age of communication, she was amazed that she actually survived a whole week without her phone!

The battery of her phone had long gone flat. After connecting it to a charger, she immediately surfed the internet.

In no time, she came across news regarding Su Yige and Gong Zeyang's imminent wedding ceremony and articles talking about the huge crisis Mu Group was finding themselves in.

She was left in a state of confusion after reading the news articles.

Su Yige and Gong Zeyang had just announced their decision to call off their engagement to the public not too long ago, but now, they were going to hold a wedding ceremony soon. Were they trying to invite the public to give them a slap in their faces?

She read on and saw a news article that was posted during the middle of last night which explained the reason behind Gong Zeyang's decision to call off the engagement: a big shot, whom Gong Zeyang had somehow offended, decided to seek revenge on Su Yige by framing her as a drug addict. As Gong Zeyang found it unacceptable, he had decided to call off their engagement...

What a mess was that?

She had merely been hospitalized for a week, but she felt as though the whole world had changed so much that she found it difficult to keep up.

So, Gong Zeyang had found Su Yige's involvement in drugs disgusting, but now they were going to hold a wedding ceremony? What was the logic behind that?

After reading for some time, she still could not figure it out.

Suddenly, she thought of Qin Muchen, but she did not dare to bother him with something related to Gong Zeyang.

At the same time, she thought it was probably okay for her to ask him about the matter this time.

When she went to the study to look for him, she had no idea what he was doing as he was focusing on his laptop.

Before she could speak, he had already looked up at her. "Do you need help?"

## CHAPTER 206

Su Ziyue nodded at him and strode in his direction.

She walked very slowly with extra care because she had to avoid doing vigorous exercise for now,

although the wound at her back had recovered well.

After staring at her for two seconds, Qin Muchen closed his laptop before he walked over to her and helped her take a seat.

“Thanks,” Su Ziyue said after sitting down.

Qin Muchen’s face fell in an instant when he heard her, his brooding eyes glued on her unflinchingly.

Su Ziyue looked away calmly, pretending that she did not notice his gaze.

Cutting to the chase, she asked, “Were you the one behind what happened to the Mu Family?”

Still very bothered by how she expressed her gratitude to him just now, Qin Muchen snorted icily.

Finally, he decided to speak. “They’re not that innocent to begin with, so they’re bound to face trouble sooner or later.”

Su Ziyue nodded in agreement with what he said. Since he did not deny her allegation, she assumed he admitted it to it.

She posed him another question, “Was Mu Ninghui the culprit behind the gangsters’ attack this time?”

“He won’t appear in front of you anymore in the future. So...” He paused for a moment and only continued when Su Ziyue finally turned to face him, “You’ll be spared from dealing with him.”

“Okay.” Su Ziyue nodded her head, looking somewhat pleased as though she too agreed with what he said.

Then, she did not say anything more, and neither did Qin Muchen. The atmosphere in the study soon became awkward.

Because of the attack, they seemed to have reconciled, but the existing problem in their relationship had in fact yet to be solved.

Qin Muchen might not be bothered by it, but she could not pretend those problems did not exist.

And her mindset had changed compared to before.

In the end, it was Qin Muchen who broke the silence. “What would you like to have for lunch?”

“I’m fine with anything because after all, you’re a great cook.” Su Ziyue flashed him a faint grin, and she did not hold back her compliments on his cooking skills.

Yet, Qin Muchen did not look particularly happy as he was still frowning slightly, his lips still pursed into a thin line.

Sensing his anger, Su Ziyue only looked away from him indifferently.

His weak voice came a moment later, "Su Ziyue, stop messing with me."

Yet, what he said immediately triggered Su Ziyue's emotions.

Distress and frustration, which had been bottled up inside her for the past few days, erupted at once.

However, she still tried her best to keep herself calm. "Qin Muchen, who's messing with who? Yes, I'm younger than you and I'm not mature enough. But, no matter how immature I am, I understand that having kids is a decision that involves two parties. No matter how we're going to decide, we need to at least sit down and talk it out first. But what have you done so far? You..."

Ever since he broached the subject of having kids until now, she had tried to initiate a discussion with him over the matter, but each time, she was directly rejected by him.

He was outrageous, tyrannical and rude.

Qin Muchen's expression changed slightly, but he quickly kept his emotions from surfacing on his face.

Then, he said impassively, "You must have come across the news about Gong Zeyang and Su Yige having their wedding ceremony next week." His firm tone seemed to be implying something.

Something dawned on Su Ziyue, making her look up at him suddenly. "What do you mean?"

She thought about the day he had talked about having kids with her, which also happened to be the time when the news of Gong Zeyang's decision to call off his engagement with Su Yige was leaked.

In response to her confrontation, Qin Muchen only glanced at her briefly before looking away and keeping mum.

He had always behaved in this way. He would keep his mouth shut when he did not feel like speaking, and he was always uncompromising, leaving no room for negotiation.

"Don't assume that I don't know what you're thinking just because you're not talking. You don't believe me, don't you? You thought that right after Gong Zeyang and Su Yige called off their engagement, I would..."

What she said seemed to have finally triggered Qin Muchen into interrupting her, "Of course I'm thinking that way. Otherwise, what else could be the reason you're unwilling to have kids?"

“Is having kids so important? We’re bringing a new life into this world. Shouldn’t we give this some serious thought first? We...”

She paused for a moment before sneering. “So, my guess is actually right, isn’t it? Not only did you jump to your own conclusions, you were so convinced by it that you rather hurt me and ignore me. Even when I was being beaten up, you didn’t offer me any help. Qin Muchen, do you really love me?”

Qin Muchen, do you really love me?

She finally blurted the question which had been bothering her for quite some time.

For a second, she panicked right after voicing that question in the spur of the moment.

She was worried that she might not get her desired answer from him.

Yet, what was the answer she expected to hear from him?

Needless to say, she wanted him to answer her question in the affirmative.

Regardless of what motive he had had when he first came into her life, she had already fallen in love with him now.

In the beginning, she had been able to stop herself from opening up to him by reminding herself of that fact.

But, she no longer cared about it after some time because it did not seem that important anymore as long as they were together.

Even up until their relationship turned sour because of the issue of having kids, she had never thought of leaving him or getting a divorce, no matter how bad he treated her.

As it turned out, she realized this was exactly how one would behave when one had fallen head over heels for someone. It was difficult to calm down and control oneself, and one would not give up even after getting hurt.

At that moment, Qin Muchen did not feel any better than Su Ziyue.

He might still appear composed and calm on the outside, but his heart was in fact in a turmoil.

One of the inherent weaknesses of humans was selfishness.

The moment you realized that you had fallen in love with another, you would expect your love to be rightfully returned.

In fact, Qin Muchen could have made a compromise on the issue of having babies. Yet, just because of Gong Zeyang's attempt to sabotage their relationship, and also due to his past relationship with Su Ziyue, he went out of his mind. He insisted on judging Su Ziyue's love for him on the basis of her willingness to have kids with him.

When she asked him whether he really loved her, he almost answered her right away positively, but in the end, he decided to swallow his words back.

None of them were willing to give in, and his heart raced when he noticed that Su Ziyue looked like she was ready to risk it all.

It was as though they were in a contest, and whoever spoke first would be deemed as the loser and would be deprived of everything, including their dignity and ego.

Therefore, Qin Muchen chose to stay quiet.

Su Ziyue felt her heart sink deeper and deeper the longer she waited for his answer.

Prior to this, his reticence could bring calm and peace to her, but at that moment, she detested it.

There should be a definite answer to her question.

Even an answer in the negative was fine because at least, that would give her a better understanding of the situation.

His silence made her feel like a clown and a laughing stock.

He did not even care to answer her.

After a lengthy wait, Su Ziyue lost her patience. She got to her feet with a frosty look and said icily, "I've got it."

With that, she straightened herself and strode toward the door.

Due to her large and quick strides, she felt a mild pain from the wound at her back, but it was nothing compared to the pain in her heart.

As soon as she pulled open the door, she saw Gu Hanyan standing outside.

## CHAPTER 207

No one knew how long Gu Hanyan had been standing there, or how much she had heard.

Su Ziyue didn't expect Gu Hanyan to appear here either, so the stupefaction on her face was completely exposed. Meanwhile, Gu Hanyan had the same expression as her, seemingly not expecting that she



would open the door at that moment as well.

Very soon, Su Ziyue came back to her senses and asked indifferently, "Why are you here?"

Before Gu Hanyan could speak, she heard Bai Jingshu's voice from downstairs. "Hanyan, are they in the study?"

The next second, a vibrant smile bloomed on Gu Hanyan's face while she replied in a caring voice, "I came with Jingshu to celebrate your discharge from the hospital."

Poker faced, Su Ziyue pushed her aside and walked down the stairs.

She would never believe what Gu Hanyan said. Not even a punctuation mark.

Once she got downstairs, she bumped into Bai Jingshu.

Bai Jingshu looked her up and down and found nothing strange, so he just asked, "How are you feeling?"

He sounded caring, so Su Ziyue nodded. "I'm alright. The doctor said that I'm recovering well."

With that, she went to the kitchen to pour herself a glass of water.

However, Bai Jingshu followed her into the kitchen.

So Su Ziyue poured him a glass of water as well. Bai Jingshu quickly accepted it with both hands and looked at her with a smile. Needless to say, he looked extremely ingratiating.

Su Ziyue glanced at him before asking, "What's up?"

As soon as she finished her sentence, she was stunned. She felt that her tone at that moment was similar to Qin Muchen's tone when he talked to her just now after she sought him out upstairs.

Was it because they had been together for a long time?

Therefore, their habits, behavior and tone of voice became inexplicably similar.

Slightly distracted, Su Ziyue absent-mindedly took a sip of the water. Then, she looked at Bai Jingshu, who looked uneasy.

Gently leaning back, Bai Jingshu casually said, "Why are you the same as Muchen? Both of you sound so cold when you speak."

Although Su Ziyue knew that he was only saying that to conceal his uneasiness, she still couldn't help but pull a long face. "Keep it to yourself then if you don't want to say it."

Noticing that Su Ziyue was really leaving, Bai Jingshu quickly said, "Wait, I'll say it now. Why don't you call An Xia over here too? Isn't she your best friend? You got discharged from the hospital today, so we should celebrate."

"So you brought Gu Hanyan over to celebrate with me?" Even a fool would know that Gu Hanyan would never sincerely celebrate anything for her.

Bai Jingshu had known Gu Hanyan for a long time, so he knew very well about her feelings for Qin Muchen.

In the past, he had even tried to bring Gu Hanyan and Qin Muchen together, but ever since he saw how Qin Muchen poured his mind and soul for Su Ziyue, that thought vanished.

Although he was a playful wealthy dandy, he wasn't someone who idled around and only had stupidity in his brain like Mu Ninghui.

He knew that Gu Hanyan would never sincerely celebrate Su Ziyue's discharge from the hospital, and he also knew that women loved to play such harmless tricks. Therefore, he didn't reject her suggestion.

Besides, he had other motives.

Since he drove An Xia home, she hadn't talked to him even until now.

After a dry cough, he said, "We're friends after all..."

Su Ziyue sneered. "She's your friend, not mine."

Bai Jingshu sniffed awkwardly. Although Su Ziyue was sometimes brutally straightforward, he actually admired this kind of personality. Most importantly, she was An Xia's best friend.

"An Xia is your best friend though. Aren't you calling her over?"

"Since she's my best friend, when did you get to decide whether I'm calling her over or not, Mr. Bai?"

Narrowing her eyes, Su Ziyue's eyes became sharp. Besides, her face was still pale because her wound hadn't healed, so she looked terrifying when she said that with that expression.

Bai Jingshu inwardly shuddered.

Before he could say anything, Su Ziyue suddenly said sternly, "Bai Jingshu, although you only own a small company, I know you came from an extraordinary family. However, I don't know how sincere you are to An Xia. She was born in a normal family. Even if she won't have wealth or a prosperous life in the future, she'll at least live a simpler yet happier life than both of us, so don't mess with her."

Su Ziyue suddenly said that long speech, causing Bai Jingshu to be stunned. She didn't know if he was actually listening to what she said either.

After a moment of silence, Bai Jingshu asked, "How do you know that I'm insincere?"

"Even if you are totally sincere, will your family accept An Xia? You know better than me. People from prestigious families like you will never have full control over their own marriages. Even if you're able to convince your family, how long will that process take? Besides, can you guarantee that An Xia won't get hurt in that process? Bai Jingshu, stop while it's early."

Su Ziyue initially didn't intend to meddle in Bai Jingshu and An Xia's business. They were adults, and they had their own opinions, so they knew what was important.

However, Bai Jingshu's actions today made her think that he was serious about An Xia.

For a handsome wealthy dandy, who had both looks and intelligence, it was as easy as a pie for him to make a young girl in her 20s fall for him if he put his heart into it.

Su Ziyue felt that if she hadn't been born in the Su family, or if she hadn't met Qin Muchen first, she might have fallen for Bai Jingshu if he sincerely pursued her.

Of course, she hoped that An Xia would be happy, but An Xia was just too important to her.

Just like how parents cared for their child. Even though they knew that their child had to walk their own path, they still wished to teach their child all their life experiences and skills, hoping that they could stay on the right track and walk a smoother path.

Bai Jingshu slowly became glum.

His initially determined face seemed to have been snowed on, slowly freezing until his face became stiff.

Su Ziyue opened her mouth and could only sigh at last while saying gloomily, "It'll be alright after some time."

Bai Jingshu raised his head, showing great unwillingness while speaking stubbornly like a child, "What about you and Muchen?"

Why couldn't he be with An Xia when Su Ziyue and Qin Muchen could be together?

Su Ziyue was stunned for a second before she burst out laughing. However, her laugh was full of sarcasm. "That's all there is to it with me and him."

She recalled her unanswered question back at the study and Qin Muchen's long silence, and her heart

froze.

She walked to the hall and looked in the direction of the study upstairs, only to find that the door of the study was closed. Yet, Qin Muchen and Gu Hanyan weren't in the hall.

Although she knew that Qin Muchen didn't have any romantic feelings toward Gu Hanyan, she still felt uneasy.

## CHAPTER 208

If it was in the past, she would've gone to the study and interrupted them.

But after going through all those incidents, she could no longer find that confidence.

She only dared to act as she pleased in front of Qin Muchen because she thought she had a place in his heart.

Just because she thought that he loved her, she had the confidence to act without scruples.

But now, she could no longer do that.

After sitting on the sofa and staring off into space for a while, Bai Jingshu came out from the kitchen as well and sat beside her with a poker face.

Su Ziyue's expression wasn't any different from Bai Jingshu's.

She turned to look at Bai Jingshu and noticed that he was sitting there with his head drooped. His initially firm and upright body seemed to be squashed by something, as if his strength had been completely drained.

Staring at him for a while, Su Ziyue asked, "Are you going to cry?"

Bai Jingshu raised his head to glare at her before swatting her hand away. Then, he leaned back and crossed his hands under his head while replying flatly, "I'm fine."

Actually, he truly felt fine. He just felt dispirited when he recalled what Su Ziyue had said just now.

Su Ziyue blinked and put back the tissues.

Why did she feel that Bai Jingshu didn't look fine but pitiful instead?

That made her wonder if her words had been too harsh just now.

After pondering, she decided to just let him be.

Every woman thought that a playful wealthy dandy would settle down for them, but this possibility was even slimmer than winning a 5 million lottery.

Perhaps after a few days, Bai Jingshu would lose interest in An Xia. After all, he had plenty of women beside him.

When Qin Muchen and Gu Hanyan came down, all they saw were those two in low spirits.

Su Ziyue had just been discharged from the hospital, so it was reasonable for her to be lethargic. However, it was just unusual for Bai Jingshu.

Seeing that, Gu Hanyan walked over and patted Bai Jingshu's shoulder while turning her head to look at him. "Jingshu, what happened?"

"Nothing." Bai Jingshu just shook his head without looking at her. Then, he stood up and shouted at Qin Muchen, "Muchen, I'm hungry! Quick, make me some food."

He seemed to have instantly changed back to the playboy Bai Jingshu.

Looking at Bai Jingshu's back, a trace of concern appeared in Su Ziyue's eyes.

Meanwhile, Gu Hanyan seemed awkward because Bai Jingshu didn't even give her a glance just now.

Instinctively, she thought that Su Ziyue must have said nasty things about her to Bai Jingshu, causing him to suddenly be indifferent to her.

"I've known Jingshu for more than 10 years, so we have a deep friendship. Don't even think that you can destroy our friendship by getting in between us."

Since Bai Jingshu and Qin Muchen weren't there, Gu Hanyan didn't bother to pretend and just talked without scruples.

Undeniably, Gu Hanyan had outstanding acting skills. Otherwise, people like Bai Jingshu wouldn't be friends with her, let alone be friendly with her.

"I don't know and I'm not interested in how many years you've known Bai Jingshu, or how deep your friendship is." Su Ziyue took the remote control to turn on the television and continued, "And, you're in my house now, so you better speak to me more politely. Otherwise, I can kick you out anytime!"

The three words 'kick you out' were emphasized by Su Ziyue, but her voice was low, so only Gu Hanyan and herself could hear it.

Upon hearing that, Gu Hanyan sneered. Then, she walked nearer to Su Ziyue, making them seem very close from their posture.

“I really can’t figure out what kind of tricks an unsophisticated woman like you used to dupe Muchen into marrying you. If you really want to kick me out, you can try, and we’ll see if Muchen will allow that!”

Gu Hanyan was confident in that because Qin Muchen wouldn’t let Su Ziyue act unreasonably.

Narrowing her eyes, Su Ziyue showed her a meaningful smile. “I’m indeed an unsophisticated woman. Therefore, I won’t apologize to you. However, I don’t think a woman like you, who covets someone else’s husband, is any better than me either. As for whether Qin Muchen will allow that, isn’t it obvious? Don’t you know how much he spoils me?”

“You!”

With that meaningful reminder from Su Ziyue, Gu Hanyan recalled what had happened when she previously visited Qin Muchen’s house. At once, she was at a loss for words, fuming.

Looking at how frustrated Gu Hanyan was because she couldn’t vent her anger, Su Ziyue was smug.

Even if she was disappointed in love, she shouldn’t be soft on her rival in love. She mustn’t give up her pride even if she was inferior to other people. But regardless, Qin Muchen wouldn’t know about it anyway.

She refused to stay alone with Gu Hanyan any longer. After all, she wasn’t fully healed yet, so she didn’t have any extra energy to waste on her.

When Su Ziyue stood up, Gu Hanyan said gloomily, “It isn’t fair for Muchen since you have another man in your heart. Besides, Muchen doesn’t love you, so you better be sensible and step out of this relationship earlier. Then, you might save yourself the embarrassment in the future.”

Gu Hanyan’s voice was low and cold. She sounded threatening, and her words seemed to imply something.

Su Ziyue couldn’t understand the underlying meaning in her words, but she knew that Gu Hanyan had overheard her conversation with Qin Muchen.

Without her realizing, her hands clenched tightly beside her body.

Due to the strength exerted by her arms, her back muscles were stretched, and pain radiated from the wound on her back. However, she couldn’t feel any of the pain now.

Even so, she still looked unyielding on the outside. Without turning back, she said softly, “Is that so?”

Gu Hanyan chuckled smugly without saying a word, seemingly confident that Su Ziyue couldn’t refute her.

However, Su Ziyue wasn't someone that could be easily defeated.

Although Gu Hanyan was her number one love rival, she would never easily admit defeat.

"Turns out you're not as confident as you seem. If you're truly confident, you might as well snatch him yourself. Instead, you're asking me to surrender. Since you think that Qin Muchen doesn't love me, why aren't you even the least bit confident in yourself, even asking me to give him to you?"

Pausing, Su Ziyue flipped her long hair while turning her head to look at Gu Hanyan.

Gu Hanyan was still sitting whereas she was standing. Therefore, she had to bow her head and look at Gu Hanyan, seeming slightly condescending.

But, Su Ziyue's mesmerizing eyes were filled with vibrant smiles, and she looked extremely confident. "Even if I tell him to divorce me right now, he won't agree. I'm sure of that."

Gu Hanyan pulled a long face, speechless.

Although she had eavesdropped on the conversation between Su Ziyue and Qin Muchen, Qin Muchen seemed to genuinely care for Su Ziyue. Therefore, she couldn't find a suitable retort at the moment.

After a snort, Su Ziyue left.

She was actually betting too.

If Qin Muchen was being so nice to her yet he didn't love her, he must have other objectives.

Everything had to go back to square one—the room where she had met him for the first time.

In that room, there were Mu Ninghui, Su Yige and their group of followers. It definitely wasn't by chance that Qin Muchen suddenly appeared at that place. It must have been plotted since the beginning.

Since he intentionally approached her, he must be trying to get something from her.

## CHAPTER 209

Looking in the direction of the kitchen, Su Ziyue walked over after some thought. "I'm not hungry now, so you don't have to call me for lunch."

With that, she turned to walk upstairs without even giving Qin Muchen a glance.

Recalling what Su Ziyue had said earlier, Bai Jingshu nudged Qin Muchen's shoulder. "Did both of you quarrel again?"

His face cold, Qin Muchen gave him a glance without saying a word.

Bai Jingshu touched his nose, deciding not to ask further.

During lunch, Su Ziyue stayed upstairs.

This meal was initially to celebrate Su Ziyue's hospital discharge. Without the main lead, and due to the continuous cold aura that Qin Muchen was emitting the entire time, the whole dining hall felt extremely suffocating.

Hurriedly, Bai Jingshu finished his meal and dragged Gu Hanyan away.

When Qin Muchen put down his chopsticks, he heard footsteps coming from behind him.

Looking back, it was Su Ziyue.

She stood at the dining hall's door, unidentifiable emotions on her face. "I need to return to the Su residence."

Hearing 'Su Residence' from her mouth, Qin Muchen knitted his eyebrows. "Do you have to go today? You just got discharged from the hospital."

Su Ziyue turned a deaf ear to the objection in his words and just said in a flat tone, "I've already called a taxi. I'm just informing you."

With that, she turned to leave.

After her footsteps vanished out the door, Qin Muchen lost control and abruptly swept the plates on the dining table in front of him to the floor.

The crisp sound of plates shattering sliced through the air.

The next second, he dashed out.

The taxi hadn't arrived, so Su Ziyue waited at the entrance of the villa.

Due to the location of the villa, taxis seldom drove here. She had to pay several times the price to finally book a taxi when she made the booking.

From afar, she spotted the taxi. But when she was about to walk there, someone pulled her wrist from behind.

Needless to think, she knew it was him.



Suppressing her impatience, Su Ziyue let out a long sigh and turned back to look at him in annoyance. "Can we talk about it after I come back? I have matters to attend to at the Su Residence."

Seeing that her face was still pale and how she had lost weight after a few days of hospitalization, the dark clouds on Qin Muchen's face slightly lifted. "I'll send you there."

"I..."

"I need to settle things at the company, so I'll just drop you off."

With that, Qin Muchen pulled her into the car without giving her a chance to reject him. Su Ziyue didn't dare to struggle because the wound on her back hadn't recovered.

Closing the car door, Qin Muchen then turned to look at the taxi that had pulled over in front of him. After paying the fee, he returned to the car.

Su Ziyue lay against the car seat, facing to the side. Throughout the journey, they didn't speak to each other.

Once they arrived at the entrance of the Su Residence, Su Ziyue got out of the car after opening the door. Her actions were hasty as if she couldn't stand to be with him a second longer.

Dark clouds could be seen in Qin Muchen's black eyes as he suppressed his emotions. Clenching his fists, he didn't utter a word.

Once Su Ziyue entered the Su Residence, she saw Su Youcheng, who was sitting in the center of the hall.

"Grandpa, I'm back."

Su Ziyue greeted Su Youcheng while slowly approaching him.

"You're back. Come and sit." Su Youcheng put down the tea cup in his hand and raised his head to look at her.

Su Ziyue walked over and sat on the opposite side of Su Youcheng. Then, she pretended to casually look around. "Why isn't Yige here?"

"Don't bother about her!"

Su Youcheng's expression changed when Su Yige was mentioned.

Naturally, Su Ziyue knew what the reason was. However, she didn't finish reading the news earlier, so she wasn't sure what had happened in between. Because of that, she shouldn't blabber.

Realizing that talking in that way in front of Su Ziyue was inappropriate, he awkwardly coughed once before asking, "I heard that you're ill. Are you feeling better now?"

Su Ziyue raised her head to look at Su Youcheng and smiled faintly. "Nothing serious. I'm almost recovered now, but I might be unable to report to work at the office these few days."

Su Youcheng shook his head repeatedly, sounding concerned. "Don't worry about that. Health should be prioritized."

"Thank you for your concern, grandpa." Su Ziyue's smile on her face didn't meet her eyes.

At that point, Su Ziyue finally figured out that he must have a favor to ask of her.

Otherwise, he wouldn't be so nice to her.

What Su Youcheng said subsequently confirmed her supposition.

"Ziyue, you were previously in charge of the LK collaboration case. Are you still in touch with the president of LK? It's almost the end of the year, and partners should visit each other."

Su Youcheng minced his words in an official manner, and it didn't sound strange at first.

However, Su Ziyue knew that Su Group and Mu Group had been collaborating for years. Now, Mu Group was definitely in a poor situation, so Su Youcheng was eagerly trying to ride on LK's coattails.

Su Ziyue answered bluntly, "We're not in contact."

"That's not right. LK is not only our partner but client too." Su Youcheng shook his head repeatedly and continued sternly, "How about this. You contact the secretary of LK's president and make an appointment. I'll meet up with him..."

Su Ziyue automatically ignored what Su Youcheng said after that.

She lightly interrupted, "Grandpa, do you think that I'd definitely agree to do it once you ask?"

Upon hearing that, Su Youcheng's face turned cold. "Ziyue!"

Su Ziyue wasn't afraid of him.

Perhaps she was triggered by Qin Muchen's incident earlier, so she wasn't afraid of anything now and had the impulse of risking everything

Straightening her back and keeping away her smile, Su Ziyue said in a cold deep voice, "Grandpa, let's be straightforward and not resort to insinuations. Just tell me what you want me to do for you, but if you

ask me for a favor, you should make some sort of contribution too.”

His thoughts exposed by her, Su Youcheng’s expression instantly became cold and stern. “Su Ziyue, don’t be arrogant even though you have a backing. If the Su family didn’t support you, do you think—”

Su Ziyue sprung up. “The Su family supports me? May I know what did the Su family do, or what effort did they make to support me? If you can list out one thing, I’ll help you unconditionally.”

“You!” Su Youchen choked on his words and couldn’t say anything at that moment.

The shares that had been given to Su Ziyue were rightfully hers, which was left by Su Yizi to her. Besides, the president of LK even interfered in that matter. As for the others...

Only then did Su Youcheng realize that he rarely cared about his granddaughter.

But after thinking about it another way, he snorted. “You asked for it!”

“Yes, I indeed asked for it. There are so many surnames, yet I have the surname ‘Su’!”

Su Ziyue sneered. “If you want to ride on the coattails of LK, exchange it with my father’s news. Otherwise, the consequences the Mu family are suffering will be the future of Su Group.”

Her voice had a trace of ferociousness, causing Su Youcheng to look terrified. Was his granddaughter threatening him?

“Chairman Su, consider well.” Su Ziyue then left in a huff.

Su Youcheng staggered and almost couldn’t breathe. Seeing that, the maid quickly ran to him and supported him so he didn’t fall.

## CHAPTER 210

Walking in the yard, Su Ziyue still couldn’t feel at ease.

The three families in Yunzhou City had dominated the scene for years.

But, the Mu family had fallen in such a short time. Everyone was guessing who was behind it, but Su Youcheng, that old sly fox, must have quickly thought of the president of LK.

Because in the whole Yunzhou City, no one had this power other than the president of LK.

That was why Su Youcheng hurriedly sought her out.

Su Ziyue felt that she had become more wicked because she had learnt to use Qin Muchen to threaten people. That made her feel guilty.

She smiled self-mockingly and bowed her head while walking out.

Honk!

The honk of a car rang. Su Ziyue raised her head and saw a familiar black Bentley parked on the opposite side of the road.

It was Qin Muchen's car.

The next second, Qin Muchen opened the door and got out of the car.

After a pause, Su Ziyue walked toward him. "Why are you still here?"

"I was waiting for you to go home together." While replying, Qin Muchen opened the door of the passenger seat and motioned for her to get in.

In the car, Su Ziyue hesitated, and at last, she told him what Su Youcheng had said, including how she used him. She told him everything.

Su Ziyue looked straight ahead. "I'm sorry I used you."

"There's no need to be sorry about that. I gave you the answer to this question a long time ago." Qin Muchen looked to the front with full concentration, the emotions in his voice unidentifiable.

I didn't marry you with a sincere heart. I'm just using you!

It's my honor to be used by you.

That was what he had said to her when he moved into her small apartment a long time ago.

What happened that day was still etched in her mind.

Su Ziyue finally couldn't help but look up at him.

Qin Muchen paid attention to the road ahead. He was extremely steady with his driving, just like his character.

Hastily, Su Ziyue turned her head back, her heart a mess.

She really wanted to ask him what he wanted from her.

But, she didn't have the courage.

It felt like after she found out that he didn't love her, she lost the courage to talk to him about insignificant things.

It wasn't that she didn't want to speak; she just didn't dare to.

After all, no matter what she said, she couldn't deceive her own heart because she knew that she had feelings for him.

Silence took over the car again.

The following days were dull and common.

Su Ziyue didn't request to sleep in different rooms, but although they slept on the same bed, he didn't touch her. She wasn't sure if Qin Muchen was concerned about her unrecovered wound or he had other reasons.

He took great care of her meticulously and attentively.

However, they talked lesser and lesser to each other every day.

Until the day before Su Yige and Gong Zeyang's marriage, when Xu Youran's case was heard.

Waking up early, Qin Muchen walked out after changing his clothes and asked Su Ziyue, "Xu Youran's case is being heard in court today. Do you want to attend?"

Su Ziyue was stunned for a while, but recalling that diary, she nodded.

No matter what, she was once someone she knew.

Xu Youran's actions were indeed selfish, causing her to gain infamy and get chased out of the country by the Su family at the tender age of 18.

Although she was in great despair at that time, at least An Xia believed her.

Now that the past had been raked up, at least Qin Muchen believed her.

The people she cared about believed in her, and that was enough. Those criticisms from unrelated people couldn't hurt her.

When she and Qin Muchen arrived at the court, surprisingly, none of the Su family came.

Su Ziyue was astonished. Habitually, she turned to look at Qin Muchen when she couldn't understand something.

Qin Muchen hugged her beside him with one arm, carefully protecting her.

Noticing her gaze, he said calmly, "The case was exposed by the media before the Su family did anything. Since the Su family can't do anything about it, it's natural that none of them came."

Upon hearing that, Su Ziyue nodded.

That made sense.

However, Su Yige came anyway.

Right before the court session began, Su Yige slowly came in.

Wearing a black coat, her face was pale. She looked haggard, completely unlike someone who was going to get married tomorrow.

Seemingly sensing Su Ziyue's gaze, Su Yige abruptly raised her head to look at her.

She set her gaze firmly on Su Ziyue for two seconds before averting it to Qin Muchen, and there was a subtle change in her eyes. Then, she sat down and stopped looking at her.

Since the Su family didn't try to intervene, there wasn't any suspense in regards to the results of the trial. Zhou Lingyu was sentenced to a 15-year fixed term imprisonment.

After 15 years, Zhou Lingyu would be an old woman in her sixties. Su Yuanming would definitely abandon her.

"Ahh!! I don't want to go to jail. Where's Su Yuanming? I want to meet him!"

The moment Zhou Lingyu was sentenced, she was dumbfounded. After that, she wailed and shouted.

Although it didn't happen to her, and she wasn't related to it either, she was the one who had started it.

Su Ziyue wasn't a foolishly kind person.

Although everyone who acknowledged their mistakes and intended to mend their ways would be offered a chance to be forgiven, one would have to reap what they had sowed.

Xu Youran was no exception. And neither was Zhou Lingyu.

What about herself? What was she going to sow?

Leaving the court, Su Ziyue was feeling rather down.

Qin Muchen turned to look at her and squeezed her hand. "It's not your fault."

Su Ziyue shook her head. "I don't blame myself."

Knitting his eyebrows, Qin Muchen didn't say anything else.

Recently, both of them had been treating each other with respect.

They didn't talk much to each other and didn't quarrel either. Most of the time, Su Ziyue would agree to whatever he said.

With that behavior, Su Ziyue spared him lots of worry, but he knew that this was not the Su Ziyue he liked.

He vaguely knew what the problem was, but...

"Let's go back. I'm kind of tired." With that, Su Ziyue quickened her pace.

The media quickly published news about Xu Youran's court case.

Naturally, the news mentioned Su Yige.

The mother was sentenced a day before the daughter's marriage.

These two matters would be the topic of public discussion for a long time.

Su Ziyue knew that the shares of Su Group might be affected, but it wouldn't be serious. After this blew over, the public would forget about it.

Su Ziyue read several news articles from different news sites in one shot. When Qin Muchen went back to the room and urged her, only then did she put down her phone to sleep.

"It's getting late. You should rest early."

Lately, Qin Muchen hadn't been going to the office and worked at home instead. After he settled all the documents for today and realized that Su Ziyue hadn't slept when he came over to check on her, he habitually frowned.

Yet, as soon as he said that, Su Ziyue put down her phone and lay down.

She had indeed been extremely obedient recently.

He even began to wonder if that woman from the past, who loved to lie and provoke him, was actually Su Ziyue.

This change seemed to be great, but in his heart, he knew that things would worsen if this continued.

However, Qin Muchen, who dominated the business world, couldn't find a solution.