

# Marry Me 361

## CHAPTER 361

Once she was out of the company building, Su Ziyue headed straight for the carpark with quick steps. Someone had stuffed a leaflet in the car door and she couldn't open it even after several attempts. Frustrated, she kicked the car a couple of times and yelped in pain afterward.

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Qin Muchen didn't return home again that night. Gong Shuzhe's incident gradually lost its novelty after everyone discussed it feverishly for a period of time. Meanwhile, Su Ziyue went to visit him once. Through the cold glass, she asked him calmly, "Uncle Gong, do you still remember how my father looked?"

Gong Shuzhe was silent for a while before answering, "I don't dare to think about it. The thought of him makes me restless for a long period of time."

"Were you that worried about my father coming out of jail alive? He had no idea that you were the murderer," she said through gritted teeth at the mention of this. They had deliberately set up Su Yizi, so Su Yizi himself didn't even know that Gong Shuzhe was the real killer, even until his death.

He was speechless for a moment before opening his mouth again. "In the beginning, I did want him to die. But when I changed my mind about it, he was already dead. Although this sounds like an excuse now, I really regretted it back then."

Sniffing a couple of times, Su Ziyue fought back her tears; she couldn't overcome the sadness everytime she thought of Su Yizi.

"Qin Muchen is my son, but he..." Gong Shuzhe stared at her, holding back his tongue.

Her face turned sullen. "Qin Muchen is my husband, and I understand without you telling me."

"Yeah," he nodded sadly and continued, "Actually, this period of time has been the only time when I could sleep peacefully, ever since more than a decade ago."

Su Ziyue had no interest in listening to his feelings of remorse, so she stood up and left.

...

Su Ziyue made a trip back to the old villa before returning to Cloud Bay. The moment she entered the villa, she could feel the presence of another person in the place. When she turned to look at the side of the door, she saw an extra pair of leather shoes. Qin Muchen had returned?

Recently, Qin Muchen would return irregularly, and they seldom ran into each other. Overjoyed, she ran

up the staircase without changing her shoes. When she was halfway up, she saw him standing silently like a ghost at the top of the staircase.

"You're home." She stopped in her tracks and lifted her head to look at him.

Qin Muchen fixed his gaze on her for a few seconds before speaking in a gloomy voice, "Did you go and visit him?"

"Yeah," she replied when she realized who he meant, and nodded.

Smirking, he said, "Because of you, he is now dead."

Her brows knitted as she exclaimed in shock, "What?! How is that possible?"

Gong Shuzhe was still fine when she visited him earlier. She merely made a trip to the old villa, and now he was dead?

"If you really hated him so much and wanted him dead, you could've let me know. I could've made your wish come true, since he deserved it anyway," he said with an odd look on his face.

Piqued, she shouted at him, "Qin Muchen, be careful with your words!" What did he mean that she wanted him dead? "I told you very clearly the last time, even though it's true that I do hate him a lot, I don't wish for his death, nor do I want him to pay with his life. Even if he's dead, it's impossible for my father to return. His death is meaningless to me!" She had made it so clear, but he was obviously suspecting her from the way he spoke. Did Qin Muchen suspect that she had something to do with Gong Shuzhe's death?

Qin Muchen remained on the same spot without moving an inch, and said in a quiet, eerie voice, "Yes, it's true that you hate him."

"Qin Muchen!" She could tell that he still didn't believe her at all. "Speak your mind. You're thinking that I have Gong Shuzhe murdered in jail, just like how he did it before, aren't you?"

His expression flinched a little, but he didn't say a word. Su Ziyue felt her heart drop, for his silence meant that he admitted it. This was a trait he had always displayed.

"So what now? Are you suspecting me and questioning me now? Or, have you already decided to convict me that I have a direct connection to Gong Shuzhe's death?" After she finished speaking, the air felt stale and it became hard to breathe.

Su Ziyue waited for Qin Muchen to say something, but he simply stared at her with chilly eyes. So there they stood, one at the top of the staircase and another at the middle, facing each other in silence. After a long pause, he finally made his way downstairs. When he brushed past her, he stopped for a while and said, "I'm going away on a business trip, and I won't be back for a long time."

Then, he left in big strides and the sound of him closing the door echoed through the villa, followed by the sound of the car engine.

Frustration washed over Su Ziyue, and she grabbed a bunch of her hair as she threw the handbag in her hand to the side. Sitting on the spot with her head buried, she stayed there for quite a while before giving An Xia a call.

...

At the bar, Su Ziyue ordered a round of shots as she was enjoying them slowly.

Next to her, An Xia had a worried look on her face. "What are you doing? Don't drink so much!"

Su Ziyue smiled sarcastically with a hint of bitterness. "I'm happy because the man who caused my father's death is now dead."

With knitted brows, An Xia snatched the drink in her hand away from her and asked, "What happened?"

"I went to visit Gong Shuzhe today, and by the time I got home, Qin Muchen told me that he had died," Su Ziyue said as she slammed on the table loudly a few times. "You know, Qin Muchen actually questioned me! Damn it, he thinks that I am the one who had him killed!"

Speechless, An Xia swept her gaze around, relieved that they were actually sitting in a corner. "Are you sure? Why would Mr. Qin suspect you?" She still found it unbelievable that Qin Muchen would do this to Su Ziyue.

"I didn't think it was possible too, but that was what he said. And then, he left right after that. He's rarely home nowadays, and he's even going on a business trip now..." Su Ziyue babbled and took another shot. Suddenly, something seemed to cross her mind and she muttered, "That's right, where is he going on his business trip? How could I forget to ask him that? Hang on, I'll give him a call."

Su Ziyue then picked up her cell phone and called up Qin Muchen. Surprisingly, he picked up the call very quickly. A trace of indifference could be heard in his voice as he asked, "What is it?"

"Where are you going on your business trip?" Su Ziyue inquired.

"Jingcheng City."

"What? Where did you say it is?" She thought she heard him say something, but she didn't catch it.

Qin Muchen repeated it again, but she was still not hearing it. So she turned to An Xia and exclaimed, "He's not telling me where he's going on his business trip!"

Seeing that An Xia had nothing to say, she turned her attention back to her cell phone and yelled, "Qin Muchen, are you going to tell me? If you don't, I'll throw Beef out the moment I get home!"

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An Xia almost spat out the drink she just had and grabbed Su Ziyue by her sleeves, speaking softly, "Ziyue."

With the Dutch courage Ziyue had now, there was nothing An Xia could do to stop her. So, she continued slamming the table and shouted, "Tell me, where are you going for your business trip?"

Meanwhile, in the VIP lounge at the airport, Qin Muchen, who was seated with his legs crossed and a laptop on it, had already stopped typing on his laptop.

Next to him, his secretary was holding his phone in loudspeaker mode and had overheard everything Su Ziyue said over the phone clearly.

His secretary and other employees who accompanied him quietly turned to look the other way.

Maybe they could still make it back alive if they pretended that they hadn't heard anything Mrs. Qin had said.

Setting his laptop to the side, Qin Muchen took the phone from his secretary's hand and grabbed his suit jacket with his other hand. Turning off the loudspeaker mode, he strode out of the room as he asked, "Where are you now?"

Su Ziyue snorted. "It's none of your business where I am now! Since you're not telling me where you're going for your business trip, I'm not telling you where I am now either!" she hollered and hung up.

"What did Mr. Qin say?" An Xia asked.

"He asked me where I was," she replied and tossed her phone to the side. Then, she continued in a rather proud tone, "I didn't tell him on purpose since he didn't want to tell me where he's going on business."

With pouty lips, An Xia murmured, "I thought he would hang up on you..."

"Why?"

"Because you scolded him..."

"Did I do that?" she asked in a frown as she recalled what she had said earlier.

In fact, she was not drunk at all, but merely wanted to boost her courage with the help of alcohol. With An Xia's reminder, she had remembered what she said.

"I'm done here and going home now." Picking up her phone, she grabbed her handbag and dashed out of the place while An Xia shook her head as she watched her leave.

Su Ziyue sped back to Cloud Bay and saw a man and a dog at the gates the moment she stepped out of the car.

Qin Muchen put on a straight face as he stuck his hands into the pockets of his suit trousers. Standing straight in a business suit, he appeared strict and meticulous.

"Why are you back?" Wasn't he away on a business trip?

Qin Muchen surveyed her for a second before retracting his gaze and said emotionlessly, "I'm going to Jingcheng City for my business trip."

His gaze made her feel guilty and she cast her eyes downward and answered meekly, "Okay."

"Alright." He began walking away after his one-word reply.

Su Ziyue jerked her head up. He was leaving just like that? He came back suddenly just to tell her where he was going on his business trip?

After a few steps, he came to a stop and turned back to look at her. "You can do what you like with Beef."

She didn't say anything; she was merely saying things in a fit of rage and didn't really mean to throw Beef out. As she watched his car drive off into the night, Su Ziyue grabbed her hair in frustration.

What was the meaning of this?

Would he rather go away on a business trip than be in the same room with her because he blamed her for causing Gong Shuzhe's death?

Everything about Su Yizi's case and the incident with Gong Shuzhe died down suddenly.

In the following days, no other related news were reported and Qin Muchen didn't contact Su Ziyue either.

Whenever she called him on the phone, he was either in a meeting or busy. So, she simply stopped calling and sent him text messages instead.

After Su Yizi passed away in prison that year, his body had been disposed of. Su Ziyue found some old items belonging to him and buried it before erecting a tombstone for him in the same cemetery as her mother's.

After placing some fresh flowers on his grave, she started speaking out loud by herself, "Daddy, you'll never guess who I'm married to. I married the son of Aunt Qin Li, the woman you were seeing back then. Although Qin Muchen has a foul temper, he treats me pretty well."

Despite the fact that he had some misunderstandings toward her because of Gong Shuzhe's incident, she knew that he was not really mad at her. Otherwise, he wouldn't have come back specially that day to tell her where he was going away on business.

Maybe he was using this trip as an excuse to be away from her for a while to calm himself down.

Su Ziyue left after she had spoken a little and ran into Nan Chuan and a couple of men at the entrance of the cemetery.

"Mrs. Qin," Nan Chuan greeted her politely with a slight bow of his head. The two subordinates behind him who were dressed in black suits appeared unusually solemn.

"Nan Chuan? You're here—," she stopped herself before she finished her sentence and changed her words abruptly. "What a coincidence."

This was the cemetery and Gong Shuzhe didn't pass away honorably, so his funeral had to be done quietly. She heard that he was also buried here, so Nan Chuan was most probably here because Qin Muchen had instructed him to.

"Are you going back now, Mrs. Qin? I'll send you home." Nan Chuan offered as he gave the two men behind him a look, who then left knowingly.

"That's alright. I drove myself here," Su Ziyue declined, shaking her head. "You can tell me now if you have anything on your mind."

A look of awkwardness flashed across his face as he really did have something to tell her.

"I've been working under Mr. Qin for many years, and I was an orphan. His temper has always been a little foul and unpredictable, but he is actually a very emotional man. He may have dwelled too much on this incident with Gong Shuzhe and you'll have to spend more effort on him now, Mrs. Qin."

It took Su Ziyue by surprise that this was what Nan Chuan wanted to tell her. After a short silence, she nodded and replied, "Okay, I got it. Thank you."

Su Ziyue had some fresh perspectives after listening to Nan Chuan's words.

Qin Muchen was probably feeling very conflicted right now.

Gong Shuzhe had caused the death of Qin Li and Su Yizi, and regardless how anyone looked at it, he had

committed a terrible crime and deserved death. But at the same time, Qin Muchen still couldn't bear to see that happen to him.

And because he was soft-hearted, he couldn't bring himself to face Su Ziyue nor Qin Li, who had passed away.

Gong Shuzhe's sudden death had affected him a lot, so he took his anger out on Su Ziyue.

No matter how capable a person was, there were times when one would be affected by emotions.

After collecting her thoughts, Su Ziyue packed her bags and left for Jingcheng City.

She headed straight for the hotel Qin Muchen was staying in the minute she arrived in Jingcheng City with the address she got from Nan Chuan before she left.

Jingcheng City belonged to the Feng family. Chain stores, hotels, restaurants, advertisements companies and many more all belonged to the Feng Group and its subsidiaries. As the richest family in the northern region, Feng family's business could be found almost everywhere.

However, the hotel which Qin Muchen was staying in didn't happen to belong to the Feng family.

At the front desk of the hotel, Su Ziyue asked, "Hi, may I have a key card to room number 7023? I'm the wife of the man staying in that room."

Room 7023? Isn't that the room of the President of LK?

The receptionist raised her head in surprise and scrutinized Su Ziyue. When she saw her pretty face, she gave her a sarcastic smile and said, "I'm sorry, Miss, but I can't give you the key card to Room 7023."

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Su Ziyue was unbothered by what the receptionist just said. Although her relationship with Qin Muchen had been publicly announced in a press conference and she had appeared on television before, she wasn't so arrogant that she thought that everyone should know her.

Already guessing that much that the receptionist wouldn't give her the key card, she had come prepared and brought a trump card with her—their marriage certificate!

"This should prove that I'm his wife now, shouldn't it?" she said as she pushed the marriage certificate to the receptionist.

The smile on the receptionist's face became mysterious and unreadable. "I'm sorry, Miss, but you're the fifth person today with a marriage certificate claiming to be Mrs. Qin. Unless Mr. Qin himself admits it, I can't issue you a key card. It's my responsibility and I'm in a tight spot as well."

Su Ziyue frowned at what she just heard and raised her voice in disbelief. "What did you just say?"

Women nowadays were so shameless!

Since it was not a secret that Qin Muchen was married, so they came with fake marriage certificates to look for him?

Goodness, just how desperate these women were?

Su Ziyue had no choice but to keep her marriage certificate away and took out her credit card instead. "I'll take the room next to his, then."

"I'm sorry, there's already someone staying next to Mr. Qin."

"Then I'll take the next one to it."

"I'm sorry--"

"A room on the same floor!"

This time, without waiting for the receptionist to say anything, Su Ziyue asked her directly, "Just tell me if you still have any rooms available in your hotel!"

"There is none left," the receptionist replied without even apologizing after sensing the impatience in Su Ziyue's voice.

Su Ziyue was a little annoyed; since there were no more vacant rooms, the receptionist should have just told her that in the beginning instead of having an exchange with her like she did.

"I got it. Thank you," she said while holding back her anger and left quickly.

Since Qin Muchen's hotel was fully booked, she had to find a room in the hotel opposite his. The other hotel was a little older, but the facilities weren't too shabby.

After dumping her luggages in the room, Su Ziyue, who was afraid that she would miss Qin Muchen coming back to the hotel, went to wait outside the entrance of his hotel without even unpacking.

It was now between the end of spring and beginning of summer. While the weather in Yunzhou City was gradually turning warm, it was still a little chilly here in Jingcheng City.

Su Ziyue didn't dress up in warm clothes and began to feel a little cold after sitting for a while on the bench outside.



Whisking out her cellphone, she hesitated before finally deciding to give Qin Muchen a call. The call rang for a long time before a woman picked up.

The woman had a coquettish voice when she answered the call. "Hello, who is this? Why are you calling Randy?"

Taken aback, Su Ziyue swiftly hung up the call after she regained her composure.

So Qin Muchen's English name was Randy? She had never heard him mention it ever since they got together, and neither had a woman answered his phone before either.

Thrown into a state of confusion, she looked down at her phone before deciding to make the call again.

"It's you again? Why exactly are you looking for Randy?" the woman answered impatiently.

Trying her best to remain composed, she said in a steady tone, "I'm looking for the owner of this number, Qin Muchen. I'm his wife."

"I see, Randy is busy right now. You can call back later," she said and hung up immediately.

Qin Muchen came out of the meeting and saw the blonde and fair woman seated behind his office desk. Frowning slightly, he asked, "Why are you still here?"

The blonde woman raised her head with a hint of arrogance. "The Earl of Augsburg told my mother that you'll be fully responsible for my living conditions when I'm here. So, of course I have to be here."

Qin Muchen snorted. "Then you can continue to stay here." Picking up his phone on the side, he was about to leave the room when he unlocked his phone out of habit to check if Su Ziyue had given him a call or text.

But he saw that there were already two answered calls. His face fell and he looked at her coldly. "Did you touch my phone?"

"I didn't do it on purpose. It was so noisy from the non-stop ringing. I thought maybe there was some urgent matter so I answered it for you." Apparently, she didn't find it inappropriate that she had answered his calls.

"You're proficient in more than a dozen languages and have learned Mandarin ever since you were young. I believe you understood the meaning of the words on the caller ID!" His voice turned colder with each word he spoke.

Springing upright from her seat, she exclaimed, "Randy, watch your tone of voice with me! I'm a princess of a royalty!"

“Yes, you may be Princess Aika of Country J, but I’m not from Country J, so this has nothing to do with me.” He snorted coldly again, then turned and strode away.

Princess Aika stomped her feet in anger behind him but retained her last bit of image by shouting at him, “Your grandfather, the Earl of Augsburg, promised my mother that you will treat me well and make my vacation in Country Z a great one!”

Before he left the room, he said indifferently, “I’ll arrange your itinerary and send my men to ensure your safety.”

With a loud bang, he shut the door while Princess Aika threw things around in rage.

Her mother had reminded her that although she was here at Country Z in secret for a vacation, she still needed to take care of her image so that the other elders in the royalty couldn’t catch a hold on her.

Damn it, Randy was too arrogant and completely condescending.

After Qin Muchen left the room, his subordinate waiting for him outside immediately fell into steps behind him.

While he was on his way, he couldn’t decide if he should return Su Ziyue’s call. In fact, he immediately regretted his initial anger and impulsiveness.

Su Ziyue had done nothing wrong; he just couldn’t pacify some of his emotions.

He was even a little jealous that she had such a kind father, but there was no basis for that jealousy.

Initially, the argument with Su Ziyue happened because of the unknown emotions in his heart, but at this stage, it had developed into a situation where he didn’t know how to patch things up anymore.

“President Qin, we’re here,” his subordinate announced and turned to look at him after stopping the car.

With a straight face, Qin Muchen got out of the car and stuffed his phone into his pocket, appearing a little solemn.

His subordinate lowered his eyes as he felt the oppressive aura emanating from him.

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Back in his room, Qin Muchen prepared to change and take a shower. As he paced into the bedroom, he removed his coat and heard some noise in the closet.

Narrowing his eyes, he sneaked over and the movement appeared to have ceased. Had he imagined it?

Still, as he had always practiced caution, he had a feeling that there was someone in the closet. So, he stood in front of it quietly for a couple of seconds before opening the doors suddenly.

The moment he opened the closet doors, a person rolled out of the closet in a loud thud and landed next to him. Looking down, Qin Muchen saw that it was a woman dressed in the hotel uniform.

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The woman kept her head low and he couldn't see her face. "How did you get in?"

But she remained sprawled on the floor, motionless.

"You're not telling?" Snorting, Qin Muchen swirled around and wanted to call the front desk.

For the past few days, many women had been offering themselves to him, but this was the first one that made it into his room.

The hotel staff had been dignified and today was his first encounter with one that had the nerves to hide in his closet.

Just as he turned around, a rustling sound came from behind him. He looked back and saw that the woman was no longer on the floor and had stood up with her back facing him.

This figure...

Why was it that the more he stared at this figure, the more familiar he found it to be?

Qin Muchen was startled by the idea that popped into his head. How could she possibly be here?

Furthermore, Aika had touched his phone and answered when she called. Right now, she was probably... hopping mad.

The thought of this made him frustrated again. "Get out!" he howled at the woman as he decided that he wouldn't be calling the front desk.

Seeing that the woman didn't move an inch at all after a long while, he was just about to blow his top when he heard a small, familiar voice. "I'm not leaving."

A shiver went down his spine and he took a couple of steps forward before stopping abruptly. Narrowing his eyes, he instructed, "Turn around."

The woman muttered something and ignored him.

Losing all patience to beat about the bush with her, he walked over, reached out his hand and spun her around by the shoulder.

However, when he saw the woman's face, he lost the usual composure he carried and a look of astonishment flashed across his face before he froze.

Su Ziyue felt her own face. Was she really that terrifying?

Earlier when she called, it was a woman who had picked up the phone. Of course she was angry, but she had traveled a long way here and couldn't give up just like this.

Coincidentally, the hotel which Qin Muchen was staying in was doing really well, so they needed part-time cleaners. When she recalled what the receptionist told her, she intentionally made herself look ugly through the use of makeup and snuck in.

Perhaps it was because she looked "so ugly", the supervisor gave her the key card to Qin Muchen's room with a peace of mind and allowed her to clean it.

Staring for a full minute at her to make sure that she was really Su Ziyue, Qin Muchen then asked, "Why are you here?"

She remembered what he had said when she went to look for him back when they were in Yunzhou City so she said sensibly, "My legs bring me wherever I want to go."

"Wash your face first," he said and passed by her to grab some clothes from the closet.

Su Ziyue touched her own face, which she had put in a lot of effort in order to make herself look ugly to be able to sneak in. Her face was now covered in a thick layer of makeup and it felt uncomfortable.

After watching her enter the bathroom, Qin Muchen turned around and a grin spread across his face.

This was utterly...

The next moment, he heard Su Ziyue's shrilling scream from the bathroom and his grin widened.

Su Ziyue stared at her reflection in the mirror—she had a dull face full of freckles and even wrinkles on the forehead. It took her a while to come to terms that it was all just makeup.

Damn it, it was hideous!

Now it all made sense why Qin Muchen stared at her for such a long time just now. Anyone would have been shocked after taking a look!

This was simply hideous!

She even felt the desire to end her life, but she quickly thought of something.

In small steps, she went to the bathroom door and poked her head out, only to see that he was on the phone.

Hearing some noise behind him, Qin Muchen hung up the call and turned around. "What's wrong?"

"Come here for a minute," she said and gestured for him to come over.

Thinking that something was bothering her, he tossed his phone to the side and went over.

Pointing to her lips, she told him, "Kiss me."

When the words left her lips, she could feel her own face burning—she couldn't recall ever making this request to him before.

It was a good thing that her face had a thick layer of makeup on now. Otherwise, he would have seen her scarlet face.

But Qin Muchen was stunned.

"Forget it, then."

She knew that he couldn't do it because he found her ugly!

She spun around and wanted to return to the bathroom, but he reached out his long arm and grabbed her. "Who said I'm not kissing you?" The last few words of his were muffled between their lips.

She was much shorter than him, so he placed his hands on her waist and lifted her a little to kiss her better.

Her arms clung to his shoulders as she gradually lost herself in his passionate kiss.

Some time later, he finally let go of her, breathless. "Clean your face."

And all the gentleness and sweetness from before were flushed away with these three words.

Somehow, she had regained her confidence from his kiss and she turned her face to the side and declared, "No, I'm not cleaning my face tonight. I even want to keep this face on and make love to you!"

She even raised her voice at the end of her sentence.

Raising his eyebrows, he placed one hand on the door frame behind her and said in a low voice, "I don't

want to fight a bloody battle.”

She was speechless as she held her tongue; she had wanted to accuse him of thinking that she was ugly if he refused her outrightly. So, she returned to the bathroom silently.

The bathroom door swung with so much force that it almost closed on Qin Muchen’s hand, but thanks to his quick reflexes, he retracted his hand before that.

Staring at the tightly shut bathroom door, he started chuckling out of the blue. Gradually, his chuckles became a laugh.

Actually, he hadn’t told her that if she wasn’t on her period now, he would have obliged if she had insisted on doing it with him with that face.

When Su Ziyue came out after washing her face, she saw him sitting on the one-seater couch with a faint smile lingering on his face.

All he did was laugh! Was it that funny?

“Change your clothes as well.” He lifted his head and glanced at her briefly before looking down again.

She went over and sat across him. “My clothes are in the hotel opposite the street. Help me get them.”

“Why didn’t you give—”

Me a call, he finished in his head and his face fell in an instant.

“Go quickly, these clothes must have been worn by so many people before!” she cried out, giving him a light kick with her foot.

Realizing that she didn’t mention the incident about the phonecalls, a light flashed in his eyes and he left without saying anything else after taking her key card from her.

Su Ziyue waited until he had left the room before getting up to look out the full-length windows. She watched until she saw his figure going out of the hotel and returning with her luggage before whirling around and dropping herself heavily onto the bed.

How nice it was that the bed carried his scent.

Qin Muchen returned with her luggage and saw that she was sprawled across the bed, not knowing if she had fallen asleep or not.

The anxiety he had been feeling for the past few days seemed to have disappeared as well.

A smile slowly spread across his face as he unpacked her clothes silently and hung them in the closet one by one.

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Qin Muchen kept aside one set of clothes and hung the rest in the closet. With that set of clothes in his hand, he went to the bedside and placed it on the bed before telling her in a low voice, "Take a shower."

Su Ziyue rolled over and sat upright. Then, she grabbed the clothes and went into the bathroom. Subsequently, Qin Muchen took out the cigarettes from the bedside drawers and his pockets before throwing them out in the trash bin at the end of the corridor outside.

In the evening, when they just reached the hotel entrance on their way out for dinner, Qin Muchen received a call from Princess Aika. His brows furrowed deeply as he simply couldn't bring himself to like the only princess from Country J even the slightest bit! Despite that, he knew that if he kept rejecting her calls, she would just keep calling. He patted Su Ziyue's shoulder lightly and walked in the direction of the car park while answering the call from Princess Aika. "What is it?" he asked curtly, full of annoyance in his voice.

Princess Aika's tone of voice wasn't any better, either. "Randy, what sort of men did you send to me? They're all so useless and aren't even a match for me. Are you sure they can protect me? If any accident should happen to me while I'm in Country Z, your grandfather can forget about living a good life in Country J!"

As the beloved youngest daughter of the Queen of Country J, Princess Aika was not only showered with love, but she was also really smart and gifted linguistically and in martial arts, and she had always been able to put up a fight.

Qin Muchen had also heard about all this, but he couldn't believe that she had really defeated all his men. With a snort, he said, "Really? The next time you want to spar with them, please do tell them not to hold back."

This made her speechless and she merely uttered, "You!" After she recovered, she added, "I have to admit that your men are not bad at all, but they still can't give me a sense of security. I only know you in Country Z, so I want you to protect me personally!"

Without any hesitation, Qin Muchen hung up the call straight away.

On the other end of the line, Princess Aika cursed loudly when she heard the dead dial tone. "Jerk!" She had never met such an arrogant man and was convinced that she would be able to make this man bow down to her! In that instant, all the haughtiness and willfulness in her were ignited.

Casually setting his phone aside, Qin Muchen then drove the car out of the car park and the both of them went to a renowned restaurant, Nine Oriental Pavilion, in Jincheng City. It was said that the

ancestors of the owner of the restaurant were imperial chefs in the palace, and they had passed down the trade from one generation to the next. Over time, their reputation built up and many people came from afar because it was a popular place. Often, it was difficult to even get a reservation.

“Could you get a reservation?” After the words left her lips, Su Ziyue felt that she was an idiot to even ask Qin Muchen such a question.

Qin Muchen glanced at her. “Whatever you want, I’ll get it for you.”

Su Ziyue couldn’t help but crack up. Qin Muchen then asked, “Do you want a seat in a private room or the general dining hall?”

“The general dining hall is fine. It would be even better if it’s a window seat,” she replied, thinking that they could enjoy the view if they sat beside the window.

When they arrived, the restaurant was already filled with people on the first floor so they went straight to the second floor, where the waiter led them to a seat by the window. Su Ziyue was a little surprised that he could really reserve a window seat.

Seeing the surprised look on her face, he chuckled. “I’ve already made the reservation when we were still in the hotel. I guessed that you would like this seat.”

Glaring at him, she asked, “Then why did you still ask me?”

“Just in case,” he said calmly.

In the meantime, Princess Aika was throwing a tantrum in her room. “I want to have dinner with your boss, Randy! I’m not eating unless he’s here! Otherwise, you’ll have to tell me where he is!” When she came to Country Z, she had kept a low-profile the whole time and didn’t bring many people with her. Besides the four servants who took care of her, everyone else was arranged by Qin Muchen for her.

However, Qin Muchen had already instructed his people not to give in to her too much and could totally ignore her if she made any unreasonable requests. Seeing that everyone was silent, Princess Aika’s fury heightened. “How dare you not listen to my orders?”

“I’ll give President Qin a call now. Please hang on, Princess Aika.” Someone who thought that the stalemate situation wouldn’t come to any resolution decided to give in and spoke up.

“Alright, tell him that I’m almost dying of hunger,” she said with a wave of her hand. Striding to the side, she began eating the snacks from Jingcheng City which her servants had bought. Indeed, Country Z was a country of great food, and all food tasted amazing.

One of the men conveyed Princess Aika’s message without forgetting to end it with, “That’s what Princess Aika said.”



After the call, Qin Muchen went back to enjoying dinner with Su Ziyue when he received a call from his subordinate again. He didn't want to answer the call, to be honest, but something seemed to cross his mind. So, he picked it up and said, "Let her come over. I'm at Nine Oriental Pavilion." After he hung up, he heard Su Ziyue ask from across him, "Who's coming?"

Qin Muchen answered honestly, "A woman I don't really know."

"I see. Was she the one who answered your phone from before?" she said nonchalantly while drinking her soup.

However, his movements came to a sudden halt and he jerked his head up to look at her. "She is—"

"You don't have to be so nervous. I'm not suspecting you of having a mistress outside. Being so stingy, you would never have a second woman while we're still married. If you do, you'll have to allocate a big portion of your assets to me when we divorce."

"Su Ziyue!" he exclaimed, displeased. Even though he was glad that she wasn't overthinking and trusted him, he was still annoyed that she would bring up the word divorce at a whim.

Giving him a glare, she uttered, "Keep your voice down. You have no sense of humor at all. I don't understand what the other women like about you."

He snickered. "Besides looking pretty, there's nothing else you're good at. I don't know why the other men keep looking this way!"

Lifting her head and looking around after hearing that, she saw that many men were indeed looking in this direction, and she found herself speechless. "What if they were actually looking at you? You must understand that love hits you like a hurricane without a care for nationality and gender, and it could hit you anytime..." She trailed off as she saw his face turning more and more dark.

"Don't be so serious." Su Ziyue simply felt that he was usually too somber, so she had to be more bubbly and crack some jokes to liven up the atmosphere.

As he put food in her plate, his face was solemn. "Eat your food and stop talking."

"Mr Qin?" A man had approached without them realizing.

Qin Muchen glanced at him and greeted, "President Han." He had met President Han a few days ago, but it wasn't business which they spoke about when they met.

President Han hastily passed him a cigarette. "I didn't think that I would run into you here."

Raising a hand, Qin Muchen rejected the offer politely, "I'm not smoking, thank you."

A look of confusion appeared on President Han's face. Wasn't he smoking a few days ago when they were in a discussion?

#### CHAPTER 366

President Han knew when not to push. He didn't insist when Qin Muchen said that he didn't smoke.

He stowed the cigarettes back into his pocket and turned to Su Ziyue, "And this is...?"

"This is my wife." Replied Qin Muchen.

"Nice to meet you." Su Ziyue beamed at President Han.

President Han nodded. His eyes were transfixed on Su Ziyue, "Mrs. Qin."

Qin Muchen frowned slightly. "President Han has somewhere he needs to be."

Even Su Ziyue could tell what he was trying to say.

When President Han left, Su Ziyue interjected before Qin Muchen could say a word. "You smoke?"

Qin Muchen replied stoically, "No, I do not."

"I'm not talking about right now; I'm talking about before!"

Su Ziyue snorted coldly, "Do you take me for an idiot? If you've never smoked with him before, why would he offer you a cigarette the moment he saw you?"

Qin Muchen avoided her gaze and stayed silent.

He made a point to remember what President Han did.

"Did you drink too?" Su Ziyue pressed further.

"No." Qin Muchen was quick to deny it.

He might have lied about not smoking, but he wasn't about drinking.

Su Ziyue face was stony as she looked down her nose at him. "Do you remember what the doctor told you last time you were hospitalized?"

Qin Muchen stayed quiet, but he was thinking... This girl was getting bolder with him. He couldn't believe that she would speak to him in this manner. And yet he could not find fault with what she said.

"You're literally bleeding out of your stomach! If you continue on like this, it could become cancerous! Are you planning on dying before your time and leaving me to inherit your fortune, so that I can marry some handsome young fella?"

Qin Muchen frowned, and his eyes shot daggers at her. "You're overthinking things. I won't die before you."

Su Ziyue, "..."

Qin Muchen smirked when he saw that he had succeeded in making her speechless. "I understand that you're worried about me. It's just that I've been smoking for so long that it's hard to stop. I promise you that I'll cut out smoking, okay? Let's eat now, shall we?" He warmly acquiesced.

"Don't we have to wait for that lady you claim not to know too well?" Su Ziyue asked.

"Nah."

...

Princess Aika took her time. It was as if she wanted Qin Muchen to wait for her.

But Qin Muchen had no intention of waiting for her to arrive before eating together.

When she finally arrived, Qin Muchen and Su Ziyue were well done with eating and were chatting while enjoying some tea.

"Randy!"

They could hear her before they could see her.

She didn't sound as gentle and ladylike as she did on the phone, but Su Ziyue could tell that it was the same woman.

Su Ziyue turned toward her and saw that Princess Aika had brought an entourage of bodyguards and a maid with her.

Princess Aika looked like a typical Country J person. Her features were striking. She had golden blonde hair and snowy fair skin. Her eyes were shimmering blue like the ocean. Having been raised in royalty, she was naturally authoritative, confident, and had a certain air about her.

The woman on the phone spoke perfect Chinese! Su Ziyue had no idea that she wasn't from Z!

Maybe it was because all women were born with a sixth sense, when Su Ziyue looked at Princess Aika, the princess turned to look at her too.

Who was this woman?

She thought that by making Qin Muchen wait, he'd be chomping at the bit by now. She never expected that he'd be waiting for her with another woman! She had not expected this.

Princess Aika's expression soured visibly.

Su Ziyue raised an eyebrow. This woman was being really obvious...

"Randy! I told you to wait for me! Are you waiting for me or are you hitting up random chicks?" Princess Aika wasn't one to beat around the bush. She'd say whatever came to mind.

Su Ziyue had noticed this as well.

"This is my wife." Qin Muchen was noticeably stony. He growled, "This isn't your country, so you can't do as you like here. Please treat my wife with respect."

Princess Aika turned to look at Su Ziyue with a strange look on her face.

Su Ziyue held out a hand toward her and gave her a small smile. "Nice to meet you."

While the princess wasn't exactly exuding kindness, she didn't seem to have any ill will toward her.

Princess Aika took her hand, and Su Ziyue introduced herself in a lofty manner, "How do you do? I'm his wife, Su Ziyue."

See, Randy! This is how you should act when you meet royalty!

Princess Aika sat down next to Su Ziyue and gestured towards Qin Muchen. "Hello, I am Aika. You're Randy's wife?"

"Yup." Su Ziyue moved to give her more room. "You can call him by his Chinese name, Qin Muchen."

Princess Aika nodded without promising anything. "I don't understand why any woman would be willing to live together with someone like Qin Muchen, who has nary a gentleman's bone in his body." She continued.

"..."

Su Ziyue was confused.

It wasn't that she was confident with herself, but women were generally attracted to Qin Muchen.

She thought that this woman would have some feelings for Qin Muchen, but she didn't think that...

"My country is full of wonderful gentlemen who would love to go on a date with a gentle and beautiful woman such as you! You should consider..."

Qin Muchen stood abruptly. "Let's go."

He was talking to Su Ziyue.

Su Ziyue could not hide her astonishment. She stared at him blankly, "Huh?"

"What are you doing? Do you really want her to introduce you to one of those wonderful gentleman she was talking about?" Qin Muchen glared at her stonily.

Su Ziyue shook her head. "No."

She was innocent. She had thought that this would be another one of Qin Muchen's woman. She had run through every scenario, and had thought about what to say in response.

But unexpectedly, she had no interest in Qin Muchen. It would be more accurate to say that she might even dislike him...

Princess Aika suddenly grabbed Su Ziyue's arm and stared at Qin Muchen challengingly, "Leave if you want to, but I want Ziyue to eat with me!"

Qin Muchen had been so rude toward her recently that she barely felt like she was a princess. Whereas, Su Ziyue was so gentle and polite to her. She finally felt like she was actually a princess.

So it was fine even if Qin Muchen didn't want to eat with her, his wife would do as fine.

Su Ziyue nudged her, "Miss Aika..."

Please don't call me 'Ziyue'. I'm not that close to you.

Princess Aika looked at her solemnly. "I came from Country J all on my own, without family or friends. My mother knew Qin Muchen's grandfather and asked him to look after me. But he has a bad temper and is ungentlemanly. I don't like him, but I like you."

"..."

It sounded a little sad.

Qin Muchen snorted. "She's lying to you. She's the royal princess from Country J. She has an army of

servants waiting to obey her every whim. Why would she need you to eat a meal with her?" He growled at Su Ziyue.

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"Wh-What?"

Su Ziyue must not have heard him right.

Royal princess from Country J?

Princess Aika started to rage. "Did I give you permission to tell her? What made you think you could tell her my identity? I should be the one to tell Ziyue!"

"I'm just telling her the truth." Qin Muchen said breezily.

Su Ziyue looked at Princess Aika carefully.

It was no wonder she felt that Princess Aika had a certain air around her when she first saw her.

So, she is Country J's Royal Princess.

Su Ziyue suddenly felt out of sorts.

She wanted to pretend that she was unaffected, but she had never met royalty before. So, it was only natural for her to be curious and in awe.

"Let's go. Just ignore her." Qin Muchen suddenly spoke up and broke her train of thought.

Su Ziyue, "..."

"Ziyue, stay and eat with me. I may be a princess, but I've taken quite a liking to you." Princess Aika beamed at her.

If it was any other person who said this, Su Ziyue would chuckle and laugh it off. But it sounded a little off coming from Princess Aika.

Qin Muchen snorted derisively, "Did the private tutors not teach you any manners? Use 'please' when you want someone to have a meal with you."

"You!" Princess Aika glared at Qin Muchen.

It was plain for Su Ziyue to see that Qin Muchen did not like Princess Aika.

And it was the same for Princess Aika.

And her being stuck in the middle of this. It was obvious she had to choose Qin Muchen!

Her husband was more important.

She leaned in toward Princess Aika and whispered something to her.

Princess Aika looked shocked with what was said. "Is that so? Then you should hurry back. We'll have lunch tomorrow."

...

Qin Muchen asked Su Ziyue when they finally returned to the hotel. "What did you say to Princess Aika?"

Su Ziyue smiled mysteriously, "Take a guess."

"It doesn't matter if you guess it or not. I won't tell you." She added.

Qin Muchen snorted. He picked her up and tossed her onto the bed. "You really won't tell me? I guess we'll have to battle it out."

After the shock of being manhandled had passed, Su Ziyue tugged at her clothes, "Come on then."

Qin Muchen gripped her chin roughly. "I see you're learnt a thing or two. But do you really think that I won't do anything to you?"

Su Ziyue wasn't smiling. "Yup."

She then hopped off the bed. "I'm gonna wash up and go to bed. After all, I'm having lunch with the princess tomorrow."

Qin Muchen stripped and hurled his clothes onto the bed in anger. "You're not going!" He yelled at her retreating back.

How could he let Su Ziyue have lunch with that unreasonable woman? She was just trying to worm her way into his wife's life!

"I promised her I would, and I am a woman of my word." Su Ziyue's reply was muffled as she was brushing her teeth.

Qin Muchen wiped his face in aggravation and pouted like a child, "Then I'm going too!"

But even though that's what he said, he had to go back to work the next day.

He sent a few bodyguards to go with Su Ziyue in his stead.

...

"Ziyue, over here."

Princess Aika was dressed casually today in loose fitting clothes.

While she couldn't tell which brand it was from, it was obvious that it was very comfortable.

"Prin..."

"Yup." Before she could even call her princess, Aika cut her off.

She then winked at Su Ziyue.

"Let's go. My goal today is to buy some souvenirs for my mom and siblings back home. Thanks for helping me." Princess Aika smiled widely at her.

She was much more approachable today. It was a complete one-eighty from how she was yesterday.

Princess Aika shrugged. "Don't look so surprised. I spent a lot of my time in the army when I was in Country J. I just want to get along with everyone. Don't be so uptight. Besides, Country Z has long abolished their monarchy. You're used to democracy, and your government was elected by the public."

Su Ziyue relaxed when she heard what the princess said.

They spent the entire day together and at the end of it, Su Ziyue came to realize that Princess Aika was quite the chatterbox. Her curiosity was easily piqued, and she talked to Su Ziyue nonstop.

It was completely different from how she imagined a royal princess would act.

Their bodyguards took care of the parcels and bags they had accumulated from shopping.

Princess Aika held a greasy carton in her hand, and she was chewing on a french-fry. She turned to Su Ziyue and mumbled with her mouth full, "Shall we get rid of them?"

"What?" Su Ziyue wasn't paying attention to what Princess Aika was saying. She was holding an ice-cream cone and was focused on keeping it from dripping all over the place.

"I'm saying, let's get rid of them and hang out without them." Aika repeated.

The smell of garlic from the french-fry seasoning filled Su Ziyue's nose when Aika spoke.



Su Ziyue burst out in laughter. "We can't do that. Your safety is much more important."

This was no laughing matter. Aika was Country J's beloved princess. If anything were to happen to her in Country Z, who knew what the repercussions would be.

"It's fine. I can take care of myself. I can even take care of you. It's decided then." Aika patted Su Ziyue on the shoulder.

Before she knew it, Aika had tossed everything over her shoulder, and they were running.

Aika pulled Su Ziyue into a crowd of people.

Aika was being a bit rough with Su Ziyue. Her hand gripped tightly around Su Ziyue, urging her to go faster.

Su Ziyue could not pull herself free. She had no choice but to run along with her.

"Mrs. Qin! Miss Aika!"

"Mrs. Qin!"

"..."

The cries of the bodyguard quickly faded out.

"Prin... cess... Ai... ka.... I can't... Run any further..." Su Ziyue gasped for air.

Aika pulled her around a few more corners before finally letting go of her.

"Your stamina is seriously lacking. You won't have a chance in beating Qin Muchen in a fight if you're like this." Aika sounded like she was actually worried for her.

Su Ziyue wheezed as she shook her head. "No... No way..."

Before she could finish her sentence, Aika interrupted her. "You mean to say you'd beat him?"

"No, I meant that he won't hit me." Su Ziyue finally caught her breath.

Aika's eyes widened. "Really? I don't believe it. He doesn't hit you?"

Su Ziyue chuckled.

Everyone knew him to be ruthless and bad tempered. She was the only one he was vulnerable to.

One wouldn't believe it if they didn't witness it.

Su Ziyue had no intention of explaining further. "Come on. What do you want to do?"

"I want to go to a bar. I heard that the bars here are really different from Country J's."

"..."

She had thought that Aika was going to do something crazy...

#### CHAPTER 368

Aika found a random bar off the street and charged in.

Su Ziyue hesitated. She didn't think it was safe for the both of them to go to a bar alone.

What if something were to happen to Aika....

The more she thought about it, the more she thought that this wasn't a good idea. She made an excuse to go to the toilet, and called Qin Muchen.

Her call quickly went through, and she heard Qin Muchen's thunderous voice.

"Su Ziyue!"

"We're at the bar street." She replied timidly.

Su Ziyue told him their exact location.

Qin Muchen was still raging with anger from when he heard that Aika had run off with Su Ziyue. "You've gotten bolder lately. You ran off with someone else and now you're even calling me!"

"Aika was pulling me." She was innocent. Princess Aika was holding on to her hand so tightly that she couldn't escape.

Qin Muchen snorted. "Don't make any trouble and wait for me."

Su Ziyue used to say that she was afraid of me, but now it seems like all that fear has gone.

Su Ziyue held onto the phone after Qin Muchen had held up. She felt conflicted. Why did he think that she was going to make trouble?

But the truth was, even if she didn't make trouble, it didn't mean that Aika wouldn't.

By the time she was done with the call and had left the toilet, she saw Aika in an argument with someone.

Before she could go over and ask her what the matter was, they started to throw punches.

Aika arms and legs were lightning fast. It was obvious that she was well trained.

She quickly knocked down the two men and ran outside. Some other men chased after her.

Su Ziyue was stunned. She had no other choice but to run after her.

Aika ran into a small alley and Su Ziyue followed her.

She heard someone scream when she got there.

The alley was dimly lit. Aika stood with her back against the light and dusted herself off in satisfaction.

"It's all done. Let's go."

Su Ziyue froze where she stood. She was dumbstruck as she stared at the four unconscious men on the ground.

Princess Aika...

She was so strong!

"You're in awe of me, aren't you? I think I'm pretty great too!" Aika grinned at her. She put an arm around Su Ziyue's shoulders and led her out.

Su Ziyue chuckled. She was about to say something when she noticed one of the men who was previously lying on the ground, standing silently behind her with a dagger in his hand.

"Watch out!"

Su Ziyue didn't know where she got the strength to push Aika out of harm's way.

"Oof..."

It was the sound of a knife piercing skin and sinking into flesh.

"Damn it! You're using dirty tricks after you couldn't beat me in a fair fight! And you call yourself a man!" Aika kicked him in the face when she saw that Su Ziyue was hurt.

She grabbed the knife from him and shoved it into his neck. "Go to hell, trash!"

Blood splattered from the wound and soiled Aika's sleeve.

The dagger had cut into Su Ziyue's arm when she had tried to block the man.

The wound wasn't deep, but it stung terribly.

Her face paled when she saw what Aika had done. "You... He..." She stammered.

"He's dead."

Blood splattered when she pulled out the dagger.

Aika was being very blasé about it as if she had just killed a chicken and not a man.

It was then that Aika noticed that Su Ziyue looked off. "What's wrong? You've never seen someone be killed before?"

"I haven't..." Su Ziyue stuttered.

Maybe he really deserved to die.

But she had never witnessed someone be murdered before.

She was afraid to even see videos of animals dying on the internet.

"How long have you been with Qin Muchen?" Aika nonchalantly wiped the blood stained dagger onto the man's clothes. She then took out a handkerchief and wrapped it around the blade.

In her shock, Su Ziyue almost forgot about the wound in her arm. "Almost three years."

Even though they had spent two years apart.

"And you've never seen him kill anyone?" Aika tugged Su Ziyue and they left the alley.

"No..." Su Ziyue shook her head.

She didn't understand how Aika could talk about killing so easily. Furthermore, she had just killed an actual person.

She led a chaotic life. Random things kept happening around her.

But she had never come across someone who treated life this way.

Life was extremely precious to Su Ziyue.

"Qin Muchen is much more vicious than I am. Even my brother comes nowhere close to his viciousness." Aika shrugged. Now that they were out of the alley, she took out another handkerchief and wrapped it around Su Ziyue's wound.

Su Ziyue bit her lip as she watched Aika's deft fingers tie a knot around her arm.

Those hands had just ended a person's life a few minutes ago.

Aika was not gentle. Su Ziyue sweated nervously. She gritted her teeth and asked Aika, "You've known Qin Muchen for a long time?"

She felt Aika freeze when she heard the question.

But instead of answering her question, Aika changed the topic, "Let's go get it checked at the hospital. You may need some stitches."

Before they knew it, a group of black cars stopped in front of them.

They turned to look and saw Qin Muchen disembarking from one of the cars.

Qin Muchen's eyes were stormy as he approached them. He saw the bloodstained handkerchief wrapped around Su Ziyue's arm.

He glared at Aika. "Aika, is this how you protect my woman?" His voice could turn blood into ice.

Aika looked apologetic. "I'm so sorry. But you don't need to worry. It's just a small wound..."

"Small wound?" Qin Muchen laughed without any humor.

Aika seemed to be afraid of Qin Muchen.

And there was something wrong with what Qin Muchen had just said.

Aika protect her?

Shouldn't they be protecting Aika and keeping her from harm?

Aika is the royal princess of Country J. Qin Muchen's grandfather is an earl there, a title given by the queen. It wasn't something they could ignore.

But from what Qin Muchen had said, he didn't seem to care about Aika's safety. Besides, Aika was the royal princess. Why would she be afraid of him?

Furthermore, Aika had implied that she and Qin Muchen knew each other from before.

Sensing that there was some tension between the two, she said, "It's really just a small wound. It probably just needs to be disinfected."

"Be quiet!"

Aika couldn't stand to see women being yelled at. She shrieked at Qin Muchen, "Why are you yelling at Ziyue? She's hurt..."

Qin Muchen completely ignored her and pulled Su Ziyue into his car.

## CHAPTER 369

Su Ziyue did not dare utter a word when she saw the stormy expression on Qin Muchen's face.

Qin Muchen ordered the chauffeur to drive immediately.

Su Ziyue looked out the window and said, "Princess Aika hasn't gotten on yet..."

Qin Muchen glanced at her coldly. "I don't give a sh\*t about her."

"..."

He was being so...

No wonder Aika didn't like him.

...

Qin Muchen brought Su Ziyue to the hospital.

It was as Aika had said, Su Ziyue had five stitches.

This was nothing when compared to the stab wound she took for Qin Muchen.

Maybe it had to do with how she had gotten stitches two years ago, Su Ziyue wasn't afraid.

Qin Muchen noticed that she was staring at the doctor and pinched her cheeks. "What are you looking at? Doesn't it hurt?"

"It's numb. Doesn't hurt." Su Ziyue shook her head.

Qin Muchen glanced at her and then turned away. His jaw was clenched tight.

She didn't hurt, but it looked like he was hurting.

...

When Qin Muchen and Su Ziyue arrived back at the hotel, Aika was waiting for her in the lobby.

"Aika!"

Su Ziyue called out to her and took a step towards her.

Qin Muchen stopped her. "Don't go near her."

"..."

Did he blame Aika for bringing her out and getting her hurt?

Su Ziyue was curious about what made Qin Muchen afraid and what would challenge him.

Aika ignored Qin Muchen's glowers and looked at Su Ziyue, "Ziyue, did they dress your wound?"

"Yup, they cleaned and bandaged it. It's fine now." Su Ziyue smiled at her.

Qin Muchen glared at Aika before he turned back to Su Ziyue and said gently, "Let's go."

Su Ziyue smiled apologetically at Aika, "We're heading to our room. Tomorrow..."

Qin Muchen interrupted her rudely, "Nothing's happening tomorrow!"

Su Ziyue, "..."

...

Back in their room, she found that some of the things they had bought that day had been sent up.

As Su Ziyue could only do things with one arm for the moment, she fumbled around.

"Stay away from Aika." Qin Muchen glared at her stonily.

"Why? I think she's quite nice."

She suddenly remembered how Aika had killed that man.

She froze and the glass that she has holding, fell to the ground.

Thankfully the floor was carpeted, and the glass did not break.

She was about to reach down to pick it up, but Qin Muchen picked it up before she could.

He noticed that she was acting oddly. "What's wrong?" He asked.

"Nothing. It just slipped."

Su Ziyue looked down at her shopping and lost all enthusiasm for it.

Qin Muchen's phone suddenly rang.

He hadn't managed to ask her what had happened before he brought her to the hospital.

It was one of his men. They were calling to report to him about what had happened before.

Qin Muchen's expression changed drastically when he was told what had happened.

Aika! That damned woman!

She only knew how to create trouble!

And she had let his woman get hurt!

Su Ziyue's thoughts were preoccupied so she did not notice Qin Muchen's expression change.

"Remember what I said; stay away from Aika." Qin Muchen reminded her.

"You've known Aika for a long time, haven't you?" Su Ziyue asked.

Qin Muchen froze. "Yes."

When he saw that she was still staring at him, he added, "We used to work together."

"What do you mean you used to work together?"

Su Ziyue was confused. One was a business tycoon and the other, a royal princess. What reason did they have to work together?

Qin Muchen's eyes darkened.

He avoided looking at her and turned away. After a moment of silence, he said, "She has an army in the palm of her hand."



...

Qin Muchen had been feeling uneasy ever since Su Ziyue had gotten hurt.

The following days after that, instead of working, Qin Muchen spent most of his time by Su Ziyue's side.

Aika, on the other hand, did not appear after that. It was like she had disappeared into thin air.

She finally met Aika at Jingcheng Airport when she was about to fly back to Yunzhou City.

Aika was surrounded by security and servants. She waved excitedly when she saw Su Ziyue. "Ziyue."

"Aika, I thought you had return to Country J." Su Ziyue thought that Aika had returned to Country J as she had not seen her for so long.

Aika patted her on the shoulder. "I'm not in a hurry to go back as I haven't had enough fun yet."

Qin Muchen came up from behind her. "Hand." He spat.

Aika immediately rescinded her hand.

Su Ziyue nudged Qin Muchen with her elbow.

As if he didn't feel it, he put his arm around her and led her away.

Su Ziyue agreed that Qin Muchen was being petty and very ungentlemanly.

...

Back in Yunzhou City, Su Ziyue felt like everything that had happened was like a dream.

Aika was also in Yunzhou City.

Even though Qin Muchen was petty, he still spent some time making sure Aika was taken care of at Lumiere Jade House.

After Qin Muchen went to meet Nan Chuan, Aika slowly approached Su Ziyue, "Is this Qin Muchen's business?"

"Yup. He also arranged for you to have the presidential suite. You should be very comfortable there."

"I guess he isn't too bad after all." Aika shrugged.

They continued chatting as they walked toward the elevator.

There were quite a number of people walking around them. Aika made sure to stand on Su Ziyue's injured side so that people wouldn't accidentally bump into her arm.

Su Ziyue was touched by how considerate Aika was being.

An individual's character was decided by their environment and how they handled things.

In Su Ziyue's opinion, while of noble birth, Aika had good character. Even though she was really scary when she killed that man the other day, Aika was still kind and sincere.

She found Aika and Qin Muchen to be very similar.

The both of them entered the elevator. Just as the doors were about to close, two people entered.

It turned out to be Su Yige and Gong Zeyang.

Su Yige's belly was massive while Gong Zeyang seemed to have lost a lot of weight. They looked like their souls had been sucked out of them.

Aika frowned and spoke, "Could you move? My friend's arm is hurt."

Su Yige looked up and saw that it was Su Ziyue.

"Su Ziyue!"

Su Yige had not seen Su Ziyue since Su Group was acquired.

Su Ziyue took a step back. She looked at her but did not say anything.

"Can you not hear me? I'm telling you to move." Aika's eyes flashed. She knew at once that Su Ziyue knew this woman.

But this woman had a really nasty look in her eyes.

When Su Ziyue ignored her, Su Yige felt as if she was being looked down upon. She went white with anger, "I am a pregnant woman. You are the one who needs to move!"

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Aika raised an eyebrow. She was about to say something when Su Ziyue tugged at her arm.

She frowned and glanced at Su Ziyue.

Su Ziyue shook her head at her, "Ignore her."

Aika snorted. She leaned back and stayed silent.

Su Yige didn't know Aika's identity. Her target was Su Ziyue.

"Su Ziyue, what do you mean by that? No matter what happened in the past, I am your cousin!" Su Yige was not intimidating at all.

She just felt like it was unfair.

She used to be proud of being the oldest daughter of the Su family. However, Su Group was acquired.

After that, she found solace when she married into the Gong family. She'd still have some influence in Yunzhou City.

However, Gong Shuzhe turned out to be a murderer who tried to frame Su Yizi.

She lost everything in a blink of an eye.

And now all that she had left was this b\*stard in her belly.

Su Youcheng had accidentally pushed her when she went to see him. She had almost lost the baby then.

But it survived.

And then when the entire thing happened with Gong Shuzhe, she had wanted to abort the child.

But the doctor had told her that if she got rid of it, she'll have difficulty getting pregnant in the future.

She did not want to be a mother. At least after giving birth to this child, the Gong family would claim this child.

Gong Zeyang wasn't dumb enough to reveal that he had been cheated on.

Gong Zeyang was the only person she could count on now.

"Cousin?" Su Ziyue raised an eyebrow at her. "My father is dead. I no longer have any ties with the Su family." She said calmly.

Ding-

The elevator doors opened.

Su Ziyue pulled Aika out with her.

For some reason, this hit a sore spot with Gong Zeyang. He rushed at her and cried out, "My father is dead. I guess you're happy!"

"I'm not so sadistic that I'd be happy that someone died." Su Ziyue felt annoyed with Gong Zeyang.

"If only you and Qin Muchen did not force my father to make a public apology back then, he wouldn't have died in prison! It's all in the past so why couldn't you let sleeping dogs lie? You..."

Su Ziyue glared at him and interjected, "Are you really upset because your father died? Or the real reason you're upset is because you are no longer the young master of the Gong family; instead, now you're the son of a murderer?"

"You!"

Su Ziyue had hit the nail on the head. Gong Zeyang's face paled as he stared at her.

"In any case, it doesn't matter how many years has passed. Even though my father has passed away, it doesn't matter. I want my father's name to be cleared!"

Su Ziyue raised her voice at him.

She was thankful that Gong Zeyang did not return the feelings she had for him in the past.

Imagined if she had ended up with him. She would rather die.

"Aren't you the same?! You kept looking into your father's business because you didn't want to live your life as the daughter of a murderer!"

Gong Zeyang didn't see any difference between the both of them.

"Please do not force your twisted opinions on me. If my father had really done those things, I would have atoned for them on his behalf. But he was innocent. Naturally, I had to investigate to prove his innocence. Gong Zeyang, the Gong family will be destroyed if you continue down this path."

He disgusted her so much that Su Ziyue could not look at him a second longer.

Back in their room, Aika did not inquire about what had just happened. Instead they started to chat about other things.

When Qin Muchen arrived to see them chatting away happily, his face became stormy.

He squinted at them and there was a glint to his eyes, "Weren't you supposed to arrive half an hour later?"

Aika glanced at him. Her clear blue eyes were earnest. "But I wanted to come a bit earlier to talk to Ziyue. You know I don't have any friends in Country Z."

"What do you not having any friends have anything to do with my woman?"

"Your woman is my friend." Aika tilted her chin up at him.

Su Ziyue coughed lightly. "That's enough. Let's go eat."

Both of them quietened down.

During dinner, Qin Muchen made sure that Su Ziyue's bowl was never empty because of her wounded arm. He took good care of her.

Aika's eyes were so wide that one would fear that they would fall out.

Was he really the Qin Muchen she knew?

What in the world?!

Now, she kind of understood what Su Ziyue meant when she said that Qin Muchen would not hit her.

This was just... Insane!

The door to their room opened.

Nan Chuan entered.

He came to deliver them some wine.

It was rare for his boss to entertain guests in person. Which was why he didn't really think that much into it when he was told to bring them some wine.

"Boss, would you like me to pour everyone a glass?"

"Go ahead." Qin Muchen had a strange look in his eyes.

Nan Chuan started pouring into Aika's glass.

He looked up at Aika and was shocked. "Princess Aika!"

"Do you know me?" Aika's eyes were oddly bright.

"Of course." Nan Chuan's voice was trembling.

He was from Country J. Of course he knew the royal family's only princess.

Princess Aika! His idol!

Qin Muchen pursed his lips and pretended that he did not see the entire exchange. He continued to assist Su Ziyue with eating. "This is from their new menu. Do you like it?"

"Oh." Su Ziyue turned to watch Aika and Nan Chuan. She was more interested in what was happening between those two.

Qin Muchen physically turned her head away. "Pay attention on your food."

...

After eating, Aika said 'goodbye' to Su Ziyue and quickly disappeared.

Su Ziyue was confused. Didn't Aika say that she enjoyed spending time with her? Why was she in such a hurry to leave now?

Qin Muchen knew immediately what she was thinking about when he saw her hunched shoulders.

"She went to look for Nan Chuan." He said as he patted the top of her head.

"Why is she looking for him?" Su Ziyue was befuddled.

Qin Muchen gave her a meaningful look. "Because he is a man."

"..."

What kind of answer was that?

Su Ziyue turned to look back at Qin Muchen. Why did he look so ominous when he said that?

Even though she didn't quite understand what that mean, she had an inkling that Nan Chuan had fallen into Qin Muchen's trap.

"Let her be. She'll find her own enjoyment elsewhere." Qin Muchen held her hand and led her out.

"Oh." Su Ziyue seemed to understand what he meant. She just wasn't sure if the 'enjoyment' Qin Muchen spoke of was the same 'enjoyment' she was thinking of.

Qin Muchen turned to see her deep in thought. He pinched her cheek in frustration. "I told you to stay away from her. Why won't you listen to me?"

"Didn't you say that she went to her man to look for some enjoyment? It's unlikely that she'd come looking for me again." Su Ziyue was slightly displeased.

"Are you trying to say something?" Qin Muchen asked. He had an odd look about him.