Mr. Gu, Your Replacement Bride Is A Big Shot! #Chapter 141 - Get Out of the Car - Read Mr. Gu, Your Replacement Bride Is A Big Shot! Chapter 141 - Get Out of the Car Online -

Chapter 141 Get Out of the Car

Hearing Qiao Shan's words, Su Xue couldn't help but smile. She seemed to have forgotten all about the pain.

That's right. Her eldest son, Qiao Yu, was the most promising child in their family.

As long as Qiao Yu returned home, Qiao Nian wouldn't be able to act high and mighty for long.

Su Xue had suffered at Qiao Nian's hands today, and had lost her dignity. No matter what, she would get Qiao Yu to make Qiao Nian pay for what she had done, a thousand times over.

Qiao Nian sat in the back seat of the car. She stole a glance at Gu Zhou, who was sitting next to her.

To be honest, she was not used to Gu Zhou treating her so well. The change was so sudden.

At this moment, Gu Zhou was sitting with his legs crossed. His eyes were closed, and his fingers were toying with the ring on his thumb, as if he was musing about something. Even though Gu Zhou's eyes were closed, the aura around him did not weaken in the least.

Gu Zhou's face was a masterpiece. His features seemed to have been crafted in the heavens. No matter the angle from which one looked at him, one would not be able to take their eyes off him.

Qiao Nian gazed unblinkingly at Gu Zhou, momentarily dazed.

Gu Zhou's brow furrowed slightly. His eyelashes moved, and he opened his eyes fully.

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"Why are you staring at me like that?" Gu Zhou looked at Qiao Nian, his eyes darkening a shade.

Qiao Nian froze. Gu Zhou had his eyes closed the entire time. How did he know that she was staring at him?

Qiao Nian coughed awkwardly in an attempt to hide her embarrassment. The tips of her ears gradually turned pink.

Gu Zhou realized that Qiao Nian was embarrassed. He couldn't help but smile. "Mrs. Gu, you don't have to peek so secretively at me. You're my lawfully wedded wife. You can look at me whenever you want. If you wish, you can stare at me all day."

Qiao Nian smiled slightly and said, "You seem to be in a good mood today." "Yes," Gu Zhou answered lightly.

Now, Gu Zhou no longer gave off that cold hostility. Instead, he gave off a gentle aura.

Qiao Nian recalled how Gu Zhou had protected her in front of the Qiao family just now. Her heart began to race, and for some reason, her mouth felt dry.

"Thank you for just now," Qiao Nian said with utmost sincerity.

Hearing Qiao Nian's words, Gu Zhou frowned. For some reason, he felt a little displeased.

Gu Zhou's eyes gradually turned cold. He stared unblinkingly at Qiao Nian, enunciating each word clearly as he spoke. "Mrs. Gu, you are my wife and the Young Madam of the Gu family. There's no need to draw the line between us so clearly. Don't thank me again." Qiao Nian had always known that Gu Zhou was helping her for the sake of the dignity of the Gu family. But even so, she was still very grateful to Gu Zhou.

Because other than her grandfather, Gu Zhou was the only man who had ever protected her.

Qiao Nian's beautiful eyes were filled with stars. She looked at Gu Zhou earnestly. "I understand, but I still want to thank you."

Gu Zhou's good mood instantly vanished. His entire body emitted a cold aura, and his voice turned frigid. "Stop the car."

Chen Qing looked around and said carefully, "The sky is already dark, and we're still far from the city. What if we encounter bandits?"

Gu Zhou's expression darkened. His eyes were like two jet-black pools of ink, containing not even a trace of light. "Stop the car!"

Chen Qing looked up carefully. Through the rearview mirror, he took in the two people sitting in the backseat.

Second Young Master Gu, who could frighten anyone to the point where they would become a trembling mess. Young Madam Gu, who could beat the shit out of anyone. Indeed, neither of them would be worried about the possibility of bandits.

Chen Qing hesitated for a moment. Sensing the oppressive aura Gu Zhou was exuding, he silently parked the car by the <u>road</u>.

"Get out of the car!" Gu Zhou's voice was as cold as ice.

Chen Qing's hands, which were holding onto the steering wheel, trembled slightly. Second Young Master Gu had taken such good care of Madam just now. Gu Zhou's words were probably directed at him.

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"Then... then should I get out first?" Chen Qing probed carefully.

"Stay seated."

Qiao Nian was slightly stunned. She turned to look at Gu Zhou and saw his dark expression. Did Gu Zhou want her to get out of the car?

Gu Zhou had clearly been in a good mood just now. Why had his mood changed for the worse so quickly?

"You! Get out of the car!" Gu Zhou turned to look at Qiao Nian with narrowed eyes.

Chen Qing: "??!!!"

Qiao Nian: "?"

Chapter 142 Why Did You Say Thank You

Qiao Nian didn't know what she had said to anger Gu Zhou. She opened the door and got out of the car without hesitation, slamming the door shut without looking back.

The moment she closed the door, the car began to move.

Qiao Nian really hadn't expected Gu Zhou to abandon her in the wilderness!

Qiao Nian watched as the car drove further and further away, and realized that Gu Zhou was really going to leave her behind. She was speechless. How could this man be happy for one moment, then immediately fly into a rage the next? He changed his moods even faster than a child!

In the car, Chen Qing shrank under the overwhelming pressure. He was trembling.

His hands were covered in cold sweat. As he watched the figure of Qiao Nian grow smaller and smaller, the unease in his heart grew. "Um, Master Gu, Young Madam might be afraid of the dark. Should we turn back and pick her up?" Chen Qing asked tentatively. The cold aura around Gu Zhou intensified. "Are you so eager to invite humiliation?" Chen Qing: "?"

Chen Qing didn't understand at all. How would his Master Gu be humiliated within his own family?

Moreover, with Madam's capability, she would definitely find a cab within minutes.

Chen Qing kept quiet, and continued driving.

"Turn back."

Chen Qing's hands trembled. His intelligence must be a little lacking. He couldn't understand what Master Gu was trying to say at all.

"Go back!"

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Chen Qing: Didn't he say that he wasn't going to invite humiliation?

Wasn't this doing the exact opposite?

Chen Qing did not dare to voice his thoughts, much less ask Master Gu what he was doing.

The sky was already fully dark, and the streetlights emitted a dim light.

Qiao Nian took out her phone. She felt that it might be dangerous for her to remain here any longer. She got ready to call someone to pick her up.

She would definitely settle scores with Gu Zhou when she got back.

Just as she took out her phone, a car suddenly stopped near her.

The car's headlights were still on, and the lights were so bright that she could barely keep her eyes open.

Instinctively, Qiao Nian raised a hand to shield her eyes.

At this moment, Chen Qing turned off the headlights.

Gu Zhou got out of the car and walked towards Qiao Nian.

With great foresight, Chen Qing had stopped the car about one hundred meters away from Qiao Nian, leaving room and privacy for her and Gu Zhou.

Seeing that Gu Zhou had arrived, a trace of confusion flashed in Qiao Nian's eyes. With a displeased expression, she questioned, "Gu Zhou, what exactly are you doing?"

Qiao Nian's face was slightly flushed from anger, and the rage in her eyes was clearly visible. She looked like a furious kitten. Her anger was strangely adorable, making one feel the urge to pet her head.

Suppressing his desire to touch Qiao Nian's head, Gu Zhou's gaze inadvertently fell on her pouting lips. His eyes darkened by several shades.

When Gu Zhou didn't reply, Qiao Nian frowned. With displeasure written all over her face, she said, "What exactly are you doing?"

Gu Zhou placed his right hand in his pocket and looked down at Qiao Nian commandingly. "You're my wife."

"Yes. We've already registered our marriage!" Qiao Nian thought to herself that when she had finished dealing with the rotten Qiao family, and when Gu Zhou had recovered, she would be able to divorce Gu Zhou.

Gu Zhou narrowed his phoenix-like eyes, a trace of coldness appearing in them. "Since that's the case, why did you still thank me?"

Qiao Nian was speechless.

Gu Zhou had chased her off the car in a rage just now because she had thanked him.

Qiao Nian was a little confused. What kind of logic was Gu Zhou following?

Qiao Nian looked at Gu Zhou in confusion. "Isn't thanking you a basic courtesy?"

"I don't need you to be courteous to me."

When Qiao Nian heard Gu Zhou's words, she was a little stunned. She hesitated for a while, then asked, "Did you come back just to tell me this?"

"Come home with me!"

Qiao Nian: Then what exactly was he trying to achieve?

Was he trying to make her stop thanking him?

Gu Zhou's way of thinking was truly incomprehensible to ordinary people.

Qiao Nian was completely at a loss as to how to deal with Gu Zhou. She pursed her lips. She couldn't be bothered to ask any more questions.

Chapter 143 Touched

Gu Zhou waved at Chen Qing, who was in the car not far away.

Chen Qing hurriedly drove over. After parking the car, he hurriedly got out and opened the door.

Qiao Nian's gaze fell on Gu Zhou's face. Seeing that Gu Zhou had defended her today, she decided not to make a fuss. Hence, she got into the car.

Chen Qing was sitting in the driver's seat, driving. He snuck a glance at Gu Zhou and Qiao Nian in the rearview mirror. His lips curved up slightly. It seemed that Master Gu's feelings for his wife had changed. In the past, Master Gu had never been one to chase after women...

When Gu Zhou and Qiao Nian returned to the Gu family villa, Qiao Nian was called away by Matriarch Gu immediately. Matriarch Gu said that there was something very important.

Matriarch Gu brought Qiao Nian to her office and said excitedly, "Come in quickly. I have a huge matter to discuss with you!"

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Qiao Nian saw that there was a lot of fabric in Matriarch Gu's office. There was also a sewing machine and a workbench beside it.

Matriarch Gu smiled at Qiao Nian and said gently, "Nian Nian, you've arrived at the right time. Come over quickly, I'll help you take your measurements."

Zhao Qian, who had been standing at the side, froze for a moment. After a beat, she smiled at Qiao Nian. "Second Sister-in-law, good evening." Smiling, Qiao Nian greeted Zhao Qian.

"Qian Qian, where's the tape measure?" Matriarch Gu smiled at Zhao Qian.

Zhao Qian hurriedly brought the tape measure over.

Matriarch Gu was in a very good mood. With a smile on her face, she said, "I knew your figure the moment I saw you. However, in order to make a gown that will fit you better, I plan to take your measurements more precisely."

When Qiao Nian heard Matriarch Gu's words, a trace of emotion flashed in her eyes.

Before Matriarch Gu retired, she had been a world-renowned fashion designer. Celebrities would fight among themselves just to get their hands on a dress Matriarch Gu had designed.

Moreover, there were rumors that Matriarch Gu had once helped her daughter-in-law make an embroidered wedding gown. The value of that gown had skyrocketed to an immense amount.

Not only that, but that wedding gown had become the favorite of people all around the world, and still retained that status today.

Seeing Matriarch Gu taking her measurements seriously, Qiao Nian felt a warmth in her heart. She said, "Grandma, you haven't recovered yet. Don't go to so much trouble. It will consume too much of your energy. It won't be good for your health."

When Matriarch Gu heard Qiao Nian's words, she said with emotion, "My darling child, I knew you would say that. You're just too concerned about me."

Matriarch Gu paused for a moment, then continued, "After what happened the last time, I've learned one thing. When one is alive, one should not leave behind any regrets. I want to make a perfect gown for you in my lifetime."

"Grandma, I don't attend banquets. I don't need evening gowns," Qiao Nian said gently.

"Child, you're really humble. I heard from Ah Zhou that you'll be giving a speech at the Second Academy of Medicine as a lecturer. It's such an important event! You can't continue keeping a low profile there. I hope that you'll wear the gown I've made for you. When the time comes, you'll be the center of attention, and everyone will know how outstanding you are," Matriarch Gu said earnestly. When Qiao Nian heard this, her eyes grew hot. If she had felt some warmth in her heart before, she was even more touched now.

Although Matriarch Gu was not her biological grandmother, she took Qiao Nian to be her own granddaughter and treated her so well.

Qiao Nian's thin lips moved slightly. "Grandma."

She still wanted to thank Matriarch Gu, but the words were stuck in her throat. Her eyes were a little watery as she smiled and said, "Alright, I'll listen to Grandma. I'll definitely surpass everyone else in beauty at the lecture. I'll stun everyone!"

When Matriarch Gu heard Qiao Nian's words, she smiled so happily that her eyes curved into crescents.

Chapter 144 Showing off

"That's more like it. Alright, I've already taken the measurements I need." As Matriarch Gu spoke, she jotted down all the data she had measured.

Qiao Nian's gaze fell on Matriarch Gu's face, and her heart warmed. However, she was still very worried about Matriarch Gu's health.

"Grandma, the speech will be in five days. If you plan on making me a new gown, time will be rather tight, and I'm afraid your health won't be able to take it. If you're even a little unwell, let me know at once, okay?"

Qiao Nian smiled at Matriarch Gu. She couldn't bear to reject Matriarch Gu's good intentions.

When Matriarch Gu heard Qiao Nian's words, she smiled so wide that her eyes nearly disappeared. "My darling child, you're Grandma's favorite!"

"I'll make some herbal soup for you." Qiao Nian smiled gently at Matriarch Gu.

"Alright, don't tire yourself out." Matriarch Gu looked at Qiao Nian dotingly.

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After Qiao Nian left Matriarch Gu's office, Zhao Qian helped Matriarch Gu lay out the fabric neatly.

With Qiao Nian's measurements as a guide, Matriarch Gu began snipping the fabric excitedly.

"Grandma, after making Sister Jiang Yue's evening gown, you'll still have to make one for Second Sister-in-law. Will you be too tired? Why don't I make Sister Jiang Yue's gown for you?" Zhao Qian smiled at Matriarch Gu. Matriarch Gu looked at Zhao Qian with a smile and said, "I know you're concerned for me. I'm not planning to make an evening gown for Jiang Yue. This one is for Nian Nian." Zhao Qian's eyes widened in disbelief. She looked at the small diamonds scattered about not far away. These diamonds were all cut from a large diamond as big as one's palm. Puzzled, she asked, "Doesn't Sister Jiang Yue like diamonds the most?"

"Yes, I know, but I made these for Nian Nian."

Zhao Qian recalled in shock that these small diamonds were originally one palm-sized diamond. Under the sunlight, it would reflect multicolored light, highlighting its lustrous beauty. It was truly a priceless treasure.

Back then, when Jiang Yue had seen this diamond, she had even specially expressed her liking for it. That was why Zhao Qian thought that Matriarch Gu was helping Jiang Yue make an evening gown. Jiang Yue would also be attending that lecture.

"Grandma, you're the best. Second Sister-in-law was especially touched just now!" Zhao Qian smiled, even as a trace of worry flashed in her eyes. If Jiang Yue knew about this, she might be unhappy.

Zhao Qian's words pleased Matriarch Gu, who was smiling

At this moment, in a cafe.

Jiang Yue took a leisurely sip of her coffee, then put her cup back onto the saucer. She smiled at the woman across from her. "I'm really looking forward to the speech."

"Goodness, is the diamond you're talking about really the size of a palm? Any diamond that large must look absolutely stunning. Gosh, your grandmother is so good to you. I've never seen such a beautiful diamond in my life. Are you really going to wear that diamond to the speech?" Liu Yu looked at Jiang Yue excitedly.

Jiang Yue gave an unruffled smile and said, "I believe that when you see it, you won't be able to resist its charm."

"Jiang Yue, your grandmother really dotes on you. She was willing to buy you such a large diamond, and is even personally designing a gown for you. Goodness, how is your grandmother so nice? I want such a high-quality gown too."

Jiang Yue smiled, not taking Liu Yu's words to heart.

She had long been used to it. Her grandmother had always treated her very well. All the evening gowns she had worn in the past had been specially made for her by her grandmother, so this was already a common occurrence for her.

"Actually, I don't want Grandma to make a gown for me anymore." Jiang Yue sighed softly and said with a pained expression, "Her health isn't good. She should rest more, but every time I try to persuade her, she won't listen. There's nothing I can do."

"Yue Yue, I'm sure Madam Gu knows of your filial piety. I'm still looking forward to that day. A gown made of expensive diamonds. It'll look amazing!"

Jiang Yue pursed her lips and smiled. She really hadn't expected Grandma to take out the diamond Jiang Yue had always liked, just in time for her graduation.

Jiang Yue had thought that Grandma might have forgotten about her because of Qiao Nian's arrival. Now, it seemed that she was Grandma's favorite granddaughter after all.

Qiao Nian was just a granddaughter-in-law. Perhaps Grandma would chase Qiao Nian out

soon!

Chapter 145 Broaden Her Horizons

"Yue Yue, I've suddenly remembered something. Is that woman still staying at your house?" Liu Yu asked, looking perplexed.

"She hasn't left." Jiang Yue pursed her lips. When she thought of Qiao Nian, the light in her eyes dimmed involuntarily. She continued, "She stayed behind to treat Grandma's illness."

Liu Yu was slightly stunned. Her eyes immediately filled with disdain. She spoke, "Treating Grandma? Yue Yue, are you joking? You're also a top student in the medical academy, and you're certified to be a doctor. You can treat your grandmother yourself, right? Why are you letting outsiders treat your grandmother?"

Jiang Yue smiled and said, "She's quite capable. Moreover, Grandma trusts her a lot."

Liu Yu frowned. When she spoke to persuade Jiang Yue, she sounded as though she had a lot of experience dealing with matters like these. "Yue Yue, I'm not trying to be a busybody. However, I think that since she's already moved into your house, you should be more careful. You have to know that many girls nowadays would go to great lengths to marry into a rich family, but if they want to truly be a part of an elite family, the first thing they have to do is to please the elderly matriarchs or patriarchs."

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The smile on Jiang Yue's face froze for a moment. Then, she smiled again and said, "Actually, it's not as complicated as you think. Moreover, she will be attending this speech as well. Then, you'll be able to meet her."

Liu Yu looked at Jiang Yue with her face full of worry, saying helplessly, "Yue Yue, you're too kind. You don't have an ounce of vigilance. By the way, why is she attending our lecture? In what capacity will she be attending?"

Jiang Yue said hesitantly, "It might have been Grandma who wanted me to take her there. She said that it would broaden her horizons."

Hearing Jiang Yue's words, Liu Yu's eyes widened to the size of dinner plates. She quickly said, "Yue Yue, you're so naive. If someone kidnaps you and sells you, you'll be the one helping them count the money."

Jiang Yue smiled, shaking her head. "Surely it's not as serious as that?"

"Yue Yue, I'm telling you. If your grandmother said that, it means that she likes her very much. That's not a good thing."

Liu Yu said earnestly, "Do hurry up and tell me her name. I'll get my uncle to help you investigate her background. My uncle is a top-notch hacker. If you want to investigate someone, he'll be able to find information on every single one of their ancestors for you." Jiang Yue's hand, which was holding the cup, paused for a moment. She looked up. "That isn't appropriate!"

"I'll just check up on her for you. What's wrong with that? We're not doing anything to her," Liu Yu said. "Moreover, if we investigate thoroughly, we'll be able to confirm whether she's a threat to your grandmother. This is also for the sake of your grandmother's safety."

Jiang Yue lowered her gaze, thinking hard. After a long moment of hesitation, she said, "Qiao Nian."

When Liu Yu heard Jiang Yue's words, she hurriedly took out her phone and sent the name to her uncle. She left a message: [Uncle, help me investigate someone called Qiao Nian. The sooner, the better. See if you can get any dirt on her.]

After Liu Yu sent the message, she smiled at Jiang Yue and said, "Alright, this matter has been settled."

Jiang Yue gave a faint smile and lowered her gaze. Her long, sweeping eyelashes hid the coldness in her eyes.

"Yue Yue, I think it's better if you treat your grandmother's illness yourself. That way, she won't have anything to do with your family, and she can leave your house as soon as possible," Liu Yu reminded her kindly.

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Jiang Yue nodded with a smile. Actually, she had been studying Grandma's illness as well.

For the next few days, Jiang Yue spent all her time working on the script she would need for her speech. This would be the first time she ever stood on a stage to give a speech. The honor was immense, and it belonged to her. She would not allow herself to make any mistakes.

Matriarch Gu was no longer willing to leave the house either. There were many areas in the gown that required sewing by hand. Wearing a pair of reading glasses, she was sewing the gown together bit by bit.

Chapter 146 Calm

Qiao Nian wasn't too concerned about the speech she would have to give in a few days. She spent most of her time in the garden with her plants. Occasionally, she would go to the research institute to teach Lin Tao how to cultivate plants and conduct experiments.

Qiao Nian stood at the side. Under her guidance, Lin Tao had already transplanted a potted plant. Lin Tao's face was now speckled with dirt.

After washing her face, Lin Tao smiled at Qiao Nian and asked curiously, "You have a speech tomorrow. Are you nervous?"

Qiao Nian jotted down some data in her notebook, then closed it and looked up at Lin Tao. "What's there to be nervous about? I'm just going to give them some tips on how to cultivate plants." Lin Tao looked at Qiao Nian like she was looking at a monster. "That's the Second Academy of Medicine you're talking about." "So what?" Qiao Nian looked at Lin Tao in confusion. "Will there be mutants present?"

"I'm afraid not," Lin Tao said. "But all the big shots in the medical field will be at the lecture. Aren't you nervous at all?".

"I'm not nervous." Qiao Nian glanced at the potted plant. "By the way, this plant doesn't quite like water. Don't water her for the rest of the week."

"Got it. I'll remember everything," Lin Tao said with a smile.

Qiao Nian carefully inspected the other plants. Seeing that there was nothing wrong with them, she said, "Alright, I'll head home first. If you need anything in the future, call me."

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"Alright, take care."

When Qiao Nian left the research institute, she received a call as soon as she got into her car.

When she heard from the other end that someone was investigating her, a trace of confusion flashed across her face. "Who's investigating me?" Qiao Nian asked, frowning "Liu Hai."

Qiao Nian was slightly stunned. She had never heard this name before. "What does he do?"

"He's just a nobody in the hacker world. Do you want me to interfere?".

"Don't worry about it. Any information he'll be able to find is information I'm willing to let others know." Qiao Nian's eyes flashed. She continued, "Take note of who he's giving the information to."

After Qiao Nian hung up, she drove home.

Qiao Nian had just arrived home when the butler greeted her. "Second Young Madam, Matriarch Gu wants you to visit her study."

Qiao Nian nodded and walked directly to Matriarch Gu's study. She knocked on the door. "Grandma, it's me."

"Come in." Matriarch Gu's voice came from inside.

Qiao Nian pushed the door open and entered. She immediately saw the gown on the counter.

With just one look, Qiao Nian was stunned.

Matriarch Gu hurriedly pulled Qiao Nian over and urged her to put it on.

Holding the gown, Qiao Nian walked into the fitting room. She stepped out wearing the gown. This gown showed off every inch of Qiao Nian's lovely figure, and even set off her unique aura. Elegant, refined, exquisite, and luxurious.

The gown exuded an air of wild sultriness, yet retained a sense of cold refinement. It was incredibly alluring...

What surprised her the most was that the diamonds sewn into the gown did not look tacky at all. It was as though she was wearing the resplendent night sky.

At this moment, Qiao Nian's heart skipped a beat. This gown was truly beautiful.

It was indeed a gown designed by a designer well-known all over the world. Matriarch Gu looked at Qiao Nian in the gown, her eyes filled with satisfaction. She couldn't help but smile. She had designed many clothes in her lifetime, and all kinds of models had worn her clothes, but none of them had been able to express her designs perfectly.

However, after Qiao Nian put on the gown, she expressed the beauty of the gown exactly how Matriarch Gu wanted. Not only that, but this gown also set off her aura.

Oh, wow.

Her grandson was truly blessed!

To be able to marry such a drop-dead gorgeous beauty like Qiao Nian.

Qiao Nian looked at herself in the fitting mirror. She had to admit that this was the most beautiful and comfortable gown she had ever worn. Even though she had yet to style her hair or do her make-up, the person in the mirror already looked very beautiful.

Chapter 147 The Gown

"Grandma..."

Before Qiao Nian could finish her sentence, Matriarch Gu stepped out of the room.

Just as Qiao Nian was about to chase after her, she heard Matriarch Gu say loudly, "Nian Nian, don't change out of the gown yet. Wait for

me."

Qiao Nian couldn't help but smile. In reality, Matriarch Gu was just like a child. Sometimes, she was especially adorable, as if age didn't matter to her at all. In just three minutes, Matriarch Gu ran in holding a DSLR. Her face was slightly flushed from the exercise.

"Nian Nian, stand beside the wardrobe and pose. A casual one will do. I'll take a photo for you." As Matriarch Gu spoke, she hurriedly switched on the camera in her hand.

Seeing how happy Matriarch Gu was, Qiao Nian didn't want to sour her mood. Obediently, she began to pose.

Matriarch Gu's eyes lit up. Holding the camera, she began taking photographs of Qiao Nian from all angles. No matter the angle from which the photograph was taken, Qiao Nian was still beautiful.

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If it weren't for the fact that Gu Zhou and Qiao Nian had yet to officially announce their marriage to the public, Matriarch Gu would have used this photograph to publicize their marriage everywhere she went. Then, she would have told the entire world that her granddaughter-in-law was the beautiful fairy-like maiden in the photograph.

Matriarch Gu couldn't help but smile. After taking the photographs, she said to Qiao Nian, "Change out of the gown first. I'll iron it tomorrow, then get someone to send it to the banquet."

Qiao Nian smiled and nodded. "Okay."

After Qiao Nian entered the changing room, the smile on her face gradually faded.

If she were to appear at the lecture wearing this gown, it wouldn't be long before the entire world knew about it. Perhaps, it would even be named as the world's best-designed evening gown.

That was enough to prove Matriarch Gu's talent in fashion design. Moreover, the fact that Matriarch Gu was giving her this gown to wear to the lecture also meant that Matriarch Gu really liked her, and doted on her greatly.

If Matriarch Gu knew that she was leaving the Gu family soon, then Matriarch Gu...

Qiao Nian didn't dare to think further.

The only thing she could do now was treat Matriarch Gu's heart disease.

At noon the next day, the speech ceremony of the Second Academy of Medicine officially began.

Apart from prominent professors and outstanding students from the Second Academy of Medicine, there were also professionals from various large research institutes, including the medical research institute, present at the ceremony. Not only that, but there were also some famous doctors from private hospitals.

This was because after graduating from the Second Academy of Medicine, alumni would not only work in national hospitals, but also in private hospitals. This ceremony provided an opportunity for current students to interact with the big shots in the medical field as well. Of course, some of the guests were also investors belonging to high society. Qiao Nian stepped in and saw that everyone inside was chatting and laughing. Gazing over, she saw Gu Zhou in the crowd. Gu Zhou was walking in, wearing a well-tailored suit. His phoenix-like eyes swept around, and he inadvertently met her gaze. The two of them looked at each other across the sea of people.

Gu Zhou gave off a cold and unapproachable aura, as if he was an otherworldly spirit belonging to another dimension.

Qiao Nian hadn't expected Gu Zhou to be here today as well.

However, she recalled that Gu Zhou had reached an agreement with Director Lin regarding the research institute. It was only natural that he would come today.

Suddenly, a scream came from afar.

"Oh my god, that man is so handsome!"

"He looks like a male god!" "He's practically a walking sack of hormones!" "Oh my god, I want to give birth to his child now."

The elite in An City all knew one another. The investors among the crowd looked at Gu Zhou in confusion.

"Second Young Master Gu has been coming out of his house quite often lately."

"I think so. Has he recovered?"

"I heard that his illness is incurable. He must have stayed at home for too long. He doesn't want to live the rest of his life in a lifeless state, so that must be why he often comes out to experience the world."

When Qiao Nian heard these words, her brow furrowed imperceptibly.

Chapter 148 He's Here

Although she knew that these people bore no ill intentions, she still felt a little uncomfortable listening to them speak.

An outstanding man like Gu Zhou should not have his life cut short, nor should he be the target of dinnertime gossip.

When she got home tonight, she would definitely think of a way to treat Gu Zhou's illness.

"Nian Nian." Lin Tao finally saw Qiao Nian. She picked up her skirts and ran towards her.

Lin Tao saw that Qiao Nian was dressed very casually today. If one didn't take a careful look, one would think that she was a member of the service staff here.

Lin Tao said disapprovingly, "Why aren't you wearing an evening gown? That'll be rude."

Qiao Nian smiled and explained, "My gown is on the way here. I'll change into it when we get there."

Most people would choose to change into their evening gowns when the banquet started. As it was still early, no one would notice her either.

At this moment, there was a sudden commotion in the crowd.

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Qiao Nian and Lin Tao looked in the direction that everyone was looking.

When Qiao Nian saw the newcomer's face, she couldn't help but frown. Her breathing quickened.

Certain memories she didn't want to recall appeared in her mind's eye all of a sudden.

Qiao Nian took a deep breath, trying hard to calm her breathing. Whenever she saw him, she would feel uncomfortable.

Qiao Yu. Why had he returned? Surprisingly, she hadn't heard anything to do with his arrival.

Qiao Xin, who was wearing a pink gown, walked in with Qiao Yu.

Qiao Xin stood beside Qiao Yu and took his arm. She raised her chin proudly, as though she had recovered the dignity she had lost previously.

Lin Tao was slightly stunned. She turned to look at Qiao Nian. "Nian Nian, your brother is here!"

Qiao Yu looked the same as before. He was wearing a well-tailored suit, gold-rimmed glasses, and had his hair combed back. He seemed like an exceptionally rigid person, even dull, but his eyes were filled with ruthlessness.

Qiao Yu had a gentle and refined smile on his face. From afar, he looked like a polite gentleman.

But Qiao Nian knew that this man was definitely not as simple as he seemed.

If she hadn't seen Qiao Yu again, she would have practically forgotten about him.

Gu Zhou sensed that something was wrong with Qiao Nian's expression as she looked at Qiao Yu. His eyes darkened slightly.

Qiao Yu, who had just entered, also glimpsed Qiao Nian. He walked towards her and stopped in front of her, looking down at her with contempt.

"You've grown up."

Qiao Yu's voice was cold. He looked at Qiao Nian if he were looking at a stray dog.

Qiao Nian hated it when Qiao Yu acted like this. He was so high and mighty, and treated her as if she were less than human. She still remembered how Qiao Yu had looked at her like this when she was five.

Qiao Xin had a smug smile on her face. She could naturally sense Qiao Nian's shock and dazedness upon coming face to face with Qiao Yu. She could also sense the strong aura Qiao Yu was exuding

At this moment, Qiao Xin's vanity had gone off the charts.

Qiao Xin felt that Qiao Nian was just Qiao Nian —a cheap woman who belonged to the lower class. She would never be a presentable lady. Qiao Nian wasn't even wearing an evening gown today. She looked just like a waiter.

How humiliating! With a cold smile on her face, Qiao Xin asked, "Sister, Brother is back. Do you want to go home for dinner tonight?"

Qiao Yu stared unblinkingly at Qiao Nian. His expression seemed to be forcing Qiao Nian to agree. "I'm just staying for a few days..."

"She doesn't have time." A low, hoarse voice interrupted Qiao Yu. That voice was calm, and the powerful aura in his words stunned everyone present.

For some reason, Qiao Nian's heart skipped a beat. She turned to look at Gu Zhou, who was standing behind her.

All her attention was on Qiao Yu just now, and she didn't notice that Gu Zhou had already arrived.

When Qiao Yu faced Gu Zhou, he showed no signs of backing down. Indeed, he did not seem frightened at all. Instead, he asked, "Mr. Gu, what right do you have to restrict her freedom?"

Chapter 149 Paternity Test

Gu Zhou's lips curved up slightly. He was in an excellent mood, but when he spoke, his words dripped with sarcasm. "What right? Qiao Yu, you think too highly of yourself."

With that, Gu Zhou walked over to Qiao Yu and whispered something into his ear.

No one knew what Gu Zhou had said, but everyone saw Qiao Yu's face turn pale in an instant. His brow furrowed deeply.

Qiao Nian was slightly stunned when she saw Qiao Yu's expression change. This was the first time she had seen someone who could make Qiao Yu turn pale. Qiao Xin was sensitive enough to sense that something was off with the atmosphere. Worried that Gu Zhou and Qiao Yu would start fighting, she tried to change the subject. Qiao Xin's eyes darted to the cake not far away. After a beat, she looked at Qiao Yu, speaking in the manner of a spoiled child. "Brother, I feel like eating cake. Will you go with me now?"

Qiao Yu gave Qiao Nian a meaningful look, then patted Qiao Xin's head dotingly. "Okay."

With that, Qiao Yu left with Qiao Xin.

Qiao Nian had always known that Qiao Yu loved spoiling his younger sister, and would accede to her any request. It was just that Qiao Yu didn't like Qiao Nian one bit.

Gu Zhou walked over to Qiao Nian and his gaze fell on her face. "Where's your gown?"

"It'll be here in a while." Qiao Nian looked at Gu Zhou curiously and asked in confusion, "What did you say to him just now?"

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"It doesn't matter." Gu Zhou didn't want to let Qiao Nian know what he had said.

Qiao Nian didn't ask further. She turned back to look at Qiao Yu's retreating back, her breathing a little uneven.

"Qiao Nian." Gu Zhou called her by her full name, his voice low and hoarse.

"Yes?" Qiao Nian turned back to look at Gu Zhou, her eyes filled with confusion.

Gu Zhou reached out and patted Qiao Nian's head. In a calm voice, he said, "If you don't want to hold back, don't. You don't have to tolerate this. If you face any trouble, I'll help

you."

Qiao Nian looked at Gu Zhou in surprise, momentarily forgetting to speak. She had wanted revenge for a long time. She believed that Gu Zhou had always known about this.

But she had never expected Gu Zhou to be willing to help her.

Qiao Nian's heart gave a violent jerk. After a long while, she said, "You..."

However, the rest of the sentence got lodged in her throat. Qiao Nian didn't know what to say.

Out of habit, Gu Zhou straightened his tie and said unhurriedly, "The results of the paternity test are out."

Qiao Nian looked at Gu Zhou in confusion. She had kept this matter a well-guarded secret. How did Gu Zhou know?

Without waiting for Qiao Nian to speak, Gu Zhou continued, "I'm in charge of operations at the paternity test center."

Qiao Nian: ...

Qiao Nian froze for a moment, then frowned. Gu Zhou looked at Qiao Nian intently, taking in all of her emotions. Instead of announcing the results immediately, he waited for her to speak.

"What were the results?" After hesitating for a moment, Qiao Nian decided to ask.

"Congratulations, your intuition was very accurate. You're not Qiao Shan's biological daughter." Gu Zhou's voice turned cold.

Hearing Gu Zhou's words, Qiao Nian couldn't help but smile.

The taut string in Qiao Nian's heart finally slackened. All the tension drained from her shoulders.

She hated those people from the Qiao family, and hated herself for having anything to do with the Qiao family. It made her feel dirty to the extreme.

Su Xue was having an affair. Qiao Nian knew in her heart that this was definitely not the first time Su Xue had an affair. Someone who had cheated before would definitely cheat again. How could someone as dirty as Su Xue be her relative?

Back when she was living with the elderly grandfather who had taken her in, Qiao Nian had thought that she was an orphan. Although they had been poor, she lived a happy life in the countryside!

But after that, she was brought to the Qiao family. For no reason, she gained a brother and sister, and for no reason, she suffered unfair treatment.

Everyone told her to take good care of her younger sister, Qiao Xin.

They also wanted her to listen to her older brother, even if her brother did those things to her.

Their family was worse than a pack of beasts. What right did they have to treat someone else's daughter like she was less than human?

Chapter 150 The First Lecturer

Qiao Nian was extremely glad that she had nothing to do with the Qiao family.

Fortunately, she now knew the truth.

Gu Zhou called out to her.

Qiao Nian smiled brightly at Gu Zhou. Her red lips parted slightly as she spoke. "You're right. I shouldn't have to tolerate this anymore. I should get back at them for what they did to me, and charge interest for it as well."

Gu Zhou looked at her. There was a strange light in her eyes, and she looked much brighter and happier. The lights cast her in a golden glow, making her look so beautiful that one could not take their eyes off her.

Gu Zhou was momentarily dazed.

At this moment, the host of the banquet began to announce the order of guest speakers at the ceremony.

When everyone heard Qiao Nian's name announced first, they were all extremely displeased.

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"Who's Qiao Nian? Why haven't I heard of her name? What right does she have to go on stage to give a speech?"

"Where did this country bumpkin come from? Why haven't I heard of her?"

"I've never heard of her either. She must have gotten in through the back door. Can any Tom, Dick, or Harry become a lecturer these days?"

"I want to see the eldest daughter of the Gu family giving her speech!"

"I'm here because of Miss Jiang Yue. I heard that she's the first lecturer."

"She initially took the first spot, but the order was changed afterwards."

Because Qiao Nian had taken over Jiang Yue's role as the first to go on stage, everyone present felt indignant for Jiang Yue.

When Gu Zhou heard their words, he couldn't help but frown. Lin Tao walked around the venue. Listening to the words of those people, she was so angry that her little face turned red with rage. She complained unhappily, "Those people really know nothing. They're so snobbish. All of them are blind fools."

After complaining, Lin Tao reached out and took Qiao Nian's hand, comforting her gently, "Nian Nian, don't stoop to their level. They're just too stupid."

When Qiao Nian heard Lin Tao's words, she couldn't help but smile. She shook her head lightly.

At this moment, there was a commotion at the door.

Qiao Nian and Lin Tao looked over.

They saw Jiang Yue walking into the room in high heels. Her chin was raised proudly, her eyes glittering. She strode into the room elegantly. Lin Tao sized up Jiang Yue, frowning slightly. She couldn't help but say, "Nian Nian, who is this? Does she think she's a celebrity? Does she think that she's going to walk the red carpet?" When Qiao Nian heard Lin Tao's words, she couldn't help but laugh. She explained, "That's Jiang Yue."

"What? She's Jiang Yue? She's so snobbish!" As Lin Tao spoke, she couldn't help but glance at Jiang Yue again, inhaling sharply. "Are those people blind? How dare they claim that she's a beauty, and a top student too? Perhaps if she's a top student in the animal kingdom, I can accept that. After all, she's just like a peacock."

Lin Tao's gaze fell on Gu Zhou's face. Puzzled, she asked, "Isn't she your younger sister? Why didn't she come with you?"

"She's not," Gu Zhou said indifferently, not even sparing Lin Tao a glance.

Qiao Nian realized that Gu Zhou didn't seem to like Jiang Yue.

Lin Tao didn't sense Gu Zhou's displeasure at all. She went straight to the point. "Didn't they all say that she's the oldest daughter of the Gu family?"

"She's just my grandmother's adopted granddaughter. She has nothing to do with the Gu family." Gu Zhou's brow furrowed deeper and deeper. He seemed to be extremely displeased that others had labeled Jiang Yue as a member of the Gu family. It was as though he was trying his best to distance himself from Jiang Yue.

Only then did Qiao Nian realize that outsiders all thought that Jiang Yue was the precious daughter of the Gu family.

Jiang Yue's gaze fell on Gu Zhou's face, and the smile in her eyes grew more pronounced. But when her gaze fell on Qiao Nian, who was standing beside Gu Zhou, something flashed in her eyes, then disappeared.

Jiang Yue had been notified yesterday that she was no longer the first to speak. Later on, she heard from others that Qiao Nian had replaced her as the first speaker.

Jiang Yue had never expected Qiao Nian to replace her as the first speaker. She was such a dubious character.

She had been trying hard to calm herself down, but Qiao Nian's appearance next to Gu Zhou had ruined her composure.