

## **One Birth Two Treasures: The Billionaire's Sweet Love**

Chapter 229 – When will you stop crying? – Read novel online for free

Chapter 229: When will you stop crying?

She still cried. She cried so movingly and despairingly it felt as if the sky had fallen and earth had cracked open.

He dipped his head toward her again to suckle hard on her lips in hopes of stopping her tears from falling through this. His uneven teeth marks could be seen on her soft lips.

That did not stop her from crying, and, in fact, her tears poured more furiously than ever.

A sullen expression instantly crept into his face, and he kissed her more aggressively this time as he panted, “Stop crying!”

The woman in his arms neither avoided nor accepted his kiss. His gentle tone did not stop her from crying. She simply burrowed her face in her palms as she sobbed, refusing to acknowledge or even look at him.

This made him frown.

She was giving him the silent treatment!

Was she, perhaps, waging a cold war with him? Was she protesting against his lack of empathy or loving tenderness, or was she unhappy that, unlike Gu Xingze, he was not a pillar of support for her when she was vulnerable?

The thought of that superstar irked him.

D\*mn!

“Stupid woman, when are you going to stop crying?”

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She ignored his glare. With her face still buried in her palms, he could not see her expression.

He narrowed his eyes dangerously. Reaching out, he slowly pried her hands open until he saw her tear-stained face.

Her whole face was puffy and flushed; her blood-shot eyes were especially like that.

She could not stop her tears from flowing even though her face was already dripping wet. It made one wonder: How could she hold lots of tears in the first place?

There was a saying: ‘Women are made of water.’ Was this the reason for the endless tears in her eyes?

The man was totally defenseless against her tears. His heart instantly softened!

He never wanted to see her cry. He felt upset with this crybaby, yet he could not do anything about it!

“Alright, stop crying now!” He was at her mercy finally!

He could not help lowering his head to kiss away the tears at the corner of her eyes. They were salty and warm, with a tinge of indescribable bitterness.

He gently closed his eyes and kissed her lips once more. This time, unlike his aggressive past attempts, he only placed a light peck on her lips.

With his head still lowered, he went on to kiss her tears, forehead, nose bridge, cheeks, and lips. His lips indefinitely lingered on hers this time around.

The kiss on her lips was not usurping like before and was gentle and carefully light, instead. She was confounded by this tenderness she had previously not experienced from him.

The affection, tenderness, emotions, and delicacy of a woman could be perceived in this kiss.

The man had gracefully removed his shirt while she was in a daze.

His broad chest and sexy collar bones were revealed in the open. It was clear that he had been trying his best to suppress his desire.

However, unlike his conquering attitude in the past, he was careful and gentle with her now.

She unknowingly stopped crying and widened her eyes in disbelief. The sudden change in him was too much for her to resist!

His image was blurry as she looked at him through wet eyes. Her mind was still trying to discern the situation as he gently kissed and advanced on her...

## Chapter 230: Truce

He did it with her again. His exploration of her body was conducted with much gentleness; his wild and forceful manner was absent during this round. She clenched her teeth and locked her hands on his sexy back. After their ultimate joy, the man gently buried his face at the base of her neck and, in an almost inaudible tone, compromised with her.

“I’ll be the one to love you and not anyone else in the future.”

Stunned for two seconds, she looked at him with her hazy eyes from crying.

He was staring at her with his head bowed. His anger clearly had yet to dissipate; nonetheless, a touch of loving tenderness was evident on his face.

Is that heartache? Is his heart... aching for me?

The man got up and carried her to the bathroom where the bathtub was.

The bathtub was big and spacious enough to easily accommodate his long frame. With her in his embrace, he turned on the shower head and let the warm water cascade on their flesh. They sat face-to-face in long silence before the vexation in his eyes dissolved.

It was her turn to feel lost in his action this time.

She felt awkward lying next to him in the same bathtub.

“Have you stopped crying?” He lightly stroked her nose bridge.

She turned away, refusing to acknowledge him.

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However, not only was she unable to ignore his presence for long, she was also clueless on what she should do under the present circumstance. They had a huge row earlier, and although it ended in a truce, she was still simmering in indignation.

His eyebrows twitched at her reaction. Pouring some shower foam on her back, he started to lightly rub her skin with a scrub towel.

She involuntarily retreated from his touch, seemingly in silent protest.

He pulled her closer to him, giving her no chance to resist, and continued to clean her body.

His action was soft and gentle for someone who had not done this before. Cleaning her twice last night clearly gave him sufficient experience to know how much pressure he needed to scrub her waist and back.

Her body was stiff and sore from lying in the bed for a whole day.

He was overly energetic, and she could hardly keep up with his demands. She inhaled sharply in pain even though his rubbing was light.

Slash!

It was hard to describe this kind of pain.

“Don’t contact him anymore,” he carefully said, “I’ll change the male lead in that movie.”

She turned to stare at him in disbelief. His face was calm when he met her gaze.

“Change the male lead? Why?”

“I don’t like the way he looks at you.”

He paused and reiterated, “I don’t like him to touch or kiss you. It is that simple.”

She looked at him with slanted eyes. His repeated message of jealousy took her by surprise. “Why do you dislike that?”

“It irks me.”

He pouted at the thought of her being in contact with other men.

“Mu Yazhe, why do you mind that I’m in contact with other men?”

He answered matter-of-factly, “You are my woman.”

“...”

“Why?” He eyed her suspiciously, his expression instantly stiffening.

“Don’t change the lead,” she told him. She did not want to involve Gu Xingze in their affair.

“Why? Are you feeling sorry for him?” He sneered. “Don’t tell me that you like him?!”

“No!”

She glared at him exasperatedly. Why is this man so unreasonable? What gives him the impression that I like Gu Xingze?!

Chapter 231: Childish

She glared at him exasperatedly. Why is this man so unreasonable? What gives him the impression that I like Gu Xingze?!

He sniggered once more and continued in a strange tone, “You are so defensive toward him; isn’t it strange?”

She was stupefied by his jealous tone, though he did not seem to be aware of it.

In the past, Youyou would display such a jealous expression and tone when she carried other children before him.

She raised an eyebrow but did not pursue the matter further. Instead, she replied, “Gu Xingze is an excellent actor. I’ve watched his shows before. His acting is persuasive, and he is a natural before the camera. Besides, having been in this industry for a decade, he is very experienced.”

She hardly concealed her admiration and respect for the man when she spoke up in his defense; she did not notice the moodiness magnifying on his face as he watched her rambled on.

Pissed, he got up slightly and lunged toward her. His broad upper torso sandwiched her body between him and the wall behind, his palms holding her wrists captive high above her head.

His sudden action caused the water in the bathtub to splash all over the bathroom floor.

Her eyes widened in shock, and she tried to break free from his hold. His arms were unfortunately much longer than hers, so her struggle was in vain.

Behind her was the cold surface of the wall tiles and before her was his searing chest. If she was said to be made of water, then he could be said to contain fire. As his boiling skin pressed hard against her delicately naked front, her back was pushed against the icy-cold wall. She was overwhelmed by the heat and cold at once!

“What... are you doing?!” She glared at him furiously, at a loss on what got him into this frenzy again.

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He locked his deep-set, almond eyes dangerously on hers and, like ice cubes falling from his lips, sullenly mouthed, “Are you admiring other men in front of me?”

She retorted, “Isn’t it so?”

“Er?”

“Gu Xingze is gentler and more understanding than you. He is smart and capable and takes good care of me.”

“Oh, but is he more handsome than me? Does he have a better status or possess more wealth compared to me?” He sneered and seriously listed out one by one his strong suits against Gu Xingze to her.

Her wrath subsided as she realized that this man before her was trying to use what he had to compete with another.

He was just like Youyou. When that boy was four years old, and she carried a neighbor’s child, he had a nearly identical reaction.

“Mommy, why are you carrying another child? Does he look cuter than me? Is he prettier or smarter compared to me? Has mommy stopped loving me?”

The little lad was like a pitiful puppy wagging its tail before her, protesting unhappily that she had given her loving attention to other children.

The difference between the father and son was that this man was doing his best to conceal his uneasiness over her admiration for other men; she could detect the jealousy, nevertheless.

She quietly retorted, “Mu Yazhe, you really are like a kid.”

## Chapter 232: His Three Rules

“Mu Yazhe, you really are like a kid.”

“Keep quiet!” he froze before he coldly told her off.

“Alright, I understand what you mean. You want me to tell you that Gu Xingze is not as handsome, gentle, or wealthy as you, right? You are competing with him like a kiddo. Are you really 28 years old?”

He glared coldly, caught hold of her lower jaw, and bit hard. “What a sharp tongue you have!”

She could be so pitiful at times and be very hateful at other times!

“Can you let me off, Master Mu?” she pouted, “or I’d be wasted by the time you are done with me.”

“That’d be for the best,” he coolly retorted, albeit his hands had released her by then. He plunged backward into the bathtub and settled back lazily.

She wistfully rubbed her sore wrists. This man’s arms were powerful, indeed. It was hard to imagine his strong physique, which was hidden beneath his smart suit.

Before she could sit down with a heave of relief, he reached out his arm across her waist and tugged her toward his chest, splashing water droplets all over again.

She was unprepared and tumbled on his chest. She furiously stared at him.

Looking at her, he actually found her indignant look adorable!

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“I can keep his role, but...”

She looked at him with surprised anticipation, but then he abruptly trailed off. “... But what?!”

“I’ll tell Lin Fengtian when the time comes!”

He smiled to himself as he said this. While Huanyu was not the biggest investor for the movie, that did not mean he had no vetoing rights regarding role selection!

This film was filed by Huanyu Entertainment to the General Directorate of Films and provided the initial funding for the start of production. In the first place, he was the one who approved Lin Fengtian’s proposal to cast Gu Xingze in the lead role!

He was a businessman, after all. Investing in a movie was business, and he was not one to invest in something he would suffer a loss!

Gu Xingze’s appeal should not be underestimated. If this film had him as the male lead, it would be halfway toward being a box-office hit!

He had not expected her to snag the role of the female lead, though. Initially, he did not interfere with matters concerning the role

selection, but after last night's gala, he found the two leads' interactions to be glaringly irritating.

He was a businessman and a possessive man. She was his now, so he naturally did not want other men to covet her.

As a man, he could tell that Gu Xingze had taken a fancy to her.

Was his competitor merely taking care of his junior?

It was obvious that the veteran actor wanted her for himself!

Thus, he made plans now.

Subsequently, Lin Fengtian was floored when he received Mu Yazhe's instructions.

At first, the director assumed that the man just wanted him to take good care of the newbie. He readily agreed, then. He believed that Yun Shishi had great potential and really intended to groom her without his reminder.

However, he almost went mad when the man listed down his rules!

What bullsh\*t rules are these?!

In Mu Yazhe's rules, the most important ones were, one, no kissing scene, two, no bed scene, three, no hugging scene, four...

Chapter 233: Kiss Me

In Mu Yazhe's rules, the most important ones were, one, no kissing scene, two, no bed scene, three, no hugging scene, four...

The first three rules were enough to make his blood boil!

What does he mean by these?

He could circumvent the second rule, but what about the orders of no kissing, hugging, and holding hands?

Are we still shooting a movie?

Do we have to find a double for the light-kissing and holding-hand scenes in a teen flick?

When he went to protest to the man at his office, the latter did not even bat an eye at him and merely shot back, "Either you follow my rules, or you don't shoot the movie."

He almost concussed from rage.

What could he do, though; what else could he say?

Who was Mu Yazhe? He was the one and only heir-in-line to Disheng Financial Group. Everyone, from top to bottom of the food chain, depended on this man for their livelihood. His objection was in vain.

All of these happened in the future, though.

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Currently, she was clueless on what he had in mind and just assumed that he had wholeheartedly consented to keeping Gu Xingze when he said, “But there’s a condition.”

“What condition?”

He gave her a charming smile as he uttered crisply, “Kiss me.”

She was taken aback by his request, and her cheeks flushed ruddily.

“You...”

“One...”

“Hey, Mu Yazhe!”

“Two...”

He looked lighthearted as he slowly counted down; he seemed to be a ruler sitting on high grounds while waiting for her service.

She was flabbergasted but resigned to her fate eventually as she slowly inched closer to him.

Water rippled across the bathtub as their bodies gradually hugged as one.

She moved close to his face and gave his fiery lips a soft kiss.

She lifted her head and caught sight of his gleaming eyes, which prompted her to cower for a few seconds.

His deep and pearly dark orbs seemed to hide a trace of lust, but she did not notice that; she could only tell that he was suppressing something within him.

Both sat staring at each other in this way and did not dare to move a step.

“That’s all?”

“What else, then?” She frowned a little.

“Woman, you have bad kissing skills,” he mercilessly criticized.

“Well, I’m sorry. Do you want me to practice with another man first?” she mockingly retaliated.

He promptly jumped up menacingly, as if he were a dog whose tail had been stepped on, and hissed darkly, “How dare you!”

“I have no kissing skills, but what about you? Do you need to bite when you kiss?” she chokingly retorted in embarrassment

No one could blame her, right?! After all, she had never been in a proper relationship with a man before! While others were enjoying their youth and joyously in love, she was busy with her studies, raising Youyou, and working for their sustenance!

Putting aside the issue of kissing, she had no experience on such affectionate behaviors. At the gala, her heart was already throbbing nervously when she held the superstar’s hand.

He let out an evil laughter and then panted softly, “I’ve no kissing skills; do you want to try?”

“Who wants to practice with you?!” Her face blushed crimson as she exclaimed in bewilderment.

Without a delay and without caring for her opinion, the man forced his thin lips close to her face.

This kiss was not pushy like the ones in the past; it was soft and gentle on her lips. His moist tongue traced the outline of her lips carefully and lightly – sometimes hard and other times barely touching.

With his eyes closed, he dwelled on this kiss. Tiny threads of honey seemed to flow between their pair of lips. It was tantalizing beyond words as the kiss lingered further and deeper.

Chapter 234: You are not allowed to leave me.

She was dumbstruck. She did not know where to put her hands, which had nervously curled into fists, but eventually settled them on his chest.

This man had always placed himself above the rest like a roguish and tyrannical ruler whom no one could reject.

Thus, his sudden and unexpected gentleness caught her off guard. She did not know how to respond.

On one hand, he was cruel and tyrannical.

On the other hand, he could be gentle and caring with how he made her the apple of his eye.

Which one was the real him?

She could no longer tell.

He immersed himself wholeheartedly, and she, too, was mired in this tenderness.

Gradually, she learned to respond to him.

After the kiss, as their faces slowly drew apart, energy seemed to drain from her four limbs, and her body, which had gone soft and floppy, collapsed on him. He glanced down at her and, from that angle, saw her looking so riveting with her silky, peach-blossom eyes, rosy cheeks, and pure, ethereal beauty. He was intoxicated, especially by her breathtakingly beautiful eyes.

No man, including him, could resist a woman with eyes like her.

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He held her nape and muttered, “You are not allowed to leave me.”

“Er?”

“Don’t leave me.”

His tone was soft and low; it was impossible to hear his mumbling unless she listened carefully.

She furrowed her brows and was about to speak, but he beat her to the punch.

“You are not allowed to reject.”

“...”

The tyrannical Mu Yazhe was back.

It was as if the gentle and loving man she had just encountered was a figment of her imagination!

Before she could respond, he got up, put on a bathrobe, and moved to walk out.

She was momentarily stunned by his actions but eventually felt relieved and proceeded to recline in the bathtub with a leisure sigh.

This was when she realized that the bathroom was twice the size of her bedroom! Leisurely lounging in the spacious bath pool, she almost wished she did not have to get up again.

The thought of her bedroom reminded her of home, and she quickly got up to leave!

Her legs gave way as she stepped out of the bathtub, almost causing her to tumble on the floor.

He turned to look at her and mockingly asked, “Can’t you even stand properly?”

She bit her lower lip, thinking to herself, I’m almost wasted by your strong vitality. I am in this pathetic state now thanks to you.

She grumbled under her breath as she struggled to get out of the bathtub despite her body aches and lethargy.

She could not possibly say these words aloud and had to settle with throwing him a dark look before slowly making her way out of the shower room.

He watched her thin frame from the back and felt a pain in his heart.

This woman was too thin. When he laid her earlier, he always had to exercise care in case he accidentally fractured her bones!

It was not good for a woman to be too thin! It was more comfortable holding a woman who was fleshier.

Still, despite her thin body, owing to her past breastfeeding, she had the right curves.

She, unfortunately, could not tell what the man was thinking and only felt uncomfortable with his scrutiny.

#### Chapter 235: Hiding from Him

“What are you looking at?” She looked displeased.

He answered matter-of-factly, “Looking at you.”

She pouted and tried to pry her body out of his sight, but his eyes followed her lasciviously; he swept his gaze on her smooth and glossy body teasingly.

She was antagonized. “Stop looking!”

“Why? Have you turned shy?” he asked with a cheeky smile.

Bearing his teasing no longer, she walked up to him, shoved him out of the door, and said, “Get out!”

Bump!

He was locked out of the bathroom. The man smiled and chuckled.

She was clearly shy!

He decided not to tease her further and, wearing his bathrobe, walked away in high spirits. With a glass of red wine in hand, he sat on the couch and started flipping through the newspaper the servant had brought in.

When he saw the newspaper's headline, his eyes turned contemplative; he took a sip of the red wine as his face displayed a trace of self-satisfaction.

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When she walked out of the bathroom, she saw him flipping through the newspaper with one hand propping his head. She suddenly felt awkward in this situation.

He was so comfortable, while she was tensed.

He turned to look at her, his playful eyes studying her; his mouth eventually showed his interest with a twitch.

Fresh from the bath, her body had a lingering aromatic scent, her raven hair wetly cascaded on her shoulders, and her clear, translucent cheeks were ruddy on her fair, little face!

With her hands covering her chest defensively, her expressive, big eyes stared timidly at him. She seemed shy and scared. The innocent

and earnest eyes she used to look at him were guarded, as if he would devour her any time!

It was this kind of look that got him hooked, though.

If it were not for this little vixen's frail health, he would likely grab her into his arms, viciously bite her lips, and squash her under his body as he ravaged her hard and fast.

He suppressed his inner beast just as quickly. He knew he should not be too greedy. Although she tasted good, an excellent hunter needed to know when to exercise restraint. It would be a big loss if he scared away this prey!

There would be a future for that.

“Come over here!”

Startled, she cautiously asked, “What do you want?”

She cowered back as she spoke!

It looked like she was really afraid of him.

“Your tongue is still as sharp as earlier.” He laughed as he twirled the wine in his glass, asking mockingly, “Why? Are you afraid that I'm going to eat you up?”

She was really afraid of that!

This man was just too strong and energetic; she feared she might be unable to withstand his needs!

Pouting, she slowly inched closer and sat her butt on a corner of the couch far away from him.

This scene would look strange to anyone. Many women would jump at this chance to get close to him, yet she, who was so guarded, was the opposite.

He took another sip of the wine, patted the empty space beside him, and commanded in a deep voice, “Sit over here!”

“Why?!”

“Why are you sitting so far away from me?”

“Then, you... don’t want that anymore...” she stammered as she tried to put the words across.

#### Chapter 236: Combing Her Hair

“Then, you... don’t want that anymore...” she stammered as she tried to put the words across.

“What don’t I want?” Mu Yazhe’s brows twitched, but he quickly realized what she meant.

She was indeed worried that he would eat her up!

“Alright. No more teasing. Come here.”

As his voice became stern, Yun Shishi’s shoulders reflexively shuddered. She was obviously very unwilling to go near him.

She did not dare to defy his order, though, so she reluctantly inched toward him. When she was close enough, she easily caught a whiff of that light fragrance on him. This fragrance was relaxing and elegant, like the scent of magnolia.

He caressed her hair with his hand. It was damp but felt warm to the touch. He rubbed her hair hard, raised a brow, and questioned, “Running out while your hair is still wet?”

This could easily cause a migraine.

A woman of her age, in particular, needed to take care of her body the most. If she did not blow her hair dry in time, moisture would enter her body, and when she grew older, she would have a recurring headache.

This girl truly did not know how to take care of herself. Did she not know this bit of general knowledge?

She shook her head and replied, “I usually let my hair dry naturally after I take a bath.”

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He pinched her cheek with controlled strength and a bit of intentional teasing. “Take the hairdryer and blow your hair dry, or you will get sick.”

As soon as he said this, her eyes popped wide in disbelief. Was this man caring for her?

Hearing him talk in a near loving tone, she felt a little nice and warm inside.

After all, growing up, her adoptive father was, perhaps, the only one who had cared for her like this. After his company went bankrupt, and her family was in dire straits, she lived under another's roof and suffered through the glares and mockeries; her adoptive mother and sister had always treated her apathetically.

In school, because she had always drowned herself in her studies, she had not been able to build rapport with her classmates, and it could be said that she came and went alone.

Her teacher did deeply care for her, but...

She was a girl that was easily satisfied and moved. Her face actually blushed because of his words. "I don't know where the hairdryer is..."

"In the first drawer of the vanity table."

"Oh." She nodded before standing up and running into the bathroom. Pulling the first drawer out, she did, in fact, find a large, white hairdryer.

She took it up. This hairdryer looked really nice. From one look, she could tell that it was something very suitable for him.

This hairdryer looked classy as well, just like those found in hair salons, but it was truly too big and heavy for her. She barely managed to grab it with one hand; it was really weighty for her to hold, let alone use.

Moreover, her hands were now jelly and had no strength. This hairdryer was just too heavy for her willowy frame.

She plugged in the hairdryer to a power outlet and fumbled with it to blow her hair dry.

She hardly ever used a hairdryer simply because she had no time. She had to work part-time while she strove to pass her module credits and complete her thesis.

Every day, she would reach home very late at night and rushed to work early in the morning; she could barely squeeze in time to wash her hair and would just let it dry in the wind afterward. Thus, properly blowing her hair dry now after bathing was a rare luxury for her.

Since the hairdryer was bulky and weighty, she had no choice but to hold it with both hands as she directed the strong winds to her hair.

Naturally, she did not know much about how she should blow her hair dry. She only knew to dry her hair completely as quickly as possible, so she set the wind and heat setting to high. This was terrible. Her beautiful hair was blown into a total mess. Feeling troubled, she knitted her brows and used a hand to tidy up her hair somewhat clumsily, but it only got messier.

Hearing the occasional sighs coming from the bathroom, Mu Yazhe thought it was a little strange. What was the girl messing with there?

He walked to the door and took a glance. He could not help but be dumbfounded.

Her black hair was blown into a mess and the ends of it were entangled. In this moment, this little fool was holding up a comb to brush her hair.

Her hair was half dry and half wet, though, so it was difficult to comb through it. She was in so much pain she was flushed. By the looks of it, she was about to cry from the pain.

In the mirror, she saw him standing behind her and froze. In shock, she watched him take the comb from her with one hand and lift her hair with another. Then using the comb, he gently brushed her hair.

### Chapter 237: Youyou Was Waiting for Me

With his head lowered, he appeared to be patiently focusing on combing her hair. What she was most surprised with was that, under his meticulous combing, he managed to untangle her messy hair easily and made it neat!

“Foolish woman, don’t you even know how to blow your hair dry?”

Saying this, he lifted the hairdryer, adjusted its wind and heat setting to low, and gently blew her hair dry.

His long slender fingers made their way through her hair strands along with the warm, cozy wind. He dried every strand of it, intermittently massaging her acupoints with his fingertips.

Such tender movements made her sigh in satisfaction. She moaned softly and lazily shut her eyes, the corner of her lips irresistibly curving upward in bliss.

It was so comfortable!

Every once in a while, she would visit the salon to have her hair cut, and the hairdresser would massage the acupoints on her head like this. Mu Yazhe's skills seemed to be very professional and no less inferior to a hairdresser's.

This felt great!

In the past, her adoptive father used to assist her with washing her hair and blowing it dry; from a young age, she had lived with him, so one time, her father was not ashamed to ask the neighboring aunties to teach him how to tie plaits.

The results were subpar, though. Her ponytails, which were tied too tightly that they pulled painfully on her scalp, were often mismatched in height, causing her to be laughed at by her classmates.

However, she still thought that that was the happiest moment of her childhood.

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“You seem to be very skilled.” She could not help but be curious. “Let alone a normal man, a woman will be stumped with hair this thick and long; how do you handle this with ease?”

As soon as he heard her words, for some reason, his upturned lips suddenly reverted to a cold curve; his face also tightened up.

She was oblivious to the changes in his facial expression, however, and simply continued asking, “Do you have experience with this in the past?”

His movements slightly paused, and as though he was reminded of something, his dark orbs faintly gleamed of pain.

However, this emotion was quickly repressed by him, and in a flash, he reverted to his usual calm demeanor. He just answered neutrally, “I used to help someone dry their hair in the past.”

When she heard his reply, for some reason, her heart ached, and she found it hard to breathe!

... Used to help someone dry their hair?

Was it a woman?

At the thought of this, she suddenly laughed to herself in despair.

Of course, it was a woman. Only woman had hair this long.

Was it Mu Wanrou? Would he help blow her hair often, like how he did it today? Gently brushing her split ends and massaging her acupoints?

While she was feeling conflicted, her hair was already blown dry without her noticing it.

He put down the hairdryer and hugged her shoulders from behind. Gazing at the beauty in the mirror, he picked up strands of her beautiful hair and smiled. “Beautiful.”

Her face reddened. He suddenly dipped his head to nibble at her ear. As the tip of his tongue provoked her and outlined her ear, he chuckled charmingly with his low voice. She initially thought he

would take some action, but in the end, she only heard him ask,  
“Hungry?”

She licked her lips and slightly nodded.

Doing nothing this entire day, her stomach was already empty.

He pressed on, “What do you want to eat?”

“I’m not eating; I want to get home quickly!”

“He he!” He lightly pecked her cheek. “You’re not lacking the time. Eat something before you go, hmm?”

She turned away and rejected softly, “There’s no need. I want to go back quickly. Youyou... He’s still waiting for me to return home!”

## Chapter 238: Congenital Heart Defect

He chuckled again.

At the mention of Youyou, he recalled that boy whom he had not met yet.

His son.

“Youyou? What’s his name?”

“Er... Tianyou,” she shared hesitantly as she watched his expression.

Tianyou...

With his back to the door and deep-set eyes trained on her, he muttered the name a few times under his breath.

It's a good name. Tianyou... Tianyou...

“He almost lost his life upon his birth. It's a blessing from the heavens that he managed to survive and is now strong and healthy, so I named him Tianyou1.”

She explained to him; As his father, she felt obligated to let him know the origin of his son's name.

“It's a good name. Is his surname ‘Yun’?”

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She looked up in surprise as she studied his face. Taking this as just a casual question, she carefully replied, “Yes, he follows my surname...”

“Who is he staying with now?” he asked.

“He's staying with me.”

“Isn't he staying with your father?”

Her brows furrowed as she remembered their painful history.

Her father liked Youyou a lot now. However, everyone, including Yun Yecheng, was initially opposed to her keeping the child.

She was still a student, and their family was riddled with debts. It was doubtful that she would have the energy and capacity to raise a young child. At that time, commodities, like diapers and infant formula, were not cheap. Her monthly expenses were heavy.

On top of all these, the boy's health was not good. He was diagnosed with a congenital heart defect upon birth and, due to his weak constitution, was constantly sick.

She initially found this odd!

The older twin was so healthy, so why was the younger twin's health this poor?

She asked the doctor once and he explained that when the two boys were in her womb, they had to compete for nourishment.

Since the older twin received enough nourishment, he was able to sustain his good health despite his premature birth. At that time, his first cry after delivery was so loud and clear even the obstetrician was amazed!

However, the younger twin did not manage to absorb enough nutrients from her. Adding the fact that he was delivered prematurely at eight months, it resulted in him not uttering a cry when he was born no matter what the nurse did. He was so weak his face had turned blue back then.

Fortunately, the nurse was experienced and managed to detect a weak sign of life from the boy. Quickly sending him to the emergency care unit, they somehow managed to keep his life.

When she first brought Youyou home, her father only looked at this infant with fear and worry.

This child was beautiful and adorable; his big eyes sparkled with intelligence. However, her family was just in no condition to raise him. Would this not be harming the child, instead?

As Youyou grew older, he displayed extraordinary wisdom and obedience beyond his age. That was when Yun Yecheng changed his mind about the child and poured more love into him.

His nurture for the boy had undeniably incurred his wife and biological daughter's wrath and jealousy.

Yun Shishi already robbed half of his affection as an adopted daughter, and now, another 'bast\*rd' had to come along to take away more. How could Yun Na accept that? Hence, she would find opportunity to bully Yun Tianyou every few days.

Once, she returned home late and saw Youyou sitting dejectedly in a corner, looking at his toy that was smashed to bits by Yun Na.

When he saw her at the door, he pouted and asked miserably, "Mommy, is Youyou a bad boy? Why do grandma and auntie dislike Youyou?"

1. The Chinese word for 'Tian' in 'Tianyou' infers 'heaven'; the Chinese word for 'You' in 'Tianyou' infers 'blessing'.

Chapter 239: The Little Lad's Tears

“Mommy, is Youyou a bad boy? Why do grandma and auntie dislike Youyou?”

She was heartbroken when she heard his questions.

She might be able to forgive Yun Na. Her adoptive sister did not know the truth, so she could somewhat understand her anger and jealousy over Yun Tianyou competing with her for her father’s love.

This was not the case for her adoptive mother, though. As such, she could not forgive Li Qin’s mistreatment of her son!

Her adoptive mother was the one who forced her to sign that contract in the first place!

She sacrificed herself to bear part of the Yun family’s financial burden, yet that woman still dared to be mean with her son; how could she forgive her?

Her thoughts stopped here. Clasping her hands, she replied slowly, “My adoptive mother dislikes him, so I am renting an apartment by myself.”

She then added almost immediately, “I have to go back. Youyou must be very worried sick when I didn’t return home last night.”

She cleaned up and hurried toward the door.

He called out from behind her, “Are you going back by yourself?”

“Yes!”

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He smiled and said, “There’s no through road here. It’s a long way from the villa to the bottom of the hill. Are you sure you are going back alone?”

She paused for a moment before looking at him resignedly.

“Send me back!”

...

Yun Shishi was late, and by now, the sky had darkened.

Youyou, who had not eaten anything for a day, heard his hungry tummy making a ruckus.

On other days, he would be watching his mommy start eating the dinner he had prepared.

Regrettably, this was not the case right now, as it looked that his mommy would not be returning this night, too!

He was too lazy to prepare a meal, so he simply microwaved the pizza from the fridge. He had the food delivered this afternoon but did not find the time to eat it then. He found it delicious.

As he munched happily on the pizza, his heart was filled with grievances!

For the first time, tears brimmed in his eyes and freely escaped down his cheeks.

He tried wiping the tears away with his small hands but ended up crying a lot harder, instead.

He had been strong and brave since his younger days and had hardly shed any tears.

During an injection at the hospital, while the rest of the children were crying their eyes out, he was just sitting quietly. He had bravely stretched out his arm without batting an eyelid when it was his turn for the injection. His face was calm and only his brows furrowed deeply.

His tears were only for getting his mother's attention under special circumstances; crying was merely a minor petulant trick to him. This was truly his first time weeping sincere, grievous tears.

Before, his mother would always return home to have dinner with him no matter how late it was. If she was busy with work, she would excuse herself for an hour to have dinner with him before rushing back to continue her work at the office.

However, last night, she had missed their appointment. There was not even a call from her; naturally, he would feel neglected.

The more he pondered, the worse he felt. He vigorously wiped his trickling tears as he checked the time on his phone. It was already eight at night, yet his mommy was still nowhere in sight. He could not hold back his sadness. Pouting, he flopped onto the sofa with his bolster and cried bitterly.

“Woo woo... Mommy... Mommy doesn't want Youyou anymore...”

Why is mommy not back yet?

Does she truly not want me anymore now that she has that man?

The little lad recalled the man's provocation, and his face turned sullen.

I detest him!

Whoever wants to snatch mommy away from me is a big bad guy!

If Li Hanlin were present, he would be astounded by the deep loathing on this little lad's face!

#### Chapter 240: His Birth

If Li Hanlin were present, he would be astounded by the deep loathing on this little lad's face!

The usual impression he had of Yun Tianyou was a child much colder and more mature than others his age. He was always calm and collected. Let alone tears, hardly anything could trigger his emotions.

However, right now, huddled in a corner of the sofa, he was letting himself sink deeper into it. His eyes were swollen from crying.

He was never this fragile, yet because of Yun Shishi's 'unfulfilled promise', he was unconsciously getting worried.

He did not like a lonely home like this. With only the sound of the television's static and no other signs of life except for his, the apartment seemed especially 'spacious'.

The rooms were dark. He turned on all the lights in the house, but they could not conceal that chilling sensation.

When his mommy was present, this house was filled with joy. Despite feeling tired, she would still sit by the study table just to watch him do his arithmetic questions.

He loved doing arithmetic questions. Although, just a glance, and he could solve a row of questions with quick mental calculations, before his mommy, he always acted ignorant. He would even flick his fingers out to count them one by one. With his mommy by his side, no matter how many boring questions he had to do, he would do them with keen pleasure.

In contrast, with him alone at this house, even his favorite show on TV could not spark interest in him at all.

No way... Would it be like this from now on?!

Did that man really love his mommy?

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He would not allow it even if it was true love! That man still had his family, but as for him, other than his mommy, he had nothing else!

He was willing to do anything, as long as his mommy was with him always.

Just as he was feeling more depressed, his phone rang.

He practically jumped out of the sofa as he rushed to get out of it. Anticipation was apparent on his face. He did not even wear his shoes and raced to the table to pick up his phone. Hurriedly glancing at its screen, his expression deadened in disappointment.

‘Li Hanlin’ constantly flashed on the phone’s screen.

He rubbed off his tears and hung up.

His voice was still hoarse from the crying just now. He did not want to be a laughing stock, so he ran to the table and gulped down some water to wet his dry throat. When his voice reverted to normal, he dialed back.

“Hello?”

“Sir, are you about to go to sleep?”

Youyou replied, “Not yet. What’s the matter?”

He spoke in a succinct manner. It was as if that pitiful and resentful boy just then and this cold and detached boy right now were two distinct entities.

“It’s this. Previously, you have requested for... some information about yourself. I have found it for you.”

Yun Tianyou arched an elegant brow and looked somewhat perplexed.

At first, he was a little curious of his birth. When he was younger, he often asked about his daddy’s whereabouts. About his birth, his mommy was tight-lipped.

He had even mistakenly thought that his inquiries about his daddy were ripping out his mommy’s sad memories. He used to think that he did not have a daddy, that he had left him after his birth.

He had assumed that he did not have a daddy. However, time passed, and he eventually learned the truth about his biological father. Mu Yazhe... He instinctively got curious about him; what past did he and his mommy have?

Thus, he ordered Li Hanlin to investigate this in secret.

Never did he think that the results would come this fast.

Chapter 241: Exposed for Making Use of the Unspoken Roles

“However, sir, if possible, it’s best if you don’t know of this.”

Li Hanlin carried a strange tone to his voice as he spoke carefully to the little boy on the other end of the line.

He had a look at the information he had gathered and could not bear to send it to him.

The truth was just too cruel.

He wanted to hide it from the little boy but had no way of explaining himself to the latter too.

Sitting in front of the study desk, he opened his fax. While waiting for the information to be sent over, Youyou opened his laptop and saw a notification at the bottom right corner of the screen.

[Popular female actress caught making use of the unspoken rules with a Huanyu higher-up!]

Usually, he would not care about this piece of gossip.

However, today, he clicked on it subconsciously!

Speaking of unspoken rules, it was commonplace in the entertainment industry.

In this world of luxury and dissipation, many ugly stories were unknown to the public.

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Numerous stars appeared to be dazzling and beautiful; many female artistes presented themselves as pure, teenage girls, but in private, they had faces of extreme monstrosity.

In the world of show business, deadly temptations abounded; if an artiste wanted to get their name out there in this talent-packed industry, they could make use of the ‘unspoken rules’.

Although it was ‘another’ female artiste, it was rare for the media to be covering a scandal from Huanyu Entertainment.

All along, few artistes under Huanyu Entertainment were exposed of doing scandalous deeds.

After all, Huanyu’s artistes had strong backers. Huanyu Entertainment was a milestone for various showbiz companies. Looking across the current showbiz industry, even Euro King Entertainment, the film industry’s top agency back when Hong Kong movies were all the rage, was far from comparable.

What was scarier was that Huanyu Entertainment had shares in the top eight media companies in the country; its influence over the media was quite big.

Because of this, as vast as the showbiz industry, most information was under Huanyu Entertainment's control. Those that were disadvantageous to the company were usually suppressed.

Thus, the public was puzzled at the exposure of a Huanyu artiste following the unspoken rules!

Normally, if a female star was that unlucky to be shot, Huanyu would purchase the photos with a hefty sum to protect her image. Now, the first to feature this scandal was the top media company under Huanyu Entertainment, Star Entertainment News.

Was it possible that this popular female actress had offended a Huanyu higher-up, and that top brass wanted to put her in place through this?

Youyou squeezed his brows. He skimmed through the content of the news. The person involved in the scandal was actually one of the most popular female actresses of Huanyu Entertainment, Tang Yu.

Early in the morning, 'Tang Yu was seen entering a Huanyu higher-up's villa' made the headlines at Phoenix News. It was backed by pictures – a clear proof to this scandalous event.

In some of the pictures, one showed Tang Yu standing at the entrance to a villa, and another presented her entering the villa with the help of a maid. The higher-up involved was a director of Huanyu's board, Li Wenqing.

All along, Li Wenqing held as bad a reputation in the industry as He Lingxiang.

Making use of his identity as a shareholder, he had his way with many female stars.

Hearing through the grapevine, the man had a unique taste in a certain area; he liked to play with different tricks and would go accordingly to how exciting it was. He was indeed no better than He Lingxiang.

It was just that he had access to many resources; after all, at present, Huanyu Entertainment was indeed the empire of media productions and had a rich bed of resources. Naturally, many artistes were eager to be bedded by him.

Chapter 242: The truth is out.

Rumors had it that this matter had taken a turn for the worse because his wife caught him in the act this time.

This was big news. Besides photos, the affair was caught on camera. With the curtains parted wide open, Li Wenqing was not discreet at all when he banged Tang Yu.

He seemed unconcerned with the paparazzi's presence at that time, though he probably did not expect the matter to blow up!

There were other minor repercussions from this news.

The following day after Huanyu's gala, all the major media outlets that had their reporters work through the night to produce articles on their chosen exposes released the news first thing in the morning.

However, that morning, Star Entertainment News jumped on the bandwagon by hinting of an exclusive coverage on a starlet who had used underhanded means to advance her career.

When the news was released, various media organizations were caught off guard.

Is that true?

This upset their plans with their carefully selected news.

At first, they thought that this was another well-played tactic employed by investors to generate publicity for their upcoming show.

They were used to such trickeries.

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At seven in the morning, Li Wenqing and Tang Yu's scandal was released, and it unexpectedly went viral.

Star Entertainment News monopolized the public's interest, so the rest could not sit back and just watch further. One by one, they dug up the actress's dark and dirty secrets to create more sensational news.

Hence, Tang Yu's dark history was exposed to the public through the various media outlets.

The media had a field day with her sordid past.

[... Used to be an escort prior to entering the show business; she worked at nightclubs...]

[... Slept with two deputy directors and a few well-known actors to clinch the lead role in...]

[... Competed for attention with fellow actress, Yang Mi, from the same agency...]

[... Bullied a newcomer during production...]

It was as if the media wanted to rip her apart, exposing all her buried dirt one after another.

The biggest loser here was her fans.

Her roles in many movies and shows were always a sweet, innocent maiden, which garnered her many homely male fans. Their dreams were dashed upon learning of her true colors, and many of them turned against her. Her fanbase on Weibo plummeted from ten million to five million in a matter of days.

The actresses, including Yang Mi, that were somewhat close to her quickly released statements clarifying their relationship with her. Now that her image was ruined, they started to distance themselves from her.

In the deadly entertainment industry, there were also those who chose to do her in by riding on her bad publicity.

““She is a bad influence for the young!””

As Youyou read this line aloud, he saw a few sheets rolled out of the fax machine. He walked over, held up the stack of information sheets, and started reading. His face froze after one glance.

The hand holding the papers visibly shook.

What... What is this?

Is this the truth that I want?

Li Hanlin's words reverberated in his ears again; was this the reason for his inhibition?

Right at this moment, the loud ringing of the doorbell jolted him out of his pensive thoughts. He switched on the CCTV and saw his grandfather standing outside the door.

Li Qin, who was standing beside him, looked worried and anxious.

“...?”

He had a dazed look on his face before it turned sour. Why were they here?

If this were prior to today, he would adopt an innocent, smiling face to greet his grandfather affectionately.

However, having read that information faxed to him, he felt detached from him. Another thought came to him and then he smirked. Perhaps, his grandfather came here looking for help?

“Youyou... Erm, is your mommy at home?” Yun Yecheng anxiously asked.

“We can talk inside.”

Youyou let them into the apartment with an extremely unfriendly look.

The couple had been studying Youyou’s expression closely since they stepped through the door.

The grandfather felt something different about his grandson...

He could not tell what was different, except that the child had turned tepid. No smile was on his face, and he acted detached and cold to him.

Youyou was sensitive enough to pick up his queer look. He returned his gaze with daggers. His sharp and cold expression shocked his grandfather, who had gone through much in life. A boy his age should not have such a look!

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“Youyou, what happened to you...”

Why is he so cold to me suddenly?

He would have affectionately called him ‘grandpa’ in the past. There must be a reason for this sudden change, though he could not pinpoint it even after thinking for a while.

His wife snorted. “What an ingrate. Have you forgotten how to greet your elderlies? Have your mother taught you respect?”

“It’s none of your business what my mother teaches me,” he coldly rebutted.

“You...” She was so furious she became speechless.

This boy is rebelling!

He was obedient in the past. Although she did not like him, he would still address her warmly as grandma. He would mind his manners even when she ignored him. He was not like that today. Not only was he rude, he even retaliated.

His face was especially tepid; his glare was so cold it could freeze the air particles around them!

His expression sent a chill down her spine.

“Are you rebelling?! You really are your mother’s son; you don’t have manners, too. What a b\*st\*rd through and through. Do you even know how to respect your elders? What a rude boy! Hmph...”

His patience had run out. “Did you brush your teeth before leaving the house?”

“Ah?” She could not comprehend his sarcasm.

He casually continued, “This is my house, so you’d better watch your mouth. It will be embarrassing for you if I throw you out.”

“You—” She wanted to lash out to him but was stopped by her husband’s harsh order, “Shut up now!”

The man could not stand it any longer.

She looked at him in surprise; his words were meant for her as he was staring hatefully at her!

She obediently closed her mouth for a change when she saw his simmering face.

They were here for an important matter.

Youyou leisurely sat on the sofa again and sneeringly asked, “Grandpa, mommy is not at home now; you can tell me what you want.”

#### Chapter 244: Sucking Her Dry

Li Qin chortled to herself. This child was still young at six or seven, yet he was pretending to be an experienced adult. How did that Yun Shishi educate her child?

She then joined in the conversation, “You child, what do you know? Wait for your mom to come back; we’ve got grown-up stuff to discuss with her!”

Youyou chillingly lifted his eyes and flashed her a fierce look. He looked like someone who had braved countless storms – mature and arrogant. She intuitively shrank. She was actually frightened by his gaze into closing her mouth!

Afterward, she carefully thought it over, and she kept feeling that something was wrong. He was merely a young child, but he owned a pair of menacing eyes. This was truly... unbelievable!

“You don’t have to beat around the bush with me. If it’s about a loan, then ask me directly,” he said in a lukewarm yet commanding voice.

Yun Yecheng was startled. He and she stared at each other in surprise and even found it a little hard to swallow. Embarrassment could hardly be hidden from his face in particular, and he asked, “How did you know that I’m here to ask your mom for a loan?”

“If it’s about a loan, then I won’t see you out.” The boy ignored his question and quickly showed him the door.

He was stupefied, and she was infuriated.

She finally wanted to have a nice talk with her adopted daughter but was awkwardly rebuffed by that woman’s child instead!

Yun Yecheng said, “Youyou, you won’t understand if I talk about it to you. Nana is in the hospital, and her condition is critical right now. Grandpa doesn’t want to as well, but grandpa here is presently in a tight situation. Grandpa can only ask your mommy for help!”

Early in the morning today, there was a call from the hospital informing them that Yun Na had a mishap and was now in a hospital ward. They rushed there, only to almost faint from shock when they saw her lying in a bed.

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This was especially the case with Li Qin; when she saw for herself that Yun Na’s face was completely destroyed, she was extremely upset and went into hysterics at the hospital. She wailed and wanted to find the culprit who had disfigured her daughter.

Unfortunately, the hospital staff was also unaware of the incident in its entirety.

The patient was sent to the hospital early in the morning. A mysterious man in a suit had paid for all the treatment expenses and then left in a hurry.

Yun Yecheng found the doctor-in-charge and inquired about Yun Na's condition. The doctor went straight to the point, "Your daughter's face can be considered as wrecked!"

Her face sported over ten, long gashes, and they were sutured with several stitches to close the wounds. Her face, regrettably, could not be seen in public ever again.

However, the doctor did indicate that not all hope was lost. If their situation could allow, they could prepare a few hundred thousand yuan, find a trusted beauty clinic, and sign her up for plastic surgery. Perhaps, her appearance could be restored this way.

Preparing a few hundred thousand yuan was easier said than done. How was the current Yun Yecheng capable of bringing out so much money?

As Li Qin was feeling depressed, Yun Na regained her consciousness and roughly realized the condition of her face now. She cried aloud and threatened to commit suicide; she said she was not going to live if her face was destroyed.

He was distressed. How did her daughter come to such a state for no reason?

Which hell of a b\*stard destroyed his daughter's face? How could she continue with life in future?

Seeing her crying and attempting to commit suicide, he eventually managed to calm down the suicidal Yun Na with much difficulty. He assured her that he would send her for plastic surgery and her face would be restored to how it was before. Yun Na's mind was then much more at ease.

#### Chapter 245: Relapse

The nurse rushed over to inject her with a dose of sedative. Once Yun Na succumbed to the dose, Yun Yecheng thought of Yun Shishi and decided to talk to her of what he should do at present!

Youyou saw through their intentions, however.

With Yun Na in a crisis over restoring her original appearance, they, especially Li Qin, would obviously opt to raise money for plastic surgery. Was she only willing to let go of his mommy when she had sucked her dry?

In the past, she had often called his mother a 'b\*tch', and now, when her biological daughter was in trouble, she had the audacity to flash the family card to him – even he thought that she was being hypocritical.

Before, he used to call Li Qin 'grandma' and Yun Yecheng 'grandpa'; it was because of his mommy.

Now that he knew of that matter six years ago, he would no longer treat them nicely for old time's sake.

“Youyou, how can you talk like that to your grandpa?! You are so young, yet you don't have manners!” she lectured him sternly.

“Grandpa? He he, I don't have a grandpa like him.” Youyou played with the ring in his hand and said calmly, “If he were my grandpa, he would have known how much suffering my mommy has endured over the years. As for you, Li Qin, I used to call you grandma, but you did not care for my existence. In these six years, you have never cared for my mommy and me. Back then, why didn't it cross your mind that she is your daughter and I am your grandson? Now that you have a predicament, you make use of that so-called ‘kinship’—sorry to say, but it's too late!”

Yun Yecheng's body completely stiffened, his face turning livid. All these years, he had not been a dutiful father to her; he truly felt that he owe his daughter a lot.

Still, his grandson's attitude toward him was too different, and he could not make sense of the entire situation.

Li Qin quickly lost her patience in her dissatisfaction, saying, “You can't put it that way! When did the Yun family treat her badly? Even if we gave her the cold shoulder, it's only because we argued a little. Blood is thicker than water; your grandpa is your own flesh and blood, isn't he?”

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“Ha ha!” Youyou suddenly let out a faint snicker, as if he had heard a joke. He then answered monotonously, ““Blood is thicker than water’? You think I really don’t know that mommy is not your biological daughter?””

Yun Yecheng was horrified.

How did he know?

No one had mentioned to him that Yun Shishi was only adopted. How did this child know?

Could it be...

Impossible. He knew Yun Shishi well.

She had always treated him as her biological father, and this daughter had been very filial to him all along.

“Alright! Since you know that your mommy isn’t our biological daughter, shouldn’t you repay us for her upbringing?!” she accused unceremoniously while she pointed her finger at him. She seemed to have forgotten that the person before her was just a six-year-old child.

“REPAY?!” Youyou exploded. He abruptly stood up, rushed into the study room, brought out a thick stack of papers, which he numbly flung at Yun Yecheng, and spoke in a chilling voice.

“Six years ago, my mommy helped the Yun family once. Li Qin, what did you take my mommy for? You wish to make a waste of her, but I, Yun Tianyou, won’t allow that!”

He turned around and laughed grimly. “Also, Mr. Yun, I kindly advise that you and your wife keep your mouths shut regarding this. Don’t go tattling to my mommy. You’re not allowed to mention anything about today.”

She fumed and said, “You... How can you speak like this — ”

“Get out!” Youyou abruptly pointed to the door and ordered coldly, “GET OUT!”

Yun Yecheng quickly turned around and left. Seeing this, Li Qin followed along in a hurry.

Youyou was expressionless. Recalling the price his dear mother had to pay for the Yun family six years ago, his heart almost suffocated from the pain.

It was so painful he felt as if his heart were being pricked.

Youyou held the sofa for support and clutched his chest firmly. He suddenly found it difficult to breathe.

Suffocating... It really felt as though he were suffocating.

“Ha... haa... ah haaa...”

Cold sweat broke out and covered his forehead as he rigidly sat down on the sofa. His breathing hastened. He held his chest, only to feel that something was constricting it. It was stuffy and painful inside, and he was almost unable to breathe.

“Ah ha... haa... haaa...”

Youyou uncomfortably shriveled up into a ball on the sofa. His fingers, which were hovering over his chest, grabbed hold of his shirt drearily. His brows were distorted, and his face was completely wan from the pain. Beads of cold sweat constantly dripped from his face to the sofa.

“Ha... haa...”

His phone suddenly rang.

Youyou looked in the direction of the ringing sound and barely managed to squat on the sofa as he clutched his chest. He slowly inched toward the gadget; one of his feet had just touched the ground when his legs wobbled and gave way. He fell off from the sofa to the floor.

Breathe... He was almost unable to breathe...

He moved to the table with much difficulty, but this was when his phone ceased ringing.

He held his phone up and, with trembling hands, called back. Within two seconds, the call went through, and Li Hanlin’s calm voice could be heard asking, “Sir?”

“Mr. Li... save me...”

Smack!

He was unable to continue as he lost his grip on the phone, and it dropped to the floor with a clatter.

Yun Tianyou could no longer hold on and fell to the ground with an ashen complexion. The corner of his lips twitched, and he fell out of his consciousness.

Li Hanlin's worried voice could be heard over the phone.

“You – Youyou?! Yun Tianyou? Hang in there! I'm coming now!”

...

On the way to the hospital, Yun Yecheng flipped through the pages with trembling hands. He looked through each page in silence, and his expression gradually darkened until it became ghastly pale.

Li Qin, who was sitting beside him, looked over in alarm. She tried to peek several times, but due to the car's poor lighting and her poor eyesight, she could not make out what was written in them, so she asked, “Dear, what's all these—”

“DON'T TALK TO ME!” he flew into a rage and cut her off all of a sudden. He then furrowed his brows in a serious manner and rested his head on the seat as he looked upward. “Don't talk to me, Li Qin. Don't talk to me!”

Never did he expect that his daughter had gone down the path of surrogacy six years ago was actually due to his wife's secret instigation!

Chapter 246: Racing

The Aston Martin raced along, constantly skimming through the lush shadows of the trees it flew past.

Amid the picturesque Hillstream Garden's rolling hills and meandering canals, with trickling streams, was the villa. At one glance, the verdant forest looked like a sea of green.

Illuminated by the moonlight, the leaves rustled with the evening breeze, forming waves across the green sea. The beautiful scenery was enthralling.

However, at this moment, Yun Shishi, who was sitting in the passenger seat, was nervously eyeing the road ahead. She threw a careful sideway glance at the tachometer – the pointer was at the 4500 digit – then looked at the speedometer – 180 km/h – and her heart hung at her throat!

Hurry and speed on!

The uber race car, just like a galloping wild horse that had broken loose from its reins, sped roaringly along the mountainous road, as if it wanted to rip apart this peaceful night scenery!

She might not know about race cars, or what the speed change at 4500 meant, but she was slowly feeling the effects of this speed, albeit there was none at first. Whenever the car turned, she would experience a frightening sensation; it was as if the car would float anytime if it went a little faster than this!

From the villa to the foot of the mountain was a long winding road. Though there were railings to fence off the cliff, it would be unthinkable what would happen if the car actually hit them!

These barricades might look strong and sturdy, but they were unlikely to withstand a collision with a car; these railings were not useful in such situations.

If the car really got out of control, not even a wall barricade could withstand the collision, let alone a railing!

She could vividly imagine the car dashing through the barricade over the cliff and suspending mid-air. Just like in an American action thriller, the car, along with the humans inside it, would then burst into flames!

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“Mu... Mu Yazhe, it's too fast!” she anxiously told the man beside her as she held her pounding heart.

She turned to look at the man, only to find him staring disinterestedly ahead; his head was propped in his one hand.

The scenery sped past every second.

With only one hand holding the steering wheel, his attractive face was expressionless and calm under the moonlight. He seemed to be in control.

“Mu Yazhe!”

The man threw her a sidelong glance before she could finish her sentence. With a mischievous smile, he suddenly floored the accelerator; the engine gave an ambitious roar and spurted even faster!

She did not know that the speed at 200 kilometers, let alone 180 kilometers, per hour was well within his control.

They came to a sharp bend ahead. On the left was a rocky mountain wall and on the right was a bottomless cliff. On the hilly road, one could see the streamlined race car completed an insane car drift on that bend; its shining body painted a dazzling silver line across the skyline under the moonlight.

“Ahhhh!” She let loose a scream, her face waning in fear and covered with cold sweat!

Is this man doing this on purpose?!

By the time the car rolled into her neighborhood, her face had lost all its colors.

He switched off the engine after he stopped the car below her apartment. Removing his seatbelt, he teasingly drew near her and asked, “Why? Are you scared stiff?”

He proceeded to gently and playfully spring his slender index finger on her face, which felt cool to the touch.

She regained her composure and shot a glare in his direction, asking suspiciously, “Mu Yazhe, did you do that on purpose?”

She could not stop glaring at him. Her rosy cheeks and clear distinctive eyes puffed with unhappiness over his errant driving and the aftershock relief.

Chapter 247: Self-blame

“I did that on purpose? What did I do on purpose?” He forged innocence. His lips curled into a mischievous smile as he knew what she was getting at; in fact, he found her frightened look rather adorable.

There were some women who, besides having attractive features, had especially charming eyes, and she was one such woman. Even when she was glaring, one could easily mistake it for a petulant look, which was extremely alluring.

His eyes gradually clouded over, and as though she had cast a spell on him, his fingers unknowingly reached out to touch her face.

She coldly avoided and slapped his outstretched hand, angrily exclaiming, “Drop the act! Why did you drive so fast?! Didn’t you know that it’s dangerous?”

He furrowed his brows in fake remorse and refuted, “You told me yourself to be quick. I drove fast because you were in a hurry.”

He cleverly shoved the blame on her with an innocent look, as if she were the unreasonable one.

If any of his subordinates would see this, they would be astounded by his expression!

He had always been a cold and detached boss, and yet, at this moment, he was wryly pouting and frowning with innocence, while his eyes danced with amusement. This would be a shocking scene to them!

In their eyes, he was haughty and aloof, and hardly spoke or smiled. His face would not reveal any expression, and he was not easily provoked into reacting.

He had striking features, but because of his aloofness, it was hard for anyone to get close to him.

He never smiled at anyone except for his son, yet, right now, he... was smiling at this woman.

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She did not know of all these, however, so she was unaware of his extra care and attention to her. Instead, she felt that this man was plain mischievous for playing tricks on her with such a dangerous matter!

“Don’t you think that you were driving too fast?!”

The way from the villa on the mountainous outskirts to the bustling city center was long and winding. The distance from the villa to her place was at about 50 kilometers, yet it only took him 20 minutes to cover such a distance.

One must know how bad the traffic jam in the capital could be. He took about fifteen minutes to navigate through the traffic in the city, which would mean that he merely used five minutes to drive through the 30-plus-kilometer mountainous road.

What is this?

The fastest a subway could go was only 493 kilometers per hour. It was later reduced to 300 kilometers per hour after a bad accident.

She almost lost her hearing when they traveled at the speed of 400 kilometers per hour earlier. Up to now, her ears would not stop buzzing.

She ignored him and just opened the car door to get off but almost slipped and fell when her legs gave way.

She was secretly upset with herself for getting scared by his stunts.

One could not blame her, though! There were a few times when she thought that the car would accidentally veer toward the barricades and fly off the cliff. Sitting in the passenger seat, her heart would not stop pounding at that daunting experience!

What a narrow escape!

Can this man be a safer driver?

She looked at the watch on her wrist. It was already late; had Youyou already gone to sleep?

She slightly clenched her lips in vexation. Since Youyou was born, she had been punctual.

Chapter 248: Youyou Was Missing

Without a father to grow up to, she vowed to do her best to fill up this void for Youyou.

Once she started working, no matter how busy she was or how late she worked, she would always set aside time to have dinner with

him. Even if she had to apply for leave, she would rush back home to accompany Youyou for dinner before going back to the office to continue her work.

Although her actions had resulted in much dissatisfaction, she had never made an exception and came back every day for dinner.

If there was an emergency at work or an appointment she could not get out of, she would let him know and ‘beg to be excused’ beforehand. Even though the little boy would protest and express his disappointment, he would at most remind her, in an upset voice, to eat her meals on time and return home as soon as she could.

However, it was rare for her not to return home for an entire night!

That time before was the first.

Last night was the second.

Today was the third.

For two consecutive days, she had been unable to have dinner with him, and Yun Shishi felt extremely remorseful.

She raised her head and looked toward her apartment window; the lights were still on. Her heart was flooded with warmth, as well as a dull ache.

That little boy, did he specially leave the lights on to wait for her return?

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Yun Shishi wanted to quickly head up to her unit, but the man in the car stopped her.

“Leaving just like this?”

He noticed that she was about to leave for her apartment just like that, and discontentment started to appear on his face.

“What do you still want?” She sulkily turned around to face him.

“Don’t you have anything else to say?” He looked at her deeply, his deep-set eyes faintly glimmering under the moonlight.

“I’m going home!” She turned around, walked up to the door, and opened it with her card. What he was left with was the sound of a door closing somewhere up the stairway.

He remained sitting in his car as he involuntarily broke into a smile. He raised his eyes a little to look at the only window on the tenth floor that still had indoor lights on. All of a sudden, a deep thought flashed across his eyes.

“Yun Shishi is my mother; Yun Tianyou’s mommy. I’ll protect her for the rest of my life. I won’t allow her to be harmed or wronged in any way, and I’ll definitely not let you hurt her.”

The youthful yet mature voice of the child resonated in his ears.

Youthful and mature. These two words were paradoxically congruous in that little boy.

Youthful was his voice, appearance, and especially his fragile body. He was only six; tenderness was retained on his face, and his voice was full of effeminacy.

Mature was his haughty vigor, his prudent way of speaking, and his calm disposition. He could not quite figure out exactly why a mature soul resided in such a small body.

He was mature to the point where it was surprising, even to him.

He got out of the car and took out a cigarette pack. He held a stick of it in his lips and lit it up.

Along with a faint sparkle, a scent unique to a cigarette spread in the night wind.

Yun Shishi opened the door and was welcomed by the soft lights from the living room. A grin subconsciously appeared on her face. She walked into the living room full of regrets and announced, “Youyou, mommy is back!”

She received no response to her call, however.

If it were in the past, she would hear rapid stomps from the study room, which would soon be followed by Youyou’s appearance in the hallway with a bright smile, as he threw himself into her embrace. He would make use of his cute face to snuggle in her arms, being just like a kitty acting coy.

Right now, it was eerily silent.

Had he gone to sleep?

She entered the study room with a puzzled look and saw the laptop screen and the fax machine still on, yet there was no sight of the little boy.

She exclaimed and rushed into the bedroom. She even dropped to the floor to peer under the bed. Was he playing hide and seek with her to give her a scare as punishment for not returning home for two days?

#### Chapter 249: Criticisms and Accusations

She exclaimed and rushed into the bedroom. She even dropped to the floor to peer under the bed. Was he playing hide and seek with her to give her a scare as punishment for not returning home for two days?

She still could not find him, though.

She was suddenly a little worried. She scurried over to the balcony and looked down in panic as she gripped the railings for support. When she spied no anomalies down there, she calmed down a little.

Her phone was wrecked, so she could not help but entertain scary thoughts.

She failed to see the little boy anywhere. Their house was just this big; it was a 60-square-foot, two-room flat. She had searched every nook and cranny of the unit but, besides her, no one else was in the apartment.

She was extremely frightened by this. She returned to the living room and spotted a phone on the floor at the corner of the table. She walked over and picked it up, vaguely noting that Youyou had somehow managed to change his handphone to a smartphone.

She was still perplexed when she saw that a note had been left on the table.

She took it up. There was a phone number written on the note. Having a bad feeling, she held Youyou's handphone up and dialed the number with trembling hands. The steady but deeply worried voice of Li Hanlin's was heard over the phone.

“Are you Youyou's mommy?”

Because it was her son's phone, the caller ID was always displayed whenever someone called.

“I am! You are?!”

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“I'm sir's— ehem... ” Li Hanlin caught himself in time. Pausing, he hastily said, “I'm the principal of Youyou's kindergarten. Madam Yun, we've met each other before!”

“Hello, Mr. Li. May I ask if you...”

At the moment, she was at a loss on how to phrase her question, but she heard Li Hanlin continue in an absolutely serious tone of speech, “Madam Yun, has Yun Tianyou's body always been in a bad condition? Is he suffering from acute coronary insufficiency?”

As soon as she heard him ask these questions, she had a premonition, and her heart squeezed. In a shaky voice, she asked, “Yes... Mr. Li, do you know where Youyou is? I just reached home, and I don’t see him around. You left a note on the table...”

“He’s in the hospital right now. Not too long ago, he called me to say that he’s not feeling well. I came as fast as I could and sent him to the hospital...” Li Hanlin paused for a while before carrying on in a stern voice, “Madam Yun, I must criticize you! As a parent, as a mother, how can you leave a child alone at home? Although Yun Tianyou is usually very obedient and mature, he is still just a six-year-old child. He’s still young, yet you trust him to be alone at home? A child knows of nothing and lacks safety awareness. This time, he had a relapse. What about next time? Many parents are like this, negligently leaving their children alone at home. A child, being playful, accidentally fell over the balcony and suffered heavy injuries; the media reported of a child that got poisoned – there is no less of these tragic occurrences! You should reflect on this!”

She was frightened to death. Her eyes moistened from Li Hanlin’s reprimand, and she felt extremely remorseful!

Indeed, Youyou was only six years old. How could she leave him alone at home?

He originally had a weak body. No matter how big or small the problem was, she should take care of him properly. However, she was irresponsible and left him at home for an entire day. Now her child even had a relapse and was sent to the hospital, yet she did not perform the basic duties of a mother...

Gala? She should not have attended the gala!

Alcohol? She clearly knew of her alcohol capacity, but she still pushed forward. What did she do this for?! She should not have drunk – not one glass and not one sip!

The more contrite she became, the more uncontrollably her tears fell.

## Chapter 250: Flustered

She cupped her mouth with her hand and urgently inquired with red eyes, “I’m sorry, Mr. Li! It’s my fault! Which hospital is Youyou in? I’ll head over there right away!”

“Hmph! I’m at a nearby public hospital. Hurry over! Youyou is not in a good condition. He had a relapse and he’s still unconscious. Anyway, be careful on the way here; I’ll take good care of him...”

She did not wait for him to finish. Hurriedly grabbing the bag she had put down earlier, she locked the door and rushed down the stairs.

Mu Yazhe was about to start the car engine downstairs when he spotted her from the rearview mirror. She was bursting through the door and running toward the gates in panic.

He thought it was strange, so he honked twice.

HONK! HONK!

The horn was especially ear-piercing. She was instantly alerted.

Recognizing his car, she rushed over without hesitation. Just as she opened the door, she said in haste, “Mu Yazhe, drive me to the public hospital!”

“Why are you going to the hospital?” he asked, confused.

Her shoulders shook violently. She clutched her bag tightly and appeared to be reproachful and nervous. She looked so flustered she seemed completely defeated!

“Youyou is in hospital. I must hurry there! Right now, right now...”

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He slightly knitted his brows upon hearing this, yet he questioned no further and simply closed in on her. She thought he was about to do something to her. She was about to stop him but she saw him reach for her seatbelt to help her buckle up.

“Don’t be afraid; I’m here,” he softly spouted before turning the engine on. Stepping on the gas pedal, the vehicle sped past the gates.

Yun Shishi stared at the man’s side profile, dumbfounded. At the moment, his angular and handsome face was taut, but his expression was still calm and collected. Fixing his gaze ahead, his eyes held no joy, but he was not flustered in the least, either.

Although she was currently worried, for some reason, she was not as panicky as before.

His reassuring words seemed to have washed away all her fear and insecurities inside. However, recalling how painful it was for Youyou

when his younger self had a relapse, her heart intensely squeezed in pain again.

At this moment, in the hospital ward, Li Hanlin, who was sitting on a stool by the bed, placed his phone down.

Beside him, the Youyou whom he said to still be ‘unconscious’ and was ‘not in a very good condition’ was calmly and silently sitting in bed reading the news.

Youyou set down the newspaper and folded his arms after he saw him end the call. He leaned on the headboard and glanced at him sharply. His dark, large, and watery eyes fluttered, and he asked him the moment he put down the phone, “What did she say?”

“I hung up. She’s probably on the way here!” Lin Hanlin then asked, “Sir, how was my performance?”

“Not much of a problem at first, but did you tell her to be careful on the road?” he reproached.

What if mommy meets a mishap on the way as she rushes here in panic?

Li Hanlin’s face collapsed and he replied indignantly, “I did! I was worried that she didn’t hear it and called back, but no one answered the call.”

Yun Tianyou hugged his arms and nodded solemnly. Silently, he laid out equations after equations in his head.

The distance between their apartment and the hospital was 30 kilometers. The train station was in front of their apartment building,

and the bus stop was a few more meters away. If she were to board the bus, she would reach the hospital at the next stop and need not transfer.

The last train was leaving at nine — she would not make it. The bus was too slow, so obviously his mother would choose to take a taxi...

She would reach in 45 minutes tops.

“When she’s here, act according to what I’ve said. Don’t give yourself away. You need to have an impact; it’s best if she feels deeply repentant from your act.”

#### Chapter 251: The Little Kid’s Scheme

The corner of Li Hanlin’s eyes twitched.

This child...

He was scheming.

It was to the extent that he felt helpless.

Earlier, when he received Youyou’s call, he heard the latter crying out in pain on the other end of the line. He promptly put down everything at hand and rushed over. As soon as he opened the door, he saw Youyou lying unconscious on the ground. He then flew over to him and lifted him. Realizing that the little boy had fainted and not having a clue of his situation, Li Hanlin pinched his philtrum with the intention of performing CPR on him. Suddenly, the little boy’s

eyes flew open – those few pinches at the philtrum seemed to have worked their magic as he actually regained consciousness.

Youyou slapped him and his face twisted to the side. “Disgusting!”

Just when he was feeling extremely wronged, the little boy leaned on his chest weakly; his breathing was labored, and his face was completely flushed.

He immediately inquired about the situation. Youyou then pointed to the first-aid kit on the cabinet right away and said, “Bring... Bring it over...”

He brought the first-aid kit to him at once. The little boy found the medicine bottle with much difficulty and chucked a pill down, yet the symptoms did not seem to disappear.

Thus, he shuttled him to the nearest public hospital in a hurry. First-aid treatment was administered, and his condition finally stabilized.

However, Youyou’s following request rendered him a little speechless.

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“Later if my mommy calls you, do exaggerate my condition.”

His eyes nearly popped out when he heard this. “Sir, don’t you love your mommy the most? Aren’t you most afraid of making her worry?”

“Shouldn’t she worry about me?” countered Youyou in dissatisfaction. Li Hanlin was struck dumb by his words.

He pondered on it for a long time. What Youyou said seemed to make some sense.

“Leaving me at home alone for a day and night. Shouldn’t she repent and reflect?”

“Erm...”

“Just for once; let her care for me more,” Youyou continued. He dipped his head and grasped a corner of the blanket tightly. His furrowed brows made him look somewhat helpless. “Only when someone loses something, will they know how to cherish, but once one loses it, it may not come back ever again.”

Hence, the call just then was made.

He always cared for his foolish mommy. For all matters, big or small, as long as she took care of him, he never expected much in return from her. He just wished that she could take care of herself – his mind would then be at ease.

However, he realized, sometimes, he would rather be a little frailer and more reliant on her; that way, his mommy would place more of her attention on him.

“Oh.” Youyou nodded. He slightly wrinkled his brows and then said, “I think what you said is not severe enough. What ‘doesn’t look good’? You shouldn’t have said it like that.”

Slipping into a moment of silence, he suddenly spoke with cold eyes, “You should’ve said that I nearly died.”

The curve of his lips, reflecting the ulterior motives he harbored, made a shiver crawl up his spine.

This child... was indeed unpredictable.

Was he only six years of age?

Still, what he had said was not considered as an exaggeration.

If he had not arrived in time, this little boy’s condition would have worsened, and he would have truly been in danger.

Li Hanlin understood that his order to say that was simply a scheme.

A child’s world was extremely innocent; they did not know how to twist words or lay out a scheme. Although Yun Tianyou was considered as the cream of the crop among children – with his IQ and EQ being unmatched – deep down, he was very innocent. He only knew that if he acted a little weaker and a little more pitiful, his mommy would care and love him a little more.

Yun Tianyou slowly lay down in bed. With his voice lowered, he said, “I can’t lose to that man. I have to snatch my mommy’s heart back.”

Li Hanlin gazed at the little boy curling up into a ball in bed and shook his head helplessly as his heart slightly ached.

Chapter 252: Divorce

The car stopped at the hospital entrance to drop off Yun Shishi first; Mu Yazhe quickly followed along after he had parked the car. She ran all the way to the Inpatient Department.

The moment she entered the department, she took out her phone to call Lin Hanlin, only to realize that it had run out of battery!

In a moment of carelessness, she had forgotten to bring along that slip of paper where she had written the room number. It would be difficult to locate Youyou's room in such a big hospital. Biting her lower lip in frustration, she knew she had to ask for help at the hospital's information desk.

Someone called out to her before she could reach the desk, though.

“Shishi, you are here, too?!”

She turned around and was astounded to see Li Qin standing behind her with a look of surprise. Her face was rather stiff and strange-looking.

Why is she here?

Puzzled, she asked, “Why are you here?”

“The child is hospitalized. I just arrived as well. Have you been told of what happened, too?”

For some strange reason, her adoptive mother was courteous and smiling gently at her. This was unlike the past Li Qin who would

greet her with sarcasm and disdain. Her 180-degree turn in attitude made her uncomfortable.

The child was hurt?

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Youyou?

Did... Principal Li contact my father first, so they could come over to pay the hospital fee?

That should be it! After Principal Li brought Youyou to the hospital when he collapsed, he probably contacted my father once he failed to reach me. She remembered that she had listed Yun Yecheng's number as one of the emergency contacts.

This shouldn't come as a surprise. I can't expect the principal to foot the bill first since he is not related to us in any way. I should just be grateful that he promptly rushed my son to the hospital when he collapsed!

Principal Li probably contacted my father, and once he knew of Youyou's hospitalization, he rushed over here to pay the hospitalization fee.

Nonetheless, her adoptive mother's attitude was a little worrying. This woman would never fail to scorn her son in the past, yet now...

"Did you just reach, too?" she asked.

"Er, your father was here a while ago, but he went off to pay the hospital charges. We don't have much money with us, but the child

needs the money for treatment, so we are paying with whatever we have now. We've to think of a way to cover the deficiency!"

Her face grew worried as she spoke.

Yun Yecheng and she had hollowed all that they had, along with the savings in the bank, which only came up to 10,000 yuan.

Although someone had already paid Yun Na's medical bill earlier, the doctor told them that the payment would be insufficient to cover further treatment. That would require another 20,000 yuan.

Where could they find the money, though? The financial situation at home had always been tight.

Yun Yecheng was furious when he found out that she had forced Yun Shishi into surrogacy and threatened to divorce her!

Divorce? How? What would happen to her if they divorce? What would happen to Yun Na...

She was horrified at the thought of divorce.

Divorce? How was that possible?

Although in her eyes, he was down and out now and was just another poor man, who could not give her any money or riches, still, what would happen to her if they got a divorce?

She was used to a good life where she needed not to fret over her basic needs. Even when the Yun family fell into tough times, she did not have to lift a finger to do the household chores when Yun Yecheng and Yun Shishi would bear the brunt.

If they really needed to divorce, this was not the right time yet!

## Chapter 253: Yun Na Disfigured

If they really needed to divorce, this was not the right time yet!

With Yun Na in a dire state, she would need him to find money for the reconstructive surgery. He could be disposed after that but not now!

Besides, she wanted Yun Shishi to foot part of the surgical cost, so she was extra nice to her when they met now.

She assumed that her adopted daughter had heard of Yun Na's plight from Yun Tianyou and rushed to visit her in the hospital. In her heart, she was hoping that she would forgive their past grudges and help her biological daughter with the fee.

Apparently, Yun Shishi had misunderstood as well. Thinking that her adoptive mother was kindheartedly visiting Youyou and was even offering to pay the hospital bill, her heart was filled with gratitude.

“Er, it pained my heart to see this child crying so pitifully. The doctor wanted us to pay 20,000 yuan straight away, but your father and I could barely come up with 10,000 yuan despite emptying all our savings. We are worrying over this now...”

“Don't worry; I've the money. Where's the room?” She became anxious again when she thought of Youyou.

“You brought the money? Excellent!” Her adoptive mother gratefully grabbed her hand and led her into the elevator.

When the elevator stopped on the eighth floor, Li Qin hastily led her to room 5020 with an anxious look. Yun Shishi was also looking worried, but when she saw the person, whose face was wrapped in heavy bandage, lying in the hospital bed upon entering the room, her expression changed.

The person on the bed was half conscious and had no reaction when they entered the room.

“What happened?!” she immediately asked.

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She had thought Li Qin was here for Youyou!

“Hai... I don't know what happened, too!” Her adoptive mother broke down loudly when she saw her asking after her adoptive sister. “I received a call this morning saying that Yun Na met a mishap! When we rushed over, she was already in this sorry state. Your heartbroken father cried behind my back.”

Yun Shishi's face turned sullen. With mixed emotions, she looked at her adoptive sister, who was lying in the bed. Her adoptive mother was still sobbing along, “The doctor said that the child's face has multiple cuts, which have been stitched up, and she is now disfigured. We don't know what kind of knife was used on her face, but some of the wounds are shallow while the rest are deep. This must be a vengeful act! However, if we have enough money, the

Reconstructive and Plastic Surgery Department can help us restore her original looks. Shishi, can you find a way?”

She stood motionlessly as her heart sank the moment she heard this.

She had assumed at first that her adoptive mother was kind to be here for her son. Indeed, how was that possible? When she was young and hospitalized with pneumonia and high fever, the woman had never visited her once.

Why would she care about Youyou when he's sick?

“What do you want?”

“Well...” Li Qin respectfully pulled her to a corner before gently beseeching, “Nana's face is ruined now, but the doctor told us that if we can come up with 50,000 yuan, she can undergo reconstructive surgery that will get back her looks. As you know, Nana is a vain kid. Earlier, when she woke up and found out that her face is ruined, she was so upset she threatened to kill herself. Your father is heartbroken and blames himself. Do you have a way to raise 500,000 yuan—”

“500,000 yuan? Where am I going to find that money?” she cut her off as her face darkened.

Her adoptive mother had finally revealed her true intention; her goal was to ask for money.

Chapter 254: Asking Her for Money

This explained why she had shed her usual scornful attitude toward her; she wanted her to find money for her daughter's reconstructive surgery!

Yun Shishi did not know what had caused Yun Na to end up with a mutilated face.

Didn't she return home directly after leaving the gala yesterday?

But so what if she didn't?

It may be heartless to say this, but even if she is disfigured, without help, or worse, dead, it has got nothing to do with me!

She had been labeled as 'the little b\*tch' by the mother-daughter pair all this while, and then they would be chummy with her when she could be exploited. Did they really want to squeeze her dry before they eventually stopped?

She would not be stupid again.

“Shishi!”

Li Qin was about to blow her top at her detached attitude, but she caught herself in time when she remembered that this woman was her daughter's only hope. Hence, swallowing her pride, she acted nice and continued, “You can't be heartless! Are you so mean to just watch on as your sister kill herself?”

“What do you mean?” she asked mockingly, “I didn't do this to her. Are you pushing the responsibility to me?”

“This is not what I mean. How can you twist my words around?!”

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Her adoptive mother anxiously explained, “Besides, I didn’t ask for more! The surgery only needs 500,000 yuan. This is small money to you, right?!”

“500,000 yuan? Do I have to give you the money because it’s easy for you to ask?” She suppressed her boiling rage inside. “I don’t have that money!”

“You have the money!”

Li Qin’s pitch rose as she went on, “Why wouldn’t you have this money?! I saw you holding an Armani handbag a few days ago. That bag is worth a few millions, yet you are telling me you have no money now? Are you really that heartless not to save your sister?!”

“That was my...” She unhappily furrowed her brows when her adoptive mother mentioned the gown and wanted to clarify about it but eventually decided against it, thinking that she needed not explain herself to them, and just firmly maintained, “I don’t have that much money!”

“You... Are you really this heartless?! Think – Think about the kindness your father has shown you over the years! Your sister is in such a terrible plight now, can you please do something to save her?!”

She painfully exclaimed and then suddenly added, “You must have a sugar daddy out there for you to afford such expensive clothes, right?”

Her face was stricken with the gravity of these shameful words that dropped easily from Li Qin's lips.

This ward housed more than one patient, and the family members of the other occupants were curiously staring at them.

The meaning in the woman's words was clear: There was a sugar daddy supporting her because she could afford to wear Armani brand.

Her adoptive mother did not try to be discreet with her words despite the people in the room. Everyone, be it the patients or their family members, started to see her in a different light. At first, they had found her innocent and stunning looks admirable when she first stepped into the room, but now that they were one-sidedly influenced by what they had just heard about her, they intermittently pointed their fingers at her while shaking their heads. They did not expect that such a beautiful woman would turn out to be a kept woman.

Their look of admiration and wonder turned into one of contempt and disdain.

She forcefully clenched her lips in embarrassment!

Chapter 255: Fall Out

Yun Shishi did not care what others think of her; what she minded was how caustic her adoptive mother was to her.

“I don't have!”

Li Qin reprimanded, “You don’t have? Don’t try to hide the truth from me. The neighbors saw you driving off in a Bentley that day. Don’t tell me you bought that car with your money?!”

She was stunned and then realized that Gu Xingze had indeed picked her up in a Bentley on the day of the gala.

Their neighbors only saw her getting into the Bentley, which had made a grand entrance into their small community, that day; they did not know that the car was there to shuttle her to the gala and simply assumed that she was in an indecent relationship with a man out there in exchange for material benefits.

Very often, a person’s glamorous appearance was enough for people to form bias opinion about them, besmirching the person’s reputation out of jealousy and envy.

This matter reached the ears of her adoptive mother, and she did not doubt the rumors about her having a sugar daddy.

In reality, she did not have a sugar daddy, so how was she going to find 500,000 yuan?

Did she really have to cough up money just because this woman simply opened her mouth to ask? If she was unable to do so, would she be labeled as unfilial?

All of a sudden, she felt that it was tiring and redundant to explain further, so she decided not to say anymore.

When Li Qin realized that she was unmoved into agreeing despite her lengthy speech, she bitterly complained in a voice loud enough for the people in the room to hear, “Er, you haven’t spoken a word

even though I already explained this much. What do you mean by that? Are you... a really heartless person whom god has sent as retribution?"

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Yun Shishi stood still; her face looked extremely frosty.

Some bystanders could not tolerate it further and publicly reproached her, "I say, little missy, this is not proper! You should help your family in need. Besides, the one pleading to you is your mother, yet you remain unmoved and detached. You are so unfilial!"

"That's right. It's not a stranger lying in the bed now; it's your sister! Are you really that heartless?" A few nearby patients rebuked her as well.

"Hmph. If I had such a daughter, I would abandon her the moment she's born. Wouldn't she be a disgrace to me when she grew up?"

Her shoulders shuddered momentarily.

Sister...

Yes, Yun Na was her sister whom she had loved and spoiled since young. She would save on her needs, so she could use the money to buy the clothes her sister liked.

She even bought her adoptive sister the latest Apple iPhone with her hard-earned money from working part-time. That cost a few thousand yuan.

Had she not been nice to her sister all these years?

What did her sister do to her in return, though?

Her adoptive mother was secretly happy to see others standing up for her though she maintained her pitiful and helpless look.

“Oh, my, do you know that she’s not even my biological daughter? She’s adopted by my husband and me, but she’s been fighting with me since young.”

“Adopted?!”

Everyone was stunned and angered further when they heard this!

“Ingrate! She’s adopted, huh. No wonder; a biological daughter won’t be this heartless, right?!”

“You are too much! Is this how you express your gratitude?! Will you have such a good life now if your mother didn’t adopt you? You have to remember that you owe them for your good life now!”

By now, she could empathize with the feeling of being wrongly accused without a chance for justification. Her heart was on Youyou, though. Feeling anxious, she turned to leave.

Li Qin saw her walking away and instantly lunged forward to grab her elbow.

She could not be bothered with her adoptive mother and pushed her away.

The woman conveniently fell on to the floor and showily cried out, “I’m hit! I was tugging lightly at your hand...”

“Why are you pretending?!” she demanded angrily, “You are in a critical condition now. I don’t have the patience for your nonsense!”

With that, she turned to leave but was blocked by the other patients’ family members that were crowding the entrance.

“Where do you think you are going?!”

“Unfilial daughter, you are unconscionable! You actually hit your mother?!”

Her eyes shone dangerously. “Get lost! Don’t block my way!”

#### Chapter 256: She Finally Snapped

One of the women spoke in an especially curt manner, as though she were the one in Li Qin’s position. She was fuming red. Feeling indignant for her, the woman said, “If it were me, I would definitely be pissed off with an unfilial daughter like you!”

“Exactly! People say that daughters are the sweetest; they’re their mommy’s little blanket, but a daughter as heartless as you – you’re the first I’ve seen!”

Yun Shishi clenched her lips and held herself back. Tears pooled in her eyes, but she tried to stop them from flowing out. Suddenly, she looked up and asked, “Said enough?”

Her volume was not loud, yet it brimmed with energy and exuded chilling vibes. The ward instantly descended into silence.

Everyone glared at her either in rage or astonishment. They understood nothing and simply thought that she was beyond redemption!

However, she took in a breath of cold air and stated to the mass, “Who are you people to criticize me?”

“Hey, little girl! You’re being quite vicious with your words, eh!”

Unwilling to back down, she countered, “Did I mock you or glare at you? From the beginning, aren’t you people the ones accusing me?”

Everyone was made speechless by her words.

She continued, “Do you really know me – how I’ve suffered for more than 20 years?”

“Do you know of my predicament? Do you know of my pain? You people know nothing, but you act as if you understand me very well. These are matters pertaining to my family. Is it your turn to butt in?”

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“We didn’t really say anything out of turn! We just think that a girl like you should be behaving properly, and not be riding on some rich businessmen’s coattails!”

“Exactly. Shameless. Invading other people’s families and not living a morally upright life, someone like you is precisely a failure in society!”

Li Qin incited the crowd even more while pretending to be contrite, “You guys, stop. I’m disgraced already! Ha, after all, one won’t be close to an adopted daughter compared to a biological one. This can’t be helped!”

“Being filial is one thing, being principled is another. Such a young girl like her chose to be a mistress out of everything else...”

Yun Shishi stood alone in the center of their discussion, appearing to be a little lonely.

Amid everyone’s condemnation of her in the name of justice, the elegant voice of a man interrupted.

“Mistress?”

Everyone turned their heads at that, only to see a well-built, adult man leaning against the door with an expressionless face. A faint disappointment was written all over his god-like, handsome face.

As soon as she noticed him, she intuitively hung her head low in shame.

Yun Na opened her eyes as well. In fact, she was long awake and was just pretending to be asleep.

While she was brooding, the injuries on her face got irritated, making them swell and hurt, yet this Yun Shishi was still unwilling to take money out from her pocket to treat her face, and the shame further angered her.

Thus, when she heard the ignorant crowd siding with her mother in taunting her adopted sister, she felt good inside.

The man's flat voice caused her to wake up in shock.

The moment she opened her eyes, she saw the man at the door.

Mu Yazhe?! Why was the CEO of Mu Group here?!

When Li Qin saw him, she completely froze, as if she had been struck by lightning.

Yun Na failed to recognize him. She did not know who he was, but with her keen eyes, she noticed that his features were identical to those of Yun Tianyou's.

Actually, they were far from just 'identical'. Those eyes, that high nose bridge, and even those thin, beautiful lips – they were exactly the same as Youyou's!

How would she believe it if one were to tell her that this man was not related to that little b\*stard at all?

Chapter 257: The Child's Father

Was he really that child's biological father?

Li Qin was overwhelmed. She surveyed the god-like, beautiful man before her.

A handmade blouse by Armani, well-made slim-fit trousers, expensive leather shoes, and luxury wristwatch...

Different from those nouveaux riches' unsophisticated looks, this man exuded the air of true nobility. With one look, anybody could tell that he was born rich; he was wealthy and respectable!

She was so astonished her eyes nearly popped out!

She knew that Yun Tianyou's biological father was wealthy. A simple nouveau riche could not afford that generous remuneration, after all.

However, she did not expect that the employer would be this good-looking, and he even appeared to be very young at about 25 or 26 years of age. Could he still be... single?

If this were so, she slightly regretted it!

If she had known of this beforehand, then, back then... had she not gone easy with Yun Shishi?

She formed fists with her hands. A flame of jealousy suddenly ignited within her heart.

Because of Yun Yecheng's business back then, he was on good terms with the vice president of the private hospital that belonged to Disheng Financial Group. She followed this lead and found out from the vice president that the Mu family was secretly searching for a surrogate mother. Although the conditions were stringent, the remuneration they offered was very generous.

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Thus, she cast her sight on her adopted daughter.

At that time, her adopted daughter was at a blooming age of 18; with her good looks, she grew up beautifully – her features were just outstanding.

Hence, after pressuring her again and again, she eventually accompanied her to sign that contract.

Thinking that the employer was an ugly and plump middle-aged man, she gloated endlessly. Just the thought of this most-hated b\*tch being ruined by an ugly and ferocious man left her absolutely thrilled.

However, now that she saw him, it was certainly a tight slap to her face!

If she had known about this earlier, would it not have been better to let Yun Na try first?

Perhaps, if this child were to be a little more competent, she could rise in status and become the Mu family's young mistress!

When that time came, she would not suffer and worry like this anymore!

The others in the ward were also astonished.

They had never seen such a handsome man before. That face, which seemed to be carved by a knife, exuberated with hostility; he somehow gave off a golden light from head to toe. His every movement had a distinctive air of nobility.

Mu Yazhe walked over to Yun Shishi, who was standing by the bed, and reached out his hand to tussle her hair.

“Why didn’t you wait for me, hmm?”

He looked down at her with such gentleness in his eyes that could melt snow.

Yun Shishi’s frozen heart gradually thawed as a corollary.

She was not used to the man being gentle to her!

“I...”

“I went to park the car, so I came in late.”

She spoke softly, “It’s okay.”

“Did you get hurt when I’m not around?”

She hesitated to speak. He lifted his gaze, and his face suddenly darkened. “I was just at the door. I think I heard somebody calling you a mistress.”

He raised his eyes and emotionlessly scanned the hospital ward once before laying his sight on a few other patients’ family members. Looking at them with piercing eyes, he asked in a monotonous tone, “Who said that?”

He spouted these three words casually and flatly, but reading between the lines, one could tell that it was filled with unhappiness.

He gave off a chilling aura; if someone were to stand beside him, they would be hurt by it.

All of a sudden, the crowd, previously chattering among themselves, was now dead silent.

## Chapter 258: Demanding an Exorbitant Sum of Money

The crowd surveyed the man in disbelief, and they turned to look back at Li Qin. They were now confused!

Did she not say that her daughter was out hooking up with big bosses?

Could it be this man?

Li Qin had been dealt with a heavy blow. The man questioned once, and everyone went silent.

Who dared come clean with him?

Confronted with the intense aura radiating off him, everyone subsequently lost their anger and held their heads down awkwardly to do their things.

“You... Who are you to our Shishi?” Li Qin finally mustered her courage to ask.

Yun Shishi wrinkled her brows in disgust.

““Our?””

How could her adoptive mother’s attitude unexpectedly do a one-eighty?

“Who is she?” He took a glance at her adoptive mother, then he lowered his head to ask her.

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She clearly did not want to tangle with her further, so when the man questioned, she only replied with, “Adoptive mother.”

Adoptive mother?

That woman who forced her to sign that surrogacy contract six years ago?

He glanced sharply at her.

This woman is truly wicked.

Back then, if it were not for that contract, what other ideas would she have on her adopted daughter? D\*mn it!

Li Qin backed away under his scathing glare. Her body slightly trembled.

How could this man’s eyes be this scary? They looked like knives hungry for a piece of her flesh!

“What’s the matter?”

Yun Shishi glanced at Yun Na, who was lying dazedly in bed, and simply stated, “My younger sister was met with an accident, and now she needs a large sum of money for plastic surgery, or her face will remain ruined. My adoptive mother asked me for money – I don’t have it, and it’s impossible for me to provide her that.”

He asked, “How much do you need?”

Not waiting for her to answer, Li Qin immediately replied,  
“1,000,000 yuan!”

One million?!

Yun Shishi’s eyes were filled with anger and shame.

Did she not just tell her that she needed 500,000 yuan? Why was she asking for 1,000,000 yuan now?

“A million? Didn’t you just say that it’s 500,000 yuan? Why is it a million now?” She was worked up.

Her adoptive mother replied awkwardly, “Oh, you heard it wrongly.”

Before Yun Shishi could talk back to her, a patient’s family at the side, who had previously stood up for Li Qin, said, “She didn’t hear it wrongly. You did say 500,000 yuan moments ago, and you’ve changed it to a million just now. Sister, don’t be too greedy.”

She sulked, “Our Nana became like this because of some b\*stard, and her face is entirely wrecked. The doctor said that 1,000,000 yuan is needed to restore her original appearance. As Yun Na’s elder sister, Shishi naturally has a duty to help her out a little. We’re family, and now that we’re in a crisis...”

“Duty?” Yun Shishi balled up her hands into fists. “What duties do I have?!”

Was she a leech? Was she going to suck her blood until the very last drop?

How could she be so greedy?

“I have it; 1,000,000 yuan.”

Standing behind her, he spoke simply.

A simple statement from him resulted in everyone’s eyes enlarging from shock.

One could easily get 1,000,000 yuan by requesting for it; who exactly was this man? Could he be a billionaire?

Li Qin’s eyes lit up, and she exclaimed excitedly, “It’s settled, then! There’s hope for our Nana!”

Who exactly is this man? He is actually this wealthy?

Oh, yes!

The contract signed in the past had stated a remuneration of a few million yuan. After giving birth, a lofty sum of money was again paid by the employer to her adopted daughter.

This man must be from a wealthy family. Li Qin was absolutely green with envy. She thought to herself in jealousy, Actually meeting such a loaded investor, hasn’t this Yun Shishi really struck it rich?

Chapter 259: A Clean Break

Li Qin smiled and said, “Shishi, how do I address this gentleman? Why don’t you get him a seat?”

Mu Yazhe watched her every move and action without any expression or reaction.

He did say that he had the money, but that did not mean he would give it away!

Looking awkward, the woman turned to her adopted daughter. “Shishi, how do I address this gentleman?!”

“Mu... Director Mu!”

Yun Na, in the hospital bed, timidly opened her mouth to speak. She looked nervous.

Surprise flashed across her mother’s face. “Nana, do you know him?”

“Yes... mom. He’s Director Mu, the president of Disheng Financial Group.”

Her mother’s face blanched in fright at this title.

Mu... President of the Mu Group, Mu Yazhe?

Everyone had heard of the Mu, this capital’s number one elite family.

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Oh, god. This man is the president of the Mu Group?!

“Oh, my, Shishi, this is a big matter. Why didn’t you tell me beforehand? When did you start dating Master Mu...” Everyone could hear the vexation in her voice despite the smile on her face. “Then, Shishi, I’ll entrust your sister’s care to you!”

“One million is too much for me, and I don’t have it!” she refused without thinking, and then, after a brief pause, she coldly added, “Please get this straight; even if I have the money, I won’t help!”

Her face stiffened at her adopted daughter’s immediate rebuff, and she almost turned on her.

However, since the man was present, she could only suppress her anger. Turning to him, she pleaded, “Master Mu, as you can see, Nana is Shishi’s sister, and we urgently need this money. What do you think about the 1,000,000 yuan...”

Ignoring her completely, he bowed his head toward Yun Shishi and asked, “What do you think?”

It was obvious that he was asking for her input with this gesture.

There was no hiding the loving indulgence on his face. Clearly, as long as she agreed, this money would mean nothing more than just a string of digits.

Her adoptive mother shot her a hopeful look, only to hear a frigid retort, “You can find your solution; I can’t help you!”

“What do you mean you can’t help me?” Her eyes had turned red from anxiety. “You have Master Mu with you now, right? The Mu

Group is rich! Just say the word, and 1,000,000 yuan is nothing in his eyes!”

He could not stand her overt greed.

The rest of the people in the room lamented, as they finally saw her real colors.

What insatiable greed.

Had they misunderstood this lady, then?

Everyone felt apologetic to her in that instant.

Yun Shishi was offended by her words. What is this? Is she blackmailing me into begging with her?!

Her adoptive mother would not give up and shrieked in agitation, “Shishi, are you leaving your sister to die?! Do you want your father to go on his knees in front of you?!”

She was fuming inside her.

Li Qin was now using her father, Yun Yecheng, to threaten her now.

“I’m leaving her to die?”

She abruptly held up her chin and coldly looked into her adoptive mother’s eyes, distinctly spouting, “She’s your daughter and not mine; she’s raised by you and not me! Why am I the one who is always cleaning her mess? You are right; I was adopted by father, but am I your slave? Do I have to sell my life to you before you’re

satisfied? How much longer do you intend to exploit me before you stop? Haven't I been harmed enough by you?"

Li Qin stood there, dumbfounded.

The rest inhaled sharply at her words, too.

She held her pain-ridden head and dully declared, "Er... Li Qin; I won't call you 'mother' from now on, and you don't acknowledge me as your daughter as well. I don't need a mother like you! As for Yun Na, good luck to the both of you! I'd be ashamed of myself if I had this kind of daughter!"

Chapter 260: Slapping

She held her pain-ridden head and dully declared, "I'd be ashamed of myself if I had this kind of daughter! You play the role of a kind mother in front of everyone, but do you really care about me? You don't even show concern for your biological daughter! She's gambling and taking drugs outside; did you know that? Yes, I am her sister, so I helped clean her mess every time she got into deep sh\*t. Have you checked? What have you done for her? Her enemies came to my place for money, and I had to use my hard-earned savings to clear her debts. In the end, I lost my job because of her. What else do you want from me? Mom, are you a vampire? Are you trying to suck me dry before you call it quits?!"

Li Qin's face turned bright red at her remarks.

Mu Yazhe was a little stunned as well. He could not help but recall that scene when he bumped into her dejected figure; she was holding a box in her hands at that time, so that was probably when she lost her job.

Is this why she got fired?

“I’ll give you a word of advice. Instead of asking for help, you should take this time to teach your daughter well. She may be disfigured today, but how about tomorrow? Her mouth is too cheeky for her own good. Must I bear the consequences for her every misdeed? Each time she gets into trouble, why must I be the one to clean after her mess and come to her rescue? Why?”

She paused and then said, “I don’t have the energy or time to waste on you! You are still waiting for me; I’ll retaliate if you stop me again!”

She turned around to leave after saying this and saw Yun Yecheng standing outside the door with a hospital receipt in his hand. He was staring dumbly at her.

“Dad...” Stunned, she did not expect to find him outside the room.

She did not know how long he had been standing there or how much he had heard.

“Shishi, is it all true?” her father asked, still looking dumbstruck.

“She gambled and took drugs, and you paid all her debts?”

Yun Na was shaking from fear when she saw her father.

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D\*mn this Yun Shishi! Why did she have to bring up all this stuff?!

Is she out to get me?!

“Dad, don’t ask; I don’t want to talk about this anymore. I gave my all for this family, but this family doesn’t welcome me, so I’ll leave!” With a heavy heart, she glided past him. “Sorry, I’m in no mood to talk. Youyou is sick now.”

Youyou is sick?

Alarmed, he tried to catch up to her to ask about his grandson but was stopped in his tracks by Mu Yazhe, who turned around and fixed him a warning glare.

“Mr. Yun, I suggest that you clear up your family matters first; I don’t mind stepping in if you fail to do your duty.”

His meaning was clear: Li Qin and Yun Na would be punished if he stepped in.

He followed Yun Shishi once he uttered this warning, and the two disappeared from sight after rounding the corner at the end of the corridor.

He dazedly walked into the ward, and when he glanced up, he saw Li Qin looking anxious and scared. His face turned black in a flash.

“Husband—”

SMACK!

She received an angry slap in return.

His wife looked at him in disbelief as she cupped her face with one hand. She did not expect him to hit her; before she had time to respond, he sent another slap across her face. This slap was more forceful than before and sent her crashing into the cabinet.

He lost his mind in a fit of rage. Without paying scruples to the people around them, he lambasted, “Shameless woman, when will you stop your nonsense?! Are you a beggar to ask people for money?! Why was I so blind to get you as my wife in the first place? You are a total disgrace to the Yun family!”

Yun Na was fearfully hiding in one corner.

“I’m doing this for Nana!” his wife choked out as she covered her bleeding forehead.

Chapter 261 – The child looks like him. – Read novel online for free

Chapter 261: The child looks like him.

He sat on the bench in a huff. Incensed, he took one look at Yun Na after slapping the bedside table and said, “Let her be! She has no dignity left, right? Since she’s so shameless, she doesn’t need to mend her face! I think she doesn’t want her face or her pride in the first place! There’s no meaning in life now...”

After a short pause, he said with much pain and resolve, “Li Qin, let’s divorce and you can bring your daughter with you! I can’t handle you as a wife or raise a daughter like yours!”

There was a deafening silence in the room.

Everyone was shocked.

His daughter covered her mouth in absolute fright as unabated tears rolled down her cheeks, while his wife's face crumbled at the mention of divorce.

...

Youyou was reading the newspaper while leaning against the headboard when he heard scurrying footsteps drawing near. He had always been on high alert, so without further ado, he threw the newspaper aside and quickly lay down in the bed while sending a signal to his agent through his eyes.

The little lad played dead with his eyes closed; Li Hanlin quickly caught on to his charade and got up to open the door, only to see Yun Shishi and Mu Yazhe approaching.

Director Mu ?!

His lips twitched with this unexpected scenario. How did the man end up coming here ?

Yun Shishi saw the agent and quickened her steps to peek inside the room anxiously.

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This was a normal ward, though under Li Hanlin's special arrangement, no other patients shared this room with Yun Tianyou.

Inside the spacious ward, Youyou was quietly lying in the bed next to the wall. His little face was as pale as a sheet of paper, while his lips were dried and cracked. His mother's heart winced with sorrow at the sight.

She worriedly asked, "How are you, principal? How is my Youyou..."

He pursed his lips, pretending to look troubled and reproachful. "Why are you late? You are such an irresponsible mother! Youyou is in a critical condition; the doctor said that he had experienced similar issues in the past!"

"Yes, this is not the first time, but... this is the first in two years." Her heart was in a mess as tears pooled at the corners of her eyes.

Youyou was her soft spot. The thought of her son having to endure great pain at such a tender age made her wish she could bear his pain on his behalf.

The agent nodded knowingly. "Er, the sickness will recur if he's not well cared for. If his condition worsens, he may have to undergo surgery, but I doubt that his young body can withstand that!"

"Thank you! Has he woken up?"

The man regretfully shook his head. "Though his condition is stable now, the child has yet to regain consciousness, but you don't need to worry much as the doctor already said that his condition is under control with no foreseeable danger."

"Thank you," she expressed her gratitude to him and then quickly headed for the bed.

Mu Yazhe was about to enter the room as well when the agent conveniently blocked his way.

The man threw the agent a look of displeasure, his icy expression inquiring for a reason the other had stopped him.

The agent was taken aback at his sharp glare but quickly forbid, “You can’t go in!”

His brows furrowed. Plop! He brushed the agent’s hand aside and took a confident step into the hospital room.

Li Hanlin stood at the door in apparent shock.

The corner of his brows twitched as he gradually came to a realization: The little lad had inherited his father’s charisma at a young age...

Chapter 262: When Little Yichen was born...

She sat nervously at the side of his bed. Biting her lips, she observed the pale little face with agony and mixed emotions.

She reached out her hand to stroke his face, and her heart winced at the coolness she felt at the end of her fingertips.

Her brows knitted. His skin felt so cold it was devoid of warmth.

Tears gushed from her eyes uncontrollably as great pain gripped her heart.

“Youyou...” she whispered his nickname, worried that she might wake him up.

The heart of Mu Yazhe, who was standing behind her, skipped a beat as he watched the little lad feebly sleep in the bed.

What emotions should a man have when he saw his missing biological son for the first time in six years?

He could only feel something relentlessly stirring in his heart. This was a strange glowing feeling that was indescribable!

This was not his first time acknowledging his status as a father.

When this woman bore Little Yichen for him, he lost his usual composure at that time and repeatedly made mistakes during the board meeting.

He had rushed to the Mu's private hospital immediately after the meeting and took hold of the infant from the nurse's hands. Little Yichen was so tiny then with his little head, crumpled face, and squinted shut eyes. The two little hands could hardly hold on to his one index finger.

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When he carried the child in his hands, the wailing baby instantly stopped his cries; the two small hands flailed wildly in the air before one of which caught his finger. Instinctively, the infant pulled the finger toward his mouth and started to suckle on it with great succulence.

He was so amused by the baby's antics he broke into a slight smile and his eyes danced with merriment.

At that moment, he thought that he was dreaming.

Had he really become a father?

There was no happy marriage or a wife he doted on. In fact, he did not experience what other men had – an anxious long wait outside the delivery room. It felt as if a precious son had dropped from the sky that made him an instant father!

He had sworn there and then that he would provide a warm and loving family to his child.

Although no mother was in his household, he would be a good father to him.

He could only model his fathering after his father's. Becoming a full-fledged father himself, he actually felt lost inside with all the mixed emotions...

When he first got hold of the infant, he stared at Little Yichen for half a day, diligently searching for an inkling of his identity on the tiny face.

The child was still a baby with a crumpled face back then, and it was only after he had reached a month of age that his face started to show a vague resemblance – the child's mouth, with distinctive thin flaps, was like his.

When Little Yichen turned a year old, Old Master Mu happily proclaimed the child's close resemblance to him.

Logically speaking, the son should look like the mother, and the daughter would take after the father, but in Little Yichen's case, he looked so much like him it would not be an exaggeration to say that both had been cast in the same mold.

As he stood gazing at Youyou in the bed within this room, his heart was in great turmoil, even more so than when he had carefully held the crying Little Yichen in his arms.

At that time, when the pregnancy report indicated that Yun Shishi was with a pair of twins, Old Master Mu was over the moon. Unfortunately, they were delivered prematurely at eight months. He learned that the younger twin was not breathing upon birth and was subsequently pronounced as stillborn. The hospital settled the baby's affair before he had a chance to take a look at him.

He did not pursue the matter further for fear of stirring his grandfather's grief.

Only recently did he discover that the younger twin had not died back then to his great surprise!

#### Chapter 263: The Meeting of Father and Son

When he had yet to meet this child in person, especially that time that they were on the phone, and this child was flaunting his prowess to him while demanding that he stayed far away from his mother, he only thought that it was interesting and amusing.

How capable could a mere child be?

As he sternly warned him not to bully his mommy further, or else they would be at swords' points, he held nothing but admiration for this child!

He was proud and extremely daring. He had inherited his decisiveness. His way of speech was also extremely similar.

However, now that he finally met this child, his heart was aching badly instead!

This child and Yichen were twins. He could only marvel at The Creator's holiness and miraculous works. Unlike other twins, regardless of their facial features or appearance, the two were exactly the same. If the two stood together and wore the same clothes while maintaining an expressionless face, he would be hard-pressed to tell them apart.

If only one were to look closely, they could find minute differences between his sons.

Little Yichen's long and narrow eyes were much more similar to his – deep and ethereal. His lashes were thickly packed like phoenix feathers, and his nose bridge was high and straight with its tip pointing upward into a haughty curve.

Still, the prominent gentleness between his brows was similar to his mother, and even though his small lips resembled his in shape, their color was all Yun Shishi's.

Youyou's eyes, meanwhile, were more similar to hers. His eyes were distinctively black and white. His irises were dark and dewy, seemingly containing the beautiful starry night sky; they looked like

black and radiant agates. His nose bridge resembled his – tall and straight – but his lips resembled hers in rosiness and lusciousness.

Little Yichen’s growth had been well-monitored all this while. He suddenly shot up in height and, although only six, he was already at his waist when he stood next to him.

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He had a refined face, which glowed with a healthy tinge of red, and his cheeks had a little baby fat to them. He looked like a cherub with his chubbiness, and one could not help but land a peck at either of his cheeks.

Youyou was fairly thin in comparison. Yun Shishi had always been careful with his diet, yet it was just hard for his body to gain flesh and fat. Despite growing taller, he was still petite for his age. Could the child’s body be poor in nutrition intake? He was around the same height as Little Yichen, but, comparing them, Youyou’s wrist was so thin it could be held with his two fingers.

“Youyou...”

She called out to the child.

Youyou opened his eyes slightly. Noticing that he had ‘woken up’, she was surprised and overjoyed. She hugged him into her chest and endearingly said, “Youyou, you’re awake! Mommy came late. I’m sorry; I’m sorry...”

The child’s delicate face slightly frowned. His lips pouted as his eyes gathered tears of anguish. Snuggling longingly in her arms, he

grumbled, “Mommy, why did you only come now? Youyou waited really long for you; Youyou thought mommy no longer wants him...”

His little hands circled around her neck, and he placed his small head on her shoulder in bliss, curling up into her like a little kitty and indulging himself in her warmth.

However, when he opened his eyes and spotted the man standing tall and indifferent by the bed, his gentle smile instantly froze.

Mu Yazhe walked closer to the bed with light steps and stood by the headboard for the longest time. From the start, he was quietly measuring him with his eyes; no words were exchanged between them.

As Youyou spied the man’s face, his expression quickly darkened.

The father and son met and sized each other up. However, in contrast to that faint affection in Mu Yazhe’s eyes, Youyou’s were only filled with vigilance and hostility.

Chapter 264: He Did Not Need a Father

It’s him?

Why is he here?

He thought that his mommy came alone. Why did she bring this man along?!

Youyou's face tensed up. His thin lips formed a straight line from evident unhappiness.

Although he had initially seen him in an article from a finance magazine, this was his first time being up-close to this man, his biological father.

Back then, he thought that the photograph had been processed, or how could there be such a perfect-looking man?

His father's handsome features appeared extraordinarily dignified and calm. Especially with that solemn face of his, one would intuitively be terrified of him just by looking at it through a mere photograph.

The last time he had met him was at the gala, and he clearly saw for himself that the man genuinely had handsome features and a tall stature. He believed there and then that it was possible for such a flawless man to exist in reality.

Finally, in this moment, the father and son got to see each other in person. He scrutinized the little boy, and the lad similarly judged him with disbelief growing in his eyes.

He was outstanding... and domineering to boot!

He should be the same as him – a man with a propensity to be dominant. He had an extremely powerful presence; wherever he went, his aura influenced every corner.

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This was his biological father.

For as long as he could remember, when he was much younger, he did not have a father. As he observed other children with a father, he once held envy and perplexity.

Why was everyone else a happy family of three or more, holding their mommy's hand with the left hand and their daddy's with the right? Why was his right hand empty instead?

He often witnessed other children riding on their fathers' shoulders. On each occasion that he saw this, he felt nothing but jealousy!

A father was such a great figure!

It felt that, with a father's presence in his life, he would be unafraid of anything in this world.

If their household had an indomitable man, let alone not getting bullied, mommy and he would surely not be looked down by others as well, right?!

However, growing up without one, he gradually came to resent his father who had been absent all these while.

Why did daddy not want him and mommy? He had asked his mother this several times, but she had always glossed over the question and had never given him a proper answer.

Eventually, having a father had become superfluous to him.

Since there was no man at home, he would act the part, instead.

He would risk everything to protect his mommy via any means.

Perhaps, in the eyes of Li Hanlin, Yun Tianyou's maturity was unrivaled by any normal child, but he was unaware that the latter was simply carefully hiding away his weak self.

In front of Yun Shishi, he was sensible, thoughtful, and very obedient.

In front of his agent, however, he was two-sided, calm, and full of vigor.

He did not need a father anymore!

He did not want to share his mommy's love with others!

At the thought of this, his little hands clung on even tighter to his mommy's shoulders!

This man was taking up more and more of his mommy's life; he could not stay idle.

“Mommy, why didn't you come home for two days?! Youyou's scared of being alone at home...”

Yun Tianyou lay his small face on her shoulder. His tiny lips opened and closed, letting out a youthful voice that was crying and trembling incessantly. He sniffled with his hoarse but tiny voice; anyone who heard this would surely have a heartache.

However, while he was cooing and crooning, his eyes were actually glaring intensely at Mu Yazhe with no expression on his face.

Chapter 265: Father and son exchange blows.

She could not see Yun Tianyou's face as she was carrying him in her arms, but the little lad's aggrieved sobbing was enough to break her heart.

"I'm so sorry; I'm very sorry! It's mommy's fault for leaving Youyou alone at home! I'm wrong this time; Youyou can punish mommy..."

Mu Yazhe furrowed his brows as he stood beside the bed.

This little rascal might be young, yet he was quite the schemer; he knew how to milk his mother's guilt for all it was worth. Piteous cries incessantly went past his lips, but the eyes he used to gaze at his father were hard and cold. He could not help but marvel at his son's excellent acting.

Yun Tianyou provocatively raised a brow at him. Toward Yun Shishi, though, the child's tone was mushy. "Stupid mommy! How will Youyou bear to punish mommy? Mommy was probably busy, so mommy couldn't go home for two days. Youyou doesn't blame mommy. Still, mommy can't leave Youyou alone again next time; Youyou is really scared..."

The slight smirk on his lips seemed to be a way of showing off his victory to the man. He continued in his sweet tone, "If there's really a need for punishment, then mommy must come home every night and send Youyou to bed by telling stories!"

"Alright!"

"Pinky promise!" He reached out his little finger for the pinky swear.

She gently wiped away the heart-wrenching tears in her eyes and hooked her pinky with his. “Pinky promise!”

The boy’s eyes crinkled with happiness, and he lay his forehead on hers. With lips pouting petulantly, he said, “Mommy, Youyou forgives you!”

“Youyou is such a good boy!”

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Yun Tianyou turned to Mu Yazhe out of the blue and, pretending to be surprised, asked, “Er? Mommy, who is this uncle?”

She had a look of awkwardness.

She had no clue that Youyou already knew of the man’s identity in reality, so when the little lad asked about him, she was at a loss on how to reply.

How should she introduce the father to the son? Should she say ‘Youyou, this is your daddy’? Surely, the child would freak out.

For six years, she had not once divulged any information pertaining to his biological father to him. If she were to bring up this subject suddenly and tell him that he had a father all along, her child would naturally have issues accepting this fact.

Once she realized this, her face sank. She subconsciously sneaked a peek at the man standing beside the bed and saw that the latter was also looking at her, seemingly waiting for how she would introduce him.

Taking in a deep breath, she miserably bit her lower lip as she deliberated. She was really at a loss on how to introduce the man to their son!

Her normal life consisted only of work and home, so she did not have many friends!

Youyou had already met all her friends and colleagues.

The boy was observant despite his young age.

As she ruminated, Li Hanlin gave a slight cough and signaled Youyou with his eyes. Mu Yazhe also withdrew the intense expression on his face and regarded her with a calm and gentle look, instead.

She abruptly responded and explained with a smile, “Youyou, he is a professor from mommy’s alma mater! His last name is Mu. He used to take very good care of mommy!”

She hardly told lies, so she felt guilty right after she had said this.

She stole a look at the man after her introduction. He was still wearing a gentle smile on his lips. Although he did not deny her words, he did not display any other emotions as well. Occasionally, he would throw her a mysterious sidelong glance.

Li Hanlin tried hard to suppress his laughter at her introduction. Meanwhile, Yun Tianyou’s face did not express any surprise, yet his lips twitched ever so slightly that it was barely perceptible.

Chapter 266: Game

Li Hanlin tried hard to suppress his laughter at her introduction. Meanwhile, Yun Tianyou's face did not express any surprise, yet his lips twitched ever so slightly that it was barely perceptible.

This mother-son pair was truly ingenious!

The son hid the true identity of his personal assistant to his mother, claiming the agent to be the school principal, and the mother lied to her son about his father, saying that the man was her university professor.

The father and son were also fantastic; both actually knew who the other party was. In fact, the one still in the dark here was only Yun Shishi!

She did not suspect that her son was such an imp he managed to uncover his father's identity long ago. Did she take her son to just be a mere six-year-old boy?

The agent's mouth twitched at this thought.

Cough! Alright, his boss was indeed just a six-year-old boy...

Youyou chuckled softly before commenting politely, "He is mommy's university professor, huh! He looks so young, though; his age seems to be only 27 or 28."

Though he was openly carrying a warm and gentle smile on his face, he was actually secretly giving his father the death glare – a look full of disdain.

The man gave an amused smile.

The little lad was right on the dot about his age.

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He reached out his long and slender hand to clasp the little hand.

The man's hand was broad and warm, his well-manicured fingers fair and smooth.

Meanwhile, the little boy's hand, though fleshy, looked pale and was cool to the touch.

As his mother was present, he could not shake off his father's hand. His heart was twisted with unwillingness, yet the pretentious smile never left his face.

Mu Yazhe was still smiling as he held his son's hand and calmly said, "Little Youyou, you can call me Uncle Mu."

His baritone voice, just like aged wine, was deep and seductive.

She was a little surprised by the man's willingness to go along with her lie. He was natural, as if he were really her university professor!

Youyou replied with a stiff smile, "I am thankful to have Uncle Mu visit me at this hour despite your busy schedule. Mommy has received much favor from you in school! I hope she didn't create any trouble for you back then."

The man lifted his eyes and looked deeply at her for a moment before smilingly replying, "No, your mommy has been good."

For some reason, there was a hidden meaning to his words.

She looked away; the corner of her lips was held awkwardly in place.

As the people in the room exchanged courtesies, they heard someone politely knock on the door. Soon after, a man in a suit led a few doctors inside. These were the doctors responsible for Youyou's treatment!

The woman was startled to see them, especially the man in a suit whom she recognized for the hospital director, Meng Qingyang!

Why was he here?

As she was feeling fazed, the hospital director walked to Mu Yazhe's side with an enthusiastic and respectful smile.

The director rushed over the moment he received news that the young president of Mu Group and the master of the Mu family was in his hospital!

He did not know the reason for his appearance here, but there must be no delay in welcoming this VIP!

Receiving Master Mu of the most influential family in the capital took precedence over other important matters. He had to ensure that the man was well-received as his future livelihood depended on him!

Hence, with a slight bow and a wide smile, he respectfully approached the man. He was about to speak when he was stopped by the latter. With an outstretched hand, Mu Yazhe casually said, "I'm here to visit my student's son."

A visible look of confusion spread across the hospital director's face at his words.

Student? Son?

Meng Qingyang numbly glanced at Yun Shishi, who was standing at one side, pondered for a moment, and, though unsure of anything, went along with him by saying, "Mr. Mu, how are you doing?"

As he asked that, his eyes were on the beautiful lady at the side; he was trying to figure out her identity.

Her dress did not suggest her to be a mere student, though her face was youthful with a quiet disposition. She was simply stunning!

Thinking of this, he respectfully continued, "Is this Mr. Mu's student? She looks like a scholar!"

She returned his courtesies; her face showed a look of utter shyness!

Li Hanlin's mouth twitched again.

This roomful of people, whether young or old, male or female, was putting on a show. Were they natural-born actors?

Mu Yazhe inspected the hospital ward, gathered his gaze, and casually remarked, "This room seems to be too rundown for a recuperating child."

His cool words sent a shiver down the director's spine. He hurriedly nodded with an apologetic smile and turned to reprimand the few doctors standing behind him.

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This ward was truly very simple and rundown, though it could not be helped. Li Hanlin wanted to arrange a better room for Yun Tianyou, but the boy was worried that his mother would suspect something, so he ordered him to arrange the simplest ward for his stay.

The agent ended up paying the fee for the normal ward.

Meng Qingyang, as well as the doctors with him, broke out into a cold sweat. He had not expected this room to be associated with a VIP in the first place!

Had he known earlier of the boy's connection to a VIP, he would have put him in a special care room; in fact, he would give him the only special VIP room if there was one in the hospital!

“Yes, I'll immediately arrange for the child to be transferred to a special care ward.”

She stared at the group of hospital personnel in disbelief. From what she could remember, the doctor in charge was calculative and aloof. In fact, she did not have a good impression of him from the very start!

However, looking at how the director and the few senior doctors were so respectful before Mu Yazhe, she could not help but be gobsmacked. They were normally unfriendly and detached.

After a few more rounds of courtesies and greetings, the hospital staff finally left the room.

Meng Qingyang heaved a sigh of relief and relaxed his facial muscles as well as the tight knot between his brows. They walked for quite a distance before he turned to the doctor in charge, who was walking behind him, and asked, “Zhao Rui, let me ask you; what is the background of that patient in the ward?”

“His background?” The doctor in charge was flabbergasted.

“Nothing special; the boy is just a normal patient.”

“Make sure that the boy is given special care! Get him into the special care ward and arrange to have the best specialist and nutritionist take a look at him. Do this without any delay!”

He went on with his strict orders, “As long as it’s not unreasonable, give the patient whatever he wants. Make sure he is satisfied with his stay here!”

“Why?” The doctor in charge could not comprehend the fuss over that child.

The hospital director demanded, “Do you know who that man sitting beside the bed is?”

Baffled, the doctor shook his head.

“Well, he’s a VIP! You and I need to depend on him for our livelihood!”

No one in the capital could afford to offend Mu Yazhe. What was scary was not him per se but the massive fortune and status of his Mu family. What was even scarier was his callous means.

The thought of Mu Yazhe sent shivers down his spine; regardless, Meng Qingyang ensured that all his orders were in place before he left with a peaceful mind.

Zhao Rui did not understand political intricacies, but, as a doctor, he had the duty to provide care and treatment for those who paid him to do so. This was his principle, so he naturally did not tarry in carrying out the orders.

Sitting in the room for a while, the young boy eventually looked up at his mother and pouted. “Mommy, Youyou is hungry. The tummy is growling.” He rubbed his little tummy and blinked piteously at her with his sparkling, doe eyes.

Gently, she quickly asked, “What does Youyou want to eat? Mommy will buy it for you from the supermart!”

A number of 24-hour convenience stores and cake shops could be found around the hospital and just across the street. Getting food was very convenient.

“It’s so late now, though; Youyou is worried!” His eyes lit up suddenly. Clapping his palms together in an asking-for-favor form, he requested to Li Hanlin, “Principal, if it’s alright with you, please accompany my mother!”

The agent easily got the hint and nodded. Yun Shishi, meanwhile, was rather embarrassed and tried to reject, “Thank you, but it’s not necessary! Youyou, it’s so late now. Principal should be home by now, right?”

“This is no big deal! Our school principal is always passionate. Besides, you look so weak, mommy. What if you meet a bad guy on the road at this late hour? Principal Li is superb and he can protect you!”

“That’s right. It’s not late yet. I can accompany you to buy food, send you up, and then head home. There’s no trouble at all! I like Youyou and treat him like my son!”

He had just finished his statement when he sensed daggers shooting at his face from the man beside him.

Mu Yazhe lifted his eyes and cast him a cold-hearted glare; the man’s displeasure seeped through his demeanor.

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He seemed to be questioning the agent, Treat him like your son?

If looks could kill, the agent would be sliced up past recognition.

The agent took out his hanky to wipe away the cold perspiration that had gathered on his forehead. Could this father-son pair be less alike? The charisma exuding from the younger one was forceful enough, while that one glance of the adult version could knock him out...

The atmosphere in the ward was rather eerie, with the three males exchanging glances.

Amid her obliviousness to the strange dynamics of the three males in the room, she gratefully expressed her gratitude to Li Hanlin, “Thank you, principal! I really can’t thank you enough for your help today! It’s so late now; let me buy you coffee!”

As they chatted and were about to walk off, she felt a tug on her arm that halted her exit to the room.

With one hand on his trousers' belt, he leaned slightly over and slowly whispered to her ear, "Be back early, yeah?"

"Er..."

"I don't like seeing you with other men," he panted to her earlobe. His evil and seductive smile contained a hint of warning.

Her face went pop in an instant over his domineering and flirtatious words. Her clear and distinctive eyes glared at him, as if she had more to say.

"Who are you to stop me? Isn't it my right to decide on who I want to be with?"

"Your little mouth can be defiant, eh?" He sounded unhappy as he lightly bit her lip flap without inhibition before Li Hanlin.

The agent stood at one side awkwardly, not knowing where to look.

His sudden action caused her face to flush even hotter. Self-consciously, she bit her lower lip and threw him a dirty look. "Don't mess around!"

"Mess around? How is this messing around?"

She lowered her voice, "Don't fool around with me in front of the child!"

Mu Yazhe's lips had a sinister curve to them, and he seemed to ignore her warning altogether. Singing a different tune on purpose, he pecked at her lips.

Li Hanlin was taken aback by this sudden display of love. He had no chance to avoid seeing it, and their full-on display of affection was shoved down his throat. Standing there, he felt like a third wheel and wanted to flee from the scene badly.

Yun Tianyou sat stunned in the bed by his abrupt movements.

His field of view was completely blocked by the man's back, hence he was unable to see the actions he had just taken. He could only look at him dipping his body forward and vaguely caught a glimpse of his mother's face blushing with affection.

At that moment, something seemed to have exploded in his mind. He grabbed on to his pillow, pissed, and landed his fist in it.

However, he still had to force out a smile. He asked, "Mommy? What are you doing with Uncle Mu?"

Feeling embarrassed, she shoved the man away at once. The man's face, meanwhile, displayed an unnatural expression. He held one finger up to his lips and spoke in a slow and deliberate manner, "Shhh! I'm whispering to your mommy!"

The smile of mischief plastered on his face was clearly an outward provocation to him!

The little boy held a smile up, but his eyes were filled with a twisted aura. He had also crumpled up a corner of his blanket with his hand.

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She felt uncomfortable.

Whispering to her... This man was really...

She held in her temper. Grinning at her son, she said, “Mommy’ll go buy some bread now for you. Youyou must behave, okay? Don’t come down from the bed and go elsewhere!”

After she told her son this, she proceeded to emphasize to Mu Yazhe, “Professor Mu, please take care of my Youyou. I’ll be right back!”

She then headed out with Li Hanlin.

As soon as the doors to the ward were shut, the father and son had a confrontation. The smile that Yun Tianyou had instantly froze.

That gentle and lovely smile he had on for his mother was now nowhere to be seen.

Mu Yazhe noted the straight face before him and, for a moment, he seemed to catch a glimpse of his younger self.

He was always distant to others and wore no emotion on his face. He was on the defensive toward anyone he met. He kept himself completely sealed up in his world and had never opened up to anyone.

The little boy looked at him expressionlessly.

He surveyed him with vigilance, scrutiny, and disdain.

The man slightly lost his smile. Walking toward his son intuitively, he sat down on the bed and turned to his side. Slowly, he stretched his hand out and cautiously caressed the little lad's cold cheek.

Yun Tianyou blanked out, and his body swiftly stiffened.

Almost reflexively, he raised his hand and slapped the man's hand away.

“Don't touch me.”

He spouted cold words void of any emotions; there was only apathy.

Recalling his provocation to him just then, he was completely frustrated!

Taken by surprise, the man's brows twitched. This little boy appeared to hold hostility toward him.

When she was present, he could still show a smile — though it was fake — but now that she was gone, he did not even bother to put up an act before him at all.

A thought suddenly came to his mind: this boy did inherit some things from his mommy.

Sometimes, he acted like a wary kitten; its fur would stand up when feeling threatened, and when it was mad, it would scratch with its claws.

Chapter 270: Are You Qualified Enough?

He lifted his gaze to look at Mu Yazhe coldly. Expressionlessly tossing his blanket aside, he calmly got down from bed and trudged toward the window, then leaning his weight on the wall while hugging his arms.

“Why are you here? Aren’t you supposed to be with your fiancée at this time? Why do you keep clinging on to my mommy? It’s really annoying.”

Once the little boy opened his mouth, every word from him woundingly penetrated him; it was really painful.

He did not find this little boy’s indifferent and somber way of speech surprising.

This child was too sensitive – he had carefully concealed his weakest side.

He noticed how the boy was leaning against the wall. It appeared as if he were looking for support from the hard surface of it.

“Are you very satisfied?”

One of his eyebrows was raised at the boy’s question.

The little boy pursed his lips firmly. He was now like a rampant little beast – he did not feel safe. He hugged his arms tightly and, suppressing all his rage and insecurity, he repeated himself, “Bullying my mommy before me, are you very satisfied, Mu Yazhe?!”

He called his name directly, but he was not enraged by this. He simply replied him slowly with a smirk, “Based on seniority, you should call me ‘daddy’.”

“Daddy?” The little boy’s brow formed a good-looking arch. “On what grounds?”

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He answered, “My blood runs in your veins; is this reason good enough?”

Two people, father and son, one large and one small, formed two incompatible and extreme auras.

Yun Tianyou’s eyes darkened. “Good enough? NO!”

He abruptly lifted his chin haughtily and stared intensely at the man’s handsome profile. “Do you think that because we are related by blood, I should call you ‘daddy’? I’m already six! Six years old! Have we met before in the past six years? Have you fulfilled your duties as a father? Now, you pop up out of nowhere and suddenly want me to acknowledge you as my daddy?” he asked, his youthful voice full of evident conviction.

After putting forth a series of questions, his fragile body seemed to have slightly deflated.

He furrowed his brows and dropped his head; his hand clutched his wrist firmly, as if this could help simmer the flames of anger within his heart.

He lowered his sight before speaking to him in a subdued voice, “Mu Yazhe, I believe you are mistaken about something. It is not an obligation for me to acknowledge you as my father, just because we are related by blood.”

The man was startled.

The child looked up at him and suddenly questioned him back with a smirk, “When I was born, did you carry me? When it was dark, did you lull me to sleep with a lullaby? When I was bullied, were you there to comfort me? In kindergarten, while the other children had their fathers to bring them home, where were you? Now, after six years, you appear all of a sudden, wanting me to call you ‘daddy’. Mu Yazhe, do you think you are qualified enough?”

There was not much of an agitation in his tone, and his voice was calm and collected as usual, but when he said that, his youthful voice was trembling a little.

Although he was emotionless when he spouted those words, as if they were about another person, through them, one could see the dried blood and tears seeping out.

He continued coldly, “You’ll never know how mommy and I have suffered in the past six years.”

Mu Yazhe slowly stated, “For the past six years, I didn’t know I have another son.”

“That’s right; I’m also unaware that I have a father like you.”

Yun Tianyou continued in a heavy tone, “When I first saw you on a magazine, I felt honestly agitated, aggrieved, and regretful.”

He paused and, lifting his face that had a forlornly scornful look, continued, “I was agitated to see my biological father—that the man whom I’m the offspring of is outstanding—but, sadly, where were you in the past six years? I regret to inform you that, despite your excellence, I can’t hand my mommy over to you!”

Mu Yazhe’s brows became knotted in deep agony.

His heart was constricted almost to the point of suffocation with the little lad’s accusation.

It was not without pain. His heart was hurting so badly it was, in fact, like being crushed under a huge rock, and he could barely breathe.

Initially, he was more amazed than surprised with this son of his whose intelligence was above average.

He might be twins with Little Yichen, but he was very unlike his brother. This child was more mature and sturdier, and this maturity was not what a normal six-year-old boy should have.

A child at six would be the most innocent and naïve; many six-year-olds would be enjoying their childhood but not this little boy. He had to bear the burden that no other children his age should carry.

Therefore, it was only natural for him to develop this level of maturity.

Since birth, Little Yichen had received all the care and attention. His father and grandfather's love revolved endlessly around him.

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Although Mu Wanrou was not exactly close to him, she would also follow his wishes in all matters, be they big or small, and despite not being his biological mother, she still carried out the necessary duties of one.

Yun Tianyou did not have the same.

Upon birth, he was not breathing and could only display a faint indication of being alive. He had almost lost his life.

Relying on his survival instinct, he managed to let out a weak sigh, which allowed him to hang on to his dear life. However, since he was born, he was not healthy or active like Little Yichen. Before reaching the age of two, he had endured all kinds of bodily torture and pain.

Subconsciously, he could tell that he was not fit like other children.

He also discovered that he was different from those his age.

Whenever he returned home, he would have to face his grandmother and aunt's sarcasm and disdain. He had long been accustomed to their unbearable humiliation.

His childhood was without a father and was accompanied by much humiliation and bullying, yet he was never willing to talk about this to his mother.

As such, he had grown to be this mature.

He curled his fists tightly and, without warning, released them. His voice regained its usual aloofness. “I only know my mother since birth; I have no father! There’s none in the past and there won’t be one in the future, too!”

The man asked, “Why?”

The boy bit hard on his lower lip and then spouted each word coolly, “Because I don’t need one!”

There was a long silence after he finished his words.

This lasted until Mu Yazhe opened his mouth again. “I like you a lot.”

Yun Tianyou froze on the spot, his shoulders shuddering.

The man followed his statement with a sincere question. “Don’t you like me?”

It was a tiny attempt to find out what his son was thinking inside.

The boy’s pupils constricted for a moment as he gasped instantly.

‘I like you a lot.’

These five words seemed to carry an irresistible charm, which calmed his fretful heart in a second. A rosy blush rose on his cheeks.

However, he chose to turn away with a snort. “I don’t need you to like me. My mother’s love is sufficient for me!”

Chapter 272: I will take care of her.

“I don’t need you to like me. My mother’s love is sufficient for me!”

This child could be rather spoiled.

“I’ve said this before; don’t touch my mommy, but you provoked me time and again. Mu Yazhe, do you think I can’t do anything to you?”

The man did not say a word and simply smiled as he watched the play of petulance and enmity on the rosy little face before him.

The room was without a sound.

A long bout of silence ensued before the man stood up. His big and tall figure towered over, making the room looked smaller than it was.

The man’s bearing was overwhelming, and it prompted Youyou to puff up his chest in defiance. Soon, however, he realized that his action was useless. His presence was overpowered by his father’s.

Father and son stood looking at each other. Due to the large gap between their height, the boy had to lift his head to meet his father’s eyes. His neck started to ache as a result.

The man was tall—just like how he had imagined his father to be—strong, and sturdy with a broad and muscular body; he was someone that could withstand any storms in life.

When he saw his father in person for the first time at the gala, his heart jumped at the latter's tall and broad frame. Would he be as tall as him when he grew up? He could only hope so.

As the man stood before him, only then did he realize with a start that he was more handsome and stronger than what he had previously thought.

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His heart could not help but pump fast in admiration!

Yun Tianyou started to grumble to himself, You're so tall; can't you stoop for my sake? When he looked up, he noted that the man was at least twice his height.

The father and son seemed to have telepathy; Mu Yazhe could somehow guess the boy's thought. Walking up to the little boy, the man stooped before him.

The little lad was startled by his gesture. The man was friendlier than he reckoned...

"Yun Tianyou." The man calmly observed his face as his big palm reached out and gently stroked his little cheek. This time, for once, the child did not resist his touch.

Perhaps, it was because the man had called out his name so gently. His deep and mellow tone was full of tenderness, which sounded unexpectedly nice.

He studied the man as the man did the same; he inspected the little lad's tough look.

What the son failed to notice was the slight tremor of his father's fingertips as the latter stroked his face.

The little lad's adorable face, smooth skin, and distinctive doe eyes were like the moon's eminence.

He really thought that this son had died tragically six years ago, only to find him standing intact now. This man, who had always been composed and steady, was inevitably slightly affected.

“Do you know who I am?”

“Yes.”

Yun Tianyou soothed his emotions as well. Calmly looking into his father's eyes, he slowly replied, “Mu Yazhe, the CEO of Disheng Financial Group.”

“Smart boy.” The man pinched his cheek lightly; his eyes could not hide his love for him.

“Hmph. That goes without saying,” the boy retorted curtly.

The man continued, “You are a little different from what I've imagined.”

“Oh? In what way?” The little lad was slightly piqued.

He furrowed his brows marginally before casually replying, “A little imp and a mommy's boy.”

The little boy tilted his brow in displeasure. “So what if I'm a mommy's boy?”

“...”

“Is it wrong to be a mommy’s boy? If the son doesn’t know how to care for his mother, who will take care of her? Should I expect another man to do that?”

He was hinting at someone when he mentioned about another man.

Mu Yazhe readily assured, “I’ll take care of her.”

Chapter 273: What Was Love?

Yun Tianyou said in an unfriendly manner, “How will you care for her? Don’t you still have a fiancée? Mu Yazhe, let me tell you this; my mommy is a treasure to me. If you want to care for her, you should be legitimate! Are you taking marriage lightly? I don’t know how mommy thinks, but I won’t allow for an illegitimate relationship!”

He completely understood the concept of legitimacy despite his young age.

“You’re not thinking that my mommy is a woman you can play with as you please, are you?” He folded his arms arrogantly, his eyes distant. “With me, Yun Tianyou, around, don’t even think of bullying my mommy. Try it if you dare!”

He warned menacingly. One should not doubt his intention of not letting off lightly those who dared bully his mommy.

The conversation between the father and son resembled a negotiation. They were already in a state of war.

Mu Yazhe stated flatly, “I don’t deny your capabilities for one bit when you said that you will protect your mommy, but when you grow up and have your own wife and kid, your mommy will be left alone again – has this ever crossed your mind? Can you bear to let this happen?”

He replied with conviction, “I will neither marry nor father a child. I will always accompany my mommy. Even in her old age, I will be by her side, and I won’t ever leave her!”

The little boy’s eyes were brimming with resolution as he spouted these words in earnest.

“Don’t you wish to have a complete family?” Mu Yazhe squeezed his small hands and placed them in his palms. His lips curled into a smile as he continued, “With a daddy, a mommy, and an elder brother?”

Yun Tianyou indifferently pulled his hands away from the man’s and slowly answered, “It’s not enough to just have a complete family. While the family members seem loving, if they are divided at heart and are actually unable to love each other freely, then being together will simply be a suffering!”

He was stunned, for he did not expect the child to know so much.

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“If there is a day when my mommy falls in love with a man, I can perhaps respect her wishes, but only on one condition: The man must

love my mommy as much as she does! I may be unable to interfere with the matters of the heart, but this doesn't mean that I shall sit aside and do nothing! I won't let anyone hurt her.”

Suddenly, Youyou looked him in the eye as he took a step closer. With his small finger poking at his heart, he proceeded to ask sternly, “I've said this much, so let me ask you in return; do you love my mother?”

His tender fingertip continued to poke at where his heart was, albeit without much strength.

Mu Yazhe instantly fell into silence.

Honestly speaking, he was unsure of it himself as well. Regarding Yun Shishi, what emotions did he harbor for her?

Love? What was love?

In the world of love, he was akin to a blank piece of paper devoid of any colors.

He did not understand emotions, nor did he know love.

For as long as he could remember, he was like a puppet. It was only when Little Yichen was born, and he caught a glimpse of the child's tender face, while swaddled in toddler's clothes, that he had a vague notion of his fatherly love for him.

He was slow-witted at love.

Toward Yichen, he wanted to shower him with utmost care and spoil him rotten. He wanted to provide him with the best in the world.

Now, toward Youyou, he did care for him and loved him dearly. The more he looked at him, the more he could not hold in that distinct but unfamiliar emotion in his heart.

Perhaps, this was a father's love.

This feeling of blood being thicker than water seemed to be merging into his body through the bloodstreams; it felt extremely prominent.

At the same time, he wanted to provide him with a family filled with warmth.

In this family, there was a daddy, there was a mommy, and there was also an elder brother. He hoped to make up for the six years that he was absent in this child's life to the greatest extent.

However, when this child pricked at his heart and questioned him, he was a little lost.

Did he love her?

Chapter 274: Probing Each Other

Did he love her?

What was considered as love?

If having dominion over her was considered as love, then he could reply to this child that he loved her!

He understood that dominion and desire did not equate to love, though, so his mind suddenly drew a blank at this question.

Youyou noticed his hesitation and felt disappointed with him. He even had to hesitate at this question.

“Since you’re still thinking about it until now, I believe you don’t really love my mommy.”

Youyou briefly paused, his eyes radiating apathy.

“If you don’t love her, then why are you still clinging on to my mommy?!”

“You have an elder brother,” Mu Yazhe spouted all of a sudden.

Youyou was dumbfounded and, after a while, affirmed, “I know.”

Why did he suddenly mention that child?

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He looked at him with a bit of confusion but did not comment further.

A loving smile appeared faintly on the man’s face at the mention of his other child. “He is called Mu Yichen. He is as tall as you. If he is to stand beside you, even I will be incapable of telling you two apart.”

“Erm...” Immediately, a somewhat absent-minded look appeared in his eyes.

He knew he had an elder brother and, in fact, did not mind that relation; he was just subconsciously opposed to having him.

However, when this man brought up about him, he became more curious of that brother of his.

“Perhaps, it’s telepathy between brothers; he used to tell me about seeing a younger brother in his dreams.” Mu Yazhe glanced at him and smiled. “I initially treated it as a child’s babbling, but now I think that it’s pretty incredible. I can’t help but admire The Creator’s miraculous powers.”

Hearing this, Yun Tianyou had to agree that it was pretty incredible as his eyes showed a stunned glint.

“He... He dreams of me?”

“Yes.”

Mu Yazhe simply added, “I want to give him a complete family, and the same goes for you. Youyou, are you willing to have a family like that?”

His thin lips opened and closed when the man said his nickname aloud. For a split second, an unfamiliar feeling surged up his chest and, unaware of it, crept into his heart.

A complete family.

A family with a daddy, a mommy... and, maybe, a brother that cared for him.

This man, standing in front of him, was gently asking for his opinion; he asked him if he was willing to have a family like that.

Of course, he was willing... ah...

He desperately yearned for that kind of family in his heart.

However, when he opened his mouth to speak, he replied otherwise, "I'm unwilling..."

The man's expression remained the same. Obviously, he was not surprised by his reply.

Let alone having this six-year-old child accept his identity as his father, even he himself took some time to let it sink in when he found out that he had another six-year-old child.

What was more; given the cleverness and independent thinking of the child before him from their few talks, it was to be expected that his every word, which was centered on protecting his mother, would be able to corner and pressure him regarding his intentions to her.

Although he was standing in front of him, he was not scared or embarrassed at all. He was calm and decisive. He was being absolutely direct for his mommy's happiness.

From what he spoke, Mu Yazhe could tell that he had a logical mind. His negotiation skills were similar to his as well.

In a few words, he concluded that, despite his tender age, he was a formidable character.

He knew this from that statement: ‘Mu Yazhe, let me tell you this; my mommy is a treasure to me. If you want to care for her, you should be legitimate!’

For the child, the first condition for his happiness was his mommy’s happiness.

“If one day, I tell you that I love your mommy and want to make her my only wife...”

#### Chapter 275: A Hug

Youyou coolly answered, “It’s not enough that you like my mommy; she has to like you, too.”

Mu Yazhe’s lips twitched a little as he was slightly overcome by the child’s tyranny and haughtiness.

The boy was indeed his son; every word and every action of his had a bearing of a reigning lord!

Youyou was charmingly smiling. This elegant smile was fitting for a little gentleman.

“Mu Yazhe, you’d better get this right. You may think that your love is a blessing for women, but that’s for other women and not relevant to my mommy! To my mother, this is a basic foundation in a relationship. She is pretty, kind, and gentle. Plus, she has me, her son, to love her. If you want to be with my mommy, love has to go both ways. You understand?”

“Er? Does that mean that I still have a chance?” the man asked.

The boy gave him a sidelong glance and snorted. “Yes, but it depends on your performance!”

“Then, for now,” the man suddenly stretched out his arms and asked with tenderness while gazing gently at the small, exquisite face before him, “can I hug you?”

A fatherly indulgence could be felt in his mellow baritone voice.

Youyou’s heart jumped suddenly, and his heart rate seemingly slowed down as his vibrant doe eyes widened at those words.

Dong... dong...

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Seeing the boy’s hesitation, the man hummed to prompt him for a reply.

Hug... hug...

The little lad hesitantly stuck out his tongue to wet his dry lip flaps. He looked at his father’s comfortable-looking broad chest, and his eyes revealed a tinge of desire.

No child could resist a father’s warm hug.

It was the same for Youyou.

He felt something bitter-sweet stinging his eyes.

He was actually a little elated and looking forward to a hug from his father inside.

When he was much younger, he watched other children his age run to their fathers' arms after school. Those scenes, with those mighty-looking arms hugging the children, somehow always stung his eyes.

His mommy's hug had always been gentle, but it was without any strength. He was not entirely comfortable when she hugged him.

If his daddy hugged him, it would be such a blessing, right?

With his father's strong arms, warm and broad chest, and steady heartbeat, the little boy felt that he would be more comfortable and secured; it was also as if he could reach for the sky if he were to sit on the man's shoulders!

That kind of feeling should be called happiness, right?

Unknowingly, the little lad could not help but stretch out his hand with a little anticipation. An irresistible charm seemed to have been cast on him as his body yearned for the man's chest.

Mu Yazhe's eyes lit up and caught hold of his small, little hand.

The little hand should be pink and soft, yet it felt cool and even carried a sickly wan right now.

Despite the palm's diminutive size, the five fingers were long and smooth; the clean nails, prominent knuckles, and beautifully shaped hand were just like his. The boy's palm felt soft to the touch, and the man easily secured his entire hand in his big palm.

The man realized that he liked this son very much.

The child was intelligent beyond his age, kind, and understanding—as well as overly mature, which made the man ache for him.

Youyou shrank away from him instantly, looking awkward.

The boy flushed beet red as he gazed up at his father.

He appeared fearful of the man misunderstanding and emphasized, “I only let you hold me for the sake of my mother...”

His father was startled for a moment before smilingly replying, “Alright.”

“Don’t assume that I’ve already accepted you just because I let you hug me! You... You still have to prove yourself!” The little lad was still maintaining his stance, though his face was tinting with more red from shyness.

Chapter 276: Get Closer

“Don’t assume that I’ve already accepted you just because I let you hug me! You... You still have to prove yourself!” The little lad was still maintaining his stance, though his face was tinting with more red from shyness.

His face might be looking awkward, yet, deep down, he was very much looking forward to this hug.

Mu Yazhe could see through his visage but still played along with him by merely concurring, “Er.”

“Only this time—you can only hold me this one time...”

Youyou repeated his message again. It was only when the man nodded one more time that, with a pout, he gingerly drew a step closer.

One step and then another. This went on until his father’s elegant, athletic arms reached across his armpits and powerfully embraced him.

The little lad’s face flushed scalding red in that instance.

The man easily propped up the little boy’s buttocks with his left arm.

The child was too skinny.

He wondered if the child had a rare case of malabsorption or was suffering from nutritional imbalance. Possibly, that stupid woman did not nourish him adequately.

Children his age are still developing and should eat more.

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In this regard, the mother and son are alike. Both are too thin.

Little did he know that the boy had always been sickly and physically weak since birth, and his body could not take in all the nutrients from the abundant nutritious food his mother was feeding him.

The little lad was as light as a fluffy rice ball in his arms. Mu Yazhe lowered his head to ponderingly gaze at him, whereas the child shyly bowed his head to hide his blushing face to the man.

What was he feeling?

It was an unfamiliar sense of fatherly love.

He used to yearn for a father's love—one with strong arms that could easily hold up the sky and with a warm, sturdy chest that could thaw the cold winter's snow.

Carefully laying his head on his father's chest, he was able to hear the strong and powerful beating of his father's heart.

His nose stung all of a sudden, and a thin rosy film spread across his cheeks.

Without realizing it, the thick, curly eyelashes framing his eyes were tainted with wetness.

It felt so warm...

Pound, pound, pound —

The heart sounded like a drum beating. Somehow, as he sat listening to the strong, rhythmic thumps, an inexplicable sense of safety welled up from within.

He fell asleep unknowingly.

When Yun Shishi returned with the bun and milk, the little lad was already sound asleep in his father's embrace.

She opened the door to this scene...

The man, who was sitting beside the bed, was holding the boy, whose eyes were tightly shut, in his arms. Under the illumination of the setting sun, the little lad's face was waxed pink with a rosy tint on his cheeks. The boy's eyelids with long lashes firmly covered his eyes.

Li Hanlin, who was following behind her, reflexively halted his steps so as not to disturb the sleeping little prince.

The man heard the footsteps and glanced up to see her arrival. He put his index finger to his lips, signaling her to tread quietly.

She understood and turned around to smile apologetically at Li Hanlin. "Thank you, principal! You are sound asleep now. It's already late and you should be on your way!"

"You're welcome!" The agent grinned and stole another look at the sleeping boy in his father's arms.

Er, this little lad looks cuter when he's asleep. He has a tame and demure look, which is expected from a six-year-old.

"Sigh!" he sighed and turned to her. "I won't stay around, then. I'll get going now; see you soon!"

"Er, goodbye, principal!"

The room reverted to its silence after she had closed the door, and this silence was full of peacefulness.

Chapter 277: Worry and Unexpected News

Yun Shishi placed the goods she had purchased on the nightstand and sat down at the side. For a moment, both of them remained silent.

At first, when the man carried the child affectionately, some emotion throbbed in her heart.

However, now, she could not help but be a little worried.

Would this man have a change of mind after seeing the child? Was he going to acknowledge the child and bring him back to the Mu's?!

Although this man acquiesced to leaving the child by her side, he had never stated that he would give up on this child's custody rights.

Carrying on the line was usually heavily emphasized among the rich.

This child was, ultimately, of his bloodline. Even if he agreed not to bring him back, would the Mu family consent to this?

Perhaps, not!

She could not help but be a little distressed.

She was not careful enough; she should have hidden the child well. Now that his identity was out in the open, she was very much in a passive situation.

Mu Yazhe carried the little boy carefully. He continued to have his head lowered, as he was engrossed in observing his supple face for the longest time.

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She was not just surprised by this.

In fact, she was very shocked.

From what she had gathered based on the rumors circulating around, she had this impression of the man being tyrannical toward others.

When they first met, he appeared in the dimly lit room with an unapproachable aura. Every movement of his brooked no interference. He seemed like a ruler standing above all, not tolerating defiance or disobedience from anyone.

No matter how frightened she was, the man gave her no consideration.

They met again six years later, and he was still his haughty self.

Of course.

He was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, after all. He was born a crown prince. Living his life in luxury and splendor, he was always aggressive and arrogant to the point of being insufferable.

Right now, however, the man in front of her was not his obnoxious self and, contrary to her expectation, he was, in fact, very patient.

What was more surprising to her was the way he held the child; he held him in the proper way and did not show any signs of clumsiness and awkwardness. He did it properly to the extent where Youyou could sleep soundly in his arms.

Did he frequently carry Little Yichen to sleep like this ?

He must be very experienced.

Still, with his position, he had probably hired a group of nannies to take care of the child most of the time, right ? Was he taking care of him by himself as well ?

She surveyed him for a long time. He raised his head coldly and looked toward her. Meeting his eyes, she was slightly shocked and averted her gaze shyly in haste.

There was yet another long bout of silence.

She surreptitiously lifted her gaze at him, only to see the man maintaining the same posture as if his arms had never ached.

How capable.

When she carried Youyou, her arms would give way after two hours and ache dully.

“Aren’t you tired ?”

Mu Yazhe raised an elegant brow and shook his head.

“No.”

“Let me carry him for a while, then!” she said.

He directed his eyes to the little boy’s face and spoke slowly, “There’s no need; I want to carry him a little longer.”

“Ergh...” she sounded. “You’re incredible. Don’t your arms ache?”

He had a loving gaze in his eyes when he answered, “When Yichen was much younger, he always had nightmares. Every time he woke up, I would coax him back to sleep like this.”

At the mention of that other child, her heart palpitated. An aching surge of heat seemed to flow into and continuously tumble in her chest.

“Why did he have constant nightmares?”

He furrowed his brows as he was puzzled by that, too. “He dreamed of someone bullying his younger brother.”

She was stunned.

“This... What was this dream?”

“I don’t know!” He slightly narrowed his eyes. “Perhaps, this is telepathy between the twins?”

“Is there really something so magical like telepathy?” She was amazed by this.

Chapter 278: The Old Times

As soon as she said this, footsteps were heard from beyond the door. They ceased right outside the hospital ward.

Knock, knock, knock.

There was a series of knocks on the door.

Yun Shishi knitted her brows and walked toward the door to open it. Yun Yecheng stood outside with a weathered and sullen face.

For some reason, he seemed to have aged a lot within a night.

Shocked, she looked past his shoulders but did not catch the presence of Li Qin or another.

He noticed her guardedness and immediately said, “There’s no one else; I came alone.”

“Dad...” She looked up at him with mixed feelings. She opened her mouth to speak several times, but even after a while, she was still unable to voice out anything.

Hopelessness, heartache, regret, decisiveness – these feelings were written all over her face, and they did not escape his eyes.

He owed this child of his too much. He came to explain everything clearly this time.

“Shishi, let me take a look at Youyou. I also need talk to you about something.”

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Her lips curled upward. “Dad, the doctor said that Youyou is already fine. He probably just had a relapse. He’s now asleep.”

Her father sighed and spoke unhurriedly, “Don’t worry; I’ll just take a look. Just one look, and I’ll leave.”

She nodded and pushed the door slightly ajar.

He entered the room and made his way to the bed, seemingly not noticing Mu Yazhe standing at the side.

The man had carefully carried Youyou to bed and covered him up with a blanket. The little boy was, right now, peaceful and docile in his deep sleep.

Yun Yecheng sat beside the bed and gazed at his fragile appearance. He wanted to reach his hand out to caress him, but midway through, he retracted his hand back in remorse. He broke down in pain.

“I don’t deserve to be called ‘grandpa’...”

“Dad...”

He suddenly stood up, moved to the balcony, and beckoned her over with his hand for a private talk.

She immediately stepped into the balcony and closed the glass door behind her.

The father and daughter stared at each other for the longest time. This stifling silence ended when he abruptly broke down into tears.

“You’ve suffered so much all these years! I’ve let you down terribly for failing to protect you!”

Her eyes turned watery and reddened at his words.

No one could understand the complexity of the emotions she was currently experiencing.

All these years, he had always treated her like his own, and although Li Qin and Yun Na had never accepted her, he had faithfully carried out his duty as a father by providing her with all her needs.

He had done this despite them not being related by blood.

Over a decade, as Yun Yecheng lost his fertility after coming down with an illness and Li Qin pestered him for a son, the two proceeded to visit the welfare center to adopt one.

He had first seen her inside a room back then.

He stood by the window and spotted the then nine-year-old Yun Shishi cuddling her shivering body and huddling in a corner of the room. Her eyes were empty and lifeless, and she looked very depressed.

Observing her closely, there were lacerations in green and purple all over her body and she appeared to have a weak mental constitution.

For some reason, he felt a throbbing pain in his heart.

Regardless of her facial features or demeanor, this girl was remarkably beautiful and sweet. She seemed to be a pretty clever child, and her clear-cut brows indicated spiritedness.

However, for reasons unknown, she shut herself in the empty room while other children were out playing. She hugged her knees and shivered intensely in fright.

She was probably under the other children's constant bullying, was she not?

Li Qin prompted him to leave, but he indicated to their accompanying teacher that he wanted to meet this poor child instead.

The teacher walking behind them wore an awkward expression.

Back then, Yun Yecheng, who was quite successful in his business, had quite a prestige in the area. She advised him with good intentions, "Mr. Yun, do you have your eyes set on this girl? No one in the welfare center likes her, and she seems a little autistic. I'm afraid that she might be a bit mentally challenged. She never likes to talk and has this despondent look all the time. Looking at her brings one's spirits down. Plus, she once stole from another girl, so everyone ostracizes her."

"She stole something?" Li Qin wrinkled her brows and interrupted right away, "No, we can't accept someone who steals. How can she have such a behavior?! Yecheng, don't waste any more time on her; let's go look at other children—"

"Shut it!" he bellowed at her. He turned to the teacher with much dissatisfaction, "Man's nature at birth is good. The child is still young and has yet to develop a sense of what's right and wrong. Even if she has erred once, as a teacher, shouldn't you lead her on the right path? Instead, look, this child is bullied to this extent, and you say that she's mentally challenged—how could she not be? The children around her bully her, and the teachers don't care about her; what can a young child like her do?"

The teacher was embarrassed by his moral condemnation. She hurriedly brought Yun Shishi out.

She stood before him and gazed up at the man's extremely amiable face. Huddling herself into a corner in shock, her lips trembled open.

“I-I'm no thief... I'm really not one... Don't arrest me, please...”

He felt a sudden and inexplicable ache in his heart.

Although he was clear that he and this child had no blood relations at all, when he saw her fragility, his heart ached so terribly it was suffocating.

Hence, even when his wife repeatedly opposed, he still decided to adopt her.

Thinking back about it, Yun Shishi was still grateful to him.

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Having such a miserable childhood, if it were not for his redemption, which gave her a new lease on life, she would not even know how she would turn out to be.

Regardless of how Li Qin and Yun Na treated her, toward him, she was only ever thankful.

After staying silent for a long time, he eventually spoke, “I've decided to divorce her. Tomorrow, we are going to file for divorce.”

The ‘her’ he had mentioned was, of course, referring to Li Qin.

Hearing this, she thought that it was quite unexpected.

Divorce?

Dad is going to divorce Li Qin?

She tried to evade the subject. He stood still to regard her. Faltering for a while, she eventually spoke her mind.

“Dad, I support your decision. It’s a wise decision to divorce her.”

“I know.”

“I know that for marriage, one can only encourage mediation and not separation, but she’s too greedy. If you continue to be with her, you’ll only be implicated by her. Dad, why are you tiring yourself this much?”

“It doesn’t matter whether I’m tired or not as I’m already getting on in years.”

A man of his age would have put up with everything possible by now. He was already having one foot in the grave. Getting a divorce at this time would not be pleasant news, and people would expectedly gossip about this.

Still, ultimately, he could not bear to compromise this daughter of his.

“As for you, I feel the most guilt toward you. I am now only aware that the incident six years ago was forced upon you by her... I’m truly a good-for-nothing!”

He stomped on his foot as he said this and threw himself a tight slap.

She stopped him immediately and helplessly said, “Things are already in the past. They’re not worth mentioning now!”

## Chapter 280: Divorce

Yun Yecheng spoke with a heavy voice, “Things may be in the past, but I’m unable to forgive or forget!”

He drew a handkerchief from his chest pocket and revealed a bank card neatly wrapped within. Looking at her, he said, “There’s about 5,000,000 yuan inside.”

“Five million...”

“Mm,” he affirmed, continuing, “It’s the additional remuneration the employer promised you in the past.”

This was from the five-million check Mu Yazhe’s assistant had given him. He used none of it and deposited everything into this bank card.

Thereafter, he also deposited his salary from work into this bank card regularly. Although it was nothing much, it was a token of his regard.

He saved this money to prepare for Yun Shishi’s dowry when she married off in the future.

He was already getting on in age. He was not very capable and not as enthusiastic as his younger self. He received a monthly salary of about 3,000 yuan. Excluding daily expenses, he scrimped and lived

off his salary. He had not touched a penny in the card in these past few years.

He had always kept this card securely stored away. Li Qin was unaware of the presence of this huge amount of money; this was to prevent her from coveting it.

Even Yun Shishi assumed that all the money had been used to pay off the debts back then.

Earlier on, when Yun Na got into a mishap, he visited his adopted daughter to get a chance to discuss this with her.

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He figured that, since his daughter was in trouble, he had no choice but to talk to Yun Shishi. He thought that she would definitely agree to withdrawing a few 10,000 yuan from the bank account for this urgent matter. After all, she was good-natured and considerate.

Who knew that he would be enlightened of the truth six years ago?

His world turned into a complete chaos, and at that moment, he was unable to accept the truth.

Now, determined to divorce Li Qin, he thought that this card should be returned to its rightful owner.

“Although house prices in the capital are running high with each passing day, the balance in this card is enough to buy a decent apartment. I may have divorced that woman, but our father-daughter relationship is still intact. In the future, when you’re free, come join me for a meal with Youyou. That is enough for me!”

“Dad... this money...”

He stated, “This is yours. I couldn’t tell you earlier for fear of that woman catching wind of it! I’m saving it for you, and now I’m giving it to its original owner. You’re surely in dire financial straits with Youyou around, and because he’s currently confined in the hospital, a lot of money definitely needs to be spent! This should be enough for the emergency!”

“Thanks, dad...” She received the bank card from him and grinned. “Dad, now that you’re divorcing her, and since you also said that our relationship is still intact, move in with us! I’ll take care of you and Youyou.”

He hesitated but eventually rejected. “This isn’t a very good idea. Don’t you know that woman’s character? She’s greedy for riches and used to being wasteful. If I were to stay with you, she would surely run over to make a scene, and I’m afraid that you and Youyou can’t live life peacefully then. Now that you are doing well, you can’t let her implicate you again!”

He spoke these earnest words as he truly had this mother-son pair’s best interests at heart.

After all, based on Li Qin’s character, she would not take things lying down.

One could infer that he was already extremely tired of this failed marriage with him labeling Li Qin as ‘that woman’.

He had done everything he could to pay off all of Yun Na’s hospital bills. He had also done his best for this daughter of his, advising her

in every way possible. At present, she was succumbing to such plight, and although distressed, he could only let her go.

## Chapter 281: Providing for Your Old Age

Yun Shishi told him, “What’s there to be afraid of? Dad, please just don’t be deceived by them again. I feel relieved that you’ve seen their true colors. In the future, let me provide for your old age. Don’t tell me that I have to watch you live your life with no one to rely on?! You’ve raised me till this age; I will definitely repay your kindness!”

Repay ?

Clearly, he was the one who owed her so much!

Yun Yecheng was moved yet annoyed. His lips quivered as he constantly nodded.

She might be adopted, but she was more filial than his biological daughter! He might have given birth to a heartless and good-for-nothing wr\*tch, but he was relieved to have found a caring daughter like Yun Shishi.

This time, he did not reject her offer and simply replied, “We’ll talk about this later! That woman will definitely not take this lying down after I divorce her. She’ll certainly make a fuss about dividing the family’s assets and try to implicate you!”

“Dividing the family’s assets?” She seethed. “Do you still have to share your property with that woman?”

“I’ll certainly not! Luckily, I wasn’t befuddled back then. When I bought that apartment, I registered it under your name. Even though we are divorcing, I won’t let her benefit from me! This is an evil she’s brought on herself, so she should bear its consequences! I, Yun Yecheng, have never treated her unfairly. I don’t feel ashamed even though we’re divorcing—only the possibility of troubling you!”

She was a little bewildered.

That four-room condominium that their family had bought back then from resale was actually registered under her name?

When the father-daughter pair came back indoors, for reasons unknown, the ward was packed with nurses. Yun Yecheng saw the handsome man by the bed and was instantly confused.

(vit(function())())

“This is...”

He seemed to have met him before.

At her father’s mention, she took a look at Mu Yazhe and said a little sheepishly, “He he... This is my university professor, Mr. Mu!”

“He’s this young?!” Her father was quite flabbergasted. The man before his eyes was clearly only 27 or 28. He appeared to be extremely handsome and youthful; he truly was a fine specimen of a man.

When he raised his face, his perfectly carved facial features and beautiful appearance were akin to a royalty standing above the masses. With just one look, one could feel his intimidating aura!

He was clearly still young, yet he came across as mature and reserved, and each movement of his exuded elegance.

In front of him, one would have a feeling of inferiority!

Even Yun Yecheng could not help but feel a little ill at ease. “So you’re Shishi’s university professor! Nice to meet you! You look very young.”

Mu Yazhe coordinated with her and nodded, but he seemed to possess a cold personality as he did not say anything much.

“This... What’s the matter?” She was surprised at the presence of a few nurses in the ward.

“We’re changing rooms,” Mu Yazhe replied straightforwardly.

She then recalled that the hospital’s director whom she had previously met seemed to have mentioned something about them being moved into a deluxe room.

In any case... Why were there so many nurses gathered in this ward?

She could only see these nurses crowding at the door of the ward and surveying Mu Yazhe from head to toe with either astonishment or adoration.

At first, when the head of the inpatient department informed the nurses that the young patient in this ward was to be moved to a deluxe room, a few of them brought over a hospital bed to facilitate the transfer.

However, upon entering the ward, these nurses spotted a handsome man sitting by the bed gently caressing the child’s face. That side

profile, which was as perfect as the gods, instantly stole everyone's hearts.

“Oh, my god. The family of a patient in ward 702 is so good-looking!”

“How good-looking is he?”

“He's better-looking than a celebrity; he instantly defeated Gu Xingze in the looks department! Also, he has a very gentlemanly aura – he's definitely well-off!”

#### Chapter 282: Closely Guard a Secret

Thus, those nurses who had some spare time came the moment they caught wind of this, and within a short time, they were all gathered in the ward. Seeing Mu Yazhe, all of them were stunned.

“Oh, my god! He's really tall and handsome!”

“He should at least be 1.9 meters in height! I only reach up to his shoulders!”

“Oh, my god! I wonder if he has a girlfriend. Hm... Is that child his son? They look so alike!”

Thus, the nurses looked back and forth between Mu Yazhe and Yun Tianyou. Some were suspicious, some were shocked, some were disappointed, and some were desolate.

“Is he already married?”

“Oh, my god. This child must already be six years old. Ha. Fat chance of that happening.”

The crowd was chattering in whispers. Although they were speaking softly, they still woke up the little boy who was previously sleeping soundly in the bed.

Youyou’s brows slightly furrowed and he smacked his lips. He seemed to have really been interrupted from his sleep as he kicked his blanket in frustration.

Mu Yazhe’s face was immediately covered in thick snow upon noticing that the child had been disturbed.

Yun Shishi saw this and felt a little sorry for him. She approached the nurses at the entrance and said, “Excuse me, but please lower your voice. Don’t crowd around the ward as it is disturbing the child’s sleep.”

(vit(function())())

An intern nurse realized that she was blocking her way and said in irritation as she shoved her aside, “Oh, my; it’s almost dawn. There’ll be a nurse on duty shortly to check his blood pressure. Also, aren’t you changing rooms? Isn’t it just the right time for him to wake up?”

“Precisely. Some parents now simply love their child too much.”

A trace of anger appeared on Yun Shishi’s face. “Is this how you do your work?”

“What do you mean?” the intern refuted her inappropriately; she was most likely a fresh graduate.

Someone beside her immediately tugged at her sleeve. “Enough. Stop it. We were a little loud just then.”

“Huh? Aren’t you that child’s mother?” The intern suddenly gossiped, “What’s this mister’s relationship with you?”

“I just heard this woman say that this man is her university professor and I recently saw this news about a university professor providing for a student.”

Someone lowered her voice and put in her two cents’ worth, “Could it be that this child is their illegitimate—”

“Are you done?” Yun Shishi was enraged from humiliation. “Do you have to pry into our relationship?”

As soon as she asked this, their eyes subsequently widened in shock while they looked past her shoulders.

She, who was late to catch on, turned around and found him standing behind her, scanning the crowd at the door once with annoyance. His voice was as cold as frost when he said, “Scram.”

Hostility could clearly be detected in his voice.

One word was enough to make the crowd instantly scatter.

It was a clean job.

The ward regained its lost peacefulness.

She heaved a sigh of relief and felt somewhat speechless at this.

The procedure to move to another ward was carried out quickly.

A little while later, the inpatient department's head, along with two nurses, pulled over a bed into the ward and transferred the little boy over.

Yun Yecheng held the bed and left with the department head. He reminded Mu Yazhe before he left, "It's already morning. Mr. Mu, I'm very thankful that you came to visit Youyou, but you haven't rested for an entire night. Please let Shishi accompany you downstairs!"

Mu Yazhe looked him in the eye with a distant gaze.

Yun Yecheng was frightened by his look. After a short exchange of pleasantries, he left the ward in a hurry.

His adopted daughter told him that that man was her university professor. On the surface, he buttered him up a little, but he was certainly not born yesterday.

Chapter 283: Little Liar

He accepted his daughter's explanation when she introduced the man as a professor from the university, but he was not a naïve three-year-old kid.

He knew that Shishi had intentionally hidden the truth from him!

Although he had no clue who the man was, he could largely deduce his identity when he realized how much Youyou resembled him!

The man should be that mysterious employer from six years ago!

He just did not want to embarrass his daughter, so he did not pursue the matter further.

Yun Yecheng accompanied his grandson as the nurses wheeled his bed up to a special care unit on the 15th floor. He reminded his daughter to go home and catch some rest first before returning to the hospital to take over his shift.

She thought for a while before nodding in agreement; she would need to go back to pack some clothes for Youyou, anyway.

At the elevator entrance, she told the man, “Mu Yazhe, it’s late; you should go home.”

A thin veil of rage covered his face, and he asked with a raised eyebrow, “Are you chasing me away?”

“I don’t want you to get tired from lack of sleep.”

His face instantly relaxed, and he proceeded to ask with a teasing look, “Oh, are you concern about me?”

(vit(function())()

“It’s up to you to decide what you want to think!” annoyed, she angrily told him off. “Don’t blame me when you don’t have the energy to work!”

He smiled. With one hand in his pants' pocket, he leaned forward and panted to her ear, "I'm always full of energy. You should know that since you already had a taste of it, hadn't you?"

He was obviously referring to their make-out sessions!

She bit her lower lip at his words, her cheeks reddening.

Exasperated, she shot him a dark look. "Nonsense! I don't know what you are talking about!"

Ding—

The elevator doors parted open.

Just as she stepped into it, she was pushed into a corner, and her body hit the cold and hard surface of the elevator.

Her eyes widened in shock. Before she could regain her composure, the man's tall and broad frame had her pinned to the wall.

He had carefully orchestrated this move, ensuring that the corner he had pushed her into was outside the viewing zone of the surveillance camera.

The elevator door closed and there were just the two of them inside the cramped space.

She looked up at him, horrified, as he bowed his head and clasped her chin tightly with his hand. His narrowed, slanted eyes stared deeply and heavily into hers.

His eyes gleamed evilly at her helpless eyes. He drew near her face and said in a husky voice, "Little liar, you are interesting, indeed!"

“What... What do you want?”

She hastily turned her face away, only to find him tugging her chin in place to force her gaze back on him.

“Huh, you seem demure and innocent, but you can be such a smooth liar when you want to.”

She was stunned for a moment as her face flushed unnaturally!

She was forced to tell a lie in the first place! How could she possibly tell the truth to her father?

This would undoubtedly rip open his scarring wound if she were to come clean with him.

Yun Yecheng had been blaming himself for the contract she had signed six years ago. He was angry that his beloved daughter had to become a surrogate mother because of his financial incapability.

If she were to tell the truth, her father would surely be incredibly embarrassed.

As for him, he had casually followed her to the hospital without prepping her at all!

How could he, therefore, turn around and blame her now?

She avoided his gaze and looked upset with her pouting lips. This added a childlike charm to her in the man's eyes.

“Professor? Hmph!”

He let out another wicked laughter. With his long and slender fingers pinching her cheeks and his thumb pressing heavily on her lower lip flap, he asked in a lazy tone, “Little thing, tell me; what have I taught you so far?”

Chapter 284: You are like a vixen.

“Little thing, tell me; what have I taught you so far?”

As he spoke these words, he brashly reached out to cop a feel of her breast while he bowed his head to bite her lower lip. The tip of his tongue ran over her lip flaps as he sniggered lewdly, “You mean this?”

It was clear that he had not taught her anything useful except for abominable matters!

She let out a scream and forcefully pushed him away. Anger welled up in her eyes. “What... What are you doing?!”

We are inside an elevator, and it can stop for passengers any time. How can he not know how to restrain his perverted behavior here?!

The more deeply she thought of it, the more embarrassed and annoyed she felt.

Just then, his hand phone rang.

She heaved a sigh of relief, thinking that the man would pick up the call and the disaster would be averted.

Unfortunately, it seemed that he did not intend to let her go as he merely ignored the loud ringtone and continued to advance on her.

His slender fingers gently stroked her face as he studiously examined it. With a low growl, he lamented, “What a bewitching face!”

Her pure and innocent expression, coupled with traces of coyness, was enough to capture any man’s heart.

(vit(function())())

With a cryptic smile, he lowered his head and pecked lightly at the corner of her lips.

“Has anyone ever told you that you are a vixen?”

She ignored the man’s provocation by turning her head away.

He suddenly looked down when two pieces of sultry sensation swelled up within him.

His palm groped her waist unceremoniously and pinched hard the flesh he felt, causing her to yelp in pain.

His fragrance tainted with a heavy tobacco scent whiffed from between his teeth. His sizzling tongue robbed her of her breaths as it slid between her lip crevice, gently cloaked her lilac-like tongue, and started to suckle lustfully.

Ill at ease, she tried to avoid his advances. She pushed him away furiously. As she lifted her head to check the jumping numbers on the elevator panel, his eyes gradually deepened.

This man can be so mischievous even at a public space like the inside of this elevator! What if someone catches us in action when we reach the ground floor...

Lost in her thoughts, he took this chance to surreptitiously reach for her back and probe the skin within her dress...

She regained her senses in that instant and started to struggle madly, slapping his chest with both hands to make him stop. When she could not deter his invasive actions, she bit hard on his tongue in a drastic move.

The two pairs of lips parted as the blunt pain shot through.

Wiping her lips while seething, she gave him a dark look. “Mu Yazhe, you are going overboard!”

Earlier when she saw how he had carried Youyou with such loving tenderness, her heart was moved, and she had a change of view of this man.

His pretense had unexpectedly fallen through at this moment!

He was dazed for a second before he leered at her, his brow arching predatorily.

Did this woman just bite me again?

He felt incredulous and found her even more interesting!

This woman looked frail and weak, yet she resisted him time and again. It seemed that even a demure kitten could be ferocious when it showed its claws!

One had to know, with his position and status, how many women would flock to him and even willingly lower their dignity for his pandering.

Unlike them, this woman was unwilling to be with him. Somehow, this fanned his desire to conquer her!

Exerting more effort into this pursuit would be good as well. In this way, he could truly savor the process of overcoming her, which was what he was after!

She fearfully retracted her shoulders when she saw his predatory look. This man had a frightening stare, so, in the end, she decided to hang her head low and avoid his look.

#### Chapter 285: Bump Into

This man had a frightening stare, so, in the end, she decided to hang her head low and avoid his look.

Amid the suffocating anxiety, the elevator doors slowly parted open with a ding.

She looked up with great relief, as if she had just received amnesty, but once she saw the woman standing outside the elevator, her breath hitched as her heart sank. Subconsciously, she pushed the man away and awkwardly called out from the corner of her lips, “Aunt...”

Yun Shishi was somewhat embarrassed and felt unsettled as she wondered how much action her aunt had seen.

With fingers entangling from trepidation, she uneasily walked out of the elevator and reflexively looked up at Mu Yazhe for help. The man, though, simply rubbed his lips raffishly, gave her a penetrating look, and whispered to her ear, “I’ll wait for you over there.”

The man then turned around and strode off while checking his hand phone for the missed call earlier.

She was stunned.

What!

Did that man just walk away and leave her to deal with the mess alone?

As she was fumbling for an excuse in her head, she noticed her aunt watching the man’s leaving back. Shocked, Yun Lingru asked her niece, “Shishi, what were the two of you doing just then?!”

She could not possibly be mistaken!

(vit(function())())

In the instant when the elevator doors parted open, she caught sight of her niece, who was usually well-behaved, in an intimate embrace with that man!

Is he her boyfriend?

The man looked to be accomplished, and this led her to wonder if her niece was in an illicit affair with him!

Yun Shishi did not know what to tell her aunt. She bowed her head as her face flushed terribly. When Yun Lingru saw her guilty look, she became more suspicious.

“Shishi, do you have a boyfriend now?!”

“No!”

She firmly denied, yet her aunt would not let up and probed further, “Then, who is that man? What were you two doing inside the elevator just then?”

“He... I-I...” biting her lower lip, she stammered along for an explanation. Unable to tell the truth in the end, she eventually sipped her lips and spurted, “He... He is a professor from my university!”

“A professor from your university?”

Would a professor lock arms with his student in an elevator?!

She looked puzzled; her niece had always been a good girl and a bad liar. She stared her niece straight in the eyes and saw her panicky look, so she knew right away and without a doubt that the latter was lying!

“Shishi, I can’t believe you’ve learned to lie after you step into society to work! He’s your teacher? You may be able to fool your father but not me! Is he really your university professor? Don’t lie to your aunt!”

She did not know how to handle the bombardment from her aunt. Clenching her teeth, she maintained her story, “He... He is really a

professor from my university; he is here in the hospital to visit Youyou today!”

“Are you still not going to tell me the truth?” Her aunt’s voice sank with apparent rage. She seemed to recall something and went on to ask coolly, “I’ve heard from your father that you did not return home in the past few days. Where did you go?” Quizzically pausing for a bit, she continued, “Are you out gallivanting with that man? Shishi, be honest with your aunt; are you under bad influence and up to no good?!”

Her face turned hotter with shame and anxiety at her aunt’s words. She held tightly on her lower lip flap and hurriedly found an excuse to get away, “Aunt, I have something on, so I must go now! I’ll explain this matter to you in the future!”

Chapter 286: Change the Topic

“Aunt, I have something on, so I must go now! I’ll explain this matter to you in the future!”

Spouting this excuse, she did a quick turn and fled in panic.

Yun Lingru furrowed her brows and squinted her eyes in scrutiny of her niece’s fleeing back. That girl was as suspicious as she sounded!

However, she was not her child, so she did not care if her niece was indeed up to no good. Even if something shameful were to happen to her relatives’ family because of her niece, she did not mind as long

as she was not involved! She could not afford to lose her reputation, after all!

She stepped into the elevator while thinking of this.

Yun Shishi was still trembling in trepidation even when she was out of the hospital gates.

Due to that unscrupulous man who could not behave himself even at a public space like the inside of the elevator, she was caught in action by her aunt. Thanks to him, she was unable to explain her way out of the fix.

A business car was parked by the roadside. The man sitting in the car seemed to have been waiting for quite some time.

He had instructed his assistant to drive back the sports car he had used earlier.

She walked over unhappily. The chauffeur opened the car door for her but she tarried, not wanting to get in.

Mu Yazhe was lounging languidly in the back seat with his legs crossed and eyes staring vacantly ahead. He did not even glance her way when she appeared; his perfectly chiseled profile looked restrained and aloof. His lips were pressed firmly into a cold line and his eyes were only partially open in a lazy manner.

(vit(function())())

He seemed like a haughty emperor most of the time. His presence was one that others could not help but submit to.

She was rather upset with him.

Why is this man so whimsical? Why does he do what he wants regardless of occasion?

“What are you thinking all day in your head?!”

She unconsciously blurted out her thoughts.

She caught herself too late and could only bite her lower lip in consternation.

She actually told him off...

Mu Yazhe glanced at her and smiled teasingly. “Can you guess what I’m thinking about?”

Guess?

How could she guess?

Some words could not be verbalized twice.

She bit her lip in resignation and just got into the car.

With a pong, the car door went shut.

She stared straight ahead and stayed close to the car door and far from him as much as possible. At the same time, she carefully observed him through her peripheral view.

A long silence ensued before she opened her mouth to request, “I need to trouble you to send me home. I have to prepare a few sets of clothes for Youyou.”

Just as the last word went past her lips, the man reached out his long arm to grab hers and easily pulled her into his embrace.

Caught off guard, she struggled vainly for a bit but still found herself caged in his arms in the blink of an eye.

Soothing music could be heard inside the spacious car cabin.

His eyes exuded the most playful smile. Arching his thin lips, he asked in his charming, husky voice, “Little thing, you haven’t answered me yet; what did you just say, eh?”

His meaning was clear; he would not let her change the topic!

She simply closed her eyes and refused to acknowledge him.

He had a way to make her open her mouth, though.

“What did you say moments ago?”

His eyes revealed a threat. “Like this?”

Her body shook a little. With a fretful face, she subconsciously turned to look at the chauffeur in the driver’s seat. He had already aptly turned away the rearview mirror and turned a blind eye and a deaf ear to the scene happening in the back seat.

A premonition arose in her heart, and she frantically struggled to break loose from him.

The man pinned her down tightly. Their faces were so close to each other their noses and mouths were touching.

Such close proximity only served to heighten her uneasiness!

Such close proximity only served to heighten her uneasiness!

Seeing that his wickedly charming face was up close, she pushed against his chest powerlessly. Why can't this man properly sit by himself? Why did he suddenly pull me...

There's someone else in the car, too!

She helplessly turned her face away in a flash, but his elegant fingers clenched her chin tightly and forced her to face him. Her eyes squinted and dampened with painful tears as she was forced to look at his face. Her soft and rosy translucent lips looked like delectable cherries.

He put his lips on hers, which tasted even better than his imagination.

Once he started kissing, he did not want to stop.

His kiss was gentle at first, but then his urge took a firm hold of him.

“Enough, Mu Yazhe!”

“Not enough!”

“You!”

Infuriated, Yun Shishi struggled harder as her body started trembling uncontrollably.

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Her soft and fair cheeks turned red from embarrassment – a really tantalizing sight to behold!

He watched this pleasing scene with much satisfaction. It was a mistake to liken her to a kitten. Reassessing her now, she was more of a beautiful and glamorous poppy; one that led him to sink deeper and indulged further!

His sudden action gave her a terrible shock. They were still in a car and with a driver seated in front of them to boot. Was this man going to lay her in front of another man?!

Feeling more ashamed than helpless, she used all her might to push against his chest. Unfortunately, her modest attempt was not worth mentioning to him.

He easily grasped her wrists with one hand.

“Let go... Let go of me!”

Slightly out of breath, she panted as she eyed him with annoyance. This did not bother the man at all, however.

Pressing against her lips, he arched an eyebrow and asked, “Don’t you want me to do this?”

She let out a snigger, gave him a sidelong glare, and said, “What did you say? That’s nonsense!”

A teasing look flashed across his eyes.

“You are seducing me; isn’t this what you want me to do...”

His voice was tinged with evil magnetism as he gasped to her earlobe.

He had always been a man of his accord – someone who did not like to bind or suppress himself.

Still, he did not really intend to do it with her in the car. With his strong sense of possessiveness, how could he possibly allow his woman to be openly coveted by another man?

He just wanted to tease her for he found her angry look adorable and charming. He liked to admire her when she was in this state.

Nonetheless, she took his words for real and thought that this energetic man really wanted to make out with her in the car!

“You...”

She glanced sideways at the driver. This man is just too self-indulgent!

She saw him getting out of control, and in a fit of anger, she clenched her teeth tightly and lifted her palm out of his grasp.

SMACK!

A crisp sound echoed about.

She slapped him without hesitation.

The man's face spun to one side. Fuming, she pushed him away and returned to her original seat.

Blindsided, he stared at the woman with incredulous and dazed eyes.

Even the chauffeur at the front was too stunned for words. With his eyes widening in horror, he held his breath!

He had seen a number of strong-willed women, but this was his first time meeting one who dared to hit the president!

So awesome!

A feeling of admiration and worship arose in the chauffeur's heart.

Isn't she afraid of antagonizing him?

Her beautiful eyes folded into a taper and she unhappily told him off, "I told you to stop. Did you not hear what I've just said?"

His face, especially his smoldering eyes, adopted a cold and sharp look.

## Chapter 288: Innuendo

She was unfazed by his deterrent manner. Looking straight into his eyes, she coldly rebuked, "Director Mu, may I trouble you to take stock of the situation? Unless you are a beast, you have to pick an appropriate spot for stuff like this, even if you have the urge to mate. You may not care about your face, but I still want my reputation!"

Pop—

This woman actually compares president to a beast in heat...

Well, this is not actually unexpected. After all, the president has been suppressing his urge for a long time.

There is no woman, and his so-called fiancée is only in name.

He has been suppressing his desires for so long...

The chauffeur burst into uncontrollable peals of laughter, but when his glance happened to land in the back seat through the rearview mirror, he saw the man's warning look and immediately swallowed his laughter in fright.

Mu Yazhe raised his eyes to reveal a sinister look. "Are you calling me a beast?"

"Well, do you have trouble comprehending my words?" she asked mockingly in return. "Did I say that you are a beast? What I said is that only beasts will mate at any time and any place; I didn't specifically single you out!"

Like a blow dealt sharply at him, he was dumbfounded by her impeccable rebuke.

This woman had a sharp tongue. She did not express it directly but, rather, inferred him as a beast through the innuendo. There was no way for him to rebut even if he wanted to!

(vit(function())())

"Director Mu is from a prestigious background, and I believe you have received tertiary education. Do you know the meaning of respect, then?" she continued angrily. "If you don't understand, why don't I give you a lesson, instead?"

The man spitefully raised his eyebrow. “Are you teaching me a lesson?”

The chauffeur chortled the mirth he could not hold in.

He could bear it no longer. Having nowhere to vent his displeasure after Yun Shishi’s repeated mocking, he arrowed the chauffeur.

“Lao Han!”

“Yes, president!”

“What are you laughing at?”

“Who’s the little b\*stard laughing?” Lao Han hastily feigned puzzlement. “Not me for sure. Did I laugh? No, I didn’t.”

“Just now, you...” His voice was quite calm but hidden within was chagrin.

“President, I was staring into space. I neither saw nor heard a thing.” The chauffeur was a smart man and quickly found an excuse to cover his tracks.

“Get lost!” the man ordered coldly.

Lao Han wiped the cold perspiration off his forehead, instantly killed the engine, and raised the car partition separating the front and back seats.

With the car partition in place, the back seat was like a sealed vacuum, isolated from the world outside.

“What are you doing?” She saw the chauffeur get out of the car, while the man remained seated with a dark look on his face, making her feel scared. It was obvious that he was really antagonized this time.

She fearfully sipped her lips.

She impulsively gave him a slap earlier from infuriation, but she was deeply regretting it now.

It seemed that... she had truly angered him!

She turned to open the car door, only to find that it had been locked. The car door could not be opened without a central unlocking device.

Behind her, he reached out his long arm and pulled her into his arms with a tug. He asked frostily, “Are you satisfied now?”

“?”

“Now, there are only you and me in the car and no one else.”

Her heart skipped momentarily before she angrily retorted, “Are you really a beast?!”

“That’s right; I’m a beast.”

Coyly proceeding toward her, he took in the fresh scent wafting out from her nape at the same time. The smell was no different from his.

He felt as if he had been poisoned.

He was poisoned by this woman with no antidote available.

It was not enough for him. No matter how much he had had, it was never sufficient.

He had never craved for a woman like this before.

A very potent spell, which could not be removed, seemed to have been cast on him by her.

When the man closed in on her, her body went taut. She pushed against his chest as she angrily exclaimed, “No, I don’t like to do it inside the car!”

“I like it, though,” he countered with an eyebrow slightly raised. “It feels exciting!”

“Are you done—”

Her words were interrupted by his phone’s frantic ringing.

Mu Yazhe raised his brow in dissatisfaction and held up his phone.

Yun Shishi peeked over out of curiosity. ‘Mu Wanrou’ appeared on the lit screen, and it pierced her eyes like needles.

Unknowingly, her chest became unbearably stuffy.

Mu Wanrou... His fiancée?

She instantly felt vexed but returned to her senses just as quickly.

Do they have a bad relationship with each other?

She had never seen a couple in love label their partner’s contact with their full name before.

They seemed distant with their lack of pet names for each other.  
Those cold words seemed to not carry any love at all.

Thinking better of it, she raised a brow.

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Being simple and clear-cut is indeed this man's style!

Perhaps, they have a good relationship, despite the lack of a pet name!

What was she worrying about?

Reflecting on this, she gradually felt ashamed of herself.

She felt like an intruder.

This discomfort made her want to clear her name, but she did not know where to start at all.

Was she not right?

At present, how was she different from those women interfering with other people's marriage?!

Mu Wanrou...

Was she that woman she had bumped into the last time?

Her orbs instantly darkened.

She thought that something was strange.

For some reason, that woman was giving her a sense of déjà vu.

The woman looked so familiar; it was as if she had left an indelible imprint in her sealed-up memories.

Somehow, a piece of memory was currently about to break out in her mind.

She was having a splitting headache...

He rejected the call. From the corner of his eye, he noticed her to be in deep thought, and his beautiful eyes gradually dulled.

...

The Rose Manor.

In front of a bright French window, Mu Wanrou, who was in her pajamas, squeezed the phone she was holding, her face contorted with extreme rage.

He's not answering!

He had rejected her three consecutive calls.

What in the world is happening here?!

She returned to the dining table where a thick pile of newspapers was placed. News of the affair between Tang Yu and a Huanyu higher-up made the headlines. The article was accompanied by text and photographs, and it was truly an eyesore.

She casually held up one stack of newspaper and skimmed through its content. Gazing over at that glaring headline, her knuckles turned stiff.

Aaron, you useless trash!

He did not handle the situation competently; he even messed up the job she had assigned to him! She trusted him so much, but he could not even perform this well?

She thought that she could wait at ease for Yun Shishi's scandal to break out, and then she would be damned to perdition.

By then, let alone Lin Fengtian, Huanyu Entertainment would be unable to save her as well.

The biggest scandal for female stars was to be exposed for following the unspoken rules; she would definitely be blacklisted. However, who knew that the next day, the one exposed would actually be Tang Yu?!

This was strange.

Why was Tang Yu exposed instead?

Aaron guaranteed to her time after time that everything was properly carried out; his subordinate would personally escort Yun Shishi into the vehicle. How did things turn out to be like this in the end?

Could that woman have quickly conjured up a counterplan? This was simply inconceivable.

She was peeved and thought that it was improbable. She was having a bad feeling about this; there was clearly something fishy going on, but she could not quite put a finger on it.

The maids served the breakfast plates on the table in rapid succession. At the same time, Mu Sheng was slowly making his way down the stairs with a housekeeper's support.

She crumpled up the newspapers and immediately threw them into the trash bin. She took his hand from the housekeeper's and carefully supported him. Welcoming him with a smile, she greeted endearingly, "Good morning, grandpa!"

"Mm!"

Chapter 290: Whispering to the Ear

"Mm!"

Mu Wanrou helped him to his seat. Grandpa Mu straightened his posture and raised his chin to survey the entire dining room. He suddenly asked, "That b\*stard didn't come last night?"

At his mention of this, sadness visibly crept across her face. She replied helplessly, "Mm. He didn't come home, and I have no idea where he's gone off to. He's probably busy at the office!"

"Does the company operate late into the night?"

Grandpa Mu sneered and expressed his disappointment, “That kid is becoming quite unruly lately; he doesn’t even know to return home! Rou’er, you should discipline him properly!”

“Grandpa, how am I capable of disciplining him?!”

She pouted and acted coy. Sitting beside Mu Sheng, she continued sadly, “Grandpa, he doesn’t listen to me at all. From a young age, he has never listened to anyone except you. I asked him to return home early last night, but in the end, he didn’t come back for the entire night. To tell you the truth, this isn’t the first time he’s done this recently. He was never like this in the past, though!”

Mu Sheng nodded in agreement. With that child’s indifference, it would be unlikely for him to fool around outside.

Unlike those wealthy Casanovas who accessorized themselves with countless women, that child was never the type to play around with the opposite sex; this was something he had always approved of.

His impression of Mu Yazhe was that of a responsible father. Despite his busy schedule at work, he had never failed to return home and accompany Yichen for dinner.

Thus, he was becoming concerned about his recent strange behavior.

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Noticing that his expression was turning slightly sour, she continued to whisper to his ear, “Grandpa, you know that he’s a man. Could it be that he has an affair with another woman outside—”

“How dare he?!” Once Grandpa Mu heard that, he flew into rage and slammed his fist at the table, causing the water from the teacup to splatter about.

Everything happened so abruptly that the maid standing behind them was startled into hitching her breath. She dared not breathe too loudly!

Mu Wanrou was elated at this.

Mu Sheng had always been on her side. This time, he must back her up!

“Girl, don’t worry. If he is to be unfaithful and cause trouble outside, grandpa will support you and break his legs!”

He looked at her dotingly. It was his habit to land a heavy blow on the floor with his walking stick whenever he got worked up.

She pursed her lips and glanced at him piteously. “Grandpa...”

“Don’t be sad. I won’t let him betray you!” Mu Sheng said as he tapped on the back of her hand. His love for her was expressed through this, which transcended mere words. “Rou’er, you don’t have to worry about this!”

Getting Grandpa Mu’s promise to back her up, she was over the moon. Thus, she pretended to have a heartache and said, “Grandpa, it’s alright... If you break his legs, my heart will surely ache. Yours, too!”

“Hmph! You pamper him too much! If you don’t supervise a man and show him discipline, he will betray you sooner or later!” Mu Sheng was speaking from experience.

In his days full of vigor, Old Mu was a force to be reckoned with. Altogether, he was married to three different wives and had quite a few affairs outside as well.

She asked softly, “Grandpa, do you remember the surrogate six years ago?”

“I do!” His eyes darkened. That girl was especially handpicked by him. She had a youthful appearance, outstanding facial features, and an otherworldly air around her.

Her facial features were also very similar to that woman, which was just hard to come by.

They were too identical. It was as if... they were cast in the same mold.

Hence, he took a fancy to that girl at first look.

Mu Wanrou continued, “I think that that girl’s background is not so simple!”

His brows twitched, and he promptly questioned, “How so?”

Chapter 291: Grandpa Mu’s Rage

His brows twitched, and he promptly questioned, “How so?”

“That woman is quite ambitious and scheming. I have no idea how she managed to sneak into Huanyu’s gala. Never mind the fact that she purposely acted coquettish in front of Yazhe, she constantly tried to get closer to Little Yichen as well. In your opinion, is she pulling some tricks to gain status through her son?”

Mu Wanrou’s eyes were overflowing with sorrow as she continued, “Little Yichen has never been close to me. I’m afraid that she’ll play some tricks to separate us mother and son! Grandpa, you be the judge; is she being too much?”

Recalling the day of the gala when Yun Shishi and Mu Yazhe were being intimate with each other in the dance floor, her heart ached terribly.

“Is she an actress?” Grandpa Mu snorted with contempt. He was an old-fashioned person and was never fond of the entertainment industry, especially female stars. He always thought that they had ulterior motives and questionable backgrounds. None of them was a good apple!

Celebrities were the most frowned upon among the rich. In today’s context, celebrities were extremely well-regarded, yet, to affluent people of the older generations, they were considered to be tacky. There was a saying, ‘W\*ores are heartless and actors are immoral’, and it was not exactly prejudiced. Thus, people from the high society truly looked down on those working in show business.

Mu Wanrou gritted her teeth and nodded. “Mm! She used some sort of underhanded means to enter the entertainment industry. What do you think, grandpa? Did she do that on purpose?”

“Hmph! An actress from an unknown background. If that brat dares to bring her into the family, then he shall see what I can do!”

Grandpa Mu was so enraged his lips trembled. He knocked the walking stick against the floor and mocked, “I can’t stand looking at those lowly artistes. Also, back then, it was made clear in the contract that she’s not to compete for custody rights, or she’d suffer the consequences! If she tries to act willful now, then she’ll definitely get what’s coming to her!”

Mu Wanrou chuckled to herself upon hearing this, but she continued to put on a helpless expression as she said, “What if Yazhe shields her? What then, grandpa? You know how some women are born to be vixens; they’re born to seduce men—”

“HE DARES ?!”

“How will he not dare ?” She pouted and said indignantly, “He didn’t return home for two days. He’s certainly together with that woman! Grandpa, you have to be my judge!”

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“WHAT ?!” Mu Sheng burst into a fury and glared. “I’ll punish him properly when he comes back! Rou’er, don’t be sad; grandpa here will back you up!”

“Mm!” She nodded in glee.

Grandpa Mu might be over 60 years old, but during his prime, he was a person who had braved countless storms and did things viciously. If she were to rely on his viciousness to eradicate this

eyesore and thorn in the flesh called Yun Shishi, then she needed not step in personally.

He was, clearly, still livid with rage. He raised his chin to scan the surroundings and asked with a strange expression on his face, “Where’s Yichen?”

She hastily inquired to the housekeeper behind them, “Where’s your young master?”

“Young master is having his early morning training at the archery center.”

“Call him over for breakfast.”

“Yes!”

She settled down and cautiously extended her hand to caress Grandpa Mu’s chest. She cooed affectionately, “Grandpa, don’t get mad. Why will you get angry over some w\*etch?”

“Okay. I’ll listen to you. I’m not getting angry; I’m not getting angry. After having breakfast, take me out for a walk, so I can get some fresh air!” He happily held her hand. The anger on his face then dissipated.

## Chapter 292: Little Yichen’s Talent

The manor occupied an area of a thousand square meters. Located in the southwest corner was a huge indoor shooting hall.

Mu Yazhe had always been willing to pour his heart and attention into cultivating Little Yichen.

Once the boy learned how to walk, he sent him to a boot camp to observe the specialized training undergone by soldiers.

Grandmaster Mu had done the same to his grandson when he was a child. Every summer, he would make Mu Yazhe undergo special training in such a boot camp.

Under the influence of his father, Little Yichen developed a keen interest in guns and fighting.

When other children were still learning to talk at two years old, Little Yichen, with a pacifier in his mouth, was already able to skillfully assemble all kinds of firearms and load ammunition. At the age of three, he could load bullets and fire shots with decent results.

Even Mu Sheng was amazed at the boy!

Most of the children in the same age group as him were struggling to speak, squiggling randomly on a piece of paper if they had flair, or going after popular toys. As for him, he seemed to have inherited his father's masculine genes. He was not keen on literature or arts and was obsessed with fighting and guns, instead.

At five years old, he officially joined a boot camp. He did not find the training tough and, in fact, was excited with the experience.

His great-grandfather marveled at the child's ability. Comparing to Mu Yazhe when he was a child, Little Yichen was not in the least bit inferior and was, in fact, better than his father.

Inside the manor, there was not just a fencing hall but also an archery hall. This shooting range and this fighting arena were specifically built for Little Yichen.

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At present, inside the archery hall, total silence reigned.

It was so quiet one could hear a pin drop.

Little Yichen was dressed in a smart and neat protective gear. His body was standing tall and straight, and in his hands were a heavy set of bow and arrow. He stilled his breath as he focused on the shooting target set a few hundred meters away from him. His finger buckled at the bow string.

With a whoosh , the released arrow, as if carrying thunderous sparks, sailed through the air magnificently. That instant shot hit the bull's-eye.

“Young master...”

His nanny rushed over and waited for quite a bit at the side. When she saw him put down his gear, she opened her mouth to say gently, “Young master, grandmaster and young mistress are requesting you to join them for breakfast.”

He did not seem to hear her. Looking cold and detached, he turned to remove the equipment on his body. With a sudden thought, he faced the nanny and inquired, “Did daddy return home last night?”

“Young master, Master Mu did not return last night.”

“Okay.”

Little Yichen furrowed his brows as his eyes looked down listlessly. After a long silence, he picked up the towel, which was handed to him by a servant, and wiped away the fine droplets of perspiration on his face.

“I’m not eating. You go tell grandpa and mommy that I have no appetite.”

Dejection could be heard in his aloof words.

The nanny looked worried. “Young master, if you don’t have breakfast, grandmaster will be worried. Besides, skipping breakfast is not good for your body.”

“If that’s the case, prepare a set of breakfast for me and send it to my study room,” he retorted coolly and then strode off from the archery hall.

The nanny watched the leaving cold and straight back of the boy and heaved a gentle sigh.

The father and son were truly alike in this aspect.

In any case, she had no choice but to prepare what he wanted, so she hastily arranged for a set of meticulously prepared meal to be sent to his study room.

**Chapter 293 – A Cozy Home – Read novel online for free**

Chapter 293: A Cozy Home

With one push, the door opened into a quiet and desolate condominium.

Mu Yazhe followed her into the apartment. As he stepped inside, his face immediately revealed a trace of disdain. He did not like this place even a bit with just a glance; it was too small for him.

However, to Yun Shishi and Youyou, this was already spacious. Comparing this apartment, complete with two rooms and one hall, to Yun Yecheng's second-hand apartment, this could be deemed as a luxury. Both of them could still have a bedroom, a study room, and a ten-meter hall.

However, for Mu Yazhe, who stood at 1.9 meters, this apartment was a constraining shelter.

His hands and feet felt bound in this little space.

She went straight to the bedroom to get some change of clothes for Youyou.

The hospital clothes were of poor quality. As the child had sensitive skin, wearing those must be uncomfortable. Even though the boy did not complain, she was observant. When she saw those red dots on his wrists, which were evidently caused by his skin sensitivity, her heart ached terribly.

The clothes she got for her son might not be luxurious, but they were definitely of high quality. He was a sickly child from the very start, so she was always careful in anything concerning him.

As she was busy with the errand, the man was left to his devices with nothing to do, so he decided to explore this small apartment out of curiosity.

From the entrance, there was a washroom on the left, which reminded him of a fish tank. He was frowning as he walked in and almost hit his head on the door frame.

The washroom was really too cramped. Within the seven to eight meters of space, there was an old automatic washing machine, a toilet bowl, and a dressing room. He was careless when he walked in and knocked his knee against the washing machine.

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He frowned again with great unhappiness and grew more disdainful of this place.

This washroom could be described as smaller than a fish tank because, in the Mu residence, there was a wall-mounted fish tank that was five to six meters in length alone. It was indeed bigger than the washroom.

Was a human less than a fish in this comparison?

He then went into the kitchen. He instantly caught sight of two matching aprons with teddy bear print. One apron was in adult size and another was in kiddy size; both looked chummy hanging like that on hooks. A roster was pasted on the door. He took a peek and saw that Youyou was responsible for cooking on weekdays, while his mother was responsible for their three meals on weekends. The man smiled and found this interesting.

His little baby knew how to cook, then ?

That six-year-old child could actually perform household chores. He wondered how the boy's cooking would turn out.

In the south, there were two rooms lined side by side. One of these was a study room.

He was astonished when he stepped into the room.

There was a fax machine, a printer, and a mahogany study desk with a safe box on top. In addition, there was a pencil case and a thick stack of design sketches. Everything was well-organized.

What he did not know was that everything in this room was set up by Yun Shishi according to Yun Tianyou's blueprint. It looked like a respectable mini office.

Usually, without his mother's interference, Youyou was in charge of this room's cleaning.

He glanced at the design sketches on the table and curiously picked up the sheets. He was stunned when he took a look.

This thick stack of papers was actually a toy design plan ?

The lines drawn were skillful and exquisite. Be it the concept or the design itself, the sketch in the manuscript was ingenious. It was clear that this had come from an excellent and professional designer.

He could not wrap his head around this. How did this professional design plan end up in his little lad's study room ?

## Chapter 294: His Sleeping Face

“Mu Yazhe?”

The man looked up to see Yun Shishi carrying a heavy load of dirty laundry. She saw the toy design sheets in his hands and warned sternly, “Don’t touch anything you see in there, or else Youyou will get angry!”

That study room was Youyou’s little world. She would sometimes enter to dust and air the room but she never once touched anything else inside.

He placed the design sheets down and went out of the room. From the corner of his eye, as if he had discovered the New World, he spotted the bedroom and made a beeline for it.

Her forehead broke out in a cold sweat as she stood at the side.

This appeared to be just like a noble who was provided for touring the slums.

She did not give it further thought, however, and just continued carrying the clothes into the washroom. She decided to take this time to wash everything.

Meanwhile, the man proceeded to help himself to the bedroom ‘tour’.

Upon entering the room, a double bed, fitted with light blue quilt and bed sheet that gave off playfulness and warmth, greeted his eyes.

Youyou liked blue and preferred simple things, so the bedsheets had a minimalist design.

Many books were arranged on the bed stand. He picked out a few casually; there were novels, fables, comic book strips, and even fairytales. He felt that, through this collection of books, he had finally found traces of innocence belonging to a child.

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He slowly sat down on the bed. Images of Yun Tianyou leaning on the headboard and lazily flipping through the comic books appeared in his mind.

The school recommended this list of books to parents. Yun Shishi specially purchased a few series at the bookstore according to the booklist and placed them on the bed stand. Before going to bed at night, she would cradle the boy in her arms and gently read him stories from the books.

Usually, the little lad had a distaste for these comics and books that were like child's play to him; he found them to be a tad boring and dull, but because he loved his mommy's storytelling, he tolerated listening to them.

Her voice was really gentle – its silky smooth quality was like that of a lady of Jiangnan speaking in Suzhou dialect. To him, falling asleep to her lovely voice was the happiest thing in the world.

This small living quarter exuded a lifeful atmosphere and tranquil warmth.

The bed in the small room was not large enough to accommodate Mu Yazhe's frame, and he could not lay his limbs comfortably no matter what position he assumed, but as he caught a whiff of a buttery smell belonging to a child and a refreshing smell unique to Yun Shishi, he somehow felt at peace inside.

The amalgamation of fragrance was serene and refined. It was neither extravagant nor intense and was, instead, sweet to the soul and healing to the bone.

A moment of tranquility wrapped him in its warm embrace.

When she stepped into the bedroom again and spotted the man in deep slumber in bed, she reflexively let out a smirk. She clearly remembered a certain man telling her earlier that he was full of vitality.

She moved cautiously to the side of the bed and bent down to observe the man's sleeping face closely.

The man asleep had his eyes slightly closed. Under the dim lights, faint shadows were formed beneath his sharp features.

His long and slender eyes and his thick, jet-black lashes were beautiful and attractive.

She raised a brow in surprise. She remembered that, when Youyou was born, he already had thick, inky hair, and once he fell asleep, soft and full lashes would frame his eyes – they were much thicker than hers. It turned out that he had inherited them from this man.

The bridge of his aquiline nose was tall. He seemed to be a statue manifested through supreme and careful craftsmanship.

This was especially the case for those thin and kissable lips; they were of a form presently highly sought after for a kiss. They were thin but arrogant. When he smiled, the curve at the corner of his lips was cold but charming.

## Chapter 295: Perfectly Justified

Yun Shishi observed every inch of his face in detail. Suddenly, she truly accepted the fact that this man was good-looking.

Sometimes, one could only lament God's bias; he seemed to have generously bestowed this man with the best things in the world.

He had given him massive power, a family whose limitless riches could rival a country's, and an unparalleled beauty – he was the embodiment of perfection.

However, he was given a strange temper to match all these.

He was temperamental and had an ill character. Perhaps, this was consistent among the rich. He was just always self-centered. When he wanted something, he must get it; if he did not manage to do so, he would rather destroy it than give it away.

And if he did not like something, he would not want it, and he could never be forced by others into desiring it. He was clear-cut but insufferably arrogant.

He had the capital to behave like this, though.

As these thoughts infiltrated her mind, the man in the bed suddenly popped his eyes wide open, and her scrutinizing stare was met with his.

She was taken aback!

In the next second, his strong arm circled her waist and pulled her into his embrace. Everything in front of her eyes turned upside down as she was instantly weighed down by the man's body.

The double bed was not big, and it could hardly fit two people, but it was very soft.

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The bed frame slightly concaved under their combined weight and her body sank in as a corollary. With the man's bulky frame hovering over her, it was inevitable that she would find it hard to breathe.

Because of his overly massive body, her face had grown red.

“Hey, Mu Yazhe, what are you doing?”

He lowered his sight and lightly sniffed the fragrance lingering in her hair. In a deep voice, he gracefully whispered to her ear, “Sleeping with my woman.”

“What?” She thought she had heard it wrongly.

Instead, the man repeated it nicely, “I said I'm sleeping with you.”

A little defeated, she refuted him with rage, “Every time, you think of nothing but this. Can’t you think of something else, instead?”

“Sleeping with my woman; isn’t this something perfectly justified?”

She might as well give up struggling. How could she forget? This man was all along overbearing and towering above others. He had never cared about other people’s feelings.

There was no more struggling, and there was no more pushing and shoving. She simply spread herself wide open and let him take what he needed!

She shut her eyes emotionlessly without resisting, appearing to be as quiet as a dead fish.

Things came to a stalemate because of this, and no advancements came forth from both parties.

The man, who was pressing on to her, caged her in silence, but for a long time, he did not proceed with his next move.

She felt slightly uncertain and, through her half-lidded eyes, she saw him looking down at her in scrutiny.

All of a sudden, he asked monotonously.

“Yun Shishi, you’re really not tactful, aren’t you?”

“What do you mean?”

“Those who await my favor would willingly line up all the way to Milan from here, but you alone, on the contrary, avoid me like the plague.”

He peered at her coldly.

He had seen plenty of women playing the cat-and-mouse game, and, oftentimes, some ignorant ones would execute that tactic in front of him; thus, he could easily tell right now that this woman’s resistance and defiance toward him was not falsified.

She was truly avoiding him at all cost.

How arrogant!

In the right order of things, she should be religiously genuflecting to him in gratitude for favoring her and should treat this as a great patronage.

She scoffed, “They may be blind but not me.”

“They’re blind?” He slightly shifted his body to the side. Using his arm to prop himself halfway up, he composed himself and then retorted while peering deeply into her, “How are they blind?”

“... ” She was tongue-tied.

“Why aren’t you saying anything?”

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“... ” She was tongue-tied.

“Why aren’t you saying anything?”

Chapter 296: Punishment

“There are so many women in the world, but why are you so persistent with only me?”

“Mind your own business.”

Mu Yazhe pulled up her chin and inched his handsome face closer to her. Pressing his slightly chilly lips to the corner of hers, the warmth of his breath slipped through the gap between her lips and invaded her cavern.

His breathing gradually became unstable and a little shorter.

His thin, kissable lips journeyed back and forth across her neck. He landed soft kisses on her and ended up only wanting more. He was quite similar to those travelers who felt parched as they got lost in the desert; as for her, she was like a clean and clear magical spring. He tasted her continuously, but his thirst was not quenched.

His thin lips pressed along her elegant neckline, and his strong arms hooked across her slim and fragile waist. He applied strength on to her back, subsequently propelling her body closer to his chest.

Separated by a thin layer of clothing, he could feel the temperature, suppleness, warmth, and wonder of her skin.

He supported the back of her neck with his palm and nudged her forward to welcome his lips. His hot breath poured into her lips completely and instantly; all of her was taken away.

No longer satisfied with scratching just the surface, the man lunged more ferociously and delved in wholly.

However, unlike his previous advancements, which had gone exploring more deeply, his attacks right now were limited to kisses.

The temperature in the room suddenly rose.

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This room was filled entirely with affection, romance, and sweetness.

She withstood everything in silence.

He was not resigned to her unresponsiveness. Widening the gap between her lips with the tip of his tongue, he provoked her passionately and enticingly to get a response from her.

Nonetheless, throughout the entire session, Yun Shishi steadfastly shut her eyes and let him take whatever he needed.

If he wanted something, then she would give it to him.

It was not something that was too complicated.

Even if she were to struggle, it was quite pointless, and she might, instead, arouse the man's strong desire to conquer her. If she were to spread her limbs out and let him do whatever he wanted, he would definitely find it boring and would, perhaps, even lose his interest in her.

Would she not regain her freedom, then?

She would be free from this man and return to her normal life.

Just like what she had expected, without eliciting any response from her, he simply found this whole matter tasteless and abruptly stopped the kisses.

He lifted his gaze to look at her stubborn and prideful face, and his brows slightly knitted in irritation.

He felt that this was very dull.

He would rather that she struggled or resisted. This way, he would at least feel the thrill of conquering her.

Her spreading herself out like this and permitting him to do whatever he pleased cause his interest to drastically wane.

He lowered his peeved gaze and bit her ear in punishment. A sharp pain surged from within her, and she grinded her teeth, trying to prevent herself from making any sound.

Even if it was painful for her, she did not give any reaction.

“Do you think that you’re a dead fish?”

Did she actually not know to give a response, or did she think that it was too difficult doing it with him?

“I am giving you what you want and am obeying you. You want me to play nice, right?” she ridiculed him with a smile, a slight detest fleeting across her eyes.

She hated his rampage and arrogance. She hated his compulsion.

“Very well.”

Was this not another level of resistance from her?

He immediately looked upward, his lips sliding over her jade-like, well-defined clavicle. He stuck his lips on her neck and fiercely alternated between sucking and biting, his scalding hot breath constantly fanning her skin.

She clamped her teeth together. She wanted to hold it in at first, but when she realized the man’s vicious and provocative actions, she could no longer tolerate him and pushed him away by force. She

stepped down from the bed, made her way to the vanity mirror, and stared into it.

## Chapter 297: Delicious

The woman in the reflection had flushed cheeks and sullen eyes. What greeted her eyes was a suggestive hickey, red and swollen, on the exposed neck!

The love bite was glaringly ostentatious, as if the man had purposely engraved his mark on her skin. It was such an eyesore!

“You!”

She was mad beyond words and used the ball of her thumb to rub it away vigorously, but her attempt only made the mark more swollen and visible.

The season had entered midsummer now. The man was out to embarrass her with such an obvious hickey on her neck!

How can this man be so crass?!

She turned to tell him through clenched teeth, “Mu Yazhe, you are too much!”

“This is punishment.”

“Punishment?” She widened her eyes in disbelief.

What an obnoxious man!

Furious, she turned around and left the room.

(vit(function( )())

As he watched her fume from the back, his lips arched into a contemptuous smile of victory.

She went straight to the kitchen. Leaning against the sink, she slightly bowed her head, scooped some water from the running tap, and splashed her burning cheeks with it in hopes of quickly cooling her heated skin.

She took a towel and wetted it with water before using it to wipe her cheeks and neck. She rubbed continuously and hatefully, as if she were trying to erase his lingering breath and traces on her body. After some time, she finally sighed in vain.

Why am I making life difficult for myself?

Am I going to torture my own self, too?

Growl—

Her tummy let out a long and weak sound.

She was hungry.

Troubled, she bit her lower lip and opened the door to the fridge. There was not much food left inside – a few eggs, a piece of beef, and a bundle of noodles.

She thought for a while and decided to cook something to fill her stomach. Once she had a full stomach, she could then rush to the hospital to take her father's place in watching over Youyou.

She was not that skilled as a cook and only knew how to make some simple dishes. When she was still staying at the Yun house, she was in charge of all the chores.

At that time, on top of studying to finish her course, she also worked part time. She was preoccupied enough as it was, yet she still had to prepare the three meals at home. That was because her father had a hectic schedule at work. Her adoptive mother hardly cooked, much less her adoptive sister.

Once she moved out of her father's house and officially stepped into society, she was always busy with her work. Youyou was fortunately well-behaved and thoughtful. He knew his mother was preoccupied with work, so he got a few recipe books from the bookstore to learn the skill.

In the end, his cooking skill had exceeded hers.

Her skill was not too bad, either. After slicing the beef and sautéing the chunks along with a few more ingredients, she added the noodles into the pan, seasoned it with some condiments, and topped everything with two eggs. Within a short period of time, a heady bowl of noodle broth was carried out of the kitchen by her.

He could smell the food from the bedroom. Following the delicious fragrance, he walked out of the room. By the time she returned from the kitchen with chopsticks and a spoon in hand, she saw that the man had already slurped the broth as he sat casually in front of the dining table.

It was unexpectedly delicious.

The man raised an eyebrow as he licked the soup stains from his lips with the tip of his tongue. It was obvious that he had enjoyed the meal.

He bowed and stared at the noodles in the bowl. The noodles had egg toppings and a few beef slices. For some reason, this simple fare, which smelled divine, was able to whet his appetite.

He was also hungry without a doubt.

He was originally not conscious of it, but when the fragrance wafted into the room, his taste buds had a funny reaction.

“What is this?”

He had never seen a noodle broth with such ingredients.

The chefs engaged by the Mu house were from five-star hotels and were among the best in their field. They had excellent culinary skills and could whip up any kind of dishes, and their repertoire included not just Chinese and Western but also French cuisines.

Still, no matter how tasty the food was, it could get tiring after eating the same stuff for over two decades.

Therefore, being a novelty, the noodle soup before his eyes was understandably fascinating.

Chapter 298: Deserve to Stay Hungry

After all, Master Mu, who was used to good food and good life since young, had neither seen nor tasted cheap vermicelli before.

Don't tell me that he has never eaten vermicelli in his whole life despite his wealth?

Oh, that is possible.

This is a common man's food. He won't have a chance to eat it as an elite.

She fell silent from the absurdity of this fact.

Placing the chopsticks and spoon on the table, the man predictably took them up and started wolfing down the noodles.

...

He actually seemed to be enjoying the meal.

Outside the window, sunlight spilled in through the windowsill.

He sat with his back erect. Even while he was busy with the noodles, he was still elegant and peaceful in his mannerism. There was no sound coming from him.

She now fully believed that he was an elite – one who had received excellent etiquette training – after witnessing his behavior at the dining table.

(vit(function())())

He might be holding the most ordinary bowl of noodles in his hands, but his every action and mannerism revealed an aristocratic elegance.

This sophistication was not pretentious. This table etiquette was inculcated to him for over a decade. The formalities were a part of his persona now.

She pouted dismally when she saw that her share of vermicelli had been snatched by the man. In the end, she resignedly returned to the kitchen to make another share for herself.

By the time she carried out the second bowl of noodles, the man had already finished the vermicelli in his bowl without a sound. It seemed to suit his taste as the bowl was wiped clean without leftover.

She took a look at the bowl. It was really empty. He had finished his food elegantly; no soup stain was spilled on the tabletop.

The etiquette of aristocrats is so tedious, isn't it?

She mouthed the comment inwardly as she took a seat at the dining table. Holding the bowl, she was in the middle of happily gobbling the food down when she saw him eye it.

...

“This is mine!” she declared unhappily. To be exact, that bowl of noodles he had just finished was supposed to be hers, too.

Seeing the covetous look in his eyes, she quickly shielded the bowl with her hands. She feared that he would also snatch this one, so she warned him, “This bowl of noodles is mine.”

“Cook one more bowl for me,” he demanded. He had just finished a bowl, yet he was still feeling unfulfilled.

She had obviously underestimated his appetite. He was a man, after all, and had gone without food for a night. It was only natural for him to feel very hungry now.

Her brows lowered frostily, and she simply told him, “Go and cook one for yourself if you still want to eat!”

He looked at her straight in the face. “I don’t know how to cook.”

“You can’t cook? Then, you deserve to go hungry!”

She chillingly said, not at all surprised to find his handsome face sinking thereafter.

She was feeling smug inside. After being tormented so many times by him, she finally had a chance to take a dig at him! Thus, she resolved to make him watch in suffering as she enjoyed this meal!

May you die hungry!

She swore at him inwardly with much satisfaction. Skillfully holding up the noodles with the chopsticks, she sucked the strands down her throat.

Sip—

Unlike him, she was not elegant when she ate the noodles. For him, be it eating a meal with or without noodles or doing something else altogether, everything must be done in an aristocratic manner.

To her, noodles were meant to be sucked!

She was really hungry right now and was too lazy to bother about table etiquette and whatnot before him. She stuffed her mouth with food in large portions.

Moreover, when she ate the noodles, it was difficult for her not to make any sound.

He frowned, finding her rather uncouth. Somehow, her eating mannerism, coupled with the sipping sound when she sucked the noodles, seemed to make that bowl of food more appetizing.

#### Chapter 299: Unreasonable

He frowned, finding her rather uncouth. Somehow, her eating mannerism, coupled with the sipping sound when she sucked the noodles, seemed to make that bowl of food more appetizing.

She, who was busy enjoying her food, failed to notice that the man had crept from his seat to her side. He suddenly leaned forward, caught hold of her hand that was holding the chopsticks, and covered her mouth with his. In one move, he effortlessly slurped the noodle strands that were in her mouth into his.

He chewed the delicious food, moving all corners of his mouth in obvious enjoyment of the taste.

She was stunned and then roughly wiped her mouth with the back of her hand before she pushed that bowl of noodles in front of him. She had lost her appetite after being teased by him.

“You can have this; I’m not eating anymore!”

“Why? Are you mad?”

“I can’t be bothered with you. Go and finish the vermicelli!”

She silently glared at him and headed over to the washroom to dry the laundry, which had just been washed.

He was delighted over her indignant look and went back to the table to finish the remaining noodles with much satisfaction.

When she was done hanging the clothes, the dining table was already empty.

Water was heard splashing from the showerhead inside the bathroom.

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Occasionally, the man could be heard cursing.

Having spent a day at the stuffy hospital and having perspired much from eating that heady meal, Mu Yazhe decided to take a shower.

He did not expect to find fault with the water heater, though. While showering, he discovered that the water could only flow, hot and cold, intermittently. This was a grave inconvenience for a young master like him who was used to a good life.

Her mouth twitched. This man had really taken this house as his!

Just as she finished washing the dishes, there was a knock on the door from the outside.

Quizzical, she went to open the door and was dumbstruck by the scene outside.

Standing along the narrow corridor were two rows of expressionless men in black suits.

The two men standing in front of the respective queues walked into the apartment, uninvited, with a pile of clean clothes in their hands.

At this moment, the door to the shower room opened, and he walked out with a sullen face.

His face was dark from having to use the faulty water heater.

The men in suits stood at attention on one side and passed him the clothes. He had a teddy bear bath towel wrapped around his lower body while his upper torso was entirely naked. Water droplets lined his muscular profile in a sexy and charming way as he wiped his damp hair with a towel.

Her gaze fell on the teddy bear bath towel, and she was instantly piqued. This towel was specifically bought for Youyou. After each bath, the little lad would wrap himself in this towel, which covered his body just right. However, on this man, it could only barely cover his midsection, including his private parts.

“Hey.” She pointed at the bath towel on him neutrally. “That’s Youyou’s.”

Unhappy, he threw her a sidelong glare. “So?”

“My son has obsessive compulsive behavior,” she mocked him with a straight face.

With a twitch of his mouth, he could no longer maintain his grace.  
“Woman, how dare you let my son stay in such a run-down place?”

“Run-down?!” she instinctively reacted in anger, finding him unreasonable. “The monthly rental fee for this so-called run-down place is a few thousand yuan! I’m not like you, Master Mu, with your rich family. This place is decent enough, except for that faulty water heater!”

### Chapter 300: Not Renting Anymore

“Run-down?!” She instinctively reacted in anger, finding him unreasonable. “The monthly rental fee for this so-called run-down place is a few thousand yuan! I’m not like you, Master Mu, with your rich family. This place is decent enough, except for that faulty water heater!”

Calling this place run-down, this man is simply too much!

Does he think that everyone else is like him, coming from a rich family with a heap of fortune to spend?

This is the capital! It isn’t a small city from second or third tier. The stretch of condominiums over here may not be deemed as high class, but they are still costly, so the monthly rental for an apartment in this part of the capital is still considerable!

He actually rebutted, “Such a run-down place and you still need to pay rent?”

“Yes, of course...”

The men in suits waited on him as the man changed into the set of fresh clothes. He impatiently rubbed his damp hair before he walked up to her and held her up.

“Let’s go.”

“Ah—where are we going?!”

“I’m not letting my woman and son stay in this pigsty.”

Pigsty? Wait a minute; did he just call my house a pigsty?!

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She was about to explode when he strode over and, without any explanation, half lifted and half carried her off to the entrance. With a kick, the door opened.

The landlord, who was staying across her unit, heard the commotion and opened the door to investigate. She was astonished to see the stairway congested with men in dark suits.

She lifted her head to see a tall, broad man about to carry a woman down the stairs. Once she got over her shock and recognized the woman for her tenant, she quickly went up to her and said, “Hey, I haven’t seen you around in these past two days. For this month’s rental fee, you—”

Yun Shishi was renting one of the apartment units under this landlord’s name. When this development was opened for sale

initially, the woman promptly bought two apartments; one of which was purchased as a future wedding home for her son.

However, the son was still in high school. It was a waste to leave it empty, too. Thus, in the interim, she had it leased after some simple renovation.

Before she could finish her words, Mu Yazhe impatiently replied, “We aren’t renting this place anymore!”

“Ah?” The landlord was dumbfounded as she watched them leave the place.

...

“Director Mu, how about this unit? This place measures 532 square meters and is fitted with seven rooms, three halls, and five security guards. It also comes with a private garden and a swimming pool. The villa has a total of five floors and a private elevator.”

Inside a real estate company’s headquarters, a manager coyly presented a selection of luxurious Xiangti Walk villas to the cold and aloof man sitting on the sofa.

He took the brochure from his hands, glanced at it, and bowed his head to ask for the opinion of the woman in his arms.

“Do you like it?”

Yun Shishi was still somewhat in a daze as she shook her head.

When she rejected with a shake of her head, the man did not pursue the reason for it and just neutrally looked at the manager, who was full of anticipation. “Change!”

“Sure! Director Mu, please wait a moment!”

The manager did not express any irritation as he respectfully retreated.

The woman looked up and surveyed her surroundings. To her, it was like being in a dream.

Xiangti Walk was an upmarket residential district being developed by a real estate company under Disheng Financial Group. The clientele interested in owning a piece of land in that district had high net worth. A villa with 500 square meters had an average price of 80 million yuan. After conversion, it was, on average, 160,000 yuan per square meter. That level of luxury was simply staggering.

That district had villas, bungalows, and even high-end apartments available for those high-level white-collar workers. The design of the recently presented apartment was retro Mediterranean style, which was luxurious and dignified, with unique elegance. It was considered as one of the most luxurious properties in the capital.

Initially, the manager did not recognize Mu Yazhe’s face and just took him for an ordinary customer, so he did not put much effort into his sales spiel.

After all, as a mere manager of a real estate company, a person with an ordinary status like him would normally have no chance to meet the CEO of Disheng Financial Group in person.

## Chapter 301: Not Something You Need to Consider

After all, as a mere manager of a real estate company, a person with an ordinary status like him would normally have no chance to meet the CEO of Disheng Financial Group in person.

Therefore, when Mu Yazhe entered the reception hall with Yun Shishi locked in his arms, he treated them like nothing more than normal guests.

That was until Mu Yazhe's assistant introduced them, "Mr. Li, this is our boss, the CEO of Disheng Financial Group, Mr. Mu."

He was then taken by surprise!

Xiangti Walk was a district being developed by the real estate company under Disheng Financial Group. He had never expected, however, that their CEO, who was shrouded in mystery, would be this young and this astonishingly handsome!

Who was this woman beside him, though?

He had heard that their CEO had a fiancée.

Perhaps, this lady was the one?

Thinking for the better as he assumed that he had understood everything, the manager put up a smile.

His attitude did a one-eighty and became more servile.

“Sir, please take a look. What do you think of this one? It’s an extravagantly furnished western-style garden house that spans a surface area of 232 square feet, surrounded by a tranquil environment.”

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Mu Yazhe slid the brochure to Yun Shishi. “Like it?”

She gave it a look and could not keep herself from holding the brochure up.

It’s so beautiful...

“This beautiful lady here, are you satisfied with this?”

Noticing her finally gaining interest, the manager respectfully asked this question while maintaining a smile on his face.

“I like this, but it’s too big. Is there something smaller?”

She was just about to move into a new house; Yun Yecheng had passed her a bank card with a tidy sum in it.

However, a house of 232 square feet was a tad too big. Living together with Youyou and her father, it would appear to be too roomy.

Feeling somewhat distressed, the manager simpered, “He he... This is already the smallest house.”

“What about an apartment?” she inquired again.

The manager wiped his sweat off and answered her helplessly, “All units were sold out within five months of the opening of its first phase. The second phase is still under development...”

“...”

“Don’t like it?”

Chagrined, she answered, “I like it...”

The style of this garden house was her favorite; designed like a vintage palace, it was refined and beautiful – it was her dream home.

“I’ll take this, then.” Mu Yazhe’s long and slender finger pointed at the brochure.

“Alright! Mr. Mu, please hold on for a moment.” The manager closed the brochure and, just as he was about to walk away, she called out to him in panic, “Wait!”

“Miss, do you still have any requests?” the manager asked curiously.

She answered, “I’m still considering it!”

“What are you considering?” Mu Yazhe’s expression sank.

When I asked her if she likes it, didn’t she reply that she does?

Why is she having so many considerations now?

She shrugged him off and asked the manager, “How much is this?”

When the manager heard that, he was also stunned.

Mu Yazhe knitted his brows. “This isn’t something you need to consider!”

“Why is this something I don’t need to consider? What if I’m incapable of purchasing it?”

The corner of the manager’s lips twitched.

Is this girl not Mr. Mu’s lover?

She doesn’t seem not to be, though. I heard rumors that Mr. Mu is not the type to be intimate with women easily.

If she’s not his lover, why is Mr. Mu looking for a ‘love nest’ to ‘keep his lover in’?

He has Shimao Champagne Lake, a massive villa, registered under his name; need he specially purchase yet another house?

“Woman, are you foolish?” Mu Yazhe flashed her a look of dissatisfaction.

“I don’t need you to buy this for me; I’ll buy it myself!”

He stared at her deeply. She glared at him back, looking stubborn and angry from embarrassment. She was clearly annoyed by his charitable act.

Chapter 302: We Are Still Not Married

He stared at her deeply. She glared at him back, looking stubborn and angry from embarrassment. She was clearly annoyed by his charitable act.

Suddenly, he broke into a profound smile and let himself casually sink into the sofa. He stretched out his hand lazily, signaling for the manager to state the price.

“Hello. This is 45 million yuan.”

Yun Shishi froze.

Mu Yazhe was admiring her shocked expression. He could not help but tease her when she stayed in a daze, “What? Didn’t you say you want to buy this?”

“I...” She was at a loss for words.

She thought that since a villa cost about 10 million yuan, a mere garden house should not be as expensive as that.

She bit her lip in depression.

“Why aren’t you talking tough anymore?” he asked her indifferently.

He raised his head and signaled the manager with his eyes. The manager stepped away at once.

The procedure to apply for property ownership was not too complicated, and everything was completed unbelievably quickly.

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In fact, when the manager passed her the deed for the house, she had yet to return to her senses.

Mu Yazhe, who was standing next to her, slightly bowed his head to admire her dumbfounded look. He asked with much delight, “Are you touched? Now, you don’t have to sleep in the slum again.”

“Why are you giving me this house?” This man... Could he be taking advantage of this to coerce her into signing some ‘unequal treaty’?

He saw her look of vigilance and could not help but smilingly tease her again.

“Are you going to let me watch my son sleep in a pigsty?”

“... That’s not a pigsty!” she emphasized sulkily.

He cast her a sidelong glance but did not speak further.

To him, that place was no different than a pigsty.

It was small and unsafe.

Tens of families, or perhaps even more, lived in the same building.

Meeting strangers was unavoidable; plus, security was lax – anyone could come and go freely.

How could he allow his woman and son to live in that foul place?

However, this woman in front of his eyes was being obstinate, carefully protecting that pitiful pride of hers.

For some reason, he did not refute her and simply said, “This is a gift.”

She froze up for the second time. “...”

“A gift for that bowl of noodles.”

She was a little confused.

What did he mean?

A plain bowl of noodles in exchange for a luxurious house?

Was her bowl of noodles equivalent to a few million yuan in value?

God...

She had, no doubt, struck lottery?

“Since you put it that way, if I were to make a few more bowls of noodles, then would you gift me a few more houses?”

“...”

He stared at her speechlessly.

She looked at him in a challenging manner. If he gave his consent, she would no doubt prepare noodles for him every day!

This would go on until he was exhausted of his riches!

His phone rang, timely breaking this sinister silence.

He originally wanted to reject the call, but as he soon as he looked at the screen, his expression turned solemn. He excused himself immediately and answered the call with his voice lowered, “Grandpa.”

Over the phone, the old man seemed to be suppressing the chilliness and sullenness in his voice. “You finally picked up the phone! Perhaps, if I didn’t call, you wouldn’t even remember where you live!”

“...”

The old man noted his silence and exploded in wrath, “Do you still know to return home?! Wanrou called you so many times; why didn’t you pick up the call? Do you still regard her as your wife and me as your grandpa?!”

“Grandpa, I have yet to marry her, ” he replied emotionlessly.

### Chapter 303: The Two-faced Little Boy

“Grandpa, I have yet to marry her, ” he replied emotionlessly.

“What do you mean by that? What of it? She’s still your fiancée – your future wife! Are you trying to make my blood boil?” Mu Sheng choked in his anger and started to cough fitfully. This incited him into uttering expletives, “You are definitely trying to piss me off on purpose!”

“Grandpa—”

He roared in exasperation over the phone, “No more nonsense! I’m giving you 20 minutes to return home pronto!”

Du, du—

The line went dead.

Mu Yazhe’s expression abruptly turned sullen.

...

Yun Tianyou awoke in a sweltering hot afternoon.

Opening his eyes, he discovered that he had unknowingly been moved to another ward.

And a deluxe room at that.

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Extravagant furnishings, elegant design, and high-quality equipment – a luxurious environment had actually been created in a hospital ward, which was complete with a lounge, a study room, and a washroom.

He scanned the room, only to find Yun Yecheng sleeping in the accompanying bed. The latter looked exhausted as he huddled in his clothes and let out soft but deep snores.

Having been unable to get a shuteye for two days straight, his grandpa was extremely fatigued.

Why is it him?

He slightly furrowed his brows but did not concern himself with his grandpa and just let the latter continue sleeping.

He did not harbor much resentment toward the old man; he simply thought him to be useless – too useless that his mommy had to suffer so much.

In his opinion, any man who let his mommy suffer was useless.

Were words needed to explain why they failed at protecting someone well?

They were all just excuses.

Still, if his mommy chose to forgive them, he would choose to forget, too.

His stomach growled.

Youyou stroked his tummy. Feeling quite hungry, he got off the bed and trudged toward the lounge in his slippers.

He spotted Li Hanlin sitting upright on the sofa. When he noticed him coming over, he quickly stood up and greeted him respectfully, “Mr. Yun...”

“Mm. Why are you here?”

As he asked this question, his tummy gave off yet another growl.

Li Hanlin looked at him and, with a smile in his eyes, he asked, “Are you hungry?”

“Mm.” Yun Tianyou turned away in embarrassment. He felt that his agent’s smile was a tad too bright. “Did you bring anything to eat?”

“Yes! I knew you’ll feel hungry when you wake up, so I brought over your favorite bento from Fu’s.” Saying this, he brought out a bento and placed it on the table. “Aren’t I a loyal assistant?”

“Where’s my mommy?”

“When I arrived earlier, she’s no longer here.”

He nodded in acknowledgment and rested on the sofa, savoring the bento in elegance. Li Hanlin took this chance to pull out a stack of documents collected during the meetings with the board of directors and passed them all to him.

Youyou received the files and flipped through them. They contained the proposals presented in the meetings; eventually, these would all be handed to him to make the final decision.

He would sign if he agreed to a proposal and would not if he did not.

Sifting through the documents, he eventually stated flatly, “Those trashes waiting for cash to roll in are truly getting useless by the day.”

“...”

Yun Tianyou’s brows gradually formed a tight knot as he continued looking through the files. Suddenly, he flung the documents in his hands away.

They then scattered all over the floor like falling snowflakes.

He stood up and said emotionlessly as he walked toward the French window, “How useless can they get? Why don’t they go lie in coffins now? I’ll kindly burn some paper money for them.”

Li Hanlin fell silent.

What a two-faced person...

The agent thought to himself.

However, this was also typical of the little boy.

“Mr. Yun, these documents...”

Chapter 304: Mother-daughter Relationship?

Yun Tianyou scoffed, “Hmph! Taking such great pains to replace me – they really don’t know their place.”

Flustered, Li Hanlin said at once, “No one in the company can replace your position, Mr. Yun.”

“That is obvious.” He turned to look at him deeply in the eye.

“Without me, that company is nothing but a wasteland.”

The agent was shocked.

This statement... Although it was said in a calm manner, it held much menace and guts!

If this were to be said by someone else, it would seem to be too egoistical.

However, coming from this little boy's mouth, this could only be wholly accepted!

“Then, the acknowledgement for the documents...”

“All rejected.”

“Understood.”

The man was tidying up the documents when he suddenly got up and asked, “Mr. Yun, the person outside the door, would you like to meet her?”

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“Who?”

“Li Qin.”

He opened the door to Li Qin standing outside restlessly. Who knew how long she had waited there?

The moment she saw the door getting unlocked, her face lit up, but when she saw a sullen-faced Yun Tianyou stepping out, her heart instantly sank.

“Why is it you?”

He cast her a cold glance and then mocked her absurdity, “This is my room, so why can't it be me?”

She was stumped for a moment but reminded herself that this was simply not the time to be bickering with him and just demanded, “Where’s your mommy? I want to see her!”

He smirked, not having any respect for her at all. “Who are you to meet my mommy whenever you like?”

This question made her flush with shame, and she exclaimed hastily, “Why are you being so tough, kiddo?! Why are you speaking to your elders like this?!”

“You’re only befitting of this way of speech.”

“You—”

She was so infuriated she held up her hand to slap his small face.

This was a repeat of her reckless abuse to him back at the Yun house.

Yun Tianyou simply stared at her coldly with his head raised. A strong gust of wind accompanied her hand’s descent to his face. Her eyes were unwavering and were even teeming with indifference.

Li Hanlin’s face darkened. He stopped her hand with his swift reflexes and pushed her to the ground by twisting her wrist.

Her butt seemed to crack into pieces as it landed on the hard floor with a heavy thud. Li Hanlin’s hand was quite strong. With him as her opponent, she did not have the strength to deliver a counterblow at all and could only let out a bitter cry of pain.

Yun Tianyou trod toward her while he maintained his indifferent gaze on her, his lips curling into a mocking and distant arch.

“Li Qin, why are you looking for my mommy?”

She grimaced in pain and, at his question, jeered derisively, “If there’s anything, I’ll discuss it with your mommy and not you. What does a child like you know?”

“He he.”

“Yun Tianyou, you are increasingly getting out of hand; I’m your elder—”

“I don’t listen to nonsense,” he interrupted her impatiently. “Since you want to ask my mom for help, you must give me a reason why she should help.”

There was a sudden change in her expression, and a tinge of distress appeared on her face. “At least, she should help us for the sake of our mother-daughter kinship for two decades!”

Kinship?

Chapter 305: A Creditor at the Door

Kinship?

What kind of kinship? Was it the kind where his mother had to suffer their bullying for the past two decades and more? Or was it the mocking and sarcasm he had to hear from them?

He could not forget the dark and heavy memories of his childhood.

If that was what she was referring to as kinship...

He smiled lazily and said, "Alright, then, for the sake of kinship."

"You..."

"Which room is it?"

It might be due to Youyou's exceptional charisma, or she must be under a spell, for she woodenly replied to him, "502..."

"Let's go." He faced his agent and gave this instruction. Li Hanlin immediately followed behind.

He was actually keen to find out what kind of a tragic ending the mother-daughter pair would have.

The agent turned around and glanced pathetically at Li Qin, offering a few seconds of silent condolences in his heart.

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It was not good to offend Yun Tianyou, this little demon king.

One would not know how death come about.

Li Qin could not be blamed for creeping her way here for help. She had nowhere to turn to, and this was already her last resort.

Yun Tianyou came to the ward entrance and saw a group of curious onlookers crowding at the door.

He was in no hurry to go in, instead, he stood at the door and peeked into the room through the window.

Hiding in a corner while covering her face as she howled in pain was Yun Na.

Her voice was hoarse and broken.

The wounds on her face were already showing signs of infection, with pus oozing from them. The bandage had been ripped off and scattered all over, revealing her bloody face that dirtied her hospital attire.

At this moment, Li Dongqiang was standing by the hospital bed. Occasionally, he could be seen kicking her vigorously with the sole of his shoe as he shouted, “I told you to return the money; did you not understand?! Do you think that you can avoid me by hiding in the hospital? B\*tch!”

“Brother Qiang, I really don’t have the money... I really don’t!”

“No money? I think it’s because you don’t want to return what you owe. Well, if that’s the case, I’ll just distribute your photos. Who knows? They may fetch a good price!”

He suddenly revealed a stack of photos in his hand featuring Yun Na in compromising positions and in various stages of undress. They got her so frightened and shocked. She made a lunge for him in an attempt to snatch the photos away from his hand.

“No...”

He was furious at her sight and, with a kick, sent her flying toward a corner of the wall.

Her head had a big cut after it hit the wall, and she coughed out a pool of bloody foam.

“It’s so disgusting,” Yun Tianyou coldly muttered to himself.

Li Qin moved to rush over but stopped in her tracks at the door upon seeing the mess in the room. She did not have the guts to step in further.

Li Dongqiang was an infamous ruffian in this district; she had seen how ruthless he could be before.

It was unknown how he managed to track her daughter to the hospital. Once he stepped into the ward, he gave a slap across her daughter’s face that sent her flipping to the floor.

Li Qin was scared out of her wits. When she saw this creditor come in through the door, she quickly fled the hospital room and looked for Yun Yecheng and Yun Shishi to settle the matter.

The two had the money. She could ask them for help to pay off the debt. They should not be so heartless to leave them in the lurch!

However, seeing her daughter’s bloody and dirty appearance right now as she begged for mercy on her knees, Li Qin’s legs could not seem to move a bit somehow.

She was afraid that she would be implicated. She would not be strong enough to stand the beating!

Being in a public place did not deter this street boss from his viciousness. The other patients and their families in the ward had long since fled the room in fear.

## Chapter 306: Black-oxidation of Youyou

Being in a public place did not deter Li Dongqiang from his viciousness. The other patients and their families in the ward had long since fled the room in fear. He was not there to create unnecessary trouble for other folks and was only in the hospital to retrieve what Yun Na owed him.

Li Qin went weak at the knees and hid at one side, unsure of what to do. She was terrified beyond words and could barely utter a cry.

Yun Tianyou gave her a frigid look. Apparently, this mother-daughter kinship could not endure beyond troubles like this.

This is a debt brought about by her doing; she has to bear the consequence of her retribution.

As he was thinking, he turned to leave.

However, just as he was about to take a step away, he heard Yun Na's desperate cries drifting from the ward, "I really have no money, Brother Qiang, but my sister has! She definitely has money; you can go look for her. I'm her younger sister, so she'll definitely help me!"

The boy instantly halted his steps. A cold and eerie look flashed across his eyes in a sharp burst as a dark and dangerous aura permeated his very being.

He looked past his shoulder and into the room. She was wailing and holding the edge of Li Dongqiang's pants as if it were her last straw of hope. With her eyes red and swollen, she cried out, "My sister

has money! You can look for her, she'll definitely help settle my debt! She helped me pay off the money I owed before, too!"

Yun Tianyou held a stunned look with his fists tightly clenched.

Mommy helped pay off her debt?

When did that happen?

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How come he did not know about it?

"Yun Na, Yun Na. Haven't I made it clear to you that day? You got me into deep trouble that time, don't you know? You told me that your sister is pure and lovely—an excellent chick to repay your debt! In the end, it turned out that she is not a chick and even has an illegitimate son. The main point is that she has a paymaster looking out for her! I didn't get the chance to touch even a finger of her before I was almost made to pay with my life! Do you think I'm going to be tricked by you again and look to her for trouble?! You may have the guts but not me! If you want, go and ask for the money yourself! I don't dare to look for her again!"

The little lad's face was locked in a deep frown. The color drained from his face, and he now looked completely ashen.

"Brother Qiang, don't force me, please..." she continued to cry out helplessly. "I really didn't know that she has a paymaster backing her!"

“You know now, right?! D\*mn, I haven’t seen such a heartless person like you! Your sister has been good to you all along. Apparently, that wasn’t the first time she had helped clean up your mess. From what my men told me when they went to collect your debt from her, she had had enough of you, and if it weren’t because they threatened her about the son, she would not really bother to pay off your debt!”

A child’s tender voice was heard from the entrance out of the blue.

“When did that happen?”

He looked past his shoulder and spotted a boy, looking pale, standing at the door. His charming eyes were hollow and deep like the abyss.

“Where did this unknown lad come from?” Li Dongqiang swore with a frown.

“You don’t need to know who am I. Explain what you’ve just said!” Yun Tianyou had no intention of taking into account his rudeness. His voice might still be tender, but his tone was gloomy and cold; all this while, he had been exuding a somewhat fear-inducing, dangerous aura.

The man was stunned by the child’s behavior in front of him. The boy looked to be six or seven, but his presence was astonishingly steady and mature; he had an impeccable charisma that almost overwhelmed his spirit.

It was obvious that he was losing his presence before this little lad.

Yun Tianyou was unhappy with his hesitation and prompted once more, “Speak!”

### Chapter 307: I Will Pay for Her

“What did you say? Why should I explain anything to you?”

As Li Dongqiang asked these questions, he looked up to survey the crowd outside the room and rudely demanded, “Whose kid came running out here? Take him back right away!”

The crowd immediately scattered from shock.

Yun Tianyou said sternly, “You’re here to get your money back, aren’t you?! Explain yourself clearly; I’ll pay you the money!”

“Where will a kid like you get the dough from?”

“I have the money.” Li Hanlin stepped forward from behind the boy with a smile.

The gangster was even more confused.

Yun Na seemed to have detected a ray of hope from this. She pointed to the little boy at once and blurted out, “He... He is my sister’s son!”

“Oh? That Yun Shishi is your mommy?”

“You don’t need to be too concerned with me. I’m asking you; how much does she owe you?” the boy questioned seriously. He spared

no attention to Yun Na; it was as if looking at her once would pollute his eyes.

“500,000 yuan.”

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The boy turned to the side and lowered his voice, “Mr. Li.”

“Yes.”

Li Hanlin suddenly fished out a check book from his briefcase and penned down a string of numbers. Lastly, he signed his name and flashed it to the gangster.

The sum of a million.

Li Dongqiang spaced out!

“Oh, ho, this kid is no simple character!”

Yun Na looked at him with tears brimming in her eyes, and when Li Hanlin flashed them the amount on the check, her face instantly lighted up with hope. However, soon after, she thought that this was ridiculous.

Who was this man clad in a suit and leather shoes?

One could tell that he was an elite with one look, yet why was he being so servile toward her nephew?

Standing at the door, Li Qin was dumbfounded as well.

Who exactly was this man that he could give out a million yuan check this simply?

The more shocking thing was that this man was being respectful toward Yun Tianyou, a mere child, and he appeared to be submissive...

What was the relationship between the two?

She truly did not understand!

Li Dongqiang let out an evil grin and went ahead to retrieve the check, only to grab at nothing as Li Hanlin's hand, which was holding the check, slightly moved away to evade his grasp.

“Are you kidding me?!” The gangster was a little enraged.

Yun Tianyou said expressionlessly, “You have yet to explain; what did you mean by that just now?”

The street thug snickered as he pulled Yun Na toward him by the collar, tapped one of her bloody cheeks, and said, “She's your mommy's sister, right? Ha, she played with drugs and gambled outside, and she owed me a big sum! This b\*tch here said she's penniless though, so I threatened her that I'll go to her house to retrieve my money personally. Scared out of her wits, guess what she said?”

He loafed around, so his words were naturally crude and his appearance mean; he truly looked like a ruffian.

The little boy let out a sound of assent and waited for him to continue.

“She said she’s going to use her sister to pay off her debt!” the thug slowly spoke.

In an instant, the little lad’s expression changed for the worse.

It had darkened like smeared ink.

A murky haze suddenly swept across his previously bright and clear eyes, and intense hostility poured forth from beneath his gaze.

“Go on!” he demanded.

The thug was dazed. He was a little unhappy that a child was talking to him in such a condescending manner, but he did not give it much thought and continued.

“She said that her sister is so elegant, ethereal, delicate, and pretty. When I heard that, my heart tingled—”

“The main point!” The little boy was getting quite frustrated.

“D\*mn, you little b\*stard...”

The gangster was mad.

The agent coughed once to draw his attention and then smilingly dangled the check in front of him.

Chapter 308: His Dark Childhood

Li Dongqiang gulped and could only carry on. “She promised me that, in exchange for her debt, she would send her lovely sister over to accompany me for a few nights!”

Upon hearing this, Yun Tianyou stared at Yun Na by the side and for a long time, he remained silent. His expression darkened... to a frightening extent.

“She didn’t eventually manage to pull it off, though. That Yun Shishi was taken away by people from the Mu family.”

“The Mu family?” Li Hanlin was stunned for a moment.

Mu Yazhe?

“He he he...” The little boy suddenly let out a few eerie sniggers.

His half-lidded eyes suddenly burst wide open, and they locked on to Yun Na. He stared at her so intensely his gaze seemed capable of puncturing a cavity through her.

“It was like this, huh? He he he...” He supported his forehead with his hand. His frightening laughter chillingly rang about, making one’s hair stand on end.

Yun Na had never seen him like this before. He was always obedient and lovely in front of her adopted sister, but now with his façade torn down, his coldness and darkness were in full display; it was as if a terrifying air of wrath had surrounded him. His solemn eyes, in particular, had waves of crazed hostility swept over them.

“You... What are you laughing at?”

“He he he...” His shoulders rippled and he laughed even more maniacally.

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He closed his eyes and allowed those unpleasant memories to flood his mind.

Scenes appeared—

Yun Na propped him on the bed and repeatedly slapped every part of his body viciously. She pulled at his ears, and her sinister voice constantly echoed in them. ‘You b\*stard, go ahead and cry; go ahead and shout! Your mommy is not at home right now, so who can help you?! Who can protect you?!’

Those memories he had sealed away burst out from their container under her incitement, and they continuously fled right before his eyes like a merry-go-round.

“He he he...”

His slightly shaky laughter contained some of the pain from his forcibly stimulated unwanted memories.

The thug shook his head and sighed. “It’s unexpected that you’re willing to pay off her debt. Are you returning her ingratitude with kindness? She hurt your mommy like that; don’t you hate her?”

“Hate?” The little boy’s eyes suddenly popped open, and an overwhelming hostility passed under their surface.

How could he not hate her?

He hated her thoroughly.

“Ah, I wanted to throw her into the pond to feed the fish! I heard before that she’s going to be an actress, so I took a bunch of nude photos of her! Now that she’s disfigured, her road to stardom is cut off! Since you’re paying her debt for her, I’ll give you these photos instead!”

He handed the photos to him and reached for the check in the agent’s hand once more.

The agent captured his wrist grimly, and he could not budge his hand at all.

“Why... are you going back on your word?”

“Did I say that I’ll pay for her debt?” Yun Tianyou’s voice was filled with aloofness and contempt.

Yun Na’s heart was instantly in her throat yet again. She thought she was saved, but why was this boy being inconsistent with his words?

Was that check originally a fake? Was that why he went back on his words?

She felt that she was on an emotional rollercoaster ride; one moment she hung high and another moment she hit rock bottom.

“Just now you said—”

The boy retorted indifferently, “She owes you so much and then you plan to throw her into the pond; how pitiful is she?”

He pitied his mommy for her many years of suffering if his aunt's debt could easily be written off just like that.

Li Dongqiang assumed that he did not have the heart to make her suffer and was about to suggest something else when he heard Yun Tianyou say unsympathetically, “You're letting her off lightly simply by throwing her into a pond!”

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#### Chapter 309: Feed the Sharks

“You’re letting her off lightly by throwing her into a pond!”

Suddenly, with an eerie laughter, he threw the stack of photos he was holding into the air and said, “Chop her into pieces and feed her to the sharks. She will not be missed!”

The voice was as tender as ever, but at this moment, the tone was dark and sullen. The words that came pouring out of his mouth were cold and chilling, sending shivers down their backs!

Receiving the shock of her life, Yun Na scampered behind Li Dongqiang.

To her, Yun Tianyou was more terrifying than this old-time gangster!

Her mother, who was standing at the door, also held her breath in fear.

No one took this six-year-old's words as child's play.

Everyone could only watch the spine-chilling expression on his tender face.

The eyes he used to look at Yun Na were filled with hatred and cruelty. It was as if she were an utterly filthy thing.

“Little boy... Are you kidding me?” Dumbstruck, the gangster could only laugh dryly.

How can someone be so ruthless at such a young age?

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This is really scary.

“Am I kidding you?” He threw the question back in a low tone.

“Why would I tell you a meaningless joke when my time is precious?”

“Then...” The man cleared his throat. He was starting to be awestruck at this six- or seven-year-old lad. Licking his upper lip flap, he continued, “You mean to say...”

“I’ll give you the money, and you settle this business for me; do you understand?”

“...”

The gangster still could not wrap his head around this. His doubting eyes shifted on to Li Hanlin, who was standing beside the boy. He saw that the agent was looking at Yun Tianyou with deeply furrowed brows and eyes containing a myriad of emotions, such as heartache.

“Agent Li...”

“Youyou...” Li Hanlin suddenly squatted before the child, caught hold of his shoulders, and told him in a deeply saddened voice, “don’t be blinded by revenge.”

Youyou did not seem to hear him as he coldly instructed, “Pass him the money.”

The boy would not dirty his hands over such lowly folks; he would let others do the dirty work for him.

The agent’s face was still filled with complex emotions.

“Youyou...”

“I told you to give him the money; do you understand?” the boy repeated with a pale face. Holding the agent’s hand, he looked at him intently.

Li Hanlin fixed his eyes on the wan face before him and frowned once more. Hesitating as he stood up, he finally passed the check over to Li Dongqiang.

As if struck by lightning, the mother-daughter pair stood numbly on the spot.

The gangster seemed to be experienced in settling such matters.

He inspected the check, and once he was assured of its authenticity, he could not help feeling incredulous.

This is no simple child at all!

How does he possess the charisma of an exceptional adult and wealth at such a young age?

Although he still had no idea where this boy had come from, he knew that it might not be a good thing to know too much.

“Sure, then, I’ll take them away. Do you want me to take some pictures for your viewing pleasure once I’m done?”

He barely finished his words when Yun Na, who was at his feet, crawled to the boy and cried for mercy as she hugged his little frail body, “Youyou, Youyou... It’s aunt’s fault. I know it’s my fault! I was dumb in the past; I’m sorry! I swear I’ll never bully you again; I won’t bully your mommy, too!”

The child did not seem to hear her plea as he continued to stare straight ahead without sparing her a glance.

What an irony.

Chapter 310: You two do not know how to treasure the given chance.

What an irony.

In the past, Yun Na would look at him with disdain and would call him distasteful names.

Now, she was kneeling beside him and begging for mercy while kowtowing.

Li Hanlin, who was standing beside him, hatefully shook off her hands that were holding the boy's shoulders.

Li Qin was also crying tearfully before the boy as she crawled to him on her hands and feet, prostrating and begging for forgiveness.

“Youyou, are you really going to get rid of us? At least, for the sake of your grandfather, please let us go! This is murder; it's against the law and against your conscience!”

“Oh? I'm buying murder...” Yun Tianyou casually muttered and then, with an eerie smile, asked the room at large, “Who heard that?”

There was a deafening silence in the room.

Who would believe the words of a six-year-old child?

How would it be possible for a six-year-old child to instigate murder?!

In the suffocating silence, his adoptive aunt kept prostrating before him with her head repeatedly knocking hard against the floor as she

exclaimed hoarsely, “I’m sorry! I’m sorry! I’m sorry! I’m wrong; I know I’m in the wrong!”

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She cried wretchedly as she reached out to hold him.

The boy ignored her and coldly shook off her hands.

“Don’t touch me; you are filthy.”

“Wo... woo... wooo... Youyou...” Her tear-stained face looked desperate and pathetic.

“I can’t forgive...”

“I absolutely cannot forgive...”

He retracted his shoulders, turned around, and coldly retorted, “Li Qin, six years ago, you forced my mom to become an unwed mother at 18 years old. She sacrificed herself for the Yun family, but how did you treat her in the end?”

He continued, one word after another, “Li Qin, I’ve long wanted to get rid of you.”

Yun Na mournfully wept and begged again, “Please give us another chance!”

He rebuked, “I’ve given you many chances, but you two didn’t know how to treasure them!”

Li Qin was stunned.

“I strove to become powerful for my mother’s protection. You two tried harming her time and again, and now you’re asking me to forgive?! Impossible!”

With that, he turned and walked out of the ward.

Li Dongqiang’s henchmen arrived at the scene of Li Qin wailing after the little boy’s leaving back, “You can’t be so cruel!”

The boy refused to acknowledge her. He quickly departed from the room, leaving behind the two’s despondent voices.

When he reached his room, Yun Tianyou stood at the door, which was just closed after him, and started to tremble coldly and violently.

Li Hanlin was filled with heartache at this sight and held him tightly. The boy’s frail body could not stand up to such trauma and collapsed in his arms.

Although this child was not his flesh and blood, he had come to regard him as half his kin after working under him in the past one year.

His heart was full of admiration for the child at his unscrupulous ways of handling business.

Seeing the boy’s cute side before his mother and the innocent eyes he used to gaze at his mother, he could tell that they were not fake. They were truly his original true self.

However, hatred had blackened this purity.

He had thought that the boy was acting before everyone.

He no longer thought so after this incident.

What kind of childhood did this child have that made him commit such cruelty?

Cruel, indeed...

This was especially so for a child.

He had not fully understood Yun Tianyou's dark and gloomy past that resulted in his drastic desire to kill.

Under the dimming dusk, the man hugged the child tightly in his embrace with a heart-wrenching pain.

The Mu residence.

Mu Yazhe parked the car in the garage, walked into the hall, and saw Mu Sheng and Mu Wanrou waiting for him.

Grandmaster Mu was sitting on the master seat with a grim face. Mu Wanrou, who was kneeling beside him, was carefully massaging and kneading his legs from time to time.

The moment he saw his grandson enter, he snorted angrily and confronted, "You are finally back!"

Mu Yazhe greeted, "Grandpa."

Mu Wanrou wanted to speak when she saw him but kept quiet in the end.

Mu Sheng slammed the table with evident fury.

“Where did you go in the past two days?! Do you still remember that you have a home to return to here?!”

“I’m busy.”

“Busy?! What were you busy with?! Were you busy with a woman in bed?!” his grandfather furiously lambasted.

She hastily tried to soothe his fury. Gently caressing his rapidly heaving chest, she meekly commented, “Grandpa, don’t be mad. You have to take care of your health! He must be busy with work in the office; that’s why—”

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“Hmph! Is he really busy? Wanrou, you are always looking out for him, but has he ever been thoughtful to you?”

Her face froze as her eyes brimmed with grievances.

The atmosphere in the hall turned heavy and dark, hinting of the approach of a storm.

Mu Yazhe sat on the couch, looking serene as he brewed himself a cup of tea. He was apparently unaffected by his grandfather’s display of fury. His attitude further infuriated Mu Sheng.

“That Xiangti Walk garden house you bought; who did you give it to?” Mu Sheng asked gloomily as he looked at his grandson through narrowed eyes.

Mu Yazhe frowned for a second. Obviously, his every move recently was being monitored.

What he did a minute ago had swiftly reached his grandfather's ears.

He was rather unhappy when he learned of this, so he did not respond to his grandfather's interrogation.

“Are you not going to speak up?”

Seeing his unresponsiveness, the old man straightened his back and then threw a folder in front of his grandson. “At least explain this matter, then!”

Mu Yazhe took out the stack of information sheets and a few photos from the folder and flipped through them without any expression.

As expected, Grandmaster Mu had sent his men to investigate Yun Tianyou's identity.

Mu Wanrou, who was standing at one side, curiously walked over to take a closer look. Her expression froze and her heart plunged when she saw the photos!

She did not know that Mu Sheng had checked on that little boy.

She was completely ignorant of this.

She was secretly fuming; things had not gone according to her plan.

If her grandpa found out about that boy, then that would lead to Yun Shishi.

What if the investigation led to that matter that had happened over a decade ago...

She stifled a breath at the thought and her heart hung in the air for a second.

Mu Sheng was too angry to notice the change in her, though, and he coldly continued amid his obliviousness, “Have you checked thoroughly on this child yet?”

Mu Yazhe glanced up at Mu Wanrou, who was looking unsettled, and replied evenly, “No.”

“This child looks to be six or seven years old. How did that happen?!” the old man angrily retorted. “I don’t care how that child came about; in any case, Mu’s bloodline has to return to this family! Bring him back!”

She regained her composure and immediately said, “Grandpa, we can put this matter aside for now! We haven’t even determined this child’s identity yet. This is quite a hasty conclusion, isn’t it?”

Her grandpa snorted, “This child seems to have been cast in the same mold as Little Yichen. This alone is sufficient evidence of the boy’s kinship to our family! Identity can be fabricated but not his DNA!”

## Chapter 311: Monitoring

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Mu Wanrou wanted to speak when she saw him but kept quiet in the end.

Mu Sheng slammed the table with evident fury.

“Where did you go in the past two days?! Do you still remember that you have a home to return to here?!”

“I’m busy.”

“Busy?! What were you busy with?! Were you busy with a woman in bed?!” his grandfather furiously lambasted.

She hastily tried to soothe his fury. Gently caressing his rapidly heaving chest, she meekly commented, “Grandpa, don’t be mad. You have to take care of your health! He must be busy with work in the office; that’s why—”

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“Hmph! Is he really busy? Wanrou, you are always looking out for him, but has he ever been thoughtful to you?”

Her face froze as her eyes brimmed with grievances.

The atmosphere in the hall turned heavy and dark, hinting of the approach of a storm.

Mu Yazhe sat on the couch, looking serene as he brewed himself a cup of tea. He was apparently unaffected by his grandfather's display of fury. His attitude further infuriated Mu Sheng.

“That Xiangti Walk garden house you bought; who did you give it to?” Mu Sheng asked gloomily as he looked at his grandson through narrowed eyes.

Mu Yazhe frowned for a second. Obviously, his every move recently was being monitored.

What he did a minute ago had swiftly reached his grandfather's ears.

He was rather unhappy when he learned of this, so he did not respond to his grandfather's interrogation.

“Are you not going to speak up?”

Seeing his unresponsiveness, the old man straightened his back and then threw a folder in front of his grandson. “At least explain this matter, then!”

Mu Yazhe took out the stack of information sheets and a few photos from the folder and flipped through them without any expression.

As expected, Grandmaster Mu had sent his men to investigate Yun Tianyou's identity.

Mu Wanrou, who was standing at one side, curiously walked over to take a closer look. Her expression froze and her heart plunged when she saw the photos!

She did not know that Mu Sheng had checked on that little boy.

She was completely ignorant of this.

She was secretly fuming; things had not gone according to her plan.

If her grandpa found out about that boy, then that would lead to Yun Shishi.

What if the investigation led to that matter that had happened over a decade ago...

She stifled a breath at the thought and her heart hung in the air for a second.

Mu Sheng was too angry to notice the change in her, though, and he coldly continued amid his obliviousness, "Have you checked thoroughly on this child yet?"

Mu Yazhe glanced up at Mu Wanrou, who was looking unsettled, and replied evenly, "No."

"This child looks to be six or seven years old. How did that happen?!" the old man angrily retorted. "I don't care how that child came about; in any case, Mu's bloodline has to return to this family! Bring him back!"

She regained her composure and immediately said, “Grandpa, we can put this matter aside for now! We haven’t even determined this child’s identity yet. This is quite a hasty conclusion, isn’t it?”

Her grandpa snorted, “This child seems to have been cast in the same mold as Little Yichen. This alone is sufficient evidence of the boy’s kinship to our family! Identity can be fabricated but not his DNA!”

Mu Wanrou felt terrified at his statement.

Mu Yazhe kept his silence. Grandpa Mu noticed his reticence and breathed out his rage, “Give me an explanation for this A.S.A.P.!”

“You called me back just for this?” His brows creased.

He was planning to bring in Youyou to the Mu family, but now was not that moment!

He held concrete evidence in his hands, but this was not the time to reveal them!

“Of course, not!” Mu Sheng’s wrath simmered, and he said in a suppressed voice, “Quickly decide on your marriage with Wanrou.”

Upon hearing that, a trace of delight crept across her face. Acting bashful, she said, “Grandpa, why are you talking about this all of a sudden...”

“Marriage?” Mu Yazhe’s eyes twitched precariously.

“What? If you don’t decide now, how long do you plan to drag this out, then? She’s your fiancée and your childhood playmate. Now

that you are both of age, your marriage naturally can't be delayed! Doing it at a later time will not put my mind at ease!" Grandpa Mu banged his walking stick against the floor as he grumbled in annoyance.

She observed the young man's emotionless face and her heart skipped a beat. Hugging her grandpa's shoulders, she pretended to be hesitant, "Grandpa, we're not prepared yet..."

"What do you need to prepare for a wedding? You both are already engaged for so long, yet you drag on your wedding ceremony. There will naturally be suspicions and murmurs circulating out there! Moreover, Wanrou, it's not that grandpa wants to nag at you, even if Yazhe hasn't set his heart on this, you should! Are you willing to let him be snatched away by another woman right before your eyes?"

(vit(function()){)

Saying this, he scrutinized his grandson's face and said in a low voice, "Wanrou has been faithful to you for so long; I forbid you from letting her down! Hurry with the preparations for your wedding; do you understand?"

Mu Yazhe went quiet for a while, and all of a sudden, his lips formed a profound curve. "I understand, grandpa."

"Good!" His answer was like a dose of tranquilizer to Grandpa Mu, and the latter's mind was finally put at ease.

She was unusually pleased as well. She thought that he would evade talking about this whichever way possible; she had not expected him to agree to it right away!

“Wanrou, you two must be happy together!” Grandpa Mu was over the moon and he patted the back of her hand with a benevolent appearance.

She expressed reservedly, “Thank you, grandpa!”

“Grandpa, I’m tired; I’ll retire to my room,” Mu Yazhe said vacuously and then went up the stairs.

Grandpa Mu then gave Mu Wanrou a signal through his eyes. The latter understood and promptly followed the man to his room while holding up her skirt.

Once he entered his room, he removed his blazer unhurriedly. Seeing this, she volunteered in a saccharine voice, “Zhe, let me help you...”

She hurried to help him change. The man eyed her detachedly from his peripheral view and shrugged off her help.

She stood rooted to the ground.

She was slightly perplexed at his aloofness.

“Zhe...”

She felt uneasy. Giving it another thought, she finally mustered her courage to speak, “Recently, you seem to be treating me rather coldly. Why?”

He did not spare her a glance and, instead, stared into the distance outside the French window. Casually tugging at his tie to remove his blouse, he asked rather indifferently, “Am I?”

Her heart clenched, and she answered with vexation, “Of course, you are. You’re always unconcerned of me. Why is that so?”

“Hasn’t this always been the case?”

His casualness aggravated her discomfiture, but she had no other choice, and it was impossible for her to back out as well.

She had truly reached an impasse.

Grandpa Mu’s voice echoed in her ears. ‘If the man doesn’t initiate, you, as a woman, should put down your reserve accordingly...’

### Chapter 313: Will You Take Me?

Grandpa Mu’s voice echoed in her ears. ‘If the man doesn’t initiate, you, as a woman, should put down your reserve accordingly...’

Her pride was her reserve.

She had once been reserved.

Mu Yazhe was like a carefree yet arrogant gust of wind with that temperament of his, though. In his presence, she was totally lost on how to start a talk and gain his interest.

Since they were kids, he had always been distant toward her. On the one hand he was surely opposed to this marriage, but on the other hand he was probably totally uninterested in her.

Her hands clenched into fists. She slowly stepped forward and questioned, “Zhe, why don’t you touch me at all?”

He slightly widened his eyes, which were cold and piercing, yet he did not spout a word.

She observed him casually pulling off his necktie and removing his blouse before her. From his calm and lackluster expression, she could tell that he was acting as if she were invisible just like the wind.

The embarrassment Mu Wanrou felt was magnified.

Noticing that he was about to enter the bathroom, she hurriedly took a nervous stride forward and, while forcing out a smile, continued her questioning, “Is it because I don’t attract you at all, or is it that I’m not working hard enough...”

She paused for a while and then she suddenly proceeded, “If you want, I can take the initiative.”

(vit(function)())

He tilted his head impatiently.

BANG! The sound of the bathroom door slamming shut was his reply to her.

Click.

The door was even locked.

Her legs gave way, becoming limp as if they were in a state of prostration. She swept through her hair in irritation. She was hurting too much and she wanted to cry badly, but no tears would come flowing out.

This man had always been this cold to everyone else.

During his teens, he was never friendly to her.

When she first entered the Mu family and saw the man, the younger him gave off a throbbing coldness – he avoided anyone who wanted to get close to him.

She admitted to this.

For such a long time, she consoled herself with the fact that he never had any woman.

However, toward that Yun Shishi, why...

How good was she to actually move this man's cold heart?

At the thought of this, the rage from within her heart intensified.

No. I have to act fast.

Since that Aaron was so useless, she needed to think of another way to remove that thorn at her side as quickly as possible!

The door to the bathroom slid open.

He stepped out in a cotton bathrobe. His long and lean figure, as well as his sexy and well-defined muscles, was exposed from the slightly open neckline.

He seemed more poised and sumptuous now.

His damp hair appeared to be a little disheveled, but it did not diminish his handsomeness; rather, it accentuated his attractiveness.

Seeing that she was still around, a trace of detest flashed past his eyes.

“Why are you still here?”

She mumbled, albeit cautiously, “Grandpa told me... to sleep in your room tonight.”

“With me?” the man questioned her emotionlessly. He casually lit a cigarette and drew in a deep breath.

He seldom smoked, unless there was an important social event or he was feeling extremely frustrated.

She could tell that, tonight, he was not in a good mood.

She, nonetheless, had a sudden bout of stubbornness and would not budge.

“Zhe, you’re still probably not ready. I don’t want it to happen this fast as well... but grandpa’s physical condition isn’t very good, and I can only go according to his wishes! He insisted on me doing this! I don’t wish to anger him, as I’m afraid that it will aggravate his condition!”

He squinted his winsome eyes in scrutiny of her.

She actually brought out such a pompous reason! What a joke!

“Zhe... will you take me?”

She shyly and gently undid the buttons on her dress and slowly shifted closer to him.

Chapter 314: Put on your clothes and get lost.

She shyly and gently undid the buttons on her dress and slowly shifted closer to him.

Her long dress slipped off her body and fell to the ground in a heap as she inched her way to him. Her fair and smooth body became totally exposed in the cold, crisp air.

A veil of anger flashed across his face as the pupils in his eyes contracted.

“Zhe, I give myself to you tonight. Will you please want me?”

The woman walked up to him; her arms slowly circled around the man’s sturdy waist, and she gently placed her soft lips on his chest.

She tried to melt his hardened heart with her sweet tenderness.

As she was hoping the man to make the next move—

The man’s frosty voice was heard over her head. “Put them on.”

“... What?” She looked up and stared into his penetrating orbs in surprise.

“Put on your clothes and get lost!”

It was still that frosty tone.

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Before she could react, he roughly grabbed her chin and told her with a look of disgust, “Even if you want this, you have to see if I’m interested with what you offer first. My advice to you is: don’t waste your time flirting with me. Don’t you think you are cheap?”

“Cheap?”

He asked in return, “Why? Isn’t it so? Don’t you find yourself repulsive?”

“I...”

He pushed her away. “If you want to seduce me, please use some real skill, or you’ll only make me feel more disgusted.”

She fell heavily on the floor and squirmed in pain.

Utterly embarrassed, humiliated, and despondent, her eyes moistened and turned red as she cried, “What kind of woman do you like?! I can change for you! Do you like the pure and innocent type like Yun Shishi?! Is that so?!”

“If you have half of what she has, you probably won’t be as distasteful as you are now.”

She was very stunned, and tears overflowed from her eyes.

The man could not be bothered to look at her. Finding her utterly revolting, he flipped her dress on her with his toe and told her off, “Get lost!”

Footsteps sounded from outside the door all of a sudden.

Without warning, Little Yichen’s tender voice was heard after a knock at the door.

“Daddy, can I come in?”

Seeing that the door was unlocked, the boy stood on tiptoe and pushed it open to the unbearable sight.

She was down on the floor with a dress that barely covered her nude body. His father was standing at one side with a gloomy look on his face.

“Daddy...” The child was startled, going red on the face, and quickly averted his eyes. “I... Sorry...”

“Come here,” his father called out to him as he bent down slightly.

Little Yichen’s face was still burning hot. He had never seen a nude woman in his life.

This was one of the taboos inculcated to him as part of his early education about the etiquette a gentleman should uphold.

Hearing his father’s call for him, he covered his eyes and went straight to his arms.

The man held the boy up as he covered his eyes with his broad palm. He threw a cold glance at her from his profile, telling her with it to get lost.

She quickly wore her dress and fled in shame and anger.

The door was closed again, and the room returned to its former peace.

Little Yichen pushed away his father's thick and broad palm and then quizzically asked, "Daddy, why wasn't mommy wearing her clothes?"

"She was feeling warm," the man placidly fibbed.

"... It's cold and raining outside," the boy mumbled, his heart was still beating furiously from the earlier shock.

"Have you finished your homework?"

"Eh! I've completed it long ago," the boy smilingly replied as he hugged his father's neck. "Daddy, can I sleep with you tonight?"

"Yes."

Chapter 314: Put on your clothes and get lost.

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“Yes.”

Chapter 315: How is that possible?

When Yun Shishi reached the hospital, it was already past midnight.

Maybe, it was because she had not slept a wink for a night that, as she was tidying the washed clothes, she dozed off on the sofa.

In the end, she was woken up by Qin Zhou’s call.

“Remember to turn up at Huanyu for the contract signing next Monday! Shishi, congratulations on your contract with our agency; this is your first step to a successful career!”

He called to remind her that she had an appointment at Huanyu Entertainment that upcoming Monday.

She hung up the phone once their talk ended and looked out the window. It was pouring outside.

She could not help feeling dazed.

She had really entered the entertainment industry. Would her career advance smoothly from here on ?

She rushed to the hospital. As she hurriedly pushed open the door to the hospital room, she was taken aback by the extravagance of the special care unit.

Inside the waiting area, Youyou was sitting in Yun Yecheng's arms and aimlessly flipping through the comics the latter had bought for him.

It was sheer boredom that got him flipping through a comic book he would hardly touch on other days. Barefoot, he plunged headlong into her arms the moment he saw her.

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“Mommy, you're here finally! I thought you're going to leave Youyou alone again!”

“Why would I do that?” She reached out her hand and gently ruffled his hair. Her heart settled when she saw that colors had returned on his wan face.

She gave him a smile and asked, “Has Youyou eaten yet?”

“I did. If Youyou had to wait for stupid mommy to send the food over, Youyou would evaporate into steam from hunger!” he complained and then pouted.

It was a grumbling tone.

She did not know whether to laugh or cry at his words. “You’ve learned a new descriptive phrase, huh; did your principal teach you that, too?”

Cough! “Youyou has a good mother for a teacher,” Li Hanlin, who was standing at the side, awkwardly commented.

Youyou heard this and coolly added, “My mommy neither supervises my homework nor sends me to any enrichment classes.”

Basically, she held a laissez-faire approach to his education. She did not want to add unnecessary pressure on him as she believed he should enjoy his childhood properly.

Yun Yecheng made a call to Li Qin, which the latter did not pick up.

When he went over to Yun Na’s ward, the two were already gone.

Somehow, he could not reach either of them, as if they had disappeared into thin air.

He did not pursue the matter further despite his suspicion.

...

A van was speeding on the road in the middle of the night.

Inside the pitch-black interior, Yun Na slowly regained consciousness. A sharp pain shot through her body the moment she opened her eyes and recalled what had happened earlier.

Li Dongqiang forcibly took her from the hospital and tied her up along with her mother before dumping them inside this speeding van.

She put up a fierce struggle and tearfully begged for mercy. She could never have imagined herself ending up in such a dire state; great fear took hold of her.

What happened... How did this happen?

How did that Yun Tianyou turn out to be so capable? He was only six years old. How could he be so unconscientious at such a young age?

She remembered that man in a suit respectfully addressing him as 'Director Yun'.

Director Yun? At that young age?

She could not make head or tail of this entire affair.

Li Dongqiang had knocked her out cold with a blow on the head when she cried and resisted. She recalled darkness descending on her and then she blacked out right after.

When she came to, she was in this enclosed space with no ventilation. It was hot and stuffy. She wanted to scream for help and found that she was duct-taped. Other than whimpering, she could not form a sound.

After some struggling, she finally managed to sit up, and this was when she felt something soft at her feet.

Chapter 316: The Horn of Death

After some struggling, she finally managed to sit up, and this was when she felt something soft at her feet.

She jumped back in horror, retreating her body into a corner until she realized, with a shock, that it was another body at her feet.

The body still felt warm to the touch. From the fabric material wrapping the body, she deduced that it was her mother lying on the floor.

Frightened, she arched toward Li Qin. That was what finally shook the mother-daughter pair alert. In this tight and cramped space, the two fell into a frenzied panicky state.

From her faint blurry vision, Yun Na could vaguely make out their presence in this speeding vehicle.

The question right now, however, was where were they going.

After many twists and turns on the road, the vehicle came to a sudden halt, followed by deafening silence.

Enveloped by fear, her shoulders quaked. She had lost her ability to think and only wished for time to stop moving right at this instant!

She could only imagine what would come next to her. Would she be going to hell?

Her thoughts ran wild amid her trembling.

Just as she was feeling lost and helpless, the rear door of the van was suddenly pull opened loudly.

(vit(function())()

With a dangling cigarette in his mouth, Li Dongqiang stood outside the van with his men. He was sniggering when he yanked her out of the van by the hair.

He frowned in annoyance when she let out a scream. Swinging a slap, he snapped, “Keep it down! What are you making a racket for?”

Whimpering, she looked at him through her moist eyes. Her lips were prevented from opening by a duct tape. All that could be heard were her faltering sniffles. She prostrated to the ground, begging for mercy.

Her head hit the ground hard with every kowtow. She did all she could to demonstrate her sincerest regrets. Facing great fear and terror, she could no longer feel the pain!

She could only numbly repeat her kowtows in hopes of evoking pity from him to spare her life!

She knew that this man was ruthless and had hands stained with the blood of the many lives he had taken.

She saw him kill someone at point-blank before. The victim’s brain matters scattered with a gun blast that sent her vomiting in horror!

She was young back then and only thought that he was cool and manly, but now that she was facing the same situation, she came to the realization that life was frail!

She did not want to die!

Her begging did not garner sympathy from anyone.

The man snorted loudly, shook his head, and said, “Yun Na, ah, Yun Na; if you just learned your lesson early on, you wouldn’t be in this state now, right? It’s no use begging me. I’m only carrying out his orders in exchange for his money!”

She was absolutely terrified by now as she doubled up her kowtows.

The fear in her heart heightened infinitely as death loomed before her face.

At first, when she found out that she had been defaced, she felt hopeless and considered committing suicide, but right now, with the ‘death’ word being dangled before her, she found her strong survival instinct springing up from within her!

She did not want to die. Oh, yes, she did not want to die!

Even with just a tiny breath left, she still wanted to live on!

Li Qin was also hurled off the vehicle. Her body lifelessly collapsed on the ground, not having extra energy to beg for mercy.

Unlike her daughter, who was still young, she was already getting on in years, so she had poor stamina. The winding journey on the road had caused her head to ache and to vomit excessively all over herself.

Even Li Dongqiang found her appearance too repulsive to look at.

The strong night wind at the sea port blew harshly against their faces.

Empty and distant, the sirens of the sea vessels could be heard.

This sound was like the horn of death being blown into.

## Chapter 317: Their New Home

At the shocking realization of where they were, she fossilized on the spot.

They were at the sea port...

Was Li Dongqiang really going to follow the boy's instruction to a T and feed them to the sharks?

“Do you have any last words?” The man looked at her sympathetically. After all, she had followed them since she was in junior high and inevitably gave raise to having some ‘playmate attachments’ toward her.

This was a rare moment of kindness from him.

She shook her wan face; she did not want to die!

However, he mistook that for not having any parting words and signaled the men beside him with his eyes.

“Remember to do a clean job!”

“Understood, Brother Qiang!”

He sniggered, stooped in front of her, and stroked her head in farewell. “Er, poor girl, tell me; why are you so stupid? It’s not that your brother here doesn’t want to help you. No matter what, we used to be close in some ways, but you tricked me first, so don’t blame me for being unkind now.”

With that, he stood up and watched his henchmen drag the two away.

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She desperately kicked her legs in an attempt to escape as she broke down into tears.

A freighter was moored quietly in the harbor.

Li Dongqiang was not a typical ruffian. He had powerful connections to the mafia and the criminal world. Arms dealing, drug trafficking, money laundering – he had hands on anything that could be found on the black market. As such, it was understandable that he had a freighter under his name.

His henchmen threw the two on the vessel deck. Plop! Li Qin’s head hit the railing and she passed out.

Yun Na could only watch the freighter leave the port, a feeling of hopelessness growing inside her...

...

Yun Tianyou’s condition soon stabilized, and the doctor in charge, after giving some prescription, deemed him well enough to be discharged on Sunday.

On the day of his discharge, the hospital staff, from the primary attending physician down to the director, lined up at the hospital entrance to send them off.

“...”

Yun Shishi was left speechless by such a high-profile treatment.

The day before his discharge, she cleaned the house, spending half a day tidying up his study room.

When the car rolled into Xiangti Walk district, Yun Yecheng had a queer look on his face.

“Shishi, have we come to the wrong place? Why are we here? This is the district for the rich!”

She awkwardly replied, “Dad, we are in the right place...”

As the three of them stood in front of the gate, Yun Tianyou also had a strange look on his face.

“Mommy, this isn’t our home, right?”

“This is our new home.” Holding her chin, she deliberated on a better way to explain this to her family.

That man had unbelievably given her a garden house as a gift, somehow.

“A house here costs a few million yuan on average! Shishi... you...”

Her father's face turned wan as he regarded her with incredulous eyes.

“You may not believe this...” taking a deep breath, she explained, “but I exchanged this with two bowls of noodles.”

Youyou: “...”

Yun Yecheng: “...”

Who would believe this ?!

Both of them fell silent.

Two bowls of noodles in exchange for a house that cost a few million yuan ?

What kind of an international joke was this ?

Youyou, who was frowning, thought of something and suddenly broke into a quiet smile.

He knew who had gifted her this.

Anyway, he was not comfortable with the former apartment. That place was rather messy and unsafe. This was especially the case at night; danger lurked at every corner near the apartment with that bad neighborhood lying on its east side.

Xiangti Walk district, under Dragon Court Property Group, belonged to Disheng Financial Group.

In terms of safety and security, this place could not be faulted.

## Chapter 318: Neighbor

The three of them were about to enter the gate when they heard a heavy motorcycle rolling in from a distance.

Startled, Yun Shishi turned around and saw a smart-looking motorcycle parking in front of a house's garage door. A slender figure greeted their eyes.

A tall and lean youth was seen wearing a trench coat with biker pants wrapped around a pair of long, slender legs.

The youth took off the helmet and revealed a head of spiky short hair dyed silvery grey. They could see pretty eyes when the shades were removed on the face.

“Neighbor?”

“So tall...”

She finally responded once the youth walked toward another house not far from theirs.

It turned out that they were neighbors!

“That person looks familiar. Have I met that man before?”

“Stupid mommy, that's not a man...” Youyou resignedly replied.

“She's a singer known by her stage name Jun Mo. She has just released her latest album. Her singing, coupled with that androgynous looks, gains her quite a following.”

“How did you know all that?” She looked at her son in surprise.

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From what she remembered, Youyou was uninterested in music. In fact, he was a complete music idiot.

“Because... I’ve seen her on TV,” he replied.

What she did not know was that Youyou had already gone through the list of artistes under Huanyu Entertainment in preparation for her contract signing to the company.

Therefore, he had some impression of the female singer.

“Dad, don’t just stand there; the room is ready for you. Let’s go!” she said this to her father.

“I’m...” Yun Yecheng was still somewhat hesitant.

He was planning to return to his previous residence once Youyou got discharged from hospital.

He looked down to peer at Youyou and saw the latter looking at him as well. That made him even guiltier, and he let out a sigh.

Youyou turned to look at his mother first before he turned his head to address his grandpa smilingly, “Grandpa, come and stay with us, alright?”

“?” He was a little surprised to hear this invitation from his grandson.

He reckoned that the little boy had not forgiven him yet! In fact, he thought that the barrier between them could never be eradicated.

The boy brightened up. “Grandpa, don’t worry. Mommy’s wish is to be a filial daughter and to look after you for the rest of your life. You are getting on in years; we should look after you!”

“Youyou is such a good boy!” She joyfully gave a kiss on her son’s cheek, looked up, and said, “Dad, you see? Even Youyou said so. The child is so filial; do you really bear to reject his request?”

“Yes, yes, yes...” He kept nodding and acquiescing with tears rimming his lower eyelids.

The three of them happily chatted all the way into the garden house.

...

Monday.

Yun Shishi got up early, tidied herself up, and wore the appropriate attire before rushing to Huanyu’s headquarters.

The night before, Qin Zhou specially sent out a message reminding her not to be late.

Tradition dictated that a personal interview would be conducted by Huanyu’s head producer prior to the contract signing ceremony.

The head producer, Ji Lin, also nicknamed Ji Yanluo<sup>1</sup>, was famed for being very strict and very particular at the time of appointments. He was merciless to anyone who would not be punctual.

There was once a promising newcomer who was late for the appointment and got the contract canceled as a corollary. There was no second chance.

There was still an hour left before her interview, and she was already at the door, ready to leave her place, but for some reason, she could not hail a taxi. As she watched the time tick past, she became agitated.

1. In Chinese mythology, King Yanluo is the King of Hades.

Chapter 319: Jun Mo

Just as she started feeling anxious, a Maserati steadily halted in front of her. A handsome yet effeminate ‘man’ appeared once the vehicle’s window was rolled down.

Yun Shishi’s brows slightly knitted when she recognized him!

No, it was a ‘her’.

Jun Mo lived in the house next to theirs.

Seeing that the vehicle had intentionally stopped in front of her, Yun Shishi greeted the woman inside in a friendly manner, “Hello!”

Jun Mo removed her glasses and scanned her with a pair of beautiful eyes. Her lips slightly formed a curve.

“Get in.”

Yun Shishi was a little dazed at her two-word invitation.

“Huh? What do you mean?”

“It’s hard to get a cab here.” Her voice was deep with a distinct rawness and sexless quality to it. If one were not to listen carefully, they might be unable to tell whether it belonged to a male or a female.

Although it was a little abrupt, time was of the essence, so disregarding how unreasonable it was, she immediately nodded. “... Thanks!”

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She opened the rear door and got in the back seat. Jun Mo skillfully maneuvered the car and, stepping on its accelerator, it swiftly left the grounds of Xiangti Walk.

Yun Shishi placed the bag to her side and curiously roamed her eyes over the car’s interior. Her eyes laid on the handsome face in the rearview mirror.

She used ‘handsome’ to describe her because, regardless of her aura or attire, Jun Mo had an androgynous feel to her; she had a man’s poise and grace but also a woman’s refinement and delicacy.

Her handsomeness was undefined by gender. Her phoenix eyes in particular were deep-set and attractive. For a moment, even she was mesmerized.

Jun Mo raised her eyes and met her scrutinizing gaze through the rearview mirror.

Yun Shishi awkwardly retracted her gaze.

It was damp and freezing in the vehicle.

The weather at dawn was a little chilly after an overnight shower.

The air inside the car was slightly cooling, and on top of that, she was only wearing flimsy garments, so it could not be helped that she felt cold.

The singer flashed a glance at her troubled face, and her thin lips pried apart, “Cold?”

“Mm! A little.”

The singer returned her gaze to the front and, without saying another word, turned on the heater.

A while later, the entire vehicle was filled with warmth.

Yun Shishi was moved by her thoughtfulness and immediately expressed her gratitude. The corner of Jun Mo’s lips flipped upward, but she did not say anything. She simply took out a stick from her cigarette pack and lit it with practiced ease.

Her lighter was a limited commemorative edition of Zippo’s Keeper of the Flame. It was rare to see it on the market.

The fragrance of her cigarette diffused within the vehicle.

It was neither strong nor pungent. On the contrary, it was quite pleasant-smelling and, at the very least, it was not distasteful.

The journey to the headquarters was spent in silence.

The vehicle traveled at high speed, and the scenery outside constantly flashed by.

“You’re called Yun Shishi, right?”

“Yes.” She was surprised. “How did you know my name?”

“I saw you at the gala.” Jun Mo went silent for a moment, as if she were thinking of how to word her thought, and, ultimately, decided with two simple words. “Very beautiful.”

Yun Shishi blushed and then grinned. “Thank you.”

This was a little unexpected.

Jun Mo seemed to be proud and unapproachable, but she was, in fact, not as reserved as she appeared to be – she was surprisingly friendly.

She said, “It’s a good opportunity to be signed on to Huanyu. Do treasure it.”

“Yes, I will!”

The vehicle drove into Huanyu Tower in no time.

“Dropping you off here. I’ll go park the car.” She left her with these words as she headed for the parking garage.

She was overwhelmed by her kindness.

It felt as if she were in a dream; everything seemed surreal.

After all, growing up, other than Xiao Xue, very few women had treated her this nicely.

## Chapter 320: Huanyu's Ace

After all, growing up, other than Xiao Xue, very few women had treated her this nicely.

She was probably turned into a socially awkward person by her dark past; thus, be it interacting with others or doing something else, she was mindful of her every action. Having very few friends, she treasured this seldom-received kindness.

She lowered her gaze to look at the time. She was still early for the interview.

As she exited the elevator, Qin Zhou seemed to have just reached the company as well. He was quite surprised to see her. "Ah, Shishi! You're so early!"

"Mhm! I couldn't hail a cab at my doorstep. Luckily, someone let me hitch a ride, so I was able to arrive here on time."

"Someone drove you here? Who?" He was puzzled by the coincidence.

"She seems to be called... Jun Mo." She learned her name from Youyou.

Jun Mo?

He furrowed his brows. “Where are you staying right now?”

“Xiangti Walk.”

He was flabbergasted. Xiangti Walk was well-known for being a luxury residence in the capital, and she lived there?

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“That’s a very luxurious place! How did you manage to buy a property there?”

“I struck the lottery,” she answered sheepishly without going into details.

“... What good luck.” He let out a sigh from the bottom of his heart.

As he led her into the office, something came to his mind, and he asked, “Do you have a driving license?”

“Yes, but I can’t drive.”

“Miss Yun Shishi, how stupid can you be?” he asked rhetorically.

Feeling helpless, she asked in return, “Are you blaming me for not knowing how to drive?”

“Mm. Fine! After you sign the contract, I’ll arrange a service for you, which will specially drive you back and forth to work.”

Amidst his nagging, they reached his office. He passed her several forms to fill in and reminded her patiently, “Your interviewer later is Huanyu’s head producer, and as his nickname of Ji Yanluo [King of

Hades] suggests, he's a very strict person, so be careful with what you say during the interview.”

“Mm. I will.”

She had just filled in the forms when she looked up. “If I sign the contract, will I have a manager?”

“Yes.” Qin Zhou retrieved the documents from her and read them thoroughly.

“Who will it be?”

“He he! Of course, it'll be me!” he smilingly declared. “Xingze specially requested me to take care of you. I'll lead you properly if you sign the contract with me!”

Qin Zhou was Huanyu's top manager. Regardless of his skills, his resources, or even his background, everything was top-class. Just simply having a noteworthy accomplishment of bringing Gu Xingze to fame, across Huanyu Entertainment, none could compare to him.

Even for a natural idol like Gu Xingze, without Qin Zhou's support, his current position would very likely be unattainable.

One had to admit that he was a formidable character. If others were to say that Gu Xingze was this entertainment empire's only king, then Qin Zhou could only be described as the secretary of state who supported the emperor wholeheartedly.

Gu Xingze had managed to land himself a role in a Hollywood blockbuster movie upon his debut; he had also secured the endorsement for the products of several fashion companies; lastly, a

large sum of money was spent to produce his album... All of these were possible simply because Qin Zhou provided him with the necessary resources and connections.

What was the most important thing in the entertainment industry?

Listing them out from the most to the least of importance, everything went as follows: resources, background, skills, talent, aptitude, and looks.

Looks could be remolded; the lack of skills was fine as well. However, resources and background were things that, more often than not, could not be asked for.

No one in the entertainment industry dared to talk tough or groom whomever they wanted, but Qin Zhou simply had the guts to do so. No matter who it was, if he was determined, he could support one relentlessly, and the star would surely rise to fame under his care.

Many famous celebrities expressed their desire for him to manage them and even tempted him with lots of money into doing so, yet he remained unmoved.

He only had one artiste, Gu Xingze, under his care. All his resources were used on him, and others could only stay pressed.

Chapter 321: Indentures

He only had one artiste, Gu Xingze, under his care. All his resources were used on him, and others could only stay pressed.

The entertainment industry was fraught with danger, and it lurked at every corner; naturally, Gu Xingze would feel uneasy leaving Yun Shishi under the care of another manager.

He was afraid that she would be completely devoured.

Therefore, putting aside his resources, at least, given his skills and background, Qin Zhou was an absolutely reliable manager; Gu Xingze would only be at ease if it was his manager taking charge of her.

Qin Zhou prompted her. “Fill out these forms first. The head producer’s office is just next door. When it is time, I’ll bring you to him.”

Only two offices were located on the 18th floor of Huanyu Tower; one belonged to Ji Lin and the other to Qin Zhou. From this, it was evident that Qin Zhou played a crucial role in Huanyu.

She had just finished filling out a stack of documents when Qin Zhou magically appeared with yet another pile.

She was momentarily rendered speechless. “... Why are there so many?”

“These are all contract templates. Look through them closely, and after your interview, the head producer will sign them.”

“They’re not indentures, are they?” She eyed him with suspicion.

“...” He abruptly rolled his eyes in response and answered with an evil grin, “Yes, they’re indentures. Quickly sign them, and then you’ll be mine!”

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“...”

Qin Zhou was a great person, except that his mouth was a bit coarse.

She still remembered that time she was at EMPRESS Fashion Center. This man spouted a few words that pricked the sore spot of Shao Group's Shao Dong; the latter then gave him a menacing glare, which seemed to wish for the former's destruction.

Feeling a little odd, she quickly asked him, “You seem to be free today. Where's Xingze?”

“He's in Milan for a fashion show. He'll be back the day after tomorrow.” Answering her question, he suddenly teased, “Why, you miss him?”

“Stop with the nonsense,” she said, annoyed.

He snorted. “You really are heartless!”

He paused for a heartbeat and then started gossiping again. “Frankly speaking, Xingze seems to be a little too concerned with you. Look at him being cute; heading off to Milan for the fashion show, he left me alone in the company to settle his mess.”

“A mess?”

Qin Zhou pinched his brows with his fingers and replied wearily, “Yes, a big mess.”

He would obviously not let her in on this. For her sake, his artiste had even offended Yang Shoucheng.

Busy dealing with this mess, he had not gotten a good night's sleep for the past few days.

He did not know what had gotten into that brat. Out of all people, he just had to offend the big boss of Euro King Entertainment. A big shot.

During Hong Kong movies' golden age, Yang Shoucheng's position in the entertainment industry was immovable.

Now that Hong Kong movies were in decline, his position remained unshakable up there.

He actually went and injured him ?

Qin Zhou did not mind the hassle, but if the Gu family were to catch wind of Gu Xingze's recent actions, it would be troublesome. For sure, there would be discontent.

Gu Xingze's elder brother was a tougher nut to crack than Yang Shoucheng.

He was in a terrible fix...

“What's the matter?”

As soon as she asked this, a ruckus was heard from outside.

Qin Zhou wrinkled his brows and opened the door, only to be met by Tang Yu, who was stopped outside the head producer's office. She

wanted to barge in, but she was impeded by Ji Lin's assistant. Tang Yu's assistant was in a deadlock with the other, and they gazed at each other in speechless dismay.

“Why is she here? Hasn't her contract already been terminated?” Qin Zhou sneered as he muttered, “She even has the guts to look for Ji Yanluo. She's obviously asking for trouble.”

“Tang Yu? Contract terminated?” Yun Shishi gossiped at once.  
“Why was her contract terminated?”

Chapter 322: A Pitiful Person Surely Has Something Hateful to Them

“Tang Yu? Contract terminated?” Yun Shishi gossiped at once.  
“Why was her contract terminated?”

Qin Zhou looked over to her and roasted, “Madam, don't you read the entertainment news? You are about to enter show business. Do pay more attention to the news going around you!”

“He he...” She muttered sheepishly. “I don't usually watch TV.”

“You... seriously...”

“Say it.” She had a burning desire to gossip.

He sneered. “What happened? News of her following the unspoken rules spread all over the town. All along, Huanyu places heavy emphasis on the image of its artistes. With her name tainted, who else could we kick out other than her? She's an artiste, yet she has

scandals to her name. Quite a few advertising companies have retracted their contracts with her. The movie productions she signed up for were forced to find a replacement and have her scenes edited out, thus suffering enormous losses. She even has to pay the company a hefty fine.”

The corner of Yun Shishi’s lips twitched. “Unspoken rules?”

She was still fine at the gala, yet within a few days, this unforeseen event happened to her.

Everything had changed since then.

SMACK!

Qin Zhou did not bother explaining so much and simply threw a stack of newspapers before her.

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She flipped through them leisurely and knitted her brows in shock.

Wow...

This was too explosive.

Little did she know that this was a quirk of fate. If Mu Yazhe had not appeared in time, the person appearing in the news would have been her.

However, this person had yet to get the whole picture and simply took pleasure in reading the news.

Tang Yu's scandal grabbed the headlines for several days, and even now, the wave had yet to die down. It remained the talk of the town.

She came to a Huanyu higher-up's villa and did not leave for an entire night – a reporter happened to show up when all this was happening. What was more shocking was that the two needy people forgot to draw the curtains, so the reporter captured everything from photos to videos, and all these went viral on the internet.

It was too late to censor them.

After the incident, Tang Yu Studios secretly contacted some paparazzi involved in the matter and offered an exorbitant amount to purchase all the videos and images they had in their possession. Her studio intended to get rid of all the evidence and suppress this negative publicity before it was too late.

Alas, these reporters flatly refused their seven-digit offer, so they were unable to purchase every evidence.

Why?

Their photographs were already bought by an unknown individual for a high price. This buyer had every intention to destroy her name. Tang Yu Studios' human resource department was only fighting a losing battle.

Overnight, the number of fans following Tang Yu's Weibo account plummeted by the millions. Her following was still decreasing as of now.

A totally unexpected event destroyed her acting career just like that. Tang Yu was completely dumbfounded at this, and she was unable to recover from the downfall.

Things were not done yet.

‘Luck comes only once, but trouble comes in droves.’

Huanyu Entertainment subsequently received notices from advertising companies requesting the termination of their contract with her, and the productions Tang Yu were currently in removed her character entirely.

Even those productions she had completed the takes for cut out her scenes.

With her name tarnished, Huanyu had to pay an astronomical sum as penalty.

A few of Huanyu’s higher-ups flew into a rage.

For companies, their artistes were like products; if they lost their popularity, they would cease to have value. Huanyu Entertainment and Tang Yu Studios showed their hands on the table, and the former proposed the termination of her contract. What Tang Yu was about to face was settling another hefty nine-digit fine for the breach of contract.

“How pitiful.”

“Still, a pitiful person surely has something hateful to them,” Yun Shishi stated as a matter of fact.

Qin Zhou was surprised, and he poked her cheek. “You’re not a pushover anymore, eh? Already knowing how to rebut?”

Chapter 323: Take It or Scram

“Stop.” Yun Shishi slapped his hand away.

Tang Yu, who was troubled, noticed that the door to Qin Zhou’s office was ajar. She roamed her eyes and hit upon an idea. Immediately, she put on a saccharine smile and entered the room.

“Mr. Qin!”

She decided to butter him up sweetly upon stepping inside.

Qin Zhou held Huanyu shares; therefore, those artistes and staff with lower ranks had to address him as ‘Mr. Qin’.

He felt a headache coming on once he saw her and rolled his eyes lazily. “What?”

She was about to speak when she spotted Yun Shishi signing a contract with her head down. She was stunned and momentarily speechless.

“... Huh? Yun Shishi?! Why are you here, too?”

“It’s none of your business! Care for yourself first!” He reminded her coldly.

At his reminder, she remembered her purpose for being in his office and cooed, “Mr. Qin, you have to help me~”

Her velvety voice triggered goosebumps on his skin instead.

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Don't act coy if you don't know how to.

As soon as she opened her mouth, he only felt disgust and his flesh creep all over.

“What can I help you with?”

“I have no idea which b\*tch destroyed my reputation. Now, the company wants to terminate my contract! Mr. Qin, your words carry weight around here, and you have such a good relationship with Mr. Ji. Can you put in a good word for me with him?”

Tang Yu felt wronged.

She became a little tipsy after a few drinks at the gala that night.

For a better career advancement, she hooked up with Mu Yazhe, thinking that she could climb on to his bed, but never did she expect him to throw her into another car, which arrived at Li Wenqing's villa.

Li Wenqing, a Huanyu higher-up and one of its shareholders, naturally had a place in the board of directors.

He was notorious for playing around with countless women. From a certain standpoint, he could be deemed as an old flame of hers – they had spent a night or two together before.

A few productions she had participated in were given to her by him.

Tang Yu was a little surprised to see him, but she thought that this was prearranged and that he had truly chosen her to come over that night; thus, she had no qualms.

Li Wenqing, for his part, thought that it was a little fishy when he saw her.

Did he not select a newbie called Yun Shishi? Why was Tang Yu sent over to him instead?

However, in the middle of the night, he was already in need of venting his flaming desires, and as soon as Tang Yu entered, their bodies immediately intertwined.

After the two did the deed, they unexpectedly fell into a trap...

Incriminating pictures accompanied the articles of their illicit tryst, and despite the capable human resource teams both possessed, there was already nothing they could do to regain her reputation.

Qin Zhou waved at her as his head hurt. “Scram and stop annoying me. I have a mess in my hands right now and I can’t even protect myself.”

“There’s even a mess that can give Mr. Qin a headache?”

He was irked. “Tang Yu, now that things have come to this, no one can help you anymore. If you want me to help you... Since you are still young and you look good, I’ll be nice and introduce you to a production.”

Her eyes lit up, and she could hardly contain her excitement. “Really, Mr. Qin?! I knew you won’t ditch me! What’s the production called?”

He flashed her a sinister grin. “The Golden Lotus 3D1.”

...

Heck!

Was he toying with her?

The Golden Lotus 3D was an X-rated film production!

What was this?

Could this even be deemed as goodwill? He was clearly dragging her down, waiting for her to embarrass herself!

At the very least, she was still a second- or third-tier actress, a popular teenage idol, yet he was proposing for her to take part in an X-rated film?

“YOU...” She was enraged, and her face flamed red.

“What of me? Take it or scram!” He bluntly told her off.

1. Known as ‘Jin Ping Mei’ or ‘The Plum in the Golden Vase’, it is a Chinese novel of manners composed in vernacular Chinese during the late Ming dynasty with explicit depiction of sexuality.

Chapter 324: Beating the Dog in the Water

“I’m still a teenage idol, yet you want me to take part in an X-rated film?!” Tang Yu screeched as she turned red from shame.

“Oh? You still have the nerve to put feathers in your cap? Teenage idol? This time, you’ve stirred up such a huge trouble, and your videos have gone viral. Who hasn’t seen you without clothes? Why are you being difficult by pretending modesty?” Qin Zhou taunted her.

“I...” She was at a loss for words.

“Don’t look down on this production. Do you know how many female stars queue up just to be in it? For a role, they compete till they are badly battered, yet you’re still unsatisfied with it,” he spoke indifferently.

This was downright humiliation!

Abashed, she demanded furiously, “Mr. Qin, are you trying to drag me down?”

He pretended to be indignant. “Hey, you’ve mistaken a good man for a bad one. I’m trying to help you out of goodwill, yet you’re saying that I’m out to drag you down. Really... Hmph! I’m doing

you this much favor by introducing you to that production. Look at your reputation now; even if the head producer considers you because of me, whether he chooses you or not is another thing altogether!”

“You—”

She was so enraged she stomped her feet. Suddenly, out of her peripheral, her angry eyes laid on Yun Shishi’s face.

The latter paused with her pen, only to feel a chill up her spine. When she looked up, she spotted Tang Yu staring at her venomously.

What is this? Why am I getting dragged into this?

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“Yun Shishi, why are you here at Huanyu?”

“Signing a contract,” she replied coldly.

“Signing a contract?” She was shocked. “You’re being signed on to Huanyu?”

It was usually impossible for a newly debuted rookie to be signed on to Huanyu Entertainment, unless one had a powerful background or a strong backer. No matter how good one’s aptitude was, to be signed on to Huanyu’s headquarters directly at the start of their career, this was totally unheard of.

Two other studios were under Huanyu’s administration.

Normally, newly debuted newbies were signed on to either of those studios first.

When they reached a certain level of fame, Huanyu would then deliberate on signing a contract with them.

As the star-making factory people dreamed of entering in the entertainment industry, the bar to sign a contract with Huanyu was set unusually high.

With her sharp eyes, Tang Yu noticed that the documents she was signing were indeed contract templates and agreement letters; she became so jealous her eyes were almost bloodshot.

Scarily bloodshot.

“B\*tch, what tricks did you pull?!”

“Who are you talking about?” Before he could say anything, Yun Shishi snapped, “Watch what you say.”

Tang Yu was dazed.

At the gala, Yun Shishi, with her gentle disposition, was a pushover.

Why were her words suddenly this vicious, and why was she not as servile as before?

Maybe... Now that the masses no longer favored her, even a yet-to-debut rookie dared look down on her?

“Ha, ‘if the tiger goes down to leveled land, it will be insulted by dogs’!”

Yun Shishi smirked. “Ha.”

It was not that she bullied the weak and feared the strong.

Back at the gala, she was mindful of her image; as a newbie, she clearly could not make herself stand out too much at such an event. Otherwise, offending one person was no different than offending a group of people.

Seniority was emphasized the most in the entertainment industry. If she were to be too showy, as a rookie that had yet to debut, it would be unavoidable for her to be attacked by everyone.

However, in private, why should she hold back?

“You’ve got everything mixed up. Right now, I’m the tiger and you’re the dog. What’s wrong with me insulting you? ‘Beating the dog in the water’, haven’t you heard of this before?”

Qin Zhou was surprised.

This gal was quite vicious with her words!

Who did she learn this from?

“You—” Tang Yu was so maddened she raised her hand. He quickly stopped her before she could land a slap on her.

“D\*mn you! This is my office. Who let you throw a fit here?”

He spun around and rebuked Yun Shishi as well. “Not that I’m nagging at you, but why are you arguing with the likes of her? She’s got nothing to lose so she isn’t afraid of you! Don’t mess with her.”

