

PAW 1131

Chapter 1131: Grim possibilities!

Afternoon.

Smoke and dust covered the front of the research center.

Thick black smoke came from the burning armored vehicle and the two flipped military jeeps. Dozens of dead bodies were everywhere. It looked like hell, and no words could describe this scene.

“Urghh....” Zhong Lizhen vomited.

Dong Xuebing quickly put her down. “How are you?”

Zhong Lizhen squatted and started puking.

Dong Xuebing sighed. “I told you not to look, but you don’t....”

Zhong Lizhen looked around out of curiosity while puking and was shocked.

One person....

A few handguns....

This guy killed a few dozen soldiers himself, and even an armor vehicle could not stop him.

Who the hell is he?

Although Zhong Lizhen is an expert in various fields, she mainly did military research. She knew a lot about the military and had met many military soldiers. However, she had never met anyone with such combat power. The young man in front of her had won against an army and was only armed with a few guns. How did he blow up that armored vehicle?!

Zhong Lizhen could not understand.

No wonder Xiao Dong was confident he could bring her out safely. Zhong Lizhen did not believe him initially, but it seemed he could do it.

Zhong Lizhen thought about this while puking.

Dong Xuebing was not in a rush. He patted her back to make her feel better.

Zhong Lizhen had removed her bra and kept it in her gown’s pocket. Her back felt smooth to the touch.

“Let’s go.” Zhong Lizhen stood up with difficulties.

Dong Xuebing replied. “It’s alright. You can continue to puke.”

Zhong Lizhen tried her best to tolerate the nauseous feeling. “Let’s go. More people will be coming after us.”

“Alright. Let’s get on a jeep. I will help you.” Dong Xuebing helped Zhong Lizhen over to a jeep.

This jeep was the only vehicle that was not damaged. Dong Xuebing had purposely avoided damaging it, and no one was inside. It was clean inside. They got into the jeep, and Dong Xuebing drove out of the research center.

Inside the vehicle.

Zhong Lizhen was pale after vomiting. She turned to Dong Xuebing. "We don't have any backups. How are we going to leave the US?"

Dong Xuebing thought for a second. "Let's go to the airport first."

Zhong Lizhen retorted. "The airport is dangerous. We had killed so many soldiers, and they will not let us off. They know we will be trying to leave the country, and they will tighten the security there. Checkpoints might have been set up on the roads now."

"I know. But we don't have other choices."

"Why can't we go by sea? As long as we can get someone to help."

"It's the same for air and sea, and no one else is helping us."

Dong Xuebing thought for a second and took out his phone. He wants to call Zhang Longjuan to tell her he is safe and ask about the situation. If State Security had prepared a way to bring Zhong Lizhen out safely, it would save him lots of trouble. Zhong Lizhen saw it and snatched the phone.

"What are you doing?" Zhong Lizhen asked.

"I am calling a friend." Dong Xuebing looked at her.

"Is your phone safe?" Zhong Lizhen asked.

Dong Xuebing paused and said. "It's just a normal phone. I don't know."

Zhong Lizhen switched off the phone. "We cannot make any calls unless you want to kill your friend."

"Why?"

"If this is an unsecured phone, I can use at least three ways to track your signals and two ways to tap your phone. Our location will be exposed immediately. How are we going to escape?"

Dong Xuebing replied. "I did not know about this."

Zhong Lizhen looked at Dong Xuebing. "I believe you are not from the military or State Security now. How can you come and save me without knowing about these?"

Dong Xuebing thought to himself. I had no choice.

Zhong Lizhen said nothing and quickly dismantled an LCD device in the vehicle.

Dong Xuebing was shocked. "What are you doing? I am driving."

"Just drive. It will not affect you."

Click... clank.... Click.... Zhong Lizhen pulled out an electric component, and the LCD screen changed to another color.

“What are you doing?” Dong Xuebing asked.

Zhong Lizhen explained. “The vehicle will emit a signal, and they can track us. I had removed the signal emitting device from it.”

Dong Xuebing replied. “You know everything.”

Zhong Lizhen shook her head. “I had never dismantled military jeeps or studied them. But the structure and designs are about the same.”

“Then where are we....”

“I don’t know.”

“Let’s go to the airport. I have a way to get through the security checks.”

“Are you sure? The security will be tight.”

“It should not be a problem, but it might be tough for you.”

“No problem, as long as I can get home. I had been waiting for this day.”

“Ok. Don’t get mad with me later.”

They continued on their way, and they met a checkpoint soon. The soldiers were cautious. Maybe it was because Dong Xuebing had killed all the soldiers at the research center. They might not know what exactly happened. The soldiers saw it was a military jeep, and a few relaxed. One of them even saluted the vehicle and signaled them to stop.

The security was indeed tight. They even want to stop a military vehicle.

Dong Xuebing will not stop. He turned to Zhong Lizhen. “Hold on.” He stepped on the accelerator and sped towards the checkpoint.

The soldiers were shocked and quickly jumped out of the way.

A soldier reacted fast and fired a few shots from his handgun.

Ding... ding... ding.... The bullets hit the jeep and bounced off.

Dong Xuebing did not care. He saw the soldiers getting into their vehicles to chase, and he turned into a minor road. He needs to lose them.

The soldiers were chasing after them.

Dong Xuebing turned to Zhong Lizhen. “Professor Zhong, which direction is the airport?” He was lost.

Zhong Lizhen pointed to the north. “It’s that direction. We are about 15 kilometers away.”

“15 km? Dong Xuebing knew they were close, but their location was exposed. It will be challenging to reach the airport with this car.

“Professor Zhong....”

“Huh?”

“Sorry.”

“Ahhh....”

Dong Xuebing hit the back of Zhong Lizhen’s neck before she could react. She immediately fainted.

Dong Xuebing continued to drive and saw a black car driving on the road nearby. He immediately mumbled STOP.

Time stopped.

Dong Xuebing carried Zhong Lizhen out of the jeep and walked to that car. He opened the door and pulled out the driver. He knocked the driver out and threw him by the side of the road before getting into the car with Zhong Lizhen.

STOP deactivated.

Time resumed.

That driver felt the impact and fainted.

Dong Xuebing stepped on the accelerator and continued driving.

Although they will be discovered soon, Dong Xuebing can switch to another vehicle again. His target is to reach the airport as soon as possible.

The other side.

A secluded house on the outskirts.

Old Hong asked. “Have you found out about Xiao Dong’s identity?”

Yao Shun was looking terrible. “He was on the same flight with me and will leave some clues. But the higher-ups will need some time to identify him.”

“What should we do now?”

“Pack up and pull out.”

“Why are we pulling out?”

“I just received news about the research center. Something happened there.”

“What happened? Is it Xiao Dong?”

“I don’t know. Our people cannot infiltrate there, but they heard many gunshots and explosions.”

“What about Professor Zhong?”

“I don’t know if Zhong Lizhen and Xiao Dong are still alive. The chances of them surviving are slim from the gunshots.”

Old Hong kept quiet.

Yao Shun sighed. “The higher-ups came to this conclusion too. Although we don’t know who Xiao Dong is, this mission has failed. We cannot wait any longer. The higher-ups ordered us to retreat to a safe place before the US military locked down this area.”

Ring... ring... ring....

Zhang Longjuan called.

“Do you have news about Xiao Dong?” Zhang Longjuan asked.

Yao Shun hesitated for a second. “Sorry, Ms. Zhang. I just received news something happened at the research center. Xiao Dong and Zhong Lizhen might be dead.”

“Is it confirmed?”

“Not yet. This is the higher-ups and my conclusion. No one can escape with so many soldiers guarding there.”

Chapter 1132: We can finally go home!

Afternoon.

Outside of the airport.

A small car was moving slowly towards the airport.

This is Dong Xuebing’s third car. He had switched the car to escape those soldiers.

One minute....

Two minutes....

They are reaching the airport.

Oh, we got to change our clothes.

Dong Xuebing looked at Zhong Lizhen and his clothes. She was still wearing her white gown and will be spotted from a distance. He wore his sunglasses inside the research center, but his clothes were still the same. If they were captured by the CCTVs inside, they would be spotted at the airport immediately.

Dong Xuebing looked at the car he was driving. It has luggage at the back. The driver seemed to be going overseas.

Dong Xuebing reached for the luggage while driving and opened it.

The luggage was full of clothes and personal items.

Dong Xuebing’s return flight is in the afternoon, and he still has time. He stopped the car by the road and changed his clothes.

The clothes were slightly bigger, but he still wore them. He does not care if the clothes fit at this time.

Dong Xuebing looked at the fainted Zhong Lizhen and was troubled. He needs to knock her out again if he wakes her to change now. He cannot let others see him stopping time. Even if she shuts her eyes, she can notice it. He thought for a while and took off Zhong Lizhen's gown.

The gown was dirty with blood stains.

While taking off the gown, Dong Xuebing accidentally touched Zhong Lizhen's body. He blushed and was afraid she might wake up suddenly.

Something dropped out from the gown's pocket. It was Zhong Lizhen's bra.

Huh? It's a lacy bra.

Dong Xuebing picked it up and stuffed it back into the gown's pocket before putting the gown in her arms.

Zhong Lizhen was wearing office clothes under the gown. A pair of black stockings, a skirt, and a white blouse.

Dong Xuebing turned and searched the luggage. He took out a white men's shirt and wore it over Zhong Lizhen. The driver is a male, and he does not have any female clothing. It's okay if they can board the plane without anyone noticing them.

Dong Xuebing looked at the time. It was still early. He hid the car and took out his knives and guns. He wiped off his fingerprints and threw them in the bushes. He also burned his clothes to remove any evidence.

Airport.

Outside of the airport terminal.

Dong Xuebing was a few hundred meters away and saw soldiers checking all the cars on the road.

Cars stopped and waited to be checked.

Dong Xuebing had planned for this.

STOP!

Time stopped.

Dong Xuebing wiped all the fingerprints and their traces in the car before carrying Zhong Lizhen out of the car. He carried her towards the airport terminal and entered a female toilet. A blonde was changing inside, and he carried Zhong Lizhen into a cubicle. He closed and locked the door before walking out. He walked to an area without CCTC.

STOP deactivate!

The bustling sound of the airport resumed.

Dong Xuebing walked to the check-in counter calmly to get his boarding pass. He also needs to get a boarding pass for Zhong Lizhen. When he approached the counter, he heard a Chinese man shouting at the airport staff. The airport staff escorted that Chinese man to the back for a thorough search. It seems they are targeting only Chinese tourists.

Dong Xuebing's heart sank.

He cannot be searched. It's okay for normal clearance, but he knew he would be caught if he went through a thorough search and questioning.

Dong Xuebing cannot board the plane by normal means. He frowned and looked at the check-in counters from a distance. A few more Chinese were brought away, and that man had not returned.

Dong Xuebing looked at his watch. His flight is about to depart.

He checked the display, and his flight was the last flight to Beijing. Other later flights were canceled.

No.... I cannot wait anymore.

Dong Xuebing knew the risk was higher the longer they stayed there. He must get on the plane before the situation change.

Dong Xuebing found a secluded corner and used STOP again.

He had used too much of his remaining time and got to move fast. He walked to the female toilet and carried Zhong Lizhen. He carried her and walked towards the boarding gates.

The plane was open for boarding, and many passengers had boarded.

Dong Xuebing could board the plane, but they had no seats. They also do not have the boarding pass and would be discovered quickly. They also cannot hide in the toilet for too long. He thought for a second and saw the baggage carts. Staff was loading the luggage into the plane cargo hold.

The cargo compartments!

Dong Xuebing carried Zhong Lizhen and ran over. He got past the staff and ran up a conveyor belt into the plane's cargo compartment. The cargo compartment was big and full of luggage and cargo.

The luggage was small, and I could not hide them.

Dong Xuebing walked into the back of the compartment and put Zhong Lizhen down behind a few large cargo boxes.

STOP deactivate!

Sigh.... We can finally go home....

Chapter 1133: Warm!

Afternoon.

Florida airport.

Flight 528 cargo hold.

Zhong Lizhen groaned as she woke behind a few large wooden cargo boxes.

"Huh?"

"Shh...."

"Ah?"

“Lower your voice.”

Zhong Lizhen was about to shout when her mouth was covered by a hand. She turned and saw it was Dong Xuebing. She looked around and was stunned. She did not know what happened and tried to recall. She remembered Xiao Dong hitting her on the back of her neck, and she fainted. Her face changed, and she looked at her clothes.

Why were my clothes changed!?

Where am I?!

Zhong Lizhen could only think of the worst situation she could be in.

Dong Xuebing knew what she was thinking and peeped at the few airport staff loading the luggage into the cargo hold. They stood further away, and he whispered to Zhong Lizhen. “I had no choice earlier. I had warned you, and I did not change your clothes. Your gown is over there, and I had put a shirt over you. Our photos should be sent to the airport, and they are looking for us.”

Zhong Lizhen looked at her clothes and noticed she was still wearing her blouse and skirt under the shirt. She looked at Dong Xuebing and noticed he had changed too.

Zhong Lizhen nodded. “I understand. But why did you knock me out?”

Dong Xuebing replied. “I cannot let you see what I did. That’s why....”

“It would be harder for us to leave the country if I fainted. It will attract more attention.”

“Huh? It’s my secret, and I cannot tell you.”

Zhong Lizhen did not ask further. “Then where are we now? What is the noise outside of this warehouse?”

Dong Xuebing replied. “We are on the plane.”

“Plane?!” Zhong Lizhen was surprised. “We are on a plane?”

Dong Xuebing nodded. “We are in the cargo hold of a plane. They are still loading the luggage.”

Zhong Lizhen gasped. “How is this possible? How did you enter the airport?”

Zhong Lizhen felt this is impossible. The security at the airport is tight. Besides the soldiers, they must still produce documents and pass security checks. How can they get on the plane? Moreover, she was knocked out, and Xiao Dong got to carry her.

“Did you kill people again?”

“Of course not. If I do that, all the flights will be canceled, and we cannot leave.”

“No one in the airport noticed us?!”

“No.”

“There’s only one way to the plane from the airport. How did you....”

Dong Xuebing did not explain. "I cannot explain this. We are on the plane, and it will take off soon. We should be going home without any troubles."

Zhong Lizhen took a deep breath. "I am more curious about you. Who exactly are you?"

Dong Xuebing was speechless. "The more curious you are, the more awkward I am to tell you. Err... let's talk about it when we are back. This is the last part of our journey, and we don't know what will happen next. We cannot let our guard down. We must hide and not be discovered."

"I understand."

"Someone is here. Shh...."

Footsteps got nearer. A few airport staff were walking toward them.

There were some noises, and the staff seemed to be securing the cargo.

Zhong Lizhen seemed to be nervous. They had reached this stage, and she did not want to fail. However, Dong Xuebing remained calm and composed. He squatted behind some crates and luggage and was prepared to move if they were discovered. The airport staff checked the cargo and left.

Five minutes....

Ten minutes....

Clank.... The cargo hold door closed.

The cargo hold became darker, and they were in total darkness in a few seconds.

"Xiao Dong."

"I am here."

"What's going on?"

"They had closed the door. We should be safe now."

"We are lucky."

"Hold on to the crates. The plane should be taking off soon."

The moment Dong Xuebing finished saying that, they felt the plane moving. The cargo hold was noisy, and they could feel the plane moving on the runway. About five to six minutes later, they felt their bodies getting heavier and the air pressure in their ears. The plane had taken off.

Ten meters....

One hundred meters....

One thousand meters....

The plane had reached a high altitude.

The cargo hold was in total darkness, and they could not see anything.

Although they were in a plane, the cargo hold conditions cannot be compared to the cabin. It was noisy, and there was no air conditioner. The temperature dropped drastically.

“Professor Zhong.”

“Huh?”

“This flight should be around ten hours.”

“I know. We should reach Beijing Airport tomorrow morning.”

“Yes. Take a nap if you are tired.”

“It’s so noisy here. How can I sleep? You don’t need to worry about me.”

“Ok. I will take a short nap. Call me if you need anything. I am beside you.”

“Go ahead. Thanks for everything today.”

“Don’t mention it. This is what I should do.”

“We are unrelated, and this is not something you should do.”

“Err.... I will sleep for a while.

The cargo hold got colder, and Dong Xuebing curled up.

Dong Xuebing could not change the conditions and only wanted to get home. He had no problems with the conditions and leaned against the wooden crate. He checked his remaining time and had slightly more than ten minutes left. He got to use it cautiously. He still has to bring Zhong Lizhen from the airport as they do not have documents and air tickets. Although they will be in China, he must be cautious not to leave any evidence. He does not want to be noticed or suspected by other countries. He kept his sunglasses on until now.

Dong Xuebing was exhausted and fell asleep quickly.

One hour....

Three hours....

Time passed.

Dong Xuebing was shivering and woke up suddenly. His hands and feet were cold, and it felt like winter.

Is this zero degree or sub-zero degree?

Dong Xuebing did not know the temperature in the cargo hold, but he could not stand it. He was still wearing spring clothes. They did not have an air conditioner in the cargo hold, which was freezing. He stood up and started moving.

“Xiao Dong.”

“Ah? I am here.”

“Are you cold?”

“Yes. What about you?”

"I am fine."

Although it was dark, Dong Xuebing could tell Zhong Lizhen was not doing well. Her voice was trembling. After loosening his joints, he reached over. He touched Zhong Lizhen, frightening her. He sat beside her to be nearer to her. Sitting near each other will warm them up slightly.

"Har...."

Zhong Lizhen was breathing heavily and seemed to be in bad shape.

Dong Xuebing's body was much better, unlike Zhong Lizhen's. He could still withstand the cold.

"Where is your white gown?"

"I... I am wearing it."

"Then wear my clothes too."

"No.... I am fine."

Dong Xuebing ignored her and took off his jacket. "Just wear it. I feel terrible to see you suffering."

After a while, Dong Xuebing felt a cold hand taking his jacket from him.

"Have you worn it?"

"Yes."

"How long more before we reach?"

"We still got seven to eight hours."

"Still so long?"

"Yes. It's night now, and the temperature will drop further."

Zhong Lizhen did not reply. She was rubbing her palms together to warm herself. But her movements seemed to be getting slower.

Dong Xuebing knew this could not carry on. "Professor Zhong, sit closer to me if you don't mind. I can warm your hands for you."

"Hiss.... I am fine."

"How are you fine?"

"I can still take it."

"It's still early. How am I going to answer if anything happens to you?"

Zhong Lizhen's body will not take such low temperatures and might die.

Zhong Lizhen did not reply to him.

Dong Xuebing reached over and found her hands. He breathed into her hands and started rubbing them.

The pair of cold hands tried to pull back away from him.

Dong Xuebing grabbed her hands and continued to warm them. "Stop moving."

Chapter 1134: Warm!

A few thousand meters in the air.

Airplane cargo hold.

Dong Xuebing continued to rub Zhong Lizhen's hands and held them tightly. He was trying to warm her with his body heat.

Half an hour passed....

It was not effective, as Zhong Lizhen was still shivering badly.

Dong Xuebing was anxious. REVERSE will not work as it is not a permanent solution. Furthermore, they were still a few hours from Beijing airport, and his remaining time was insufficient to keep Zhong Lizhen warm. Even if he returned her body condition to yesterday, the outside temperature remains unchanged. She would be cold the next moment. He cannot grab some clothes from other passengers' luggage as they would be discovered after touching down.

What should I do?

Professor Zhong is not going to last any longer.

Dong Xuebing felt Zhong Lizhen getting weaker. Her breathing got slower, and her body became stiff. He clenched his teeth and carried her onto his lap.

Zhong Lizhen did not say anything or move.

It felt good to feel her butt on the lap.

Dong Xuebing did not explain. He hugged Zhong Lizhen's body and legs.

"Do you feel better this way?"

"Yes...."

"Which part of you is still cold?"

"My legs... and feet...."

Zhong Lizhen wore a skirt, and her white gown could not cover her legs.

Dong Xuebing nodded and adjusted their position to free both his hands. He let her lean against him and reached over her legs with one hand.

"Lift your legs higher."

"Ok...."

"I cannot reach it."

"Oh...."

Zhong Lizhen was freezing and was not shy.

Dong Xuebing touched something hard and felt it. It was Zhong Lizhen's heels. She had lifted her knees, and he rested his palms on her calves. He took off her heels after a while and started massaging her feet. They were cold, but they still felt good in his hands.

Dong Xuebing does not know if Zhong Lizhen feels better, but he is not cold anymore. Instead, he felt his body burning.

This is unbearable. It felt too good.

Dong Xuebing dared not react as Zhong Lizhen sat on his lap. It would be embarrassing if he were discovered. He forced himself to suppress his thoughts and calmed down quickly.

Zhong Lizhen stopped shivering after a while.

"Where do you feel cold now?" Dong Xuebing asked.

"My hands." Zhong Lizhen replied.

"Put your hands under my shirt."

Dong Xuebing opened his shirt slightly. He had given his jacket to her and was not wearing anything under his shirt.

Zhong Lizhen did not move.

Dong Xuebing let go of her feet and grabbed her hands. He pulled them into his shirt, and his body jerked from her cold hands touching his body. Her hands were freezing, but he could not say anything. He heard her sigh in comfort and continued to rub her legs and feet. He rubbed her stockings fast to warm them.

Her legs feel smooth and soft....

"How do you feel now?" Dong Xuebing asked.

"Much better. Thank you, Xiao Dong." Zhong Lizhen sounded like she was feeling better. "Are you ok? Do you feel cold?"

"I am fine."

"Let me take my hands out. I feel better now."

"No. You will be cold again. Just leave them there until we reach."

"I am weak and will stand on ceremony with you."

"It's fine...."

They were in an awkward position, and they kept quiet after a while.

Dong Xuebing's arms were around Zhong Lizhen's soft waist, and she was sitting on his lap. His hands continued to rub her legs and feet.

Dong Xuebing was in heaven.

Their proximity made Dong Xuebing feel like they were lovers....

Dong Xuebing could not see Zhong Lizhen's expression and did not know if she was sleeping. She did not move for a while.

One hour....

Two hours....

Suddenly, Dong Xuebing felt Professor Zhong moving suddenly. She seemed to be in discomfort.

"What's wrong?"

"Nothing."

"Are you cold again?"

"Let me get down for a while."

"What's wrong?"

Zhong Lizhen paused for a few seconds and said. "Bathroom."

There's no bathroom in the cargo hold, but Professor Zhong cannot hold it in anymore.

Dong Xuebing blamed himself for asking so many questions and making them awkward. "Then go ahead."

The body on Dong Xuebing's lap hesitated momentarily and pulled out her hands from his body. Zhong Lizhen adjusted her dress and shirt before getting off his legs. She found her heels and put them on. She walked slowly along the cargo to a distance.

It was too dark, and Zhong Lizhen tripped.

"Watch your steps."

"Yes. I know."

After that, there's no sound.

A while later, Dong Xuebing heard water trickling sounds.

Dong Xuebing blushed and pretended not to see anything. He imagined Zhong Lizhen with her down to her knees, squatting in a corner.

Two minutes later, Zhong Lizhen returned. "I'm done."

Dong Xuebing felt her standing there and not moving. He moved forward and pulled her back to their previous positions.

"Thank you." Zhong Lizhen puts her hands into his clothes. It was only a few minutes, and her hands were cold again.

Chapter 1135: Don't tell anyone what happened on the plane!

Inside the plane.

Cargo hold.

The plane was shaking, and Dong Xuebing's head knocked against the wooden crate, waking him. He looked around.

The plane was shaking and loud.

The plane is going to land.

Dong Xuebing steadied himself and felt his legs numb.

That's right. Professor Zhong is still sitting on my lap. Eh? What is this soft thing in my hands?

Dong Xuebing blinked and hugged Zhong Lizhen tighter. He could feel her stockings on his left hand, and his right hand touched something soft. It was not her waist, and he moved his hand slightly. Suddenly, he blushed and knew where he was touching.

It was her breast!

Dong Xuebing was holding Professor Zhong's waist before he fell asleep. Maybe he had moved his hand while sleeping, or the plane's shaking lowered her body. His right hand is under her armpit, and half of her breast is in his palms. She had removed her bra in the research center and is not wearing anything inside. No wonder it felt so soft.

How long was I holding her breast?

It should be a few hours.

Dong Xuebing quickly pulled back his hand. Professor Zhong should be sleeping and does not know he has touched her.

But... it felt really good.

Suddenly, the plane jerked hard, and the cargo hold shook.

Dong Xuebing knew the plane had landed. He was about to wake Zhong Lizhen but stopped. He does not want to disturb her.

A while later, Dong Xuebing heard the cabin door open. The passengers should be getting off the plane.

One minute....

Five minutes....

Ten minutes....

Finally, there is a sound nearby.

The cargo hold door opened slightly, and lights entered.

Dong Xuebing peeped at the light. It took him a few seconds to get used to it. He looked around the cargo hold and felt good. Fresh air entered the cargo hold, and the temperature rose.

Dong!

The door opened completely.

A truck's engine noise got closer. They should be here to get the baggage and cargo.

Dong Xuebing knew they could continue to stay there. He looked at Professor Zhong. He was shocked again. Zhong Lizhen's hands were not on his shirt. Her arms were around his neck and leaning against his shoulder, sleeping. Although they had been hugging for more than ten hours, and he was used to it, they were in total darkness. It felt different when he saw it. She was curled up on his lap with both her legs facing him.

The white gown covering her legs had dropped, and her black bra had slipped from her pocket.

Nothing was covering her lower body.

Dong Xuebing could see her stockings and underwear.

Wow.... This is killing me.

Dong Xuebing could not help but look up at her skirt again.

"Xiao Wang, go to section one. Xiao Li, you will go to section two."

"Be careful. Don't drop the baggage."

Footsteps entered the cargo hold.

Dong Xuebing took a deep breath. He did not wake Professor Zhong and picked up the white gown, and wore the heels for her.

He checks if they have left anything behind while he puts on his sunglasses. He also checked this pocket before activating STOP.

Time stopped.

Dong Xuebing carried Zhong Lizhen and stood up. Only he can move during time stop, and he does not worry he will wake her. He walked passed the airport staff and stepped out of the cargo hold. He saw the familiar airport and felt great.

I am finally back!

Home is still the best.

Dong Xuebing remembered he only had around 10 minutes left and moved faster. Zhong Lizhen is heavy, and he cannot run while carrying her. He could only estimate the time while moving.

Three minutes....

Five minutes....

Airport terminal.

Dong Xuebing has flown from Beijing Airport several times and is familiar with the layout. He got past the customs quickly.

Two minutes left....

Dong Xuebing saw he could not get out of the terminal and could only find a place to hide. He turned into an office area, away from the crowd, and checked if any CCTVs were pointing toward him before deactivating STOP.

Time resumed.

People were talking and moving around in the terminal.

“Old Wang, why is it harder to get a visa to the US now?”

“It’s fine. I heard from my friends that many of the flights from the US to China had been canceled, and the security is tighter now.”

“Really? Why are they doing this?”

“Don’t you all know about it?”

“What?”

“Something happened over there.”

“Oh, I heard about it too. But I don’t know the details.”

Dong Xuebing overheard a few middle-aged men discussing the tight airport security. He was relieved they had left the US immediately. They might not get to leave if they get to the airport later.

“Huh?” Zhong Lizhen woke up.

Dong Xuebing looked at her and put her down slowly. “We have reached.”

Zhong Lizhen supported herself against the wall and looked around. “We have reached?! Where are we?”

“We are in Beijing. Our capital airport.” Dong Xuebing pointed to the signs in the airport.

“When did we get out?” Zhong Lizhen pushed her spectacles up in disbelief. “How did we get out of the plane? Did anyone notice us?”

“No.”

“Why didn’t you wake me?”

“You were sleeping soundly, and I don’t want to wake you.”

Zhong Lizhen looked at Dong Xuebing. “Is anyone coming to fetch you?”

Dong Xuebing smiled wearily. “You had asked me this question several times. I will repeat this for the last time. I am alone, and there’s no backup. No one knows about me. My only purpose is to bring you back. I don’t care if you are returning to the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the military, or going to give the higher-ups your research. All these do not concern me, and I don’t want to get involved.”

Zhong Lizhen looked at Dong Xuebing. “Then why.... You only wanted to save me?!”

Dong Xuebing nodded. “Yes.”

“I don’t believe you. Don’t blame me for being suspicious, Xiao Dong. You took a big risk to rescue me and might be killed. I had never met you before, and we are unrelated. Why are you risking your life for me?” Zhong Lizhen asked. It was

dangerous, and even an army might not save her, let alone he was alone. She could not understand why he did this.

Why?

Because you are my aunt.

Dong Xuebing wanted to tell her the truth, but they had hugged on the plane for over ten hours. He felt awkward saying it. "Err.... Let's talk about this again." He knew she would find out eventually, but he would never admit it.

Zhong Lizhen did not continue to ask. "Where are we going now?"

Dong Xuebing looked around and said. "We are safe now, and my mission is done. You can go wherever you want."

"What about you?"

"I am going back to take a shower and change. I might have something on tomorrow."

Zhong Lizhen nodded. "Let's go together. I also need to change and take a shower."

Dong Xuebing paused for a second. "I am in Beijing for a business trip and did not bring any clothes to change. Let's buy some at the mall first."

"Ok."

"Let's go."

"Yes. Let's take a taxi."

They got into a taxi and drove towards the city.

Inside the car.

Zhong Lizhen adjusted her clothes. Dong Xuebing had touched her body last night, and her clothes were cramped. She buttoned her sleeves and straightened her stockings.

Dong Xuebing blushed when he saw her tidying her clothes.

After she was done, Zhong Lizhen looked at Dong Xuebing, and their eyes met.

Zhong Lizhen slowly said. "Don't tell anyone what happened on the plane."

Is she referring to them hugging, or she peed in the cargo hold?

Dong Xuebing replied quickly. "Don't worry. I will not tell anyone."

Chapter 1136: Staying at a hotel with Professor Zhong

Morning, 8 am.

Beijing. A taxi entered the city area.

Dong Xuebing and Zhong Lizhen alighted at a shopping mall. They entered the mall to buy clothes. He bought a jacket as he was still wearing someone else's clothes. It was too big for him and dirty.

After buying his jacket, he found Zhong Lizhen. She was holding a new white gown. This was an old shopping mall, and very few malls sell these working attires.

“You....”

“Yes. This will do.”

“Huh? Are you sure you want this gown?”

“It’s ok. I am used to it. Go and pay for it.”

Zhong Lizhen does not have money, and Dong Xuebing needs to pay for it. He took out his wallet and paid for the white gown. 85 RMB.

Dong Xuebing turned and saw Zhong Lizhen had put on her gown and looked like a doctor.

“Let’s go.” Dong Xuebing said.

Zhong Lizhen took out a small notebook and nodded. She wrote something in the notebook.

“Gown, 85 RMB. I will return the money to you.” She said and kept the receipt. She also asked Dong Xuebing for his receipt and wrote in the notebook. “Your jacket is 399 RMB. You bought it because I threw your jacket away. I have to pay you for that. I will pay for the taxi fare too. It was 156 RMB. The total is....”

Dong Xuebing interrupted. “Ah.... It’s fine.”

Zhong Lizhen ignored Dong Xuebing and continued to write in her notebook. “I owe you this much. Although I cannot repay everything, I will remember it.”

Dong Xuebing smiled to himself. He is not calculative, but he knows Professor Zhong’s character. She had worked with numbers for years and liked to keep tabs on everything. Even a wrong decimal place will cause her experiment to fail. That’s why he does not want to argue with her.

A few moments later, Zhong Lizhen finished recording their purchases. “Alright.”

“Shall we go to a bathhouse?” Dong Xuebing asked.

Zhong Lizhen frowned. “I don’t like those places. Let’s go to a hotel.”

“Ok. We are only taking a shower. We can go to any hotel nearby.”

Both of them were covered in dirt, and they must clean themselves.

Outside of a budget hotel.

Dong Xuebing and Zhong Lizhen entered the hotel.

The female staff behind the counter smiled. “Are you looking for a room?”

Dong Xuebing nodded and took out his credit card from his wallet. It broke into two during his battle yesterday. He looked at it and checked his cash in the wallet. He only had 400 RMB.

Dong Xuebing asked. “How much is a single room for a day?”

The staff smiled. “266 RMB.”

It was not expensive as it is a budget hotel, but Dong Xuebing does not have enough cash.

Dong Xuebing looked at Zhong Lizhen. She saw Dong Xuebing's broken credit card and hesitated. She turned to the staff. "We need a single room."

The female staff looked at them weirdly.

Dong Xuebing felt awkward and gave his ID.

The staff said, "I need both your IDs if you are staying with us."

Zhong Lizhen has no ID as they were taken away at the research center. Dong Xuebing replied immediately. "I am staying alone."

"Oh...." The staff registered Dong Xuebing's ID and continued to give them weird looks. The woman is in her late thirties to forties, and the guy is in his twenties.

Zhong Lizhen felt uncomfortable and pretended to look away.

Dong Xuebing kept his ID and went upstairs together. That staff stopped them. "You had paid for a single room. Both of you...."

Dong Xuebing was frustrated. "What's wrong with the both of us?"

The staff replied. "I need her ID as well."

Dong Xuebing retorted. "She is not staying here. What's wrong with her going upstairs to chat with me? Can't I bring friends to my room?"

The staff kept quiet.

Zhong Lizhen pulled Dong Xuebing. "Let's go."

Dong Xuebing noticed many people in the lobby were looking at them. He wiped the sweat off his forehead and entered the elevator with Zhong Lizhen.

Sigh.... It's so embarrassing.

Dong Xuebing could not even afford two hotel rooms. He must get a replacement card from the bank.

Inside the hotel room.

A bed, a bathroom, and there's nothing else.

Dong Xuebing felt awkward when he saw the bed.

"Go and wash up first." Dong Xuebing said.

Zhong Lizhen nodded and entered the bathroom.

Dong Xuebing smoked while he waited. He heard the water splashing inside the bathroom and felt nervous.

Half an hour later.

Zhong Lizhen came out of the bathroom in her white gown. Her hair was wet and dripping. She is clean and wearing her white blouse under the gown. Dong Xuebing noticed two reddish spots on her blouse and remembered her bra clip had broken.

She is not wearing anything under her blouse.

Dong Xuebing started to imagine....

Zhong Lizhen noticed Dong Xuebing's eyes and quickly fastened her gown.

"It's your turn."

"Ok."

Dong Xuebing entered the bathroom.

He took a quick shower and came out around ten minutes later. Zhong Lizhen was looking out of the window, deep in thought. A notebook and a pen were left on the bed. There was a new line. Hotel, 266 RMB.

Sigh.... She is calculative.

Dong Xuebing said. "I am done."

"Ok."

"What are you thinking about?"

Zhong Lizhen looked at the bustling streets. "It's been a while since I returned. Home is still the best."

"Welcome back, Professor Zhong."

"Yes." Zhong Lizhen turned. "You still have around 100 RMB in your wallet. It should be enough to pay for the cab. Let's go. I will bring you to meet Sister Han and return the money I owe. I would also like to thank you properly for saving me."

"Sister Han?"

"Yes. Didn't you mention Xie Huilan previously? Didn't you find out about me through my files and use the people around me to confirm my identity? You should have heard of Sister Han. She is Huilan's mother."

Chapter 1137: Going to the Beijing's Standing Committee Villas

Beijing.

A single room in a budget hotel.

"Xiao Dong, can you style my hair for me?"

"Ah? Style your hair? I don't know how to do that."

"Help me clip my hair. I must hold my hair up and cannot use the hair clip with one hand."

"Ok."

“Thanks. I want to look proper when I visit my Sister. I don’t want Sister Han to worry for me.”

No wonder Zhong Lizhen wanted to change and shower after they arrived.

Dong Xuebing followed Zhong Lizhen into the bathroom. He moved a chair in front of the mirror for her.

Zhong Lizhen dried and started to style her hair. She used both hands to twirl her hair up into a bun and held it in both hands. “You can clip it now.”

Dong Xuebing clipped her hair with her hairclip. “Is this ok?”

Zhong Lizhen looked into the mirror and nodded. “Yes.”

Although this hairstyle looks complicated, Zhong Lizhen looks beautiful.

Dong Xuebing’s focus was not on her hairstyle. He stood behind her and could look down at her white gown. He could see her cleavage down her blouse, and she was not wearing a bra.

Zhong Lizhen has a deep cleavage even without wearing a bra.

“Let’s go.”

“Ok.”

Dong Xuebing and Zhong Lizhen left the hotel room and went downstairs. They had only checked into the hotel for an hour, and they were going to check out.

Dong Xuebing passed the key to the counter staff. “Check out, please.”

It was still the female staff at the counter. “Huh? Alright. This is your deposit.”

Dong Xuebing counted the money and kept it. That’s all the cash he has now.

“Let’s go.” Zhong Lizhen noticed many people looking at them, and she immediately left.

Dong Xuebing also noticed people were looking at them and quickly followed Professor Zhong out of the budget hotel.

They had checked in an hour earlier and had a small argument with the staff in the lobby. Now, they are checking out of the hotel after an hour. Their hair is still damp, and they look fresh. Many staff looked at them and whispered among themselves.

It’s normal for a young or middle-aged couple to check into the hotel.

But the age difference between both of them is too broad.

“Wow....”

“Sigh.... People these days are too....”

“Is this a May-December romance?”

Dong Xuebing and Zhong Lizhen overheard the staff as they were walking out of the hotel.

Zhong Lizhen looked terrible, and Dong Xuebing was furious.

“What the f**k are you all saying?!” Dong Xuebing shouted at the security guard who made those comments.

The security guard knew he had said the wrong things and kept quiet. He pretended not to hear Dong Xuebing.

“I dare you to repeat it!” Dong Xuebing turned and walked towards the security guard.

Zhong Lizhen did not want to create trouble and pulled Dong Xuebing away. “Enough, Xiao Dong. Let’s go.”

Those two security guards ignored Dong Xuebing, making the latter more furious. “You all are asking for it.”

“Let’s go. Just ignore them.” Zhong Lizhen saw Dong Xuebing was about to hit those security guards and quickly pulled him away by hugging his waist. “It’s not a big deal.”

Zhong Lizhen had seen Dong Xuebing’s combat power. She knew all the hotel’s staff were no match for him, let alone two security guards. She was afraid he would kill them.

Zhong Lizhen’s body pressed against Dong Xuebing’s back, and he felt her left breast pressing on his back.

Dong Xuebing felt something soft on his back and calmed down immediately.

Sigh.... Let’s go.

Dong Xuebing and Zhong Lizhen left the hotel and got into a cab.

Inside the cab.

Zhong Lizhen gave the driver an address.

The driver heard the address and looked at Zhong Lizhen.

The driver knew the address belonged to Beijing’s Standing Committee Villas and ordinary people would not visit there. He wanted to know what they looked like. Dong Xuebing was nervous. He had not told Zhong Lizhen his identity, and he was troubled. How should he tell her now? He took out his phone, and the battery was flat.

“What’s wrong, Xiao Dong?” Zhong Lizhen asked.

Dong Xuebing smiled. “Nothing.”

Zhong Lizhen looked at Dong Xuebing. “You must know who Sister Han is, right?”

Dong Xuebing does not know how to reply. Of course, he knows who she is.

“Don’t be nervous.” Zhong Lizhen said. “Sister Han is a nice person. I grew up with her. Although we are not related, we are closer than real sisters. Her house is my second home.”

“Err.... I will visit her another time.”

“I can return safely because of you. We must treat you to a good dinner.”

“We can have dinner anytime. I....”

“We are on the cab now. Let’s go. I don’t want people to think of me as ungrateful. I also want to introduce you to Sister Han and my brother-in-law. However, I don’t know what you are working, but you should know his identity. He can help you with your career in China.”

“But....”

“Just listen to me.”

“I have something to tell you.”

“What is it? Eh, turn left in front. Yes....”

Dong Xuebing was interrupted, and he could not tell her his identity.

About forty minutes later.

The cab stopped outside of Beijing’s Standing Committee Villas.

Dong Xuebing noticed Zhong Lizhen getting excited when they got nearer. She got out of the cab before it stopped entirely.

“Professor Zhong.” Dong Xuebing got a fright.

Zhong Lizhen turned and said to Dong Xuebing. “It’s villa no. 1. I will go there first.”

“Eh... wait a minute.” Dong Xuebing shouted, but Zhong Lizhen did not hear him. She walked fast to the guard house. He wanted to tell her to be careful not to be seen. Many people are looking for her, and she should not appear publicly. There are not many people around, and he did stop her. He understood how she felt.

The guards saw Zhong Lizhen walking towards them and were about to stop her.

But Dong Xuebing cleared his throat loudly when he was paying the driver. The guards saw him, and he waved to them, asking them not to stop Zhong Lizhen.

The guards immediately saluted and let them enter.

Zhong Lizhen wanted to see Sister Han badly and tell her she was safe. However, she was surprised to see the guards letting her enter. She thought she had to call Sister Han at the guard house and did not expect them to allow her to enter without questions. The security should be tighter here. Why did the guards allow her to enter? Did they remember her? But she was away for many years. How did they recognize her?

Zhong Lizhen was confused, but she did not stop. She ran towards Villa No. 1.

The guards did not recognize Zhong Lizhen.

They had let her enter because they recognized Dong Xuebing. They might not recognize other leaders' relatives, but they must recognize Beijing Standing Committee's head, Secretary Xie's son-in-law.

Zhong Lizhen did not see Dong Xuebing's gestures to the guards.

However, the driver saw it and looked at Dong Xuebing in shock. He overheard their conversation in his car and thought the middle-aged woman was in charge. He did not expect this young man to be more powerful. Those guards recognized him.

"Sir."

"Huh?"

"Here's the fare."

"Oh.... Ok...."

Dong Xuebing could not see Zhong Lizhen after he paid the driver. He smiled to himself wearily, wondering if he should return another day. He had not told Zhong Lizhen the truth, and Xie Guobang, Han Jing, and Xie Huilan did not know he had left the country to save Zhong Lizhen. He lied that his phone battery was flat and uncontactable because he did not want to inform them.

Should I enter?

Dong Xuebing hesitated for a few minutes outside the gate.

Sigh... forget it. I got to face this sooner or later.

Dong Xuebing greeted the guards and entered the compound.

Chapter 1138: Xiao Bing is dead?!

Beijing Standing Committee Villa, no. 1.

Xie Guobang, Xie Guoliang, Xie Guokian, and Han Jing were in the living room.

Xie Guoliang asked. "Why did you call everyone here?"

Xie Guokian looked at him. "Second Brother...." He turned and glanced at Han Jing.

Han Jing noticed it and stood up. "I will prepare lunch. Your brothers can carry on."

Xie Guobang interrupted. "Your Sister-in-law is not that weak. What do you want to say? Is it about Lizhen? You left for a meeting at the military HQ last night until now. What happened? Shouldn't you let us know now?"

Han Jing got anxious. "You have Lizhen's news?"

Xie Guojian kept quiet and continued to smoke.

Xie Guoliang said. "I heard a little about it. It seemed Florida is in chaos now."

Han Jing's face changed. "Florida? Isn't that where Lizhen's research center is located? What happened, Guojian? Tell us!"

"Sis, I...." Xie Guojian could not say it.

Han Jing took a deep breath. "I am prepared. Just tell me!"

Xie Guojian snubbed his cigarette and said. "Lizhen.... She might be dead!"

Although Han Jing was prepared for the worse, her face turned pale immediately.

Xie Guoliang took a deep breath. He might not be close to Zhong Lizhen, but they have known each other for years. "How is it possible?!"

Xie Guobang frowned. "Is this news reliable?"

Xie Guojian replied. "The body is not found, but she should be dead."

Everyone kept quiet. Han Jing tried to hold back her tears.

Xie Guojian's eyes were red. "There's one more thing. Brother, Sister-in-law, you two be prepared. I am afraid you might not take it after hearing this."

Xie Guobang said. "What?"

Xie Guojian continued. "Lizhen's news and what happened in Florida is classified. Even her family members are not allowed to know. However, the military discovered something during their investigation. I must let you all know. Your son-in-law, Dong Xuebing.... might be dead too!"

"What?!"

"Xiao Bing?!"

Han Jing's legs went soft, and she almost fell.

Xie Guobang's expression changed. "What happened to Xuebing?"

"I only say he might be dead. Lizhen and his bodies are not found. We could only guess based on the findings. The chances of him still alive is almost zero." Xie Guojian said.

Han Jing was furious. "Impossible! Xiao Bing has been in Beijing all this while! How can Lizhen and him...." Suddenly Han Jing paused. "Xiao Bing went to Florida?!"

Xie Guojian replied. "Yes. A State Security comrade saw him and only knew he was called Xiao Dong. His age is around twenty-five."

"How can you be sure he is Xuebing?" Han Jing refused to believe. "Xuebing will not die!"

Xie Guojian looked at Han Jing. "The State Security comrade reported that youth killed eight soldiers with two steak knives. Who else can do this other than Xiao Bing? We traced the flight and passport details and discovered his passport was fake. The State Security investigated and confirmed Xiao Bing had asked his State Security friend to prepare a fake passport for him four days ago."

Four days ago?!

Isn't that the day Xie Guojian and Han Jing told Dong Xuebing about Zhong Lizhen?! That's the day when they asked if he was confident to go to the US to save Zhong Lizhen!

Xiao Bing replied no, and he will not go to the US. Xie Guojian and Han Jing did not ask anymore. But Xiao Bing went to the US secretly!

“It’s all my fault!” Xie Guojian regretted it. “I should not have told Xiao Bing about Zhong Lizhen! He takes everything to heart!”

Han Jing’s tears rolled down her cheeks. “What has this got to do with you? It’s my fault. I should have known when he said he forgot to bring his phone charger and could not receive any calls. It’s me.... I caused his death!” She knows Xiao Bing well. Her precious cultural relic was stolen in Japan. He risked his life to steal it from the museum without telling anyone. He is unrelated to Zhong Lizhen and had gone there because of Han Jing.

Xie Guoliang refused to believe. “Are you sure Xiao Bing is dead?”

Xie Guojian replied. “Xiao Bing infiltrated the research center yesterday, and we have not received the details yet. We only know Xiao Bing had killed more than fifty soldiers. A few hours after the incident, the US military locked down the whole city to search for him. They also locked down the coastline, and he couldn’t leave by sea. Most flights were canceled, and checks got stricter for the ones not canceled. Even a fly cannot escape, let alone a human!”

Xie Guoliang said. “But Xiao Bing’s combat power should....”

Xie Guojian replied. “He can win against a few dozen people, but what about a few hundred? A few thousand?! He is facing a whole nation alone! We checked the flights this morning. He did not board the return flight he booked with his fake passport.”

Han Jing replied immediately. “He is trapped in Florida and might not be dead.”

Xie Guojian replied. “It’s possible, but the chances are slim. We conclude some possible scenarios. Xuebing and Lizhen were killed at the research center, and the US military is combing the city for their accomplices. Another possible scenario is Xuebing and Lizhen were caught while on the run. That’s why we did not receive any news about them. If they were caught, they would be dead. Of course, they might still be on the run, but they were trapped in Florida.”

Xie Guobang said. “Send people in to rescue him! I want him back, even if it is his body!”

Xie Guojian replied. “We tried. We tried everything. But no one can enter under that lockdown!”

“I don’t care!” Xie Guobang stood up. “If Xiao Bing and Lizhen are alive, we must bring them back at all costs! I am going to make a few calls! Is Senior Xie aware of this?!”

Xie Guojian sighed. “I don’t dare to tell him.... but I think he knows about it.”

Chapter 1139: You are Lizhen?!

Zhong Lizhen and Dong Xuebing might be dead?!

No one said a word in the villa.

Suddenly, the landline in the living room rang.

Han Jing looked at the caller display and answered, wiping her tears. “Dad....”

Senior Xie said in an angry tone. “Is Xie Guojian there? Ask him to come to the phone.” He addressed his son by his full name, which is rare.

Han Jian turned. "Guojian, Dad wants to speak to you."

Xie Guojian answered the phone cautiously. "Hello, Dad."

Senior Xie asked. "Are you the one who told Xiao Dong about Lizhen?"

Xie Guojian replied. "Yes."

"Stupid!" Senior Xie shouted. Even Han Jing and the rest heard it.

Xie Guojian apologized. "It's my fault, Dad. I should not have told Xiao Bing."

Senior Xie scolded. "Do you think this apology is enough? How are you going to answer your elder brother and sister-in-law?! How are you going to face Huilan?! Tell me!"

Senior Xie scolded.

Xie Guojian did not retort. He accepted the scolding and had no excuses.

Zhong Lizhen is important because of her research. But she is not related to the Xie family. Senior Xie will call her Xiao Zhen when they meet, but they are not blood-related. Dong Xuebing is different. He is the Xie family's grandson-in-law. He is part of their family, and Senior Xie is furious.

Xie Guojian said after a few minutes. "It's all my fault, Dad. Take care of your health and don't be so angry. Xiao Bing and Lizhen might be safe. We are still waiting for the latest news from there. I will return to the military and send people to Florida to save them!"

"It will be too late if I depend on you!"

"Dad.... What do you mean?"

"I had just called Zhong Nan Hai. The arrangements had been made."

Senior Xie slammed the phone down.

Xie Guojian looked at his eldest brother and sister-in-law. "Senior Xie said he had arranged. If Xiao Bing and Lizhen are still alive, they should be trapped in Florida. The higher-ups should be sending someone there before this evening."

Xie Guoliang sighed. "Hope they are fine."

Xie Guobang returned after making his phone calls and sat beside Han Jing. Both did not say anything.

Ring... ring... ring.... Han Jing's phone rang. It was her daughter, Huilan.

Han Jing looked at her husband. "Guobang."

Xie Guobang replied coldly. "Answer it. She will know about it sooner or later."

Han Jing closed her eyes and answered. "Huilan."

Xie Huilan asked. "I heard about Florida. Do you have news of Aunt?"

“The research center was attacked, and many soldiers were killed. Your aunt’s whereabouts are unknown.” Han Jing replied truthfully. “Senior Xie had contacted the higher-ups.”

“Was it attacked by our people?”

“.....”

“Tell me, Mum.”

“It was Xuebing.”

Xie Huilan went quiet for a few seconds and said. “What did you say? I did not hear clearly.”

“Xuebing had gone to Florida by himself without telling anyone. He....”

“What happened to him?!”

“I don’t know. They say....” Han Jing started crying again. “They say Xuebing might be dead.”

Xie Huilan took a deep breath. “Are you kidding with me?!”

“It’s all my fault.” Han Jing cried.

“I am several months pregnant, and you are telling me my husband is dead?!”

Xie Guobang took the phone from his wife. “Huilan, Xiao Bing’s news is not confirmed. We want you to be prepared.”

“I don’t need to be mentally prepared!”

“I also want to believe Xiao Bing is alive.”

“That guy will not die. Even if all the soldiers in Florida locked the city down, he would have ways to escape!”

“Yes.”

“Book a flight ticket to Florida for me.”

“It’s useless for you to go there now.”

“Then I will book myself! Bye!”

“No.... Huilan....”

The line was cut.

Xie Guobang frowned. “Huilan says she wants to go to Florida.”

Xie Guojian immediately says. “Absolutely not! It’s a mess there. How can she go now?”

Xie Guoliang replied. "You all should know about Huilan's stubbornness. No one can change her mind once she is set. Send someone to monitor the airport and stop her immediately. She must not go to the US now."

Xie Guobang nodded. "Yes."

Xie Guojian immediately calls the airport to look out for Xie Huilan. He also called the military to ask about Florida. He was nervous as he did not want to receive any bad news. Although Zhong Lizhen and Dong Xuebing might be dead, he still hopes for a miracle.

Very soon, other Xie family members heard about it.

Xia Meizhen, Ci Lifan, Xie Ran, Xie Jing, Xie Hao, and the rest called to ask about the situation. All of them were shocked when they heard about Dong Xuebing.

Dong Xuebing might be dead?!

How... how is this possible?!

When the military was prepared to send someone to rescue Dong Xuebing and Zhong Lizhen, and the whole family was in sorrow, the doorbell rang.

Ding dong... ding dong....

Han Jing did not move. She was in despair.

"It might be our sister-in-law or Xiao Jing. Open the door." Xie Guobang said to Han Jing.

Han Jing was feeling down and did not hear anything.

Xie Guoliang knew his Sister-in-law's feelings and stood up. "Let Sister-in-law rest. I will open the door."

Xie Guoliang did not check the camera and opened the door. He saw a beautiful woman outside and was surprised. "You are...."

The beautiful woman looked at him. "You are Brother Guoliang."

Xie Guoliang was stunned and felt this woman looked familiar. He looked at her for a few seconds, and his jaws dropped. "You are... Lizhen?!"

Chapter 1140: They are back!

Before noon.

Outside of the villa.

Xie Guoliang was stunned by what he saw. He could not believe his eyes and was unsure.

The beautiful woman nodded. "It's me."

Xie Guoliang asked again. "Are you Lizhen?!"

The beautiful woman replied excitedly. "Brother Guoliang! Don't you recognize me? It's only a year since we met, and you sent me to the airport when I left."

"It's you...." Xie Guoliang was speechless. "You...."

Xie Guojian shouted from the living room. "Who is it, Second Brother?"

Xie Guoliang turned and looked at him. "It's Lizhen.... Lizhen is back!"

"What?!" Xie Guojian jumped to his feet. "Lizhen?! How is it possible?!"

Xie Guoliang stepped aside for Zhong Lizhen to enter. She saw Xie Guojian. "Guojian."

Xie Guojian was stunned. "Lizhen?!"

Xie Guobang was also stunned. It's Zhong Lizhen!

Isn't Lizhen supposed to be trapped in Florida or killed? How can she appear here? How did she return? Zhong Lizhen's appearance shocked everyone.

"Lizhen, you...." Xie Guojian stuttered.

Zhong Lizhen's eyes were red. "I am not going anywhere again!"

Han Jing was the most shocked. She looked at Zhong Lizhen in a daze and did not even stand up.

Zhong Lizhen looked at Han Jing, tears rolling down her cheeks. "Sis...."

"Lizhen!" Han Jing rushed over and cried. "It's you! Thank god!"

Zhong Lizhen hugged Han Jing. "Sorry to make you worry, Sis."

The sisters hugged each other and cried.

Xie Guobang was the calmest among them. "Lizhen, where is Xiao Bing? You are back. Where is he?"

"Xiao Bing? Who is Xiao Bing? I don't know him." Zhong Lizhen asked.

Han Jing turned pale again. "Xiao Bing is not with you?! How is this possible? Is he...."

Someone knocked on the door when they were talking. The door was open, and a young man entered.

Zhong Lizhen turned and said. "Let me introduce. This is Xiao Dong. He had saved me from the research center. Thanks to him, I can return safely. Xiao Dong, this is my Sister and Brother-in-law. That is...."

Zhong Lizhen was still introducing everyone to Dong Xuebing when Han Jing gasped. "Xuebing!"

Dong Xuebing smiled awkwardly. "Mum, Dad, Eldest uncle, second uncle."

Zhong Lizhen was stunned. "Mum? Why did you call my Sister Mum? You are...."

Dong Xuebing scratched his head and said embarrassedly. "I should address you as Aunt, and I did not have the opportunity to tell you this. Sorry."

"Aunt?" Zhong Lizhen was confused. "Who is your wife?"

Dong Xuebing replied. "Err.... I got married to Huilan last year."

Zhong Lizhen took a deep breath and understood everything.

Han Jing let go of Zhong Lizhen and hugged Dong Xuebing. She stroked his head and cried. "You almost scared me to death!"

Dong Xuebing replied embarrassedly. "Sorry, Mum."

Han Jing scolded. "Why didn't you tell us you are going to Florida?"

"Huh? I don't want you all to worry, and I am afraid Huilan will know. So...."

"You are making us worry more!"

"Sorry, Mum. I will not do it again."

"It's good to see you again."

Han Jing always has a calm demeanor and looks gracious because she is the eldest Sister-in-law of the Xie family. Dong Xuebing had never seen her so excited before, let alone crying. He knows she is crying now because she cares for him.

Han Jing did not let go of Dong Xuebing. "My good boy.... Are you hurt? Let me see."

Dong Xuebing laughed. "You should know about my combat power. No one can hurt me."

"Good...." Han Jing was relieved. She wiped her tears. "You all.... Nearly scared me to death."

Zhong Lizhen smiled wearily. "I was also nearly scared to death by Xiao Dong. I did not expect him to be Huilan's husband."

Han Jing held Zhong Lizhen's hand. "You could not return in time for Huilan's wedding last year and have not met Xiao Bing. He is capable."

Zhong Lizhen replied. "I can tell."

Dong Xuebing blinked and looked at Xie Guobang nervously. He did not feel pressured in front of Han Jing because she had a kind character. But Xie Guobang is different. He looked stern and seldom smiled. "Sorry, Dad."

Dong Xuebing thought Xie Guobang would scold him, but he smiled. "It's great to see you back safely."

Dong Xuebing knew Xie Guobang was worried for him too.

Xie Guoliang suddenly remembered something. "Oh, call Senior Xie and Huilan first. Don't let them worry."

"Huh? Huilan knows I went overseas?" Dong Xuebing panicked. "Err.... My phone's battery is flat and...."

"Here." Han Jing gave Dong Xuebing her phone.

"Thanks, Mum." Dong Xuebing took it and called Senior Xie.

Ring... ring... ring.... "Hello?"

"Grandpa, it's me. Xuebing."

"Xuebing?"

"Yes. I called to inform you that I am back."

"How did you come back?"

"Err.... I sneaked into the plane's cargo hold and just returned. Oh, Aunt Zhong has returned with me. We are fine. Don't worry for us."

"Are you trying to scare us to death?"

"Sorry, Grandpa."

"Haha.... Alright. Come over and drink with me tomorrow. You are always making others worry for you. If I knew, I would object to your marriage with Huilan."

"Ah... sorry...."

"Hurry and call Huilan to let her know."

The line was cut, and Dong Xuebing called Xie Huilan immediately.

The line got through. "Hello, Huilan. It's me."

"....."

"Say something, Huilan. It's me. Xuebing."

"Aren't you dead?"

"Sigh.... Who told you I am dead?"

"Where are you now?"

"At your parent's place. Aunt Zhong is here too."

"Who asked you to go to Florida? Didn't I make myself clear?"

"Yes.... But you should know how tenacious I am. I am fine."

"I will remember this!"

"Don't be angry. I am fine. It's like going on a vacation. It's not a big deal."

"50 US soldiers were killed in Florida, and you call that a vacation?"

"Huh? Sorry. Don't be mad at me. I will apologize to you properly when I see you. Sorry for making you worry."

"You are getting bolder, and don't take my words seriously."

"Of course not. It's impossible. Your words are orders to me."

"Stop spewing nonsense. I will return to Beijing tomorrow. Let's talk then."

They spoke over the phone briefly, mainly with Xie Huilan scolding him. Dong Xuebing could not retort. After hanging up, Dong Xuebing went to a guest room to call his mother. He did not tell her he went to Florida to rescue someone. After that, he called Qu Yunxuan, Geng Yuehua, Yu Meixia, and Xu Yan. It was fine for the others as they did not know what had happened. Xu Yan knew what happened. She heard of what happened from Zhang Longjuan, and he got a scolding from her as well.

Dong Xuebing got scolded by Xu Yan for a while and finally got to say something. "I'm sorry, Sister Xu. Err... I still got something on. Help me call Sis Zhang and tell her I have returned safely."

Xu Yan replied helplessly. "You ah.... Fine!"

Dong Xuebing returned to the living room after making his phone calls.

The moment he stepped into the living room, the doorbell rang. Han Jing went to open the door.

Xie Ran, Xie Jing, and Xie Hao entered. Xie Hao wiped his tears and asked. "Has my Brother-in-law's body been found?"

Xie Guoliang, Han Jing, and the rest were amused.

Xie Hao asked angrily. "Why are you all laughing? Brother-in-law is dead, and you all are still...."

Dong Xuebing closed the door and walked over. "Why are you cursing me? Can't you say something good about me? Who is dead?"

Xie Hao almost fainted. "F**k! Brother-in-law?! How did you come back from the dead?"

Dong Xuebing is mad. "What do you mean by coming back from the dead? I did not die!"

Xie Ran and Xie Jing were shocked. "Brother-in-law, you...."

Dong Xuebing smiled. "Thank you, everyone. I am fine. The lockdown in Florida cannot stop me."

Xie Hao burst out laughing. "Hahaha.... I knew it. My brother-in-law will not die!"

Xie Jing was speechless as she stared at Xie Hao. "Who is the one crying so loudly on our way here? You were the one who said he died."

Xie Hao protested. "Don't expose me like this, Second Sis."

Everyone laughed.

"Aunt Zhong."

"Hello, Aunt Zhong."

"Hi. You all have grown up."

Xie Jing, Xie Ran, and Xie Hao greeted Zhong Lizhen.

Everyone had returned safely.