

# Chapter 1 - He Was So Strong

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

You ask me how much I love you. My love is increasing second by second. Time never fades away. My heart will go on.

–Huo Yunshen

Peijing, Kaiyueer Hotel, Room 1109.

The lights were warm yellow, and a touch of incense was floating in the air.

Too much alcohol had been poured down Xu Xiyan's throat. She was abandoned on the floor like a gunny sack.

In her blurry vision, she could vaguely see a man and woman kissing deeply and making out.

She dug her nails into her skin and used the sharp pain to make herself sober.

Were the two people in front of her really her boyfriend Chu Yuhe and her sister Xu Xinrou?

Xu Xiyan was shocked as if she were struck by a lightning bolt. She stared at them with a blank look.

There was so much pain as if her heart had just exploded.

How could they hook up?

Who could believe that the guy who said he would love her for the rest of his life was cheating on her?

Chu Yuhe let Xu Xinrou go after they kissed for a while and said gently, “Alright sweetheart. We gotta go. Mr. Li is coming in a bit.”

Xu Xinrou put her arms on Chu Yuhe’s shoulders and glanced at the person lying on the floor in the room and said with disdain, “So Mr. Li is really willing to invest 50 million in your Juxing Entertainment for Xu Xiyan?”

Chu Yuhe pinched her face and laughed. “How can I lie to you? The 50 million is already in my account. With the money invested in the new show, I would definitely make you the lead and your dad the director.”

“Now we are talking.” Xu Xinrou was satisfied but still asked sourly, “Mr. Li is quite generous. I have no clue what’s so special about her that he would spend 50 million to sleep with her. Do you think she’s better than me?”

Chu Yuhe ridiculed, “She is nothing but a stupid and boring yes-woman. She never has her own opinions. How can someone like her be compared to you? She is not even worth your little finger.”

So this was what Chu Yuhe said about her?

It was he who said obedient women were his type. That was why she said yes to everything and tried her best to be the kind of girlfriend he liked.

And now she was nothing but a stupid, boring yes woman without her own opinions?

Xu Xinrou was pleased. “After she sleep with Mr. Li, I will bring the paparazzi and dad here to catch them in bed... She will become the most notorious woman in Peijing. At that time, you can dump her with a fully justified reason.”

That’s what they had prepared for her! Ha, what a scheming couple!

“Sweetie, you are so smart,” Chu Yuhe praised her and put his arm around her shoulder. “Let’s go somewhere quiet. I have prepared a surprise for your birthday.”

“Really? I can’t wait!”

They left the room and Chu Yuhe left the door half open for Mr. Li.

As she lay on the floor, Xu Xiyang's heart was trembling. She felt like she was lying in the snow. It was as if someone was cutting her heart into pieces with a sharp knife, one slice followed by another, making it broken all over.

Her chest hurt so bad that she felt numb and breathless.

If she did not see it with her own eyes and heard it with her own ears, she could hardly believe that they would sell her to the fatty Mr. Li who had a terrible reputation in the business for 50 million.

Chu Yuhe was her boyfriend who grew up together with her. She liked him and had pursued him for many years. She gave him all the money left by her late mother to help him start his own business, Juxing Entertainment.

He had once said he would marry her when his business grew bigger and he could give her a stable and happy life. Was it a lie?

Xu Xinrou—although they had different mothers, she had treated her as her real sister for so many years. Was the care that Xu Xinrou showed her all fake?

They were the two persons that she trusted the most. But they betrayed her together and sold her out.

And there was Xu Jinshan as well. Did he even deserve to be called a father?

What kind of father would trade his own daughter away?

It couldn't be put into words how hurt she felt. These people hooked up for their own gains. Their second faces were so dirty and disgusting.

Thinking about the horrible situation she was about to face, Jinyan Xu would rather die than be a victim.

At this moment, her face was flushed in a weird way.

The unusual heat in her body made her realize that what Chu Yuhe and Xu Xinrou made her drink was not just alcohol.

Her head became heavier and she dialed a number with her last strip of consciousness.

After God knows how long, she heard footsteps coming closer when she was semi-conscious.

She felt her body became light as a pair of strong arms carried her up from the floor.

She caught a glimpse of the guy's deep-set eyes and thin, sexy lips...

She could even smell the faint, cold fragrance on his body.

Then, she held the man's cool and firm chest and wouldn't let it go.

The heat in her body made her lose her mind and act irrationally. She went ahead and kissed his cool and thin lips with her arms around his neck.

The inexperienced kiss had no rhythm or tricks, but it successfully woke up the man's dormant desire.

He turned around and pressed her underneath him like a beast that had finally got out of the cage, wild and dominant.

He was so strong that he almost broke her into pieces.

It hurt...

The sudden penetration made her frown and dig her nails deeply into his skin.

She bit him hard and tasted blood in her mouth.

She tried to push him away, but she couldn't resist.

The fire in her body almost burned her up. Only his coolness could save her.

The pleasure took place of the pain and made her fall even deeper.

Who was the man?

What would happen tomorrow?

What kind of brutal violence was waiting for her?

She couldn't care less. The only thing she knew was that she needed him for the night.

# Chapter 2 - A Born Actress

Translator:

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After a night of passion, the door of the hotel room was knocked open.

Xu Xiyan was woken up by the loud noise.

She opened her eyes and saw Xu Xinru and her father Xu Jinshan.

The man who was sleeping in the bed only showed part of his back, but the chaotic scene was enough to make Xu Jinshan furious.

“Damn you! Shameless bitch! Look at what you have done! You have ruined my reputation!”

Xu Xinrou saw Xu Xiyan being caught in bed and was secretly overjoyed. However, she pretended to explain it to Xu Jinshan, “Dad, don’t be angry. It only happened because sister was drunk. She didn’t want that to happen! Please forgive her this time!”

“Forgive? How can I have such a shameful daughter!”

Xu Jinshan was a director and was most concerned about his reputation. Seeing his daughter and a man fooling around, he was full of anger.

In the face of her father and sister, Xu Xiyan did not panic. She covered her body with a quilt and smiled.

“Dad! You have to ask yourself the same question. I mean, like father, like daughter.”

Talking about affairs, Xu Jinshan betrayed her mother first.

When she was 6 years old, her mother died. And less than a month later, her father took his mistress Su Rui and their daughter Xu Xinrou who was three years older than her home.

Since then, Xu Jinshan's heroic image had collapsed in her mind.

Since a long while ago, she had not thought of him as her father.

Now that she learned that he was willing to sell her for 50 million, she was even more unwilling to call him father.

He was not worthy of being a father.

A true father should at least protect his own child, but what about him?

Xu Jinshan was stunned by her words. "You...you want to give me a heart attack!"

Xu Xiyan smiled even more brilliantly. "If you are dead, I promise to send you a big wreath to commemorate your notorious reputation on the tomb-sweeping day next year."

"You..."

Xu Jinshan's blood pressure surged. How did his timid and weak daughter suddenly become a different person?

Xu Xinrou held Xu Jinshan in time and tried to reconcile the conflict with the stance of the good daughter.

"Yanyan, how can you talk to dad this way! Apologize to dad, and don't make him angry again."

Xu Xiyan sneered inwardly. Xu Xinrou, no wonder you insisted on acting. It turns out that you are a born actress!

Directing and acting all by yourself.

If you don't get an award for best drama queen, your face of white lotus would be wasted.

Want to make her apologize?

No way!

"What to apologize for? What did I do wrong? We are all adults here."

Xu Xiyan was 18 years old and had already entered college.

With her talents and conditions, she would have done very well if she had chosen to be an actress.

However, they did not want her to enter the entertainment business and compete for resources against Xu Xinru.

In addition, the death of her mother also made her hate the business.

Therefore, Xu Xiyan did not apply for the performance major at an art college but went to the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at Peijing University.

Xu Xinrou continued to add fuel. “Dad, sister might just want to get more pocket money and went to the extremes. We cannot blame her for that and should give her more pocket money later.”

The “white lotus sister” she tried to play was truly disgusting.

“How much do you want? Don’t we have enough money? You...you sold yourself for money? You disappoint me so much.”

Xu Jinshan feigned a look of regret.

In fact, he was only acting together with Xu Xinrou in order to cover up the ugly acts of their secret transaction and deliberately impose all the faults and blame on her.

Calling black white and white black.

“Right, how is the money you give me every month enough?” Xu Xiyan deliberately said that. How was it possible that the Xu family would give her allowances?

Since the Su Rui came to manage the household, her monthly living expenses were merely a fraction of Xu Xinrou’s.

If she did not work part-time in college, it was possible for her to be starved to death. Second young lady in the Xu family sometimes had even less than a beggar on the street.

It was heartbreaking just to think about it. If her mother was still alive, she would not be so miserable that she was bullied all the time.

Unwilling to see the hypocritical father and daughter putting on their show, Xu Xiyan glanced at the back of the sleeping man.

She deliberately held his shoulder and said to the two at the door, “If you don’t want to make the entire city know about this, go quickly. Don’t bother us.”

“Shameless thing! When you come back, I will break your legs!”

Xu Jinshan kicked the door open and walked out while cursing.

“Yanyan, remember to go home early and give dad an explanation.”

Xu Xinrou “kindly” reminded her before leaving.

Although they left, Xu Xinrou let the reporters who ambushed at the door get the first-hand photographs.

Next, she had a big gift for her sister.

# Chapter 3 - Screwed a Handsome Guy

Translator:

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After the people left, Xu Xiyan got out of bed, found her clothes to put on, packed up, and prepared to go. But the man in the bed woke up at this moment.

Lying on his side, he supported his head with one hand, looking elegant. With half a smile, he asked, “Are you leaving like this?”

Faced with the incredibly gorgeous face, Xu Xiyan was dazed.

The man had an enchanting face that was exquisite and elegant, like the cold moonlight cast on a snowy mountain.

The most special thing was his pair of good-looking eyes. The deep-set almond-shaped eyes looked like it contained entire galaxy. With the corners of his eyes slightly slanted, he had endless charm.

The moment she looked at him, Xu Xiyan’s heart skipped a beat.

She had seen many good-looking men but had never seen a man who was so enchanting. He was simply unspeakably gorgeous.

After being dumbstruck for a while, she came back to reality and remembered the phone call she made to her best friend last night. She had asked her friend to find an amateur actor to save the day.

Unexpectedly, her friend was so capable that she got her a peerlessly handsome guy.

Fortunately, it was not that fat investor. She was lucky to have slept with such a beautiful man.

Glancing at the blood stain on the sheets, Xu Xiyang's cheeks burned up. Looking away and feeling embarrassed, she quickly took out some money from her purse, counted it, and put it on the nightstand.

"Here is five hundred for you! You don't have to thank me. This is the pay you deserve! You have done very well in this sex scene. I am sure that you will become a celebrity in three or five years!"

"..." Huo Yunshen frowned slightly, looking at the pretty girl in front of him.

Sex scene? Pay?

Did she take him for an amateur actor that came to save the day?

Or did she think he was a man whore?

So, his face of an international movie king was no longer popular when he returned to Beijing? Did she not recognize who he was at all?

"Okay, I should go! Bye, I wish you good luck!"

Xu Xiyang really didn't recognize who he was. After paying him, she opened the door and wanted to leave. But he stopped her and trapped her behind the door.

The tall figure suddenly approached her. His magnetic and enchanting voice was pleasing to the ear like the cello, "You screwed me, so shouldn't you be responsible for me?"

He had never seen such an interesting girl. Shouldn't ordinary girls try to badger the man and ask him to take care of her?

In addition, he was not bad looking, right?

No matter in theory or practice, she was the first woman Huo Yunshen had ever slept with, and he couldn't just let her slip away.

The pressure from the man was too overwhelming, with a strong scent of male hormone, making her nervous.

Xu Xiyan turned around in panic and looked alert. “Hey! We are clear now! What do you want? I’m telling you, if you dare to block my way, I will bust your balls!”

Ha...

Huo Yunshen couldn’t help but chuckle. When he smiled, a pair of nice dimples appeared on his cheeks.

Xu Xiyan was mesmerized by his smile. So enchanting. He was handsome enough and was even blessed with charming dimples—so good-looking that other men would be desperate.

Huo Yunshen ignored her warning and grabbed her hand directly.

Xu Xiyan thought that he wanted to take advantage of her. But as a result, the man spread her palm and wrote a series of numbers on it with a pen.

Huo Yunshen glanced at her deeply and said half jokingly, “This is my private number. Next time you have a sex scene or kissing scene, you’re welcome to call me anytime. I will give you a 20% discount.”

He felt that he must be crazy, because he almost fell for a woman whom he had just met and slept with once.

But what could he do? She was, after all, the first woman to walk into his world!

Xu Xiyan, “...”

As long as he wasn’t going to take advantage of her!

The girl’s clear black eyes blinked cunningly, as she said with a perfunctory smile, “Okay, if there is a need, I will definitely find you! I can help you get more business as well! But now... I have to go!”

“See you!”

He was looking forward to meeting her next time. Would it be as fun as today?

# Chapter 4 - The Storyline Was Changed Too Fast

Translator:

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Huo Yunshen took back his arm and let go of her.

Xu Xiyan took the chance and fled.

Out of the hotel, the sun was shining. Xu Xiyan looked up at the blue sky and took a deep breath.

It's fine now.

It was not too bad last night. She was accompanied by a handsome guy. She learned how terrible people could be and saw the ugly faces of the sinister man and woman around her.

From today, she would no longer accommodate anyone or live for anyone. She would just do her and live for herself.

Xu Xiyan braced herself to stride forward. Her back was straight, and her figure was indestructible. Next, there was a war of words waiting for her!

She would like to see how some people of the Xu family would gloat.

Only a few hours since the incident, a scandal titled "The Rich Girl and a Stranger Hooking up in Hotel, Caught by Her Father in Bed" was spread everywhere.

The Internet, Weibo, and netizens were all passing it on.

Although the news only had the phrase "rich girl," her face was clearly in the photo of the story.

With this highly recognizable face, enthusiastic netizens speculated that she must be a certain director's daughter.

“Director’s daughter and stranger hooking up” quickly became a hot topic. Xu Xiyan casually refreshed Weibo and saw she was criticized harshly by strangers.

[She looks pure but is in fact a bitch. Slut ID’d!]

[Such a chaotic circle. Even a director’s daughter needs to sell her body? No way, right?]

[Now the young girls would do anything to get famous?]

[Most likely, the director is creating a hot topic to promote his bad movie!]

[What a slut. Her looks are okay. I wonder how much it costs to sleep with her?]

...

The public opinion was one-sided, and it was hard to read. An insider would know at a glance that someone must be deliberately guiding and manipulating the public opinion.

Xu Xiyan sneered. Xu Xinrou’s means were indeed treacherous. What a white lotus with hard-core acting skills!

When people hit the rock bottom, it was easy for them to see who the real friends were. With everyone pointing their fingers, only her best friend, Fang Xiaocheng (translator’s note: “Xiaocheng” means little orange) was truly worried about her.

“Hey, hello, Yanyan, have you seen yourself on the news? You made headline! What happened last night? How come you...”

Xu Xiyan was not affected by the incident at all, and she felt she was somewhat fortunate. “Orange, thank you very much. If your actor friend did not go there and save the day, I might have been miserable.”

Fang Xiaocheng did not get why she was happy and said in an upset tone, “Yanyan, I wanted to tell you that yesterday I didn’t have enough time to reach my friend who was an amateur actor. I wanted to tell you that, but your phone was powered off. If I knew that kind of thing would happen last night, I should have gone there myself and rescue you...”

“ ... ”

After Xu Xiyao listened her friend babbling, it was her turn to be depressed.

Fang Xiaocheng's friend did not go?

Who was the handsome guy at the hotel?

Did she sleep with a passerby who couldn't even be called an actor?

S\*\*t... This storyline was changed too fast!

Xu Xiyao didn't have time to figure out who the beautiful man that had slept with her last night was. The car had stopped at the door of the Xu household. The steward Su Gang had already flown in and told everyone that second young lady had returned.

# Chapter 5 - Be Serious!

Translator:

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In the living room of the villa, her grandmother, father Xu Jinshan, stepmother Su Rui, and first young lady Xu Xinrou were all present.

After she entered the house, she glanced at those who were sitting on the sofa with upset looks and felt like she was on trial.

Xu Xinrou saw Xu Xiyan, quickly took her arm, and said kindly, “Yanyan, you are finally back! Grandma, father, and mother are all worried about you! You can explain it to them now!”

Xu Xiyan got rid of Xu Xinrou and did show any intention to apologize. She asked, “What is there to be explained?”

Xu Jinshan couldn't bear it, slammed the table, and cursed, “Vile spawn!”

Xu Xiyan looked innocent. “From a genetic point of view, if I am a vile spawn and you are my father, wouldn't that make you an old devil?”

“Be serious, you damn girl!” Xu Jinshan was about to vomit blood.

“Why? Am I not serious? Even if I am not serious, I'm still better than some people who are pretentious!” Xu Xiyan glanced at Su Rui deeply.

Obviously, the words were meant to be heard by “some people!”

Su Rui couldn't help but frown. Why did she feel that Xu Xiyan seemed to be a different person today?

She was normally very obedient, completely tamed by Su Rui herself. But today, she even talked back! What happened?

Su Rui did not feel happy, but on the surface, she had to maintain her nice attitude as a good wife and mother. “Yanyan, don’t talk to your father like that! Just say you’re sorry, and this will be in the past!”

“I am not wrong, so why should I say sorry?!”

Xu Xiyan was the victim in an incident like this anyway. Instead, she was asked to apologize for her mistakes. Wasn’t that ridiculous?

“Where are your manners? If you had half the sense your sister has, you wouldn’t have been involved in such a big scandal!”

Her grandmother was angry, knocking her cane on the table and accusing Xu Xiyan.

Thanks to Xu Xinrou, although Xu Xiyan was addressed second young lady in the Xu family, she in fact lived worse than the help. Even her grandmother who used to love her was more and more disgusted with her.

“Yes! I don’t have what my sister has! If I have half of her tricks, I will not be so miserable as today!” Xu Xiyan said sarcastically.

“What are you talking about? Aren’t we the best sisters? How can you say such a thing?” Xu Xinrou immediately shed tears, as if she had been greatly wronged.

“Best sisters? I never knew that a good sister would stab me in the back.” Xu Xiyan snorted. “Sister, should I thank you for helping me make the headline today?”

“Yanyan, what are you talking about? I couldn’t be more sorry for what has happened to you!” Xu Xinrou wiped her tears and said in a caring tone.

If it were before, Xu Xiyan would definitely believe her, but now everything was different. She said coldly, “Put your hypocritical tears away! Don’t fake it! It looks disgusting!”

“Mom...” Xu Xinrou seemed to have suffered a heartache, crying on Su Rui’s shoulder.

“Look at what you are now! You are exactly the same as your shameless mom! Like mother, like daughter!” Her grandmother was angry.

“Grandma, will it kill you to tell the truth? If my mother was shameless, then how do you describe someone who seduces a woman’s husband, sets the woman up, pushes her out, and then takes her place?”

Xu Xiyang raised his chin high and asked justly and sternly.

Su Rui knew better than anyone else how her mother died!

# Chapter 6 - Breaking up

Translator:

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Editor:

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Back in the days, Xu Xiyan's mother, Jing Ruyue, was caught having an affair by her husband Xu Jinshan the night before she got best actress. Then all the scandals and sex photos were exposed.

A step away from the throne of movie queen, all the successes and efforts were ruined overnight. Coupled with her husband's ruthless abandonment and betrayal, Jing Ruyue felt wronged and eventually took her own life.

When Xu Xiyan was six years old, she lost her mother like that. Before her mother's bones were cold, his father brought his mistress and illegitimate daughter home.

And now Xu Xinrou had learned all the skills of Su Rui and wanted to ruin her with Chu Yuhe!

Only that could be called "like mother, like daughter," right?

Listening to the sudden accusation of Xu Xiyan, Su Rui and Xu Xinrou both looked upset. They looked to Xu Jinshan with grievances, waiting for him to be the judge.

Xu Jinshan was furious. He raised his hand and slapped Xu Xiyan hard in the face. "Bitch! What are you talking about!"

On the fair cheek of Xu Xiyan, five bright red bars appeared. The corner of her mouth was also bleeding.

She covered her cheek with a hand and sneered. "Oh... What did I say, you know better than anyone else! Feeling guilty?! Are you afraid that I will publish all your dirty laundry in public? Or are you afraid that one day the truth will come out?"

“Damn you! I will chop you into pieces if you say one more word!”

Xu Jinshan kicked her waist hard and threw her to the floor. And then a storm of violent punches and kicks rained on her.

He beat Xu Xiyan so hard as if there were not related. Even Su Rui and her daughter could not help but hold each other and turn their heads away from the violent scene.

Xu Xiyan gritted her teeth, not making any sound or asking for mercy.

It was not until Xu Jinshan vented his anger that he stopped and warned her, “You did that shameful thing, and now everyone in the city knows about it. Even I feel ashamed for you! If you continue to go down like this, don’t say you are the daughter of Xu Jinshan!”

This was her father, a well-dressed emerging director in the eyes of outsiders. No one knew that he was a man with a domestic violence history of more than 20 years at home.

In the past, his victim was her mother. After her mother died, he vented all his grievances on her.

Every time Xu Xiyan mentioned his affair or her mother, he would violently attack her with punches and kicks until she was covered in injuries.

Su Rui and Xu Xinrou always watched Xu Jinshan abusing Xu Xiyan. They never dared to say anything for fear that it would be their turn. In fact, they must be secretly gloating!

Xu Xiyan curled herself into a ball on the floor. She was hurting all over from his kicks, and the most pain was in her ribs. However, she gritted her teeth without making a cry.

When he had enough, she climbed up from the ground, wiped the blood from the corner of her mouth, and looked at Xu Jinshan with hatred. She sneered. “Great! I have had enough with a hypocritical father like you. For so many years, have you ever treated me like a person other than hitting me? You only remembered you have this daughter when I was a threat to your reputation, right? Now I am in trouble, and you can’t

wait to drive me out of the Xu family! OK, then let's sever the relationship. Today is as good as any other day to do that!"

In the past, she was terrified of the beating and did not dare to confront Xu Jinshan. But now it was different. She had seen everything through and did not even care if she died. Even if he beat her to death today, she would live like a human being!

"You said that yourself! If you step out of this door today, do not enter my home again ever! And you will have none of my property!"

Su Rui and her daughter saw the two of them breaking up and was overjoyed inwardly. As long as Xu Xiyan was driven away, no one could shake the status of the two of them in the Xu family!

"Save your money to buy your own coffin! I don't want it at all!"

After Xu Xiyan said those tough words, she quickly went upstairs to pack up her belongings. She only took two items with her.

# Chapter 7 - In My Dictionary, There Is No Such Word as Concession

Translator:

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Editor:

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They were both the keepsakes left behind by her mother: a violin and a brooch.

Her mother Jing Ruyue used to be a violinist famous at home and abroad. Later, she gave up her music career and joined the entertainment business to help realize Xu Jinshan's dream of becoming a famous director.

But in the end, she did not expect what a horrible man Xu Jinshan could become after they got married. The mysterious brooch was the initial reason for their breakdown and her husband's domestic violence.

Xu Jinshan had always been convinced that she was having an affair with the man who gave her the brooch. Each time he beat her, it was to find out who he was. However, Jing Ruyue would rather take the beating than tell him the truth.

Even when she died, Jing Ruyue was holding the brooch in her hand, which was why Xu Xiyan had always been curious about whom the brooch was from.

Who was the person that her mother was trying to protect at the risk of her life?

After she was all packed up, Xu Xiyan carried her suitcase downstairs. Xu Jinshan and Su Rui were not around. Only Xu Xinrou came up and said, "Why do you have to be so

stubborn, Yanyan? You know that if you concede, dad will forgive you!”

“Sorry, in my dictionary, there is no such word as concession!” Xu Xiyan kept on walking.

“Are you really leaving?”

“Isn’t this what you have been expecting?!” Xu Xiyan’s eyes were full of irony.

“...” Xu Xinrui’s heart thumped, as she felt slightly guilty.

Xu Xiyan walked out of the gate of the Xu household resolutely, without looking back. Determined and proud, she knew it was the most correct and dignified choice she had made in 12 years!

Instead of waiting to be swept out of the house, it was better to walk out the door with her head high.

When passing the garden, Xu Xiyan heard someone calling her and turned. It was her grandfather.

With a four-legged crutch, the old man stumbled towards her with a kind smile. “Yanyan, are you off school?”

“Yes, Grandpa!” Xu Xiyan smiled at him. In the Xu family, her grandpa might be the only one who really loved her.

It was a pity that he was old and suffering from eye problems and Alzheimer’s. He could no longer manage the family affairs or protect her like he used to.

“Oh, my Yanyan is taller! Are you going to middle school next year?” The old man rubbed Xu Xiyan’s head, saying his usual line. In his memory, Xu Xiyan was still a pupil.

“Yes, grandpa, next year I’ll go to middle school. I am busy at school, so I can’t come to see you often!” When Xu Xiyan said this, she felt her nose was sore, and her tears could not stop falling.

As she left the Xu family today, she would not come back again. Could she see grandpa again in her lifetime?

She only hoped that this would not be the last time they meet.

“School is important. Grandpa can’t help you anymore! Here is some pocket money that grandpa has saved up! Take it and buy some snacks!” The old man put a roll of money into her palm.

Xu Xiyan looked down at the banknotes in her hand, one yuan, five yuan, ten yuan, and the largest one was a 50. There was probably more than 100, all of which was saved up by grandpa.

Holding the money, Xu Xiyan felt an indescribable weight on her heart. Holding back her sadness and tears, she hugged the old man and told him, “Grandpa, you must live long and wait for Yanyan to give you a better life when she becomes somebody.”

“Good, grandpa is waiting!” The old man was very happy. Even his wrinkles were stretched out.

After saying goodbye to the old man, Xu Xiyan left the Xu family. She had already planned her next step...

# Chapter 8 - What a Refined Rascal

Translator:

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Editor:

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–She decided to go abroad.

Previously, she had finished all the paperwork to go abroad, but eventually chose to give up for Chu Yuhe's sake.

But now!

She had figured it out.

Going abroad might be the best arrangement for her.

Leaving Peijing, at least she could avoid Xu Jinshan's domestic violence and Su Rui and Xu Xinrou's persecution.

Just out of the Xu family, Xu Xiyan received a call from Chu Yuhe, who wanted to meet her.

Xu Xiyan sneered inwardly. This guy should be eager to get rid of her now!

In the cafe, Xu Xiyan saw a man in suit – Chu Yuhe.

In the past, his handsome face always made she feel like that he was the best-looking man in the world, but now looking at his hypocritical face, Xu Xiyan could only think of what a refined rascal he was.

He had hooked up with Xu Xinrou since a while ago, yet he could still put on an affectionate look for herself.

“So, why do you want to see me?” Xu Xiyan sat down opposite him and asked quietly.

Chu Yuhe put on a bitter and sorrowful look and said, “I saw the news, Yanyan. Why do you have to do something like that behind my back? Am I not good enough to you?”

Good enough! So good that he could set her up and give her away to an old man in exchange for the interests of the company and himself.

Now, Xu Xiyan truly regretted that when he said that he didn't have enough funding to establish his business, she generously invested all the legacy left by her mother to support him in developing his career.

As a result, when Juxing Entertainment just started to take off, he could not wait to get rid of her.

It turned out that he agreed to be her boyfriend only to get his hands on her mother's legacy.

Now it was impossible for her to get the money back, because she thought they were together when she gave him the money and did not ask for any legal documents.

Xu Xiyan could only blame herself for her bad taste in men. She sighed. “What should I do? It has already happened, and it's not like I wanted it to happen.”

“Do you know how much it breaks my heart to learn that? You have disappointed me so much. Since you can't treat me genuinely, we don't have to waste each other's time. Let's break up, Yanyan.”

Chu Yuhe came up with the breakup at the perfect moment. According to his experience, Xu Xiyan must be heartbroken, hold his thigh and beg him to change his mind in tears.

However, what surprised him was that Xu Xiyan showed no sadness, and even smiled brilliantly. “Okay, then let's break up! Remember to transfer the breakup fee to my account! Half a million, not a penny short.”

Chu Yuhe, “...”

Xu Xiyan stood up and put down a note with her bank account number written on it. Without any intention to stay, she walked out of the cafe elegantly.

Half a million was not much to ask. If he was unwilling to pay her even that much, then he shouldn't blame her for taking Juxing into her hands in the future.

Looking at her beautiful back, Chu Yuhe could not come back to reality in a long while. Who had changed the script of his play?

Why did he suddenly feel out of control?

Xu Xiyan, she seemed to have become different?

In order to pay for her travel, tuition, and living overseas, Xu Xiyan pawned her mother's violin for a hundred thousand.

She had a plan to buy it back on her return.

Before going abroad, she went to visit her mother's father. Her grandfather was distressed by her experience in the Xu family and supported her to go abroad. The old man got in touch with his son, Jing Zhannan, who was the head of JS Mercenary Group in Estan and asked the girl's uncle to make detailed arrangements for her.

A week later, Xu Xiyan was about to fly away from Peijing. When she was about to enter the security check, she looked back.

Among the people coming and going, no one was here to see her off. She left quietly, without even telling her best friend.

Goodbye, Peijing, I will be back.

On the day of her return, she would make her dead mother proud and reveal the truth about her mother's death to the world.

One day, she would return the humiliation and torture that the Xu family brought to her.

At the same time, the president's office, Yunhai Entertainment.

The man who had his brows knitted looked up at the scenery outside the window after finishing the work.

He couldn't help but think of the girl who was so daring as to throw 500 yuan at him after sleeping with him.

Huo Yunshen, who was expecting to meet her again, had been waiting for the girl to call him. He believed that she would come to him for this matter.

But the truth was that she had never called.

Huo Yunshen couldn't stand it and asked his assistant Yi Xiao to inquire about her current situation. Then he heard the news that she was going abroad today.

When he heard it, Huo Yunshen immediately drove to the airport.

However, the world was unpredictable. He had a serious car accident on his way to the airport...

# Chapter 9 - Her Cuteness Is in Defiance of Nature

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Five years later.

A woman wearing an embroidered beige Tadashi-Shoji spring dress appeared in Peijing Airport, together with a little girl wearing a small dress of the same style.

The woman was slim and beautiful. Her facial features were chiseled and exquisite. With long hair on her back, she looked ethereal.

With lovely straight bangs, the little girl had a pink face and a pair of black and bright eyes blinking like stars. When she smiled, she would show her cute little teeth and dimples, looking very adorable.

The adult and the child were especially eye-catching. An onlooker would think she was a TV star taking her child back to China.

Xu Xiyan was dragging several pieces of luggage and taking her daughter Ying Bao, struggling to move forward.

Before they walked far, a bag fell to the ground and the content scattered on the floor. She had to get down and pick them up.

Ying Bao was sitting on the largest wheeled suitcase and looking at the passengers coming and going in the airport. With her big black eyes blinking, she noticed a group of people coming from the opposite side.

A handsome man was surrounded by several bodyguards.

Such a handsome uncle!

Although he was sitting on a wheelchair, it did not affect his good looks at all.

Ying Bao loved watching handsome uncles. She not only stared at him, but also smiled.

Sitting in the electric wheelchair, Huo Yunshen looked up and saw a cute little girl sitting on a suitcase staring and smiling at him. As she smiled, lovely little dimples appeared on her round face.

That smile could melt people's hearts.

Such a cute little girl – this was Huo Yunshen's first impression of her.

When he passed by, Huo Yunshen smiled back at her and waved to say hi.

Xu Xiyan put everything back and got up. Seeing her daughter turning her head and looking back, she asked with confusion, "Ying Bao, what are you looking at?"

Ying Bao turned her head, full of excitement, and blinked at her mother mysteriously.

"Xi baby! I just saw a super handsome uncle with dimples just like me! He smiled at me and said hello to me!"

Xu Xiyan turned back, but only saw a group of people in black walking away. She was rendered speechless. "Are you sure that you didn't smile at him first? Well, Ying Bao, don't act all cute to strange uncles in the future. Got it?"

Ying Bao pouted and said innocently, "I know, Xi baby, but I did not act all cute! My serious face will prove it."

LOL... Her face was too cute to prove anything.

Xu Xiyan squeezed her daughter's cheeks and smiled. Then she dragged the luggage and left the airport together with her daughter.

In the VIP lounge, Huo Yunshen was meeting with the company's chief legal counsel, Tang Yichen. After greetings,

Huo Yunshen discovered that Tang Yichen had been staring at the screen of his mobile phone.

“What are you looking at?”

If it was not because Tang Yichen was laughing at his mobile phone like an idiot, Huo Yunshen would not have asked a word.

“Live streaming! Ha ha ha...”

To be precise, Tang Yichen was watching the previous episode of the live streaming channel and happened to be amused.

“Superficial!” He was actually watching something like live streaming!

“How is watching live streaming superficial!” Tang Yichen rebutted, “Have you seen it before? You have no right to make the conclusion without watching it first! Please, President Huo, speak cautiously!”

Huo Yunshen has indeed never watched any live streaming, which in his understanding, was no more than some Internet celebrities faking something in order to make money from the audience. What was there to watch?

Huo Yunshen did not speak, but his eyes were a bit cold. Tang Yichen realized that his words had been too sharp and quickly said, “In fact, it is not that I love to watch it. It is my son!”

“And, I did not mean to despise you.”

“What I want to say is that not all live streaming is superficial. Just look at this!”

“It’s the live streaming channel of a 4-year-old child! Her cuteness is in defiance of nature. I’m telling you...”

# Chapter 10 - Protective of Her Mother

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

With the good father Tang Yichen's recommendation, Huo Yunshen was forced to watch the last video from this child called Cherry Baby.

When he saw the cute girl at first sight in the video, he suddenly realized something.

This cute girl, didn't he just see her?

Cherry Baby's live streaming was very special and interesting. The content was mostly in the form of dialogues between Rabbit Mommy and Cherry Baby. The interaction was adorable.

Cherry Baby would also show her talents, such as telling a story or singing Peijing Opera.

After watching the video, Huo Yunshen was turned from a reluctant viewer into a loyal fan.

So cute.

So amazing.

This 4-year-old was capable of making anyone fall in love with her with her eloquence and cuteness.

Huo Yunshen had never seen such a cute baby. As long as she was on the screen, it was enough to attract people's attention, not to mention her talents.

Before boarding the plane, an app of live streaming was installed on Huo Yunshen's mobile phone. The only person he

followed was Cherry Baby.

Before the plane took off, the flight attendant asked everyone to turn off the telecommunications devices such as mobile phones.

When Huo Yunshen was preparing to turn off his mobile phone, he unexpectedly found that the airport had sent him an important reminder: [Dear Mr. Huo, we hereby inform you that according to our system, Miss Xu Xiyan whom you are looking for has entered China. Her flight number is znxxx.]

Xu Xiyan has entered China? !

Xu Xiyan has entered China? !!

Xu Xiyan has entered China? !!!

He waited for five years and finally got an update on her whereabouts? !

When Huo Yunshen saw the notice from the system, it was impossible for him to conceal his excitement. He immediately decided to cancel the trip and asked his assistant Yi Xiao to push him off the plane.

Tang Yichen saw that he was going to get off the plane and asked with confusion, “Hey, old Huo, the plane is about to take off. Where are you going?”

“To pick my wife up.”

Leaving his back to Tang Yichen, Huo Yunshen soon disappeared from the cabin.

Tang Yichen, “...”

What was that?

Did he just have an illusion?

What did Huo Yunshen say, pick up his wife? What wife?

A man who had been single for 28 years and couldn't talk to girls suddenly said he was going to pick up his wife?

This world must be a fantasy world?

...

Out of the airport, seeing the sky in Peijing was as blue as always, Xu Xiyan curled her lips into a confident and beautiful smile.

Peijing, it had been a long time.

After five years, she was back.

The cute little girl looked curiously at the outside world and asked her mother, “Xi baby, is this the place where you lived when you were a child? Are we going to stay here in the future?”

“Yes, Ying Bao.”

“Xi baby, Peijing is so beautiful! I love it here. After we settle down, let’s work hard and make money!”

What a little miser!

The little miser has not finished yet. “When we earn enough money to buy me a daddy, Xi baby won’t have to work hard every day!”

Xu Xiyan was moved, caressing her filial and sensible daughter. “Okay, Xi baby will work hard to make your wish come true and find the best daddy in the world who will never abandon us.”

“Yeah.” Ying Bao nodded with a smile. “I hope that daddy knows how to cook and will not let Xi baby starve. I also hope that daddy will wash clothes and mop the floor and will not let Xi baby suffer. He also needs to be strong so that he can protect Xi baby.”

The little girl was extremely protective of her mother.

“You have so many requests. That calls for extra fees!” Xu Xiyan touched his daughter’s little face and joked.

“...” Hearing there would be extra fees, Ying Bao held her little chin, upset. When will daddy be on sale?

# Chapter 11 - She Has a Child?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

After they had waited for a little while outside the airport, Xu Xiyan's girlfriend Fang Xiaocheng drove an old pickup truck over. She was looking for Xu Xiyan at the agreed place, but she did not even recognize her face to face.

In the end, Xu Xiyan first called her, "Orange, I have arrived, just in front of you!"

Fang Xiaocheng looked at the strange woman's gorgeous face in front of her and was obviously stunned. When she realized who it was, she cried and rushed over.

"You woman, you have been away for five years. Such a cruel girl. Are there too many handsome guys overseas keeping you there? Do you even think about me, your friend?"

Right. It was Xu Xiyan.

Although her makeup technique was superb, and even Fang Xiaocheng failed to recognize her, the little bear keychain hanging on her bag was a birthday present from Fang, and she was still keeping it!

The two women hugged each other. Listening to Fang Xiaocheng babbling, Xu Xiyan was very happy, so happy that she was almost in tears.

"You are better than all handsome foreign guys combined."

Xu Xiyan let go of her and looked at her with tears.

For so many years, the person she had missed the most was Fang Xiaocheng. They used to go to school together and laugh

together. Each day was so precious.

“Smooth talker as always.” Fang Xiaocheng looked at her up and down and laughed. “Your makeup technique is f\*\*king awesome! I didn’t even recognize it. I haven’t seen you in five years. How are you so slim still? Look at me...”

Xu Xiyan also chuckled. “You look good, too, resembling an orange more and more.”

“The orange is round, sista.” Fang Xiaocheng expressed deep concern for her growing weight. If she continued like this, she would soon become a grapefruit.

If she could, she really hoped that she could change her name to Fang Xiaokuai and become more and more slim like chopsticks. (Translator’s note: “xiaokuai” means little chopsticks)

“Hello aunt orange. I am little cherry. We are all members of the fruit family!”

Fang Xiaocheng felt that someone was pulling her clothes and looked down. There was a little kid on the floor with beautiful dimples as she smiled away.

What a cute girl. Her heart was immediately melted.

“Cherry? Where is the kid from?”

Xu Xiyan pulled her daughter over and introduced, “My daughter, Ying Bao, just turned 4 this year.”

Hearing that, Fang Xiaocheng felt she was struck by lightning, letting out a yelp holding her head.

“You, you... Since when do you have a daughter?”

“Why didn’t you tell me before... I didn’t have any mental preparation...”

“This child... You are married? With whom... My God... This must be a dream...”

Fang Xiaocheng slammed her head three times, and then opened her eyes. Little cherry did not disappear.

So, everything was real?!

“Aunt Orange, hug!”

Ying Bao loves Fang Xiaocheng and took the initiative to spread her arms for a hug.

The one thing Fang Xiaolan couldn't refuse was a child acting cute. She picked Ying Bao up and felt overwhelmed.

Xu Xiyan actually had a child?

Xu Xiyan actually had a 4-year-old daughter?

She had a child without any news of getting married?!

On the way back, Fang Xiaocheng had been groaning, “Going abroad without a word and giving birth to the baby yourself... Xu Xiyan, you are really...”

No one is more stupid than you.

Don't you know how hard it is for an unmarried woman to raise a child alone?

# Chapter 12 - Ignorant

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“I never regretted giving birth to Ying Bao. Ying Bao is my everything and my life.”

Xu Xiyan held her daughter and kissed her forehead.

During the five years overseas, she spent four years raising the child and completed her studies at the same time. It was very tough but full of happiness, totally worth it.

“Who is the father of Ying Bao?”

Fang Xiaocheng was more concerned about this issue. She remembered that five years ago, after that night, the scandal between Xu Xiyan and a bald old man was spread around. The child should not be that person’s?

“Er... I don’t know.”

Xu Xiyan smiled awkwardly.

“...” Fang Xiaocheng was speechless. The more we thought about it, the more terrified she was. Is the child really of that bald old man?

After Xu Xiyan went abroad five years ago, it was not long before she found out she was pregnant.

The child’s father was the stranger from that night, but unfortunately, she did not ask for his name at that time, otherwise she could ask for some child support.

But then again, without him knowing, she gave birth to the child alone, so there was no reason to ask for money.

Worst case scenario, even if she met the stranger again, she could not let him know that she had given birth to his child

secretly. Otherwise, if he wanted to take her daughter away, she would rather kill herself.

Ying Bao was hers, and no one could take her away.

Hearing that her best friend wanted to be an actress, Fang Xiaocheng still couldn't believe it. "So you want to get into entertainment. Are you kidding me?"

"No, I am serious."

Xu Xiyan changed her mind and chose the path of acting mainly to fulfill her mother's will. Her mother was a step away from best actress, and this last step, she would complete for her mother.

"To tell the truth, since you are on your own, I really think the chance is slim. You don't even know what they have become after five years."

Fang Xiaocheng knew what was going on in Xu Xiyan's family and was sympathetic to her experience. Therefore, she couldn't help but worry about Xu Xiyan.

With Xu Xiyan alone, she simply did not have enough power to destroy Xu Jinshan, Chu Yuhe, and Xu Xinrou, did she?

"I understand, but I am not afraid."

Xu Xiyan understood her worries. Fang Xiaocheng was worried that the path she chose would be full of thorns and bumps, and she was worried that she would be injured and bruised.

She was afraid that Xu Xiyan would not be able to avenge her mother but instead sacrifice her own life. She was fearing that Xu Xiyan would repeat the mistakes of her mother...

After all, five years had passed, and Xu Xiyan's opponents had all become very powerful, but she had not even officially debuted.

Xu Xiyan learned from Fang Xiaocheng that in the past five years, Xu Jinshan had become the director of Yunhai Entertainment, the largest entertainment company in Beijing. With Yunhai Entertainment to back him up, each of his works had been a box office success.

Yunhai Entertainment, a subsidiary of the Huo Group, had an unassailable dominance in Peijing. It had acquired many competitors, but Juxing Entertainment was an exception.

It could be said that Juxing grew up under the protection of Yunhai Entertainment.

Chu Yuhe's career had been incredibly smooth. And his worth was now over 100 million, definitely top ten on the list of the richest in Peijing.

Not to mention Xu Xinrou, who had become the queen of Juxing Entertainment, with the best resources and terms. As one of the country's top-ranking stars, her worth was immeasurable.

All these changes were due to the special care of Huo Yunshen, the new president of Yunhai Entertainment.

Xu Xiyan had left Peijing for five years, so she was ignorant of what was going on. "Who is Huo Yunshen?"

"Geez, you don't even know Huo Yunshen?"

# Chapter 13 - One More Enemy

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Seeing her ignorance, Fang Xiaocheng thought that it was very necessary to educate her on Huo Yunshen's gossip.

His English name was Elvis, and he used to be an actor. At the age of 21, he won the title of international best actor with the movie "24 Hours of Life" and was known as the "Oriental Legend of Hollywood".

He was a clear stream in the entertainment business. Since his debut, he had zero scandal. In Western countries, he managed his career with dignity and backbone, truly the pride of his nation.

After retiring and returning to China, he became the sole heir to the Huo Group and the current president of Yunhai Entertainment.

Whether it was acting or doing business, he had extraordinary insights and vision, and he was always resolute and decisive.

With Huo Yunshen's current identity and status, as long as he stamped his foot, the whole Peijing would tremble.

It was true that Xu Xiyan had been ignorant. "I didn't expect Elvis to be Huo Yunshen."

Of course she knew about Elvis. During her stay in Estan, she had seen his movies and knew he deserved to win best actor.

After listening to the legend of Huo Yunshen, at this moment, the only word Xu Xiyan could think of was "f\*\*k."

It was hard enough to deal with Xu Jinshan and Chu Yuhe. Who knows that there was a super boss behind them now?

But, so what?

The friend of Xu Jinshan and Chu Yuhe was her enemy.

“I don’t care what kind of actor he is. Whoever blocks my way is my enemy.” Xu Xiyan made a clear stand.

As Ying Bao heard her mother’s words, she hugged her mother’s arm and firmly supported her. “I don’t care. Whoever blocks Xi baby’s way is Ying Bao’s enemy.”

Fang Xiaocheng, “...” Well, she should bow to no one other than these two.

Although Fang Xiaocheng supported Xu Xiyan, as far as her sympathy goes, she did not feel that Huo Yunshen was so evil.

“In fact, he did not have the best luck. As an oriental legend, soon after returning to China, he suffered a car accident and got lifelong disability. He could only sit on a wheelchair now.”

When Fang Xiaocheng said this, she was full of sympathy for the former movie king.

“What are you talking about? Paralyzed?”

Xu Xiyan asked as she felt weird. How could such a superstar suddenly have a car accident and become disabled?

“Yeah. Heaven is jealous of geniuses.”

Fang Xiaocheng not only shared a lot of gossip with Xu Xiyan, but also showed her a lot of news reports on her mobile phone. Then she told her mysteriously, “But there was gossip saying that his accident was arranged.”

“Who would want to murder him?”

Vaguely, Xu Xiyan felt very sorry. Huo Yunshen’s experience reminded her of her Internet friend named Wing.

“Maybe his coldness offended by someone.”

Fang Xiaocheng sighed again. Xu Xiyan fell silent. That was the end of the topic.

...

At the Peijing Airport, Huo Yunshen, who had temporarily canceled his trip, compared the screenshots provided by the airport staff and found that they might have made a mistake.

The girl he was waiting for and the woman on the screen looked completely different. They were not the same person at all.

“Maybe they just have the same name, young master.”

Assistant Yi Xiao said carefully. He could understand the mood of his boss at this time—he must be very hurt.

# Chapter 14 - A Familiar Face

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen, who was always a loner, rarely had any association with the opposite sex. Xu Xiyan was the first woman who accidentally entered his lonely world. To him, she was the most special.

Since that night five years ago, he had been deeply in love with her. When he was ready to go to her, he was surprised to hear that she was going abroad.

On the way to the airport, he had a car accident and suffered a spinal injury, causing him to be seriously paralyzed. After that, he could only rely on wheelchairs.

In the most difficult and desperate time of his life, he couldn't have made it if it was not for his paranoid love for Xu Xiyan.

After so many years, he had never forgotten Xu Xiyan, and it had been five years.

In the end, he finally got an update, but it turned out to be a fake one. It was only normal that he was incredibly hurt.

“Forget it.”

In the deep dark eyes of Huo Yunshen flashed a trace of disappointment that was hardly noticeable. He pressed the remote control in his hand and moved the wheelchair out of the VIP lounge.

No one knows how regretful Huo Yunshen felt at the moment. He should have been more proactive back in the days and gone to her earlier. That way, there might not have been a car accident, and she could have been kept in his sphere of influence.

So that she would not have flown out of his world, with no more news.

So that he did not have to be tortured by lovesickness.

Xu Xiyan, Xu Xiyan, where are you?

...

Xu Xiyan and her daughter followed Fang Xiaocheng back to the Blueberry Community.

With a temporary place to stay, Xu Xiyan removed her makeup and returned to her old self.

She planned to live in Fang Xiaocheng's home with her daughter until she found the place to live. After all, Fang Xiaocheng's boyfriend often came over, and it was not convenient for the two of them to stay for long.

In the evening, Fang Xiaocheng and her boyfriend Wang Dazhi took them out to dinner. The good friends finally reunited after a long time, so they were all very happy as they talked while eating.

Like Xu Xiyan, Fang Xiaocheng studied at the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at Peijing University. She initially wanted to be a screenwriter after graduation but had to give up her dream because of various issues of her family.

Later, she opened a flower shop and wanted to earn more money so that she and Wang Dazhi could get mortgage and buy a place to get ready for marriage.

Originally, her business was quite good, but after two more flower shops were added to the equation, her revenue suffered.

When talking about earning money, Xu Xiyan was quite experienced. "Come and do live streaming succulents with us. You will go out of poverty in two years."

"Live streaming succulents?" Fang Xiaocheng did not understand. As the owner of a flower shop, she knew what succulents were. But what did it mean to live stream succulents?

When she heard Xu Xiyan out, she then learned that it meant auctioning succulents on the live broadcast.

She heard that the little cute child next to her was quite a celebrity online. She auctioned succulents in the live broadcast every day and received more revenue than her flower shop.

Fang Xiaocheng felt like she had found a fortune. Hugging Ying Bao, she kissed the girl hard. “Little cherry, aunt orange will follow your lead in the future!”

Ying Bao very generously took her in. “No problem. Since aunt orange has treated me to dinner, I have you covered in the future.”

“Hey~~Ying Bao is such a good friend. Auntie loves you.”

In a short time, Fang Xiaocheng had completely fallen in love with this little cute baby. She even had the urge to keep the girl for herself.

Why are you so cute?

After dinner, they went to the Silver Cabinet to sing karaoke, drank a lot of wine, and had a great time.

After a while, Ying Bao fell asleep, Fang Xiaocheng rushed to hold her and gently patted the child’s back. “Yanyan, the child fell asleep. Let’s go back!”

“Sure.”

Xu Xiyan and Fang Xiaocheng went back together with Ying Bao.

In the hallway, they happened to see a familiar face.

# Chapter 15 - Still Holding a Grudge

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Chu Yuhe was at his company's wrap-up party. After he walked out to answer a call, he finished talking and turned around, catching a glimpse of a familiar figure.

The light in the corridor was a little dim, so he was a bit uncertain. "Is it really you, Yanyan?"

Xu Xiyan paused, looked up at the man not far away from her, her eyes groggy.

After recognizing who he was, with a sneer in her eyes, she could still remember the disgusting scene in the past.

Five years ago, at the dinner, they not only drugged her, but also wanted to give her to the investor in exchange for the company's interests. They trashed her, and even wanted to ruin her afterwards.

On that night, Xu Xiyan's heart was broken into pieces. Betrayed by the two people who she trusted the most, she felt more pain than being stabbed by a knife.

She was still holding a grudge until this day.

She must make them taste double the shame and hurt that they brought her. Otherwise, it would be too easy on the shameless couple.

Now five years had passed, Chu Yuhe had changed a lot, with the posture of a big boss.

Wearing a hand-made suit and stylish hair, he had piled up all the name brands on his body, for fear that others did not know

that he was rich.

One word: hillbilly!

Seeing the scum Chu Yuhe again, Xu Xiyan could only think of a proverb: the road is narrow for enemies.

The handsome guy was clearly mesmerized by her beauty. “Yanyan, when did you return to China? Why don’t you contact me?”

Chu Yuhe did not expect that five years after they broke up, when he saw Xu Xiyan again, her beauty would simply shock him.

The woman was slightly drunk. Her cheeks were flushed, and her eyes were without focus, with a hint of indescribable charm.

Five years later, her beauty doubled and tripled, and even her vibes had changed.

Confident, open, elegant, and unattainable. That was his new impression of Xu Xiyan.

“It turns out to be President Chu. Do I need to report to you when I return to China?”

Xu Xiyan sneered. She did not want to pay any attention to him and was ready to leave, but Chu Yuhe spread his arms and blocked her way.

“Yanyan, I haven’t seen you in five years. How have you been? Do you know that since you left without a word, I have been waiting for you these years.”

Chu Yuhe put on his look of deep affection. Even he could not tell what he was feeling, trying to make her stay at this moment.

He actually started to miss her, and even had an impulse to get back together with her.

After all, Xu Xinrou had micromanaged him to the teeth, which was suffocating, making him miss how obedient Xu Yiyan had been in the old days.

The return of Xu Xiyan was undoubtedly a welcome rain after a prolonged spell of drought.

He remembered that since they were little, she had always made him the center of her world. Now, as long as he curled his finger, she would definitely return to his embrace, right?

“Waiting for me? Ha... I remember we broke up five years ago?”

Xu Xiyan crossed her arms and reminded him calmly. “If I remember correctly, President Chu still owes me a breakup fee of 500,000!”

“...” Chu Yuhe’s face turned pale. And after a few seconds of awkwardness, he braced himself to suggest, “Yanyan, let’s talk.”

“We don’t seem to have anything to talk about.”

When Xu Xiyan spoke directly and brushed past him, Chu Yuhe grabbed her arm, as if he would not let her go today without having a chance to “talk to her.”

“Chu Yuhe, what do you want?” Fang Xiaocheng screamed, “Let go of Yanyan!”

Wang Dazhi also stepped forward and bristled at Chu Yuhe. “Let go of her. You hear me?”

# Chapter 16 - Dreaming of Choking Him to Death

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Instead of letting go, Chu Yuhe said, “I have something to say to Yanyan, I hope you can mind your own business.”

“You...” If Fang Xiaocheng were not holding Ying Bao, she would have rushed forward to tear his hypocritical face off.

They had broken up, and he was still badgering Xu Xiyan, which was disgusting and embarrassing.

“Orange, Dazhi, you take the child back first.”

Xu Xiyan winked at Fang Xiaocheng as a sign that they could leave and she would be fine.

Today, she was no longer the weak and gullible woman five years ago. She was capable enough to protect herself. Chu Yuhe could not pose a threat to her.

Fang Xiaocheng understood her look and took Ying Bao back home together with Wang Dazhi.

In the quiet corridor, the dim light cast on Xu Xiyan’s gorgeous face.

Chu Yuhe’s looked her up and down with greedy eyes. Xu Xiyan looked away and deliberately said, “Don’t you want to talk? Should we just stand here?”

Chu Yuhe saw that she was willing to give him a chance and felt thrilled. Pointing to an empty private room, he asked, “How about the private room over there?”

Xu Xiyan did not answer but turned directly and walked toward the private room. Chu Yuhe forced himself to calm down, followed her inside, and locked the door of the room.

Xu Xiyan was put together, but Chu Yuhe seemed a little nervous, his eyes full of admiration and appreciation.

“Yanyan, it’s been five years. You’ve changed a lot. You are now so pretty that I don’t dare to recognize you.”

Xu Xiyan saw that he was gazing at her full of lust.

Blinking cunningly, she thought that she couldn’t let go of this this great opportunity presented by Chu Yuhe himself.

Xu Xiyan smiled, approached him, put a hand on his shoulder, and deliberately teased, “Yuhe, you have also changed a lot, more mature and attractive now. What should I do? I found that after five years, I still can’t forget you.”

Of course, she couldn’t forget him. She even dreamed of choking him to death.

There was no way Chu Yuhe would know what Xu Xiyan was thinking. He excitedly grabbed Xu Xiyan’s hand and said, “Yanyan, I... I am the same way. I have never forgotten you. Back in the days, I was a fool to break up with you. Now that you are back, can we go back...”

In fact, Chu Yuhe only wanted to keep her as a side piece. When he felt lonely, she would be his entertainment. It would be such a great luck if he could date both sisters.

Xu Xiyan immediately saw through his mind and smiled even more brilliantly. She asked, “Yuhe, do you really still love me?”

“Of course! My love for you has never changed. After so many years without you, I finally learned how much I care about you. Not a single day passed without me thinking of you.”

This was how good Chu Yuhe was at lying, but unfortunately, Xu Xiyan would never fall for it again. “But I heard that you and my sister are dating. What about that?”

Chu Yuhe's eyes flashed and he explained, "That's because she's been stalking me. The media is just inventing things. Just some random scandals. Don't take it seriously."

"So, my sister also loves you very much? Then who do you think is better, she or I?" Xu Xiyan deliberately asked.

"In my heart, of course you are the best and the most gentle. She is an unreasonable woman, so dramatic and vain. How can such a woman be compared with you? She's not even worth your little finger."

In order to please Xu Xiyan, Chu Yuhe did not hesitate to call Xu Xinrou worthless.

Xu Xiyan wondered how her sister would react listening to Chu Yuhe's words?

# Chapter 17 - A Surprise Arranged by God

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

She quietly turned off the phone recording and put on a gentle and shy look. She deliberately scratched his chest with her fingers, and teased, “Yuhe, we have been apart for too long. I really miss you... Do you want me?”

“Yanyan, I...” Her eyes were mesmerizing, and her intention was clear. Chu Yuhe was going to have a nosebleed.

“If you want me, hurry up and take everything off!” Xu Xiyan urged.

“Oh oh...”

Chu Yuhe was so happy. He didn’t expect Xu Xiyan to love him so much still and even proposed to do it right here with him. Just thinking of what would happen next, he felt on top of the world.

He didn’t think much before taking off his jacket and pants.

When his pants were down at his feet, unexpected punches landed on his eyes hard, catching him off guard.

Then there was a good beating, making him swollen and bloody.

“Ahhhhh...”

Chu Yuhe wanted to hide but was tripped by his own pants and fell to the floor.

Xu Xiyan’s eyes were filled with hatred. Taking a beer bottle from the table, she smashed the bottom of the bottle, and

stabbed his butt with the sharp broken bottle.

“Go to hell, scum!”

Xu Xiyan wanted to castrate him, but Chu Yuhe was screaming like crazy. “Help! Murder...”

It would be a lot of trouble if people came. Xu Xiyan fled the scene immediately.

When she ran out, there were two waiters who heard the sound and came.

Chu Yuhe saw someone coming, shouted for help, and asked them to catch the woman who had just run out. The two waiters immediately went to chase Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan ran out of the Silver Cabinet KTV. Hearing that someone was chasing after her, she kept on running.

Seeing a black RV parked on the side of the road with a driver in the car, she didn't even think about it before she pulled the door open and pointed the bloody broken bottle at the driver's head. She ordered, “Drive! Now!”

The driver was shocked. In the rearview mirror, an aggressive woman was threatening him with a beer bottle. He had to start the car.

As the RV was on the road, she successfully got rid of the two waiters who were chasing her. Before Xu Xiyan had time to relax, she felt a pain in the back of her neck and suddenly lost her consciousness.

The man sitting in the back of the RV felt that the car was moving, pressed the bell, and asked what was going on. His assistant had not got in the RV yet, and he did not ask the driver to go.

The door was opened, and a staff member reported to him, “Sir, someone just tried to hijack the RV. It's now under control.”

“Who was it?”

Huo Yunshen was curious who would be so daring as to hijack his vehicle.

“A woman.”

Woman?

The carjacker was a woman?

Huo Yunshen was even more curious.

Two of his men brought Xu Xiyan in and threw her on the floor.

Xu Xiyan was lying on her side, with her hair covering half of her cheek. With an investigative look, Huo Yunshen felt more and more suspicious. “Turn her over.”

The two men turned Xu Xiyan over as he said. She was now lying on her back, and the hair that had covered her face fell, revealing a beautiful face.

When Huo Yunshen saw her face clearly, he couldn't help but gasp.

Unbelievable!

Totally incredible! ! !

Xu Xiyan!

It was actually Xu Xiyan! ! !

The girl that he had failed to find in five years accidentally appeared next to him. Is this a surprise that God arranged for him?

# Chapter 18 - A Bit Overwhelmed

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

No wonder a few days ago, Master Qingshui of the Baiyun Temple told him a prophecy that great happiness was to descend from heaven.

At this moment, Huo Yunshen was ecstatic. He commanded, “Lift her up!”

The two men were obviously stunned, and when they were ready to go forward, they heard the master’s command. “Leave her!”

They were both dumbstruck. “...”

Should they do it or not?

“Go out and tell the driver not to go back to the Huo family. We are going to Shengshi Yujing.”

Huo Yunshen ordered again.

When the two men took the order and left, they closed the compartment door.

In the spacious RV, only he and Xu Xiyan were left. Huo Yunshen controlled the wheelchair to go to the girl.

Carefully staring at her for a moment, he confirmed that it was indeed her. His hands were trembling in excitement, and his heart was racing like crazy.

Fancy finding by sheer luck what one has searched for far and wide. That was his exact thought this moment.

In the face of the girl who had suddenly appeared, Huo Yunshen appeared to be a little nervous.

He reached out both hands and shrank back hesitantly, for fear that she would disappear at his touch.

When he became a bit calmer, he braced himself to gently lift her up. After carrying her onto the sofa, he found a thin blanket and covered her with it.

Then, he just stared at her.

At this moment, the missing piece finally came back to his heart. She was his recovered treasure, so he cherished her even more.

You have to believe that some people would really remember someone eternally just because of one glance.

Engraved in the depths of his memory, deposited in the bottom of his heart, melted into his bone marrow, and could not be forgotten no matter what.

There was Xu Xiyan to him.

After that night five years ago, he had been obsessed with her.

A woman who had disappeared for five years finally showed up. This time he secretly vowed in his heart that he would not let her leave him again.

After more than an hour, the RV entered the Shengshi Yujing Community.

Usually Huo Yunshen lived in the Huo Mansion, but there were so many people there that it was not safe enough, which was why he temporarily changed his destination to Shengshi Yujing, his private apartment.

Most of the people living in Shengshi Yujing were in the upper class, and the security was quite rigorous. Only the residents were allowed access.

Huo Yunshen was in his wheelchair, holding Xu Xiyan in his arms. His man pushed him to the door of his apartment.

He activated the electric mode and operated the wheelchair back to his place of residence. Then he gently placed Xu

Xiyan on his bedroom bed.

Without any experience of getting along with women, Huo Yunshen was a bit overwhelmed facing Xu Xiyan alone.

What should he do next?

Maybe nothing, just watching her quietly was good enough.

Huo Yunshen stared at the girl who was sound asleep. She had exquisite facial features, clear-cut like a mixed-race girl.

Her cheeks were pink and moist, like a fresh apple. Her long black hair was spread on the white pillows, soft like seaweed.

She is beautiful.

More beautiful than she was five years ago.

...

The next morning, Xu Xiyan woke up and still felt some pain in the back of her neck.

She opened her eyes and found herself lying in a strange place, wearing only a man's shirt. She could not help but scream, "Ahhhh..."

What's going on?

She only remembered that she was hijacking an RV with a beer bottle in her hand. Then she was attacked and lost her consciousness. Was she... by someone...

When she was guessing, the door was opened. Xu Xiyan looked up and became dumbstruck!

# Chapter 19 - She Forgot Him

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Coming in was a man in a wheelchair, who looked very handsome. His soft hair covered half of his good looks.

Xu Xiyan's eyes were fixed on his wheelchair. She wondered who he was.

Why did he look a bit familiar?

The man moved himself closer to her slowly with his remote control. Xu Xiyan immediately felt awkward and pulled up the blanket to cover herself up. She asked with vigilance, "Who, who are you..."

"You don't remember who I am?"

Hearing the cold voice, Xu Xiyan stared her watery eyes wide and gazed at him.

The man looked up, revealing a pair of deep-set eyes under his short hair. His thin red lips were curled into a gentle arc, as he let her look himself up and down, expecting her to recognize him.

God!

He is too handsome!

The man in front of her was even better looking than a woman. Could you leave us women some confidence at all, dear?

"You..." Xu Xiyan's beautiful eyes were full of shock. After looking at him for a while, she muttered, "No way... Why do you look so much like a movie star? Who is it?"

She couldn't remember at the moment.

Huo Yunshen, "..."

He completely suspected that this girl had face blindness.

Obviously, she had forgotten about him, together with that night five years ago.

After putting her brain to work, she finally cried out, “Ah, I know.”

Huo Yunshen’s eyes lit up, as he looked forward to hearing her answer. But then she said, “You look very much like the international star Elvis, especially your profile.”

All right, she still did not remember him.

The light in Huo Yunshen’s eyes dimmed. He smiled awkwardly. “Is that true?”

Xu Xiyan’s brain was running fast. Looking at his face carefully, the wheelchair he was sitting in, and his legs in the wheelchair, she suddenly had a thought.

No, it was impossible for someone to be so much like another person. And they were even both in wheelchairs?

After thinking of a certain possibility, Xu Xiyan suddenly felt ominous. With her scalp prickling, she asked, “You... don’t tell me, you are Elvis? Were you really in a car accident?”

“...” Huo Yunshen did not speak, but replied with a quiet and sad smile, confirming her guess.

His car accident was a fact. His spine was indeed seriously damaged. And he was severely paralyzed.

He was a genius who had fallen from height of the glory into the dust. No one but himself knew how much despair and pain he had experienced.

He had spent the most difficult three years in a wheelchair. His whole life was gray and desperate. He had been through a long period of self-destruction when he was struggling desperately.

If he hadn’t been holding an obsessive and almost paranoid love for Xu Xiyan, he might not have been able to survive.

“You are not only Elvis, you are also Huo Yunshen?”

Xu Xiyao looked suspicious and thought that she was having an illusion. “Are you really Huo Yunshen?”

Huo Yunshen curled his lips into an evil smile and asked, “Don’t I look like him?”

“Yes, you do kind of look like him.”

At least he was quite different from the image of Elvis on the big screen. And he was different from the introduction of Huo Yunshen she found on the Internet as well.

In the movies, he often played some tough guys, manly and good at fighting. Later on, he became the president of Yunhai Entertainment who was cold and unreachable.

After Xu Xiyao confirmed his identity, she gasped hard.

# Chapter 20 - Thank Him Wholeheartedly

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

She was really shocked by him. She had never thought that she would see the legendary movie king.

If he was Elvis, if he was Huo Yunshen, then he was the super boss behind Xu Jinshan and Chu Yuhe!

He... What does he want now?

They seemed to be two people who should never have anything to do with other, right?

Thinking of this, Xu Xiyan could not help but ask, "Why am I here?"

Huo Yunshen explained with an understatement, "You rushed into my RV. My men thought that you wanted to hijack the vehicle and knocked you out, so I brought you back."

Xu Xiyan, "..."

What the f\*\*k? How could this be?

She randomly entered a vehicle, and it belonged to him?

That chance must have beaten the probability of winning the jackpot?

Xu Xiyan really should thank him for not throwing her in the street. Thinking about her situation, she did not think she should stay here. "Where are my clothes... This shirt..."

"The shirt is mine. Your clothes were stained with blood, so I helped you change."

It didn't matter whom the shirt belonged to. The important thing was that he said that he helped her change. Xu Xiyang couldn't help but ask in a rising tone, "You helped me change?"

"There was no one else at home. I didn't peek when I helped you change."

Huo Yunshen quickly explained, but when he said this, his cheeks were very slightly blushed.

He did not peek, he admired the view openly.

"Oh..." Hearing this explanation, Xu Xiyang was relieved.

She was wearing a men's shirt for the first time. It felt weird, but she still wanted to thank him from the bottom of her heart.

He was not only incredibly handsome, but also an upstanding good man.

It was a pity that such a good man had been disabled for his life.

Huo Yunshen's eyes naturally fell on her. The beautiful girl was covered in a large white shirt. With her black hair falling on her chest, she looked quiet and beautiful.

Really pleasing to the eye.

Under the unscrupulous gaze of the man, Xu Xiyang felt a little uneasy.

"Thank you anyway. Sorry for the trouble."

Xu Xiyang politely thanked him.

"It doesn't matter. I like the trouble."

"What?" Xu Xiyang thought that she had problems with her hearing. Who would like trouble?

"I mean, my pleasure."

Huo Yunshen explained with an evil smile, looking somewhat flirtatious.

His smile was so good looking, with a pair of dimples on his cheeks.

Dimples...

Why did she always feel that he was familiar?

Was it because she often saw the small dimples on the face of Ying Bao?

He noticed that she was a little shy. Huo Yunshen turned his wheelchair and told her before going out, "I prepared clothes for you. It's in the bathroom. After washing, you can come out for breakfast."

"..." The man only left her a manly back. Xu Xiyan felt a bit surprised: he also prepared clothes for her?

When the man left, Xu Xiyan then dared to get out of bed and look at the surroundings.

The decoration was low-key and simple, but with good taste, just like how the man felt to her.

He was an international star and sitting on an entertainment empire, but there was nothing extravagant and imposing about him.

The feeling he gave her was real, intimate, and down to earth.

So strange!

Why would she have this feeling?

# Chapter 21 - He Is Extremely Territorial

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

When Xu Xiyan arrived at the bathroom, she was surprised to find a full set of toiletries already prepared for her, all of which were new.

Woah... you can only find this kind of treatment in a 5-star hotel!

What a super considerate, man...it warms my heart!

It was too bad that he supported Xu Jinshan and Chu Yuhe, putting him on the opposing side. She almost felt like getting a boyfriend like him.

Xu Xiyan also found a tote bag on the bathroom counter with a blue beveled V-neck shirt and a pair of casual jeans inside. At first glance, they looked like ordinary clothes, and their tags had already been removed, so she had no way of knowing their prices.

However, Xu Xiyan had an eye for high fashion. She recognized the brand name "Lord," which was stitched into the clothes' side seams. It was an Italian luxury brand, and their design philosophy was "a low-profile king can do what he wants."

A seemingly simple shirt, but she was sure that it had cost no less than five figures.

Xu Xiyan personally liked Lord's design style. As she tried them on, she found that they fit as if they'd been tailor-made for her.

Xu Xiyao then remembered something. It's no wonder that Elvis's unconventional t-shirt and slacks look so stylish—they are also from the Lord brand.

She stripped off the clothes to take a good bath, putting them on once more after she'd finished. She walked out of the bathroom, feeling refreshed. She passed through the living room and fumbled her way to the dining area, her eyes immediately fixing onto Huo Yunshen where he sat at the table, reading the newspaper.

Xu Xiyao noticed that the furniture in this house was all custom-made...the stoves, dining table, chairs...it was all adjustable to suit the user's needs. Everything could be raised, or lowered enough to be used by someone in a wheelchair.

Xu Xiyao glanced at the kitchen stove, and then at the breakfast that had been neatly arranged on the table. She couldn't help but ask.

“You made breakfast?”

Huo Yunshen lowered his newspaper when he heard her voice. He lifted his cool eyes at her, and smiled slightly. “Yup.”

Xu Xiyao was silent, looking at him incredulously. He can cook? He's in a wheelchair, and yet he's still doing his own cooking?

She by no means meant to discriminate against a disabled person. It was just that, judging by his current position and special situation, she thought that he might have hired a caretaker to look after him.

Huo Yunshen looked at her appreciatively. He liked her fresh and simple appearance.

And she was wearing the same brand of clothes as him, except the colors were different. He was sure that she hadn't realized that her clothes and his were a set of matching couple outfits, specially prepared by him.

He gestured toward a chair. “Please sit down.”

Xu Xiyao actually wanted to bid him farewell and leave, but for some reason, she walked over to him instead.

The table and chairs were lower than she was used to, but Xu Xiyan was used to tables being slightly lower than average; Ying Bao usually ate at one which sat fairly close to the floor. Xu Xiyan sat down.

“Do you always cook for yourself? Why didn’t you hire a caretaker?”

“I don’t like strangers coming in and out of my place.”

Huo Yunshen was an extremely territorial man, and despised the idea of strangers intruding on his territory. He really didn’t like dealing with people at all. Back when he was living abroad, he spent most of his time alone, unless he was filming.

So he had learned to cook for himself. He wasn’t a good cook, but he wasn’t too bad either.

Xu Xiyan wasn’t sure what to say. It didn’t feel right to her. Huo Yunshen didn’t like strangers coming to his house...so why had he taken her home with him?

Were they no longer strangers?

Think about it. She had stayed overnight, worn his clothes, and slept on his bed. Could it be that he was warming up to her?

# Chapter 22 - That Was Surprisingly Touching

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyao looked down at the western-style breakfast on her plate. The food's appearance, itself, was enough to make her drool.

Looking at the nutritious breakfast that had been prepared, Xu Xiyao was surprisingly touched. It had been a long time since anyone had made her breakfast.

She peeked at the guy standing in front of her even though she had been trying hard not to. The more she looked at him, the more handsome he became. Good-looking, well-built...and a talented chef, too. Even though he was disabled, he remained confident and completely independent.

These were traits that she believed all men should possess.

Xu Xiyao used to work as a counselor at a welfare institution for the disabled when she was in a different country. She had met with many people, each dealing with a different kind of disability.

Yet, in each of them, Xu Xiyao found a thirst for life, and vibrant souls that stood against fate. She respected them. Even though they were disabled, their souls were still incredibly strong.

These people's spirits influenced her greatly, encouraging her to always search for the good. They helped her to realize that she had every reason to value her own life and everything that she had been given.

There was a friend that she met online a few years ago, Wing, who was also disabled. When she had met him, his mind was flooded with dark thoughts, and he saw everything around him as almost hellish.

After asking him about his mental conditions, Xu Xiyan shared her experiences with him, telling him about the time she spent working at the wellness institution, sending him pictures and encouraging him not to give up.

She succeeded in the end. Wing finally accepted her advice and started to challenge his fate. Even though she later quit being a counselor, and had her account hacked, Wing's story would forever be engraved in her heart.

Two years have passed since then. I wonder if Wing is doing okay...

“What’s wrong? Not fancying the breakfast?” The low-pitched voice pulled Xu Xiyan from her memories.

“No, it’s nothing. The breakfast is great, thank you.” Xu Xiyan smiled apologetically when she’d ceased her daydreaming. She picked up her fork and quickly began eating.

But after a few bites, she looked up.

“I’m actually quite curious,” she began. “Why would an award-winning actor like you, who had a good future ahead, suddenly quit?”

She wanted to recover from the way she’d spaced out. She didn’t even really expect Huo Yunshen to answer. Yet to her surprise, he responded.

“To be honest...being an award-winning actor is pretty lame.”

But the fact was that he had no choice but to give up on his acting dream and return to take over his family business.

Upon hearing his answer, Xu Xiyan nearly choked on her food. She thought she might even slap him.

Does he even realize that most people are only ever able to land second-rate roles for their whole career?

“Being an award-winning actor isn’t as glamorous as you’d think,” Huo Yun continued half-heartedly. “To this day, the memory that really sticks out is when I was forced to have sex with a woman five years ago. She thought I was some male escort and paid me a mere 500 Yuan. I never met her again after that. I wonder if I was actually scammed by her that night...”

After saying that, Huo Yunshen stared at Xu Xiyan, his dark, cold eyes never leaving hers.

Five years ago...

500 Yuan...

With their gazes still locked, something flickered deep within Xu Xiyan’s memory. Something from the past was surfacing.

The sweaty scene from five years ago, the breath and the warmth of a man gone wild. Two strangers, entangled in the dark...

Oh my god... Don’t tell me, that the award-winning actor in front of me is the stranger I had sex with? The dimples...of course, the dimples!

Are you serious?! Xu Xiyan began to consider just how powerful human genes can be; even dimples could be passed down from generation to generation.

She thought about Ying Bao, then looked at the man in front of her. Oh my god, those are probably the same deep, charming dimples!

“That....that was you?”

# Chapter 23 - Too Cruel

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The fork fell on the table. Xu Xiyan felt sick, as if there was a gun pressing into her.

The first thing Huo Yunshen had asked her when she woke up was whether she remembered who he was. She had been puzzled by the question, but now she knew what was up.

Shit, I'm done! It's true what they say, you reap what you sow!

"You finally remember?" Huo Yunshen narrowed his eyes, his handsome face smiling lightly. Oh, how wonderful it was to be remembered.

"500 yuan was a lot. In romance novels, the woman usually pays the man 100 yuan, so I'm already more than generous. Besides, why should I cheat you? You are a man, and I am a woman. I've never complained, and besides, I gave my first time to you. Dude, you're the one who got lucky, okay?"

Xu Xiyan was eager to get rid of the suspicion of her being a cheater. If he really wanted to get serious about it, asking her to compensate him for his loss, what could she do?

Had she been reading too many romance novels?

Huo Yunshen saw her panicking and decided to tease her.

"Is that so?" he asked. "Why do I have the feeling that I've been swindled? You must have known my identity beforehand and deliberately set up a scandal between us so you could take advantage of my status!"

Xu Xiyan immediately held up three fingers. "I swear! I didn't know you at the time, and I never would have thought of

taking advantage of your position. That night was honestly an accident...and if anyone gained anything from it, it was you!”

Xu Xiyan truly felt that she was the unlucky one, not him. What was he talking about?

“Besides,” she continued, “if I had really wanted to exploit your stardom, I would already be famous by now, but I’m still a nobody.”

She was really suspicious now. He had been kind, helping her to his home. But was it simply so he could settle their accounts?

Huo Yunshen watched her anxious face. It looked as if she was about to cry. He held back his smile, continuing.

“Then why do I feel that I was the one who got short-changed? I’m a movie star, the current president of Yunhai Entertainment, and you’re just a... nobody. And did you know? It’s all because of you that I had a car accident.”

Nani? (1)

All because of her? What did she have to do with the car accident?

She had gone abroad. How would she know a damn thing about it?

Xu Xiyan was incredulous. “Because of me? How is that possible?”

Huo Yunshen continued, “I gave you a chance to look for me, but you had forgotten all about it. If you hadn’t shirked your responsibilities and left just like that, I wouldn’t have gotten into a car accident while rushing to catch you at the airport. You tell me, isn’t this all your fault?”

Xu Xiyan was speechless: “...”

His accusation was clear enough. If she hadn’t fled after sleeping with him, he wouldn’t have had any reason to find her. And if he hadn’t looked for her, he wouldn’t have gotten into a car accident.

It was because of her that he was now doomed to live with his current condition.

So... if she really thought about it, then it really was all because of her.

After a few seconds of silence, Huo Yunshen looked sad and said, “when you left....do you know how much grief the car accident brought me, for that entire year?”

“...” Xu Xiyan couldn’t think of anything to say.

Huo Yunshen remembered how five years ago, he had been a proud, confident, strong and domineering man. Now his pride and confidence had been rolled flat, turned to dust by this confinement to a wheelchair.

In such times of darkness, feelings of self-loathing were inevitable.

That car accident had destroyed Huo Yunshen’s sense of pride.

Xu Xiyan had heard Fang Xiaocheng say that after he was severely paralyzed, he could no longer do “it,” which meant he could not have children.

For a man who was in his prime, it was as good as a death sentence.

It was just too cruel.

Xu Xiyan could not bear to think about it. What if she had been the one in the car accident? Would she want to commit suicide?

Endnotes:

Nani means “what” in Japanese

# Chapter 24 - I Should Thank Him

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“I can’t walk, nor can I marry. My family wanted an heir from me, yet I’ll die alone. You could never understand my feelings.”

Huo Yunshen’s words were filled with sorrow. Xu Xiyan started to feel bad about it. It was only under the day’s unique circumstances that she did what she did. It wasn’t intentional.

“I’m really sorry,” she said. “I would never have thought that it would turn out like this. But you really can’t put all the blame on me. Weren’t you the one who wandered into my room that night?”

Even though Xu Xiyan felt terrible for what happened that night, she never ever once regretted having sex with him. If it wasn’t for him, she would never have had Ying Bao.

She should really be thanking him.

Yet when she heard about how his family was expecting an heir from him, the feelings of annoyance and worry began to arise in her heart.

However, under no circumstances could he learn about Ying Bao, about his daughter. If that were to happen, the Huo family would take her by force. It would be the end of Xu Xiyan’s world.

Huo Yunshen raised an eyebrow. “So what you’re saying is that it was my fault for entering the wrong room? That it was my fault I was forced into having sex with you? That it’s pure

bad luck for me to end up hurting, both mentally and physically?”

“No, no... That’s not what I meant, I just...” Xu Xiyan waved her hands. She felt that no matter how much she explained, nothing would be solved. In the end, she threw down her hands. “Fine, it’s my fault. Just tell me your price.”

“That’s easy,” replied Huo Yunshen. “You have to pay back what I’ve lost. I’ll only make you repay what I’ve lost financially, which is 200 million a year. So, 1 billion should be around the right amount for the damage you’ve done to me.”

“1 billion!” screamed Xu Xiyan. She felt as if she’d been struck by lightning, burning her inside out.

Ha... Hahahaha... I just came back, and now I’m 1 billion Yuan in debt?! Oh, God, please! Are you trying to kill me?

Now Xu Xiyan started to wonder if she’d been the one to meet a scammer.

“You should know that 1 billion is actually rather low. If we include the amount my value would’ve increased annually, 1 billion is nearly nothing.” His tone was sincere, and yet a flash of wit twinkled behind the brightness of his eyes.

“I don’t have the money. I would rather offer my life than pay 1 billion,” Xu Xiyan replied. She wanted to kill him with a brick. What had she done in her past life to get such treatment in this one?

“Why would I want your life?” asked Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen’s pursed his lips as he tried to think of a solution. “If you can’t pay with money, then I can offer you another way to pay off your debt.”

“Which is...?”

Huo Yunshen stroked his beard, smiling. “Become my personal assistant. Move in with me and take care of me.”

If I can pay off my debt by taking care of his daily activities, then that would be great. It’s worth trying.

But...

“I’m fine with taking care of you,” said Xu Xiyan. “But a single lady like me living with you would cause some problems. I don’t want to be the topic of gossip, and I definitely don’t want to be accused of using you for fame or money.”

Xu Xiyan was worried about her future. If she wanted to have success in the showbiz, she couldn’t be caught having some weird relationship with Huo Yunshen.

“Piece of cake. You can move in next door.”

When Huo Yunshen had bought this house in secret, he had also bought the house on the other side of the road, and the houses next to him for some peace and quiet.

He had given her a choice, and now he began to pressure her, insisting that she make a decision in that instance.

“It’s either you give me 1 billion Yuan or move in next door. Choose.”

“Move in! I’ll move in!”

Xu Xiyan definitely wasn’t stupid enough to pay the 1 billion Yuan debt.

# Chapter 25 - I Will Be Responsible Until The End, Deal?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen was satisfied. His thin lips formed a smile, a charming light glimmering deep within his eyes.

He had taken the long way around, and it had worked: she had fallen into his trap.

Xu Xiyan, don't even think of trying to escape, you just can't!

"But I can't take care of you forever," she said.

Xu Xiyan didn't know that this was a setup, but she wasn't stupid. She thought quickly.

"I will take care of you until you can stand up again. Once you can walk again, you will release me from my 1-billion-Yuan debt to you. How about that?"

When Xu Xiyan had worked with welfare institutions for the disabled, she had seen many patients with disabilities similar to Huo Yunshen's, and they had all eventually regained the ability to walk.

As long as he was willing to cooperate, she was confident that she would be able to help him walk again, and return to him the sense of normalcy that he'd lost.

I'm such a clever girl.

Huo Yunshen rubbed his chin. "Well, it's not impossible."

That means it's possible, then!

Xu Xiyan exhaled, gently sighing. As long as he didn't ask for money, and as long as there was a time limit in place, everything would be easy to negotiate.

"But what if you go missing again like you did five years ago?" asked Huo Yunshen. "What should I do?"

Xu Xiyan swore on her honor. "Don't worry! I won't do it again. I will be responsible for you until you recover."

"What if I remain a cripple for life?"

"I'll be responsible for it until the end, deal?"

Xu Xiyan had decided to go all out. The worst-case scenario was that she would have to take care of him for life, but would that be the worst thing? He was Ying Bao's father after all!

"Deal."

This was exactly what Huo Yunshen was after. His efforts had paid off.

In order to bind her to her word, Huo Yunshen took out a contract he had prepared in advance, and asked her to sign it. Xu Xiyan's heart sank when she saw it.

Had he prepared everything in advance? Had he always known that she would sign?

Xu Xiyan signed the contract uneasily.

From that moment on, Huo Yunshen was her creditor, and she was his caretaker.

Oh Bodhisattva, oh Jesus, oh all the gods, please bless me!  
Please help him recover!

In order to stay in touch, Huo Yunshen asked Xu Xiyan to exchange phone numbers with him.

"I want to be able to reach you 24/7," he said.

"Okay, no problem."

Xu Xiyan nodded as she made this promise. When she received her phone, she noticed that it was fully charged, and sighed to herself.

He's really considerate, even charging my phone for me. What a true dreamboat!

As she was saving his number, a reminder of her schedule popped up on the screen.

"Aaaaah!" she yelled. "I'm finished!"

"What happened?"

Xu Xiyan stood up, looking very anxious. "I forgot, I have something important today. I have to go now."

She was annoyed with herself. She had allowed her plans to be derailed, all because of this handsome guy.

"Let me get my driver to take you," said Huo Yunshen. "Then I'll help you move in when you're done with your business."

Huo Yunshen called Yi Xiao to prepare the car, and then arranged for a few more members of his staff to drive over together to help Xu Xiyan move into the house next door.

Xu Xiyan wanted to take a breather, but Huo Yunshen obviously wanted her to move in immediately.

Why are men so impatient?

Xu Xiyan quickly tried to negotiate.

"No! I need a few days to prepare. I still have some things to deal with. I'll move in when I'm ready, okay?"

"All right, then." Huo Yunshen obliged her.

It's not like she can escape, anyway.

Yi Xiao soon arrived, parking the car below the apartment, grumbling inwardly.

Young master's mood is very unpredictable nowadays. Since that false alarm at the airport, he's become even more bad-tempered!

His master had arranged for him to go settle some business the night before. When he came back, Huo Yunshen was in a car, which sped off before Yi Xiao could even reach it. Yi Xiao had been quite confused, and chased them like a madman, but he couldn't get it to stop.

Later, Yi Xiao heard from his colleagues that they had caught a female robber that night, and the young master had taken her to his residence.

Yi Xiao didn't believe it.

He was determined not to believe it.

# Chapter 26 - Where Did She Come From?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Even Yi Xiao, himself, found it hard to get into the young master's mansion, and suddenly the young master says that he'd brought back a female thief? There was no way he would believe that.

Just as he was finishing seeking the truth behind the rumors, the young master came out from the mansion with a lady. Yi Xiao stared at them, his mouth wide open. Oh my god! Are you serious?

The young master is indeed with a girl... Wait...

Why does that girl look so familiar?

Xu Xiyan?

Isn't that Xu Xiyan?

Because of what had happened to the young master, Yi Xiao was fully aware of the background of Xu Xiyan and the Xu family.

Just one peek was enough for Yi Xiao to recognize Xu Xiyan. He was speechless. Where did she come from?

Even with the power of the whole JS Corporation, the young master couldn't find her.

For five godforsaken years!

What in the world must have happened to her, that she would come to him herself?

Don't tell me that she was the thief...?

Upon noticing that Huo Yunshen and Xu Xiyan were walking towards the car, Yi Xiao quickly stepped out and greeted them.

“Young Master.”

“Yi Xiao, please send Miss Xu home.”

She really is Xu Xiyan. Thank god the young master has finally found her...

“At your service,” replied Yi Xiao, opening the door for Xu Xiyan.

Yi Xiao glanced quickly at the young master before he left. Finally, the coldness in his face was gone. It was like the first moments of Spring.

Ha... Finally, a new chapter has begun.

Xu Xiyan requested that Yi Xiao drive her to Lanmei.

Upon Xu Xiyan’s arrival at Fang Xiaocheng’s house, she entered and was quickly tackled by her cute little girl, who hugged her leg tightly.

“Xi baby! Where have you been? I was so worried! Were you caught by some bad guy? Did someone bully you?”

With her little head slightly lifted, Ying Bao barraged Xu Xiyan with various questions, obviously concerned.

After changing into her slippers, Xu Xiyan picked Ying Bao up, planting a big kiss on her face.

“Nope. Xi baby is the strongest in the world. No one would dare to bully me.”

Ying Bao hugged her mother’s neck tightly. “Then where were you last night? Why did you come back so late?”

“Errr...” stammered Xu Xiyan, unable to explain that she had been staying with Bao’s father. “I was discussing a script with a really big director last night.”

As soon as Xu Xiyan finished that sentence, Fang Xiaocheng entered from another room.

“No one would discuss a script without prior preparations these days, you know? The kid was worried about you the

whole night, and here you are lying to her! You should never lie to a child. You know that, right?”

“I... I’m not lying to her!”

Xu Xiyan stared at Fang Xiaocheng, wordlessly asking her to help provide some cover.

I’m lying for her own sake, all right?

Fang Xiaocheng ignored this silent signal, taking Ying Bao from her.

“Cherry Baby, let Aunt Orange tell you something. Xi Baby did not go to discuss a script last night. She was actually out fighting bad guys. a real superhero!”

Xu Xiyan was speechless and uncertain, watching Fang Xiaocheng.

Sister, are you sure it’s good to lie like this? Weren’t you the one who told me not to lie...and now here you are enjoying this little fiction.

The cute little girl believed what Fang Xiaocheng said, searching her face innocently. “Then, did she defeat them?”

“Of course she did. All the bad guys were beaten up very badly by Xi baby.”

Fang Xiaocheng face formed a serious expression.

After hearing that, Ying Bao looked at her mum with newfound respect, clapping her little hands.

“Wonderful! Wonderful! Xi baby is so strong! Oh, I admire you!”

After praising Xu Xiyan, the cute little girl even threw her a big kiss.

“...”

# Chapter 27 - Beautifully Done

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyao rubbed at her nose, uncertain of what she should feel. She was worried that all of their silly jokes would be bad for Ying Bao's upbringing, her education.

They moved from the entrance hall into the house. Fang Xiaocheng immediately began to busy herself with her chores. She did not ask where Xu Xiyao had really been for the entire night.

Xu Xiyao couldn't help but ask.

"Orange...aren't you worried about me? I didn't come back last night."

"Not one bit, and let me say, you really full of surprises."

Xu Xiyao wasn't sure how to respond. "..."

"See for yourself!" Fang Xiaocheng said, handing over the newspaper. Xu Xiyao took a look at it, and was shocked by the headlines.

The report read: "President of Entertainment Company Violently Attacked."

Pfft...

After reading it, Xu Xiyao couldn't help but to snort, laughing. She hadn't expected Chu Yuhe to be front-page news after getting stabbed by her.

Ying Bao was close at hand, oblivious to their conversation, and Fang Xiaocheng combed her hair, laughing as she

explained.

“To tell you the truth, I was worried about you. I was afraid that the Chu guy would do something to you. I tried to call you but the calls wouldn’t get through, so I figured that your phone had run out of battery.”

“I worried for the whole night” she continued. “I was about to go to the police when I saw the news. I was so relieved. Now, I only have two words for you: Beautifully. Done.”

“Thank you...”

With this news, Xu Xiyan felt happy enough to launch herself into the sky. Haha...

“Don’t be too happy yet! What if Chu Yuhe files a report and the police come after you?”

Fang Xiaocheng suspected that Chu Yuhe was probably not going to let Xu Xiyan off easily. After all, he had been injured in this incident. Xu Xiyan would be in big trouble if Chu Yuhe was able to take her to court over it.

“Come for me? I was only defending myself. He wouldn’t dare call the police.”

Xu Xiyan was unperturbed. Chu Yuhe had been stabbed in the butt. It must have been humiliating for him. He wouldn’t dare call the police, not unless he was willing to face the jeering of the public.

She wondered how he was going to explain it to Xu Xinrou. How embarrassing!

“I hope you’re right. If Chu dares to call the police, I will be the first to give him a piece of my mind,” said Fang Xiaocheng with righteous indignation. “I’ll be your witness and tell the police that he was the one who started it. Do you have any plans today? Wanna take Ying Bao for a day out?”

“No, I don’t have time today.” Xu Xiyan had almost forgotten that she had work lined up. “I landed a gig as a stunt double and I have to go soon.”

“F\*cking workaholic.”

She's just returned from abroad and she's already busy as a bee. Is she that desperate?

"What can I do? I have a kid to feed. I'm just trying to be strong and independent."

The betrayals and abuse Xu Xiyan had endured five years ago had taught Xu Xiyan not to rely on anyone, especially not on a man.

She decided that she would never again rely on men to survive. She wanted to work hard, become rich, and get everything that she wanted.

She and Ying Bao could survive on the revenue from their livestream channel, but it wasn't enough to merely survive. She would have to earn more money if she wanted to buy a house of her own in Peijing. And the sense of security that would come with a permanent home would be well worth it; she and Ying Bao would no longer have to move from place to place.

"Well, all right," said Fang Xiaocheng. "Let me drive you."

Though Fang Xiaocheng didn't approve of Xu Xiyan working so hard, she was her best friend, and wanted to drive her.

When they arrived at the set, Xu Xiyan entrusted Ying Bao to Fang Xiaocheng's care. Xu Xiyan went in as the both of them waited in the car.

She was on the set of a police drama film called "The Root of Evil," and she soon found the stage manager, Mr. Xing, and introduced herself.

Mr. Xing glanced over her papers and looked her up and down.

What a fragile-looking beauty. Is she up to the task of performing as a stunt double for the role of a police woman?

"Can you do it? You're so thin!"

Mr. Xing looked doubtful...

# Chapter 28 - An Outstanding Actress

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Mr. Xing was suspicious of Xu Xiyan's abilities. When they had contacted her, her data showed that she was a master of Wing Chun, kickboxing and Sanda. That was the reason they agreed to use her as the double.

Xu Xiyan understood that they were suspicious of her abilities, especially because of her overly feminine dress.

But she was already there; she wouldn't take no for an answer. Xu Xiyan would do whatever it took to secure the role.

Without a second thought, she threw Mr. Xing over the table and pinned him down.

"So, am I capable enough to play the character?"

"Yes! Of course!" he said, shocked. "That's more than enough!"

The throw had been so clean and precise, Mr. Xing didn't even have time to react.

After Xu Xiyan let him go, Mr. Xing said, "fill in the form, and then go change your clothes."

On the form, Xu Xiyan wrote Jing Xi under the "name" section.

That would be her stage name. The family name Jing was her mother's. From that day onward, the entertainment industry would know her by that name: Jing Xi.

Free from the Xu family, she would represent herself from then on. Any success or failure would be of no concern to the Xu family, just as the glory or decline of the Xu family would be of no interest to her.

After completing the form, Xu Xiyan changed into the dark uniform of a policewoman.

Everything about her changed as she let go of every last bit of her strong, elegant aura.

The staff was stunned by her look, thinking why would an outstanding actress like her remain a mere double? What a pity!

In the scene where Xu Xiyan would be playing a double, the heroine would be chasing after a wanted fugitive. She would have to jump from an abandoned house onto the roof of a car, and then roll to the ground from there.

The director wanted the scene to be more impactful. So he had requested that the actress not equip herself with any safety wires. In light of the risk, the lead actress, Huang Yanran, proposed the idea of using a double instead.

As the camera began recording, Xu Xiyan ran from the far end of the house, jumping off the eaves, landing on the car, and rolling onto the ground. The scene was shot in its entirety, just one take.

But her face had been captured by the camera. With a double, this should never happen.

The director requested to reshoot the scene. Once again, Xu Xiyan performed all the moves brilliantly, but this time she did not act with the proper timing, and thus another take was necessary.

On the third take, she adjusted her angle and timing, completing even more dangerous moves, while avoiding having her face captured. Finally, the director was happy with the shot, shouting “cut!”

There were only two scenes that required Xu Xiyan to act as a double. After completing both of the scenes, she took a bottle

of water and claimed the day's pay. When she returned to Fang Xiaocheng's car, she was greeted by Ying Bao's crying face.

"What's the matter, Ying Bao?"

Xu Xiyan set aside the water and picked her daughter up.

Ying Bao kept wiping her face with her tiny hand. Her face was covered with tears. She stammered, sniffing.

"Xi baby is working too hard...Xi baby jumped down from a very high place, what am I going to do if you injure yourself? My poor Xi baby...why can't she get a double herself...?"

So she had seen the whole thing...

No wonder she was worried, watching me fall from the building.

Xu Xiyan wiped Ying Bao's tears, comfortng her.

"I'm a double, you know. Have you forgotten that Xi baby is actually a superhero in disguise? Xi baby will be fine."

"Don't you dare say you're fine," interjected Fang Xiaocheng. "Look, you're bleeding."

Fang Xiaocheng sighed, grabbing Xu Xiyan's arm and helping clean the infected area with a clean wet towel. After applying two band-aids, Fang Xiaocheng said, "you have to get that sterilized a bit better when we get back!"

Xu Xiyan was used to being tough.

"It's fine," she replied softly. "It's just a scratch, it'll heal soon."

# Chapter 29 - An Unexpected Surprise

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

## Chapter 29 – An Unexpected Surprise

It was nothing. She had broken three broken ribs before, and they eventually healed. This was practically just a bruise.

For her, it was all in a day's work.

“Do you have to do these double jobs?” asked Fang Xiaocheng. “They're so dangerous.”

“Well, there's going to be an audition for supporting actors this afternoon. If I'm selected, I can officially join the cast.”

Ugh... this girl can't be helped.

But Fang Xiaocheng saw the excitement on Xu Xiyan's face, and couldn't bear to rain on her parade.

“Well, good luck.”

...

It was nearing noon when the gig ended. For lunch, Xu Xiyan and Fang Xiaocheng took Ying Bao to a nice, quiet hotel downtown.

Xu Xiyan went to the bathroom, and when she came back, she accidentally entered the wrong private room.

As she opened the door, she saw two people, a bearded middle-aged man and a beautiful woman, sitting inside and having their meals.

The man and the woman seemed intimate towards each other, but seeing that Xu Xiyan had intruded, they quickly separated and pretended to look nonchalant.

Oh f\*ck, what's going on?

Realizing her mistake, Xu Xiyan apologized, but as she spoke, she recognized the woman as the famous actress from Zstan, Qi Liya.

Xu Xiyan had seen several of Qi Liya's performances in Chinese historical palace dramas. She admired her acting skills and had learned a lot from her. It was a rare opportunity to encounter her favorite actress and, of course, she didn't want to miss the chance to get her autograph.

"I'm sorry, but...are you Qi Liya?" Xu Xiyan stood in the doorway uncertainly. "I've watched several of your shows and I love all your performances. Could I...trouble you for an autograph?"

Xu Xiyan was like a starstruck groupie, smiling gleefully as Qi Liya approached.

Qi Liya had no choice but to take out a pen and sign her an autograph.

When Qi Liya had finished, Xu Xiyan spoke once more.

"Miss Qi Liya, you look even beautiful in person than on screen. Can we have a photo together?"

Qi Liya was reluctant, but still agreed to take a group photo. After the photo was taken, she immediately spoke a word of caution.

"I hope you will not share our photo onto the Internet. I don't want it to cause any unnecessary misunderstandings..."

"No problem, I won't. I will keep it to myself."

Xu Xiyan put away her mobile phone and when she turned to leave, she glanced at the bearded man next to Qi Liya.

He looked so familiar, but she could not put her finger on it.

The bearded man looked cold for the entire time. Could it have been that his mood was destroyed by Xu Xiyan's intrusion?

After all, if he were a director, seen spending time alone with an actress, news about their scandal might spread if he wasn't careful.

Xu Xiyan had no idea that the bearded man was a director, and she certainly hadn't thought that a chance encounter like this would bring her any unexpected surprises.

After lunch, Xu Xiyan rushed over to the audition venue and let Fang Xiaocheng return home with Ying Bao.

The audition was for a drama called "Red Sleeved Beauty," a new Chinese historical palace drama produced by the industry-famous director, Huang Guoqiang, and his personal team of professionals.

There were rumors that Qi Liya was Huang Guoqiang's favourite lead actress, and Xu Xiyan wondered whether Qi Liya would star in this drama.

But Xu Xiyan didn't really care who was chosen as the female lead—she would be auditioning for a minor role, a character who was a palace maiden with just a few lines in the script.

Although there wasn't much screen time for that character, a role was a role.

And what she was truly interested wasn't the part, but the prowess of the director, Huang Guoqiang.

He was a genius, incredibly well-respected in the world of directors. Any actor who participated in his films—even as a greenhorn—had the chance of becoming famous.

So this audition was a crucial opportunity. If Xu Xiyan could seize it, it would likely to bring her near unimaginable gains.

# Chapter 30 - The Face of a Hypocrite

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan thought she was late when she arrived at the Oriental Mansion Hotel, but the mass-audition was far more crowded than she had imagined. Many were still lined up, awaiting their turn.

After locating the crew, Xu Xiyan obtained her audition number. No. 222. Ha! What luck!

Young men and women were waiting in the hallway, like thousands of soldiers and horses trying to cross a wooden bridge.

All the people at the hotel had registered online, and passed through the first elimination round. They were all at the same level as Xu Xiyan.

The good thing about this audition was that it was entirely open and fair. The lead actress, and the supporting actresses, would all be chosen from this audition. That was the reason that Xu Xiyan wasn't worried that someone would get a free pass.

Just when she was about to look for a seat, a group of people emerged from the hallway. They were led by a woman in stylish clothes and sunglasses. Every step she took was graceful and elegant.

By her side was her assistant, her manager, and a few bodyguards. It wasn't hard to guess from the line-up that she was famous.

As expected, a few people recognized her and the hall was suddenly filled with chattering and hushed conversation.

“That’s Xu Xinrou! It really is Xu Xinrou!”

“Even Xu Xinrou came to the audition?”

“I heard that she came for the leading role.”

“Wow! What a shock! Maybe we ought to give up on auditioning for the lead, altogether. It will definitely be hers. I’ve seen all her shows, her acting is top-notch! I’m a huge fan!”

“Yeah, me too! Let’s go and ask for an autograph!”

“Let’s go!”

Most of the people seeking an autograph were greenhorns. It was normal to see them drooling over their favorite celebrities.

Xu Xiyan cursed under her breath. She realized that the one in the spotlight was her half-sister, Xu Xinrou.

After five years, Xu Xinrou had changed drastically.

People from everywhere now cheered her on, and her fans worshipped her. She had all the glamour, all the fame. She had most definitely attained the rank of a star celebrity.

Xu Xiyan had no intention of talking with Xu Xinrou. She spotted an empty chair, but as she began walking toward it, Xu Xinrou noticed Xu Xiyan moving through the crowd.

Xu Xinrou took off her sunglasses and stared at Xu Xiyan curiously, as if she thought she had mistaken a stranger for someone she knew.

It’s impossible, Xu Xiyan would never come to a mass-audition like this.

But after a few moments of staring, she finally confirmed that the elegant woman in the crowd, whose beauty had no need for makeup, was really Xu Xiyan.

After signing a few autographs, Xu Xinrou began moving toward where Xu Xiyan was sitting, in a corner that was quite far from the main audition hall. She was alone.

As Xu Xiyan noticed the approaching shadow, she lifted her head and saw that it was Xu Xinrou, her face hidden hypocritically beneath heavy makeup.

Huh. Even though she's prettier, everything about her still feels so fake.

“It's Yanyan, right? Is it really you? I'm not mistaken, right?”

Xu Xinrou still had no idea that Xu Xiyan knew of her relationship with Chu Yuhe, and so she maintained the act of a kind-hearted sister.

“Yanyan, when did you come back? Why didn't you come home?”

Blocked by the bodyguards, the crowd was unable to hear what they were talking about. Everyone must have thought that Xu Xiyan was asking for Xu Xinrou's autograph, that she was just another huge fan.

Xu Xiyan returned a cool smile. “And here I thought you'd all forgotten about me! Is there even a place left for me in that house?”

# Chapter 31 - An Annoying Stumbling Block

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Chapter 31 – An Annoying Stumbling Block

“How could you say that? The Xu family will always be your home.”

Xu Xinrou donned an expression of false concern. “You should at least go back and visit grandfather and grandmother. And dad, too. They’ve really been missing you.”

“Oh, I will. If I have time.”

The only person that she really wanted to see was her grandfather, but she wouldn’t be able to go visit him for the time being. She wanted to wait until she had settled down.

“Do you have a place to live now?” Xu Xinrou asked.

“I’m staying at a friend’s house.”

Xu Xiyan turned away. She had no intention of continuing this conversation.

It suited Xu Xinrou’s interests that Xu Xiyan would rather live at a friend’s house than go home. She hoped that her sister would never return.

Xu Xinrou glanced at the number tag on Xu Xiyan’s chest.

“Jing Xi? You changed your name? No. 222? So you’re here to audition, too? I didn’t know you wanted to be an actor. Which role are you gunning for? I could put in a good word with the production crew. After all, you are my sister. My recommendation could go a long way.”

“It’s okay,” Xu Xiyan said bluntly. “I don’t need anyone’s help in getting this role.”

When Xu Xinrou was about to open her mouth to say something, her assistant Wen Li approached.

“Xin Rou, it’s time for your audition! Let’s go!”

“Well, Yan Yan, if you need anything, just come straight to your sister. My number is still the same.” Xu Xinrou sighed, putting on her sunglasses, and following Wen Li out of the waiting hall.

Before entering the audition hall, Xu Xinrou turned to Wen Li, speaking in a hushed voice.

“Go to the crew and tell them not to let No. 222 pass through the audition, no matter what.”

With that, Wen Li was off. Xu Xinrou wanted to stamp out Xu Xiyan’s chances of success as soon as possible, afraid that she might surpass her in the future.

Xu Xiyan’s sudden appearance after five years presented a risk. Once she made her debut, she would no doubt be a very attractive newcomer.

Xu Xinrou was Juxing Entertainment’s front-line super star. There was no room in the Xu family for another celebrity, and she would never allow Xu Xiyan to snatch her opportunities away by joining the entertainment industry.

Xu Xinrou had applied for the female lead role, and therefore was able to go into the audition first. She entered the audition hall and ten minutes later, she came out again.

She was visibly upset; she hadn’t been selected for the female lead role, which had been taken by Qi Liya. Moreover, she had barely managed to land the supporting actress role. It was very disappointing.

As long as Qi Liya was present, Xu Xinrou wouldn’t be able to beat her. Qi Liya was an annoying stumbling block which would be difficult to get over.

Qi Liya was from Yunhai Entertainment, and Xu Xinrou was from Juxing Entertainment. Because of this, she always felt

inferior to Qi Liya.

Although Xu Xinrou was Juxing Entertainment's star actress, the perks and benefits she had been receiving from them were still worse than those received by the ordinary actors in Yunhai Entertainment.

Xu Xinrou's ultimate goal was to join Yunhai Entertainment. They could give her a better future than Juxing Entertainment, granting her access to a vast network of connections within the international entertainment industry. She wanted to become an international movie star.

I don't want to spend a lifetime in a small company like Juxing Entertainment, she thought. She was going to get her father to help her connect with Yunhai Entertainment and further her career.

Hmph! When that time came, she would certainly surpass Qi Liya, no matter how strong Qi Liya seemed now.

Xu Xinrou left the audition hall in a foul mood, with her assistants close behind.

Meanwhile, Xu Xiyan had been waiting quietly, watching the other candidates complete their auditions one by one...but the auditions were nearing an end, and they still hadn't called her number.

Over 300 numbers had been called. Did she miss hearing her own? What was going on?

# Chapter 32 - Meddling Behind the Scenes

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan couldn't wait any longer. She went to the registration desk and asked about the problem, yet the staff wasn't really sure what was going on. They told her to wait, promising to help her after the auditions had ended.

And so Xu Xiyan waited.

When the auditions were finished, she returned to seek help, only this time they told her to go home, that the audition had finished.

What just happened?

Why hadn't they called her number, 222?

She was eliminated without even having the chance to participate. What kind of logic was that?

Didn't they say that this would be a nationwide, mass-audition? That it would be the fairest and the most transparent process around?

Xu Xiyan was incredibly discouraged, and confused about why she had been eliminated, but everything became clear when Xu Xinrou came to mind.

Could it be that Xu Xinrou meddled behind the scenes?

Did she fake kindness, pretending to want to help, then ask the person in charge to take me off the list? That's the only answer!

The Xu Xinrou she knew wouldn't even take a chance with having to tolerate Xu Xiyan succeeding in showbiz, stealing all her resources.

Xu Xiyan was terribly unsatisfied. She had spent so long preparing for this day, and she had waited for hours, only to be eliminated without explanation.

With her unsatisfied heart, she chased after the crew outside the building and kept pressuring them.

“Come on, man. Just give me one chance. Let me see the person in charge, will you?”

“I can't help you,” said one of the crew members, shaking her off. “The audition has ended. Just wait for another audition!”

“See?” he continued, pointing toward a van that was about to pull away. “The director and producer are leaving.”

Xu Xiyan noticed that the black van's tires had begun to turn. The van was leaving its parking spot.

The only thing that was on Xu Xiyan's mind at that moment was that she had to meet with the person in charge. Without hesitation, she ran towards the van. Too late. The van was already pulling out of the parking lot.

Xu Xiyan found an electric scooter owned by some pizza delivery guy. She grabbed the handles of the bike and sped after the van.

The van ran smoothly on the road, while behind it, the electric scooter barely had enough horsepower to keep up.

Xu Xiyan turned the throttle as far as it could go, and finally caught up with the van as it approached a corner, and without any hesitation, Xu Xiyan jumped off the bike and landed on the van's roof.

She laid as flat as she could and gripped tightly on the van's roof to prevent her from falling off.

Hearing the loud bang on the roof, the van's driver made a quick turn and stopped abruptly.

Xu Xiyan was thrown off the roof, her face scratching the windshield as she fell.

The driver jumped out of his seat when he saw Xu Xiyan come flying from above.

“Di-Di-Director...I think I just hit someone!”

“F\*\*k.”

Unable to control his emotions, Huang Guoqiang cursed under the flu mask he'd worn. He had been dealing with frustrating affairs for the past few days, and now another had just found its way to his doorstep.

If the person was severely injured, this would not just be settled as a simple accident in court.

Everyone in the car was terrified. They had seen a person jump onto the van's roof with their own eyes, and then watched as the person was thrown off.

They had no idea if the person was okay. Huang Guoqiang was about to ask the driver to go down and take a look when a face with perfect features appeared in front of them, smiling.

“...” The people on the car were speechless.

No one could believe their eyes. The stunt that they had witnessed a few moments ago was actually pulled off by this charming woman.

Out of breath, Xu Xiyan ran to the window and knocked on it.

“Director! Can you give me another chance? I was here for the audition...”

# Chapter 33 - Xu Xiyan, Well Done!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Mr. Huang! Mr. Huang! Can you please give me a chance? I am number 222, but nobody called my number. Mr. Huang, I’ve been desperately chasing your van, please give me a chance...”

Seeing that she was sweating hard and talking normally, everyone realized the girl who’d been hit wasn’t injured. They breathed a sigh of relief.

Xu Xiyan did not recognize Huang Guoqiang, as he had worn a flu mask, and she continued to beg.

But Huang Guoqiang did recognize and remember her. She was the one who had intruded on his lunch with Qi Liya earlier.

She had a striking appearance, so it was easy to remember her at a glance.

Huang Guoqiang interrupted her.

“You were at the mass-audition? Which role are you auditioning for?”

“Yao Yue. The role I went online to apply for the mass-audition was Yao Yue.”

Xu Xiyan was almost bursting with joy as the director spoke. Was he willing to give her a chance?

Oh, the character is a palace maiden, the director thought.

Judging by her looks, this woman is more than qualified to play the part.

Huang Guoqiang understood her request and decided on the spot.

“Good. Yao Yue is yours. You will report directly to the production crew next Wednesday.”

Directly...report? Huh? Doesn't he want to see my performance?

The surprise caught Xu Xiyan like a delicious pie to the face.

Huang Guoqiang's assistant handed Xu Xiyan a business card.

Xu Xiyan was so happy that she felt like jumping up and down as she took the business card, bowing at him repeatedly in gratitude.

“Thank you, Mr. Huang! Thank you, Mr. Huang...”

“Goodbye, Mr. Huang!” Xu Xiyan waved as the van drove away. She was filled with joy, finally believing that opportunities will go to those who prepare and persevere.

But in reality, opportunities will always be given to the fearless and the thick-skinned.

Xu Xiyan, well done! You did it!

In filming, there was rarely a shortage of extras, but the reason why Huang Guoqiang had been so ready to give her a role was the way she'd risked her life in her determination to chase his van. The other, bigger reason was that he was afraid that she would spread gossip of his date with Qi Liya.

If he could keep her mouth shut by offering her a minor role, why not?

After Xu Xiyan had successfully landed the role, she rushed home. She saw Fang Xiaocheng and Ying Bao fiddling at the computer, installing a software for livestreaming.

Ever since Fang Xiaocheng found out that Ying Bao had been doing livestreams, she had become fascinated by the idea, and began looking into livestreaming, herself. She couldn't wait to start one with Ying Bao, too.

Fang Xiaocheng held Ying Bao's little hand and said, "My dear little cherry, can you teach Auntie how to do a livestream? I'll let you sell whatever you want in Auntie Orange's flower shop, and we'll make lots of lots of moneys together! And then we'll go buy you the best daddy ever, okay?"

The little cutie couldn't resist the temptation to buy a daddy. She happily agreed, "Yes! Yes! Tonight's livestream, I will do with Mommy! You can watch us and learn, and then you will try. We'll make a new team called "The Fyoot Team, okay?"

Fang Xiaocheng didn't understand Ying Bao's childish babbling, "What? What? The Fyoot Team?"

Sometimes the things Ying Bao said were difficult to understand, so Xu Xiyan would need to step in and explain her words.

"She meant fruit. The Fruit Team."

"..." Fang Xiaocheng realized what Ying Bao had been saying and laughed, "Oh my little cherry, you are so talented! Yes, cherry and orange! We are the Fruit Team! Yeah!"

Fang Xiaocheng raised her hand and gave the little cutie a high-five. They had such good chemistry.

Xu Xiyan came over with a plate of fruit.

"How was the audition?" asked Fang Xiaocheng.

# Chapter 34

“So your staff is bullied by customers during working hours. Are you just going to let it slide? Could you please be at least a bit reasonable?” retorted Li Qianluo without restraint, as Supervisor Yuan’s flattery made her sick.

“Supervisor, I can testify that this lady was the one who made trouble in the first place!” Yu Wanwan’s voice was low, but it was obvious that she stood by Li Qianluo.

“Even so, you should make every effort to avoid any conflict with customers. I shouldn’t have to tell you how to do your job.” In comparison, Li Qianluo was nothing to Supervisor Yuan. No matter what the truth was, she would not support an employee at the price of offending the potential buyers.

“You four, do you dare to stay here and wait for my husband?” Disappointed with the supervisor’s flattery and her lack of responsibility, Li Qianluo didn’t want to waste breath and ignored her.

“Yes, of course. Li Qianluo, we will wait here, even if you don’t ask. Who is your old man? You think you can scare us?” Stroking her newly-painted nails, Zheng Linrui watched Li Qianluo with disdain. She had every reason to believe that Li Qianluo’s husband was more of an overnight millionaire than a big shot.

The man in SOHO Bar crossed Qi Zeming’s mind. Qi Zeming had spent large sum of money investigating, but found nothing about him. The gangster groups even refused to disclose his name. At that moment, Qi Zeming was in a curious mood to see who that man was.

Qi family, Fu family, Zheng family and Luo family are all business tycoons in D City. “If we were to gang up on him, her husband would not stand a chance, ” thought Qi Zeming. Li Qianluo

“Old man. Huh. Zheng Linrui, let’s wait and see. You are going to regret it,” Li Qianluo thought with a lovely smile. Although Li Qianluo did not know everything about Si Jinheng, she knew she’d better not underestimate him.

Then, a group of people - General Manager and several other senior managers of the Blue Island Mall - entered the Mirade Apparel.

“Ha-ha. Li Qianluo, you did married an old man, just as I expected.” Seeing the leading 50-something-year-old bald man, Zheng Linrui burst out laughing.

Although Fu Xinru didn’t laugh, the contempt on her face couldn’t be disguised. Unlike them, Qi Zeming had one nagging doubt, “The man in the bar is not her husband?”

“Li Qianluo, did you really...” Pointing at the General Manager, the troubled Yu Wanwan was too frightened to finish her words. No! Last time, he didn’t sound this old.

“Yu Wanwan, what are you thinking about?” Li Qianluo rudely slapped Yu Wanwan on her arm. Her taste could not go so heavy as to marry someone who was even older than her father.

Seeing Li Qianluo’s face, Yu Wanwan patted her thumping chest to calm down. Well, false alarm...

“What’s going on here?” Stealthily wiping sweat off his face, Xue Wende wondered who was capable of having the CEO’s assistant make the call. Xue Wende had met the CEO on his first day in office. In his eyes, that CEO looked like a devil that could even freeze the air around.

Seeing Xue Wende come in person, Supervisor Yuan cast a glance at Li Qianluo with a mixed feeling. Could it be that Li Qianluo was the General Manager’s mistress? For a while, the supervisor lost words.

“Mr. Xue, I am Qi Zeming. We have had dinner together several times before.” Qi Zeming shook hands with Xue Wende.

“Mr. Xue, I am Fu Xinru. Fu Hongchang is my father.” Fu Xinru shook his hands gracefully.

“Mr. Xue, I am Zheng Hang’s daughter, Zheng Linrui.”

“Mr. Xue, I am Luo Xinxin, the daughter of Luo Jinwei.”

...

Sure enough, father is the key in this era. Li Qianluo felt ashamed, for she used to depend on her father. But she has to depend on her husband now.

“Oh, I know you. Mr. Qi, long time no see!” Upon realizing that the conflict arises between four second rich generations and a shopping guide, Xue Wende took it as a piece of cake.

Qi Zeming slightly nodded at Xue Wende. As they had dinner together several times before, Qi Zeming thought that Xue Wende would be on his side.

“You, apologize to our honorable customers right now!” Xue Wende straightened his face to scold Li Qianluo. Seeing the General Manager show no partiality to Li Qianluo, Supervisor Yuan let out a sigh of relief.

“Apologize? Do you know anything about the whole thing? Do you see the red mark on my face? How could you ask me to apologize casually? Are you blind?” argued Li Qianluo loudly. How could a mall attract so many customers while keeping these unreasonable employees? It seemed that Si Jinheng could not solve the problem...

Li Qianluo’s remark sent a chill through the employees around, and some of them pricked up their ears to listen carefully.

Xue Wende looked furious, as almost no staff dared to talk to him in that way. “What’s your name? Who brought you in? You are fired for good!”

The hostile women smirked. “But isn’t this manager Li Qianluo’s husband? How could he treat her like that?” They looked at each other confusedly.

“Is your CEO blind, too? Fancy his appointing you and Yuan Tingting as managers! All the staff under your leadership will resign sooner or later!” Actually, the Blue Island Mall offered favorable remuneration and benefits to staff two years ago. So

a lot of people scrambled for the job opportunity there. After Xue Wende was transferred there, he improperly reduced the staff's salary. Once he caught an employee eating breakfast during working hours, and fined her 500 yuan.

“Yes, CEO is blind absolutely.” The familiar voice came from behind. Li Qianluo instantly felt relieved.

Sweat streamed down Xue Wende's face, as he heard the voice. “CEO gets here within such a short period of time,” Xue Wende thought...

Everyone looked towards the direction of the sound, and saw a tall, dignified man in a white shirt, followed by his assistant.

The man ahead looked like the god. As he approached, everyone could feel the aggressive and cold breath. Even a gaze from him would made all of them feel humble.

All the women present went so excited that their heart palpitated. How handsome he is! Oh, my gosh. How could a man be so graceful? Fu Xinru was also stricken dumb, as she saw the man, who was cold, but displayed an extraordinary appearance and temperament.

“Boss, here you come. This shopping guide was so petulant that she even offended the superior. I will soon settle it.” Xue Wende bowed and walked towards Si Jinheng. Though being confused about his remark, Xue Wende dared not ask what it meant.

Yun Qi blushed, as Xue Wende brought shame on him. Yun Qi regretted hiring the stupid Xue Wende, who just displeased Mrs. Si and even complained to Boss Si.

“Offended the superior? Mr. Xue, are you out of your mind?” Yun Qi winked at Xue Wende to stop him from talking. That idiot should never annoy CEO further; otherwise, the consequences would be too serious for him to take...

“Er...” Yun Qi's remark confused all the others.

Seeing the evident red mark on Li Qianluo's fair-complexioned face, Si Jinheng radiated a cold gaze.

All of a sudden, his cold gaze brought the Death to Li Qianluo's mind. Without thinking too much, Li Qianluo threw herself into his arms, "Darling, why are you so late?"

# Chapter 35 - He Finally Got A Reply

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan realized that Wang Dazhi was a computer expert, and could answer some of her questions.

“Dazhi, can I ask you something? If a chat account was hacked, can it still be recovered?”

For Wang Dazhi, the subject was a piece of cake.

“Of course you can get it back.”

“Really?” Xu Xiyan was surprised. “I used to have an account which was hacked. Can you try and get it back for me?”

“Sure. Give me your account ID. I’ll help you recover it after I fix the computer.”

Xu Xiyan wrote her account ID on a sticky note and handed it to Wang Dazhi. Wang Dazhi took the note and went into Fang Xiaocheng’s study.

Having an IT professional around really made a difference. Within half an hour, Wang Dazhi had not only repaired the desktop computer and installed the required live streaming equipment, but he had also recovered Xu Xiyan’s compromised chat account.

He came out of the study and returned the sticky note to Xu Xiyan. “This is the new password I’ve set for the time being. After you log in, you can change it, yourself.”

“Okay, thank you so much Dazhi.”

“You’re welcome.” Wang Dazhi chuckled as he rubbed the back of his head.

Xu Xiyan logged into her account with the new password. After modifying the password, she logged into the chat homepage.

She found that the friends she had added before were still on the contact list, and there were red circles with numbers in them, signifying the unread messages that they had sent her.

Most of them were messages from her patients and holiday greetings, but some were asking why Miss Yim was not online anymore, and where Miss Yim had gone.

Xu Xiyan noticed that one of her patients, Wing, had sent her the most messages. Thousands of messages.

Xu Xiyan never would have thought that, after her account was hacked two years ago, Wing would continue leaving messages for her. But he had been reporting his progress and efforts to her every few days.

[Miss Yim, this is the third week I’m doing rehabilitation. I am not as depressed as before. Now I have the courage to look up at the blue sky.]

[Miss Yim, I don’t know why you didn’t return my messages. Am I bothering you? Other than you, I don’t have any friends who I can talk to. Can I continue to chat with you in the future?]

[Miss Yim, I went to the cinema today and saw a movie called “The Stars on Earth.” It is a story about a child with autism and it was so touching. Every lonely soul will eventually find someone who understands him. Thank you for understanding me, too!]

[Miss Yim, I have been training for two hours today. Although it was very tiring, I feel that I’ve gained a lot and I feel great. I will not give up!]

[Miss Yim, today is my birthday...]

[Miss Yim, this is the second year of my rehabilitation. Although I have yet to stand up, I am now much better than

before and can live independently.]

Xu Xiyan spent a lot of time reading all the messages, but she only sent Wing one in reply:

[Sorry Wing! My account was hacked two years ago and I just recovered it. I've seen all the messages you sent to me and I am very touched! Thank you for trusting and remembering me! I can feel your hard work and determination. It's been such a long time since we have talked. How are you now?]

After the message was sent out, the phone of Huo Yunshen—who was far away at Yunhai Entertainment—beeped as a message notification appeared on the home screen.

He glanced at it. In disbelief, he put his work aside and picked up his phone to look at the message.

A reply from Miss Yim?

After more than two years, he had finally gotten a reply.

After reading the message, Huo Yunshen finally understood. So that's why.

# Chapter 36 - I Want to Meet Her in the Future

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

So that's the reason why Miss Yim never replied to me. Her ID was hacked.

As he saw Miss Yim's active status go from grey to green, Huo Yunshen began to cheer deep in his heart.

Finally!

He was finally able to contact the person who had pulled him back from darkness, the person who had encouraged him and cared for him.

Huo Yunshen smiled as he quickly composed a reply message.

[Miss Yim! Thank god that you've finally replied to my message. I'm actually doing quite well right now. I have my own business and hobbies now, and I've finally found the girl I was looking for! My life is filled with excitement. I want to express my gratitude to you again for the encouragements and help that you've given me when I've needed it the most. Thank you.]

After a few moments, Miss Yim replied:

[Congratulations! I will always pray for you. You'll definitely get better. Keep on fighting, Wing!]

[Thank you! 😊]

As soon as he put down his phone, Huo Yunshen's heart fluttered. He was finally able to get in touch with Miss Yim. It would definitely be better than going through all of this alone.

He had finally found a friend who would accompany him through the journey.

In that instance, Huo Yunshen thought of meeting Miss Yim, face-to-face. He prayed to God to allow him to meet the one person who had been a mentor and a friend to him.

Huo Yunshen thought to himself, If one day I'm able to walk again, I'll definitely want to meet her!

...

In Fang Xiaocheng's study room, Xu Xiyan and Ying Bao were preparing for their first livestream since they'd returned home.

Ying Bao wore a cherry red dress and a cherry hairpin. The hairpin was a gift from Fang Xiaocheng. The cute little girl sat in front of the camera, her beautiful dark eyes looking up and down.

Fans started to join the live streaming. Pew...Pew... A few hardcore fans began to send voice messages and gifts.

[Voice Message: Cherry, oh Cherry. Where have you been? I've missed you so much.]

[Gift: Shishui Liunian has sent you 60 Flowers.]

[Voice Message: Where have you been, my little Cherry? It's been so long!]

[Message: Cherry, what are you going to perform today?]

[Voice Message: Oh my cute little Cherry, will you sing this big sister a song?]

[Gift: Zhexian Langman Du has sent you a Barbie Doll.]

[Gift: Be Chunqing Xiao Nvzi has sent you a Chocolate.]

[Voice Message: Hi Cherry, were you serious when you said you were returning to Zstan? Which city will you be living in? This auntie will bring you some tasty treats when she visits you.]

...

From the moment the live streaming started, messages and gifts kept coming in.

After listening to all the voice messages, Ying Bao turned off the voice function. She picked up the cartoon microphone and turned toward the audience.

The cute little girl was a master of posing. She faced the camera and straightened herself up before greeting the audience.

“Hello. It’s me, the little girl who’s selling succulent, Cherry Baby! I’m finally back to Zstan. I’ve missed all of you, too.”

“Today I’m very thrilled to announce that we’ll be having a two-episode special edition live streaming to celebrate my return to Zstan. I’ll also be introducing all of you to a new friend in the next episode.”

Ying Bao’s smiled for the audience as two cute dimples appeared on either side of her cheeks. With just a simple act, gifts started to pour in from the fans.

“Today I’ll be recommending this succulent in my hand!”

The little girl still wasn’t able to pronounce succulent correctly.. But her way was so much cuter.

She showed the combination of succulents in the pot and explained.

“This combination has a beautiful name. It’s “Alice in Succulent.” Hahaha. My mum was the one who thought of the name. She really is a genius and a babe. What? You guys want to meet her? Mummyyyy...”

# Chapter 37 - Her Words Were Moving

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Cherry Baby hollered, and shortly after, a person in a pink rabbit costume came into view. After that, the auctioning widget appeared onscreen, too.

The starting bid for “Alice in Succuland” was set at 20 Yuan, with a 5 Yuan increment for each increasing bid.

Rabbit Mommy waved at everyone, then turned to Cherry Baby.

[Hey, Baby, why are you selling succulents every time you’re on here?]

Cherry Baby: [Because Baby wants to make money!]

Rabbit Mommy: [But you’re still so young! What do you need the money for?]

Cherry Baby: [Baby needs the money to help Mommy, and also to buy a daddy! You said a daddy would be really expensive, so we need lots of lots of money to buy one! So Baby has to earn lots of money now and buy the bestest daddy in the world who’ll never leave us, ever!]

Cherry Baby took out a piggy bank as she explained, pouring the coins out and counting them.

The way Cherry Baby counted her money was so adorable, but the words she had just said were incredibly moving.

From her childish words, one could see that Cherry Baby had grown up in a single-parent family, living only with her

mother. The little girl was naively optimistic and very eager to obtain the love of a father.

Her speech was so moving that the price of the succulent plant skyrocketed with each bid. When the livestream ended five minutes later, “Alice in Succuland” was sold at 2265 Yuan.

The price of similar succulent plants on other e-commerce sites was about 200 Yuan. Cherry Baby’s sale of the pot of succulents at the price of 2265 Yuan was an impressive feat.

Fang Xiaocheng, who was waiting beside them, watched the messages that kept appearing on the screen, and all the gifts and rewards and the revenue rolling in from the auction. She was convinced that doing livestreams was much better than selling flowers at her store.

After Cherry Baby and Rabbit Mommy’s livestream had ended, Fang Xiaocheng rushed over to them.

“Wow, I really see it now! Livestreaming is so profitable. You guys are amazing!”

Xu Xiyan took off the rabbit suit and said to Fang Xiaocheng, “Go change into a costume. You can try an episode with Ying Bao later.”

“Okay, okay!” Fang Xiaocheng ran off to change into her specially prepared orange suit.

The second livestream began.

The cute little baby showed her face, flashing a row of beautiful, white little teeth as she smiled.

[Hullo everyone! I am the succie selling girl, Cherry Baby. Before Baby introduces a new friend, I would like to promote a beautiful pot of succies! Look in my hands!]

Ying Bao held up a pot of succulents: [Its name is “The Succulent Knights.” Isn’t it very cute? Okay, next, I’m going to introduce Orange! No, she’s not the kind of orange that you eat!]

After showing off the succulent plant, the auctioning widget appeared and the bidding started again. Ying Bao then invited Fang Xiaocheng to appear.

Fang Xiaocheng was nervous, as it was her livestream debut, and her palms were sweating. Fortunately, she had worn a large orange-shaped costume over her head, so no one could see who she was.

“This is my Auntie Orange. She is a very good person and I like her very much.”

They had discussed beforehand that Fang Xiaocheng was to be introduced as Ying Bao’s aunt.

Ying Bao turned to look at Fang Xiaocheng. Fang Xiaocheng froze for a few seconds before she reacted. It was her turn to talk to everyone.

After Ying Bao had finished introducing Orange, the comments section was filled with questions about Cherry’s mom. They were all wondering whether Cherry’s mom was going to appear in the livestreams anymore.

# Chapter 38 - Learned A Lot

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Hello, everyone. I’m Cherry Baby’s aunt, Orange! I’m really thrilled to have the opportunity to meet all of you. Cherry’s mum will be very busy from now on. So I’ll be helping out with Cherry’s live streaming for a while. I think we’ll get along well! Thank you!”

Fang Xiaocheng was very nervous as she spoke to the audience, and her voice was a little shaky. Luckily, she didn’t make any mistakes.

The livestream continued according to the script, and the two partnered up quite well. Fang Xiaocheng began to relax in the midst of the process and started to focus.

Because Cherry had prepared two special episode for her return to Zstan, the number of fans had risen dramatically. More and more fans started to flood their live streaming.

Huo Yunshen sat at D office in the Yunhai Entertainment building. He was one of the fans watching the livestream.

What surprised him was that Cherry Baby had prepared a two-episode special edition stream.

Huo Yunshen had been watching livestreams for a few months, and he’d begun to grasp the fundamentals. When he saw other fans sending gifts to the cute little girl, he could not control his urge to send her gifts as well.

Suddenly the streaming page changed into celebratory settings. The system messages showed that a user, Tianshang Piaolai Yiduo Yun, had sent them a crystal carriage that was worth 10,000 Yuan.

Fang Xiaocheng's eyes were wide as she stared at the screen. Holy shit. Some billionaire just send us a ton of money!

If they split the 10,000, each of them could get 5,000 each.

Oh my god! So this is why people work as streamers...

The auction ended with Tianshang Piaoche Yiduo Yun bidding 5,060 Yuan for the Succulent Knight.

After the stream ended, Fang Xiaocheng realized that she had learned a lot from it. She finally gave into the idea of being a livestreamer, and decided to follow Ying Bao for the rest of her life. They could livestream together and get very rich.

Since Fang Xiaocheng had finally settled her financial problem with livestreaming, she began to worry about Xu Xiyan.

"I thought you've always hated the showbiz? What made you decide on becoming an actress?"

After seeing Xu Xiyan's stunt performance earlier that day, she wondered if Xu Xiyan was in her right mind. Wouldn't it be great if you just continue doing live streaming with your daughter? Why would you choose the harder path?

But this was not the first time Xu Xiyan had acted; she had taken various acting jobs when she was still in Estan. Of course, most of them were minor characters or doubles, far from real acting.

A smile appeared on Xu Xiyan's face as she told Fang Xiaocheng the truth.

"It's true that I hate the showbiz. That field is filled with trash. Everyone uses each other, lies are everywhere...it's a place where only the strong have a hope at survival. Sometimes I think the place is like hell, itself, trapping thousands of souls with ease. I entered the showbiz not only because I love acting, but because I want to purge the devils lurking inside the industry."

She thought a moment before continuing.

"If the showbiz is an ocean, then I will become a..."

Xu Xiyan was trying to come up with the right term to refer herself when Fang Xiaocheng spoke.

“A Kraken?”

“No, no, no. More like Nezha who used to turn the whole ocean inside out. I...I really want to fulfill my mother’s dying wishes. I want the people who hurt my mother to pay.”

Xu Xiyan’s eyes were filled with an embattled dedication as she continued to speak.

“...”

Fang Xiaocheng looked at Xu Xiyan quietly. Five years. The Xu Xiyan she once knew had changed entirely.

She had become more confident, braver, stronger. It was truly touching.

Of course, Fang Xiaocheng would support Xu Xiyan all the way. What worried her was Ying Bao.

“Yanyan, no matter what you do, I’ll always stay by your side. But have you ever considered what will happen to Ying Bao when you become famous?”

# Chapter 39 - Who Wants To Become A Stepfather?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan was silent for a moment, then she sighed.

“I’m also troubled by this. But Ying Bao is my daughter and no matter what the circumstances, I have a responsibility to protect her from harm.”

Having said that, she considered the paparazzi of the entertainment circle, how well she knew that they were insatiable. How could she possibly keep them from finding out about Ying Bao?

Fang Xiaocheng had come up with an idea.

“Yanyan, I think I actually might have a way to solve this problem regarding Ying Bao.”

“Go on.”

“Just tell them that Ying Bao is your niece. When you’re busy filming, you can put Ying Bao at my place. I’m not that busy with my flower shop business. anyway,” she admitted.

“Oh, Orange, that’s a great idea! You’ve thought it all out! How considerate of you! If you were a man, I would marry you in a heartbeat.”

Xu Xiyan was so moved that she gave Fang Xiaocheng a hug. She was such a kind and caring friend. She was glad to have a friend as loyal as Fang Xiaocheng in her life.

Fang Xiaocheng smiled and patted her back, laughing. “I would marry you too, but I’m afraid Da Zhi wouldn’t approve.”

Ying Bao had overheard the conversation of the two adults. She understood her mother's difficulties and wanted to prove that she was not a burden to her mother. She said to Fang Xiaocheng:

"Auntie Orange, Baby is trying to make money every day. Lots and lots of money so I can buy a big beautiful house for Xi Baby, and beautiful clothes for Xi Baby, and a caring and handsome husband for Xi Baby..."

"What's a husband?" asked Fang Xiaocheng.

"Isn't Xi Baby's husband my daddy? Oh, Auntie Orange, how could you not figure that out!? Maybe you're not so bright after all!" Ying Bao shook his head.

Fang Xiaocheng: "..."

Uh...was I just patronized by a four-year-old kid?

Ying Bao continued to fantasize about her dream future.

"I also want to buy a big castle for Xi Baby so she can become a princess...and Baby wants to make Xi Baby the happiest mommy in the world..."

Happiest...

Ugh...

Fang Xiaocheng had no idea what to say. Is it that easy for a single mother to get happiness?

It was not that Fang Xiaocheng was being unsympathetic. Realistically speaking, it wouldn't be easy for Xu Xiyan to find another man to marry, as long she had a child to take care of. Who would want to be a stepfather?

But Xu Xiyan had never seen Ying Bao as a burden, and she loved her. If her daughter hadn't come into her life, how much happiness would she have missed out on for all these years?

Besides, Ying Bao was more mature than other children of her age. Ying Bao would never let her worry and, wherever she went, she would still feel the warmth of the little one.

With Fang Xiaocheng's help in caring for Ying Bao, Xu Xiyan could relax a little, relieved to have the support.

The next morning, Xu Xiyuan decided to go redeem her mother's violin from the pawn shop.

Five years ago, in order to raise money for her studies abroad, Xu Xiyuan had pawned her mother's violin for 100,000 Yuan. She had planned to redeem it after returning from abroad, and today was the deadline for the loan.

It was an heirloom left behind by her mother, and she knew she had to redeem it.

She opened her suitcase and looked for the pawn receipt, but she couldn't find it anywhere.

She tried to remember where she had left it.

Oh no...the receipt was in the pocket of the clothes I wore that day. Huo Yunshen changed my clothes... I wonder if he disposed of them...

It was a serious matter, and Xu Xiyuan called Huo Yunshen at once.

# Chapter 40 - Felt Like Dying

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

It was break time at Yunhai Entertainment. A vintage phonograph sat atop a cupboard in the CEO's office, filling the space with piano music.

Huo Yunshen would only listen to music when he was in a good mood. The phonograph had been collecting dust for years, and it finally got to play some beautiful music again.

Music was one of Huo Yunshen's hobbies, and he was very talented. He could play various orchestra instruments. If he had pursued a music career from the start, he might've become a famous musician by now.

He was also proficient in writing lyrics and composing music. He had written and produced the ending theme for the movie that got him the award for international best actor, "24 Hours of Life."

As Huo Yunshen sat immersing himself in the music, he got a call from Xu Xiyan. He was both shocked and surprised by the call. He quickly turned off the music.

"Yunhai Entertainment. How may I help you?"

"Huo Yunshen... Oh, my apologies... Mr. Huo. I have something to ask you. Did you keep the dirty clothes that you helped me change out of the day before yesterday?"

"Yes. I just had them washed." Huo Yunshen could hear Xu Xiyan panting on the other side of the phone. "Why? What's the matter?"

It's still there, Xu Xiyan was relieved. "Was there any paper in the pocket when you washed it?"

Huo Yunshen thought about it. “There was, but it was destroyed by the washing machine.”

Huo Yunshen was not used to checking the pockets before washing his clothes. He would always soak the clothes in water and detergent before throwing them into the machine.

He only noticed that there was a piece of paper in the pocket after the clothes came out. By then, the paper had turned to pulp. It was impossible to read what was on it anymore.

Oh...

As soon as Xu Xiyan heard Huo Yunshen’s reply, everything went black. It was like she was struck by lightning; she felt like dying on the spot.

“Was it important,” Huo Yunshen asked.

If the receipt from the pawn shop is gone, how am I supposed to reclaim my mother’s violin?

Oh, God! Are you trying to kill me?

“Hello? Xu Xiyan? Is that paper important?”

“No, it’s not important. I’m fine. Goodbye.”

After Xu Xiyan hung up, she felt like crying. Who could she blame?

Huo Yunshen helped her wash her clothes out of kindness. There was no way she could blame him. All she could do was blame her luck.

Even though she had lost the receipt, Xu Xiyan did not give up. She still wanted to go to the pawn shop and ask whether she could get her violin back without the receipt.

Xu Xiyan went to Peijing Pawn Shop, where she talked to the manager at the front desk. But he told her there was nothing to be done.

“We’re sorry, ma’am. This is the rule of our pawn shop; we can’t give you a free pass. Please understand. We won’t be able to let you reclaim the violin unless you have the receipt. Maybe you could go back and look harder?”

Xu Xiyao left the pawn shop in such low spirits, the thought of ending her life even crossed her mind. I should've come and reclaimed the violin on the very first day I came back!

Today is the last day for me to reclaim it, and now the receipt is gone! What am I supposed to do?

# Chapter 41 - I'm Panicking

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan went home in agony.

The next morning, she went to the pawn shop in Peijing again and pleaded with the front manager.

“I didn't lose my receipt, it was destroyed in the washing machine! Can you please cut me some slack? I've already brought 100,000 Yuan and five years of interest to repay the loan. I beg you, please return my violin to me!”

No matter how much she begged, the front manager wouldn't budge.

“I'm sorry, madam. You didn't show up with the receipt in time, and the item has been processed for the overdue loan. It has entered the auctioning circulation. I really can't do more to help you. I am truly sorry.”

The front manager had said all he could say. Xu Xiyan had to give up.

She inquired about the auction and learned that her mother's violin would be auctioned at the Peijing Hongye Auction House at noon that day.

Xu Xiyan panicked. Oh no! If the violin was sold off, she might not have the chance to find it again.

Xu Xiyan rushed off to the bank and spent the whole morning at the counter withdrawing all the money from her fixed-deposits that she had made when she was abroad. She also withdrew all the money she had earned from doing livestreams with Ying Bao and put them all onto one card.

With 100,000 Yuan in her bag, plus the amount on her card, she had more than 600,000 Yuan.

Xu Xiyan had a bit of hope. Five years ago, the violin was pawned for 100,000 Yuan. Now, she had six times as much. It should certainly be possible for her to get the violin back.

Finally, it was noon. There was no time for lunch, and Xu Xiyan rushed off with her bag to Hongye Auction House, Peijing's largest.

As she hurried through the doors of the building, she accidentally bumped into a proud and elegant looking woman with long hair fanning over her shoulders.

When Xu Xiyan had returned from abroad, she didn't know about the young violin diva, Xue Yating, who had just gotten famous locally.

Xue Yating wore heels ten centimeters high, and beige Chanel-style dress. She had kept an elegant posture, but was knocked a little off balance by Xu Xiyan.

Just as the accident was happening, a janitor passed by with a garbage trolley. Xue Yating staggered and fell onto the garbage trolley, staining her dress.

"Hey, watch where you're going!" Xue Yating shrieked.

She picked herself up and stared at her skirt, frowning. "Look how dirty my clothes are! Don't you know how expensive this dress is?"

Xu Xiyan quickly apologized, "I'm so, so sorry! I was moving too quickly and I didn't see you. I'm really sorry! If your clothes are dirty, let me send it for dry cleaning for you."

Xu Xiyan had already apologized and was willing to help dry clean her clothes, but Xue Yating was arrogant, and seemed committed to being unreasonable.

"Do you even have time to go to the laundry shop now? What am I supposed to wear? Are you blind? Where's your brain?"

Seeing that the woman was being difficult, Xu Xiyan began to lose her patience.

“Miss, it was unintentional. I’ve already apologized and I’m willing to help you dry clean your clothes. What else do you want?”

# Chapter 42 - She's Clearly Looking for Trouble

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xue Yating crossed her arms and raised an eyebrow. It was clear as day that she was going to stay angry.

“What if the dry cleaning ruins it, huh? Do you really think that I can't afford the dry cleaning fee? This is a limited edition shirt, and you'll just have to buy me a new one!”

The verbal fight escalated, and a crowd began to gather around them.

“How much can your shirt possibly be worth?”

“100,000 Yuan! Can you even afford it? Someone as plain as you could never earn the money to buy this kind of shirt!” Xue Yating looked down at Xu Xiyan and her plain clothes.

Yet Xu Xiyan was not as pathetic as Xue Yating made her out to be. She'd been working for hours without rest. Her hair was messy, and she didn't have time to change her clothes. It's true, her appearance wasn't one which people would expect to see in the Hongye Auction House.

To settle the trouble with Xue Yating, Xu Xiyan opened her handbag and threw it next to Xue Yating's leg. “Only 100,000? Then I'll buy all of your clothes!”

The handbag fell onto the floor, and a few bundles of cash rolled from the bag. One look was enough to know that there was more than 100,000 Yuan in that handbag.

Xue Yating was stunned by the massive amount of money. She never thought that someone like Xu Xiyan would carry such a

fortune with her. She was embarrassed in front of everyone and had nowhere to run.

Xu Xiyan was not someone who would submit to such a bully. She stood in the middle of the crowd and smiled.

“I believe everyone has heard this lady say that her clothes cost more than 100,000, and that I won’t be able to afford it. I have the money with me now, so I believe everything she’s wearing belongs to me, am I right?”

The crowd that had been watching the fight all agreed.

“Yes! Of course, you’re right! You’re willing to spend the 100,000. Naturally the clothes belong to you now.”

Xu Xiyan stared at the lady standing before her. “I believe you’ve heard what the people said. I’ve already paid for the clothes. Please remove all your clothes for me. Right this instance!”

The crowd began chanting. “Strip! Strip! Strip!”

“You... you... you won’t get away with this!”

Xue Yating was furious at how she was being pressured by Xu Xiyan. Of course, she couldn’t strip in front of the crowd.

At that moment, a well-dressed, wealthy businessman walked towards Xue Yating and asked, “Tingting, what’s wrong?”

As soon as Xue Yating saw that it was her dad, she began to wail.

“Daddy!” She started crying, telling him everything that had just happened.

Her father, Xue Zhengrong, listened to her story, but to him, it was not that big of a matter. He understood his daughter’s temper, that she had always liked being the center of attention. He didn’t make any further comments on the situation and told the crowd that it was a simple misunderstanding. Then he took off with his daughter.

“Alright, Tingting. Stop crying okay? I’ll buy you new clothes later. Come on, didn’t you say that you wanted to get a specific violin? Let’s go get it for you, shall we?”

Xue Zhengrong continued to comfort his daughter as they walked into the auction house.

After the Xues have left, the crowd started to gossip.

“Hey, wasn’t that Xue Yating? The violin diva who just rose to fame?”

“Now that you mention it, you might be right. I was wondering where I’d seen her before. Oh, man, she’s much prettier in person. But I will say, she really has a bad temper.”

“Tell me about it. So many rich kids these days being spoiled by their parents....”

“I’ve heard her perform live once. She definitely has the skill. I think she’s going to perform live at Peijing Art Gallery next month.”

...

Xu Xiyan stood listening to the crowd’s conversation.

# Chapter 43 - A Bleeding Heart

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

By listening to the murmurings of the crowd, Xu Xiyan learned the identity of the woman who she'd just squabbled with. She was the Peijing-born violin diva, Xue Yating.

If Xu Xiyan remembered correctly, Xue Yating's father was Xue Zhengrong, the biggest industrialist in the country. It was no wonder he had the power to put his daughter onto the world stage.

Xue Zhengrong had also just mentioned something about Xue Yating wanting a violin. Could it be that she was eyeing Xu Xiyan's mother's violin?

Her heart began to beat incredibly fast. She picked up her money and her bag from the floor, and ran to the auction registration office.

After registering and getting a bidder number, Xu Xiyan entered the auction hall. She looked for a seat and sat down.

Finally, the auction started. Pictures and information for each of the five musical instruments were displayed on the big screen. Xu Xiyan recognized the violin named "Artemis"—the one that her mother had used. The one named after her mother.

Her mother's name was Jing Ruyue, but Artemis was her English name. When Xu Xiyan saw the violin, an image of her mother playing it flashed in her mind.

Xu Xiyan was both anxious and excited. She silently prayed that she would be able to get the violin back.

The auctioneer appeared, and the auction began. Xu Xiyan did not care for the first four lots. She was waiting for the fifth one to appear. She was waiting for Artemis.

On the stage, the staff placed the fifth auction lot on a stand. The violin was visibly aged, and rested inside a glass case.

The white-gloved auctioneer began to introduce the instrument to the crowd of collectors.

“Ladies and gentlemen, what we have here now is a violin. It has a lovely name: ‘Artemis.’ Named after the moon god of Greek mythology, it was created by the world-renowned Italian luthier, Antonius-Stradivari, and was owned by the world-class violinist, Artemis.

“This violin is well preserved and has a beautiful sound. The starting price is 50,000. You may start bidding.”

Xu Xiyan’s placard was the first in the air.

The auctioneer gestured at her, “Okay, first bid goes to No. 7!”

More bids followed. Placards rose into the air one after another, and the price of her mother’s violin soared. It quickly rose to 200,000 Yuan.

Please don’t rise anymore! Please don’t rise anymore! Please don’t rise any more...

Xu Xiyan prayed silently, but it seemed the crowd was in a bidding frenzy, and wouldn’t stop raising their placards into the air.

Many people thought that the violin was worth collecting. It was not only because it was the work of Antonius-Stradivari, but it was also because Artemis had owned it previously.

Artemis was a former world-class violinist, as well as a superstar in the entertainment industry.

Although she had not managed to win the title of Best Actress, she was considered an uncrowned queen in the hearts of the people.

Due to the immeasurable value of the violin, many fought to bid for it. By the second round, its price had risen to 800,000

Yuan.

800,000!?

Xu Xiyan stared as the auctioneer announced the price. Oh my god, 800,000! The money in her bag and her bank card was hardly enough!

Can't get it back anymore...

A feeling of despair grew within her.

Xu Xiyan felt terrible and hated herself. She felt stupid for not knowing how valuable her mother's violin would be.

And five years ago, she had pawned it for for a mere 100,000 Yuan.

# Chapter 44 - A Vicious Battle

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan felt stupid, falling into despair as people continued to bid for the violin. She was all worn out, scarcely having the energy to breath.

In the end, the one who won the bid with 3 billion was none other than Xue Zhengrong. It was a gift for his daughter, Xue Yating.

The violin now belonged to Xue Yating, who glowed, kissing her father on the cheek.

All Xu Xiyan could do was stare at the Xues. They paid 3 billion for the violin, and there was nothing that she could do to make them hand it over.

After the auction had ended, Xu Xiyan dragged herself out of Hongye Auction House with a heavy heart. Even breathing was hard for her at that moment. She tried to wipe off her tears, yet they wouldn't stop.

I'm sorry mum... I lost your favorite violin... I'm so sorry...

She wondered how long would it take for her to earn 3 billion Yuan.

She wiped her tears and swore to God that she would work harder, as hard as she could, to earn more money.

Suddenly, her phone rang. Stage Manager Xing was calling to ask if she was free later that evening, as there were a few scenes for which they could use her as a double.

“Yeah, I've got nothing to do later, Mr. Xing. I'll be there.”

This was evidence that the production team was satisfied with Xu Xiyan's performance, since they wanted her to play a double again. She instantly accepted the job and rushed to the eastern suburb of Peijing.

...

Xu Xiyan hurried to the shooting scene for "The Root of Evil" and met up with Mr. Xing. After getting all the information, she went to change her clothes. Then she went to work with her performance.

In the first scene, the heroine would be chasing the second male lead through the forest. The scene included a high-risk fight with the second male lead, Ma Haodong, so the lead actress didn't want to play the scene herself, so the crew called in a double.

They started shooting, and Xu Xiyan began to pursue Ma Haodong until they reached the forest where the fight began.

Because the director wanted the scene to feel as real as possible, light punches or flops wouldn't be enough.

The forest scene, itself, was shot more than 4 times, with Xu Xiyan receiving many punches, and Ma Haodong falling more than 10 times.

Ma Haodong wasn't able to control the force of his punches, since he wasn't used to hitting a girl.

"Can you stand?" asked Ma Haodong. He felt embarrassed for hitting a girl so much, and outstretched his hand, offering Xu Xiyan his assistance.

"I'm fine, thanks."

Xu Xiyan gritted her teeth and stood up. She adjusted her pace and turned to face Ma Haodong. "Again!"

Ma Haodong was impressed by Xu Xiyan's passion and discipline as a stunt double. As soon as they heard the whistle, they began to fight each other again.

The whole evening was filled with screams and punches as they sprinted and rolled on the ground.

When they'd finished shooting, Xu Xiyan stayed and ate the fast food that had been prepared by the staff.

After finishing his food, Ma Haodong went and looked for Xu Xiyan. He sat down right beside her.

Xu Xiyan was actually a bit flustered by his approach. Ma Haodong was a rising star with a massive fan base. He was on the verge of becoming a huge star, and yet he seemed friendly and caring.

“What are you playing on your phone?”

Ma Haodong peeked at Xu Xiyan's screen and noticed that she was playing 'The Royal Alliance.'

“Wow” he exclaimed. “I never would have pegged you as someone who'd like this type of game.”

“Well, I only play it when I'm bored.” Xu Xiyan smiled.

“Come on then! Let's team up!” said Ma Haodong, pulling out his phone and booting up the game.

As soon as Ma Haodong added Xu Xiyan to his friend list, his jaw almost dropped to the ground. “You've got to be kidding me! You're the number three player on the whole server? You mean you're Gongzi Yaoye?”

# Chapter 45 - Carry Me Please!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Ma Haodong would've never imagined that the masculine-sounding username "Gongzi Yaoye" belonged to Xu Xiyan.

"I'm not really a pro. I've been using this account to try to show off, but I'm actually kind of a noob."

Xu Xiyan was telling the truth, but Ma Haodong was already treating her like she was his idol. "Come on, let's team up! Carry me please!"

Xu Xiyan invited "Dongxie Xidu" to join the faction created by her senior. They happily spent the next hour playing the game. They were both passionate about the game and quickly became good friends.

When the game was over, Ma Haodong was still eager for more. "It's great to team up with a pro, Jing Xi. Let's play together again sometime!"

"All right!" Xu Xiyan promised cheerfully.

After that, Xu Xiyan resumed filming the remaining stunt scenes. When she was done, it was already 10 PM.

Xu Xiyan went to Mr. Xing and received 2,000 Yuan for the day's work. She then left the set, feeling very exhausted.

The set was pretty far from the nearest bus station. She had come in a taxi, but now that she had to leave, she had to walk to the station.

The road was dark, and the two lonely street lamps along the road weren't enough to keep the darkness at bay.

Upon completing her first stunt double gig when she'd returned from abroad, she had heard from Fang Xiaocheng that there had been several murder cases in the eastern suburbs. Most of the victims had been young women, including up-and-coming actresses.

They had all been robbed, raped and murdered.

The night wind blew. Xu Xiyan wrapped her arms around herself. Just thinking about the terrible news that Fang Xiaocheng had told her sent a chill down her spine.

As she followed the puddles of light on the ground, she imagined that the swaying tree shadows were vicious stalkers, and this freaked her out. She tightened her clutch on her handbag and broke into a terrified run.

When she turned the corner, two men jumped out in front of her. They stood in the middle of the road, blocking her way.

Xu Xiyan's heart leapt into her throat. Oh god, I jinxed myself. Please don't tell me these men are robbers!

Their faces were half covered by masks; only their eyes were visible. They were armed with long knives, and looked like professionals.

Xu Xiyan gulped.

Don't panic...remember uncle Jing Zhannan, the leader of the 1st squadron of the famous JS Mercenary Group.

In the past few years, when she had been living in Estan, Xu Xiyan had spent a lot of time with the mercenary group and picked up some combat skills from her uncle Jing Zhannan. She was a professional stunt double, and could beat up these lowly thugs any day.

"Hand over the money!" One of the men waved the knife in his hand.

"I don't have money," Xu Xiyan said.

The robber did not believe her. "Are you taking us for fools? You have over 100,000 Yuan in your bag."

"..."

Erm...

Xu Xiyan was puzzled. How did they know that she had more than 100,000 Yuan in her bag?

What Xu Xiyan did not know was, she had been targeted at the Hongye Auction House when she had thrown her bag to the floor and spilled the money.

The two men had followed her to the eastern suburbs. They were after the cash in her bag, and had spent the last seven or eight hours waiting for her.

“Throw the bag over and we’ll let you live, or else...”

The two men waved their knives threateningly as they moved towards her.

“So you want the money? Here you go...”

Xu Xiyan pretended to throw the bag. As the men reached out to catch it, Xu Xiyan sent one of the thugs flying with a vicious kick.

“Hmph! Let’s see if you’re worthy of the money!”

Her bag swung in an arc before returning into her arms. When the two men realized her deception, they raised their knives and lunged at her.

# Chapter 46 - Acting All Weak and Frail in Front of Prince Charming

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan moved swiftly, completing a few somersaults and throwing a few punches. Both of the assailants were beaten nearly to a pulp.

The two tried to re-launch their attack. This time, Xu Xiyan caught one of them head-on, grabbing his head. As she was preparing to hit two of the assailants' head together, a car stopped abruptly in front of them.

Xu Xiyan raised her head and noticed that it was Huo Yunshen's car. In just the span of a few seconds, Yi Xiao came out from the car with a few hired muscles, charging both of the assailants. Huo Yunshen followed them out of the car in his wheelchair.

As soon as Xu Xiyan saw that it was her prince charming emerging from the car, she became anxious. She didn't want Huo Yunshen to see her masculine side.

She quickly threw both of her assailants on the floor and sat down crying. She was trying to act weak and frail in front of Huo Yunshen.

Along with the bodyguards, Yi Xiao quickly apprehended the two assailants.

Huo Yunshen maneuvered his electronic wheelchair toward Xu Xiyan. He looked at her, worried.

"Xu Xiyan, are you hurt?"

If he hadn't asked Yi Xiao to drive him to the eastern suburb to settle some business, Huo Yunshen would have never learned that Xu Xiyan was working as a stunt double for "The Root of Evil." He was worried for her, as it was almost midnight and he wanted to take her home.

Xu Xiyan looked at Huo Yunshen with tears in her eyes. She ran over to him and hugged his legs. "Mr. Huo! Thank god! I thought I would've been in such trouble if it wasn't for you."

The two unlucky assailants heard her wailing to Huo Yunshen and twitched their lips. Seriously girl? Can't you be a little more honest? If it weren't for these people appearing at the right time, both of us could be in a hospital by now...

Huo Yunshen looked at this poor lady and started to worry.

He offered Xu Xiyan his hand and pulled her up. "Wipe your tears. Come on, let's get into the car." He handed her his handkerchief.

Xu Xiyan stopped "crying" as soon as they stepped into the car. She pulled her sleeves intentionally to hide the bruises from the shoot.

Huo Yunshen noticed that Xu Xiyan was covered in dust, and handed her a hot towel.

"Here. You can wipe yourself with this."

"Oh, Thank you." As Xu Xiyan stretched her hand to take the towel from Huo Yunshen, her sleeve rolled up a little, exposing the bruises on her arm.

Huo Yunshen noticed them, and his face darkened. He quickly grabbed her hand and rolled her sleeve all the way up to check her injuries.

Her arm is covered in bruises! What about the other arm? Are there any bruises in other areas as well?

Huo Yunshen tightened his expression. "Did those people who assaulted you cause these?"

"No, not at all!" Xu Xiyan smiled, withdrawing her hand, acting all strong and sturdy.

Huo Yunshen began thinking that she sustained the injuries when she was substituting as a stunt double.

He had studied “The Root of Evil” beforehand and understood that it was a gangster movie filled with all sorts of fighting scenes.

What blew Huo Yunshen’s mind was why a fragile girl like Xu Xiyan would want to act as a stunt double.

“Xu Xiyan! A stunt double! Really?! With your acting potential, you could become a mainstream actress.”

When Xu Xiyan raised her head and looked at Huo Yunshen, his eyes were filled with coldness, and a touch of anger could be heard in his voice.

Huo Yunshen was actually worried about her. With her potential and some guidance, she could definitely become a huge star.

Xu Xiyan cleaned her face and smiled at Huo Yunshen,

“Thank you for your confidence in me, Mr. Huo. But I’m fine. I’ve been working as a stunt double for a while now. These types of injuries are normal for me. They’ll heal in a few days.”

Geez...This lady. Even if she’s not worried about getting hurt, I’m worried for her!

Huo Yunshen didn’t want to see Xu Xiyan being hurt whatsoever.

# Chapter 47 - He Would Feel Bad

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

If she were ever injured, he would feel bad.

Huo Yunshen's gaze fell onto Xu Xiyan's bag. There were bundles of cash under the half-opened zipper.

“What were you thinking? Don't you know that the eastern suburbs aren't safe? A girl carrying a pack of cash alone at night...are you looking for trouble?”

He seemed to imply that she was stupid, that nobody was more foolish than her.

Xu Xiyan couldn't explain why she was running around with so much cash. She forced a smile.

“Oh, I was going to deposit the money, but I haven't found a bank yet.”

Huo Yunshen felt uneasy and sighed.

“Xu Xiyan, do you know if you got injured...I...”

He couldn't finish his sentence. He blamed himself for not knowing her plans earlier.

I can only blame myself for not being able to protect her.

“So what if I were injured? What would you do?”

Xu Xiyan looked at Huo Yunshen curiously. Although she had sensed that he was blaming himself, he was actually concerned and worried too.

Him? Worried about me?

Is he angry because I was injured during the stunt double job?

Hahaha, what an adorable man. He even looks cute while angry.

Her eyes were clear with innocence as she gazed at him. Huo Yunshen flushed in embarrassment.

He deliberately put on a casual tone.

“If you were injured, wouldn’t I be in trouble, too?” he asked.

“No one could take care of me...I would have to care for you. You’re really a trouble maker, you know.”

“Hehehe...”

After listening to his sloppy explanation, Xu Xiyan laughed, her voice bright as a silver bell.

She did not know why, but ever since Huo Yunshen appeared in her life, she had begun to feel more valued..

His words had warmed her heart and made her feel cared for. All the sorrows and the weariness of the day instantly disappeared, gone with the wind.

It seems that all isn’t lost.

If the violin was sold, then she would just have to think of a way to buy it back.

Huo Yunshen didn’t want her to be a stunt double. That wouldn’t be a problem, as she was going to become a risk-free supporting actor soon.

Huo Yunshen did not send Xu Xiyan home. Instead, he ordered his driver to drive them back to his residence at Shengshi Yujing Apartments.

He had already prepared new clothes for Xu Xiyan, including new underwear and pajamas. They were all washed and dried and kept at his home, just in case she needed them. Now was the time to put them to good use.

After taking a shower, Xu Xiyan put on the soft cotton cartoon pajamas and went to the living room. She saw Huo Yunshen and spoke.

“Thank you, Mr. Huo, this was very considerate of you.”

Of course I have to be considerate. I must be considerate with her. She is mine after all!

Huo Yun glanced at Xu Xiyan, who had just emerged from the shower. Her cheeks were red and her skin was radiant and supple. She had twisted her hair into a bun that sat on top of her head.

She looked like a cute little rabbit in those cartoon pajamas.

When she came over to the sofa and sat, he pointed to the glass of milk on the table, “Have some warm milk.”

“Thanks!”

Xu Xiyan took the milk and drank it. Huo Yunshen suddenly spoke.

“Aren’t you worried that I might’ve spiked the milk?”

“...” Xu Xiyan almost spat out her mouthful of milk. But she drank it, before answering calmly.

“Nope! I don’t think you’re that kind of person.”

At this point, she trusted Huo Yunshen completely.

# Chapter 48 - I Think It's Best If I Don't

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen was in a wheelchair, and his disability led to some sexual dysfunction. He would never do anything to her.

And though he was both an award-winning actor and CEO, he didn't act like it. His concern was more like that of a worried friend, like how Fang Xiaocheng would worry about her.

Xu Xiyan could only feel secure and comfortable when staying with a sincere guy like Huo Yunshen.

When she said that Huo Yunshen was not the kind of guy who would drug her, he felt happy. This meant that Xu Xiyan was finally starting to trust him.

Huo Yunshen felt incredibly pleased.

"Of course I'm not. But you still have to be careful when you're outside with other people," he added.

"Fine, fine. I will." Xu Xiyan nodded.

Huo Yunshen brought out a medical kit as Xu Xiyan finished her milk. He took out medicine for bruises and wheeled himself to Xu Xiyan's side.

"Come. Here's some medicine, give me your arm."

"It's fine, I'll do it myself."

Applying medicine meant having some skin contact. Other than that, she wouldn't dare let her prince charming do it himself.

"What are you afraid of?"

Huo Yunshen raised his head and looked at her with his cool, dark eyes. It was like he was silently questioning her, why are you still afraid of me?

“No, it’s just...” Xu Xiyan stammered.

Without giving her any time to decline, Huo Yunshen grabbed her arm and started to apply the medicine.

“...” Xu Xiyan stared at Huo Yunshen as he went about his work. An unexplainable affection began to rise in her heart.

For all those years, no one had actually cared about her except for Ying Bao and her uncles.

And now the guy she had sex with once five years ago was treating her with unconditional care and love.

Oh, how am I supposed to repay him for his kindness?

After Huo Yunshen had applied the medicine for Xu Xiyan, he took her wallet and counted the money inside.

“There’s 132,000 in here. Leave the cash with me, I’ll transfer the money to your bank from my phone.”

“Sure thing! Thanks a lot!”

Huo Yunshen didn’t reply, but deep down in his heart, he thought, don’t worry about it. For you, I’m willing to do anything!”

Xu Xiyan took out her bank card and showed Huo Yunshen her account name and account number.

As soon as Huo Yunshen noticed that the name on the card was Jing Xi, he couldn’t control his curiosity.

“Jing Xi?” he asked. “Did you change your name?”

“Yup. That’s my stage name,” she explained. “You should call me by this name from now on. I quite like the sound of it.”

The reason for her to adopt a stage name was not that it sounded good, but because she didn’t want to have anything to do with the Xu family.

Huo Yunshen lips formed a smile, his charming eyes shining brightly. “Jing Xi, Jing Xi. It really does have a nice sound.”

After he had made the transaction, Huo Yunshen asked, “have you signed a contract with any company yet? Do you have a manager?”

Awkward! I’m not even a real actress yet, who would want a contract with me?

All of the stunt double acts that Xu Xiyan had worked on were introduced to her through the black market.

“Nope. No company, no manager.” Xu Xiyan smiled awkwardly.

“Then...do you want to join Yunhai?”

Huo Yunshen stared at Xu Xiyan, his expression telling her that all she has to do was ask.

“No, no thanks. I don’t really want to. I think it’s best if I don’t.” The truth was, there would be a lot of issues with joining Yunhai, and she didn’t want to fall into dealing with all of them just yet.

Xu Jinshan currently had a full-time contract as a director with Yunhai Entertainment. If she joined Yunhai, Xu Jinshan would make her life incredibly difficult.

“Then how ’bout Juxing Entertainment?”

# Chapter 49 - I Want to Give Her the Best

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen was in charge of Yunhai Entertainment, but he also owned half the shares of Juxing Entertainment. He had recommended these two companies because he wanted to sign her under his own name and manage everything for her.

Huo Yunshen believed in giving the person he loved the best life possible.

Xu Xiyan quickly shook her head. “No, thank you for your kind offer. For the time being, I don’t want to enter Yunhai or Juxing.”

“Why?”

Huo Yunshen was puzzled. There were many actors who were trying everything they could to enter Yunhai or Juxing, and they still didn’t have a chance.

And yet, she didn’t want this rare opportunity...?

The fact was, Xu Xiyan’s father was a film director working under Yunhai, her sister a star actress with Juxing, and her brother-in-law, Chu Yuhe, the president of Juxing.

So no matter how he looked at it, if Xu Xiyan wanted to enter the entertainment circle, either Yunhai or Juxing should be her first choice.

But Huo Yunshen didn’t understand Xu Xiyan’s situation with her family. He had paid special attention to the Xu Family and other people like Chu Yuhe because he cared for Xu Xiyan.

If she were to let him know that his “good intentions” had been inconveniencing her instead of helping her, he probably would’ve burst a blood vessel.

“I know that Yunhai and Juxing are good, but I don’t want to depend on my family’s connections. I want to climb the ladder with my own efforts and achieve my goals by myself. Thank you for your kindness.”

For the time being, Xu Xiyan had no way of explaining her family situation with regards to Juxing to Huo Yunshen. She could only politely decline his kindness.

“...” Huo Yunshen was surprised that she was so ambitious. It was clear that she possessed a lot of easily accessible resources, and yet she chose to find another way.

She was really a special woman, and he had been right about her.

Since she didn’t want to join Yunhai or Juxing, Huo Yunshen had another plan to keep her.

“I know of another company. It’s an alternative and independent company in the entertainment industry. Although they’re not famous, the company is well-connected. They’re gaining traction within the industry. If you are interested, I can introduce you to them.”

“Is it owned by one of your friends, too?” Xu Xiyan asked suspiciously.

Huo Yunshen had grown familiar with her temper. He knew that she didn’t want to have anything to do with his overbearing support. “Well the truth is, he is my friend, but he’s also my competitor.”

Xu Xiyan became interested when she heard that it was an independent and alternative company run by Huo Yunshen’s competitor.

“What company is it?”

“Jingyue Entertainment.”

She hadn’t heard of it. So it was really a new company.

There was a “Jing” word in the name, and it sounded like her mother’s name.

Jingyue, Jing Ru Yue...

Somehow Xu Xiyan felt a connection to it.

“Sounds good. Where are they located?”

“When are you free? I’ll take you there!”

Xu Xiyan thought about her schedule. Only tomorrow was free. “How about tomorrow? Do you have time then?”

“Yes, I should have some time.”

For Xu Xiyan, he would always make time.

“That settles it then.” Xu Xiyan stood up, tugging on the hem of her pajamas. “I should go back. Could you get the driver to send me home?”

Huo Yunshen raised his wrist and looked at his watch. It was nearly midnight.

“It’s already 12 o’clock. If you go back now, you’ll have to trouble your friend to open the door for you. Why don’t you call her up and tell her you’re not coming back? I have a lot of rooms, and you can stay here for the time being. When morning comes, we can go to Jingyue Entertainment together.”

What a persuasive argument to get her to stay!

# Chapter 50 - Giving It All I've Got for My Future Wife's Sake

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

That was a smart way to make her stay!

Xu Xiyan couldn't find any reason not to stay. She scratched her head.

“All right, I'll be heading up then.”

“The guest room is the second one on your left,” said Huo Yunshen. “You can sleep there.”

“Thank you!” Xu Xiyan went up a few steps and stopped. “Mr. Huo, do you need any of my assistance? Like...” She turned toward Huo Yunshen.

She was treated so well by him and had almost forgotten that she was still his personal assistant.

“No, thanks. I'll call for you if I need anything.”

“Okay then, goodnight.” Xu Xiyan smiled at him.

Seeing her smile made Huo Yunshen smile, too, revealing a pair of charming dimples.

Stunned by these attractive dimples, Xu Xiyan felt her face flush. She turned, hurrying to the guest room.

As soon as Xu Xiyan had gone, Huo Yunshen wheeled his electric wheelchair from the living room to the study, and called Yi Xiao.

“I’ll give you one day. I don’t care what it takes, but you have to create an entertainment company named ‘Jingyue.’ The operations and accounts will be handled independently. I’ll bring Xu Xiyan over tomorrow to sign the contract.”

After Huo Yunshen ended the call, he let out a long sigh.

I have to keep giving it all I’ve got for my future wife’s sake...

Since the company didn’t exist, he had to create it; if there were no competitors, then he would imagine one.

After hanging up the call from the young master, Yi Xiao couldn’t control his urge to criticize. What kind of trick are you playing now?

Are you seriously going to set up an entertainment company just for Ms. Xu’s sake?

I don’t get it. Yunhai Entertainment now belongs to you, young master. Plus, you’re a primary shareholder for Juxing Entertainment. If you create a new independent company now, won’t it cause a ton of problems in the future?

And if Jingyue Entertainment is successful in the future, then the market shares will have to be split between the three companies!

The stubborn Yi Xiao was thoroughly amazed by his young master.

You really know how to have fun!

If his young master was a king in ancient China, his acts of kindness, and insistence upon doing everything he could for the girl he loved would’ve meant the fall of an empire.

But, what was the use of criticism? Yi Xiao jumped out of bed and began to make arrangements with the little time he had.

...

The next morning, it rained.

Huo Yunshen woke up and went to the kitchen. Yet to his surprise, Xu Xiyan was already awake, and was preparing breakfast.

She'd already gotten dressed for the day, and had tied her hair into a bun. Her hand was working on a pot with a wooden spoon.

“Jing Xi?” exclaimed Huo Yunshen. “Why are you up so early?”

Xu Xiyan turned, smiling when she saw Huo Yunshen sitting in his wheelchair.

“You’ve already helped me quite a lot. Since I’m your personal assistance, then I should act like it and make some breakfast. Go wait for me in the dining hall, I’ll be done soon.”

Xu Xiyan turned around and continued cooking the breakfast.

As Huo Yunshen stared at the back of Xu Xiyan working hard in the kitchen, he was deeply moved.

He had no idea that having someone to make him food could make him so happy.

The day he had longed for had finally arrived. Xu Xiyan was standing in his house, like his wife, making him breakfast.

# Chapter 51 - An Unforgettable Taste

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen didn't have to wait too long before Xu Xiyan set a hearty and skillfully prepared breakfast on the table.

There were meat porridges, sandwiches, a platter of fresh vegetables, beautifully shaped poached eggs, and a little plate of pickles.

Xu Xiyan scooped some porridge into a bowl and placed it in front of Huo Yunshen. She also handed him a sandwich.

"What do you think, Mr. Huo? I haven't cooked for a long time," she said modestly. "I'm afraid I'm quite rusty at it."

When Xu Xiyan was abroad, she was so busy that she often had no time to cook and ended up fixing quick and easy meals.

She knew that this was one of the reasons Ying Bao had always wanted to buy a daddy: one who can cook and would never let her go hungry.

Huo Yunshen took a bite of a sandwich and tasted the meat porridge. His eyes went wide in surprise.

"Mmm, not bad! They're very tasty, much better than the ones I make."

Xu Xiyan was relieved. She smiled.

"You are too modest, Mr. Huo. My cooking skills are still no match for yours. You're still better."

Indeed, Huo Yunshen's cooking was the kind that you would not forget after just a bite.

“You should eat, too!” Huo Yunshen beckoned to her.

“Thank you.”

Xu Xiyan sat down in the same chair she had sat in the last time and dined with him.

They finished their breakfast. The two were supposed to go to Jingyue Entertainment together, but Xu Xiyan received a call from Fang Xiaocheng. Something was up, and Xu Xiyan had to cancel their appointment.

“I am sorry, Mr. Huo, can we go to Jingyue Entertainment some other day? An emergency has come up.”

“No problem. Do you need any help?”

“No, it’s alright! My friend wasn’t feeling well and I guess she’s in the hospital now. I have to go and see her.”

Xu Xiyan couldn’t tell Huo Yunshen the truth. The one who fell ill was Ying Bao. Fang Xiaocheng had told her on the phone that Ying Bao had just been diagnosed with acute gastroenteritis, and she’d been brought to the People’s Hospital for treatment.

“Which hospital?”

Seeing that he was determined to dig deeper into the matter, Xu Xiyan reluctantly answered, “The First People’s Hospital.”

Xu Xiyan grabbed her bag. “Okay I have to go now.” She hurried out the door.

It was raining quite heavily outside, but Xu Xiyan didn’t bring an umbrella.

She planned to use her bag to cover her head from the rain, but she heard Huo Yunshen’s voice calling after her.

“It’s raining so hard, and you don’t have an umbrella. Let me send you there...I have to go to the First People’s Hospital, anyway.”

“Mr. Huo, you don’t have to send me there. I can catch a taxi when I’m outside.”

Xu Xiyan turned and looked at him skeptically. She couldn't figure out the real reason why he wanted to go to the hospital. Was it because he really needed to, or did he just want to accompany her there?

“No, it's really no trouble. I'll just drop you off since we both have to go there anyways. I go to the hospital for my rehabilitation on this day every week.”

Huo Yunshen lifted his head slightly, his dark eyes sparkling. They were full of tenderness and sincerity.

After listening to his words, Xu Xiyan felt even more touched. He hadn't told her that he had to do rehabilitation on this day every week, and yet when she had told him she was free to go to Jingyue today, he decided to accompany her instead.

He was willing to skip rehabilitation to accompany her. Oh, what a sincere man!

“Sorry, I didn't know about your schedule.”

Xu Xiyan was blaming herself for her ignorance.

“Don't be sorry, you'll have plenty of opportunities to know me in the future.”

Huo Yunshen handed her an umbrella. “The car's here. Let's go. You're in a hurry, right?”

# Chapter 52 - He Wanted to Stand Again

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan didn't say anything further. She took the blue checkered umbrella from Huo Yunshen and got into the van.

She really wanted to thank Huo Yunshen for taking care of her. She would save a ton of time by riding with him.

The car drove quickly and steadily. In just a few minutes, they had arrived at the general hospital.

Xu Xiyan thanked Huo Yunshen after the car had stopped in front of the hospital. She took the umbrella and ran inside.

After seeing Xu Xiyan off, Huo Yunshen asked his driver to drive him to the hospital's rehabilitation center.

Huo Yunshen really had intended to perform his rehabilitation at the hospital. His rehab was scheduled for every Saturday ever since he got into the accident five years ago. But, in truth, until two years ago, he had been avoiding them.

For the first three years after he was in the accident, he had shut himself in. He'd lived in pain and depression every single day.

The shocking news that he would be paralyzed from the waist down for the rest of his life was devastating to a proud man like him. He had no idea how to live on, and was afraid to go outside.

But two years ago, when he met a counselor named Yim, he became more optimistic.

Miss Yim told him stories about many handicaps who faced their obstacle head-on and succeeded in changing their own fate. She kept encouraging him, telling him that even if life was difficult, he'd have to face it with a smile. Yim believed that with enough conviction, a person could find the strength to change their own fate.

It was Miss Yim who'd motivated him to challenge his fate and take up rehabilitation, one day at a time, until today.

He'd successfully destroyed the devil that was lurking in his heart and body. He was no longer weak and afraid like he used to be five years ago.

Even though he was still unable to walk, his heart was filled with hope and trust.

Huo Yunshen met up with his attending physician, Professor Qin Kun, at the rehab center. Professor Qin was in his fifties, a passionate and reliable doctor. He'd been conducting Huo Yunshen's rehabilitation ever since he agreed to participate in it.

After greeting his doctor, Huo Yunshen began to discuss the rehabilitation process with him.

He sat in a special-made wheelchair as Qin Kun began to help him stretch.

Bending the legs is an easy task for most people, but to people who are paralyzed, every movement comes with extreme pain and difficulty

Huo Yunshen was drenched in sweat after finishing the exercises. After checking Huo Yunshen's leg muscle, Qin Kun said, "Not bad Yunshen. Your muscles are in better shape than when you last came in."

Huo Yunshen was filled with joy after hearing Qin Kun's comment. He felt both confident and hopeful that he'd definitely get better.

"That's all for today," Qin Kun said after checking his watch. "Please rest a while."

“I don’t need the rest. Could you help me do it again? Please?”  
Huo Yunshen was practically begging.

No one other than Huo Yunshen, himself, understood what he was feeling. Ever since he’d finally found Xu Xiyan, he wanted to get better quickly so he would be able to stand again.

Only then would he be able to stand by her side and protect her.

He didn’t want to live as a handicapped person anymore; he just wanted to be able to stand.

His determination was what pushed him to try and recover as soon as possible.

He believed in the professor, he believed in himself. Someday, I’ll be able to stand again! Definitely!

Qin Kun acknowledged Huo Yunshen’s resolution and agreed to help him go through the exercises one more time.

...

Xu Xiyan found the ward that Ying Bao was in and entered. Both Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi were there to accompany the kid.

Ying Bao was lying in her bed, an IV drip hung beside her. Her little face was pale, as if there was no blood at all. Her eyes were closed, and she looked as if she could be sleeping soundly.

“Orange, how’s Ying Bao?”

# Chapter 53 - Butt Clenching

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyao walked over to the hospital bed and looked down at Ying Bao, her heart aching in her chest. She had only left her daughter for one day, and she'd become sick. Xu Xiyao felt like an incompetent mother.

Fang Xiaocheng spoke quietly, not wanting to wake the child. "She just fell asleep. She will recover soon. She was crying about a stomach ache when she got up in the morning, and after that she had diarrhea and she vomited. I was so scared. Then I called Da Zhi and we brought her to the hospital. She has acute gastroenteritis. The doctor said it's due to a bacterial infection, but it may also be that she's not accustomed to the climate here."

"Oh dear..." said Xu Xiyao. "I should've come back last night."

Xu Xiyao understood, and believed that the main cause for the illness was the climate. After all, Ying Bao had lived in Estant since she was born four years ago. The climate there was pleasant and it was not like the erratic temperatures of Beijing.

"What could you have done, even if you came back?" asked Fang Xiaocheng, consoling her. "Ying Bao still has to acclimatize herself to this city, and it was inevitable that this would happen. Don't blame yourself anymore, the doctor said that she just needs to stay in the hospital for two days and she will be all right."

"Thank you! I'm glad that you and Da Zhi were there to help."

"What are you talking about? You don't have to be modest with me."

Fang Xiaocheng patted Xu Xiyan on the back of her hand, then remembered the doctor's advice. "Oh, right, the doctor said we can give Ying Bao a little porridge to fill her stomach after she wakes up."

A nurse came in and handed Xu Xiyan a medical invoice. After taking a look at it, she turned to Fang Xiaocheng. "Can you stay here with Ying Bao for me? I'll go pay the bill, then I'll go home and cook some porridge for her."

"Why don't you give me the bill? Let me go pay the fee and cook the porridge for her instead."

Fang Xiaocheng was worried that the task would be too exhausting for Xu Xiyan. She had seen the new scars on her arm, and guessed that she must have had a very tough day performing stunts the day before.

"No, it's okay. I'll go and I'll be back soon."

Xu Xiyan took the invoice and walked out quickly. She was very grateful that Fang Xiaocheng and Da Zhi had helped to take care of her child, and she could not bear to let them pay the bills for her.

When Xu Xiyan arrived at the admissions payment counter, there were two people in front of her who had just settled their discharge procedures and were preparing to leave.

"Why, if it isn't President Chu and Miss Xu."

Xu Xiyan stood in front of the two, smiling. They were wearing flu masks and sunglasses like armor, but Xu Xiyan could still recognize them at a glance.

Upon hearing the voice of Xu Xiyan, Chu Yuhe felt his butt clenching tight.

Xu Xinrou looked at her and frowned. She hadn't expected to meet Xu Xiyan here.

Xu Xiyan deliberately put on a clueless expression. "What brings you two to the hospital? Was somebody sick? President Chu, you seem to be limping. Have you come to get your hemorrhoids removed?"

Chu Yuhe: "..."

All thanks to her, his butt had been stabbed and wounded.

If they weren't in public, and if Xu Xinrou wasn't there with him, he wouldn't have hesitated to hatefully tear Xu Xiyan apart.

“Xu Xiyan, don't you fool with me. Yu He is fine, I tell you!”

Xu Xinrou had a different status now, as she was famous. She was afraid that the public would recognize her, and she kept covering her face with her hands.

“Oh really? I hope that you won't be offended by my words, but I do seem to remember from the news that this might not be the case! It seems that President Chu was sodo—”

Xu Xinrou interrupted her. “Shut up. Stop talking! What, are you worried everyone won't find out his identity? Are you happy to see him wallow in shame? He's treated you well all these years, you know!”

“Oh, hold it right there! Don't think that I don't know anything! When we were in an official relationship back then, you guys had already hooked up....”

# Chapter 54 - Doing Unlawful Things Behind Her Back

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“I don’t care if he was the one who cheated on me or if you seduced him,” said Xu Xiyan. “All I know was the rubbish that I threw away five years ago was picked up by you.”

Xu Xiyan didn’t hold back. The reason she’d returned to Zstan was to punish the people who’d hurt her. The more they suffered, the happier she’d be.

Xu Xinrou’s face darkened. Xu Xiyan wasn’t wrong...Xu Xinrou really did feel like she’d picked up some scrap that Xu Xiyan had thrown away.

Xu Xinrou looked at the guy standing beside her, who was cowering like an idiot. Chu Yuhe had already lost the charm he had when she first met him, and now he was afraid of everything.

Xu Xinrou would’ve kicked him out if he wasn’t the CEO of Juxing Entertainment. He was still worth something.

Yet Xu Xinrou had never thought that he would do unlawful things behind her back, or that she’d have to clean it up for him.

Chu Yuhe was furious at Xu Xiyan for exposing them.

“Xu Xiyan! Keep your mouth shut! I only started dating your sister after we broke up, we did not do anything scandalous. Do not come near us again! I’m warning you!”

After scolding Xu Xiyan, Chu Yuhe turned to Xu Xinrou.

“Babe, let’s go. Let’s not waste any more of our time talking to

any insignificant people.”

Xu Xinrou was already prepared to leave. As soon as she heard that, she ignored Xu Xiyan and left with Chu Yuhe. They kept their heads low as they left.

Xu Xiyan stood and waved her hand. “Mr. Chu, I hope your butthole heals soon! Oh, I wish both of you a happy relationship, too!”

Xu Xinrou climbed into the car angrily. She even ignored Chu Yuhe when he was trying to talk to her.

She was disgusted by what Xu Xiyan had said, and her hatred kept rising.

Five years! She’s like a different person! She’s more vicious than ever. I must think of a way to get rid of her.

Xu Xiyan already knew about my relationship with Chu Yuhe...looks like I don’t have to keep up the caring sister act anymore.

You’d better watch your back, Xu Xiyan. I’ll make your life miserable if you keep getting in my way!

...

After paying Ying Bao’s hospital bill, Xu Xiyan walked towards the hospital’s front door. The rain was still pouring heavily outside, and many people were waiting under the awning.

She was lucky that Huo Yunshen had given her an umbrella when they came. Just as she was about to open it, she heard some gossip coming from the crowd.

“Hey, isn’t that the award-winning actor, Huo Yunshen?”

“That’s him! He got the international best actor award for his role in ‘24 Hours of Life.’ He was known as the Prince Charming of the showbiz and was one of the most sought-after superstars.”

Upon hearing the the gossip, Xu Xiyan’s heart skipped a beat. She put down her umbrella and looked toward where the crowd was watching.

Huo Yunshen was sitting there, sheltering himself from the rain.

A few bodyguards in black were guarding him while he sat in his wheelchair.

He wore a pair of black sunglasses that covered his handsome features. In his black v-neck T-shirt, he looked elegant and sexy. Yet, it seemed his coolness was telling people to stay away from him.

Did he finish his rehab?

Is he trapped by the rain too?

The wind was blowing hard, and raindrops landed on his knees. Xu Xiyan began to feel a sense of bitterness in her heart...she was worried about him.

The gossip continued.

“His spine was injured in an accident five years ago. Now his lower limbs are paralyzed. What a pity. A superstar, dropped from the sky...”

“Did he offend someone he shouldn't have?”

“Who knows. Fame can be dangerous...”

# Chapter 55 - An Unspeakable Heartache

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Five years ago—because of a car accident—the super star Huo Yunshen fell straight from the heavens into hell, his future shattered to dust.

Ever since then, he had gradually disappeared from public view and quietly retired from the entertainment circle.

No one knew the amount of despair and pain he had to go through before he was finally able to climb out of the muck to travel to the hospital for rehabilitation every week.

“I’m not sure whether rehabilitation works... when will he be able to get rid of the wheelchair?”

“So what if he finally gets rid of the wheelchair? I heard that he still wouldn’t be able to “do it” anymore. It’s impossible for him to get married and have children!”

“Does that mean that his family legacy ends with him? Not a single child! He will be childless for the rest of his life!”

“With that beautiful face, he might as well become a woman...”

“I agree. He was very manly whenever he played a tough guy, but he’s also played women before, and he was more seductive than the Whore of Babylon.”

...

They ridiculed and mocked him. Xu Xiyan clenched her jaw as she listened to these people, and felt an unspeakable heartache.

Deep inside, she did not want anyone to slander Huo Yunshen.

It was as if she had this instinct and she felt the urge to protect the dignity of this once brilliant international super star, and boldly decided to do something about it.

She snuck her bag under her shirt and shoved her way through the crowd towards Huo Yunshen, shielding him with her umbrella from the light rain.

Huo Yunshen felt something shading him from above and looked up. He saw a pair of beautiful eyes looking down at him, bright and twinkling like stars, and a heartwarming smile beaming down.

He was lost for words.

He didn't expect Xu Xiyao to look for him first.

Xu Xiyao smiled gently, her voice sweet, though deliberately loud.

“Husband, I'm here.”

Huo Yunshen: “...”

Was he hearing things? What did she just call him? What? Was it... “husband”?

“The exam is over. The doctor said that the baby is very healthy.”

Xu Xiyao was putting her acting skills into good use. Whether it was a simple expression or the act of looking into his eyes, she appeared as a wife looking down at her beloved husband.

Huo Yunshen: “...”

Err... Was she putting on an act for him?

The sharp-minded Huo Yunshen finally understood what was going on. She could not stand those people gossiping about him, and had decided to help save his reputation!

Truth be told, it was not worth doing that. The gossip would have bothered him two years ago, and he would've felt inferior.

But now, he didn't give a damn how people looked at him.

And surely enough, the tone of the group of gossipers became different after Xu Xiyan's appearance.

"Is Elvis already married?"

"He even had a child...who said that he couldn't 'do it'?"

"When did he get married?"

"I never heard about him marrying. It might be a secret marriage..."

...

A luxurious-looking celebrity van drove over and stopped in front of them.

The show must still go on.

Xu Xiyan handed her umbrella to a nearby bodyguard and pushed Huo Yunshen's wheelchair, saying loudly, "Let's go home, dear!"

"..." Huo Yunshen did not open his mouth the whole time. He didn't even touch the controls of his electric wheelchair and allowed her push it for him instead.

However, just in hearing those few words, his heart was already soaring.

He had a wonderful thought.

Was Xu Xiyan starting to pay attention to him? Care about him? Protect him?

# Chapter 56 - It Instantly Became a Huge Scandal

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Wow! Being cared for by my wife sure feels good! It's so warm...

The door opened, and Xu Xiyan pushed Huo Yunshen into the van. After the wheelchair was secured in place, the van pulled away from the hospital.

Xu Xiyan sat on the sofa inside the van, brushing off droplets from her hair and shirt. She took out her bag that she'd been covering with her shirt and smiled at Huo Yunshen.

"Mr. Huo, did you finish your rehab for today?"

"Yup." Huo Yunshen's dark, cool eyes appeared to convey great sentiment, as he looked at Xu Xiyan affectionately.

With droplets still clinging to her face, Xu Xiyan looked like a lotus leaf in the morning. The view in front of him was pure, fresh and too beautiful for any person to avert their gaze.

As Xu Xiyan raised her head, Huo Yunshen quickly turned, embarrassed.

"Were you worried about me just now?" he asked. "You don't actually have to mind what others say about me, you know."

If he really minded what other people said about him, he would've died long ago from the amount of scandals he'd endured.

Xu Xiyan smiled and explained. "It's not what you think it is. I'm just tired of hearing those good-for-nothing people bad-mouthing you."

Isn't that the same as worrying about me?

Huo Yunshen's soft heart fluttered. "Thank you. I've actually gotten used to it after all these years. When you're at your bottom, most will just laugh at you, and only a handful of people will actually come to your aid." Huo Yunshen sighed.

"That will change now that you've met me. If anyone dares to bad-mouth you again, I'll punish every single one of them."

Huo Yunshen laughed. Her words were warmer than a fire in winter. He was deeply touched.

I'll do whatever it takes to repay her kindness, even if it means sacrificing myself!

Xu Xiyan took a towel from the counter in the van and sat beside Huo Yunshen. She helped him to wipe off the rain that was left on his hair and shoulders.

Huo Yunshen sat there quietly, enjoying the help from Xu Xiyan. After she has finished wiping off all the water, Huo Yunshen asked, "how's your friend? Will she be all right?"

Xu Xiyan thought of Ying Bao who was still in the hospital. She was stunned for a moment.

"Yes, she's better now. I'm going to make some congee for her later."

Xu Xiyan looked outside the window and noticed that they were driving towards Shengshi Yujing.

"Hey, can you ask the driver to stop here?" Xu Xiyan asked. "I need to get out."

"Sure thing." Huo Yunshen took out a mic and ordered the driver to turn around. "Drive us to the Blueberry Community."

The Blueberry Community was where Fang Xiaocheng was staying. Xu Xiyan had never thought that Huo Yunshen would actually let the driver drive them there.

"Mr. Huo, you don't really need to drive me there. I could have taken the taxi."

"It's fine. It's a short drive, anyways."

Even though his voice was soft, there was a hint of force in it. As she saw the van turn towards the Blueberry Community, Xu Xiyao didn't argue any further.

...

Xu Xiyao had never thought that her simple act in front of the hospital would cause a massive uproar overnight. It has become the most-searched topic on Weibo.

One result read "Showbiz Emperor Huo Yunshen Married? Wife Thought To Be An Outsider."

In a few pictures taken by netizens on their smartphones, it was clear as day that the one sitting in the wheelchair was Huo Yunshen. Yet those pictures had only caught the back of the beautiful lady pushing it.

Huo Yunshen had gone into hiding after the accident five years ago. He lived a simple life, avoiding each and every spotlight.

But now, the moment he'd come back to the spotlight, it instantly became a huge scandal.

# Chapter 56

## Chapter 56 Brown Wallet

“Did you put the clothes you wear today in the laundry basket? Did you use the bathtub? Did you brush it?”

Lola asked in a row, as if she was interrogating a prisoner. Harry was speechless.

“Yes, I did. But I used the shower instead of the bathtub. Are you satisfied, honey?” He threw away the bath towel and jumped straight into the bed to hold her.

“Ah... Harry... Don't... I have something for you!” Panted Lola. Harry let her go after she finished her words.

Lola fixed her hair, got out of bed, took a shopping bag from the table and handed it to him.

Harry fetched the bag, which contained a rectangular box. He opened the box. There was a brown crocodile wallet. Harry smiled and kissed Lola. “Why do you buy me a wallet?”

“Open it and have a look.” Lola put her arms around his neck and leaned her head against his shoulder.

He opened the wallet and caught sight of a four-inch photo of Lola smiling all over her face.

Contented, Harry transferred the cards and cash from his wallet to this new one.

After finishing that, Harry turned off the bedside lamp and went to bed!

Harry knew that she would have a day off tomorrow. And to thank her for the present she had bought, he pleased her all night.

The sky was slightly bright. Lola fell into a heavy sleep. The man slept for a while and went up to the company.

Yolanda noticed that Lola's door was tightly closed. She conjectured that she did not go to work today. An idea came to

her. Near noon, she occupied herself in the kitchen for quite a while, and then went out with a lunch box.

Before she left the house, Yolanda told Mrs. Du to feed Naughty when it came out.

As she had some trouble with walking, Yolanda called Nael and asked him to pick her up.

In the underground parking lot of the SL Group, Yolanda told Nael to wait for her in the car, and hobbled into the elevator. She went straight up to the CEO floor. In fact, her foot was much better. She got off the elevator and walked with only a slight limp.

“Miss Mo, how are you!” Joey greeted Yolanda the instant he saw her, with becoming modesty.

“I’m looking for Harry. Is he in there?” Yolanda’s smile fascinated the few secretaries except for Joey.

“Our CEO is busy. I’ll tell him you’re here.” This lady would lose no chance in getting close to the boss. Lola took a rest day and she came to the company for the boss.

“No, I’ll go in by myself.” Yolanda refused the suggestion of Joey. She knocked on the door but walked in without waiting for permission.

In the office, Harry and Simon were discussing business. Upon seeing Yolanda coming in directly, Simon paused in astonishment.

It took him a while to recall that this lady was Harry’s ex-girlfriend...

“Why do you come here?” Harry frowned subtly when he saw Yolanda.

“Hello, Lawyer Simon, Harry, I’m sorry to interrupt you. I don’t know you are busy. I just want to bring you lunch.” Yolanda politely greeted Simon and innocently raised the love lunch in her hand.

When Simon saw that, he picked up his stuff and stood up.

“Harry, I have to get going. Let’s call it a day. See you.”

“Well, take care!” Harry walked Simon to the door and returned.

“You can put it down. Your foot has not recovered yet. Go back first.” He picked up the folder on his desk and began to write notes.

Yolanda didn't disturb him but quietly sat on the sofa, watching him work.

A moment later, Harry rubbed his painful temples. He felt a pair of soft hands the instant he removed his own hands.

“Harry, you must have been working very hard these days. Let me help you.” Yolanda placed her fingers on his temples and gently moved them in tiny circles.

“No, you go back!” Harry grasped her hands and pulled them down.

Yolanda held his big hands. “Harry, I really regret for it. I just want to stay by your side. Don't push me away, please.”

Harry did not speak any more. Yolanda happily opened the lunch box. “This is what I made for you. Braised brisket that you like to eat. I learned it from Mrs. Du.”

He paused, and took the chopsticks from her hand. He picked up a piece of brisket and chewed. “Well, thank you!

Yolanda sat by Harry's side and was delighted to watch him finishing off the lunch. She cleared up his desk and let him continue to work.

Yolanda took out her phone and quietly took a photo of him working conscientiously. She posted it on the Internet with the text saying, “A man who works hard is really handsome!”

This post virtually became popular soon. The relationship between Yolanda and Harry had become irrefutable in the eyes of netizens.

Yolanda's heart leaped with joy when she read the blessings in the comments.

She must grasp this opportunity to win back her Harry!

At the age of fifteen, she fell in love with him at first sight. So did Harry. They were together at the age of eighteen.

She debuted at nineteen, hiding their love from the public. At the age of twenty, she was in the limelight. Two years later, she made a mistake that she could not make up for the rest of her life.

She had been pursuing her dream that one day she would stand on the international stage through her own efforts.

It was this reason that made her life fall apart. That night, Harry was in another city on a business trip.

A renowned director asked her to discuss the next day's show in a hotel. Harry told her not to go alone since he was not by her side.

However, she turned a deaf ear to his suggestion. She said it was all right and the director was a good man. She went to the appointment and was drugged by the director in her drink. And the worst thing was that the director and the producer had sex with her.

Harry called his good brother Eason, asking him to bring back Yolanda from the hotel. But, when he arrived, the room was in a mess. The groggy Yolanda, alone, was sleeping in the bed.

The scandal was held down by Yolanda's family, who bought off everyone in charge of the case. The director and the producer were sentenced to death. The two men were executed the next day.

Regretful and desperate, Yolanda wanted to commit suicide several times, and was rescued by Harry. Harry also helped her get rid of psychological shadow. She was really grateful to the man. They agreed to get engaged at the beginning of the next month. However, she missed the plane because of a runway show. Though the engagement banquet was planned at noon, Yolanda arrived at night.

When she arrived, Harry had already left. She called him to explain. He said that he understood, but since then she obviously felt that Harry became estranged from her and no longer gave her a phone call.

# Chapter 58 - The Only Girl That He's Close To

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Sanyan slammed the front page of the entertainment newspaper in front of Huo Yunshen and pointed at the back of the unidentified girl..

“You better come clean. Who is this!”

Huo Sanyan wasn't just there for the gossip. She was actually worried about Huo Yunshen's life and future.

Since the accident five years ago, the people who cared about him had to watch him suffer and fall into despair. They did offer him their assistance, but none of them had truly succeeded.

Now that Huo Yunshen had finally escaped his past and begun a new life, his family was happy for him. They were delighted to hear that he might've found someone he cared for, and hoped that the news was real. They wanted him to have someone who would stay by his side forever.

They didn't really mind who the person was or where she came from, as long as she was willing to stay by his side without discrimination. She would be the benefactor of the Huo family.

“What do you mean?” Huo Yunshen wanted to change the topic. Even though this sister of his had quit being an entertainment reporter some time ago, she was still just as interested in gossip.

“As the director of Yunhai Entertainment's Public Relations department, aren't you supposed to be taking care of this

problem? What are you doing gossiping around here?”

“Hey, everyone likes some good gossip, you know. And it’s not every day you get to hear some love interest gossips about yourself. I think we should have more of those! Dad, mom, and your sisters, including me, were praying like crazy for you to enter a good relationship with someone.

“...” Huo Yunshen began to wonder if the sister in front of him was adopted or something.

As Huo Yunshen remained quiet, Huo Sanyan continued.

“Try to think harder. Did you had a one night stand with anyone before?”

“What are you implying?”.

“Well, maybe you have an illegitimate child somewhere that we don’t know of. That would mean that the Huo family will finally have an heir. Mum and dad would love to see that.”

Huo Sanyan rubbed her hand, her eyes wide open.

“But seriously, was there ever any girl that you were close to?”

“Nope. You know that I have heterophobia.”

But the fact was he used to be quite close with Tang Shixue when he was in Mstan. Now, the only girl that was really close to him was Xu Xiyan.

Yet Huo Yunshen sincerely believed that now wasn’t the right time to introduce Xu Xiyan into the picture.

Their relationship hadn’t even truly begun yet. If Xu Xiyan was pressured by his family, she could just get intimidated and leave.

“Don’t you dare try to use that. Your “heterophobia” excuse might’ve convinced mum, dad, and the other more gullible sisters, but definitely not me. Do you really think I’m that stupid?”

Huo Sanyan raised her eyebrows. She had already heard from Tang Yichen that her brother made up the heterophobia issue to prevent the family from introducing different him to so many different women.

Huo Yunshen sighed and looked at his sister. “I’m telling you the truth. I don’t even know who the girl in the picture is. You used to be an entertainment reporter yourself; can’t you see that this girl was just trying to use the situation to gain fame?”

Huo Sanyan studied the picture in the paper again.

Now that he mentions it, it really does seem that way...

Since Huo Yunshen had denied the scandal himself, Huo Sanyan stopped pressuring her brother and sighed.

“Why does it have to be fake news? If you’d found your true love, mum, dad, and our sisters might stop pressuring me to find someone for myself...”

“Sister Sanyan, are you really worried about my future or are you just trying to stop mom and dad urging you to get married?”

The smart Huo Yunshen had caught on quickly.

The third sister of his was a celibatarian. Even if she was already in her 30’s, she had yet to find a partner. Though she didn’t pay much attention to it, her families were anxious about it.

After having her true intentions exposed, Huo Sanyan laughed awkwardly. She took Huo Yunshen’s hand...

# Chapter 59 - Kabeledon'ed

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Oh, my dear brother, how sharp-minded you are. You know that I don't want to get married. So whether it's for me, for you, or for the Huo family, it's still better that you're the one who finds a life partner. That way, mom and dad won't be so anxious.”

Huo Yunshen smiled helplessly.

“I do want to find a life partner, but, who would want a cripple like me?”

“Huo Yunshen!!”

Huo Sanyan's tone had changed and she was getting a little angry.

“How many times have I told you not to say those self-deprecating words?”

Huo Sanyan realized that she'd gone over the top and quickly softened her voice.

“Brother, what did you just say? You want to find a partner? You're worried that people won't even glance at you? You have nothing to worry about! My dear brother is the best man in the world. It will be a great blessing for any woman who finds you.”

“And even though you're not in a good shape now,” she continued, “I still believe in you. I'm sure one day you will overcome your obstacles! Work hard, brother!”

“Thank you!”

Huo Yunshen returned a smile. He knew that even though he'd become a cripple, his family had never given up on him. They would always stand behind him, encourage him, and support him.

“Okay then, I'll let you finish your work. See you!”

Although she did not manage to pry any valuable information from her brother's mouth, Huo Sanyan did not continue to press him. She comforted her brother and let him continue his work, leaving his office.

After all, Huo Sanyan was formerly an award-winning entertainment journalist. She could tell whether the rumors in the entertainment circle were intentionally fabricated. Her “three eyes” were sharp and discerning, and she could usually tell whether a news report was fake or real.

Though she believed her brother's words, she still had a nagging suspicion.

Huo Sanyan walked into the elevator and inside she saw Yi Xiao who had just returned from some errands. Huo Sanyan's eyes lit up, and she moved over to block Yi Xiao from exiting.

Yi Xiao could not get out. He looked up, and saw the person who had blocked him was his boss's third eldest sister. He quickly greeted her.

“Director Huo.”

Huo Sanyan smiled and stepped closer and closer to him, backing him into the wall. He couldn't escape.

“Director Huo, what...what do you want?” Yi Xiao asked nervously.

Huo Sanyan could be a boorish woman when it came to getting what she wanted. She stretched out an arm and slapped it onto the wall beside Yi Xiao's neck.

“Xi Yiao,” she began. “Have you been responsible for managing the president's affairs lately?”

“Uh huh,” said Yi Xiao timidly as he stood frozen in Miss Huo's katedon, a maneuver which is often used in an attempt

at seduction, but in this moment, was being used as means to entrap.

He had always heard that Huo Sanyan was a tough woman and today he was seeing it up close. So it is true.

“Have you noticed him behaving strangely lately? I mean, is there someone he fancies? Has he been seeing anyone?” Huo Sanyan looked straight into Yi Xiao’s eyes.

Behaving strangely?

Of course.

Since the appearance of Miss Xu Xiyan, the young master had changed. He would no longer lose his temper as easily, nor would he slip into depressive moods. He was even more engaged with his work now.

But now that Huo Sanyan was asking, he could not tell her.

He knew the affairs of his young master. For five years his young master had been in love with Miss Xu Xiyan, and for five years he had been waiting for her. However, Yi Xiao could not disclose this matter to anyone, as his young master had ordered him not to.

The severe lack of space between them made Yi Xiao very nervous and embarrassed. He was starting to sweat.

He pretended to be calm as he answered.

“No. The young master had been focusing on his work.”

“Really?”

“Yes—”

Huo Sanyan was about to continue the interrogation, but the elevator doors opened.

Mr. Li from the human resources department stepped in and saw them in the middle of a kadedon. Obviously shocked at what he saw, he retracted his foot from the elevator and apologized.

“Oh sorry, sorry! Carry on.”

Yi Xiao was lost for words.

Mr. Li! No! Don't go!

It's really not what you think!

# Chapter 60 - Fell in Love at First Sight

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Sanyan noticed that she was getting too close to Yi Xiao and quickly drew back her arm. She took a few steps back.

After Huo Sanyan left, Yi Xiao let out a sigh of relief. He began to worry how long they'd be able to keep the relationship between the young master and Xu Xiyan a secret.

...

Xu Xiyan had no idea about the scandal that was forming outside.

She had been staying by Ying Bao's side for the past two days.

Ying Bao's vomiting had stopped, and she was in better shape than the day before. The doctor told them that she would be ready for discharge after one more day in the hospital.

The little cutie sat on the bed, blinking her big, sleepy eyes. She sat quietly as Xu Xiyan fed her congee, one spoonful after another.

After she'd finish a bowl of congee, Ying Bao licked her lips and stared at the empty container.

"Xi baby, are there any more congees left?" She rubbed her belly.

Xu Xiyan set the bowl on a table and helped Ying Bao wipe her mouth with a paper towel.

"The doctor said you're still recovering and that your stomach is still weak. You shouldn't eat any more right now. I'll let you

eat more once you're out of the hospital, okay?"

"Fine. I'll listen to Xi baby and the doctors," said Ying Bao, slightly disappointed.

"Good girl." Xu Xiyan patted Ying Bao on the head.

Ying Bao suddenly remembered something and grabbed Xu Xiyan's hand.

"Xi baby, didn't you say that you'd bring me to great-grandpa's house today? What should we do since I'm in the hospital now? Will he be worried if we don't show up?"

"He won't." Xu Xiyan took her daughter's hand. "I've already told him what happened. He said he will come to visit you in the hospital."

"Really? What does he look like? Does he have white hair and a long beard? Does he have a crooked back?"

Ying Bao tilted her head and began to wonder what her great-grandfather looked like. She asked if he would be like all those old men that she had seen in story books.

As she thought about this, the door opened and two people came in.

"Grandpa, Uncle Li, you two came!" Xu Xiyan stood when she saw that it was her grandfather Jing Huaduo and the Jing family's butler, Uncle Li.

"Yanyan!" Jing Huaduo smiled gently as he walked into the room.

The old man had white hair and a long beard. He was already 71, but he was still healthy and had no vision or hearing problems. He walked as swift as the wind and kept his back up straight.

The Jing family has been practicing traditional Chinese medicine for generations. They opened up a clinic named Renjing Chinese Medicine Hall, and as one of the oldest doctors there, Jing Huaduo was well-known around the world. He had always taken care of his body, and remained free from severe and minor sickness.

“Grandpa, didn’t I tell you not to come?” asked Xu Xiyan.  
“I’ll take the kid to meet you once she’s fully healed.” She took a basket of fruit from Uncle Li.

“But I was so eager to see my great-granddaughter!”

When Jing Huaduo had heard that his granddaughter was coming back, and that she’d be bringing a 4-year-old daughter, he wanted to meet them as soon as possible.

They were supposed to meet that day, but when Ying Bao had suddenly come down with a sickness, he decided to go out of his way to come and meet them.

Jing Huaduo stood beside the bed and looked at the little thing lying in it.

The little girl’s skin was slightly pinked, her face full of energy, her body well-fed. One sight and he knew the little girl was smart, and would bring them happiness in the future.

As soon as Jing Huaduo laid his eyes on Ying Bao, he instantly fell in love with her.

Ying Bao stared at the old man in front of her with her starry eyes. She’d already known that he was her great-grandfather and didn’t wait for him to start speaking.

“I know who you are,” Ying Bao said with her cute little voice.

# Chapter 61 - A Precedent for the Little One

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Oh? You know who I am?” Jing Huaduo asked with a surprised smile.

“You are mommy’s grandpa, my great grandpa!” She laughed. “Grandpa really does have a beard! Just like how Baby imagined! This is great! Baby has a great grandpa who looks like Santa Claus!”

Ying Bao clapped her little hands excitedly. “Grandpa, can Baby touch your beard?”

“Okay!”

Jing Huaduo did not expect his great granddaughter to be so clever. She was more talkative than Xu Xiyan was as a child. He sat down by Ying Bao’s bed and leaned over to let the little girl touch his beard.

As Ying Bao reached out to touch it, Jing Huaduo eagerly asked “how is it? What does my beard feel like?”

Ying Bao smiled, two lovely little dimples peeking out on her cheeks.

“Grandpa’s beard feels like a big tigger’s beard!”

Jing Huaduo was puzzled, uncertain of what the word “tigger” meant.

“Grandfather,” said Xu Xiyan. “She means that your beard is like a big tiger’s whiskers.”

Jing Huaduo laughed out loud in hearing Xu Xiyan's explanation. He turned to his great granddaughter again.

"Oh? Have you touched a big tiger's beard before?"

"Of course! Last year Xi Baby gave me a very big tiger as a birthday present, and it has a long beard. It's a pity that Baby couldn't bring it back."

Thinking about her big tiger, Ying Bao felt a little sad and pouted her lips.

Ying Bao was born in the year of the tiger. Last year, on her birthday, Xu Xiyan had bought her an oversized plush tiger. Ying Bao loved it, and would put the big tiger beside her bed every night so it could protect her mommy.

When they were preparing to return from abroad, Ying Bao wanted to bring the tiger back with her. But it was too big, so she couldn't. She cried when they had to leave it behind.

"Since you can't touch the big tiger's beard anymore, then I'll let you touch mine, okay?"

Jing Huaduo's beard was precious to him, and he normally wouldn't let anyone touch it. But now that he'd set a precedent for Ying Bao, and made an exception, it showed that the old man really liked her.

"Yay! Okay! You're too kind great grandpa! Ying Bao is so blessed to have such a good great grandpa like you. It must be my reward for saving the planet in my previous life!" Ying Bao smiled.

"Ha ha ha..."

Ying Bao was still a young child but she talked like an adult. She was so amusing. The three adults in the ward laughed delightfully at her antics.

Jing Huaduo spent a few hours in the hospital. He had a long conversation with Xu Xiyan and played with Ying Bao for a while before leaving with Uncle Li.

Before he left, Jing Huaduo told them that he would get a driver to come pick up Ying Bao on Tuesday morning.

...

On the third day of Ying Bao's hospitalization, she was looking more spirited and could eat normally. The doctor gave her one last examination, then told Xu Xiyan that she could go ahead and settle the discharge procedure.

Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi came to the hospital to pick up Ying Bao. When no one was looking, Fang Xiaocheng pulled Xu Xiyan aside, a newspaper in hand.

"Yanyan, what's going on?"

"What?" Xu Xiyan took the newspaper from Fang Xiaocheng. When she read it, she realized that when she'd stood up for Huo Yunshen at the hospital entrance, it had quickly become a scandal.

The news reported that Huo Yunshen had married secretly, and that he had accompanied his wife to the hospital for a pregnancy exam. There, in the photo on the page, was Xu Xiyan, facing away from the camera.

# Chapter 62 - Let's Make a Baby Too

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Is it just me or does the girl in the picture look like you?” asked Fang Xiaocheng. “Isn't that the shirt you were wearing the day before yesterday?”

“Are you serious?! That doesn't look like me! Although shirt is almost the same...I knew I should've thrown that shirt away, it's probably everywhere.”

Fang Xiaocheng believed Xu Xiyan. Maybe it really was just the same shirt. And Xu Xiyan wouldn't want it to appear that she had anything to do with Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen was on good terms with Xu Jingshan and Chu Yuhe, so Xu Xiyan should definitely hate him.

...

The next day, Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dahi stayed with Ying Bao while Xu Xiyan went to take care of Ying Bao's discharge procedure. After everything was settled, the three of them took Ying Bao out of the hospital.

When Fang Xiaocheng was about to leave, she hugged Ying Bao and said, “Little Cherry, have a fun time at your great-grandpa's place. When you come back, we'll continue livestreaming together.”

Ying Bao threw her arms around Fang Xiaocheng's neck, hugging her and kissing her face.

“Of course, Aunt Orange. You take care of yourself, too. Eat well and sleep well.”

Fang Xiaocheng was melted by the cuteness of Ying Bao. She was not only adorable, but caring, too.

Even after Ying Bao had left in the taxi, Fang Xiaocheng kept staring at it. Wang Dazhi pulled her close.

“Chengcheng, stop staring. They’ve already left.”

Fang Xiaocheng looked at Wang Dazhi.

“Dazhi, I want a girl like Ying Bao. Let’s make a baby of our own.”

“...” Wang Dazhi was stunned, but also touched by what she had just said. He pulled her close as they walked out.

“Of course. Let’s go. Let’s go back and make a baby.”

Even though they have been dating for seven years, they’d never once had sex. This was because Fang Xiaocheng wanted to wait until marriage, and Wang Dazhi respected her beliefs

Now that he’d heard that his girlfriend wanted to make babies, he almost fainted from happiness.

...

The mansion where Xu Xiyan’s grandfather lived was called Peijing Jingyuan Siheyuan.

It had been a long time since the Jing family home was so noisy. Jing Huaduo had ordered the servants to clean the whole house and had bought a lot of supplies in preparation. He’d even prepared rooms for Xu Xiyan and Ying Bao, as he expected them to be staying for quite a while.

Xu Xiyan led Ying Bao into her grandfather’s house. The mansion was just as she remembered it: spotless.

The mansion’s garden was filled with all sorts of herbs, giving the place a feeling of lushness and vibrancy. The place had a unique, almost antique aroma, brought on by the Chinese herbs that perfumed the garden.

The butler, Uncle Li, emerged and greeted them. He took them to the master room where Jing Huaduo was waiting.

“We’re here, grandpa,” said Xu Xiyan.

Unlike other kids who would be nervous when they arrived at a new place, Ying Bao kept looking left and right as they made their way to the main room. As they entered the room, she saw her great-grandfather, and ran up and hugged him.

“Great-grandpa, I’ve missed you.”

“I’ve missed you too, little one.” Jing Huaduo picked her up.

“My little great-granddaughter is like a strong tiger now.”

“Look at my arms great-grandpa, they’re strong, aren’t they?”

Ying Bao stretched out her arm for Jing Huaduo to check.

Jing Huaduo pinched her arm and commended her. “It sure is.”

A row of white teeth appeared as Ying Bao smiled at her great-grandfather’s praise.

Jing Huaduo led her through the house. “Come little one. Guess what I’ve prepared for you?”

# Chapter 63 - The Next Plan

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Ying Bao pondered and pondered. She could not guess what her great grandpa had gotten for her. “Baby can’t guess. Baby is not a tapeworm who lives in great grandpa’s belly. Baby wouldn’t know what is in great grandpa’s head.”

“Ha ha ha...”

What a delightful little child!

Jing Huaduo’s had no words to describe his mood, but as long there was Cherry Baby, there wouldn’t be any more dull days.

Next, Jing Huaduo took them to see their room. He had arranged for both mother and daughter to stay in one room, which was specially decorated and quite cozy.

When Ying Bao entered the room, she was pleasantly surprised to find an oversized tiger plush on her bed. It was about the same size as the one Xu Xiyan had bought for her last year.

“Wow wow wow...it’s a big tigger!” Ying Bao jumped up and down on her little feet excitedly. “Great grandpa, is the big tigger the present you bought for Baby?”

“Yes! It’s for my lovely little great granddaughter!” Jing Huaduo smiled at her.

“Woow! Great grandpa, you’re too kind! Long live great grandpa!”

Ying Bao took Jing Huaduo’s arm and pulled him towards her. When he bent down, she planted a grateful kiss onto his cheek.

Great, I can now be friends with big tigger again.

After kissing her grand grandfather, Ying Bao released his hand and happily toddled off to hug the tiger plush. The tiger was really big, taller than Xu Xiyan. Ying Bao's petite body could only cling to it, hugging and rolling with it on the ground.

Xu Xiyan and her grandfather saw how happy Ying Bao was, and they felt very happy, themselves. Jing Huaduo turned to her and said, "Yanyan, from now on you will live here in my house. This will be Ying Bao's and your home. Just tell me if you need anything else, and I'll arrange the servants to prepare it for you."

"Thank you, grandfather." Xu Xiyan gave Jing Huaduo a thankful hug. "But I may not be able to live here often in the future, as I'm going to start filming soon. I won't have time to come back once I get busy, and I'll most likely live somewhere else."

Xu Xiyan was going to move in next door to Huo Yunshen's house, and it would be impossible for her to stay at the Jing residence. She wanted to explain this clearly in advance.

"Will you be all right if you live elsewhere? What about the child? After you've started filming, how are you going to take care of her?"

"I'll see how it goes for a while, and wait until September when school starts. Then I'll find a kindergarten for Ying Bao. When the time comes, Ying Bao will be at school during the day and I'll only need to take her to school in the morning and pick her up in the evening."

However, this was only her plan. If that accident hadn't happened back then when they were in Estan, then Ying Bao wouldn't be afraid of going to school.

"All right!" said Jing Huaduo. "Just leave the child to me, and you can go film with some peace of mind. My bones are still tough and I have more than enough energy to take care of her."

"I will be very relieved with Ying Bao in your care. I won't have to worry anymore whenever I go out filming, no matter how far away."

Xu Xiyan was very grateful to her grandfather for the support and care he'd provided for so many years.

When her mother had died, her grandfather had been very heartbroken to have lost his only beloved daughter, and it was Xu Xiyan who had accompanied him through those difficult times.

Therefore the bond between Xu Xiyan and her grandfather was strong...much stronger than the bond she had with the Xu family.

Jing Huaduo took Ying Bao to the garden to play. Xu Xiyan went into her mother's former bedroom to see if she could find some valuable clues.

The room was very clean and was kept the same way as it'd been before. Jing Huaduo would regularly let the servants clean the room, and everything was well-maintained.

Xu Xiyan's eyes lingered over every item in the room, familiar memories emerging from the depths of her mind.

# Chapter 64 - Her Mother's Death

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The image of Xu Xiyan's mother as she looked when she lived at the mansion was clearly etched into Xu Xiyan's mind. Her mother had stayed there before she died, alone and helpless.

The darkness and scandals from the entertainment industry had swallowed her like a raging beast.

She could've been successful in her music career, but to help Xu Jingshan achieve his dream of being a movie director, she gave up on her dreams and entered showbiz.

She'd worked hard to earn money, helping to form Xu Jingshan's directing career, introducing him to many actors and producers.

And yet how did Xu Jingshan repay her?

If Jing Ruyue refused to give him money, he would beat her.

If Jing Ruyue was accused of a scandal with another man, Xu Jingshan would beat her.

Just when Xu Jingshan achieved a little success, he went behind her and had an affair with Su Lei. They even had a kid together.

He would turn to any means necessary to get rid of Jing Ruyue.

When Xu Xiyan was still little, she often watched her mother hide in a corner, hugging her legs and crying alone, every night until she died.

Her mother was diagnosed with depression, and lived out her remaining days, nearly paralyzed by alcoholism. In the end, death found its way to her doorstep.

Xu Xiyan closed her eyes and tears started to fall.

During her short life, Jing Ruyue was only truly happy when she was pursuing her music career. Tragedy began after she met Xu Jingshan.

Xu Xiyan wanted to know how her mother's love life was before she was married to Xu Jingshan.

Who was the one who gave her the precious sungrass brooch?

With these question in mind, Xu XIyan opened her mother's closet. But she only found old clothes, nothing fancy.

She opened the crate that was filled with books and music scores. But something was lying at the bottom of the container: a photo frame.

The frame was bizarre, only a pair of ruby-made cufflinks could be found in the middle of it.

Why are there cufflinks here?

Xu Xiyan opened the frame from the back.

She took it apart and found something stuck in the center of it.

It was an ultrasound scan of an unborn infant, a type-B image.

When Xu Xiyan was pregnant with Ying Bao, she had taken type-B ultrasound scans, so she knew what the picture was.

She looked at the photo and realized it was taken a long time ago, 23 years ago to be exact. A few months before Xu Xiyan was born.

Then... Could it be that the baby in the picture is me?

She turned to the back and noticed a bit of text that was fading.

F, You're-the-best-I've-ever-met!

F seemed like a codename to Xu Xiyan.

But why would mum write such a sentence behind this ultrasound?

Who is F?

Was he a guy that mum once loved?

# Chapter 66 - Is He Fond of Kids?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

After a few moments of pondering, Xu Xiyan gave up on the idea of introducing Ying Bao to her father.

She was afraid that people from the Huo family would take Ying Bao away from her and that this would be traumatic for Ying Bao.

And she was not sure what Huo Yunshen would think and whether he was fond of kids or not.

Huo Yunshen had his own problems to worry about, so she didn't want to add more fuel to the fire.

Just as Xu Xiyan was thinking about Huo Yunshen, he sent her a text with a sun smiling emoji.

It's already so late...is he still up?

"Haven't slept yet?" Xu Xiyan replied.

"No. Did you see the news?"

"Yes, I did. Sorry for causing you all these troubles."

Xu Xiyan really felt bad for what she did. Huo Yunshen used to have zero scandals during his career. Then she came and had sex with him five years ago. Now, there were rumors spreading about him because of her.

"It's nothing, really," he typed. "I'm more worried that it will affect you."

"I'm fine. Just think of this as me climbing up the ladder through the movie-king," Xu Xiyan typed jokingly.

“Haha. Stop with the movie-king thing. It was a long time ago.”

Xu Xiyan noticed he was in a depressed mood again, and decided she had to scold him. “Please don’t say something that depressing. Even if it was 50 years later, you and your movies will always be in the spotlight. You’re one of the classics in my book.”

“Thank you. You sound like my sister with that kind of scolding. Haha.” Huo Yunshen felt a surge of warmth in his heart.

“Which one? You have three sisters, right?”

“Yup, I’m the youngest of the four...”

The night continued with Huo Yunshen and Xu Xiyan messaging back and forth. Huo Yunshen talked about all the weird things that his sisters had done.

They even talked about music and literature.

They were like two long lost friends catching up, sharing all of their stories.

...

Wednesday, the skies were clear. After her breakfast, Xu Xiyan changed into a set of tidier clothes and went to the shooting scene for “Red Sleeved Beauty.”

The crew for the movie was shooting in the eastern suburb of Peijing, a place with which Xu Xiyan was familiar.

The opening ceremony for the movie had been two days ago, which was Monday.

The hero of the movie was played by the new Zstan movie-king, Lin Huaijin, while the heroine was being played by Julia, and the second female lead was taken by Xu Xinrou. They were all superstars.

Just from the line-up, one could guess that the show would pull in a hefty revenue.

Xu Xiyan rushed to the scene and found Stage-Manager Xiao Long through the contact that Director Huang had left for her.

Since Xu Xiyan didn't have a manager, and wasn't signed to any company, she was required to sign an Acting Agreement between her and the crew.

After she'd signed the agreement, she got her script and waited for the make-up artist. She was there early, so she had to wait for the artist to arrive in the make-up studio.

Using the spare time she had, she studied the script and found a major issue.

The character she was supposed to play was Yao Yue. She was the servant for the second female lead. At first, she'd thought that Xu Xinrou would land the heroine spot, never expecting that she would become the second female lead.

This meant that Xu Xiyan had to work by Xu Xinrou's side as her servant.

Even more importantly, the character Xu Xinrou would be playing was arrogant and temperamental, and would do anything to get what she wanted. She would even hit the people that were serving her.

Xu Xiyan clicked her tongue.

Why do I have the feeling that I'm already standing in front of hell's gate...the shoot has yet to begin?

What could she do if Xu Xinrou tried to hurt her during the course of their acting?

# Chapter 67 - No Hurry

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan was still thinking about it when she heard someone enter the dressing room. She assumed it was her make-up artist from the sound of high heels clacking against the floor. She looked up, but it turned out to be Xu Xinrou and her assistant, Wen Li.

Xu Xinrou was shocked to see Xu Xiyan. The expression on her face quickly turned from surprise to hatred.

Since the unpleasant incident at the hospital a few days ago, Xu Xinrou could no longer be bothered to keep up her goody-two-shoes act in front of Xu Xiyan.

She said bluntly, “Xu Xiyan, what are you doing here?”

Xu Xiyan guessed that Xu Xinrou was shocked to see her. She answered calmly, “I’m here for the shoot, of course!”

“Weren’t you removed from the list?” Xu Xinrou cried out.

Xu Xiyan smiled coolly. “How would you know if my name was removed?”

“But I ordered them to...” Xu Xinrou realized that she had almost revealed the truth, and quickly covered her tracks. “Of course I know about it. Anyone with half a brain would know. You have no acting experience and you’re not even a graduate from an acting school. Why would they cast you?”

“Yes! You’re right! I majored in Chinese in college, and I didn’t go to acting school, nor do I have any acting experience, but so what? Even if you secretly tried to get rid of me, I am still standing here in the end.” Xu Xiyan was mercilessly revealing Xu Xinrou’s intentions.

“I’m impressed, Xu Xiyan.”

Xu Xinrou was baffled. She was sure that she had asked someone to remove Xu Xiyan’s name from the list, and yet she was still standing here. Why?

Could it be that Xu Xiyan had her own connections?

Had she hooked up with someone in the film crew?

Xu Xiyan put on a cynical look and said carelessly, “I’m still leagues below you. I don’t know how you do it: you seduce and manipulate the people around you like a pro.”

Xu Xinrou: “...”

She felt as if she might vomit blood.

Xu Xinrou was impressed with Xu Xiyan. She hadn’t expected the naïve little rabbit to turn into a cunning fox.

Xu Xiyan was obviously not afraid to escalate matters further. If Xu Xinrou continued to argue with her, she would only end up hurting her reputation.

Xu Xinrou wanted to put Xu Xiyan in place, but there was no hurry. They were both in the same shoot. There would be plenty of opportunities to do so in the future.

She reined in her temper and forced a smile. “Fine, you win. Since you’re already here, you better make sure you deserve the role. But let me say something: don’t tell anyone else that you are my sister. And don’t even think about exploiting my popularity. I don’t want to hear any rumors about you being my sister among the production crew.”

Xu Xiyan crossed her legs and sat back comfortably. Her eyes were glued to her script as she replied.

“Don’t worry! My surname is now Jing and I have nothing to do with your family. And please do not interfere with my business. The same goes for you, I don’t want to hear you talking about me behind my back.”

Xu Xinrou was speechless.

She had to admit that Xu Xiyan always got the upper hand when they talked.

She tried to think of ways that Xu Xiyan could have joined the shoot, but all she could think of were shady, underhanded means. Xu Xinrou had been in the entertainment industry for many years; she knew the rules of the game.

It should be easy enough to destroy Xu Xiyan...

If she could dig up blackmail material on her and send it to the media, Xu Xiyan would be finished.

Just you wait, Xu Xiyan. Your days are numbered.,,

# Chapter 68 - She Really Knows How to Fake a Story

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

When the makeup artist, Linda, arrived, she started to help the actors and actresses to do their makeup for each role.

Because Xu Xiyan's character was a minor one, she'd have to wait until the end for Linda to apply her makeup. Unlike the leading actor and actress, who had their own make-up artist and studio, she'd have to wait outside, sitting on a cold stool.

After Linda had applied makeup to Xu Xinrou, she looked much sexier, like a concubine from the past, wearing a long, elegant dress.

Xu Xiyan nodded and acknowledged Linda's make-up skills. Even though Xu Xiyan thought that her own skills were better, reaching Linda's level was no easy feat.

Xu Xinrou dragged her long dress out of the room after she had her make-up applied, and Linda started to work on the minor characters.

Luckily, Xu Xiyan was the first on the list. Linda asked her to sit in front of the mirror and began to help her put on her make-up.

After half an hour, Linda had finished, and she asked for the stylist's assistance. Her name was Tina, and she helped Xu Xiyan choose her clothes.

After she came out of the changing room, Xu Xiyan stood in front of the mirror. She had a weird feeling about her clothes.

I should be playing a servant for the second female lead...so why am I wearing the clothes of a concubine?

Just as Xu Xiyan was about to ask Linda about her clothes, Xu Xinrou finished shooting her photos and approached Xu Xiyan with the Executive Director and a few others supervisors.

Xu Xinrou looked at Xu Xiyan's clothes and asked the Executive Director Yang Yong, "Director Yang, what is the meaning of this? Why is she wearing clothes that were meant for me?"

As soon as Xu Xiyan heard Xu Xinrou's complaint, everything became clear. Someone was pulling some tricks.

Xu Xiyan had been with Xu Xinrou in the make-up studio the whole time, yet she never noticed Xu Xinrou buying off the make-up artist.

Xu Xiyan tried to explain. "Director Yang, Senior Xu, these were chosen for me by the make-up artist and stylist. I had no idea that these were the clothes intended to be worn by second female lead."

Director Yang began questioning her.

"Are you sure? So you're blaming the make-up artist and the stylist for this mistake?" They would've never given you these clothes unless you pressured them to. Are you...are you trying to make me look bad?"

Xu Xiyan was impressed with Xu Xinrou's capability of faking a story.

"That's not what I'm trying to do!" said Xu Xiyan. "Why would I want to make anyone look bad? This is my first time meeting you, we've never had any conflicts in the past..."

Xu Xinrou stared at Xu Xiyan, and then turned to Director Yang.

"Director Yang, if you're trying to use the new girl instead of me, then I'll be taking my leave."

Director Yang was actually stunned by the beautiful Xu Xiyan, but he quickly recovered.

“Why would I? Direct Huang personally wanted you to play the second female lead. I’m not sure who the girl in front of us is. Let’s call the make-up artist here and ask her. Who knows, maybe it was just a mistake?”

That said, they quickly called in Linda and Tina to question them about the matter.

# Chapter 69 - Standing Up For Her

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

When the Director asked Linda what was going on, Linda blinked, glancing briefly at Xu Xinrou. Then she spoke.

“Mr. Yang, it was Jing Xi who wanted me to give her the makeup of the second female lead. She said that she was very close to the director, and that the director had promised to give her that role, so that’s why I gave her the makeup.”

Xu Xiyan pointed a finger at Linda. “You’re a liar! I never said that!”

Linda was so solemn she looked as if she was about to swear an oath to god. “I am telling the truth. You can ask Tina if you don’t believe me.”

Tina nodded. “Yes, Mr. Yang. It was Jing Xi who insisted on wearing that costume.”

Xu Xiyan: “...”

It seemed pointless to deny their claims. No matter how she argued, the blame would always fall on her.

What she didn’t know was that Xu Xinrou, Linda and Tina had worked together before, and they were quite close.

The two of them had readily helped Xu Xinrou to lie, and they were able to push all the blame onto Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan sighed. She hadn’t expected Xu Xinrou to go this far.

She was suitable for the role of the second female lead. She was calculative, manipulative and vicious.

The Director coughed dryly after listening to their explanations. He had probably suspected something. As far as he knew, this pretty lady in front of him could've also been very "close" with their big director Huang Guoqiang!

Whether it was the truth or not, Director Yang's priority was to placate Xu Xinrou. He ordered his staff to take Jing Xi away and change her out of her costume, while he stayed behind to pacify Xu Xinrou.

She was the star actress of Ju Xing after all, second only to Qi Liya. It hadn't been easy to get her to play the second female lead. If she decided to leave, the production would suffer a great loss.

Since the makeup switching incident, some of the crew members had changed their opinion on Xu Xiyan. It now seemed obvious to them that she had joined the cast by exploiting her connections. Xu Xiyan had been cast as a palace maiden, and yet she was shameless enough to try to steal the second female lead role from Xu Xinrou.

Many were now saying that she was a shameless, scheming woman.

Xu Xiyan didn't try to argue or defend herself. She knew that she could not clear all their suspicions, even if she tried to explain herself.

No one would believe her, and she would rather not waste her breath.

Even after being framed by Linda, Xu Xiyan's misfortunes continued. She waited for Linda to redo her makeup but Linda had no intentions of doing so.

Linda kept her waiting for so long that her butt went numb from sitting. Xu Xiyan decided to go off to look for her.

When she found her, she asked, "Why aren't you redoing my makeup?"

Linda crossed her arms and said haughtily, “Sorry, but I’m really picky. Everyone in the industry knows about it. If you don’t have a good character, I won’t do your makeup. If I find you disagreeable, I won’t do your makeup. If I’m not in a good mood, I won’t do your makeup. Understand?”

“Your attitude sucks,” she continued. “You’ve upset me, and I don’t like looking at your face. Do you think I’d still be willing to do your makeup?”

“Wow, you really are picky.”

Xu Xiyan’s clenched her fists, and she was almost ready to throw a punch. Luckily, someone stopped her from behind.

Xu Xiyan turned, and saw that the person who had stopped her was the lead female actress, Qi Liya.

Qi Liya was known as a “classical beauty.” Her hair was coiled in a traditional Chinese half-bun hairstyle, her skin was fairer than snow, and her eyes were bright and lively. Her long hair hung down the back of her long white dress. She looked as beautiful as a fairy and exuded a calm and dignified aura.

Xu Xiyan’s eyes widened in surprise. “Miss Qi Liya?”

Linda became polite and respectful when she saw Qi Liya. She nodded at her in greeting. “Hello, Miss Qi.”

Qi Liya smiled, but a touch of irony appeared in her eyes as soon as her gaze reached Linda.

“This is the first time I’ve heard about your makeup rules, Linda. Now I know why you said you didn’t have the time to help me do my makeup back then. It was probably because my character wasn’t good enough for you...”

Xu Xiyan was surprised. Was Qi Liya standing up for her?

# Chapter 70 - Beauty Will Always Win

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan had heard that Qi Liya was a bit of a loner, and that she'd never make much contact with anyone from the crew. For Qi Liya to come out and help her touched Xu Xiyan deeply.

What a goddess! She really deserves my respect!

As soon as Qi Liya finished her sentence, Linda became timid. "No, no! It's all a mistake, Sis Qi. I...I was just busy that time, that was the reason I didn't help you do your makeup. I've always dreamt of doing your make-up one day. But since you have your own personal make-up artist now, it looks like I'll never get the chance."

But in truth, when Qi Liya was still a rookie, Linda had treated her the same way she was treating Xu Xiyan now.

But after a few years, Qi Liya had risen to the top through her own strength. She was at a height where someone like Linda couldn't touch her.

"Then you better treat this little sister here right. Maybe one day she'll be even more famous than me. You might regret ignoring her when that time comes."

"Of course. You're right, Sis Qi."

Qi Liya left after that, glancing at Xu Xiyan and smiling briefly before she left.

Even though Linda was furious, she was still afraid of getting on Qi Liya's bad side.

“Come over here, Jing Xi. I’ll help you redo your makeup.”

Xu Xiyan sat down, and Linda began to help her apply her makeup.

What happened a few moments ago was deeply etched into Xu Xiyan’s heart. A few simple words from Qi Liya had helped Xu Xiyan change her fate.

Xu Xiyan was still a nobody at that time, and no one imagined that what Qi Liya had said would come to pass, that Xu Xiyan would be famous in the future.

...

After Xu Xiyan had her makeup on, she waited for one of her scenes to be shot. She was just supposed to play one of the servants, and she wasn’t needed for the time being.

That’s right, she was just a nobody in a group of nobodies.

Yet this gave her the opportunity to learn how the mainstream actors and actresses performed.

“Red Sleeved Beauty” told the story of a dancer named Wei Pingting and how she became the queen through the power of her beauty and sleeve dancing.

When Wei Pingting was first brought into the palace, she was still pure and kind. But throughout the story, she was set up over and over by all the other girls in the palace.

The first scene was where Wei Pingting, played by Qi Liya, was scouted out for her talent as a lead dancer and brought to the palace during a royal bouquet.

In the series, one of the dancers was jealous of Wei Pingting’s talent and wanted her to fail terribly in front of the emperor Zhao He, played by Lin Jinhuai. So she stepped on Wei Pingting’s dress during their dance.

Yet the dancer never knew that this would be the bridge that linked Wei Pingting and Zhao He together.

Wei Pingting was thrown off the stage, and the young Zhao He stood up and caught her.

Lin Jinhua was a perfect fit to play the young emperor, and his handsome face was enough to capture anyone's heart just by smiling from the emperor's chair.

Xu Xiyan felt that they were living in an age where beauty beat everything.

Qi Liya definitely deserved to be regarded as one of the best actresses. Each and every expression was on point. There were even rumors that Qi Liya had been practicing her dancing non-stop since she received the role, and that she'd lost quite a few pounds.

After they'd finished shooting the scene, Xu Xiyan went to look for Qi Liya. She wanted to catch her before she left for the day.

# Chapter 71 - I Feel That I Am In Your Debt

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

When the day's filming had ended, Xu Xiyan decided to meet Qi Liya.

Qi Liya's make-up artist was removing makeup for her. Qi Liya was sitting in front of the mirror, her expression cool as autumn breeze.

Xu Xiyan knocked on the door nervously before entering. She placed a drink on the makeup table in front of Qi Liya, and said politely, "Miss Qi Liya, I've bought fresh fruit juice for you."

Qi Liya lifted her eyes and looked at Xu Xiyan in the mirror. She spoke words of warning.

"Seeing as you're a newcomer, I advise you to focus on your acting. Don't always think about exploiting your connections or you'll probably end up targeted by unscrupulous people. It will only bring you trouble."

Qi Liya's advice for Xu Xiyan was based on her own past experiences. If Xu Xinrou and the others saw that Xu Xiyan had come alone and given her a drink, they were very likely to begin gossiping.

"Thank you for your advice, Miss Qi Liya, I will keep it in mind. I have no ill intentions in bringing you this drink. I just wanted to thank you for standing up for me. I feel that I am in your debt."

Having given Qi Liya the drink, it was time for Xu Xiyan to leave.

“I have to go now, see you tomorrow.”

Through the mirror, Qi Liya watched Xu Xiyan turn and cheerfully leave through the door of her dressing room. Her gaze then fell onto the cup of fruit juice, smiling lightly. She felt a warmth that she had not felt for a long time.

Qi Liya’s makeup artist had seen her concern for the newcomer. She asked, “Miss Qi, I didn’t think you cared for these types of matters in the production crew. Why did you stand up for this newcomer? That girl is only acting as a palace maiden. She’s just an extra.”

Qi Liya smiled. “I didn’t intend to stand up for her, but when I saw Linda and the others picking on her, I was reminded of my past self. I was also an extra before I became what I am today, and I know that kind of hardship better than anyone else.”

“Well, I understand, but I still think you shouldn’t bother yourself with these matters in the future. It’s not worth it for you to create trouble with the crew just because of a newcomer!”

The makeup artist had Qi Liya’s best interests in mind.

Better the devil you know than the devil you don’t know, she thought. The people in the entertainment industry were unpredictable, and it was best not to stir up trouble.

Qi Liya knew what she was doing.

“You shouldn’t look down on someone who plays a palace maiden. I’ve seen all kinds of drama in the film industry over the years. I’ve never cared for their problems and I’ve always stayed out of their business. Today, I stood up for her because I know what it’s like. Everyone has difficulties at some point.”

“Well, you’re right Miss Qi,” the makeup artist said as she continued to undo Qi Liya’s hair. Qi Liya picked up the drink and took a sip.

Qi Liya had always been a good judge of character. She could see herself in that girl and she had a hunch that, in the future, the girl would become successful.

...

The first day of the shoot had ended. Xu Xiyao left the set in a good mood and was ready to go home.

When she was out of the gates of the film studio, a blue Ferrari suddenly stopped beside her. The driver-side window rolled down and revealed a familiar face.

Xu Xiyao cried out in surprise. “Ma Haodong!?”

Ma Haodong took off his sunglasses, his handsome lips smiling. “Jing Xi, where are you going? Let me drive you.”

Ma Haodong wore a stylish black jacket, and his Ferrari was custom-made, incredibly expensive. Everything about him was flashy. He looked completely different from his villainous character in “The Root of Evil.”

Xu Xiyao gave a low whistle: Ma Haodong definitely fit the stereotype of a wealthy heir.

Ma Haodong opened the front passenger door. “Come on, don’t just stand there! I’ll give you a ride! Hop in!”

# Chapter 72 - Luckily, He Came

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The real Ma Haodong had a pride that surrounded him, the pride of a silver-spoon kid. Becoming an actor was purely an extension of a hobby.

But he did not let pride get in the way of acting. He had a reputation for working hard and being nice to others.

Now that the rich kid was trying to give Xu Xiyan a lift, she did not want to owe him anything.

“It’s alright, I can get back myself. Thank you.”

“Come on, aren’t we friends?”

“N-no. We are friends, it’s just...” Just as Xu Xiyan was thinking up of an excuse, her phone rang. It was Huo Yunshen.

“One minute, I have to get this call.”

“Sure thing.” Ma Haodong didn’t mind being patient.

Huo Yunshen told Xu Xiyan to turn around. She did as he asked, and saw his luxurious van waiting not far away.

Oh my, just in time!

Xu Xiyan hung up the phone and turned back toward Ma Haodong. “Sorry, my boyfriend is here to pick me up. Goodbye.”

She took her bag and jogged towards the van. Ma Haodong’s eyes followed her until she climbed into the super luxurious van and it drove away.

He scratched his chin and wondered, Wait, she has a boyfriend?

In that van?

Ma Haodong looked at his Ferrari. Of course, the Ferrari was eye-catching, but somehow the luxurious van made it look like a broken down car.

...

Xu Xiyan sat on the sofa and looked at the handsome man sitting in the wheelchair.

What kind of good deed did I do in my past life for the movie king to come and pick me up?!

If Huo Yunshen knew that, even after the “husband” incident a few days ago, she’d called him her boyfriend today, he might be kept up all night laughing with delight.

But the fact was, his face was unsmiling. He’d just seen Xu Xiyan talking to another guy who was driving a Ferrari and was trying to offer her a ride.

He was in a bad mood.

“The guy in the Ferrari, is he your boyfriend?”

Shocked by his question, Xu Xiyan quickly explained. “No, no. We both acted in “The Root of Evil.” We had some fighting scene together when I was a stunt double. He was offering me a ride home, but I wasn’t sure how to reject him. Luckily, you called at the right time.”

After she’d finished her explanation, Xu Xiyan thought to herself, Wait, why am I explaining so much?

Why am I afraid of Huo Yunshen mistaking it for something else?

“I see.” Huo Yunshen’s face began to slowly soften, his gentle smile returning to his face.

Luckily I was there! No way I’m giving Xu Xiyan up to some guy in a Ferrari.

Xu Xiyan noticed Huo Yunshen had loosened up and asked, “Did you come all the way here just to pick me up, Mr. Huo?”

“Of course not. I was on my way back when I saw you come out.”

There was no way he was going to tell her he’d waited for two hours just to give her a ride home.

Huh, what a coincidence. Xu Xiyan scratched her head and said, “I’ll go back myself next time. What if we were caught by paparazzi? It could become a scandal again.”

“Then let it be,” Huo Yunshen replied. It’s not bad to have a scandal with you anyway.

He even hoped that the gossipers were right about their relationship.

# Chapter 73

Chapter 73. Testing And Trial, Part XIV

Translator: Khan

Editor Group: Liber Reverie

The family of Count Roscent had been her faithful dog, and their relationship would become very close if the engagement of Mielle and Oscar took place. So Cain and Mielle, who had power on their backs, were able to cut Aria's head easily without much trial.

It was quite bad for Aria if they got acquainted. Even so, because she couldn't think of a way to stop it, she was just sitting still.

"Really?"

Aria answered carelessly. Then, to regain attention from Aria, Annie released the following information.

"Well, it was about Mr. Oscar!"

"Was that so?"

"Yes! I didn't hear any more details, but... I'm sure it's about the engagement!"

She was pretty quick-witted. It was also good to give her master the information she needed.

"Why do you think so?"

"That's it..."

She had been so good at chattering so far, but she suddenly closed her mouth. 'Why? Did she do something dishonest?' It was only then that Aria expressed her interest. She was wondering where she had stolen Mielle's information.

"The truth is... I've just read a letter from Miss Mielle to Princess Frederick..."

As expected, she was full of wickedness to the bone. She had been jealous and envious of her master's wealth, and Aria had seduced her, and Annie had betrayed her master in an instant. When Aria's eyes narrowed, Annie hurriedly made an excuse.

"Of, of course, I've never read the contents of Miss Aria's letters! It was sealed tightly in the first place."

"You mean you'd read them if I hadn't sealed them?"

"I wouldn't have done that! Absolutely not!"

Annie even waved her hand and denied it. No, she must have ripped open the sloppy letter. She didn't mean to scold her or kick her out because of her behavior. Annie couldn't betray her anyway.

Annie must have wondered about Mielle's secret, who pretended to be noble and lofty. Furthermore, it was information that would help her. It was not a big matter for Annie to read that letter. Aria smiled softly and sweetened Annie.

"Well, of course. I believe you, Annie."

"... re-really?"

"You happened to see it, didn't you? Letters were spread out on the table, so you could easily see them when you cleaned, or you would check them if you thought it was garbage as they were on the floor."

Aria gave Annie a chance to tell a natural lie. Aria also flashed Annie a smile as if she was telling her that she did a job well done regardless of what answer she chose.

"That's right...! I came across it while cleaning!"

"I knew that was the case."

"Miss...! Thank you very much for believing."

'So, what's the content?' At Aria's eye expression, Annie said what she had seen.

"How far have I told you? Oh! The letter she was going to send to the princess said that she was sorry that she didn't

have a chance to meet him because he was busy and that she wanted to be an adult soon and be with him.”

‘Isn’t it quite clever to look into the real influential person of the family of the Duke of Frederick and even send a letter in person?’

Maybe it wasn’t the end yet, but Annie kept on talking, “The last thing she wrote was that she needs the princess’s help. Most of the contents of the long letter were about Oscar. She only had one line of greeting for the princess who was going to receive the letter. Even the common people don’t write it that way.” Said Annie, who spoke ill of Mielle.

‘How have you put up with it in the meantime?’

“Really? I hope the princess won’t be disappointed if she receives Mielle’s letter... Oh, Jessie. Can you give me a new tea? I’d like some green tea to clear my head.”

“Yes, miss. Just a moment, please.”

As soon as Jessie left the room, Aria beckoned Annie to lower her head. Then she bent her knees and lowered her posture like a dog that was listening well, and Aria swept her hair with praise since Annie did a good job.

“Your hair looks empty today. Do you like purple or green?”

“.... pu-purple.”

“Yes, do it.”

Aria had to give a prize to a dog who had listened well. It was not just for a prize that Aria stroked her hair. Aria would definitely give Annie something great if she stole information again

She took out a purple hairpin from the jewelry box after she noticed Aria’s intentions when she dismissed Jessie. It was a violet crystal. The price was relatively cheap compared to the real jewels since it was rare, but the nobles did not favor it much. Therefore, it seemed to spread like a fairly high-end fashion among the common people. It was because no one recognized the woman though she wore the real jewel.

When Aria had first given her with colored crystals, she was so happy when she had received the golden brooch, and Aria had prepared some more. It was a very useful tool for getting high-quality information at a low price.

Annie put the hairpin on her hair, and she seemed to think that it looked good on her. Annie, who looked into the mirror with her excited face, suddenly opened her mouth as if she had thought about something.

“But you know what, miss.”

Aria looked at her all of a sudden because of Annie’s serious look and speech tone. ‘Is there anything else you need to say?’

“Maybe... Mr. Oscar is interested in Miss Aria, not Miss Mielle?”

Aria’s mouth crept up because of the careful question. ‘That’s what it looks like to your eyes.’

“Why do you think so?”

“It’s... because he doesn’t even write to Miss Mielle, but she exchanges letters with Miss Aria several times a month, and...”

“And?”

“In fact, there’s already a lot of gossip among maids. Mr. Oscar visited you on your birthday, and Miss Mielle’s birthday... I heard that there was someone who saw you and Oscar talking alone in the garden.”

She glanced at Aria with a puzzled look as if it were true.

‘Yeah, I can’t help it if rumors like that spread since I walked around in public.’ Aria struggled to hide her joyous mind.

‘Did Mielle hear that?’ She must have heard of it. Her maids would love to babble as well as Annie. That was why she had sent him letters.

Aria was wondering what kind of expression she would have had on her face.

“And the dress is decisive.”

“... Aha.”

“How could he give both of you a similar dress as a gift?”

She spoke as if she could not understand the situation now. Annie was not the only one. No one would understand what was happening now. Even Aria, the person who was involved in the case and who organized the project, could hardly think of it as a dream because Oscar had been so easily bewitched.

“Anyway, not just me, but all the maids in the mansion think so. They are sure that the person Mr. Oscar likes is you.” She was truly convinced.

Aria hid her smile and pretended to be calm. “If the rumors were true, I would be the wickedest woman of this age because I stole the heart of my sister’s lover.”

“No way! He’s not even officially engaged to Miss Mielle, so he can change his lover at any time.”

“Really?”

“Sure!”

‘Even if I’m taking this approach on purpose, is it true?’ Annie might say yes again in a loud voice. She had been jealous of her master. She betrayed her and wanted to be someone’s concubine and raise her status.

“Today’s conversation was very informative. I’ll look forward to our next conversation, Annie.”

Annie felt instinctively that she would soon receive a prize of more value than jewelry if she continued this pleasant conversation.

\* \* \*

Mielle was busy preparing to go out in the morning. She applied perfume to her hair and combed it finely. She also colored it to add life to her lips because she might meet with Oscar after a long time. Choosing a bright outdoor suit for spring, she recalled a reply from Princess Frederick.

‘Dear Lady Mielle, I hope you come to the mansion for the weekend. Oscar will also be making a brief appearance.’

‘Oh, my God... isn’t the princess an angel?’

When she sent a letter saying she had been a little disappointed by the recent estrangement of her relationship with Oscar, she had given her a place to meet him straight away.

“We have to start, miss.”

“Yes, Emma.”

Beautifully, but not too much. Mielle, who dressed herself to Oscar’s taste, put on her coat with the help of her maid and left the mansion with Emma.

# Chapter 74 - He Wanted to Give Her the Best

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“No,” Xu Xiyan replied, pushing Huo Yunshen’s hand away. At that moment, she felt as if grass was growing in her heart as rabbits scurried around it.

Her mind was a mess. The sounds that she heard back in Fang Xiaocheng’s house still rang inside her ears. After she went back into the car and saw Huo Yunshen, she couldn’t help but remember the intense night she had with him five years ago.

The ripped body of a man, the strength of a man, and of course, the gentle embrace of a man...

That man now sat in front of her, staring at her with his charming eyes, his lips incredibly sexy, the top two buttons of his shirt unbuttoned... It was a sexy sight to behold.

I want to do it with him...

Xu Xiyan swallowed her saliva and noticed what she was thinking about. She quickly slapped her forehead.

Oh my god, what was I thinking? I must not have those kinds of thoughts towards Huo Yunshen.

She started to wonder if her choice to move in with Huo Yunshen was a wise one or not.

What if someday I can’t help myself and push him down...?

Huo Yunshen noticed that Xu Xiyan was holding her head, and he became worried about her. “Jing Xi? Are you all right? What’s wrong?”

Xu Xiyan raised her head and smiled. "I'm fine, really. It's just a minor headache. I think I didn't get enough sleep last night."

"I'm sorry," Huo Yunshen said. "I shouldn't have talked to you until so late last night. I'll refrain from doing that next time."

"No, no, no! It's not your fault. You can talk with me whenever you want," Xu Xiyan said quickly. "Look, my head doesn't hurt anymore."

With her understanding of disabled people, she'd come to know that their hearts were often weak and frail. If she declined to talk to him, he might've thought that she despised him.

Xu Xiyan's headache was only an excuse, it wasn't his fault.

What's more, she liked talking to him; they had a lot in common.

Huo Yunshen let out a sigh of relief as soon as he heard that Xu Xiyan did not hate talking to him. But, remembering that Xu Xiyan did not get enough sleep the previous night, he ordered the driver to go home as soon as possible.

...

Each floor of Shengshi Yujing had four suites. Room 101 and 102 were neighbors on the first floor while 103 and 104 were the suites opposite them.

Huo Yunshen stayed in 101, and he'd ordered his men to help decorate 102 for Xu Xiyan.

As soon as they arrived, Huo Yunshen asked Yi Xiao to take Xu Xiyan's luggage into 102 and told Xu Xiyan to follow them.

Room 102 was a mirror of 101, where Huo Yunshen was staying, but 102's decorations were different from Huo Yunshen's suite.

The decorations in 102 were designed for a lady to live amongst, down to every detail.

Everything had been hand-picked by Huo Yunshen, and he'd removed the original decor.

“How’s the room?” asked Huo Yunshen, rolling his wheelchair towards her. ” Let me know if there’s anything you don’t like.”

After checking out the whole place, Xu Xiyan said, “Of course! It’s wonderful! Isn’t it a waste for someone like me to live in it...”

“Of course not! I was even worried that this might not be enough.”

What Huo Yunshen had intended to tell her was that he wanted to give her more, he wanted to give her the best. She deserved respect and love, and he was willing to give her everything he had.

Xu Xiyan smiled awkwardly.

Wasn’t I the one who was supposed to have a 10 billion Yuan debt?

# Chapter 75 - Spoiling Him

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan smiled awkwardly. Wasn't she the one who owed Huo Yunshen 1 billion Yuan in compensation?

Wasn't she here to become his caretaker and pay off her debts?

What right did she have as a debt-ridden caretaker to ask for a good life from her employer?

It was already enough that he'd given her a house to stay in!

She had to admit that Huo Yunshen's treatment of her had changed her perception of the rich.

She had often thought that the rich were ruthless people, but Huo Yunshen was nothing like that.

If she was in debt to someone rich, Xu Xiyan worried she'd be taken to court, or even be forced to consider prostitution if she couldn't repay what she owed.

To work under a good employer like Huo Yunshen was a great blessing to Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan settled down next door at 102, took a warm bath, and changed into clean and comfortable clothes. After that, she went over to 101 and rang the doorbell.

After a while, the door opened and Huo Yunshen appeared. There was a wet patch on the front of his light gray t-shirt.

"Sorry to keep you waiting," he said.

"It's okay."

After entering the house, Xu Xiyan noticed that a glass jug had fallen onto its side on the table, spilling water onto the floor. A drinking glass was also on the ground.

Xu Xiyang guessed that Huo Yunshen had been pouring himself a drink when she rang the doorbell, and he'd hurried to open the door, accidentally knocking the glass jug over.

Huo Yunshen moved his wheelchair to pick up the glass, but Xu Xiyang had already moved in front of him. She picked up the glass and then restored the jug on the table.

Then she retrieved a cleaning rag from the kitchen and soaked up the puddles of water from the table and the ground. When she was done, she poured a drink for Huo Yunshen.

"Thank you!" Huo Yunshen took the drink from her. He drank it in one go before handing her the empty glass.

"Next time, just let me handle things like this. You're a king now, remember? You should relax!"

"..."

What does being a king feel like?

It felt strange being spoiled by a woman. Huo Yunshen was still not used to it!

Xu Xiyang circled behind him and pushed his wheelchair.

"Where is the dressing room?"

"Why do you want to go to the dressing room?" Huo Yunshen asked.

"Your clothes are wet," Xu Xiyang said matter-of-factly. "What if you catch a cold?"

Her words lit a warm fire in Huo Yunshen's heart. It was an indescribable warmth but it felt really good to be cared for by someone.

He pointed at the room in front of him. "The dressing room is over there."

Xu Xiyang opened the door and pushed him in. When she entered, she was a little shocked. It was not what she'd imagined.

She knew Huo Yunshen as a particular man and had expected his dressing room to be meticulously organized. But the

spacious dressing room in front of her was messy and his clothes were strewn about on the floor.

Huo Yunshen realized what she had seen and felt a little embarrassed. "I know it's a bit messy. I haven't had time to clean up."

He was an organized man. Even though he lived alone, he still made an effort to tidy up his house.

But today was an exception. He had flipped his dressing room upside down just to find the perfect outfit because he wanted to go see Xu Xiyan.

It had always been women who would fuss over their outfit for the guys they fancy. Now it was his turn to stress over his clothes.

Whenever he was home alone, he could wear whatever he wanted. But now that Xu Xiyan was here, he hoped to wear something more handsome for her.

Hehe. They say a woman makes herself beautiful for the man she loves. Well, a man makes himself handsome for the woman he loves, too!

# Chapter 76 - Control!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan could understand why Huo Yunshen's dressing room might be a mess. He had been living alone, crippled. It was quite amazing for him to keep his house as tidy as it is with all his restrictions.

Xu Xiyan chose a white V-neck T-shirt from the messy closet and handed it to Huo Yunshen.

"Is this shirt okay?" she asked.

"Yes." Huo Yunshen nodded. He would wear anything she chose for him, even if it was an old rag.

"Come on, take off your wet clothes and wear this." Xu Xiyan stared at him, waiting for him to remove his shirt.

"Right here?" Huo Yunshen asked. Is it alright for me to strip in front of her?

"Go on. It wouldn't be the first time, anyways." Xu Xiyan didn't mind if he stripped in front of her, she had already seen it all.

Not the first time? It sounds like what a couple would say...

"..." Huo Yunshen blushed as he lowered his head and took off his shirt.

The man in front of Xu Xiyan was now half-naked, his tight muscles in full view. He exuded an aura of sexiness and manliness.

It was true that Xu Xiyan had seen his naked body before, but now that she had seen it again, it was almost more sexy and vexing.

Not good, not good. The scene from five years ago began to reappear in Xu Xiyang's mind. She could feel herself blushing.

Oh God! Control!

Don't think about it! Don't think about it!

Huo Yunshen didn't notice Xu Xiyang's panic. He took the shirt from her and put it on.

Xu Xiyang came back to reality and praised Huo Yunshen. "You really are like a living mannequin, everything looks good on you."

"..." Huo Yunshen's face was hotter than before. If she kept praising him, his ego would burst.

After Huo Yunshen had finished changing, Xu Xiyang pushed him out of the changing room to the living room where he could rest, reading a book or drinking some tea.

Xu Xiyang went back into the changing room and began to tidy up. After a few minutes, it was much tidier than before.

When Xu Xiyang went back to the living room, she noticed Huo Yunshen wasn't there. She looked around for him only to find him in the kitchen preparing dinner.

"Mr. Huo!" Xu Xiyang rushed over and took the pan. "Didn't I tell you to relax and act like a king? Why are you making your own dinner now?"

Huo Yunshen almost laughed from Xu Xiyang's angry face. "Sorry, the habit kicked in."

"That must change!" Xu Xiyang pushed Huo Yunshen out of the kitchen and into the living room. She pointed at the gaming console under the table and said, "I'll make the dinner. Go and play some games!"

Huo Yunshen stared at the console and said, "But playing alone is so boring..."

Xu Xiyang understood the feeling and slapped him on the shoulder. "I'll play with you after dinner, how does that sound?"

“Good!” A devilish smile appeared on Huo Yunshen’s face while his dark eyes shone like a galaxy full of shining stars.

“...” Come one my prince charming, stop staring at me with those eyes. My heart is almost at its limit.

Xu Xiyan had made a dinner consisting of three dishes and one luffa egg soup.

The two of them sat at the table while Huo Yunshen stared at the food before him.

“I’m not the best at cooking,” said Xu Xiyan, growing worried.

“It looks tasty though...”

Usually, Huo Yunshen would only prepare normal foods. It wasn’t every day that he got to eat a full meal like this at home.

# Chapter 77 - Can't Help But To Pity Him

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen was almost drooling at the smell of the food.

“You should eat more, then.”

Xu Xiyan dutifully scooped rice and soup into his bowls, then picked some meat and vegetables for him with her chopsticks.

“Mmm, not bad! It’s delicious! Really delicious!”

Huo Yunshen ate his food in big mouthfuls, devouring whatever Xu Xiyan picked for him.

Xu Xiyan watched the man gobble up his food, and she actually pitied him.

How did Huo Yunshen live his life all these years?

How lonely was it to live all by yourself?

She felt pity for him and wanted to treat him better.

After dinner, Xu Xiyan cleaned up in the kitchen and then went over to play a video game with Huo Yunshen.

After they had set up the computer and the gaming equipment, Xu Xiyan handed a gamepad to him.

“What game do you usually play?”

“The Royal’s Alliance.”

Whenever Huo Yunshen was bored, he would play some games on his mobile phone.

“Really? I’m playing that game too.”

They both logged into their accounts. Xu Xiyan logged into her male character account, “Gongzi Yaoye.”

She hadn't created the account herself. It was her senior Ye Xun who had created the account for her when he was still teaching her to play the game a few years ago, and Xu Xiyan had been using it ever since.

At first, her senior had helped her with the leveling until “Gongzi Yaoye” was ranked number 3 in the server. Then the account was transferred to Xu Xiyan.

“Actually, I don't have much time to play games,” Xu Xiyan said. “I'm really bad at whatever I play. Please don't laugh at me!”

“No, I won't. Let's team up and go kill some mobs.”

Huo Yunshen logged into the game. Like Xu Xiyan, his account was a character account of the opposite sex, a girl named “Yun Qing.”

His third sister, Huo Sanyan, had insisted on installing the game on his mobile phone. She was also the one who had registered and named the female character account for him. She did it because she was worried that he would feel bored being alone.

He was not an avid gamer, but he was still pretty good at the game. His IQ was very high, and he came to realize that he could reach the top whenever he applied himself.

Though he had only spent a small amount of time, his account “Yun Qing” was already ranked Number 1 in the whole server.

After Xu Xiyan had entered the game, she began to take control of her character. The dashing Gongzi Yaoye was online and summoned his spirit beast mount and rode towards the main city.

“Oh, I have to tell you that I'm playing as a male character and my senior helped me create this account. I don't usually play online games but I was convinced to play this one.”

Huo Yunshen smiled.

“Really? Then you won’t be surprised if I tell you that I’m playing as a female character. My account was created five years ago by my third sister. She pulled me into the game.”

They both seemed to be in the same boat and smiled at each other.

“I’m married in the game,” Xu Xiyao continued, “and my wife is really strong. What about you?”

Xu Xiyao had found a powerful wife in the game to protect her because she was too weak at the time.

Every time she went questing with her in-game wife, there was never a need to help her out because her in-game wife was so powerful that she could wipe out mobs of enemies in mere seconds.

“I’m also married to someone else, just for questing purposes,” Huo Yunshen explained.

Xu Xiyao saw that her in-game wife was online. She said, “My wife is online now. Let’s team up with her later, and you can see how awesome she is at killing enemies.”

“My husband is also online.”

Xu Xiyao tilted her head and stared at the man in front of her after he said the words “my husband.” Why did it sound so wrong?

# Chapter 78 - Please Make Me Your Apprentice!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen noticed what he'd said sounded weird and quickly explained. "I meant my husband in the game."

"Oh, I understood. We can form a four-man party then." Xu Xiyan smiled.

"Sure thing," Huo Yunshen said as he crossed his legs and stared at the computer screen. "Where are you?" he asked. "I'll go find you."

"I'm at the Magpie Bridge in the main city."

"All right," Huo Yunshen said as his avatar summoned a riding beast and flew towards the main city. His avatar landed at the Magpie Bridge. "I'm here."

Xu Xiyan's avatar stood on the Magpie Bridge when an angel in white robes landed on the bridge. Hey, isn't that my wife, Yun Qing?

"Oh, my wife's here! Where are you? I don't see you. My in-game name is Gongzi Yaoye, can you see me? What's your name?"

What? She said her IGN is Gongzi Yaoye?

Huo Yunshen's heart skipped a beat and he raised his head.

"My... my name... is Yun Qing."

"Huh?" Xu Xiyan's jaw dropped, her mouth wide enough to fit an egg inside. She'd never thought her in-game wife would turn out to be Huo Yunshen.

W-w-what a freaking coincidence!

Yun Qing and Huo Yunshen... That's why Yun Qing is the best player in the whole server. With Huo Yunshen's intellect, there's no reason he couldn't get the number one spot.

Xu Xiyan regained her senses, and she held herself at bay, though she felt like rushing to hug Huo Yunshen's leg.

“Oh my god, Mr. Huo! So you're the person behind the most powerful player in the whole server. Please make me your apprentice!”

She couldn't contain her excitement, like a die-hard fan meeting her idol.

She'd been acting tough and not giving in this whole time, but the player she so greatly admired was the man beside her.

Huo Yunshen also smiled. He'd never thought that the two of them had already become a married couple in-game two years ago.

Fate really worked in wondrous ways.

They formed a party and went on to clear some missions. But Xu Xiyan was unskilled in comparison, even though she was the third strongest player in the whole server.

It was just like the way they used to play. Yun Qing would take care of every obstacle in front of them while the “husband” would just walk behind. Everything Gongzi Yaoye had, from level to equipment, all came from Yun Qing's help.

Xu Xiyan would shout at her screen whenever they were fighting monsters like she was living in the game, herself.

“All right, I'm curious,” began Huo Yunshen. “How did you even get to be third best when you're this bad at the game?” He tilted his head and smiled.

Ugh... That smile... Xu Xiyan cried in her mind.

“My senior, whose IGN is Yiye Zhiqiu, helped me. They're the second best player on the server. But you're far better than he is. He once made a bet with me saying that he'd surpass

you in one year. If he loses the bet, he'll shout 'I'm worse than a woman' in public."

Huo Yunshen laughed. "If he knew I was a man, he might just die from shock."

"He'd probably try to choke you to death," Xu Xiyan joked.

# Chapter 79 - Have To Take It Slowly

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen's experience points were nearly double that of the second-ranked "Yiye Zhiqiu". Even if "Yiye Zhiqiu" didn't eat or drink or sleep from this moment on, and played the game for days straight, it was still impossible to surpass Huo Yunshen in rank.

The two had a great time slaughtering mobs in-game. The husband and wife team ventured free and unstoppable in the virtual world.

Huo Yunshen's heart was overflowing with strong feelings. He hoped to stand on his two feet again as soon as possible in real life. He wanted to stand by Xu Xiyan's side and protect her from harm in the real world.

They had only played a single round of the game but Huo Yunshen decided to stop and let her rest early.

"It's already getting late. You should rest early. We can play again tomorrow."

"Okay! I'm getting tired, too." Xu Xiyan stood up to put the computers and the gamepads away. When she turned around, Huo Yunshen handed her something. "What's this?"

"The keys to my house. So you can come over and open the door yourself. Please take them."

Huo Yunshen handed her the keys. If she wanted to come over next time, she wouldn't have to wait for him to open the door anymore.

“Oh.” Xu Xiyan took the keys without complaint. It would be convenient to have the keys to his house.

In the future, she would not need to ring the doorbell, and Huo Yunshen would not have to rush to open the door and accidentally knock over a water jug again.

Xu Xiyan was ready to go back. Huo Yunshen moved his wheelchair and sent her to the door. When she was about to open it, the doorbell rang.

The two exchanged looks. It was already late. Who could it be?

Xu Xiyan didn't open the door, but cautiously peered through the peephole. There was a beautiful and fashionable-looking woman standing outside the door.

“Who's outside?” Huo Yunshen asked.

Xu Xiyan whispered, half-jokingly, “It looks like your girlfriend or something. What should I do?”

Judging from the time of the night and the woman's appearance, Xu Xiyan thought the woman must be his girlfriend. Who else could it be?

Huo Yunshen was confused. “What does she look like?”

“She has long wavy hair, big hoop earrings, and is wearing a tight-fitting silver dress with a black rivet jacket. She also has a pair of high-heeled boots. She looks so cool and pretty.”

After listening to her description, Huo Yunshen looked as if his arch nemesis had arrived. “Oh no! My third sister is here!”

“Oh? Should we open the door?”

Xu Xiyan had heard Huo Yunshen speak about his sisters before, but the woman outside was very different from what she had imagined.

“No, don't!”

Huo Yunshen got in her way. He could not let Huo Sanyan discover Xu Xiyan for the time being, because he was afraid that she would not stop yapping about it to the world with her

big mouth, and that everyone would then know about his secret.

If that happened, his parents and his three helicopter sisters would try to force him to marry. What if Xu Xiyan couldn't bear the pressure and left him?

It would be an unthinkable disaster. He had only just found Xu Xiyan and his body had not yet recovered. He had no confidence that he could make her fall in love with him yet.

So he had to take things very slowly, and he couldn't let his family ruin it.

"She is your third sister...aren't you going to let her in?" Xu Xiyan asked, puzzled.

"If she comes in and sees you, I won't be able to explain it to her."

Huo Yunshen's face was filled with anxiety. He looked up at her and said, "I'm sorry, but I need you to hide. I'll deal with her."

"Okay, I'll go find a place to hide."

Xu Xiyan didn't want to cause unnecessary trouble for Huo Yunshen, so she left quickly, scrambling to find a hiding place.

# Chapter 80 - A Girl Has To Be In Here

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

After Xu Xiyao had gone into hiding, Huo Yunshen checked the surroundings before opening the door. He noticed Xu Xiyao's shoes were still at the front door and quickly put them away.

The doorbell kept on ringing. Huo Yunshen knew she wouldn't leave until he opened the door.

The door finally opened, and Huo Sanyan saw that Huo Yunshen was still alive. She let out a sigh of relief and said, "Oh, my little brother, I thought you were sleeping...or worse."

Huo Yunshen looked at Huo Sanyan and said, "Third sis, what are you doing here so late?"

"Here to see you, of course," Huo Sanyan said, stretching her neck like a giraffe to peek into the house. "Can I come in?"

Huo Sanyan knew that her little brother didn't like people going into his house, which was why she had to ask for permission before going in.

"No, you can't."

But Huo Sanyan wouldn't leave that easily. She was there on a mission for their family. She returned like a member of the paparazzi and stalked her little brother. A girl had been sighted going into his house.

Huo Sanyan had been waiting outside, scouting out the place, and the girl who'd gone in still hadn't come out. That meant

she was still inside.

If Huo Sanyan barged into Huo Yunshen's house at that moment, she could find the girl in there and reveal the truth behind the scandal.

If her brother did, indeed, have a girlfriend, then her parents wouldn't be in such a hurry for her to get married.

Huo Sanyan was relying on her brother to attain her freedom.

"I'm still going in, even if you don't let me," Huo Sanyan said as she took off her shoes and tried to push past.

"Third sis!" Huo Yunshen wanted to stop her, but she'd already taken off her shoes and ran like a cheetah.

She decided to pretend she had a stomach ache to avoid getting kicked out.

"My stomach hurts... Let me use your bathroom!"

She ran into the bathroom and slammed the door behind her.

Huo Yunshen's face darkened, but there was nothing he could do.

She's my sister, after all. He sighed.

Sine Huo Sanyan was in the bathroom, Huo Yunshen intended to let Xu Xiyan escape before she came out. But he wasn't sure where Xu Xiyan was hiding. He'd have to go looking for her, room to room.

Xu Xiyan was hiding behind some clothes in the changing room. She crouched in a corner and sat thinking to herself.

I'm Huo Yunshen's personal assistant, and there's nothing weird about our relationship...why is he so afraid of letting his family meet me?

Is it because he didn't want to have anything to do with me from the beginning?

Or is it because I don't have the right to meet his family?

Well... Since the Huo family is one of the most prominent families in all of Peijing, Huo Yunshen's girlfriend has to at

least come from some big family, or at least that's probably what his family would expect.

Girlfriend...

No, no... What are you thinking about, Xu Xiyan?

Xu Xiyan shook her head.

I'm just Huo Yunshen's personal assistant, not his girlfriend.

I'm not even qualified to be his girlfriend.

I slept with him once and had his kid, that can't really anything now!

Don't think about the impossible.

Xu Xiyan forced herself to look at the reality. She was just a girl who was in debt, and was working for Huo Yunshen to repay it.

Wake up, lady. If you don't clear off that debt, then you'll have to work for Huo Yunshen forever.

Suddenly, Xu Xiyan heard someone coming in. She peeked out of the wardrobe and saw that it was Huo Yunshen in his wheelchair.

# Chapter 81 - Not Destined To Have A Man In Her Life

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan was about to sweep the clothes aside and get out, but stopped when she heard Huo Sanyan's voice beyond the door.

“What are you doing, brother?”

Huo Yunshen heard his sister's voice and had to give up looking for Xu Xiyan for the time being. He had to deal with his troublesome sister first.

“Nothing. I'm just looking for some clothes to wear.”

He hastily grabbed a piece of clothing from one of the closets and put it on his lap before wheeling out of the room.

Huo Sanyan stared at him with wide eyes and pointed at the clothes on his lap.

“Why are you looking for a tuxedo so late in the night? Are you going out?”

“...”

He must have been too flustered to notice what he'd taken.

“It's for tomorrow.”

Whenever Huo Yunshen wasn't smiling, he would emit a chilling air of authority in his gaze. His face would turn hard, sharpening like a knife, and his eyes would grow cold.

Huo Sanyan's heart skipped a beat. F\*ck.

She suspected that she'd made her brother mad by entering his house uninvited and intruding upon his private space.

But how could she retreat now? It was a rare opportunity to go into his house and she could not go back without anything to report. Everyone was waiting for her to bring back the good news!

Huo Sanyan turned, looking around the house some more.

“Brother, why haven't you been visiting home lately?”

Huo Yunshen stuck close to his sister, not letting her out of his sight. “I needed some seren—”

“Who? Celine?”

Huo Sanyan turned at him sharply and narrowed her wily eyes. She wanted to hear a girl's name come out of his mouth. Is her name really Celine?

Huo Yunshen rubbed at his temples. “...”

His sister was clearly distracted. He had wanted to say serenity, that he wanted some serenity and be alone.

Huo Sanyan continued to look around, searching through several rooms like a detective. At last she came to the dressing room and pushed the door open.

Xu Xiyan, who was hiding behind some clothes in a corner, heard footsteps. She looked out through a gap and saw Huo Sanyan's slender legs strutting around in front of her. Her heart was beating so fast, she thought it would leap out of her throat.

Why do I feel a hint of *déjà vu*...something about being caught in a scandal?

I'm going to have a heart attack!

Just as Huo Sanyan reached to push the clothes aside, Huo Yunshen spoke again, “Sister, what are you looking for? You know that I hate it when people mess with my stuff.”

There was anger in her brother's voice. She stopped what she was doing and turned toward him, smiling.

“I'm not really looking for anything. I just wanted to look around and see if you needed help tidying your house. You're

usually living alone and you don't have a woman to help out with your chores. How could I not be concerned?"

"I can take care of myself. It's already late and you should be getting back!"

"I am your sister and I am supposed to help you!"

Huo Sanyan refused to go, so Huo Yunshen moved his wheelchair towards her in an attempt to herd her to the door.

As they passed through the living room, Huo Sanyan sighed.

"What I was trying to say is you should stop living by yourself and come home. You have a family who can take care of you."

"I know."

Huo Sanyan noticed that there were two computers on the coffee table. There were also two gamepads and two teacups.

"Huh? Who were you playing video games with?"

"Myself."

Huo Sanyan was incredulous. "You only have two hands. How can you play a co-op game by yourself?"

"Mind your own business."

"If I don't mind your business, who will?"

"..." Huo Yunshen felt that his third sister was not fated to have a man in her life. But if she had one who could ground her, she wouldn't be such a pain in the ass, and could stop worrying about him.

Huo Sanyan was forced out without finding anything of value, but she kept yapping on the way out, insistent that she find out more...

# Chapter 82 - A Reason to Let Her Stay

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“I’ve already told mum, dad, and our sisters that you’re thinking of finding yourself a girlfriend,” said Huo Sanyan. “They really liked the idea and are probably looking for suitable candidates. If they do find one, they might set up a date—”

When did I even said that?

“I don’t need it!” Huo Yunshen shouted, stopping his sister from finishing her sentence. He’d finally lost his temper and pushed Huo Sanyan out of his house. He slammed the door and took a deep breath.

This family... he sighed. Each and every one of them is so persistent. Can’t they at least give me a few days to live in quiet?

After Huo Sanyan had left, Huo Yunshen took out his phone and called Xu Xiyan to tell her that it was all right for her to come out.

Xu Xiyan went to the living room and looked around. “She left?”

“Yes,” Huo Yunshen said with a look of stress on his face.

“Your sister is quite nice. She cares a lot about you.” Xu Xiyan had heard everything Huo Yunshen and Huo Sanyan were talking about.

“You’d understand my feelings if you had three sisters all like that.” All three of his sisters were worried about him,

bombarding him with concern.

“I’m actually jealous of you for having such good sister,” Xu Xiyan said. The only sister she had was her half-sister from the same father, and all she did was make her life harder.

“Isn’t Xu Xinrou your sister? She’s an A-list celebrity now. I heard that you two are very close, and that you might be able to see more of each other since she’s the second female lead in ‘Red Sleeved Beauty.’”

Oh my god!

Which idiot said that I’m close with Xu Xinrou?

“Xu Xinrou and I had a falling out. Please don’t speak of her in front of me again.” Xu Xiyan was depressed by the thought of it.

“I’m sorry, did I say something I shouldn’t have?” Huo Yunshen grew worried.

Xu Jinshan was the one who told Huo Yunshen that the two sisters were very close. But Xu Xiyan had just told him they weren’t. He began to wonder what could have happened between them.

Is it because Xu Xinrou was already in the spotlight and Xu Xiyan wasn’t?

“No, it’s not your fault,” Xu Xiyan smiled. “But I should get going.”

Just as Xu Xiyan walked passed Huo Yunshen, he grabbed her hand and said, “Jing Xi, don’t go.”

Xu Xiyan looked at her hand and then looked at him, filled with questions.

Huo Yunshen realized that what he did was too sudden and quickly released her hand. “My third sis used to be an entertainment reporter,” he quickly explained. “I bet she’s still waiting outside.”

Entertainment reporter... Does that mean she used to be a paparazzi... What a sister he has!

Xu Xiyan nodded and asked, “Then what should we do?”

Huo Yunshen eyes shone with a bright idea and said, “Why don’t you stay over for one night?”

Xu Xiyan stared at his bright eyes for a moment, uncertain of his intention and replied, “Alright.”

“...” Oh yeah!

He’d finally found a reason for her to stay, all thanks to Huo Sanyan.

Xu Xiyan stayed in the guestroom that she used to stay in. When she woke up in the middle of the night to use the bathroom, she didn’t even notice that she’d entered the wrong room, and she went straight back to sleep.

# Chapter 83 - Sleeping Together

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen was a light sleeper. His eyes flew open when he felt a sudden sinking sensation on the bed beside him. He turned to look, and in the faint moonlight coming through the window, he saw someone lying there.

Is that Xu Xiyan?

Why...why is she here?

Whatever the reason was, Huo Yunshen's heart was beating so fast that it felt like it would spring out of his chest. He forced himself to calm down.

He decided to turn around and face her. It took him great effort to move his legs and finally turn his body over, the slender back of the petite woman half filling the space between his arms.

Huo Yunshen cherished this rare opportunity to be close with her and gently covered her with his blanket. He was careful not to make sudden movements, and even controlled his breathing, afraid to wake her.

The next day, Xu Xiyan woke naturally. She opened her eyes and, to her surprise, she saw a handsome face in front of her.

What the...

She quickly covered her mouth before she could let out a scream. A chill ran down her spine, and she couldn't believe what she was seeing. Huo Yunshen was not the kind of man who would take advantage of someone.

But why was he in her room?

Just as she was about to quietly shift her body and get off the bed, he awoke, soft morning light twinkling in his eyes as he blinked.

He looked like the beautiful Narcissus waking by the stream. The scene was so enchanting that she couldn't bear to disturb it.

Huo Yunshen gazed into her eyes for a few seconds, then said softly, "Oh, you're awake..."

"Yeah."

Xu Xiyan suddenly sprang up from the bed, grabbing at her hair. "Mr. Huo, why are you in my room?"

"It seems that this is my room," said Huo Yunshen nonchalantly. He turned over and lay on his back, finally able to stretch out the arm that had turned numb under his weight overnight.

Uhhh... This is his room?!!!

Xu Xiyan looked around frantically. No, no, no, this cannot be! How did I end up in his room?

In any case, Xu Xiyan was the one at fault. An apology was in order.

"I'm sorry Mr. Huo, I think I was too drowsy and must have stumbled into the wrong room. I really didn't mean to disturb you, I..."

What do I even say?

There's an old saying that goes "what you think about in the day, you will dream of all night."

She had often daydreamed about Huo Yunshen. But at night, instead of dreaming, she had sleep-walked right into his room.

Xu Xiyan, oh Xu Xiyan. How are you going to face him?

Huo Yunshen smiled wryly. "It's okay, this is not the first time, anyways. We're even now."

Xu Xiyan didn't know what to say.

Speaking of the first time.

The first time, five years ago, he had gone into the wrong room. Now she was the one in the wrong room.

Okay. We're even now.

Xu Xiyan felt like she might die from embarrassment. Every morning she would wake up with her hair messier than a chicken's nest, drool hanging at the corners of her mouth and gunk crusting up in her eyes.

F\*ck my life.

She really wished that she hadn't shown herself in that embarrassing state in front of prince charming. Aaaaaah...

Huo Yunshen noticed that she was almost crying and quickly comforted her. "Don't worry, you were safe sleeping with me. I didn't touch you."

# Chapter 84 - The Simple Life That He'd Longed For

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

In his current condition, Huo Yunshen couldn't do anything to Xu Xiyan even if he wanted to. Yet, Xu Xiyan felt a slight disappointment deep down in her heart.

After all these years, she would sometimes feel alone, wanting a man to love her and caress her. She wanted a warm family, living together with her husband and their child...

Whatever... I should put all of these thoughts behind me and focus on taking care of Huo Yunshen...

She noticed that Huo Yunshen was about to get out from the bed and said, "Let me help you."

"Thank you, but this much I can manage." Huo Yunshen was still a man of pride.

The bed in his room was specially made with a handle on the side. With one strong pull, Huo Yunshen pulled himself up and easily sat.

Huo Yunshen used a remote to move his wheelchair to his side. He settled his leg in front of the wheelchair, held the handle on both sides and pulled himself on.

Xu Xiyan stood at one side, looking at him quietly as he moved onto the wheelchair. She understood deep down in her heart that disabled people like Huo Yunshen had to go through a lot of rehab training to achieve what he'd just done.

She could see the tenacious spirit in Huo Yunshen.

She liked the kind of man that would never give up on anything.

Way to go, my prince charming!

Xu Xiyan chose a fitting shirt for Huo Yunshen and went back to the guest room to clean herself up. After she'd changed into a new set of clothes, she went into the kitchen to prepare breakfast.

Huo Yunshen came into the dining room wearing the clothes that Xu Xiyan had selected for him, looking all freshened up and dashing.

He wore a black shirt with the first two buttons unbuttoned, showing a little skin on his chest. A few strands of hairs hung in front on his forehead and his eyes were filled with light and color. He was dressed casually, with an almost lazy look, but it was sexy at the same time.

He's like a prey waiting for me to pounce on him...

Xu Xiyan forced her eyes away from him and told him that breakfast was ready.

She realized she was also wearing a black T-shirt. They looked like a real couple wearing the same color clothes.

I did not choose this T-shirt intentionally, it's pure coincidence!

After they had their breakfast, Xu Xiyan went into the van with Huo Yunshen and they left Shengshi Yujing. Huo Yunshen ordered the driver to take Xu Xiyan to the studio before taking him to his office.

They talked a lot during the ride. Huo Yunshen was happy. This was all that he wanted.

A life without scandals. A simple and comfortable life with the girl he loved.

This was the fulfillment and happiness that simply being a movie-king and entertainment icon couldn't bring him.

He felt that the true fortune was the happiness in his heart.

...

At the Peijing Eastern Suburb, filming for “Red Sleeved Beauty” was still going on in-studio.

When Xu Xiyan arrived, the crew was already busy doing their works. Even most of the main actors and actresses had already finished their makeups.

It was clear that Xu Xiyan was late. She quickly apologized and went to find Linda. When she reached the makeup studio, she bumped into Xu Xinrou who’d just finished doing her makeup and was standing beside her assistant, Wen Li.

Xu Xinrou wore an elegant dress and a hairpin filled with jewels. Her usual arrogant expression hung on her face.

She looked at Xu Xiyan and smirked. “A mere servant acting all big and mighty. Do you know what time it is?”

Wen Li knew who Xu Xiyan was and added, “That’s right, Jing Xi! Didn’t you know that Xinrou will be acting in the first scene today? Xinrou was here around 5 for her makeup, and yet you just arrived...”

“Are you expecting the whole crew to wait for you to finish your makeup?”

# Chapter 85 - An Excuse For Revenge

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Sorry! I will come early next time.”

It was a fact that Xu Xiyan was late, and she couldn't argue about it.

“What are you waiting for?” Wen Li asked. “Go do your makeup and don't make Xinrou wait on you anymore. I hate people who have no sense of time.” She looked even more despicable than Xu Xinrou to Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan said no more and went straight to Linda for her makeup. Everything seemed fine and after her makeup was done, they began shooting the third scene.

In the third scene, Meng Jinxin teaches Wei Pingting a lesson. There were character appearances from Meng Jinxin, Wei Pingting, Yao Yue, Mo Lian, some palace maidens, and some eunuchs.

Meng Jinxin was favored by the Emperor and she dominated the harem with her high rank and prestige. But recently the Emperor had accepted a new consort into the harem and he had not been to her palace for three days. She became jealous and decided to go meet the newcomer.

In the garden, Meng Jinxin, who was played by Xu Xinrou, was gorgeously dressed and was leading a retinue of palace maidens. Yao Yue, who was played by Xu Xiyan, was one of Meng Jinxin's closest servants and she was following closely behind her mistress.

Wei Pingting, who was played by Qi Liya, was practicing her dance in the garden. She was oblivious to the group's arrival.

When Wei Pingting was performing a chain of rotating movements in her dance, Meng Jinxin flicked her eyes towards Mo Lian who was standing by her side. Mo Lian understood her mistress' intentions and flung a stone at Wei Pingting's feet.

Unaware of the stone, Wei Pingting stepped onto it and slipped, falling to the ground and spraining her ankle.

While she was kneading her foot, Meng Jinxin stepped in front of her. Wei Pingting turned her gaze from the tip of her embroidered shoes up toward an unsmiling face.

“Wei Pingting, why are you still not greeting Lady Meng?”  
Mo Lian said to her in a hushed voice.

Though Wei Pingting had just entered the harem, she had already heard of Meng Jinxin's prestige from the palace maidens. She endured the pain in her foot and knelt before her.  
“My lady.”

“No need for formalities. We are both the Emperor's women. Just call me sister.”

Meng Jinxin moved aside and sat down at a round table nearby.

“Sister, I heard that your dancing skills are unmatched. Why don't you dance for me and show me how good you are?” It was clear she intended to make trouble for Wei Pingting.

Wei Pingting's ankle was injured and it was impossible for her to dance. She could only answer her truthfully. “I've sprained my ankle and I cannot dance for you today. I hope you will forgive me, sister.”

Meng Jinxin's face became hard, revealing her true nature.

“How dare you, Wei Pingting!” she roared. “We all saw you dancing like a butterfly here just now. And now that I ask you to dance for me, all you have are excuses. What do you take me as?”

“Please forgive me! My ankle is really injured. I’m not lying.”  
Wei Pingting tried hard to explain.

“A lie is a lie and you dare to argue with me? According to the rules of the palace, the punishment for lying is one hundred slaps.”

“Yao Yue, slap her,” Meng Jinxin called out.

Upon hearing this line, Xu Xiyan knew that it was her turn to appear. According to the script, Yao Yue and Wei Pingting came from the same village.

Yao Yue had recognized Wei Pingting and could not bear to hit her, so she turned around and pleaded for Wei Pingting.

“My lady, Wei Pingting’s ankle is really hurt. Please pardon her!”

Slap!

Meng Jinxin had directly slapped Yao Yue. “You dare help her to rebel against me?”

Streaks of red appeared on Xu Xiyan’s cheeks. She stood up angrily and yelled, “Xu Xinrou, why did you just hit me?”

# Chapter 86 - Took Advantage of the Situation to Have Her Revenge

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

There was never any slapping scene in the script. Of course, there was a scene where Meng Jinxin would punish Yao Yue since she was Meng Jinxin's personal maid, but not one of the scenes involved hitting other people.

Since there were some arguments between the two actresses, Director Huang quickly stopped the shooting. "Cut! Cut! Cut!" he shouted. "Yao Yue, you aren't following the script!"

Just as Xu Xiyan was about to explain the situation, Xu Xinrou quickly said, "Director! I studied the script, and I think it would be better if Meng Zhaoyi slapped Yao Yue here. This can better showcase the character's personality."

Like hell it can! She's clearly taking advantage of the situation to have her revenge on me! I can't believe it!

She definitely thought of how to punish me when she was studying the script!

But it was pretty normal for actors or actresses to improvise during shooting.

As long as the improvisation didn't change the storyline and added something to a particular scene, most directors would accept it.

Huang Guoqiang thought about it. "Very good! That was some good work. Let's follow that. Again! Yao Yue, pay attention to your lines and expressions!"

“Director, do I really have to get slapped?”

Xu Xiyan wanted the director to stop helping the menace, Xu Xinrou.

“Yes, it was quite good,” Huang Guoqiang said. He did not want to get on Xu Xinrou’s bad side, and was willing to go with what she’d suggested. “Xinrou, just act like you’re slapping her.”

“Got it,” Xu Xinrou replied.

“All right,” called Huang Guoqiang. “Back to positions everyone. We’ll reshoot the scene. Action!”

All of the actors and actresses went back into their spots and the filming continued.

“Yao Yue, slap her!” Meng Zhaoyi ordered.

But Yao Yue ignored Meng Zhaoyi’s order and helped Wei Pinting to ask for forgiveness.

Meng Zhaoyi was angered by Yao Yue’s actions and slapped her. The slap landed right on Xu Xiyan’s face, her ears ringing from the impact.

Xu Xinrou had hit her face without mercy.

Xu Xiyan knew that Xu Xinrou would not follow the director’s order, and that she’d hit her for real.

Yet she held in her anger, as she wanted to finish shooting the scene as soon as possible.

But Xu Xinrou did not continue her line and just stood there, which made Huang Guoqiang stop the shooting again.

“Meng Zhaoyi! What are you standing there for?”

“Sorry, director, I forgot my line,” Xu Xinrou said, pretending that her mind had just gone blank.

“Fine! Again! Try to finish the scene this time!”

She forgot her line...I give up. She did not forget her line, she just wanted to hit me again.

Just as Xu Xiyan was acting, Fang Xiaocheng arrived at the studio to ask why Xu Xiyan had left without telling her. She

saw all the slapping mischief that Xu Xinrou was causing.

Two slaps were not enough for Xu Xinrou.

Fang Xiaocheng quickly understood that Xu Xinrou was doing it intentionally.

She began to worry. Now that the director wanted to reshoot the scene, Xu Xiyan would have to get a slap for the third time.

Xu Xiyan's best friend could not hold her anger in anymore.

Scene 3 take 3 was about to begin.

Yao Yue kneeled in front of Meng Zhaoyi, begging her to let Wei Pinting go. Meng Zhaoyi face darkened and she raised her hand, ready to slap Yao Yue. Just as her hand was about to swing down, the crowd became noisy.

Fang Xiaocheng was about to barge into the scene to stop Xu Xinrou when she heard the noise. She turned and checked what was happening.

Xu Xinrou did not have the chance to slap Xu Xiyan as everyone's attention was directed to the noise. All of the crew members, including the director, Huang Guoqiang and the executive director, Yang Yong, all stood up to greet the person in the center of the attention.

Who's there?

# Chapter 87 - The Boss Pays A Visit

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan could not help but also cast a curious look around. What was everyone so excited about?

But there was no need for her to crane her neck and look around for long. She knew who was coming upon overhearing the conversations of the women on the set.

“Elvis is here!”

“Oh my god, is it true? Isn’t Huo Yunshen the president of Yunhai Entertainment? Why is he here?”

“Don’t you know? This movie is a joint investment of Yunhai Entertainment and Juxing Entertainment. Besides, Julia is an actress under Yunhai Entertainment. Mr. Huo is both the investor and the boss so it’s normal for him to visit the set!”

“Is he here to visit Julia?”

“Do you still have to ask? Of course, he is!”

“But I heard that Huo Yunshen rarely shows himself in public. Why did he decide to come today?”

“Who knows! All I know is we’re really lucky to see prince charming in person!”

...

Everyone was super excited because it was really rare to see this mysterious big shot of the entertainment industry.

Because he was sitting in a wheelchair, Huo Yunshen appeared much shorter than the gathering people around him. Xu Xiyan

was only able to see Huo Yunshen once the crowd parted to let him through.

He sat in his wheelchair with a laid-back posture. His magnificent face carried a hint of feminine beauty and at the same time maintained his air of domineering masculinity.

Huo Yunshen had a seductive and enchanting aura emanating straight from his very bones. He seemed to be glowing and could easily ensnare the hearts of young women who basked in his light.

“He’s so handsome! What a devil!”

“But it’s a pity that Elvis is in a wheelchair!”

“So what? Even though he’s in a wheelchair, he’s still tall and shining in my heart!”

...

Yes, Xu Xiyan felt the same way. Even though Huo Yunshen was sitting in a wheelchair, he still looked as magnificently handsome as before.

Some people are like shooting stars. Even if they fall into the dust, they still shine.

The director, Huang Guoqiang, was overjoyed at Huo Yunshen’s sudden visit.

“President Huo, why didn’t you inform us that you were coming?”

“I was passing by and thought I might as well come have a look. I hope I’m not interrupting the shoot.”

Huo Yunshen’s bright eyes swept over the set, stealing a glance or two at Xu Xiyan quickly enough to not make it seem as if he was looking directly at her.

The others thought that he’d come to oversee the actors who were signed under his company, and to check the progress of the film he’d invested in. No one knew that he was actually visiting Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan stayed in the crowd and acted like a star-struck fan. She could not let anyone know that she knew Huo Yunshen.

“Oh, no, no, it’s a great honor to have you visit us. We really couldn’t ask for more.”

Huang Guoqiang invited Huo Yunshen to sit behind the camera crew.

Huo Yunshen looked around the set and asked, “What is the progress?”

Huang Guoqiang handed him a copy of the script. “We’re on the third scene.”

“Why did you stop there?”

...because you, a big boss, came and we had to stop everything to welcome you.

Huang Guoqiang only thought this, and didn’t dare to say it aloud. Instead he said, “We just had a third retake and were about to continue shooting again.”

Huo Yunshen put on the serious and intimidating look of a stern supervisor as he read the script.

“This is a simple scene. Why are there three retakes? Are the actors not professional enough?”

“Oh, no, no, Xu Xinrou is a very professional actress. It was the greenhorn actress playing the palace maiden, Yao Yue. They’re not used to working together yet.”

“Do another take,” Huo Yunshen demanded.

“...”

Is Huo Yunshen trying to get me into more trouble? Xu Xiyan thought.

Is he here to see me get beat up?

Because a great investor had come to visit the set, Huang Guoqiang was flattered but also felt immense pressure. He decided to be more proactive in front of Huo Yunshen in order to impress him. He immediately ordered all the actors and the crew back to their positions to restart the scene.

# Chapter 88 - What a Black-Hearted Man

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Scene 3 Take 4 began, and just as Meng Zhaoyi was about to slap Yao Yue, Huo Yunshen shouted, “Cut!”

Huang Guoqiang looked at Huo Yunshen, appearing confused. “What’s wrong, Mr. Huo?”

Huo Yunshen pointed at the script and said, “There was no slapping scene in the script, what’s happening here?”

Huang Guoqiang thought Huo Yunshen was only being strict and quickly explained that it was an improvisation thought of by Xu Xinrou.

“Since the newcomer doesn’t understand how to play the scene, why don’t we swap Yao Yue’s and Meng Zhaoyi’s characters. You know, let the experienced show the noob how it should be done.”

“...” Xu Xinrou looked at Huo Yunshen, unable to believe what she’d just heard. Why would he want to trouble her that much?

What does Huo Yunshen want me to do by swapping spots? Xu Xiyan thought to herself. What’s supposed to get taught? How to get slapped?

“...” Xu Xinrou opened her eyes wide, shocked by what he was trying to do.

Is he giving Xu Xiyan the chance to hit me back?

Huang Guoqiang agreed to Huo Yunshen’s idea wholeheartedly and asked Xu Xinrou and Xu Xiyan to swap

places for the fifth take.

Xu Xiyan had already memorized the script like the back of her hand. After Wei Pinting had refused to dance for Meng Zhaoyi, Meng Zhaoyi's beautiful face turned ugly and filled with jealousy and hatred.

Meng Zhaoyi's eyes were as sharp as needles. "Yao Yue! Slap her!" she shouted.

Yao Yue knelt down and asked Meng Zhaoyi to forgive Wei Pinting's rudeness. Meng Pinting had never thought that her personal maid would disobey her and grew angrier.

Xu Xiyan, in her new role, stood up and slapped Xu Xinrou as Yao Yue right away. "You worthless piece of trash! How dare you disobey me!"

Xu Xinrou almost fell over from the slap. After she'd steadied herself, a clear mark could be seen on her face.

Xu Xiyan did not show mercy. She slapped Xu Xinrou as hard as Xu Xinrou had slapped her.

Probably even harder.

Good!

That felt really good! I hope I get to do it again!

Xu Xiyan had shown how her "Meng Zhaoyi" could turn from a goddess into a demon in an instant. The way she'd played the lady was way more vicious than Xu Xinrou's acting.

Everyone was stunned by Xu Xiyan's spectacular performance.

In contrast, Xu Xinrou did not show any talent as an actress when she was playing the maid.

A wise man once said, "The character is what makes the actor."

Huang Guoqiang was surprised by Xu Xiyan's acting. He'd never thought that the actress who'd played the inconspicuous maid could take on the second female lead role.

The viciousness and aggressiveness in Xu Xiyan's expression were scarily on point.

She definitely has the talent, Huang Guoqiang thought.

Xu Xinrou held her face after being slapped by Xu Xiyan and said, "I'm sorry! It won't happen again!"

Just as Xu Xiyan was about to continue, Huo Yunshen shouted, "Cut!"

Everyone on the set began to sweat. What now?!

"Again! That slap just didn't quite feel real enough," Huo Yunshen said, scratching his chin.

Xu Xinrou's jaw dropped.

Mr. Huo, that was a real slap! Check my face!

Xu Xiyan finally noticed how black-hearted Huo Yunshen was being for her. He was helping her to get her revenge without letting anyone know.

She began to silently praise Huo Yunshen's high intellect and willingness to help her in this way.

# Chapter 89 - It's So Satisfying!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen had no qualms about avenging Xu Xiyan since the relationship between the two sisters was not good.

Whenever the boss Huo Yunshen demanded a retake, they would obey and do so.

Huang Guoqiang yelled “Action!” for the sixth time.

Slap! Xu Xiyan’s eyes filled with hatred as she delivered another slap. It felt so good and satisfying to slap Xu Xinrou!

Five years ago, Xu Xinrou and Chu Yuhe had betrayed her. Xu Xiyan remembered everything they had done to her and gave it all back in those slaps.

Xu Xinrou, this is the price you pay for bullying me!

They took the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth takes. Xu Xiyan had returned a total of six hard slaps to her.

Xu Xinrou had slapped Xu Xiyan twice, and she returned thrice the number of slaps to Xu Xinrou.

Xu Xinrou’s cheeks were already swollen like sponge cake. Everyone on the set was stunned.

They were all confused. They had never seen the boss bully an actor this way before. What was wrong with him?

Xu Xinrou was an actress from Juxing Entertainment. Wasn’t Juxing a sister company of Yunhai Entertainment?

Huo Yunshen let out a sigh and finally said, “Okay, that’s enough. That was a good demonstration. But I still think

there's no need for the slapping scene. It's pointless.”

Huang Guoqiang wiped the sweat off his brow and forced an amiable smile. “You're right, President Huo, this scene is not necessary.”

Huo Yunshen was careful not to overdo it and burn bridges for his woman's sake. We'll see if Xu Xinrou dares to hit Xu Xiyan again tomorrow.

“Very well, please carry on. I'll be leaving now.” Huo Yunshen took the script with him. “I'll take this with me.”

“Yes, yes, please feel free!” He can have as many copies as he wants!

Huang Guoqiang personally walked Huo Yunshen to the exit and took the chance to make a request of him.

“President Huo, I was wondering if you have time to help compose a theme song in the traditional Chinese style for this drama?”

Huang Guoqiang had always wanted to meet Huo Yunshen personally and ask him to compose a theme song. If the song was composed by Huo Yunshen, it would become a classic hit just like his other works.

“Since when was I considered capable at composing music?” Huo Yunshen replied with a slight smile.

“President Huo, you're being too modest. The world doesn't know, but I've heard from the industry insiders that “Ni Yun” is your alias, and that your works have always topped the charts.”

Huang Guoqiang did not hesitate to beg him for a song because he had put a lot of effort into this film. He wanted to make a high quality and elegant Chinese historical palace drama, and it was necessary to ensure that every aspect of the shoot and post-production were sophisticated and impeccable.

In reality, not many people knew that “Ni Yun” was Huo Yunshen's alias when he was a musician. Music began as a hobby for him, and he would only compose when he wanted to.

However, his works had unexpectedly attracted a group of loyal listeners and Huang Guoqiang was one of them. He had inquired about “Ni Yun” for a long time and finally found out that he was Huo Yunshen.

Now his identity had been revealed, it was pointless to deny it any further. Huo Yunshen replied reluctantly, “I’ll see what I can do.”

Huang Guoqiang was overjoyed. “I’ll take that as a yes, President Huo!”

After seeing Huo Yunshen off, Huang Guoqiang returned to the set. Xu Xinrou’s face was so swollen that he decided not to shoot any more of her scenes.

“Xinrou, you should go rest. We’ll shoot other scenes with the lead actors first.”

Xu Xiyan was in a very good mood after getting her revenge. She bounded cheerfully towards Huang Guoqiang and asked, “Director Huang, do I have to shoot any more scenes today?”

Huang Guoqiang had succeeded in getting Huo Yunshen to compose a theme song and he was in a good mood, too. “You can go back and rest as well. We’ll call you tomorrow.”

“All right then, I’m off.”

Xu Xiyan left the set happily, but on the way out she was intercepted by Xu Xinrou and Wen Li.

Xu Xinrou resented that she could not tear Xu Xiyan to pieces on the spot. She grabbed Xu Xiyan’s wrist and said, “Are you satisfied? Happy now?”

# Chapter 90 - Don't Get Too Cocky!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan smiled, “Oh my, Miss Zhaoyi, are you all right? Did I hit you too hard? How about you take a visit to the hospital?”

“Shut up!” Xu Xinrou shouted. “Tell me, why is Mr. Huo helping you?”

“Mr. Huo helping me? I have no idea what you are talking about,” Xu Xiyan said.

“Do you think we’re all blind? Mr. Huo was clearly here to help you!”

“What does that have to do with me? Qi Liya is in his company, isn’t it normal for him to come and visit? You just got what you deserved,” Xu Xiyan said with a smirk.

“Still playing dumb, are we? The girl caught in the scandal with Huo Yunshen is you, right?” Xu Xinrou stared coldly. The first person that Xu Xinrou had thought of when she saw the photo was Xu Xiyan.

She had known Xu Xiyan for too long not to notice her back straight away.

What worried Xu Xinrou was that Xu Xiyan might get along with Huo Yunshen. Even though he was a disabled person, he still was the king of the entire entertainment world; there wasn’t even one person who could oppose him.

“You think so, too, huh? Should I just go and tell the press that it was me in the photo? Maybe I could really be Huo Yunshen’s girlfriend. And with the help of the press, I could

use him to get to Huang Guoqiang to give me the second female lead spot. Thank you for such a good idea. I'll contact the press right away."

It does sound like the girl in the photo was not Xu Xiyan, Xu Xinrou thought. Well, of course, it wasn't her.

She wouldn't even have the chance to get know Huo Yunshen. Even if I use my contact within Juxing Entertainment, it would still be hard to get a meeting with him.

Just as Xu Xiyan was about to turn and leave, Xu Xinrou stopped her and said, "Stop! Xu Xiyan! Don't get too cocky! You? With Huo Yunshen? Dream on! Do you think that people would believe you even if you told the press? Didn't you know that Mr. Huo really hates people who seek to use him? I'll give you a friendly reminder since I'm your sister: don't try and destroy your career."

Of course, Xu Xinrou didn't tell Xu Xiyan that because she was worried about Xu Xiyan's future. Xu Xinrou was worried that Xu Xiyan could get more attention from the media if she were to go to press.

"Next time, call me Jing Xi," Xu Xiyan said. "Oh, and thank you for your advice. You're right, he's not someone I could touch. Well, I think it's time for me to go and remove my makeup. Maybe I'll get some sponge cake on my way back. Bye."

Xu Xiyan smiled and ran past Xu Xinrou.

"..." Xu Xinrou was furious and speechless.

It was an awful day for her.

Not only was she unable to punish Xu Xiyan, but her face had been slapped until it grew swollen.

Just you wait! I'm not done yet!

Wen Li watched Xu Xiyan depart with a look of disdain, and asked Xu Xinrou, "How about we go to the hospital? Your face is as big as a cake from the swelling."

As soon as Wen Li spouted the word "cake", Xu Xinrou got angrier. "Shut up! Don't you ever dare say the word cake in

front of me again!”

“ ... ”

It was just a metaphor, do you even have to get this angry?

...

Just as Xu Xiyan finished removing her makeup in the makeup studio, the stage manager Xiao Ge handed her a green square box, telling her that someone had asked him to give it to her.

# Chapter 91 - Prince Charming Is So Considerate

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyao thanked Xiao Ge and opened the box. There was a round object wrapped in white gauze in the box. It was quite hot to the touch.

She also found a note at the bottom of the box, which read: “These are freshly boiled eggs. Use them to reduce the swelling.”

There was no name or signature, but Xu Xiyao could recognize that it was Huo Yunshen’s handwriting at a glance.

His handwriting was strong and handsome, just like him.

Xu Xiyao felt her lips curving lightly and a warmth was kindled in her heart. Huo Yunshen was becoming more and more kind and considerate towards her. How could she even hope to resist falling in love with him?

She picked up the gauze-wrapped egg and applied it to her swollen cheeks. After she was done, she ate the egg.

After eating the egg, she immediately sent a text message to Huo Yunshen: [The egg is very effective and it is delicious too. Thank you.]

Just as the text message was sent, Xiao Ge came running to her again. “Jing Xi, someone is looking for you!”

Xu Xiyao turned and saw Fang Xiaocheng hurrying in with a bag of food. Surprised, she asked her, “Orange... what are you doing here?”

“I’m here to visit you!”

Fang Xiaocheng was a generous person. She had shared the pastries she had bought from the bakery with the makeup artists and the other girls who were in the cast as palace maidens.

Everyone was hungry at the time and they were very happy to see someone bringing food for them. They thanked Fang Xiaocheng.

Fang Xiaocheng took the opportunity and told them, “No, don’t thank me, please thank Jing Xi instead. She was the one who asked me to go buy the pastries for you guys. Please help yourselves, there are some more here!”

After listening to Fang Xiaocheng, everyone immediately turned and thanked Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan had not expected Fang Xiaocheng to be so thoughtful. Just by doing a little favor, she was able to help her win the hearts of the crew members.

It had to be said that Fang Xiaocheng had the qualities of a PR agent. She was good at dealing with people.

Xu Xiyan pulled Fang Xiaocheng aside and sat her down on a stool, quietly saying to her, “Thank you so much, Orange.”

“Hey, I told you to stop being so modest around me. It’s really nothing.”

Fang Xiaocheng had not only bought pastries for Xu Xiyan, but she’d also brought her milk tea. ““You done removing your makeup? Let’s go then!”

“Okay!”

The two girls left the set and walked out of the studio grounds, walking and chatting at the same time.

“Orange, when did you come just now?” Xu Xiyan asked, sipping her milk tea,

Fang Xiaocheng smiled as she took Xu Xiyan’s arm in hers. “I was already here when they were starting to shoot the third scene. Say, how come Xu Xinrou is also in the cast?”

Xu Xiyan replied, “I didn’t expect her to be in this film. Maybe Director Huang’s works are very popular and everyone wants to be a part of his projects.”

“I saw Xu Xinrou hit you. It’s obvious that she’s taking advantage of the shoot to bully you. She’s gone too far.”

Fang Xiaocheng had watched all the retakes they had done today. It was fortunate that Huo Yunshen had shown up, otherwise she would’ve jumped in herself and beat up Xu Xinrou for her.

“Don’t worry. She won’t gain anything by bullying me.”

After Huo Yunshen had come to help her and teach Xu Xinrou a lesson, Xu Xiyan felt a weight lifting off her chest.

She felt like laughing whenever she thought of Xu Xinrou’s swollen face—she looked like a big fat pig.

Fang Xiaocheng was already thinking about the future and couldn’t help but feel worried for Xu Xiyan. “What if she hits you again in the future? You’re not going to be lucky enough to have someone to help you every time, you know. If you stay in the cast, she’ll eventually look for other ways to bully you. I think you should just quit! It’s not worth keeping your palace maiden role!”

# Chapter 92 - I Know My Limits

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Fang Xiaocheng thought that Xu Xiyan was wasting her talent in showbusiness, and that her true talent was in music. She could play the violin very well, even better than her mother Jing Ruyue could.

Not only she was good in violin, but her writing skill was also off the charts, and she had majored in Chinese Literature.

Xu Xiyan used to submit her work for publication, and was even published in several magazines.

Even if she didn't choose to play the violin or write for magazines, she still had a brilliant mind and a beautiful face.

She could gain riches even if she'd just do live streaming with Ying Bao.

She could just earn money with her beautiful face, yet she chose to fight in the hellish showbiz.

"I can't do that. It took a lot of effort to land this role, and this is an important chance for me. If I give up now, everything I've done would be in vain. Do you want me to continue to work as a stunt double?"

Xu Xiyan had never thought of giving up. She was the type of person who would never bow down to evil, who would never be intimidated by Xu Xinrou.

Not even if Xu Xinrou was the devil, himself.

Fang Xiaocheng thought for a moment and realized Xu Xiyan had a point. Being an actress was still better than being a stunt

double.

“Fine, as long as you like what you’re doing. Just take better care of yourself.”

“I will. Today is just an exception. Xu Xinrou found a weak spot. It won’t happen again.” Xu Xiyan told Fang Xiaocheng to relax, as she knew what she was doing.

Fang Xiaocheng suddenly remembered that Huo Yunshen had arrived and began to gossip. “Hey, that Yunhai Entertainment’s CEO, what happened? Doesn’t it look like he was helping you?”

Xu Xiyan eyes widened and a shocked expression appeared on her face. “Really? It didn’t look like that to me. I don’t even know him, he had no reason to help me and bully another actress, right?”

Huo Yunshen was one of Juxing Entertainment’s investors, and technically he was also Xu Xinrou’s boss.

“You’re right,” Fang Xiaocheng agreed. “But he was so charming! He’s even more charming than he was on the TV.”

Xu Xiyan agreed. Huo Yunshen was the type of man who seemed perfect in every aspect.

The sexiest part of him was that his whole body was filled with knowledge and intellect.

Xu Xiyan liked this type of man, who was talented and caring, the most.

Both of the girls walked out of the studio, and Fang Xiaocheng suddenly remembered her purpose for visiting Xu Xiyan. “Oh right, I came to ask why you left without saying anything.”

“You weren’t home when I go there. So I just took the two suitcases and left,” Xu Xiyan said.

Fang Xiaocheng recalled that she’d been home with Wang Dazhi for the past few days and never left. She wondered when Xu Xiyan had gone to her house.

Fang Xiaocheng couldn’t think of anything and gave up. “So, where did you move to? I want to go and see if your

neighborhood is safe.”

Just as Xu Xiyan was about to reply, someone shouted her name. “Yanyan!”

Both of them raised their head and saw that it was Xu Xiyan’s father, Xu Jinshan.

They looked at each other, and Fang Xiaocheng whispered in Xu Xiyan’s ear, “Isn’t that your dad? What’s he doing here?”

Xu Xiyan stared at Xu Jinshan coldly and said, “He’s not my dad.”

# Chapter 93 - I Can't Afford Your Generosity

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Oh right, I almost forgot!”

She disowned her father.

Xu Xiyan and Xu Jinshan had already cut off their familial ties.

They hadn't seen each other for five years and Xu Jinshan had changed a lot. He drove a luxury car and wore a gold chain thicker than a dog's collar around his neck. His beer belly also looked a lot bigger than before and his hair was streaked with gray. The only thing that hadn't changed was the gentlemanly look he always carried about him.

He came over and gave them a big smile—as if he was not the person who'd broken it off with Xu Xiyan five years ago.

He looked Xu Xiyan up and down, and said, “Yanyan, when did you come back from abroad? Why didn't you come home? If it weren't for your sister telling me that you're in the same shoot as her, I wouldn't have known you were back at all.”

“Oh my! Did my ears deceive me? Isn't this the famous movie director from Yunhai Entertainment, Mr. Xu Jinshan? What brings Your Excellency here?”

How dare you still call yourself my father?

Xu Xiyan wasn't sure whether Xu Jinshan was being forgetful or thick-skinned, and yet he was displaying the virtue of a kind father.

“Yanyan, how could you say that to your father? You’re still just as rebellious as before!”

Xu Jinshan didn’t mind the irony in her words. He grabbed Xu Xiyan by the wrist and said, “Come, I’m here to pick you up and take you home.”

Xu Xiyan shook him off and looked at him coldly. “Mr. Xu, could you please not touch me? I’m just a nameless actress and you’re a famous director. If the paparazzi sees us, they’ll think that I was trying to take advantage of your status!”

“Yanyan!! I beg you, please! I’m trying to help you here!”

Xu Jinshan felt his patience bleeding away over Xu Xiyan’s surly behavior, but he had to try and accommodate her. She still had some use to him.

“Haha! A big shot director like you begging me? I’m flattered, but I can’t afford your generosity. If there’s nothing else, I’ll take my leave. Sayonara!”

Xu Xiyan took Fang Xiaocheng’s arm and began to walk away.

Xu Jinshan suddenly spoke again, “Yanyan, even if you don’t want to see me, you should at least ask about your grandfather. He’s dying. Don’t you want to go back and see him?”

“...”

Xu Xiyan stopped abruptly, her heart froze as if someone was clutching it tightly.

Grandpa...

Grandpa is dying?

Xu Xiyan turned sharply at Xu Jinshan, staring straight into his eyes. “What are you talking about? What happened to grandpa?”

If Xu Xiyan still had any love for the Xu family, it would be for her grandfather, the grandfather who’d been good to her since she was a child.

Xu Jinshan knew he could convince Xu Xiyan by mentioning her grandfather. He sighed, deliberately exaggerating the

situation.

“Your grandfather has become very ill recently. He’s been calling your name. I’m afraid that if you don’t go back soon, you may not get to see him at all.”

Xu Xiyan grew worried as she listened to him, taking his words as truth without a second thought. “I understand. I’ll go back and see grandpa in a few days.”

Xu Jinshan felt relieved after Xu Xiyan had given her word. He continued his act, appearing eager to help her. “Yanyan, where are you two going? I can drive you both there.”

Xu Xiyan didn’t want to sit in his car, and came up with an excuse to refuse him.

“No, thanks. I’m going shopping with Orange,” she said as she took Fang Xiaocheng’s arm, walking off in another direction.

The two girls hailed a taxi and left the studio grounds together.

On the way in the taxi, Fang Xiaocheng asked, “Yanyan, are you sure you want to go back to the Xu family? What if your father abuses you again?”

# Chapter 94 - Back to Xu's Mansion

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Fang Xiaocheng understood that Xu Xiyao loved her grandfather, so much so that she would definitely go back even if she didn't want to. Yet, what worried Fang Xiaocheng was Xu Xiyao's father, Xu Jinshan.

Xu Xiyao used to get beaten by her father and was covered in bruises all the time.

"If he dares to hit me again, I'm going to make him regret it!" Xu Xiyao said.

Xu Xiyao used to be a timid girl, even when she was being abused by the Xu family, she would endure it all in silence.

Yet Xu Xiyao was different now. She had trained her body in martial arts and could certainly make Xu Jinshan regret it if he tried to touch her.

"Hey, don't forget about Ying Bao. If something happens to you, who'll take care of her?" Fang Xiaocheng said, holding Xu Xiyao's hand. "If he dares to abuse you again, go to the press. Let the society judge him and chase him out of the entertainment business."

"That's a good idea!"

If Xu Xiyao could prove Xu Jinshan's abusive nature, she could control him!

What would happen then? I'm getting excited!

...

Three days later, Xu Xiyan bought her grandfather favorite mung bean cake from the pastry house and headed to the Xu's mansion.

After five years, the mansion was more glamorous than it was before.

As soon as Xu Xiyan walked into the mansion, their butler, Su Gang, quickly ran further into the house and shouted, "She's back! She's back!"

"Who's back? Xinrou?" Su Lei had heard that her daughter was coming back that day and called off her usual Mahjong game.

"No! It's the other miss!"

Su Lei's voice could be heard from inside even when Xu Xiyan was still outside the living room. "What? I only have one daughter, remember?"

Su Gang was Su Lei's relative, and had been working for the Xu family for many years, getting many benefits from them.

Su Lei's family relied on the Xu family for everything.

Xu Xiyan stood in the living room as Su Lei sat there. Su Lei was dressed like an upper-class lady, with jewelry all over her body. She rested her legs on the table while another maid did her nails.

What a luxurious life they have!

"Five years, and all of the chickens that lived here now think themselves phoenixes huh?" said Xu Xiyan.

Su Lei quickly turned her head and saw it was Xu Xiyan. Her expressions changed faster than lightning.

Su Lei quickly stood up and smiled. "Oh, Xu Xiyan? Su Gang, what are you doing? Hurry up and let her in."

"Su Lei, drop your act. I've already heard what you said. Didn't you say that the Xu family only has one daughter? Don't mind me, I'm just an outsider. You can continue getting your nails done. I'm here to see grandpa."

Su Lei hated Xu Xiyan to her bone, but she still kept up the act. “Yanyan, it was a joke. Of course you’re not an outsider...”

# Chapter 95 - So Angry That She Felt Like Vomiting

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Don’t you know? When you were away all these years, your grandfather, grandmother, your father and your sister...all of us were thinking of you! We were all looking forward to the day that you would come home.”

“Really? How come I didn’t know that there were so many people thinking about me?” Xu Xiyan sneered.

She’d believe Su Rui’s words when pigs learned to fly. Xu Xiyan knew very well that Su Rui was the person who didn’t want her to return home the most, followed by Xu Xinrou.

Both mother and daughter had always dreamed of killing off Xu Xiyan; then they would be able to rule the Xu family.

“Yes, I’ve said it right. Everyone missed you.”

Su Rui looked Xu Xiyan up and down, and noticed that there was a big change to her temperament, and that she’d become more beautiful, too.

She sneered inwardly. How did she become more beautiful? What has she been eating for these past five years?

Su Rui was an extremely shrewd woman. Her eyes lit up when she saw the bag in Xu Xiyan’s hands. “Oh, what’s this? I thought you were just coming home. No need to bring gifts...?”

She snatched the bag from Xu Xiyan’s hands rudely and opened it, curious to see what kind of expensive gifts she had

brought from abroad. When she looked inside, she was disappointed.

“What, I thought...oh, don’t tell me you only brought a few pieces of mung bean cakes?”

Su Rui then stared at the words on the box, scrunching up her face in disgust. “It’s...it’s made in Peijing!?”

Xu Xiyan hadn’t come to visit them on purpose, nor had she ever thought of bringing them gifts. She took the bag back and said, “I bought the mung bean cakes for grandpa, not for you.”

Su Rui rolled her eyes and gave Xu Xiyan a dismissive look. Not a single trace of familial love existed between the two.

As the two glared at each other, Xu Xinrou entered the house. Su Gang was carrying shopping bags of various sizes for her.

Seeing that her daughter had come back, Su Rui took the chance to break the awkward silence and greeted Xu Xinrou with a smile.

“Xinrou, you’re back! Why have you brought back so many things? Just look at you, always thinking of bringing gifts to your family. Never stingy!”

Xu Xinrou smiled sweetly. “Of course, I had to bring you and grandma gifts, mom. It’s not like I get to come home and see you all the time.”

At this moment, the matriarch of the Xu family came into the room, smiling. “Xinrou, is that you?”

“Yes, Grandma!” When Xu Xinrou stepped into the house, she noticed Xu Xiyan was present, too. She eyed at her warily, asking, “Mom, how come she’s here?”

Su Rui was an expert hypocrite. She explained to her daughter, with fake sincerity, “Your sister came back to visit. I’ve ordered the kitchen to prepare more food for lunch. It’s so rare that you sisters are both back home. We should have lunch together.”

Madam Xu hadn’t seen Xu Xiyan for years. Her eyesight was very poor, so she hobbled towards Xu Xiyan, leaning heavily on her walking cane, trying to examine the details of her face.

“Oh, my dear Xinrou, I haven’t seen you for a few days and you’ve already grown more beautiful! You look prettier than your mother when she was a young lady.”

Xu Xinrou watched her grandmother mistake Xu Xiyan for herself and shower her with praises. She was so angry that she felt like vomiting.

She hurried forward and pulled her grandmother away, as if Xu Xiyan was going to steal her away. As she turned, she shot Xu Xiyan a sharp look, wanting to cut her up into pieces.

They had not even settled the slapping incident at the shoot a few days ago. How dare she bring herself here?

In the living room, Su Rui and her daughter were busy sweet-talking the family elder, trying to please her. Xu Xiyan left them and let Su Gang take her to see her grandfather.

It was only when Xu Xiyan was about to see her grandfather that she realized he no longer lived in the house. He’d been moved to a remote and gloomy hut at the northwest corner of the yard.

This is no place for a human to live!

This used to be the storage shed!

How could they let grandpa live here?

# Chapter 96 - All Those Bastards

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan stood outside the shed and peered through the front window. Her grandfather slept on a bed in a dark room, not moving an inch. He really must be seriously ill...

Xu Xiyan was about to go in when she realized the door was locked from the outside. "Su Gang!" she scolded. "Is grandpa locked inside here?"

"The old man's dementia is getting worse every day," Su Gang sighed. "Now he can't even recognize anyone. We used to leave the door unlocked and he ran away twice. That's why Su Lei asked me to lock the door."

Are these people insane? This would only worsen his dementia!

"Open the door!" Xu Xiyan ordered.

An awful stench burst out from the room as soon as the door was opened. "Miss, I think it's better if you don't go in. The old man poops and pisses everywhere." Su Gang covered his nose.

Xu Xiyan was already furious enough to kill someone. "Does no one come to clean his room?"

"It's useless, it'll get dirty again right away." Su Gang said. Su Lei had been the one giving orders in the mansion. No one would dare oppose her.

Xu Xiyan ignored the smell and went inside. Tears started to fill her eyes as she saw the situation inside.

The tiny room was messy, feces and pee stuck on the walls, a pile of dirty clothes heaped in one corner, the ground scattered with shredded newspapers.

A few plates sat on a small table, covered with old grains of rice that had mold on them.

Xu Xiyan's grandfather lay on an old wooden bed, his back turned towards her. There wasn't a spot on him that was clean.

Xu Xiyan's heart was broken by the state her grandfather was in. She couldn't control her tears. Her heart was trembling, her hands were trembling, her whole body was trembling.

She'd never known that the Xu family would treat her grandfather like this after she'd left.

They treated him like a prisoner, locking him in the tiny little room, his food far worse than a beggar's. Livestock had better lives than him.

And meanwhile, all those bastards lived a life of luxury.

Xu Xiyan turned and went back to find Su Lei.

Her grandmother and Su Lei were checking on the gifts that Xu Xinrou had brought back. There were ginsengs, edible bird's nests, herbs, branded clothes...

Xu Xiyan ignored Su Gang's warnings and stormed into the living room. Xu Xinrou saw that it was Xu Xiyan and turned to her mother. "Xu Xiyan is back."

Her grandmother asked, "Xu Xiyan? What gifts did you bring us?"

Su Lei answered, "She only brought back a box of mung bean cake for the old man."

Xu Xinrou smiled at Xu Xiyan's poor gift. She only brought cake? Hillarious!

The grandmother sighed, "Such manners! Well, that's Jing Ruyue's daughter for you."

Just as the three girls were insulting Xu Xiyan, she walked up and kicked the table, sending all the gifts flying.

# Chapter 97 - You're Really Cruel!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xinrou's gifts lay broken and ruined on the floor. Su Rui stood up angrily, putting on the demeanor of the stern mistress of the house.

"Xu Xiyan, what are you doing? Do you know how expensive those gifts are? Look at yourself! You haven't brought anything home, not even a single blade of grass! Your sister is far better than you, far more thoughtful!"

Madam Xu frowned. "Why!? This girl's temper is just as bad as before! Hasn't she grown up at all?"

Xu Xiyan's chest puffed up and down in anger. She ignored the old lady and spoke to Su Rui directly.

"Tell me, Su Rui! Why do you keep Grandpa in the shed in corner of the yard? Why do you abuse him like this? Can you really believe that's a proper place for a human to live?"

"Who's abusing him?" asked Su Rui. "The old man is already senile. He's always confused and doesn't recognize anyone anymore. We can't let him move around freely. What if he wandered off and got himself lost?"

Xu Xiyan was determined to reveal Su Rui's true nature. "Stop looking for excuses and don't treat me as a fool! You hated grandfather because he was against you marrying into the Xu family. Now that he's old, you, being the mistress of the Xu household, took the opportunity to retaliate against him. Su Rui, you're really cruel!"

Su Rui hadn't expected Xu Xiyan to expose her intentions so clearly, and her accusations had backed her into a corner. She cried out:

“Who was the one retaliating? Who was the one being cruel? Ask everyone in the Xu family! Ask them whether I've ever done anything bad for the Xu family! All these years I've been working hard, working like a dog. Do you think I've had it easy?”

“I don't think you've been working hard! Just look at yourself, covered in gold and silver, living in this big and comfortable house. You have an army of servants at your command and yet you had the nerve to say that you were working like a dog?”

“Look at Grandpa,” she continued. “Look at the environment he is living in and the kind of food he is eating. Is this treatment better than what you'd give a farm animal?”

Everyone was shaken by Xu Xiyan's tearful accusation. She continued, more tears welling up in her eyes. “Even if you don't like him or care about him, you can always send Grandpa to a nursing home! At least there'll be someone to take care of him. Wouldn't that be better than keeping him in that dirty place? Don't you know that if you imprison an old man with Alzheimer's disease, it will only aggravate his condition?!”

Su Rui knew that she was wrong, but she continued to protest.

“How would I know! Besides, nursing homes aren't free! You think it's easy for your father to make money? Our money doesn't fall out of the sky! With our high daily expenses, you think we can send him to the nursing home?”

B\*tch! How much would you spend on a nursing home in a year?

How much does Xu Jinshan earn as a director in a year?

Su Rui had controlled and kept the Xu family's money in her pocket all these years, and yet she was so cruel towards the old man. How could she have the nerve to tell Xu Xiyan about the family's “economic hardships?”

Xu Xiyan was about to start arguing again when Xu Jinshan came home. He saw them gathered around the broken coffee table, and noticed the mess on the floor.

“What happened?” he asked. “Why are you all standing around here?”

Afraid that Xu Xiyan would tell Xu Jinshan the truth, Su Rui seized the opportunity to make an explanation first.

“Jinshan, you’re back just in time! The coffee table’s broken and we have to buy a new one! Also, Xinrou and Yanyan are back. I’ve ordered the cooks to prepare food at noon so we can have lunch together as a family!”

Xu Jinshan spent most of his time at the studio and was rarely home. He was usually clueless about the happenings in the family. So whatever Su Rui told him, he would believe...

# Chapter 98 - His Attitude Has Changed?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“Call someone to buy a new one,” Xu Jinshan said. “Oh, is Yanyan’s room ready?”

“Of course it is. She can stay in there as long as she wants,” Su Lei said with a smile.

Xu Xiyan could not stand Su Lei’s anymore. “I’m only going to ask this: how are you going to solve the issues going on with my grandfather?”

Xu Jinshan was stunned by her question. “What?”

Xu Jinshan appeared puzzled. He had no idea how his family had treated his father. Xu Xiyan told Xu Jinshan everything and asked him to decide.

Xu Jinshan could not believe his ears. “Is this really how you treat my father when I’m not home?” he asked Su Lei.

Su Lei quickly begged for his forgiveness and told him her reasons.

And Xu Jinshan believed her, just like that.

“Yanyan, don’t blame Su Lei. There was nothing she could do. You also understand your grandfather’s situation, this was for his own good.”

“Then why couldn’t you just send him to a retirement home? It’s not even that expensive.”

Xu Jinshan had his own reasons. If he’d sent his father to a retirement home, then he would’ve lost a leverage on Xu

Xiyan.

“I know you love your grandfather, but in his condition, even the retirement home couldn’t help him,” Xu Jinshan said.

“How about this? I’ll hire someone to specially take care of him.”

Xu Xiyan was afraid that he was planning something behind her back and said, “Fine! But he’s to live in a cleaner room right away! Find someone to clean him, and to feed him! Go and find the specialist right away!”

“Okay, okay! I’ll have someone get it done.”

Xu Jinshan quickly ordered Su Gang to move his father out of the tiny room and into a better one. Then he called an agency to look for a specialist.

...

“Yanyan,” Xu Jinshan said, “I’ve taken care of everything. So, just relax, go back to your room and have some rest. I’ll call for you when the food is ready.”

“I don’t need to rest, I’ll go check if they have moved grandpa to the new room yet.”

Xu Xiyan had decided to stay. Not only did she want to take care of her grandfather, but she also wanted to look for her mother’s remains, and clues about her death.

Xu Xiyan walked out of the living room. Xu Xinrou was furious. She’d remembered that her dad hated Xu Xiyan very much. He would hit Xu Xiyan for no reason, so why did he suddenly want to get on her good side?

Even Xu Xiyan was wondering what had happened to Xu Jinshan.

Why did he change his attitude towards me?

Is it because he’s afraid that I’ll tell the press about everything he’s done?

...

Half an hour later, Xu Xiyan finally got to meet her grandfather.

He'd been moved to a clean room, and he sat on the bed, spacing out and drawing on the walls with his fingers.

Xu Xiyan went over and took his hand, kneeling in front of him.

“Grandpa, do you still remember me?”

The old man looked at Xu Xiyan for a moment and went back to scratching the wall.

Xu Xiyan couldn't control her tears and hugged her grandfather.

“Grandpa! I'm Yanyan, don't you remember?” Xu Xiyan cried. “I'm your granddaughter, your precious Yanyan...”

# Chapter 99 - She Is Just A Nobody

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan's tearful words appeared to have stimulated the old man's memories. A light reappeared in his glassy and unfocused eyes.

He lifted his bony hand and gently touched her head.

Xu Xiyan felt her grandfather responding to her. She lifted her head at him, tears of joy running down her face. "Grandpa! Look at me! It's me, Yanyan..."

"Yanyan? Yanyan..." The old man finally spoke, mumbling her nickname a few times as if trying hard to access his memories.

The old man let his mouth hang open for a moment as his memories began to surface. He finally remembered. "Yanyan! My granddaughter!"

"Yes!" Xu Xiyan nodded excitedly, more tears trailing down her cheeks.

The old man had recognized her, very happy that his granddaughter had returned. He lowered his head and asked, "Yanyan, how was your senior high school entrance exam? How were the results? Which high school did you get into?"

Sigh... Grandpa still believed she was a student in junior high school. He was living in the past.

Xu Xiyan could only play along. "Grandpa, Yanyan managed to get into the high school she wanted."

"Grandpa always knew you were a promising child."

The old man gave her a thumbs up. The news of her good exam results seemed to have reminded him of something, and he began to rummage around.

“Grandpa, what are you looking for?”

The old man found a tin foil bag under the bed. Xu Xiyan had seen him clutching it tightly when they were moving him out of the shed. He was protective of it and wouldn't let anyone touch it. She wondered what it was.

The old man put the tin foil bag in front of her mysteriously, smiled and said, “Yanyan, your exam results were good. This is the reward that Grandpa wanted to give you! It's your favorite red bean cake. Eat it while it's hot. It won't be tasty anymore when it's cold.”

Xu Xiyan unfolded the tin foil and found a piece of red bean cake inside, but it was covered with mold. How long had the old man saved that precious piece of red bean cake for her without eating it, himself?

Xu Xiyan was so moved when she saw the moldy piece of cake that she held onto the old man's knees and wept uncontrollably.

Grandpa...you're too good to Yanyan...Yanyan will always remember your kindness...

Xu Xiyan then gave the old man the mung bean cake that she brought for him. The old man looked as happy as a child as he ate it.

After eating, Xu Xiyan accompanied her grandfather to the garden for some sun and exercise. When the old man was a little tired, she escorted him back to his room to rest.

When Xu Xiyan left her grandfather's room and passed Xu Xinrou's room, she overheard someone talking inside.

Because her name was mentioned, she stopped outside the room.

“Mom, what's wrong with dad? Why is he being so humble towards Xu Xiyan? He wasn't like this before. He used to treat her like a dog and would scold and hit her at his whim. Why

the change of attitude towards her?” Xu Xinrou was puzzled about the whole situation and could only complain to her mother in private.

“No matter how your father treats Xu Xiyan, don’t take it to heart. You’re still way better than her.”

Xu Xinrou was still as haughty as ever. “You’re right. I’m a famous actress now and she hasn’t even officially debuted. She’s just a nobody.”

“No, not only that. Let me tell you something, but don’t tell anyone.”

Su Rui lowered her voice, probably to whisper a secret into Xu Xinrou’s ear.

After Xu Xinrou listened to it, she let out a cry in surprise...

# Chapter 100 - Using Other People For Their Own Benefit

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

“What? She’s not dad’s real daughter?” Xu Xinrou gasped.

Xu Xiyan began to feel dizzy after hearing everything inside.

I’m not his real daughter?

Is this real?

“Don’t shout! Keep it to yourself!”

Xu Xinrou was happy, excited. She’d always been called “daughter of a mistress,” and now she finally had the chance to throw it all away since it had always made her feel inferior to Xu Xiyan.

Now that she’d learned the secret truth, it was like all her worries left her.

Since Xu Xiyan is not my dad’s real daughter, doesn’t that mean I’m the only child of the Xu family? Now that’s exciting!

“If she’s not dad’s real daughter, then who is her father?” Xu Xinrou asked.

“I have no idea who her father is. Jing Ruyue had many lovers in the past, so who knows which one is her real father. All I know is that she was already pregnant when she married your father.”

“Wait, doesn’t that mean dad has been taking care of another person’s child for more than 10 years?”

Xu Xinrou finally understood why Xu Jinshan had never loved Xu Xiyan and beat her to express his anger—she was never his daughter to begin with.

A bastard! Xu Xiyan was a bastard!

“Of course he did gain something. Your dad married Jing Ruyue because he wanted the money from the Jing family. Much of what we have now came from the dowry Jing Ruyue brought over. And Yuhe’s company...it all came from Xu Xiyan’s inheritance. It’s all thanks to Xu Xiyan that your dad could become the in-house director for Yunhai Entertainment, the biggest entertainment company in all of Peijing.”

“Don’t forget,” she continued, “she also has something to do with Yuhe and your success.”

Xu Xiyan was already biting her lips from anger outside the room. This family really is full of demons! They keep using other people for their own benefits!

Xu Xinrou did not understand what Su Lei had meant and asked, “How does our success have anything to do with her? I thought she was in another country for the past few years? She never sent us money.”

“You stupid child! Why do you think Yunhai’s CEO, Huo Yunshen, would help us? It was all because of Xu Xiyan!”

Huh?

What?

Xu Xiyan, still listening, was confused. I don’t understand! Why is Huo Yunshen helping them because of me?

“Because of her? Why?” Xu Xinrou asked.

“I’m not really sure. But your dad said it was because Huo Yunshen had fallen for Xu Xiyan,” Su Lei explained. “Yet, coincidentally, Xu Xiyan went abroad, and he had no idea. That’s why he’s been helping our family since. For her.”

That’s why!

That's why Yunhai Entertainment would go to such lengths to help Xu Jinshan and Juxing Entertainment!

I've always wondered why Huo Yunshen would help those bastards! I never would've thought that he would help the Xu family and Chu Yuhe because of this.

This was bad investment for him...he's only helping a bunch of hungry wolves.