Chapter 101 - Time To Strike

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

So he had fallen for her...

Xu Xiyan's heart was beating fast. The news had come as a sudden surprise.

Huo Yunshen had already fallen for her back then?

That's impossible!

What did he see in her? How curious!

There was disappointment in Xu Xinrou's voice as she spoke. "I don't get it. Yuhe was not interested in her. Why would Huo Yunshen be attracted to her? What's so great about her?"

If she thought about it carefully, the reason Huo Yunshen had suddenly appeared at the set a few days ago was all because of Xu Xiyan.

"Who knows! But let me tell you this: your father now has a different attitude towards her and is accommodating her because Xu Xiyan is his golden goose and he must not let her go. As long as Xu Xiyan's surname is Xu, your father will always have a place in Yunhai, and the Xu and Chu family will continue to have the company's support!

Xu Xinrou sounded a little worried now. "But she has already changed her name and her surname is no longer Xu. She's now called Jing Xi!"

"What? My God, I have to go tell your dad!"

As she heard footsteps coming out of the room, Xu Xiyan quickly hid. After Su Rui left the room, she came out of her hiding place and moved to her room. What a lucky day. She had not expected to learn so many secrets today.

As for Huo Yunshen...

Hehe. He actually fell in love with me?

How flattering!

She'd also found out that she was not the biological daughter of Xu Jinshan. What great news! She felt like celebrating with some fireworks!

In the future, she would no longer need to feel disgusted for having the blood of a despicable man in her body!

However, Xu Xiyan was very curious. Who was her biological father?

When her mother married Xu Jinshan, she was already pregnant with her. Did that mean that her mother had another lover before she got married?

Who could that have been?

Was he the "F" mentioned on the back of the photo?

Was he the man who gave her mother the sungrass brooch?

Xu Xiyan walked around her room and noticed that some of the things that used to be there were missing, and that there were signs of them having been replaced.

She immediately guessed that Su Rui had thought that she would never return home again, and had probably disposed of her belongings.

Xu Xiyan left her room and went downstairs. Su Rui was in the living room. She had a different attitude towards her now, smiling at her amiably. "Yanyan, I was about to call you. Lunch will be ready soon!"

"I know," Xu Xiyan said calmly. "Su Rui, what happened to my belongings in my room? Where are they now?"

It wasn't the right time to question everything she had just heard. Until she found evidence, she could not escalate the situation and get ugly with her family yet. Xu Xiyan wanted to look for her belongings. Su Rui had planned to dump them in a fire back then, but now, she was secretly glad she hadn't done so.

"Oh, you were not home all these years and I was worried that they would turn dusty or moldy in your room. So I had the servants move them into the attic."

"Okay, I'm going to the attic then!" Xu Xiyan turned to head up the stairs.

After Xu Xiyan had left, Su Rui and Xu Jinshan exchanged looks in the living room. It was time to strike!

The attic was a mess and a thick coat of dust had blanketed the various items that were stored there. She suspected that hardly anyone had come up to the attic.

Xu Xiyan pulled a handkerchief from her bag and folded it in half, covering her mouth and nose as she began to shift the boxes aside.

She moved everything that wasn't hers, and used a rag to wipe the dust from the things that were hers

She found her books in some large cardboard boxes. She also found an old wooden box, where her mother's belongings were stored.

It was locked, but Xu Xiyan had always kept its key. She looked inside her bag and rummaged around for the key. What she did not know was that someone was closing in behind her.

Thwack! Xu Xiyan felt a burst of pain at the back of her head, and everything turned black as she fainted, collapsing on the floor.

Chapter 102 - It Was Finally Happening For Him!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

In room 1109 of the Kyrier Hotel, red rose petals were scattered around the big white bed, and in the middle lay the unconscious Xu Xiyan.

She was dressed in a pink see-through nightgown that clearly showed the dark underwear she wore beneath it.

Her white skin was as attractive as a pale white pearl under the dim yellow light. Her posture was like a mermaid lying on a reef. A beauty that could attract any man.

She was out cold, unconscious. She had no idea that her body was being treated as a gift for someone else.

After a few minutes, the door opened and in came a man...

After Yi Xiao had pushed the door open, Huo Yunshen came into the room in his wheelchair.

The same hotel, the same room, 1109...the miraculous night that he'd had five years ago was in this same room. It was where he'd first met Xu Xiyan, where they'd made love.

The room had a faint smell that was similar to the night five years ago. The dim light shed a warm and calm atmosphere around the room.

"Mr. Xu?" Huo Yunshen called out. No one responded. He wheeled himself further into the room and saw a girl lying on the bed.

What is Xu Jinshan thinking?

He asked me to meet him here, but why is there a half naked girl in the room?

Don't tell me...

Is he trying to use a honey-trap?

Is he stupid?

Doesn't he know that no beauty could make me erect?

At first, Huo Yunshen only glanced at the girl on the bed, but he couldn't control himself and took another peek. He opened his eyes wide.

Xu Xiyan?

Why is she here?

What is Xu Jinshan thinking?

Yet, after a few moments of silence, he finally understood the whole situation. He used to tell Xu Jinshan in secret that he would only help the Xu family because of Xu Xiyan.

So, now Xu Jinshan is using his daughter as a gift to me?

To get on my good side?

What kind of father would do that?

If I wasn't the one helping him, would Xu Xiyan just be forced into the hands of another guy?

Preposterous!

Huo Yunshen scolded Xu Jinshan's actions. He wheeled himself to the bed and quietly checked the girl sleeping soundly there, his eyes scanning every part of her body.

What an angel! She's like a beauty that only exists in drawings. Even the most reserved man would fall for her!

Huo Yunshen stared at the girl sentimentally. Even the state she was in covered his whole body in intense heat.

He swallowed his saliva, and his lower body started to heat up. He felt the inklings of an impulse, a heat that he'd never felt before.

Wait... Is this... Am I aroused?

He couldn't control himself and looked at his lower part. He covered his mouth in surprise, unable to believe what he was seeing. I'm finally having an erection!

Chapter 103 - Do You Like Me Or Not?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

No one could understand the feelings Huo Yunshen was having now, how joyful and excited he felt inside. He was almost moved to tears.

After the car accident five years ago, the doctor ruled that Huo Yunshen was paralyzed from the waist down. When he learned that he'd become impotent, too, his entire life fell into despair.

Useless. Impotent. Crippled. Childless. The gossip and rumors were like savage beasts, threatening to crush him inside.

He would usually greet that gossip with a smile, but the truth was that he was bleeding inside.

He wanted so badly to be a normal man.

Just as Huo Yunshen was overflowing with joy at his recovery, Xu Xiyan woke up. She slowly opened her eyes and felt a sharp throbbing pain at the back of her head.

She sat up, rubbing her head. She noticed there were petals on the bed, then looked down at herself. She was almost naked.

"Aaaaah!"

Xu Xiyan looked around in panic. There was a man sitting in a wheelchair next to the bed. She was shocked. "You! Huo Yunshen?!"

Huo Yunshen had calmed the surging emotions in his heart. His face was now as calm as a windless sea and his eyes shimmered like water. He smiled gently, and softly he said, "Jing Xi." Xu Xiyan was losing her mind. She grabbed at her arms, embarrassed. "Mr. Huo, what's going on? Why am I here? Why are you here?

Huo Yunshen rested his head on his hand lazily. There was a hint of sarcasm in his voice. "Your father is a good man. He wanted to curry favor with me so he gave you to me as a gift."

Xu Xiyan: "…"

That bastard!!!

Back in the attic at the Xu family house, someone had knocked her unconscious. Then, when she woke up, she had found herself lying here. If Xu Jinshan wasn't behind this deed, who else could be?

Did he really think she'd be a gift for him?

This was exactly what had happened five years ago, and now it was happening again.

You really astound me, Xu Jinshan. Don't you know that Huo Yunshen is impotent?

Even if I was to stand in front of him naked, it would do nothing for him, okay?

Xu Xiyan understood it all now. The Xu family, acting in their own interest, would not hesitate to betray her again and again, completely ignoring her feelings.

After figuring out the ins and outs of the situation, Xu Xiyan glanced at the quiet man and felt a sudden gladness in her heart.

Fortunately, she was given to Huo Yunshen. If she was given to someone else instead, wouldn't it be the end of her?

Xu Xiyan's panicking heart calmed down at that thought. Didn't she hear from Su Rui and Xu Xinrou that Huo Yunshen had fallen in love with her five years ago?

Was it really true?

Xu Xiyan decided to test him. She fell to her side on the bed and bit her lip lightly. She gazed at Huo Yunshen with innocent eyes and asked, "Mr. Huo, do I look beautiful?" "Yeah," Huo Yunshen replied.

Huo Yunshen was not even looking at her and had already turned his eyes someplace else. Even his answer to her question was brief and perfunctory.

Unconvinced, Xu Xiyan pressed him further. "Hey, do you like me or not?"

It was a blunt question, but Xu Xiyan didn't like beating around the bush when it came to feelings.

It was Huo Yunshen's turn to become flustered. He did not expect Xu Xiyan to suddenly ask him a question like this and in such a straightforward way. How was he supposed to answer her?

He liked her. But what if the words couldn't escape from his lips?

Chapter 104 - What A Wicked Father!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan was waiting for Huo Yunshen's reply, but instead, Huo Yunshen handed her his jacket and said, "Wear it, it's too cold in here."

What am I doing! Huo Yunshen felt like punching himself in the face. The girl you like is asking whether you'd fall for her, why can't you answer her?

Is it that hard to reply "yes?"

Huo Yunshen was drowning in regret.

It was like someone had splashed Xu Xiyan with a bucket of water, cooling down the heat in her heart.

The way he's speaking...so he really didn't fall for me, huh?

See, of course, Huo Yunshen would never fall for me, it's impossible.

Yet, after a moment of silence, Xu Xiyan had finally thought it out. I guess he's worried about his condition and it makes him feel inferior to others.

He actually likes me, or else why would he keep helping me?

If he's evading me because of this, then I should make the approach.

Xu Xiyan rolled out of bed and stood in front of Huo Yunshen. She turned and asked, "Mr. Huo, take a good look at me. Don't you feel anything?" "..." Huo Yunshen's inside became hotter, hot enough to make it hard to breathe. She has no idea how attractive she is right now. If this goes on, I might cross the line.

Xu Xiyan noticed Huo Yunshen's face had become redder. It was something she'd never seen before.

"I never thought that Mr. Huo would have this kind of expression," she laughed.

Huo Yunshen coughed a few times and said, "I never thought you could be this vexing..."

Xu Xiyan could not hold her laughter and lifted her skirt up a little. "Hey, why don't I act as the queen of the kingdom of all the females?" Xu Xiyan flirted. "Oh my handsome knight, am I beautiful?"

If this goes any further, I might just pounce on her.

He wheeled himself towards the exit in a hurry and said, "I'll give you a few minutes to change. I'll be waiting inside the car."

Xu Xiyan stood inside the room after Huo Yunshen had left, laughing.

So cute!

He's a grown man, and he can still make those expressions!

She felt that she had gained a new mission, which was to keep stimulating him from time to time to see if she could help him recover.

Xu Xiyan found her clothes and bag in a corner. She changed into her original clothes and checked if everything was still in her bag. She took out her phone and called Xu Jinshan.

As soon as she heard Xu Jinshan's voice, she shouted, "Xu Jinshan! Are you even a human? Knocking me out and giving me to Huo Yunshen as a present? Could you be any more wicked than that? Let me tell you, your career is over! You should know of Huo Yunshen's condition, and yet you still send me to him. You've really insulted him! Mr. Huo is

furious. You better think of how you'll take care of your retirement."

After she finished, she hung up the call and shut her phone down.

She wanted to scare Xu Jinshan and make him regret doing all the miserable things he'd done.

Xu Jinshan's face was as white as a ghost on the other side of the phone. He began to shake as he realized that he might lose his position in Yunhai Entertainment.

He quickly re-dialed Xu Xiyan's number, but her phone was already off.

Chapter 105 - Twisting With Regret

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan walked out of the hotel and got into Huo Yunshen's van. The two met again in the vehicle, but Xu Xiyan did not look perturbed by the incident back at the hotel. She was back to her normal self, talking and joking with him as usual.

As for Huo Yunshen, there was still something strange about him.

On the road, Huo Yunshen's phone rang on the coffee table. Xu Xiyan glanced at it and noticed the caller ID on the screen was "Director Xu."

Huo Yunshen looked down at it and furrowed his brow in seeing that Xu Jinshan was calling. He didn't want anyone to disturb him when he was alone with Xu Xiyan. So he picked up the phone and rejected the call, then turned it off.

Xu Xiyan sneered inwardly. Hahaha, Xu Jinshan! Afraid now?

Didn't think that your evil plans would turn out this way, huh?

The van was not heading back to Shengshi Yujing. Xu Xiyan turned away from the window and asked, "Mr. Huo, aren't we going home? Where are we going?"

"We're going to Jingyue Entertainment."

"Oh, I almost forgot."

They had not visited Jingyue Entertainment before because Ying Bao was being hospitalized at that time. She'd totally forgotten about it, and hadn't expected him to remember. At the Xu family house, Xu Jinshan could not reach Xu Xiyan on her phone. He had also tried to call Huo Yunshen but he'd hung up on him. When he tried to call Huo Yunshen again, he'd already turned off his phone.

What does this mean?

Is President Huo really angry?

He's not even picking up my calls.

I'm finished...what should I do now?

If President Huo is blaming me, what can I do?

Xu Jinshan realized that he'd made a big mistake, and felt his insides twisting with regret.

Su Rui, who was next to him, asked him, "Husband, is it done? Is President Huo satisfied?"

"Satisfied, my ass!" Xu Jinshan glared angrily at Su Rui. "This is all your fault! You're the one who came up with this idea and now we've offended President Huo! What are we going to do now?"

Su Rui felt wronged. "What? I thought the rumors said President Huo had recovered his 'ability!' Why is he angry? Didn't you say that he fancied Yanyan years ago?"

"It was only that year! It's already been five years since then, how could he still remember the girl? I've made a big mistake!" Xu Jinshan sighed heavily.

Su Rui thought for a moment. She had an idea. "What about Xinrou? Maybe President Huo would be interested in her."

"..." Xu Jinshan was silent with anger before bursting out into a roar, "Shut your trap! I don't want to hear any more of your rotten ideas! If he's not interested in Yanyan, what makes you think he would be interested in Xinrou? Do you want to ruin my daughter?"

Su Rui was only trying to help her husband but was met by his fury. Upset, she retaliated, "What are you yelling about! I'm doing this for you and the Xu family's sake! Why would I want to ruin my own daughter?"

"Then don't mess it up! I don't know how, but Xinrou offended Huo Yunshen recently. I heard that Huo Yunshen taught her a lesson in front of the film crew. I'm so worried. It seems my days are over!" Xu Jinshan sighed, running his hands through his hair.

Su Rui toned down her voice. "Then think of something! Is it because President Huo found out about the things you've done in the past? Does he have a problem with you now?"

"That's impossible..." Xu Jinshan broke into a sweat as he thought about the unscrupulous things he'd done after joining Yunhai Entertainment.

Su Rui had always acted as a think-tank for Xu Jinshan. She continued, "Oh, didn't you say that the vice president is only second to Huo Yunshen? Why don't you go and gain his favor instead? You would still be able to enjoy the same benefits."

"Besides," she continued, "think about the long-term. Huo Yunshen is permanently disabled and impotent. He is destined to leave no legacy behind! The future of the Huo family is in Huo Jingtang's hands!"

Chapter 106 - Almost Forgot About It

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Su Lei was right. Yunhai Entertainment's vice president, Huo Jingtang...

Even though he was just a vice president, he still had a lot of control over the company. He was also Huo Yunshen's cousin. Huo Yunshen would listen to his advice most of the time.

"You're right! Why did I forget about him?"

Just as Xu Jinshan was about to leave, Su Lei called him. "Hey, wait!"

"What now?" Xu Jinshan asked impatiently.

"Do you still remember that 20 years ago, you gave Jin Ruyue to..." Su Lei did not finish her sentence, she wanted to hint to her husband.

Xu Jinshan began to search his memories. After a few seconds, he snapped, like he suddenly remembered something important.

"Right! How did I even forget about that?"

It happened too long ago, he'd kind of forgotten.

He still had a card in his hand to play, and if he did it when the time was right, It could definitely save his fame and status.

Even Huo Yunshen wouldn't dare to touch him then.

As for Huo Jingtang, Xu Jinshan thought that he was still a good place to turn to. If Huo Yunshen were to step down as CEO, Huo Jingtang would definitely be next in line.

The only thing that he needed to think of was how to get Huo Jingtang on his side.

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At the Shengshi Building, Xu Xiyan followed Huo Yunsehn to Jingyue Entertainment on the seventh floor.

The office was designed with a white modern theme.

It was clear that the company had just been established recently, as no staff members were running around the office.

The door opened, and a girl in her 20's with short hair and heart-shaped face greeted them. Her clothes were army green, and Xu Xiyan almost mistook her for a guy.

"Are you Mr. Huo?"

"Yes," Huo Yunshen replied.

"Nice to meet you, my name is Wandou, the receptionist for Jingyue Entertainment.

Wandou was excited as she'd been working in Yunhai Entertainment for two years but had never seen Huo Yunshen in person. Then one day she got a call to work as an employee for a new company and was told that she could meet the CEO on her first day. She was honored.

She'd sworn that she would devote herself to the new company,

After she'd greeted her CEO, she turned to greet Xu Xiyan politely.

"Nice to meet you, Miss Jing Xi. Welcome to Jingyue Entertainment."

"Nice to meet you, too, Won... Wandou."

Xu Xiyan almost mistook the "Wandou" on the girl's name badge for "Wonder".

Huo Yunshen and Xu Xiyan followed Wandou into the office.

The whole office was quite small compared to the other company, but it was a small enterprise.

The president of Jingyue Entertainment, Tang Nade, was sitting in his office.

In truth, Tang Nade was the legal adviser for Yunhai Entertainment, and his real name was Tang Yichen. Huo Yunshen had entrusted all of Jingyue Entertainment to him.

Tang Yichen wore a colorful suit and a long-haired wig with a part down the middle. A fake mustache was glued above his lips. He looked very polite and gentlemanly. When he saw Xu Xiyan coming in, his eyes lit up.

Chapter 107 - Hoes Before Bros

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

What a beautiful and charming girl!

No wonder Huo Yunshen was very protective of her. He was afraid that someone would find out about her.

Tang Yichen had always looked forward to seeing his boss's future wife. He'd been so excited, he hadn't slept the night before.

A man who had difficulties dating women and a severe disability has finally left the single life. It's simply the ninth wonder of the world.

Tang Yichen felt happy for Huo Yunshen from the bottom of his heart. He held out his hands. "Hello, a pleasure to meet you! Are you Miss Jing Xi? I'm Tang Nade, I'm in charge of Jingyue Entertainment."

This long-haired man is the person in charge of Jingyue Entertainment?

He really has an extraordinary sense of style!

Xu Xiyan reached out to shake the enthusiastic president's hand, but Huo Yunshen pushed away Tang Nade's hand and said to Xu Xiyan, "You don't need to shake hands with him. He's already married."

Xu Xiyan: "…"

What is he talking about? I can't shake hands with Mr. Tang just because he's married? What kind of logic is that?

Tang Yichen: "..."

Why the discrimination against married people?

Who said that married men are not allowed to shake hands with single women?

Tang Yichen shot Huo Yunshen a look. Why so stingy? I've sacrificed my time and future to manage your new company. I only wanted to welcome your future wife and yet you don't even let me touch her hands!

Huo Yunshen returned a dangerous look. Watch your hands, or else I'll chop them off and feed them to the dogs!

Tang Yichen felt a chill running down his spine as Huo Yunshen glared at him sharply. He quickly retracted his hand and gestured for them to sit down and talk.

Tang Yichen proceeded to introduce the overall developmental direction of Jingyue Entertainment to Xu Xiyan, as well as the company's future blueprint and the welfare guarantees that the company could provide to its artists.

Tang Yichen lived up to his reputation of a top lawyer. The contracts he had drafted were clear and fair. There were absolutely no imparity clauses or loopholes.

Even with her eyes closed, Xu Xiyan could've signed the contract with peace of mind.

Xu Xiyan went over the contract once but was in a bit of disbelief about what she read. "This looks too good to be true. I'm just a newcomer who has not yet debuted. Your company is being too generous to a newcomer like me."

Tang Yichen explained to dispel her doubts.. "Miss Jing Xi, that's because you were introduced by President Huo and you're the very first artist to sign to our company, so of course we are willing to give you the best benefits. Besides, I have a good eye for people with potential and you're more than qualified. You will definitely bring more returns to the company in the future!"

Even though Tang Yichen believed in her, Xu Xiyan was also very confident in herself. But since this was an important signing, Xu Xiyan decided to ask for Huo Yunshen's help to look over the contract for her.

"Mr. Huo, could you check the contract for me please?"

"Okay."

Huo Yunshen pretended to go over the papers thoroughly, then handed them back to her and said, "Seems fine to me. You can sign the contract with confidence. If he dares to cheat you, I'll kill him!"

Tang Yichen: "..."

Seriously? Hoes before bros?

With Huo Yunshen's assurance, Xu Xiyan felt relieved and proceeded to sign her name on the contract. From now on, she would be a signed artist under this company.

Tang Yichen stamped the contract, sealing the deal.

Xu Xiyan asked, "President Tang, when should I officially report for work?"

Chapter 108 - Like A Married Couple

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Tang Yichen was surprised by the question. "You don't need to come in at the moment. You can continue your shooting for "Red Sleeved Beauty." I'll ask Wandou to inform you when the time comes."

"All right," Xu Xiyan said. She left with Huo Yunshen.

Truth to be told, Xu Xiyan would have never signed with such a new company if not for Huo Yunshen.

There was only a total of three people in the company: a CEO, a receptionist and her. It was almost like a paper company.

Xu Xiyan began to wonder how she and Jingyue Entertainment would develop, and she became worried for her future.

• • •

On their way back, Xu Xiyan recalled that Huo Yunshen's fridge was empty. She asked the driver to make a stop in the marketplace to buy some food.

Huo Yunshen did not want Xu Xiyan to work too hard and said, "I'll let Yi Xiao shop for us."

"It's all right, we still have time. It'll be better if I buy everything myself. We should celebrate since I finally got to sign a contract." Xu Xiyan wanted to prepare a meal to express her gratitude towards Huo Yunshen.

"You're right, we should celebrate."

I should celebrate that I'm finally having an erection.

The van stopped at the nearby marketplace. Just as Xu Xiyan was about to get out of the van, she asked, "Do you want to come, Mr. Huo?"

"Me?" Huo Yunshen asked as he pointed at his legs. "Can I?"

"Of course you can. I'll push you, we'll buy whatever you like to eat."

"All right!" With Xu Xiyan's help, Huo Yunshen agreed to accompany her.

They walked into the busy marketplace, and everyone there saw a man sitting in a wheelchair while a girl pushed him through the crowd. People would definitely mistake them for a married couple.

They stopped at a stall selling vegetables. Xu Xiyan bent down and asked if there were any vegetables Huo Yunshen wanted.

Huo Yunshen raised his head, met her eyes and replied to her.

Xu Xiyan was smiling the whole time while Huo Yunshen had shown compassion through his eyes. In the eyes of the vendors, they were a married couple that would never leave each other's side.

The two were very eye attractive. They were both handsome and beautiful, and since Huo Yunshen was sitting in a wheelchair, most of the vendors felt sorry for them, too.

"Look at that couple! What a handsome guy, it's a pity that he's in a wheelchair."

"The wife has to take care of everything by herself. It must be hard."

"She even brought her husband along to buy some food; she must love him very much. He's quite a lucky guy to have his wife staying by his side after he became like that. This is how love should be."

"You're right, they look happy."

"I'll give them a huge discount if they stop by my stall."

"Hey, I won't be charging them anything."

•••

Xu Xiyan understood that people should look around at different stalls when buying vegetables, since she'd been doing so for quite some time. She would usually buy a few scallions when she bought her vegetables, but the vendors were amazingly good towards her that day. They gave her some scallions free of charge, and wouldn't even take her money for the vegetables she selected.

There were no insults, no humiliation; everyone greeted them with smiling faces and gentle tones.

Huo Yunshen held a huge bag of food while Xu Xiyan pushed him back to the van.

Xu Xiyan took the bag from Huo Yunshen and rested it on the floor of the van. She naturally picked off the remaining leaves that fell out onto Huo Yunshen's lap and said, "Forget it, I'm going shopping alone next time."

"Why?"

Chapter 109 - Who Is This Inconsiderate Person?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

It was the first time Huo Yunshen had been to a market and it was a refreshing experience for him. The people there were kind and they had even treated him and Xu Xiyan like a real couple!

Of course, he would like to come again, and often.

Xu Xiyan glanced at him and said helplessly, "Because you're too handsome. It felt like I was taking advantage of your good looks for some extra veggies."

In fact, Xu Xiyan didn't want people to pity them just because Huo Yunshen was in a wheelchair. She didn't want those sellers to give them free vegetables because they thought she and Huo Yunshen were having a hard time.

She was not there to beg for food; Huo Yunshen, even less so.

Huo Yunshen stared at her for a few seconds, then said softly, "If that's the case, we should go to the supermarket next time."

The supermarkets were not as chaotic as the vegetable market, and there wouldn't be as many gossiping women.

"Well, okay," Xu Xiyan agreed.

Back at Shengshi Yujing, Xu Xiyan cooked and prepared a table full of dishes. When she was done, Xu Xiyan called Huo Yunshen for dinner.

"Let's open a bottle of wine and celebrate your successful signing today."

Huo Yunshen retrieved a bottle of Romanée-Conti from the wine cabinet and uncorked it, pouring each of them a glass.

The two picked up their wine glasses and gave a toast. When they were about to take a sip, the doorbell rang.

Huo Yunshen frowned. Who was this inconsiderate person knocking at the door, ruining their pleasant moment together at dinner?

"Someone's here? Shall I go see who it is?"

Xu Xiyan exchanged looks with Huo Yunshen, then put down her wine glass and went to the living room to open the door.

Scarcely a moment later she came back in a panic. "Oh no! Your third sister is here! I gotta hide! You go open the door!

·· ... "

Huo Sanyan is here?

He thought Xu Xiyan might have seen a ghost.

Before Huo Yunshen could open his mouth and say anything, Xu Xiyan was already gone.

After a brief moment, Huo Yunshen reluctantly went over and opened the door, his face as dark as a storm.

"Why are you here again, sis?"

He blocked her passage through the door, not wanting her to enter.

Huo Sanyan was carrying a bottle of yogurt drink and a bag of food in her hands.

"What do you mean 'why am I here again?' It's been a long time since I visited you, okay? Brother, don't you see? I brought so many delicious foods for you! Are you not going to let me in?

"No. Keep the food for yourself."

Huo Yunshen tried to slam the door shut but Huo Sanyan had stretched out an arm and a leg into the opening. She looked at him sideways through the crack as she strained to keep the door open. "Broo...please...let me in, I have something very important to tell you."

"Speak!"

"I'll tell you...if you let me in!"

Huo Yunshen was losing his temper. "What if I won't?"

Huo Sanyan was adamant. She had nothing to lose. "If you don't let me in, I'll just sit here and wait!"

Huo Yunshen badly wanted to tell Huo Sanyan: If this goes on, your brother's happiness will be destroyed in your own hands? Okay?

He rolled his eyes, "Fine, I'll go get a chair for you."

Bastard. Are you really my brother? Huo Sanyan thought.

Huo Yunshen was determined to keep her out, but there was no way she was giving up now.

Huo Sanyan thumped at her chest and stomped her feet as she cried out, "My dear brother, how could you be so heartless to me?

"Is this how you treat your own dear sister? Do you even know what I'm feeling? I feel so cold that my heart is freezing over...Do you remember that when you were still a child, you had a high fever? The fever was so bad that you were delirious! If I hadn't found you, you would be dead by now! Now you've grown up and completely forgotten my kindness! Oh, my dear brother, why do you refuse me so? I might as well take my own life..."

Huo Yunshen was already tired of her. He turned around and said, "Fine, wait here. I'll bring you a knife."

·· ... ''

Chapter 110 - I Give Up

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Sanyan had never seen her brother acting in such a weird manner. It was very suspicious.

Just as Huo Yunshen turned around, Huo Sanyan quickly snuck into the house.

It was already too late for Huo Yunshen to chase her out.

Huo Sanyan had successfully infiltrated Huo Yunshen's house.

As soon as she stepped inside, her dog-like nose smelled the aromas of the food.

"Something smells good, did you make some dinner? Looks like I came just at the right time!"

Huo Sanyan put her things down and went into the dining room. The table was filled with foods, and Huo Sanyan also noticed that there were two sets of dining utensils and wine cups on the table.

The sight stimulated her inner paparazzi persona and she asked, "Is there someone here?"

"No," Huo Yunshen said.

"Then are you expecting someone?" Huo Sanyan continued to inquire.

"No."

"Then why is there so much food?"

"Because I'm hungry."

"Well, since you're hungry, hurry up and come to eat. I'm famished. I just finished a PR campaign, it was so tiring.

Looks like I can at least comfort myself with these foods."

It was like Huo Sanyan was the owner of the house. She sat down in Xu Xiyan's seat and picked up the chopsticks.

·· ...,

What now?

Is she really going to stay here and eat?

"I thought you had something to tell me? Tell me now, then you may take your leave!" Huo Yunshen scolded.

"Hey, a girl has to eat before she has the energy to speak. My stomach is already growling, let me tame it first." Huo Sanyan smiled.

Huo Yunshen saw that Huo Sanyan was about to start eating and shouted, "Stop!"

"Seriously, little brother, what's wrong with you? I thought we were very close? You used to stick by my side every day, since when did you become so stingy? You don't let me into your home, you don't feed me...Did you forget that I'm the one who took care of you when you were still a kid?"

Huo Sanyan struck the bowl with the chopsticks to show her dissatisfaction.

"I'm here to help you since you definitely can't finish this food alone. I'll help you wash up after this. Didn't I brought you foods the last time I visited, too?"

Seriously, there's no one other than her that can freeload like this.

Huo Yunshen completely gave up. He could only stare and watch as Huo Sanyan devoured the food in front of her while his heart bled. Sis, it will be all your fault if I live my remaining life alone...

Huo Sanyan was the type of person who could eat anything, yet she noticed these foods were somewhat different.

"Man, this food is good! But it's not like what you would make though..."

"I made it," Huo Yunshen said. "It's something I recently learned."

"Not bad, not bad at all! It's so good! With this you could find yourself a girlfriend in no time," Huo Sanyan complimented.

"..." Huo Yunshen was already gritting his teeth. I almost had a girlfriend, and now you just messed it all up!

"Come on little brother, eat." Huo Sanyan did not forget to call her brother over while eating.

Huo Yunshen slapped his head as he was rendered speechless.

Oh, God. Please send someone to take this freak away...

Chapter 111 - His Heart Ached Terribly For Her

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Sanyan was stuffed. She rubbed at her tummy and let out a hearty burp, then said half-heartedly, "Need help washing the dishes?"

"No need."

Huo Yunshen only wanted her out of his house as soon as possible.

"Oh, I knew that my brother was always thinking of me! He didn't want me to tire myself after a long day's work. Well then, I'll go take a break."

Huo Sanyan went to the living room and lay comfortably on the sofa, picked up the remote and turned on the TV. She made herself more comfortable than she usually did at her own place.

"You've already ate and drank enough, shouldn't you be going home now?" said Huo Yunshen as he steered his wheelchair towards her.

"But it's still early. Besides, I got nothing to do at home."

Huo Sanyan suddenly remembered about the video game equipment under the coffee table. She got up from the sofa, "Ah ha! How about we spent the night playing The Royal Alliance!"

Oh my god...I beg you, just let me go...

Huo Yunshen had almost gotten down on his knees when he heard that she wanted to spend the night playing video games.

Xu Xiyan was still hiding in the house, and he felt anxious for her.

Huo Sanyan was already in the middle of installing the video game. He had to think of something quick.

He had an idea. He snuck off to shut down the power supply.

Suddenly the whole house was dark. He heard Huo Sanyan cry out in the darkness, "What the f*ck? What happened? Why did the power go out?"

Huo Yunshen snickered to himself. He turned on the flashlight on his mobile phone and said to Huo Sanyan, "Maybe they're doing maintenance now. Since there's no power, I think you should just go home."

There was nothing to do without any electricity and Huo Sanyan was finally convinced that she should leave. She slung her bag over her shoulder and said, "All right, I'm leaving now. Take care of yourself, okay?"

"I will."

After Huo Sanyan had been gone from the house long enough, Huo Yunshen restarted the power supply and called Xu Xiyan on her phone so she could come out.

But it seems that Xu Xiyan's mobile phone was turned off. Huo Yunshen decided to go find her himself. After searching around in the house for some time, he finally found Xu Xiyan in the corner of a closet.

The girl had fallen asleep while nestled in the corner. Huo Yunshen felt his breath caught in his throat, his heart aching terribly for her.

At the same time, he also felt very guilty. It was all his fault. He only wanted to protect her and he was afraid of losing her, but he hadn't thought that his love for her had gotten her in a lot of trouble.

Sorry, Jing Xi...

One day, I shall announce to the world that you are the most beloved woman in my life...

Huo Yunshen decided to carry Xu Xiyan out of the closet, but she woke up when he touched her.

She looked up and saw Huo Yunshen. "Is your sister already gone?" she asked.

"Yeah," Huo Yunshen's eyes were gleaming at her with warmness. He extended his right hand to Xu Xiyan. "Let me pull you up."

"Okay."

Xu Xiyan put her hand in his and Huo Yunshen gripped onto it, pulling her up. Suddenly Xu Xiyan exclaimed, "Wait, wait, wait, my legs are numb."

Huo Yunshen said nothing and immediately reached out with his other hand and pulled her up with the strength of both hands. He lifted Xu Xiyan up with his arms before laying her onto his lap.

"Ah!" Xu Xiyan exclaimed and unconsciously held onto Huo Yunshen's neck.

Huo Yunshen maneuvered his wheelchair out of the room.

When the two came to the living room, Huo Yunshen asked her, "Better now?"

"Yeah," said Xu Xiyan, still lying in his lap, her head close to his chest. His heartbeat was strong and powerful in her ear, and she became so intoxicated as she listened to it that she almost forgot to speak.

Huo Yunshen looked down at her. Her eyelashes were long and thick, and her nose was delicate. His lips twitched as he stared at her smooth forehead, and he felt like kissing her there.

Chapter 112 - Secret Recipe

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Just as Huo Yunshen was about to kiss her forehead, Xu Xiyan drew herself away from listening to his heartbeat, and jumped down from his leg. "Oh, sorry. Are your legs all right?"

"I'm fine," Huo Yunshen replied. He thought he'd been caught by her.

"That's good."

Xu Xiyan's stomach began to grumble. She pointed at the dining room and said, "I'm famished. Let's eat."

Eat? There's nothing left to eat...

"I'm sorry, my sister ate all the food you made. Wait here, I'll go cook something," Huo Yunshen said apologetically.

"Let me do it."

"It's okay, you've done so much. I'll make the dinner."

Huo Yunshen turned his wheelchair and wheeled towards the kitchen. Xu Xiyan stared at Huo Yunshen's broad back as he left and ran up behind him. "Let's do it together then."

"Good idea."

Both of them began to prepare the food.

They were lucky that they had brought home more than enough ingredients. After half an hour, Xu Xiyan had cooked up a bowl of noodle soup while Huo Yunshen had prepared a plate of curry rice.

The dining table was still a mess. Both of them went to the living room, and Xu Xiyan put the bowl of noodles in front of Huo Yunshen. "Try my noodles."

Huo Yunshen gave her the plate of curry. "Here," he said. "I made this curry rice for you."

They began to eat. The curry rice was perfect. It had a delicious-looking yellow curry on it, accompanied by a piece of pan-fried chicken and stir-fried vegetables that completed the whole dish.

Xu Xiyan could not stop her spoon from scooping more and more of the dish into her mouth; the rice was too good.

The noodles in front of Huo Yunshen sat in light broth. Only a few sprinkles of scallions could be seen on the top, yet the noodles had a pungent aroma.

Huo Yunshen picked up his chopsticks and folded the noodles over. It was only then that the noodles showed their true form. It was bok choy, shiitake mushrooms, fried eggs and a fat piece of braised pork belly.

The secret of the aroma lay beneath the noodles.

"When did you make this braised meat?" asked Huo Yunshen. Xu Xiyan hadn't prepared any meat when she was cooking.

"Two days ago. I'm used to braising meats beforehand. This is our Jing family's secret recipe. How does it taste?"

"It's extraordinary!" Huo Yunshen exclaimed after taking a bite of the pork belly. "This is the best braised meat I've ever had! You could open a restaurant with this."

"Yeah, I've thought about it. I've thought about opening a restaurant if I lose my job one day. I've even thought of the name: Jing Noodles Shop," she said jokingly.

"I'll work as your cashier when you do open the restaurant."

"You better not. I don't think I can pay you your salary," Xu Xiyan said, motioning for him to finish his noodles before they became too soggy.

It had been a long time since Huo Yunshen had eaten such a tasty noodle soup. He finished the bowl in an instat, and even drank all the broth.

He licked his lips and suddenly thought of something. I don't think I can eat any other noodles that are worse than this anymore...

Just as Xu Xiyan was about to wash the dishes after they'd finished their dinner, Huo Yunshen stopped her...

Chapter 113 - Couldn't Bother Her Anymore

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

After dinner, Xu Xiyan was going to wash the dishes, but Huo Yunshen stopped her.

"Don't wash them. I'll get someone to install a dishwasher tomorrow. Just leave them for now."

He felt pity for her and he didn't want to tire her anymore. She should go back early and rest.

"Well, okay then, I'll go home now. Good night."

Xu Xiyan bid him goodbye and returned to her apartment next door.

The first thing she did when she entered her house was switched on her phone. Notifications of missed calls flooded the screen. Many of them were from Xu Jinshan, and some from Ying Bao.

It seemed that Ying Bao had not been able to contact her and thus left a voice message. She asked her mother to call her back, and said that she'd be waiting for her call.

Xu Xiyan immediately called Ying Bao on her kiddie phone. It only rang once before the call was connected. Ying Bao must've been waiting by her phone for her mother's call!

"Xi Baby! Xi Baby...you finally returned Baby's call! Baby was worried to death! Is everything okay?"

Ying Bao's childish voice came over the phone. Hearing her daughter's voice renewed Xu Xiyan's energy, washing away the day's weariness.

"Hey, Baby, Xi Baby is fine. Sorry that I've made you wait so long for my call. Were you sleeping?"

Xu Xiyan sat down on the sofa, listening attentively to her daughter.

"Of course not! If Baby was sleeping, how could I talk to you on the phone?"

"You're right! How was Baby's day? Are you happy? What were you doing at great-grandpa's house?"

Xu Xiyan lay on the sofa and pulled a thin blanket over herself, chatting comfortably with her daughter.

"I went to great-grandpa's Chinese medicine hall in the morning. Then, in the afternoon, I helped great-grandpa dry some herbs under the sun. Baby now knows a lot of herbs, such as ginseng for revitalizing, licorice for reducing internal body heat, and angelica dahurica for lowering blood pressure. Great-grandpa taught me all that!" Ying Bao spoke excitedly. She'd gained a lot of interesting knowledge.

"Wow, our little Baby is so amazing for learning so much!"

"Yeah, when Baby grows up, Baby wants to be just like great grandpa and become an amazing traditional Chinese medicine practitioner."

Ying Bao adored her great-grandfather. She loved following the old man around and was curious about everything he did, wanting to learn it all.

"Hehehehe..."

Xu Xiyan laughed, delighted by her daughter. The two continued to talk for a while, then Ying Bao remembered something important, and told Xu Xiyan before she forgot. "Oh, right! Xi Baby, granduncle just called today. He asked how was everything after returning to Zstan, and Baby told him that we're doing great. Also, Uncle Tree-Leaf asked whether you've missed him, but I told him directly that you haven't.

"Then," she continued, "he said that you have no conscience and wanted to come back and deal with you. But Xi Baby doesn't have to be afraid, because Baby has already told him off."

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Xu Xiyan acknowledged that it was her uncle Jing Zhannan who had called home. As for "Uncle Tree-Leaf," every time Xu Xiyan was reminded of his rascally face, she felt an urge to slap him.

Luckily she was back to Zstan, and he couldn't bother her anymore, hahaha...

Ying Bao and her mother had been separated for several days and Ying Bao missed her very much. Xu Xiyan promised Ying Bao that she and Fang Xiaocheng would take her to the amusement park on Sunday.

Ying Bao pouted when Xu Xiyan told her that they'd only be going there on Sunday. "Why Sunday? Can't Xi Baby accompany Baby on Saturday?"

"I only have time on Sunday, Baby!"

Tomorrow would be Saturday, but Xu Xiyan had planned to accompany Huo Yunshen for his rehabilitation at the First People's Hospital, thus she could only spend time with her daughter on Sunday.

Chapter 114 - A New Discovery

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"All right then," the little cutie said. "I'll wait. Don't forget we're meeting up in Sunday..."

"Of course, I'll come pick you up."

Xu Xiyan talked with her daughter until late at night and slept on the sofa. She woke up the next morning and sat right up. She checked the time and let out a sigh of relief as it was still early.

She got up from the sofa and took a shower. After changing her clothes, she went to Room 101 and opened the door with her key.

Melodies from a piano could be heard as Xu Xiyan entered the house. Is Huo Yunshen playing the piano?

She knew Huo Yunshen had a piano room as she had intruded into the piano room unintentionally when she was hiding from Huo Sanyan. The room was filled with various instruments, yet she didn't have the time to check them out.

She went to the piano room and pushed the door open quietly. A man sitting in a wheelchair was indulgently playing a black piano.

His long fingers played the piano swiftly. The melodies were like a river flowing through a quiet forest, and straight into a person's soul.

Xu Xiyan's heart beat faster, as she was attracted by both the music and the graceful man. Huo Yunshen was like a different

person when he immersed himself in the music; he was a man filled with passion that could attract any person.

Xu Xiyan had always thought Huo Yunshen was a person who excelled at acting. Yet as she listened to him play, she understood that his musical talent far surpassed his acting talent.

Calling him a musical prodigy might not be enough.

Xu Xiyan was deeply attracted by the man in front of her. She clasped her hands as if she was praying to the man. She was a girl who loved talented people, especially those like Huo Yunshen who were born with a vast amount of talents.

Oh no, I think I'm falling for him!

Xu Xiyan also knew how to play the violin. She knew that Huo Yunshen was playing "The Winter Wind" by Chopin, and he played it magnificently.

She took off her shoes and walked into the room. She tiptoed so as not to disturb him. As she stood behind him, she noticed a music score sat on the table next to her.

She took the score and went through it. It was composed by Huo Yunshen, and it contained his soul and inspiration.

After flipping through a few pages, she was shocked by the fact that she had heard of all the music in the score. This music had topped different charts around the world.

Don't tell me, he has been making music under the name "Ni Yun"?

OH MY GOD!

Did I just discover his other identity?

That he's the genius musician?

Huo Yunshen's fingers left the piano as soon as he finished playing. After a few moments of silence, he finally came out from his music zone.

He turned his wheelchair and was met with a pair of eyes brimming with fire. "Jing Xi!" he shrieked. "When did you come in?" "Just now." Xu Xiyan forced herself to calm down and pointed to the score in her hand. "Did you composed these?" she asked.

"Yeah, I usually do it when I'm bored," Huo Yunshen replied without a hint of emotion. He'd never thought of boasting about himself as a musician.

Xu Xiyan set the score down and kneeled beside him. "Mr. Huo, please tell me you're the musician Ni Yun who has claimed the number one spot on the pop music chart!"

Chapter 115 - I'll Treasure Them Forever

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"I didn't expect him to be you! I really love your songs! Your voice is so mesmerizing. It's so good! I've downloaded your album onto my phone too! I...I'm so excited. I never thought that you could be Ni Yun. Master, can you give me your autograph, please?

Xu Xiyan had become a giddy fan, going head over heels for him. She was kneeling beside Huo Yunshen, begging like a dog for his autograph.

Huo Yunshen: "..."

It was unexpected that Xu Xiyan loved listening to his songs so much.

Huo Yunshen was overjoyed that Xu Xiyan had appreciated his music. He pulled her up and said, "I have some signed copies in my study room. You can have them if you want."

"Really? I'm so honored!"

Xu Xiyan was jumping with joy, then quickly helped push him out from the piano room.

After receiving the signed albums, Xu Xiyan hugged them to her chest and said, "Thank you, Mr. Huo. I'll treasure these albums forever."

Huo Yunshen smiled at her, the light in this eyes glimmered radiantly. There was a voice in his heart that said, "Thank you, too, Jing Xi. I'll treasure you forever as well." After breakfast, the two left the house together. Huo Yunshen asked her, "Don't you have a shoot today?"

"Nope! I'm not needed for any scenes today. I can accompany you to the hospital for rehabilitation."

Xu Xiyan had been smiling all the time, and her mood was particularly good today. Every second spent with Huo Yunshen was wonderful.

"Am I taking up your personal time? I'll give you the weekend off and you can go do whatever you want," Huo Yunshen said. His treatment towards Xu Xiyan would always be lenient and kind.

The only domineering thing he had done to her was bind her to his side with a debt of ten billion Yuan.

In fact, Huo Yunshen deeply hoped that one day, without using the ten billion Yuan debt to bind her, she would still be willing to stay by his side. Wouldn't that be great?

Is he really giving me the weekend off and letting me go handle my own affairs? Xu Xiyan thought.

It must be karma that allowed her to meet such a generous and reasonable creditor.

She returned a smile, bright as a sun. "It's all right. All I wanted to do now is to accompany you to the hospital."

"Thank you."

Huo Yunshen's lips formed a coquettish smile. He was like a poppy flower, swaying lightly in the breeze, noxiously beautiful yet mesmerizing.

•••

At the First People's Hospital Rehabilitation Center, Professor Qin helped Huo Yunshen with his rehabilitation.

He caught a glimpse of Xu Xiyan, who was sitting off to the side, and asked, "Since when did you hire a female assistant?"

"Recently," Huo Yunshen replied plainly. He didn't seem to pay too much attention to Xu Xiyan in front of Professor Qin. If Huo Yunshen acted nonchalant in front of Xu Xiyan, Professor Qin should not be able to tell that he was interested in Xu Xiyan, and would only assume that Xu Xiyan was his assistant.

Qin Kun nodded, and said again, "Oh, you've overcome your fear of the opposite sex?"

"..." What is he talking about?

In the past, there were rumors circulating in the entertainment industry about his fear of the opposite sex. The truth was that it was just an excuse for his unwillingness to be arranged for marriage by his family.

If he was a normal healthy man, he would be forced by his parents into marriage, probably with the daughter of a wealthy family. That was not the kind of life he wanted.

Chapter 116 - Won't Confess Eagerly

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

He wanted a relationship that was free; just marrying the person he loved and living together was enough for him.

Now that Xu Xiyan had come into his life, Huo Yunshen knew that he couldn't hide the fact any further. "Almost, I guess. Girls are not as scary as they used to be."

Qin Kun smiled and looked at Xu Xiyan. "Not bad, she's quite cute," he commended.

"…"

Did Professor Qin notice?

After Huo Yunshen had finished the first round of therapy, Xu Xiyan quickly rushed to his side and helped him wipe his face like a real assistant. She kept asking him if he was okay.

Qin Kun looked at both of them and smiled. It's tough to hide when you're in love.

It's practically impossible not to tell when he looks at her with those gentle eyes.

Qin Kun knew that Huo Yunshen was a shy boy, and had even been that way when he was little. He wasn't the kind of guy who would confess eagerly to the girl he loved.

It was even worse since he was unable to feel or move his legs.

After a few minutes of rest, Huo Yunshen asked Qin Kun to help him complete his second round of therapy.

Just as they were about to begin, the door opened, and a huge guy walked in and called "Yunshen!"

"It's my brother!" Huo Yunshen raised his head and noticed it was his older cousin. He peeked at Xu Xiyan nervously as he had no idea how to explain her to his cousin.

Huo Jingtang wore a dark suit paired, and had waxed hair. He had a defined face and walked like a gentleman.

His face was serious, and his eyes were cold, like he was surrounded by mysteries.

"Brother," Huo Yunshen greeted after Huo Jingtang had come near him. Huo Yunshen was uncomfortable, as he had no idea how to hide Xu Xiyan from Huo Jingtang.

"How's the therapy going?" Huo Jingtang asked softly.

"I'm about to begin my second round," Huo Yunshen answered. "Brother, why are you here?"

"Why, I'm here to accompany you, of course." Huo Jingtang had helped Huo Yunshen complete his therapy a few times and knew what to do. He squatted down and helped Qin Kun carry out the therapy.

"Thank you." Huo Yunshen was really grateful towards his cousin. He had been taking good care of him after the accident.

"Today is grandpa's 80th birthday. Let's go back together after this," Huo Jingtang said.

"Wait, today is grandpa's birthday?" Huo Yunshen was surprised, unable to believe that he'd forgotten something that important.

"I had a feeling that you'd forgotten about it. That's why I'm here."

"..." Huo Yunshen looked at Xu Xiyan. What am I supposed to do now?

I have to go back to his home.

How am I supposed to accompany her?

Just as Huo Yunshen was staring at Xu Xiyan, she returned him a warm smile.

Xu Xiyan had already made out who Huo Jingtang was. Fang Xiaocheng had told him about Huo Jingtang. He was the vice president of Yunhai Entertainment, a resolute man.

Yet Xu Xiyan had not seen what kind of person Huo Jingtang was.

She had no idea that he would be a person that would go to great lengths to get what he wanted, and would one day force Huo Yunshen into a desperate situation.

Chapter 117 - He Must Not Stand Up Again!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan overheard their conversation and learned that today was the 80th birthday of Huo Yunshen's grandfather. Huo Yunshen would have to return to the Huo family house later, and since she would have nothing to do, she could use the time to visit her daughter at her grandfather's house.

The first set of exercises had already drained Huo Yunshen of a lot of his strength. When he did the second set, he was sweating even more.

Xu Xiyan watched Huo Yunshen support himself on the bars with his arms, sweating and trembling, every cell working hard in his body. She felt her heart tense up as she watched him, feeling worried for him.

Every small step he took, he had to spend ten times as much effort just for that single step. She could see that he was giving it his all.

Finally, the second set of exercises was done. Qin Kun recorded Huo Yunshen's progress in the training journal.

Huo Jingtang helped Huo Yunshen wipe his sweat, then asked, "Professor Qin, how did my cousin do?"

Qin Kun stopped writing and said to him with a smile, "Mr. Huo, Yunshen has made great progress and exceeded my expectations. If he keeps up the current intensity of his training, there is a high probability that he could walk again by the end of the year. We'll see how it goes after the year-end physical training report." "Really?"

Huo Yunshen felt very encouraged after listening to Professor Qin's words. Could he really walk again by the end of the year?

Qin Kun encouraged him again, "God rewards those who work hard. I'm sure God is watching your efforts now."

"That's great, cousin. I can't wait to see you walk again."

There was joy in Huo Jingtang's voice, but deep inside, his heart was clenching tight.

Huo Yunshen is going to walk again by the end of the year?

If Huo Yunshen managed to stand up again, would Huo Jingtang still have a place in the Huo family?

Huo Jingtang's heart was crying out in panic. No, Huo Yunshen must not stand up again!

Huo Yunshen was very happy because of Professor Qin's words. He turned to Xu Xiyan and saw her smiling at him, giving him a pair of thumbs up.

She also believed that God would always reward those who worked hard. God would never forsake him.

He had put in so much effort and he would be rewarded.

Qin Kun finished the report and asked, "Yunshen, do you still have medicine at home?"

"There is still some left."

"Okay, I'll give you more after you've finished it," Qin Kun said, then patted Huo Yunshen's shoulder and left.

Huo Yunshen had been taking medicine imported from abroad which could promote cell regeneration, prevent muscle atrophy and enhance overall body functioning.

With the help of the medicine and training, it was not impossible for Huo Yunshen to stand up again.

"Let's go." Huo Jingtang was ready to push Huo Yunshen's wheelchair and leave, but Huo Yunshen held onto the wheel of his wheelchair, glancing at the quiet girl at the side. Seeing that he was leaving, Xu Xiyan ran over to him cheerfully, bringing a refreshing scent to the air with her perfume.

Huo Jingtang looked up and saw Xu Xiyan and surprise flashed across his cold eyes. "This is..."

"Oh, she is... my friend, Jing Xi."

Huo Yunshen could not say that she was his "girlfriend."

Huo Jingtang stared suspiciously at Xu Xiyan for a moment. "Isn't she the girl who was rumored to be your wife? You've already married in private? Is she pregnant?"

"Big brother, you misunderstand. They were only rumors irresponsibly reported by the media. Jing Xi is only a friend, and she is my caretaker now."

Xu Xiyan chipped in, "Yes, we're only friends."

"Oh, I see."

Huo Jingtang nodded at Xu Xiyan politely, feeling relieved.

He was skeptical when he had first read about the rumors regarding Huo Yunshen. Huo Yunshen was impotent. How could he take a wife or have his own children?

Chapter 118 - I'll Get You Out of There

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

After confirming that the scandal was fake, Huo Jingtang let out a sigh of relief.

As long as Huo Yunshen did not have a child, the Huo family would have to choose a new successor, and Huo Jingtang was next in line.

The three of them left the rehabilitation center and went to the parking lot. "Brother, you go back first, I'll meet you at the mansion," Huo Yunshen said. He wanted to send Xu Xiyan home.

Huo Jingtang was afraid that Huo Yunshen might stand him up and suggested, "Hey, why not bring Jing Xi? She could take care of you there as well."

Bring Xu Xiyan back?

Are you kidding me?

Of course, I want to, but we aren't even a couple, how could I bring her home...

It's way too weird.

"I don't think that that's a good idea. What if our family starts asking questions? It would make her feel uncomfortable," Huo Yunshen said.

"What are you afraid of?" Huo Jingtang said. "Since both of you have nothing to hide, why not go back and clear up the rumors? Our uncles and aunties have been asking me a lot of questions; they want to know who your "girlfriend" is. It's so annoying!"

"..." Xu Xiyan was rendered speechless. She'd never thought that her act of kindness would cause so much trouble for Huo Yunshen.

"But..." Huo Yunshen was still hesitatant. He had no idea how Xu Xiyan felt about him and wondered if it was a good choice to bring her home.

What if mum and dad begin to barrage her with questions? What if they hurt her?

Xu Xiyan knew Huo Yunshen was worried about her, but she was worried about him, too. She wanted to stay by his side so that she could take care of him. Going back with him didn't seem like a bad idea to her.

She lowered her head and whispered into Huo Yunshen's ear. He looked at her curiously and met her eyes.

Xu Xiyan smiled and nodded. Relieved, Huo Yunshen said, "Fine, I'll bring Jing Xi with me. But brother, please act like you don't know her later."

"Sure," Huo Jingtang promised. Huo Yunshen was no threat to his ambition as long as he was still disabled, even if he had finally found himself a girlfriend.

• • •

When they were back in the van, Huo Yunshen asked, "Jing Xi, are you sure you want to go back with me?" He just wanted to confirm.

"Of course. Do I look like I'm joking?" Xu Xiyan smiled. The smile on her beautiful face was brighter than the sun.

Huo Yunshen smiled, biting his lips like a shy little boy, and said, "All right then. But if my family starts to ask you questions you don't feel like answering, then don't answer them. If they keep pressuring you, just let me know. I'll get you out of there right away."

Huo Yunshen could already foresee what would happen the moment Xu Xiyan stepped into his house. She'd definitely be surrounded by his aunties and sisters, and they'd ask her lots of questions.

"Okay. Oh, before that, can I go get some new clothes?"

Huo Yunshen asked the driver to stop in front of a shopping complex. He wanted to go with her, but she rejected him.

Just as Xu Xiyan was about to leave the car, Huo Yunshen handed her a credit card and said, "Just get anything you like. Feel free to use my card."

Xu Xiyan was stunned for a few seconds and took the card. She thanked him and ran into the shopping complex.

Chapter 119 - Everything About Her Was Different

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Although she had taken his credit card, she had no intentions of using it. She had only accepted it out of courtesy so as not to offend him.

Half an hour later, as Huo Yunshen sat in the van, a young man in a black uniform jacket appeared.

The young man confidently opened the door of the van, got in and sat beside Huo Yunshen. Huo Yunshen looked up, and was surprised to see the edgy looking youth.

"What's wrong? Don't you recognize me? I'm Jing Xi."

Xu Xiyan curved her lips into a warm smile. It was a smile that was very familiar to him, but everything else about her was different.

Huo Yunshen looked up and down at her curiously. She had put on a short silver wig and wore silver studs through her earlobes. She looked smart and handsome in her new makeup.

She was completely disguised as a man. How could he recognize her?

"You surprised me. I never thought you would disguise yourself as a man," exclaimed Huo Yunshen, surprised that she had dressed up as a man. She looked so handsome and cool, and there was nothing about her that looked out of place.

"Haha!" Xu Xiyan laughed. "My disguise will save you a lot of trouble, don't you think?" "Right!" Huo Yunshen smiled and raised a thumbs-up at her, praising her cleverness.

"From now on, my name is Ye Xun. Okay?"

"Okay," Huo Yunshen nodded, then ordered the chauffeur to start driving.

To be precise, Xu Xiyan had disguised herself to look like her senior, Ye Xun. Though she did not look completely like him, she still resembled him in some ways.

She was literally stealing Ye Xun's identity, but since he was still in Estan and was unlikely to return to Zstan, he would still be clueless even if she used his identity for mischief. Hehehe!

•••

In the garden of the Huo family mansion, there were many people who'd been invited to the 80th birthday party of the Huo family elder, Huo Xun. Most of the guests were relatives and friends, and some members of some well-connected aristocratic families in Peijing.

Outsiders of the family knew that today was the Huo family elder's birthday, but only a few family insiders knew that the other and hidden purpose of today's party was to help Huo Yunshen to find a match.

If Huo Yunshen had known that they were arranging a matchmaking party for him, he would've rather killed himself than come back.

Xu Xiyan pushed Huo Yunshen in his wheelchair and entered the mansion grounds from the quieter east gate, strolling through the beautiful garden. The Huo family was indeed the wealthiest family in Peijing; the vastness of their mansion and the beauty of the place were second to none in Peijing.

"Wow, your family is really rich," said Xu Xiyan, unable to contain her awe.

Huo Yunshen sighed softly without looking back at her. "What is the use of money? I'd rather have nothing and live a healthy life."

Xu Xiyan: "…"

Xu Xiyan felt bad after listening to his lament. She could understand his feelings and his desire for good health very well.

She didn't know what to say to comfort him and could only pray for him silently in her heart.

Huo Yunshen, one day, you shall receive what you hope for.

The two continued to stroll along and admire the scenery. As they made their way through an arched gate, they saw a little boy squatting on the grass in front of them. Huo Yunshen recognized the child.

"Chengcheng!" he called out to him, then turned to Xu Xiyan. "This is my eldest sister's son, Lu Qiancheng. He just turned six this year."

"Oh, I see," said Xu Xiyan. So Huo Yunshen's nephew is six, and he already looks quite handsome!

Lu Qiancheng looked up when he heard Huo Yunshen's voice. After realizing that it was his uncle who had called him, he ran over to them happily.

"Uncle!"

"Hey Chengcheng, what're you up to?" Huo Yunshen said as he patted the boy's small head.

Chapter 120 - They've Crossed the Line

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Lu Qiancheng opened his hand to show his slingshot. "Uncle! I'm trying to hit a bird with this."

"Did you hit one?"

The kid scratched his head and pouted, "No..."

"Then you'll have to practice more," Huo Yunshen said, smiling.

"Okay!" Lu Qiancheng nodded. "Uncle, can you make me a large slingshot next time? Mine is smaller than Xiaoming's, and he keeps making fun of me."

"Of course, I'll make you the biggest one in the hood."

"Thank you!" Lu Qiancheng jumped up and down.

Huo Yunshen asked Xu Xiyan to push him into the house, and they suddenly heard some chattering on the other side of the wall.

"I've heard that even though it's a birthday celebration today, they are actually trying to set up a blind date for the young master. You better do your best. If the young master takes notice of you and takes you in as his wife, our family will definitely flourish!"

"Mum, which young master are you talking about? Huo Yunshen or Huo Jingtang?"

"Are you stupid or what? Of course it's Huo Jingtang. That Huo Yunshen is crippled, do you think you could lead a good life if you were to marry him?"

"But I heard that he will be the successor!"

"He can't even reproduce, no one in their right mind would make him the successor. The Huo family will definitely one day belongs to Huo Jingtang."

• • •

The chatters continued as Huo Yunshen gripped the arms on the wheelchair.

It was frustrating for him to hear such comments as soon as he got home.

And what was more was that Xu Xiyan was right beside him. What would she think of him now?

Xu Xiyan had heard everything. Huo Yunshen was like nothing to them.

They've crossed the line!

Huo Yunshen was used to such chattering and loosened his grip. "Let's go, Jing Xi."

Yet, no response came from behind him. He turned only to see Xu Xiyan walking towards the other side of the wall.

Xu Xiyan walked into the bamboo grove and climbed up a stone. She peeked over the wall to check who was talking on the other side.

They could hear the chattering just now, but couldn't see who the voices belonged to. Xu Xiyan wanted to check out who they were.

She spotted a wealthy woman, and a young girl who were talking under a tree.

Xu Xiyan scanned their surroundings and noticed a hornet's hive on the tree.

Now that's something I could use!

She jumped down from the stone and ran towards Lu Qiancheng to borrow his slingshot.

"Jing Xi..." Huo Yunshen wanted to stop her.

But Xu Xiyan turned and smiled at him. "One minute, I'll be back in a flash."

She ran back into the grove, jumped onto the stone and aimed the slingshot at the hornet's hive.

She'd been training at her uncle's unit when she was in Estan. Her marksmanship was as good as any man in the troop. Even though she wasn't holding a gun, a slingshot would do just the same.

So, it's Mrs. Liu and Miss Liu, am I right... Heh...

She aimed, and she shot.

Schhwaff! The stone hit right on target.

Chapter 121 - The Situation Was Different Now

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The huge hornet's nest fell from the tree onto the woman's head.

"Ouch!" the woman cried out. "What was that?"

The nest had tumbled onto the ground by her feet. She gave it a kick, and it rolled about a meter away from her before hornets came launching from their nest in an angry swarm.

The two women were soon enveloped by a black shroud of buzzing insects, stinging at them madly.

"Aaaaaaaahhhh!" the two women shrieked like pigs being slaughtered.

Xu Xiyan hopped down and ran back to Huo Yunshen gleefully, the two women behind her continuing their desperate howling.

She returned the slingshot to Lu Qiancheng, then whispered something into Huo Yunshen's ear. Huo Yunshen shook his head and let out a chuckle.

Well, what could he say?

She had actually avenged him by shooting the hornet's nest!

• • •

Many guests were gathered in the vast and elegant main hall of the Huo family mansion.

Huo Xun was in good spirits as he sat in a chair in the hall, wearing a red Tang dynasty style suit with large embroidered patterns. He received many congratulations and blessings from the guests.

Huo Xun had two sons: his eldest son, Huo Zhen, and his second son, Huo Lin. They were busy greeting the guests.

Most of them were famous businessmen in Peijing and family friends. When they had received the invitation, they had figured out the hidden purpose of the party and had brought their daughters along. It was a secret matchmaking party, and a chance to marry their daughters into a rich and powerful family.

Who wouldn't want to be related to the Huo family by marriage?

Therefore they would try their best to win this marriage for their daughters.

They all clearly knew about Huo Yunshen's situation and he was naturally out of their consideration. They were mostly eyeing Huo Jingtang instead.

However, what they did not know about today's matchmaking party was that it was arranged solely for Huo Yunshen, after much discussion between his parents and grandfather.

Huo Yunshen was disabled but with the prestige and status of the Huo family, it was not impossible to find a partner for him to take care of him.

While Huo Yunshen was still present, most of the ladies in the main hall had turned their attention toward Huo Jingtang, gathering around him.

Huo Jingtang wore a dark suit and he stood out in the hall like a swan in a flock of ducks. Generally speaking, every girl and her parents would want a mature gentleman like him.

Huo Jingtang was enjoying the attention being showered onto him by the women. He was used to it.

He was a man who excelled in everything he did. Since he'd started school as a child, he had always been very popular with girls.

But, what was the use?

No matter how good or talented he was, he couldn't change his fate as the child of his father's mistress.

Even though he was a few years older than Huo Yunshen, he still couldn't change the fact that Huo Yunshen was the family's heir.

However, the situation was different now. Huo Yunshen was crippled, and Huo Jingtang had the opportunity to change his destiny.

As long he could please his grandfather and make Huo Yunshen fall into his disfavor, it was only a matter time before a new heir was reelected.

Huo Zhen's three daughters had already presented their birthday gifts. Huo Jingtang gave his blessings to his grandfather and presented him with a brocade box. "Grandpa, Jingtang wishes you a long and happy life! This is a little gift of filial piety from me."

The Huo family elder took the box from him and opened it. Many people had gathered close to look at it. There was a jade bracelet inside.

Those who had not delved into the subject of jewelry would probably not see the true value of the jade bracelet.

Huo Jingtang's mother, Lin Yuemei, leaned in to explain. "Dad, you may not know this, but the price of this little jade bracelet is nothing to sniff at! Jingtang spent eight million Yuan to buy this bracelet and had it specially blessed by Master Qingshui of Baiyun Temple. He did this out of filial respect for you."

Chapter 122 - I Want To Know Who He Is

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The seemingly ordinary bracelet was actually worth 8 million yuan, and what was more, it had been consecrated.

"That must've been an expensive jade. It has a good shine to it."

"An 8 million Yuan jade bracelet. Huo Jingtang must love his grandfather so much!"

"The most important part is that it was consecrated by Master Qingshui from Baiyun Temple! It should be worth more than 8 million! Any item consecrated by Master Qingshui is considered a priceless treasure!"

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Everyone was talking about the treasure as Huo Xun smiled and said, "It's a good treasure, thank you."

"As long as you're happy, grandpa."

Huo Jingtang had invested a lot of money and time into making his grandfather happy. He wanted to show others how much he loved his grandfather.

It was vital for him to become the successor of the Huo family.

Suddenly, the door opened, and someone shouted that it was Huo Yunshen. Everyone turned their heads and looked towards the entrance.

A silver-haired man pushed Huo Yunshen into the main hall. Both of them were equally attractive, and everyone was taken aback by the eye-catching scene before them.

One was charming while the other was cool looking. Even though they were two people living in different worlds, they actually looked good together.

Every girl that had just had their eyes on Huo Jingtang was now staring intensely at the silver-haired man and Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen was much more attractive than what those girls had seen on screen. Even if he was sitting in a wheelchair, he was still much more attractive than other guys in the room.

The silver-haired man had no expressions, all cool and mysterious. Everyone in the room was eager to know who he was.

Xu Xiyan pushed Huo Yunshen through the crowd and stopped in front of Huo Xun. "Sorry for being late, grandpa," Huo Yunshen said.

"It's fine as long as you're here. Come, let me have a good look at you," Huo Xun quickly put down the bracelet.

Huo Xun loved his smallest grandson the most. The name Huo Yunshen was enough to show that.

His first name, Yunshen, was derived from the girl Huo Xun loved the most, Yun Meng. The "Yun" in Huo Yunshen's name was Yun Meng's first name.

He was the grandson of Huo Xun's official wife and was crippled in an accident, which made Huo Xun love him more than ever.

Many of the investors suggested making Huo Jingtang the heir after Huo Yunshen was in the tragic accident.

Yet Huo Xun never approved of it and only let Huo Jingtang act as a temporary CEO.

Huo Yunshen wheeled himself to Huo Xun's side as Xu Xiyan stood beside him. Huo Xun noticed the young man and asked, "And this is…?"

"Grandpa, this is my friend, Ye Xun."

Xu Xiyan bowed to the old man and said," Nice to meet you, Mr. Huo. I'm glad that I'm able to celebrate your 80th birthday. I wish you a long and prosperous life."

"Oh my, thank you. You're most definitely welcome if you're Yunshen's friend. Please, have a seat."

Chapter 123 - Blatant Favoritism

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan thanked the elder and sat down in a seat next to Huo Yunshen.

On the opposite side, Huo Jingtang looked her up and down. He realized that this silver-haired youth was the girl who he'd met at the rehabilitation center earlier. He was surprised that she would dress up as a man to visit the Huo family.

What a smart thing to do to prevent some trouble.

Lin Yuemei deliberately asked Huo Yunshen, "Were you late because you were preparing a gift for your grandfather? What have you brought? Come, show us quickly. Let everyone see what it is."

After hearing Lin Yuemei's words, many people were curious about Huo Yunshen's gift to his grandfather.

"The eldest young master has given a jade bracelet worth eight million Yuan. I wonder what the second young master will give to the family elder...surely it couldn't be anything worse than the jade bracelet."

"Then it must cost at least tens of millions!"

"Quick, bring it out and show us!"

•••

Everyone was waiting for Huo Yunshen to present his gift. Huo Yunshen calmly untied the satin cloth that was wrapped around the box on his lap. Everyone watched with wide and curious eyes, certain there must be something very valuable in that beautifully crafted box.

Xu Xiyan helped him hold the box in place as Huo Yunshen opened the lid. "Grandpa, today is your birthday but Yunshen did not prepare any valuable gifts. I've only brought a birthday cake for you."

A birthday cake?

The second young master has only brought a birthday cake for the family elder?

Everyone was baffled at his gift.

Lin Yuemei sneered. She knew that Huo Yunshen had little idea how to please the old man. How much could a lousy cake like this possibly be worth? Did he feel no shame for bringing it out in public?

The people around them began to snicker, whispering among themselves. They were saying that Huo Yunshen was being too indifferent to the old man and did not respect him.

"Well, it looks delicious. I can't wait to taste it later."

Huo Xun didn't seem bothered at all. He had always loved Huo Yunshen's calm and non-competitive attitude towards things.

Although it was just a cake and it may not have been worth much, it was the thought that counted.

Xu Xiyan began to feel disdain toward the people who had sneered. Who stipulated that a gift's value must be measured by money?

Huo Yunshen's homemade cake is a more thoughtful gift than Huo Jingtang's eight-million-yuan bracelet, okay?!

Huo Yunshen remained calm and composed—which was not helping the situation. He didn't even try to explain his gift.

He was such an aloof man. He wouldn't even speak a word to please his grandfather.

Xu Xiyan could not stand it anymore and decided to step in to explain, "Mr. Huo, this cake is also called the vegetarian cake,

which was personally baked by Yunshen himself. He took into account that you have hyperglycemia, so he did not add any sugar into it and used xylitol instead. All the ingredients are natural and plant-based, so you can consume it with peace of mind."

After listening to Xu Xiyan's explanation, a seemingly ordinary cake had turned into something very special.

"You must've gone through a lot of trouble to make a cake like this, Yunshen," said Huo Xun happily. "Grandpa likes it very much! It's been eight years since I last tasted your homemade cake and finally I have the chance to taste it again today. Listen, everyone! No one is allowed to eat my cake later!"

Lin Yuemei was not convinced. Her son had spent more than eight million Yuan for his gift but the old man was not that impressed. How could the old man be so happy over a lousy cake made by Huo Yunshen?

This is blatant favoritism!

Huo Jingtang stood by his mother, smiling lightly as he watched the old man shower praise and attention onto Huo Yunshen, an unspeakable hatred growing in his heart.

Chapter 124 - What Kind of Girl Do You Like?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Jingtang stood beside his mother. His grandfather had always liked Huo Yunshen more than him. Even though he was smiling on the surface, Huo Jingtang was cursing with anger in his heart.

It had been the same ever since they were children.

Whenever Huo Jingtang wanted to show his grandfather that he was the best, Huo Yunshen would always do better.

When he got a 99 on an exam, Huo Yunshen would score a 100. When he'd finally reach 100, Huo Yunshen had already skipped a grade...

Huo Yunshen had always been the prodigy, the genius in their grandfather's eyes. No matter how hard Huo Jingtang had fought, he'd never gotten into the spotlight.

No one understood Huo Jingtang's feelings, not even Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen's father, Huo Zhen, and mother, Chen Yunlu, were both glad that Huo Yunshen was able to come home and make his grandfather happy.

There was another thing his parents had in mind, which was to let all the young misses from other families show their talents. Maybe Huo Yunshen would fall for one of them.

His parents met eyes with Huo Xun, and the guests started to go up one by one to wish Huo Xun a happy 80th birthday.

Young misses from different families went up and showed their talents. Some made drawings and some made pottery.

Each and every one of them tried their best to show what they were capable of.

Huo Yunshen watched silently, thinking that all of this was prepared for Huo Jingtang.

Xu Xiyan also watched with Huo Yunshen. "Hey, don't you think this is like when an emperor is trying to choose who his concubine should be?" she joked.

"My brother is one of the best in the world," Huo Yunshen said. "Of course, he has to choose a girl that can match his talent and looks."

Huo Jingtang was Huo Yunshen's hero. He had been looking up to his brother ever since he was a kid.

"How 'bout you? Will they prepare such a feast for you when you have to choose your wife, too?" Xu Xiyan asked, lowering her head.

Huo Yunshen was surprised by her sudden question, and his face reddened. "No, I will only marry the girl I truly love," Huo Yunshen said calmly as he tried to hide his flustered heart.

"Then what kind of girl do you like?" Xu Xiyan asked.

"..." Huo Yunshen was too embarrassed to answer the question and could only shout in his heart. It's you, you idiot! The girl I like is you!

Xu Xiyan's head was very close to Huo Yunshen. The scene where those two were whispering to each other was too eyecatching.

Most of people people looked at Xu Xiyan curiously.

Xu Xiyan unintentionally took a peek at Huo Sanyan and noticed Huo Sanyan was staring at her with passionate eyes.

Xu Xiyan couldn't bear the stare and averted her eyes. She noticed a man wearing a red suit beside Huo Sanyan. He looked familiar to her. Xu Xiyan asked Huo Yunshen," Hey, Mr. Huo, don't' you think that guy in the red suit looks like Tang Nade?"

"..." Looks like? That's him!

Yet, Huo Yunshen couldn't tell her the truth, worried that she might notice the Jingyue Entertainment act.

Chapter 125 - He Would Not Lose To A Cripple

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen pretended that he did not know the man and lied. "Really? He doesn't look too much like him. Mr. Tang Nade has long hair and a mustache."

That's right, the eccentric Mr. Tang Nade was not as handsome!

At this moment, the last girl to greet the elder came forward, presenting a gift and saying a birthday blessing to the old man.

Xu Xiyan recognized her at once. It was Xue Yating.

Xu Xiyan was a little surprised. She patted Huo Yunshen's shoulder and said, "Wow, even the country's number one industrialist, Xue Zhengrong, has come to your grandfather's birthday party. He also brought his daughter, Xue Yating, the now very famous violin diva!"

"Yeah," Huo Yunshen gave an apathetic reply. He knew about Xue Yating.

A few years ago, his parents had wanted to arrange a marriage between the Huo and the Xue family. The candidate for marriage was Xue Yating, whom Huo Yunshen had not agreed to marry.

Xue Yating had come to the Huo family mansion to give a performance at the birthday party because her father had requested it of her. Usually, she would not bother participating in any social events. Xue Yating was a proud and picky woman. In the whole of Peijing, there were almost no men who could catch her attention.

Indeed, years ago, the Huo and the Xue family had discussed a potential marriage, and her partner-to-be was Huo Yunshen.

Back then, if Huo Yunshen had not become a cripple, she would have considered it. It was a pity that he was crippled now; she was not willing to throw away her happiness for him.

As for Huo family's eldest young master, Huo Jingtang, he was an outstanding person, but he was not her type.

However, the silver-haired man who had come with Huo Yunshen did catch her eye. He had a special look to him and he was the type she liked.

It was Xue Yating's turn to show her talent. She was going to perform a violin solo for the Huo family elder. Her father Xue Zhengrong stepped up and handed her violin to her.

When Xu Xiyan saw the violin Xue Yating was holding, she shot up from her chair and stared at it in shock.

Artemis!

It was the "Artemis" violin which had belonged to Xu Xiyan's mother!

She finally saw it again!

Huo Yunshen saw her stand up, and turned to her. "What's wrong?"

Xu Xiyan realized that she had gotten too excited and quickly sat down, forcing herself to calm down. "It's nothing. Let's enjoy the show!"

Finally, I'm seeing Artemis again. What should I do?

How could I take the violin back from Xue Yating's hands?

Xue Yating was indeed worthy of the violin goddess title. The sound of her playing was very melodious, intoxicating the audience with a moving performance.

At the end of her performance, Xue Yating bowed and thanked the audience as they burst into thunderous applause. Many people had praised her for her excellent violin playing skills and her extraordinary beauty. It was rare to find someone perfect in both aspects.

The Huo couple and the Huo family elder were impressed with Xue Yating's performance. They believed that the Xue family was the best match according to their criteria.

Lin Yuemei had long known the thoughts of her sister-in-law, Chen Yunlu. She knew that they wanted to arrange a marriage with the Xue family.

She whispered to Huo Jingtang, "Miss Xue Yating is the best among them all. Do your best."

Huo Jingtang did not answer, but he was confident that he would succeed. He would not lose to a cripple.

With his talents and ability, winning Xue Yating over should be a piece of cake.

Xu Xiyan watched Xue Yating leave the stage with her violin. If she missed this opportunity, when would she be able to see the violin again?

Chapter 126 - Don't Sell Me Out

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan did not want to lose her chance to touch "Artemis." She thought of something and suddenly walked to Huo Xun's side and said, "Mr. Huo, Miss. Xue's playing was wonderful, the melody still rings in my head."

Xue Yating heard that the silver-haired man had praised her and her heart began to flutter.

She was very confident in the violin skills, as she could be considered as the best in all of Peijing.

"Mr. Huo," Xu Xiyan continued. "Yunshen has also prepared a song for you to celebrate your birthday today."

"..." Xu Xiyan, what are you planning?

Are you trying to sell me out?

I've already promised my brother that I would never play the piano in front of grandpa, ever.

Huo Xun was surprised to hear that and exclaimed, "Oh? Is that so? Yunshen, it really has been a long time since I've last heard you play the piano!"

Huo Xun couldn't hide his excitement as his little grandson was blessed by the music god ever since he was little.

But Huo Xun never understood why Huo Yunshen would leave it all behind.

Huo Yunshen glanced at Huo Jingting anxiously and whispered to Xu Xiyan, "Jing Xi, what are you trying to do?"

Xu Xiyan smiled, tapped his shoulder and said, "Don't worry, I won't trouble you. Just follow my lead."

·· · · ·

I know you are not trying to trouble me, what I'm worried about is whether you could play an instrument or not...

A duet?

Are you sure?

Some servants carried in a white piano and set it down in the middle of the main hall. Xu Xiyan pushed Huo Yunshen to the piano, stopping him in front of the keyboard. She nodded towards him, then turned and walked towards Xue Yating.

Xue Yating's heart was running wild as she saw the silverhaired man walking towards her.

Oh my god! He's walking towards me! Oh my god!

Xu Xiyan stopped in front of Xue Yating and asked in a gentlemanly tone, "Miss. Xue, may I borrow your violin?"

He can play the violin?! Of course I'm willing to lend it to him!

Xue Yating blushed as she handed Xu Xiyan the violin.

Xu Xiyan thanked Xue Yating and walked towards the piano.

Xue Yating was still drowning in the smile that Xu Xiyan had. It was as cold as the moon in winter, yet surprisingly attractive.

Xu Xiyan stood across from the piano as Huo Yunshen sat opposite her. She plucked Artemis's strings with her thumb and stared at them with passion and warmth.

Xu Xiyan's heart was filled with various emotions as her memories began to flash in her mind.

Looking at Artemis reminded her of her mother.

Xu Xiyan rested the violin on her left shoulder and raised the bow in her right hand.

The bow touched the strings like rocks skipping on water, fast and agile as elegant music began to fill the room. Any professional could hear that Xu Xiyan was an outstanding violinist as soon as the first note began to take form.

Huo Yunshen looked at Xu Xiyan in disbelief. He'd never thought that Xu Xiyan could play the violin that well...even better than Xue Yating.

Chapter 127 - You're My Hero!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan performed with great skill and professionalism. If she hadn't been practicing long-term, it would have been impossible for her to achieve such finesse.

Xue Yating watched "Ye Xun" in shock. Though he was using the same violin, he managed to express a different kind of mood in his performance. It was deep and very moving something she couldn't achieve, herself.

The violin sang beautifully in Xu Xiyan's hands. Sometimes the melody was swift and vigorous with power, and sometimes it was deep and languid with grace.

By listening to the first few notes of her performance, Huo Yunshen already knew what she was playing—it was Beethoven's Symphony No.3 in E-flat Major "Eroica," Op.55.

It was an orchestral piece that required many musical instruments to work together, but at the moment, there was only Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen.

Xu Xiyan's eyes met his, cueing him. He pressed onto the piano keys with both hands and started to play an accompaniment to her performance.

The sounds of the two musical instruments came together seamlessly in perfect harmony. Though this was the first time the two had performed together, they already had immaculate chemistry.

The great composer, Beethoven, once gave "Eroica" a sacred and revolutionary significance. Today, Xu Xiyan wanted to use this piece to tell Huo Yunshen:

Heroes are not born!

True heroes go through many hardships and tremendous efforts before they eventually become great heroes.

Huo Yunshen, you are strong, hardworking, tolerant and unrelenting to your fate; you have already become a hero.

At least in my heart, you are my hero!

Xu Xiyan's eyes were full of worship and admiration for Huo Yunshen. When Huo Yunshen looked at her, his eyes were full of passion and emotion.

They only saw each other. The world faded around them until there were only the two of them left between heaven and earth, using music to dive into each other's hearts, speaking soul to soul.

They were drifting away in an ocean of music. Xu Xiyan's performance was amazing.

Huo Yunshen carried an air of sureness and confidence. He was shining brighter than he was on screen.

Everyone present was enamored by their duet, living in the music world they created.

In the crowd, Huo Jingtang watched Huo Yunshen's talents shining like a diamond. He clenched his hands into fists behind him. He despised him even more.

Huo Yunshen had clearly promised him that he would no longer show off his talents in front of Grandpa. What's up with that today?

He deliberately wanted to win Grandpa's favor. How sly!

Huo Sanyan watched her brother and the silver-haired boy gazing at each other affectionately. Why did that scene look so wrong to her?

She decided that she must learn who he was. "Hey Mr. Tang, since when did my brother befriend that guy? Where did he come from?"

"I don't know," Tang Yichen replied.

He was curious, himself!

"Aren't you close buddies with him?" Huo Sanyan asked again, nudging him.

Her implication was that if there had to be someone who was well-informed about Huo Yunshen's friends, that person would be Tang Yichen.

Tang Yichen scratched his nose. "Well, I used to be. I'm not that close to him anymore."

He did not say the second half of his sentence, that Huo Yunshen had reached the point where he would ignore his friends when he found himself a woman. Hoes before bros, indeed.

There was a brief silence when the ensemble had ended as the audience slowly woke from their reverie, then exploded into a thunderous standing ovation.

As the applause continued, Xu Xiyan reluctantly returned the violin to Xue Yating and thanked her.

Artemis, please wait for me. I will definitely redeem you one day!

At the end of their performance, Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen returned to their seats.

Huo Sanyan shoved her way towards them eagerly. She praised them for their great performance, and then asked Huo Yunshen insinuatingly, "Hey bro, which of the girls' talents do you think is the best?"

Chapter 128 - The Frozen Flower Started To Thaw

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"I thought you guys are helping brother to find a suitable partner today," said Huo Yunshen. "Why are you asking me?"

Huo Yunshen would've answered that it was Xu Xiyan if he thought he was the main character for the night. But he wasn't stupid enough to give his treasure to another man.

"He's still considering, that's why we have to help him," Huo Sanyan said, continuing to probe.

Huo Yunshen thought his sister was telling the truth and said, "I guess Miss Xue is not bad. Ye Xun, what do you think?"

Xu Xiyan had already witnessed how bossy Xue Yating could be, but since it wasn't for Huo Yunshen, she thought it might be better if she didn't insult anyone. "You're right, she's quite the talented lady, one of a kind."

Huo Sanyan nodded. "I think so too! She would definitely look great with Jingtang."

Finally! So that's who you got your eyes on!

The young miss from the Xue family!

Mum! Dad! Your son is finally getting himself a girlfriend!

After the celebration had ended, Huo Yunshen introduced Xu Xiyan (disguised as Ye Xun) to his parents and sisters.

The Huo family welcomed Xu Xiyan warmly and passionately, and even asked her to stay for the night.

But it was impossible for her to stay as she had plans the next day. Xu Xiyan apologized for not being able to stay and was about to leave when Huo Yunshen said he would follow her back.

Huo Yunshen's mother, Chen Yunlu, didn't want her son to leave and said, "Just stay here son. Look at you, you've lost a lot of weight. Just stay here, and I'll cook up something for you to eat every day."

His second sister, Huo Erqi, also begged him to stay. "Come on, little brother. Stay. It's been a long time since we last talked."

Huo Erqi was a talented jewel designer. She had her own jewelry brand called "Blue Tiffany." She was married to a man in Fstan and was living over there. She'd only come back for the special occasion.

"They're right, Yunshen," said his big sister, Huo Yujing. "What's good about living outside? There's no one there to take care of you."

Huo Yijing was working in the media industry. She was married to the biggest real estate developer, Lu Mingsheng. Even though her husband was loaded with cash, she still had her own career. Their relationship was as good as ever, and they even had a son named Lu Qiancheng. She was a person who had succeeded in life.

"Just stay, little brother," Huo Sanyan also joined in. "This is such a special occasion, even your friend has to stay."

Huo Sanyan intended to let Ye Xun stay as well. She wanted to get the chance to know more about him.

Xu Xiyan would've felt bad if she were to take Huo Yunshen along with her as his family was so eager for him to stay.

"Mr. Huo, why don't you stay?" Xu Xiyan suggested. "I have to go to my grandpa's house tomorrow and can't stay by your side anyway."

"Fine, I'll stay," Huo Yunshen agreed to stay since Xu Xiyan had also asked him to. Yet, his family members were already in shock.

They'd tried everything to make him stay and yet he wouldn't. Now he'd agreed to stay because Ye Xun said so.

They grew even more intrigued by the relationship those two had.

The even began to wonder if they were in that kind of relationship...

Chapter 129 - He Had Figured Out Everything About Her

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The women shuddered at the possibility. No, it's impossible...

If there was a problem with the sexual orientation of their beloved son and younger brother, the Huo family legacy would be doomed.

Huo Yunshen agreed to stay for the weekend. Xu Xiyan received a call from the film crew, telling her to report to the set in the afternoon because they were going to shoot extra scenes for Xu Xinrou.

"Come, Ye Xun. I'll escort you out."

Huo Yunshen turned his wheelchair around to leave. Xu Xiyan smiled and waved goodbye to the women before catching up with Huo Yunshen.

On the way out, Xu Xiyan helped Huo Yunshen push his wheelchair. Huo Yunshen whispered to her, "You're so good at the violin. Why didn't you tell me?"

Xu Xiyan replied with a smile, "Well, you never asked!"

"Okay, okay," Huo Yunshen turned his head and looked up at her, asking, "Tell me, what else don't I know about you?"

Xu Xiyan thought for a moment. It seemed the only thing that he did not know was Ying Bao being his daughter.

But it was still obviously not the right time to tell him now, so she shook her head, "Nothing! You've figured out everything about me. How could I have any more secrets?"

"..." Huo Yunshen looked at her blankly. Since when had he figured out everything about her?

He seemed to have never really understood her completely.

For example, where had she gone abroad for five years?

How did she survive?

He couldn't know it all.

Huo Yunshen was silent. Xu Xiyan decided to explain. "Well, let me tell you how I learned to play the violin. My mother used to be a violinist. When I was very young, I grew up surrounded by her music. Then when I was a little older, she taught me to play. You could say that my mother was my rudimentary music teacher and inspired me to learn music."

"Your mother was a violinist?"

Huo Yunshen was reminded of Xu Jinshan's wife, Su Rui. He had heard that she was very proficient in playing mahjong, and not the violin.

"Yeah. Have you heard of the name Jing Ruyue before?"

"Jing Ruyue?" Huo Yunshen's dark eyes suddenly lit up. Every musician would know about a brilliant violinist in the music industry about twenty or thirty years ago, named Jing Ruyue.

Huo Yunshen really had not expected that Xu Xiyan was the daughter of Jing Ruyue. "Don't tell me, your mother is Jing Ruyue?"

"Yes. If not her, who else?" Xu Xiyan's lips curled into a beautiful smile.

Huo Yunshen was very surprised. "If your mother is Jing Ruyue, why did your father tell me that your mother is Su Rui and Xu Xinrou is your sister?"

Oh...no wonder Huo Yunshen was taking special care of the Xu family.

That bastard Xu Jinshan had actually made up such lies to deceive Huo Yunshen.

Xu Xiyan couldn't explain the complicated matters of the Xu family to him yet. She lowered her eyes and briefly explained, "He lied because he didn't want to mention my mother to outsiders. He thinks my mother brought shame to his life."

Huo Yunshen knew a little about Jing Ruyue. When her career in music was gaining momentum, she suddenly gave up music and joined the entertainment industry.

He also knew that she was to be awarded best actress, but a series of ill rumors had broken out on the eve of the awards night and she committed suicide.

That piece of history was a shame in the eyes of outsiders. It was understandable that Xu Jinshan had his own reasons for hiding it.

Xu Xiyan looked down, her face dark. Huo Yunshen suspected that he must've accidentally brought out her sad past, and immediately comforted her. "I'm sorry, I shouldn't have asked so much. Are you okay?"

Chapter 130 - As Hard As Steel

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"I'm sorry, I shouldn't have asked that much."

"I'm fine," Xu Xiyan said, smiling. Her heart was already as hard as steel, and she wouldn't get hurt so easily.

She would make Xu Jinshan's life miserable for thinking that her mother was an embarrassment to him.

Huo Yunshen was glad that he'd gotten to know more about her. "If your mum is Jing Ruyue, doesn't that mean your grandfather is from the famous Chinese medicine family in Peijing, the Jing family?"

"Yup," Xu Xiyan said, smiling. "My grandfather is a great Chinese doctor, his name is Jing Huaduo. People used to call him the reincarnation of the Chinese medicine god."

"I've heard of him! My mum used to go to see him when she was sick. He's really something!" Huo Yunshen shouted in excitement. He never would have thought that Xu Xiyan came from such a famous family.

Both of them talked the whole way to the front gate. Huo Yunshen asked his driver to drive her to the studio.

Xu Xiyan called Fang Xiaocheng when she arrived at the studio and asked her to pick Ying Bao up to meet up later.

After finishing the three scenes as Yao Yue, Xu Xiyan asked for an early leave and left.

She contacted Fang Xiaocheng and found the little truck parked outside. She tucked herself into the truck and was

greeted by the cute little girl.

"Xi Baby..." Ying Bao widened her eyes and opened her arms.

"Ying Baby..." Xu Xiyan hugged her daughter, patted her head and kissed her cheeks.

They missed each other too much as they hadn't seen each other for days. Xu Xiyan loosened her hug and let her daughter sit on her lap.

"Let's go. What do you guys want for dinner?" Xu Xiyan asked. "I'm buying."

"How about steamboat?" Fang Xiaocheng asked, turning her head.

"Steamboat!" Ying Bao clapped her hands in excitement. "Xi Baby's steamboat is the best! It's been so long since I've had steamboat, my mouth is already watering!"

"Steamboat it is! Let's get some ingredients from the marketplace first," Xu Xiyan decided. "Oh, ask Dazhi to join us, too."

"Sure thing! I'll call him right away," Fang Xiaocheng said.

"You better focus on driving, let me do the calling," Xu Xiyan said as she took out her phone and called Wang Dazhi.

After they'd finished their shopping, it was Xu Xiyan's turn to drive as they headed towards Shengshi Yujing.

As they got closer and closer to where billionaires lived, Fang Xiaocheng asked curiously, "Yanyan, where are you living at?"

"We're almost there." Xu Xiyan made a turn, and they drove through Shengshi Yujing's gate.

"Don't tell me you're living here!" Fang Xiaocheng's jaw dropped as she looked at the huge gate.

"It's here all right." Xu Xiyan smiled and stopped in front of the security booth.

The security stopped them as he saw the old truck driving through and shouted, "Trucks are not permitted in this area!"

Xu Xiyan rolled down the window and flashed a key card on her hand. "Even if I live here?"

Chapter 131 - Tricked By A Four-Year-Old

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The security guard flipped the card over and saw the word "Huo" marked at the back of the card. He immediately gave a salute as if he had seen a very important person and respectfully allowed them to pass.

Xu Xiyan took the card back and drove into the community. Fang Xiaocheng was amazed at how Xu Xiyan had dealt with the guard. "Wow, Yanyan! I'll have to stick with you more often!"

"No problem. You know I'll always look out for you."

Xu Xiyan parked the car in the parking space below the apartment. They left the car with Ying Bao and bags of grocery in their arms and walked towards apartment No. 102.

When the door opened, Fang Xiaocheng was shocked by what she saw. "Wooooww! You're living in such a big house alone? This house is too beautiful! It's exactly my dream home!"

Fang Xiaocheng changed her shoes and entered, looking around the spacious house in awe. "Yanyan, how much is the monthly rent for such a big house like this?"

"I don't know, it was...it was my grandfather who found this house for me."

It wouldn't have been a good idea to say that it was Huo Yunshen who had provided the house free for her. She could only use her grandfather as an excuse. Fang Xiaocheng knew the Jing family very well and she fully believed that the Jing family had the means to provide their granddaughter a good house to live in.

The first thing Ying Bao did was to run around the house in a big circle. "Wooooah! Baby can finally live in a big and comfortable and beautiful house with Xi Baby!" she said happily.

Fang Xiaocheng chased after Ying Bao and grabbed her. They fell onto the sofa together. "Auntie Orange also wants to live in a big beautiful house with Little Cherry! Yeah, no way I'm going home tonight! I wanna stay here with Cherry!"

Ying Bao got up and said to Fang Xiaocheng, as if she was the master of the house, "Auntie Orange, Baby invites you to stay in Baby's house, and you will sleep with Baby and Xi Baby tonight."

"Oh, you little cutie! You are too kind! Auntie did not spoil you for nothing."

Fang Xiaocheng squeezed Ying Bao's chubby cheeks happily and teased her, "Hey, if you call me Orange Mommy, I'll tell you a story tonight!"

"Orange Mommy! Orange Mommy!"

The little girl had called her ten times in a single breath, then said, "Auntie Orange, you can't fool me later! Baby just said it ten times, so you should tell Baby ten stories tonight! No sleeping until you've told them all!"

"Oh my god! Am I being tricked by a four-year-old child? Ugh...I can't take it anymore..."

Fang Xiaocheng collapsed onto the sofa and pretended to be dead, Ying Bao shaking her vigorously.

Xu Xiyan chuckled as she watched the two fooling around on the sofa, then took the groceries into the kitchen to prepare a meal. She was quick-handed and it didn't take long for her to prepare the ingredients and start boiling the soup for the steamboat.

The steamboat was ready and placed on the dining table. Fang Xiaocheng helped by placing the steamboat ingredients on the table and Ying Bao busied herself by setting the tableware.

At this time, Xu Xiyan's cell phone rang. It was Wang Dazhi. He was stuck at the security gate of the community and the guard wouldn't let him in.

"Dazhi's at the gate. I'll go pick him up," Xu Xiyan told Fang Xiaocheng, then took the access card and left the house.

At the gate, Xu Xiyan explained to the guards that Wang Dazhi was a friend. The guards finally let him in and the two walked together into the community.

Just as they were entering the community, Huo Yunshen's van came back. The van drove into the community and parked at its usual spot. Huo Yunshen came out of the vehicle and steered his electric wheelchair to apartment No. 101.

Chapter 132 - A Bad Feeling

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen thought he'd seen Xu Xiyan go into the building.

He wheeled himself forward. As he turned around the corner, he saw Xu Xiyan enter Room 102 with another guy.

Xu Xiyan is bringing another guy back to her house?

Who is he?

What's their relationship?

A bad feeling arose in his mind.

Is he her boyfriend?

But, I've never gotten the chance to truly know her. I never even asked whether she has a boyfriend or not...

Of course, I do hope she's still single. But I can't lie to myself anymore. She might have a boyfriend.

She pretty, confident, and bright. Of course, men will fall for her...

Sigh...

Huo Yunshen let out a deep sigh as he went back to Room 101, depressed.

He sat in the dark as he hugged his knees. Even his heart was shaking.

It was a feeling of wanting to love but being unable. It was drowning him.

He used to be proud, and had everything and every talent that anyone could possibly dream of. He was a man born with infinite possibilities, yet he still couldn't get what he yearned for.

The pride was stripped away by the accident, and now he had become a person who could only rely on his wheelchair... He'd become a disabled person.

He kept his feelings to himself because he was afraid he might get rejected and he might lose her.

He was careful, or worse, he was timid.

If he wasn't crippled, he would still try and go after Xu Xiyan, even if she had a boyfriend. But now, he wasn't sure he would be able to match any man that would appear in her life.

He couldn't even save her if she was bullied by other people. He had no right to say that he loved her.

Huo Yunshen fell into despair after he saw Xu Xiyan with another man.

He shouldn't have come back early. At least he wouldn't feel as bad as he did.

Yet, in Room 102, four people were having their food happily after Wang Dazhi arrived.

It had been years since Fang Xiaocheng had last tasted Xu Xiyan's cooking. She and Wang Dazhi kept praising the foods while stuffing their mouths full.

"Xi Baby is the best mum in the world! She's my super mummy!" Ying Bao smiled.

"Of course! If I was a guy, I would definitely marry your mum!" Fang Xiaocheng said.

Ying Bao suddenly stopped eating, and began to worry.

"Ying Bao, what's wrong?" Xu Xiyan noticed and asked.

Ying Bao turned her head and touched her mother's face. "Since Xi Baby is so good, why hasn't a guy come and marry her yet?" Ying Bao sighed.

"..." Xu Xiyan had no idea how to answer her daughter's question.

Fang Xiaocheng also sighed. Ying Bao, It's hard for her to find someone when she has you...

Tears began to formed in Ying Bao's eyes as her cheeks reddened.

"I don't want to drag you down. If Xi Baby has met someone she loves, she should marry him...It's tough to live alone as a girl..."

Chapter 133 - Make 'Em Cringe

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"It's tough for Xi Baby to be a single parent! She has to work day and night, and still take care of an immature baby like me. Sigh... when can Baby buy the best daddy in the world? With a daddy, Xi Baby wouldn't have to work so hard anymore!"

Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi felt their hearts melting inside as they listened to the little girl's words. Kid, could you be any more mature?

After listening to Ying Bao's words, Xu Xiyan felt her nose begin to run.

She knew that her daughter was a sensitive and precocious child, but she did not want her to bear the burdens of an adult too early.

She embraced Ying Bao in her arms and stroked her head. "Oh my little baby, why are you so sensible? Because you're so mature, Xi Baby is willing to work hard for you."

Xu Xiyan hugged Ying Bao, and rubbed her head against her daughter's. Her heart was filled with gratitude, and she thanked God for giving her such a sweet little angel.

Xu Xiyan realized that Ying Bao was just like her father, so caring and thoughtful.

Fang Xiaocheng was watching both mother and daughter having their intimate moment, and said to Wang Dazhi, "See them, Dazhi? We must also have a daughter in the future. Daughters are more intimate!" Wang Dazhi took the opportunity and planted a kiss on Fang Xiaocheng's cheek, "Well, if you say so, then we shall have one."

Xu Xiyan caught them in their act. "Hey, hey, hey, could you please not act all lovey-dovey right here? Don't you dare spoil my daughter's mind, I tell you!"

Ying Bao was not willing to show defeat. She immediately held onto her mother and gave her a big kiss on her cheek that went "Muuaaa!"

"Xi Baby, if Auntie Orange and Uncle Dazhi were being lovey-dovey, we can be lovey-dovey too!" the little girl said, giggling.

"Right! Let's act all lovey-dovey in front of them and make 'em cringe!" Xu Xiyan said, then cupped her daughter's face in her hands and gave her a few more kisses on each cheek.

"Hahaha..." Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi were laughing out loud at the mother-daughter antics.

The four had a great meal together. After dinner, Wang Dazhi took up the responsibility of cleaning up while the girls watched TV and chatted.

After Wang Dazhi had finished cleaning up, he was ready to leave. Fang Xiaocheng reminded him to come pick them up tomorrow morning so they could go to the amusement park together.

Later that night, Xu Xiyan came out from the bathroom and saw Fang Xiaocheng earnestly telling a story to Ying Bao.

They had read the same book for the sixth time and Fang Xiaocheng was already starting to yawn non-stop, but Ying Bao's eyes were still wide and open, paying full attention to the story.

Xu Xiyan reminded them, "All right, after this last story you both have to go to bed early. We're going to the amusement park tomorrow. Don't wake up late!"

"Okay, Xi Baby!" Ying Bao promised, and continued to pester Fang Xiaocheng. "Orange Mommy, why are you stopping?" "Oh... where... where did I stop... ah..."

Fang Xiaocheng was dozing off. Ying Bao really had defeated her. Where did the little one's energy come from?

As the two of them continued their storybook, Xu Xiyan leaned against the headrest on the bed and picked up her phone. She was surprised to see a message from Wing.

[Mr. Yim, I'm sorry to bother you this late. I'm very heartbroken now. What should I do if I fell in love with a girl but she already has a boyfriend?]

Xu Xiyan understood his situation after reading his message. Wing had fallen in love with a girl who already had a boyfriend. He felt trapped and confused.

How should she answer him?

Directly advising him to give up seemed like an irresponsible thing to do.

Xu Xiyan knew very well what it was like to love someone. It was not something you could actually give up easily even if you were determined to do so.

Chapter 134 - He Knew the Answer in His Heart

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan thought for a while and wrote [Does she know? Did you ever confessed to her?]

[I'm afraid to confess, I don't think she knows] Wing wrote.

[She doesn't know, and she has a boyfriend... What would you do if I were to tell you to give up?] Yim replied.

Xu Xiyan did not give him an answer. Instead, she asked him another question.

Huo Yunshen actually knew the answer in his heart, but he needed someone to talk to.

Xu Xiyan kept waiting, but there was no reply.

She put her phone down and sighed.

She believed that every disabled person was a fallen angel.

But they were still normal people, they still had the right to love and be loved. No one should despise them for being who they are.

She thought of Huo Yunshen as she talked to Wing.

She thought of his charming eyes, his smile, his dimples. Whenever she thought of these things, she felt good, warm, like a kite floating in warm skies.

Why do I feel this way about him?

I feel worried whenever I don't see him. I'm afraid that he will feel alone...

Does he ever think of me when I'm not by his side?

With just only a wall between him and Xu Xiyan, Huo Yunshen lay on his bed in Room 101. His face was expressionless.

He couldn't sleep. The feeling of yearning was like bitter poison. Yet, even if he knew it would make him sick, he would still drink that poison.

Xu Xiyan was thinking about Huo Yunshen and Huo Yunshen was thinking about Xu Xiyan, the only difference was one was sweet, and one was bitter.

Mr. Yim suggests that I give up on Xu Xiyan...what should I do?

I've longed for her for more than five years, it's not as simple as it sounds...

I know I shouldn't be obsessed with her, but my life is meaningless without her...

It hurts... It hurts so much...

What should I do...

•••

The three girls slept well the whole night and woke up refreshed. Xu Xiyan and Fang Xiaocheng brought Ying Bao out after they had their breakfast.

Wang Dazhi had already arrived downstairs in a sedan borrowed from his friend.

They got in the car and drove towards the biggest theme park in all of Peijing.

The theme park was crowded since it was Sunday.

Xu Xiyan made Ying Bao wear a little beret and a mask as Ying Bao was quite the famous person online.

The four of them played on different rides happily.

Ying Bao asked Fang Xiaocheng to accompany her on the dumbo ride as Xu Xiyan sat on a nearby stool waiting for them.

Wang Dazhi had gone to buy two popcorns, one for Ying Bao, the other for Fang Xiaocheng and Xu Xiyan.

He gave one to Xu Xiyan and sat down beside her. They chatted happily.

Tang Yitan and his wife had brought their seven-year-old son, Tang Feimo, to the theme park as well. He never would've thought that he'd meet Xu Xiyan there.

The scene of Xu Xiyan chatting with another guy was etched into his mind.

Chapter 135 - Is He Letting Her Cheat On Him?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Tang Yichen was like a member of the paparazzi who had discovered a juicy scoop. He immediately took out his phone to take a picture of Xu Xiyan and the other man as they intimately talked and laughed together.

From the angle where Tang Yichen had taken the photo, the man's back was facing the camera. Only Xu Xiyan's face was clear and visible.

After taking the photo, Tang Yichen immediately called Huo Yunshen and told him, "Hey bro, I have exclusive news! I saw your girlfriend at the amusement park."

"Uh," Huo Yunshen only gave an apathetic reply over the phone.

Huo Yunshen seemed disinterested. Tang Yichen could not stand his reaction, and continued to break the news to him:

"She's with another man, I tell you, and the both of them behaved very much like a couple. Hey, have you ever checked her background before? Has she cheated on you since you two were together?"

Tang Yichen was just concerned about his old buddy. He was worried that Huo Yunshen might be betrayed.

Think about it. A beautiful girl like Jing Xi was willing to be with Huo Yunshen in his current situation. Was it really true love? It's not that he wanted to make up some nonsense, but really, how many girls these days were sincere?

Huo Yunshen was a cripple. If someone was willing to be with him, it had to be for his money or his status. Just think about it!

Tang Yichen continued to prattle on, but Huo Yunshen was still indifferent. "Whatever. That's her business."

"Huh? Your girlfriend is with... you're not even concerned? What if she really is cheating on you? Want me to teach that dude a lesson?"

Tang Yichen was acting like an overly worried mother. He feared that his friend would not be able to withstand the shock of being cheated on, and that he would fall into despair and lose all hope, give up on life and become a monk in the mountains...

When Tang Yichen said that he wanted to teach that man a lesson, Huo Yunshen reprimanded him, his voice harsh. "Don't you dare disturb her! Do you hear me? Damn it!"

Tang Yichen was speechless. This was obviously a serious matter, and yet his boss didn't give a single damn about it. That's her business?

Is he really letting her cheat on him?

Although Tang Yichen felt somewhat uneasy, he still obeyed Huo Yunshen's words and did not go looking for trouble.

His son, Tang Feimo, wanted to go to the attractions, and he pulled his father along with him. Tang Yichen had no choice but to give up on the situation at hand and accompany his son.

Xu Xiyan did not wait long before Ying Bao and Fang Xiaocheng came out of the ride. She handed her daughter a pack of popcorn, and the four of them moved on to other attractions.

At noon, they had hamburgers and chicken wings for lunch at the KFC restaurant in the amusement park. After a hearty meal, the four continued their day at the park. When they were about to go on the Pirate's Treasure Hunt ride, Xu Xiyan's phone rang. It was the film crew.

They were going to shoot extra scenes again today. Xu Xiyan had no choice but to rush over to the film set and leave her daughter behind.

Ying Bao knew that her mother had work. Anyway, she had Fang Xiaocheng to accompany her. Instead of asking her mother to stay, she assured her, "Don't worry Xi Baby, you can go to work! Baby will be happy being with Orange Mommy!"

The little girl was starting to call Fang Xiaocheng "Orange Mommy" out of habit. Fang Xiaocheng felt her heart swelling with joy.

"All right, I'll contact you after I'm done with the shoot. I'll leave Ying Bao in Dazhi's and your care," Xu Xiyan said.

"No problem, just leave it to me! You should go quickly!" Fang Xiaocheng said, then turned to Wang Dazhi. "Dazhi, could you drive her to the set?"

"Sure, no problem. I'll come back and look for you guys later."

His wife's words were like a royal edict. After receiving it, Wang Dazhi escorted Xu Xiyan, and they left together.

Chapter 136 - Already Found the Treasure

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

After the other two had left, Fang Xiaocheng and Ying Bao were waiting in line for the Treasure Hunt ride.

Coincidentally, Ying Bao sat next to Tang Feimo during the ride.

The two children were both excited. When the ride was about to begin, Ying Bao thought that the mask was getting in the way and asked Fang Xiaocheng, "Mummy Orange, can I take off my mask?"

"Of course you can." Fang Xiaocheng helped her take off the mask. She was not afraid that other people might notice Ying Bao, as the ride was very dark.

Ying Bao raised her head to look at the rainbow-colored lights on top, and her beret fell off.

"Where did my hat go?" Ying Bao asked, touching her head.

The beret landed on Tang Feimo's side, and he picked it up.

"Here, your hat," he said as he handed Ying Bao the beret.

Ying Bao turned and noticed that a slightly older boy had helped her picked her hat up. "It's my hat! Thank you!" she said.

"You're wel..." Tang Feimo couldn't finish his sentence as he recognized who the little girl was.

Hey, isn't this Cherry Baby?

It's her, right?

The dimples on her face when she smiles! It's definitely her!

I watch her live stream every week, it's her!

Ying Bao shook her legs happily as she waited for the pirate ship to set sail. Tang Feimo kept staring at her. The ride hadn't even begun, and he'd already found his treasure.

The ship began to move along the tunnel. Ying Bao kept shouting for help as she grabbed Fang Xiaocheng's shirt with one hand and Tang Feimo's sleeve with the other as they went by various scary scenes.

"Don't worry, I will protect you," Tang Feimo said like a knight.

"Thank you." Ying Bao suddenly remembered the knight story that Fang Xiaocheng had told her the night before. The boy beside was just like the knight from the story, saving the princess in time of need. "Are you a knight?"

Tang Feimo looked at her for two seconds and said, "I can be."

Ying Bao felt that knights should only protect princesses and said, "But I'm not a princess..."

"You could be one too!" Tang Feimo answered. He liked watching Ying Bao's live stream, he'd always viewed her as his own cute princess.

"Really?"

"Of course."

"You're a valiant knight, I'll honor you with the Knight's Medal," Ying Bao smiled as she took out a round brooch and gave it to him. The brooch had a clover pattern on it, and she'd gotten it from winning a game earlier that day.

Even though the medal was just a little girl's brooch, Tang Feimo felt like he was a real knight when he received it from Cherry Baby.

As the ride was about to end, the two of them had become friends. Ying Bao was smiling brightly as she felt that the boy beside her was a good person. When the ride ended, Fang Xiaocheng helped Ying Bao put her mask back on, and both of them left. Ying Bao turned and waved goodbye to Tang Feimo as they left.

Even after the two people were long gone, Tang Feimo was still staring at the direction they'd gone. Tang Yitan came back with sodas in his hands and noticed that his son was gazing at something.

"What are you looking at?" he asked.

"A princess!"

Tang Yitan looked in the same direction his son was looking, but could only see tons and tons of people. "What princess? Let's go."

Tang Feimo turned and faced his father with excitement. "Dad! Do you who was sitting beside me when I was on the ride?" he asked.

Chapter 137 - She Wanted to Discriminate Against Her

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Dad, guess who was sitting next to me on the pirate ship?"

"No," Tang Yichen said. "It wasn't me, anyway."

Tang Yichen scratched his nose. He and his son had sat in two different rows. They were not together on the ride.

"It was Cherry Baby!" Tang Feimo said.

"Who? Cherry Baby?!"

When Tang Yichen finally realized, he let out a squeal, "Oh my god! Is it true? Why didn't you call me just now! I didn't get to see her!" He sighed. "Son, you're so selfish. I wish you had taken me to see her."

Tang Yichen was stamping his feet in disappointment that he had missed a chance to see Cherry Baby.

Tang Feimo watched his father go mad and laughed out loud at him. No way would he have told his father!

Cherry Baby could only be his princess.

Ha! I hope I can see Cherry Baby again!

•••

Meanwhile at the "Red Sleeved Beauty" set, in the Peijing Eastern Suburb Film and Television Studios, the afternoon shoot was beginning for scenes with Xu Xinrou and Qi Liya.

As a close servant to the Lady Meng Jinxin, Yao Yue, Xu Xiyan had to be present at Xu Xinrou's side as long she was at the shoot.

As long as Xu Xinrou was in a scene, Xu Xiyan had to come for the shoot.

Since Xu Xinrou had learned of Xu Xiyan's secrets, she did not try to cause any more trouble for her. Even when Xu Xinrou was waiting for her turn to act and had some idle time, she left Xu Xiyan alone.

Although she did not go looking for trouble, it did not mean that she didn't have grudges against Xu Xiyan. On the contrary, Xu Xinrou hated her very much.

Why was her family's business depending on a mongrel like her?

Was she really worse than Xu Xiyan?

She was already a popular star and Xu Xiyan was still a nobody.

Xu Xiyan was only a prop beside her!

While Xu Xinrou was having a make-up artist touch-up her makeup, her assistant Wen Li came in with a few people behind her, carrying boxes.

Wen Li ordered them to put the boxes down, then went over to Xu Xinrou and reported to her. "Xinrou, President Chu sent some staff members here to deliver afternoon tea and snacks. He said they're for the crew."

Xu Xinrou took a glance at the boxes, then said to Wen Li, "Distribute them to the crew!"

"Okay!"

Wen Li began to distribute the food. Everyone in the crew received tea and some snacks, but Xu Xiyan did not receive any.

Wen Li shook the empty box, snickering. "Oh, I'm so sorry, Jing Xi. Everyone got their share but there are no more left for you."

"It's okay. I didn't want it anyway."

Xu Xiyan shot Wen Li a cold look. She knew that this was all Xu Xinrou's deliberate act. She did it because she wanted to discriminate against her within the crew.

Those who had taken Xu Xinrou's tea and snacks began to praise her.

These people were all fickle bandwagoners. They would suck up to whoever was winning.

They were aware that Xu Xinrou and Xu Xiyan were on bad terms since last week because of the third scene's unscripted slapping incident. Xu Xinrou was more famous, so they naturally sucked up to her and helped her disparage Xu Xiyan.

Zhao Ruiqi, a girl who also played a palace maiden in the drama said, "Miss Xinrou's boyfriend is so thoughtful for sending food and refreshments to the set."

Another girl named Guan Xiaoling answered, "Yes! Miss Xinrou is not only an excellent actress, but she is also beautiful and has a good boyfriend in President Chu. I'm so envious!"

Zhao Ruiqi spoke again. "If I had such a great boyfriend like President Chu, I would not bother to work at this exhausting acting gig. But Miss Xinrou is different; she would rely on her own efforts instead of her boyfriend's status to work her way up, unlike those who try to exploit their way into the cast."

"Well, at least those who exploit their way in prove that they have the looks," replied Guan Xiaoling. "Unlike us...we're not even pretty. Nobody would bother looking at us even if we begged them to."

Chapter 138 - Curse You!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"You're right, Jing Xi is gorgeous," Zhao Ruiqi said. "She's not from any acting college, she didn't even join the audition, yet she got a part in the show. I've got nothing to say!"

"Same here. Nowadays, you don't need any skills as long as you can get some wealthy boss by your side."

Xu Xiyan heard what they were gossiping about, yet she ignored them and kept reading the script.

It was other people's mouths, and she couldn't control them. On the other hand, she might look guilty if she were to oppose them.

"Hey, Jing Xi, is it true that you're acquainted with Mr. Huo?" Zhao Ruiqi asked.

Xu Xiyan looked at Zhao Ruiqi emotionlessly and replied, "I don't know him."

"Then why did he help you out the other day?" Zhao Ruiqi didn't buy her lie.

Anyone would've seen that Huo Yunshen was helping Xu Xiyan that day.

Xu Xiyan put down her script and said with a hint of disdain, "If you were acquainted with Mr. Huo, would you still play a mere servant?"

"Well, if it was me, I would definitely ask for the main actress spot," Zhao Ruiqi said.

"Then, there's your answer," Xu Xiyan said, turning back to her script.

She's right. If she really knew Huo Yunshen, she would definitely land a spot better than a servant.

Zhao Ruiqi noticed that she couldn't get any benefits from Xu Xiyan and didn't continue any further.

Xu Xinrou had just finished her makeup as she heard Zhao Ruiqi talking about Huo Yunshen which filled her heart with anger.

Why would Huo Yunshen fall for Xu Xiyan?

They didn't even know each other five years ago!

What's more frustrating is that he even went all that way to help her and embarrass me in front of everyone else. He's not even respecting his relationship with my dad and Chu Yuhe!

It's so frustrating!

Xu Xinrou kept cursing in her heart. She hoped that he would be crippled forever so that a relationship with Xu Xiyan could not even bear fruit.

Most of the scenes that day didn't require Xu Xiyan to do anything besides standing still. Everything went well.

It was almost dawn when the shooting finished. Xu Xiyan called Fang Xiaocheng to make sure that she'd sent Ying Bao back to the Jing mansion.

After she finished calling Fang Xiaocheng, she couldn't hold her urge to call Huo Yunshen to ask about his condition at the Huo mansion.

She also wanted to ask when he would return to Shengshi Yujing.

Huo Yunshen picked up her call and answered with a rough voice.

"Mr. Huo? Are you all right? What's wrong with your voice?" Xu Xiyan asked with concern.

"I'm fine.. cough..." Huo Yunshen said.

Xu Xiyan guessed that he was sick and asked anxiously, "Are you sick? Are you still at the Huo mansion? Did you see a

doctor?"

"I'm at... Shengshi Yujing..." Huo Yunshen tried to hold his cough in.

"Wait for me, I'm coming there right now," Xu Xiyan said.

Xu Xiyan hailed a taxi and rushed back to Shengshi Yujing, not forgetting to buy some cough pills on the way.

Not a single light was on in Room 101. It was pitch black.

Xu Xiyan opened the door with her key and switched on the lights.

She changed to a pair of slippers and rushed to the bedroom.

She turned on the bedroom's light and saw a man lying on the bed unconscious, his face as pale as a ghost...

Chapter 139 - Jing Xi, Don't Go

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

She cried out his name a few times. Huo Yunshen was delirious in his high fever and he could vaguely hear Xu Xiyan calling his name.

He thought it was an illusion and reached out to her saying, "Jing Xi, don't go..."

"I'm here. I'm not going anywhere."

Xu Xiyan held his hand, closing her fingers around his.

His palm was wide in her hand. It felt dry and very warm.

His body temperature was so high. Was it a fever?

He mumbled something incomprehensible then fainted. Xu Xiyan touched his forehead with the back of her hand. It really was a fever.

He looked very ill and Xu Xiyan felt an unspeakable heartache. Wasn't he fine yesterday?

How did he suddenly become sick today?

Xu Xiyan had learned Chinese medicine from her grandfather since she was a child. She remained calm as she looked him over and took his pulse, then proceeded to treat him and lower his body temperature.

Xu Xiyan boiled some ginger soup. Then she helped sit him up and held him in her arms, feeding him ginger soup bit by bit. After the soup was gone, she covered Huo Yunshen with a blanket.

He began to sweat heavily, and not long after that, his fever receded and he began to regain consciousness.

Huo Yunshen opened his eyes and saw Xu Xiyan in front of him, light returning to his dark eyes.

"Jing Xi, why are you here?" he said weakly.

Even though he had lost his voice, he still sounded charming and even more mesmerizing.

Xu Xiyan helped him wipe the sweat off his forehead and his body and said, "If I had not come, you might've died and nobody would have known."

"Thank you."

Huo Yunshen knew that she had been taking care of him and felt very moved.

"You don't have to thank me. I am your caretaker and I'm supposed to take care of you."

Then she looked at him and said, "But, weren't you all right back at the Huo family house yesterday? How did you become so sick today? Why didn't you contact anyone?"

How would Xu Xiyan know that Huo Yunshen had become seriously ill because of her?

Since last night, he had sunk into a depression and did not sleep or eat or drink until today, trapped in pain and turmoil.

Anxiety, sadness, hopelessness...he was suffering in all sorts of complicated moods. How could he not fall ill?

"I didn't expect it to be so serious, and I thought I would recover..." he said, then let out a few coughs.

Huo Yunshen thought that he could bear with it, but he did not expect to have a fever that high and become very sick.

"Not only do you have a fever but you're also coughing. Don't be so stubborn next time; you should go to a doctor if you're not feeling well. Don't you know how worried your mother and your sisters will be if they learned you've fallen very ill?" Xu Xiyan lectured him.

Huo Yunshen did not speak. In fact, he did not care whether others would become worried for him. He really wanted to ask, Jing Xi, would you worry about me?

Xu Xiyan continued to wipe his body with a warm towel. Her movements were natural, as if she was a wife wiping her husband's body.

When she reached his lower abdomen, Huo Yunshen suddenly grabbed her hand.

Xu Xiyan was surprised and looked up, "What's wrong?"

Huo Yunchen's cheeks were flushing red. "You don't have to wipe anymore."

"You've been sweating all over. If you're not dry and put in clean clothes, the moisture will seep into your body and aggravate your condition."

Xu Xiyan guessed that he was shy, but she was his caregiver now. Isn't it normal for her to clean his body?

"But..."

How could he let her do these things for him?

Chapter 140 - I've Seen Every Inch of Your Body

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen would always think of dirty stuff whenever he saw Xu Xiyan.

He was afraid that he would lose his composure in front of her.

"But what?" Xu Xiyan hugged her arms and asked. "Come on, I've already seen every inch of your body, what are you even embarrassed about?"

·· ... ,,

Shouldn't this be my line instead of hers?

Huo Yunshen's face reddened, and his temperature rose.

"Come on now, you're the patient, and I'm the doctor. You should listen to the doctor, you know." Xu Xiyan smiled warmly and helped him wipe his body with the towel.

After a few moments, Xu Xiyan let out an awkward cry and stared between Huo Yunshen's leg. "Wait... I thought...," Xu Xiyan stammerered. "I thought you weren't able to do that anymore?"

Rumors are spreading out there about Huo Yunshen's sexual dysfunction, and even the doctor confirmed it. So...what am I looking at right now?

My eyes are definitely normal...

Huo Yunshen felt like someone had found out his secret and it was very awkward. He quickly covered himself with a blanket and said, "Didn't I tell you to stop..." "Shouldn't I congratulate you, Mr. Huo? Your body has recovered, it's something to be happy about!"

·· ... ,,

Huo Yunshen thought it was awkward for them to discuss this matter, but Xu Xiyan thought otherwise. She was glad for Huo Yunshen's recovery.

"If you mum and sisters were to learn about this, they would definitely be happy! Now you can have a wife and kids like a normal person. Others will stop making fun of you, too!"

Please don't...

If my mum knew about this, she'd definitely come and bug me everyday...

"Jing Xi, could you please help me keep this a secret?" Huo Yunshen asked.

"Of course! I'll keep my lips shut!" Xu Xiyan smiled. "All right, get some rest. I'll go make you something to eat."

"Okay," Huo Yunshen nodded. His eyes followed her gently until she left the room.

Xu Xiyan's appearing beside his bed had cured his fever by half. Huo Yunshen believed that Xu Xiyan was the best cure for him.

After a whole night of thinking, he finally understood something.

I love her, and she can't do anything about it.

That's how it is...

Huo Yunshen loved Xu Xiyan, he missed her and wanted to see her every day, but he did not expect her to have the same feelings anymore.

Even if they wouldn't be a couple in the future, he would still treasure every minute he has with her.

It was like Huo Yunshen had made a huge decision. He picked up his phone and wrote a message. Xu Xiyan was cooking up some congee in the kitchen. She guessed that since Huo Yunshen had just recovered, he could only digest foods that were light and simple.

Just as she was cooking, her phone vibrated. She checked her phone and noticed it was a message from Wing.

[Mr. Yim, I finally thought it through! I love her, and there's nothing she can do about it! I definitely can't give up on her. I don't expect her to be with me, but just seeing her every day is enough for me.]

Is Yim replying to my question from yesterday? Xu Xiyan thought.

Chapter 141 - That Aspect Had Become Normal

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

She had advised him to let go, but he chose to wait foolishly.

Xu Xiyan sighed. There was nothing wrong with it, but for Wing, it must be very painful to be in unrequited love!

He was so infatuated and persistent with the girl.

Oh, I hope God will look after him more.

After the food was cooked, Xu Xiyan took it into the room and fed it to Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen's condition was so much better now, and his face was not as pale as before. His illness had left him a trace of morbid beauty that added to his charm and mysteriousness, and he looked like a man of beauty from a more ancient and romantic era.

Xu Xiyan could not help but feel mesmerized by his beauty.

Just looking at him and thinking about him, her heart couldn't stop thumping in her chest.

Thinking of his recovered masculine glory made Xu Xiyan's cheeks feel hot. When he had become normal in that aspect, he became a hundred times more attractive than usual!

Huo Yunshen saw Xu Xiyan looking at him dreamily and was puzzled. He touched his face and asked, "Is there something on my face?"

"Huh? Oh, it's nothing. I'm going to wash the dishes."

Xu Xiyan shook her head vigorously and fled with the empty bowl.

In order to take care of him, Xu Xiyan did not return to her own apartment and stayed in his apartment for the night instead.

For a long time, she had trouble sleeping, tossing and turning like a pancake on a hot pan before she managed to fall asleep.

The next day, Xu Xiyan woke at the first morning light. After washing up, she went over to Huo Yunshen's room and knocked on the door.

There was no response. She gently pushed the door open and glanced around the room.

He's not in his room?

He already woke up?

Xu Xiyan left his room and looked around his apartment, but there was still no sign of him. She was about to call him on his phone, but she heard some sounds coming from the backyard.

Xu Xiyan followed the sound. Through the glass door, she saw a vibrant mini garden outside.

The handsome man was sitting in the garden, iridescent flowers blooming and flourishing around him, but none matching his magnificent beauty.

Huo Yunshen seemed to be in good health and spirits. He was digging in the soil with a long shovel.

"Mr. Huo, what are you doing?" Xu Xiyan said as she approached him. She was worried that he had not fully recovered yet. He shouldn't be doing such strenuous work!

Huo Yunshen stopped what he was doing and looked up, smiling at her. "I'm turning over the soil."

"What do you need to turn the soil for?"

Xu Xiyan couldn't imagine that a noble and crippled man would get his hands dirty doing such manual work. "I plan to plant some flowers. This spot has been empty for some time, so why not fill it up with something?" The advantage of living on the first floor was that the house came with a backyard, so you could grow some flowers and vegetables.

"Don't tell me, you planted these flowers by yourself?"

Xu Xiyan thought that he did a good job taking care of the mini garden. All the plants looked very healthy and prosperous.

"Yeah. I do some gardening when I'm bored, just to kill some time."

Huo Yunshen continued to work the soil. Although his legs were weak and he was sitting in a wheelchair, his arms were still powerful and he did not need to spend too much effort digging at the ground.

"You're still not well yet! Let me help you instead!"

Xu Xiyan took the shovel from his hand and dug at the spot he was digging.

"No! Men are supposed to do this kind of hard labor!"

Huo Yunshen took the shovel back from her and said, "If you really want to help me, you can go bring the seeds to me."

"Okay!"

Xu Xiyan readily agreed. After running a few steps, she turned and asked, "Where do you keep the seeds?"

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Chapter 142 - : I Don't Have That Kind of Luck

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"They're on the shelf over there."

Xu Xiyan followed his finger and found the flower seeds.

Surprisingly, the shelf was filled with all sorts of succulents, and they looked like the ones that were sold on Ying Bao's livestreams.

Xu Xiyan picked up a few of the succulents and checked the labels underneath.

Alice in Succulent Land, Raider of the Lost Succulent, Succulent Story...

They really are the succulents that Ying Bao was selling!

Xu Xiyan shouted excitedly. She couldn't believe that it was Huo Yunshen who had bought all these plants.

Wait, doesn't this mean Huo Yunshen is the billionaire "Tianshang Paiolai Yiduo Yun?"

What a small world! How would he react if he knew he'd bought so many plants from his own daughter?

Xu Xiyan retrieved the seeds and asked Huo Yunshen, "Mr. Huo, I saw that you have a lot of succulents on the shelf, where did you get them from?"

Huo Yunshen looked at the shelf and smiled. "Oh, those? I got them from a livestream."

"You watch livestreams?" Xu Xiyan acted surprised.

"Yup."

"What kind of livestreams do you watch? Are they the ones with hot girls dancing?" Xu Xiyan teased.

"Do I look like the kind of person who would watch those?" Huo Yunshen laughed, showing off his dimples on his cheeks. "I only watch this livestream of a cute little girl named Cherry Baby. Look."

Huo Yunshen unlocked his phone and showed Cherry Baby's profile picture on the live streaming app. "See, she's cute, right?"

"She is." Xu Xiyan looked at the screen. What a cute little girl, I wonder how many people were charmed by my cute little daughter?

"She's not only cute but also talented, especially her eloquence!" Huo Yunshen kept on praising Ying Bao like she was his own daughter.

Xu Xiyan guessed that Huo Yunshen really liked kids from his tone. At least he won't hate Ying Bao, right?

What if I let them meet?

"Mr. Huo, you really like Cherry Baby, don't you?" Xu Xiyan asked.

"Of course!"

"Have you ever thought what you would do if you had such a cute daughter one day?" Xu Xiyan asked, resting her hands on the wheelchair's handle.

A daughter like Cherry Baby in the future? Hmm...

Huo Yunshen paused for a while, then said, "I'd definitely be the best father in the world and love her. I guess I'd never be able to leave her side, and I'd give her as much fatherly love as possible. I'd make her the happiest kid everyday..."

Perfect!

Just like the father Ying Bao wanted!

Suddenly, the smile on Huo Yunshen's face disappeared. "But, I don't have this kind of luck, do I?" Huo Yunshen said sentimentally.

If I weren't in the accident, I might have a kid like Cherry Baby one day, but...

Xu Xiyan understood that the question had hurt him. She pulled his sleeve and asked, "Mr. Huo, have I ever told you that I'm actually acquainted with Cherry Baby?"

It was like someone had pulled him back to reality. He raised his head and asked, "You're acquainted with Cherry Baby?"

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Chapter 143 - She Brought Her Boyfriend

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Well, she's my..." Xu Xiyan paused.

"...my best friend's sister's child," she continued. Then she smiled and asked him, "Do you want to see Cherry Baby in person? I could introduce you to her."

"Really?" Huo Yunshen said, very surprised. He really wanted to see Cherry Baby in person.

"Yes, I'm serious. Next time we meet, I can introduce you."

"All right," Huo Yunshen replied happily.

Xu Xiyan had decided. She should let Huo Yunshen interact with Ying Bao more often.

The cheerful little child could accompany Huo Yunshen and make his life more interesting, and maybe it would be beneficial to his health too.

Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen continued to work together and planted the chamomile seeds until they'd covered the last plot of tilled earth.

When they were done planting the flowers, the morning sun had risen higher into the sky, shining its warm rays onto them. Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen sat together in front of the flower garden, basking in the sun.

Since Xu Xiyan had nothing to do, she helped Huo Yunshen massage his legs. Huo Yunshen was somewhat flattered. "There's no need to. You should rest!"

Xu Xiyan did not listen to him and continued massaging him. "It's okay, I'm not tired. It will improve your blood circulation."

After allowing Xu Xiyan massage his legs for a while, Huo Yunshen said, "You seem very skilled. You've studied acupoints?"

"Yeah! Have you forgotten? My grandfather is a veteran traditional Chinese doctor and I've been learning the skill from him since I was a child. I know not only the acupoints but also acupuncture, you know!"

"You're really talented," Huo Yunshen praised her.

"It's really nothing. The one who is really talented is my grandfather."

Xu Xiyan thought of something, then suggested, "Actually, Mr. Huo, I would like to suggest you to try traditional Chinese medicine. Maybe it will help you in your recovery."

"Sure!"

As long it was suggested by Xu Xiyan, Huo Yunshen was willing to give it a try. "Do I have to make an appointment with Mr. Jing in advance?"

"What appointment? As long I'm there, there's no need to make any appointment!"

Xu Xiyan thought about the day's schedule, then added, "What luck. I don't have to go to the shoot this morning. I can take you to my grandfather."

So it was settled. After breakfast, Huo Yunshen ordered his driver to drive them to "Renjing Chinese Medicine Hall."

Their van stopped outside of the chinese medicine hall and they got out of the van. Xu Xiyan and Yi Xiao pushed Huo Yunshen into the medicine hall.

The nurse, Xiaomei, was sitting at the front desk. Xu Xiyan said to her, "Miss Xiaomei, I've brought a friend to see my grandfather. Is he in?"

Xiaomei glanced behind Xu Xiyan and saw Yi Xiao. She thought Xu Xiyan had brought her boyfriend, and smiled, "Oh yes, Yanyan, the old doctor is here. Shall I go inform him?"

"Okay. We'll go wait in the waiting lounge first."

After Xu Xiyan and Xiaomei had greeted each other, Yi Xiao pushed Huo Yunshen and followed Xu Xiyan into the waiting lounge.

After a while, Jing Huaduo, who was wearing a big white coat, appeared at the door, smiling.

Xu Xiyan stood up. "Grandfather."

"I heard that you've brought your boyfriend?"

The old man walked towards them with his hands behind his back. The first thing he saw was Yi Xiao, who was standing next to Xu Xiyan. The young man was tall and quite good looking. The old man was starting to like him.

He looked Yi Xiao up and down, "Is he the one?"

Err...

Xu Xiyan was a bit skeptical about Xiaomei's communication ability. Had she said that she had brought her boyfriend?

"No, grandfather, you're mistaken."

Xu Xiyan stepped forward and held onto the old man's arm and pointed to Huo Yunshen, who was behind Yi Xiao, and explained, "That one is my friend. I've specially brought him to see you."

Jing Huaduo saw the man in the wheelchair, and his smile froze on his face...

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Chapter 144 - I'm Only Here For the Treatment Though...

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Jing Huaduo saw the man in the wheelchair, and his smile froze on his face. Is this the guy that my granddaughter is dating?

"Nice to meet you, Mr. Jing. My name is Huo Yunshen."

Jing Huaduo knew who Huo Yunshen was.

This man sitting in a wheelchair could only be Huo Xun's grandson.

The Jing and Huo family had been on bad terms for a long time, especially Jing Huaduo, who disliked them the most.

The reason was that Huo Xun had stolen Jing Huaduo's childhood friend and crush, Yun Meng, from him.

It always hurt Jing Huaduo whenever he thought of it.

He wasn't about to let Huo Xun's grandson take his granddaughter away, too.

"Yanyan, come out with me for a while," Jing Huaduo said, signaling for Xu Xiyan to come to the garden.

Xu Xiyan had no idea what her grandfather wanted and followed him. She asked Huo Yunshen to wait for her inside before leaving.

"Yanyan, what's your relationship with Huo Yunshen?" Jing Huaduo asked.

Naturally, Jing Huaduo thought Huo Yunshen was Xu Xiyan's boyfriend and was worried about her.

"Listen to me, Yanyan. I don't really mind what kind of boyfriend you find...as long as it's not someone from the Huo family."

"Why's that?" Xu Xiyan asked. She didn't even try to explain her relationship with Huo Yunshen, as she wondered why her grandfather hated the Huo family so much.

"Don't probe and just listen to me. Get yourself as far away from the Huo family as possible, especially Huo Yunshen. He's in a wheelchair and can't even take care of himself. You're just ruining your future."

Huo Yunshen had heard everything that Jing Huaduo was saying.

This is some plot twist... I'm only here for the treatment, why did it turn out like this?

I would've never thought Jing Huaduo would hate my family so much, to the extent that he would object to me being in a relationship with Xu Xiyan...

Another weight was formed in Huo Yunshen's heart.

"Keep your voice down, grandfather," Xu Xiyan said, afraid that Huo Yunshen might hear their conversation.

"Why should I?" Jing Huaduo asked, raising his voice. "This is my clinic. I can say whatever I want!"

Xu Xiyan did not want to hurt Huo Yunshen any further and decided to clear up their relationship.

At least her grandfather would not make things difficult for Huo Yunshen anymore.

"This is a mistake, grandpa. We aren't in a relationship, we're just normal friends. I brought him here because I told him you're good at what you do."

"Is it true?" Jing Huaduo looked at Xu Xiyan.

"Of course it is, have I ever lie to you before?"

Chapter 145 - This Vow Is Too Extreme!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

After listening to Xu Xiyan's explanation, Jing Huaduo was relieved.

But Huo Yunshen felt as if his world had fallen into darkness.

Was he only an ordinary friend to Xu Xiyan?

Since the misunderstanding had been clarified, and as long the Huo family did not get involved in his granddaughter's love life, everything else was fine.

Jing Huaduo, who had always been a benevolent doctor, returned to the medicine hall and smiled.

"Young master Huo, I apologize to have kept you waiting. Since you are a friend of Yanyan, I'll do my best to treat you."

Huo Yunshen nodded calmly and thanked him.

Jing Huaduo proceeded to examine Huo Yunshen's health. According to his decades of experience in medical practice, he believed that Huo Yunshen was very likely to stand up again.

When Jing Huaduo treated him with acupuncture, Huo Yunshen felt the nerves in his leg reacting and he could feel some slight numbness. This was a good sign.

"Young master Huo, in addition to your rehabilitation I suggest that you receive acupuncture treatment once a week with acupoint massage."

Jing Huaduo continued matter-of-factly. "I can guarantee that within a year, you will definitely stand up again."

Huo Yunshen was overjoyed. His eyes glimmered with gratefulness as he held onto Jing Huaduo's hand. "Thank you, Mr. Jing, please treat me well."

Xu Xiyan was also happy for Huo Yunshen. "Mr. Huo, you can rest assured that my grandfather's words are oracular. If he says that you will stand up, then you will definitely stand up."

"Okay!"

Huo Yunshen believed in their words. In the past, Professor Qin had also said that there was a high chance that Huo Yunshen would stand again. And now the old man said that he would stand up too. It seemed that he was not far from his day of victory.

Huo Yunshen seemed to have seen the light of hope, shining not far away from him. He would have to work harder and get rid of this wheelchair as soon as possible.

But what made him depressed and disappointed was that Jing Huaduo did not promise to help him with treatment.

"However, I cannot help you with the treatment. I'm sorry, Mr. Huo."

"Why?" Huo Yunshen and Xu Xiyan asked, almost together.

"Because...I made a vow a few decades ago, that I would never treat the Huo family in this lifetime. I've staked my family's life on this vow that if I ever treated the Huo family, my whole family would die. So, Mr. Huo, please leave!"

Jing Huaduo had always hated the Huo family. As long as Huo Xun came to his mind, he would feel very unhappy.

He believed that the reason why Huo Xun's grandson had fallen into this situation was entirely because of Huo Xun's bad deeds in the past, and that it was karma that his descendant had become a cripple.

He had deliberately told Huo Yunshen that there was hope for him to walk again. However, he would not help him unless that old monster Huo Xun personally came and begged him.

Damn it!

Why had Xu Xiyan not known that her grandfather had a strong grudge against the Huo family?

The Jing family would die if he treated Huo Yunshen?

This vow was too extreme!

"Grandfather, why did you make such vow? Who in the Huo family offended you?"

"Don't ask so many questions. Just take your friend and leave!"

Jing Huaduo was in no mood to explain. He clasped his hands behind his back and left.

"Grandfather..." Xu Xiyan called after him but he continued to walk away. She looked back at Huo Yunshen hopelessly. She felt very sorry for him.

Her grandfather had told Huo Yunshen that he would not treat him, dashing his high hopes. That was such a cruel joke to Huo Yunshen!

"Jing Xi, don't bother him anymore."

Huo Yunshen had already accepted that there would never be an easy way out of his situation.

Jing Huaduo had no obligation or responsibility to treat Huo Yunshen. He couldn't force him.

He moved his wheelchair towards the exit. "It's all right, I'm fine with it anyways. Let's go home."

Xu Xiyan was really upset. To leave without any favorable outcome was not her way.

She told Yi Xiao to push Huo Yunshen to the van first and wait for her. She still had something to do.

Chapter 146 - I'll Take Care of You!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen walked out from the Renjing Chinese Medicine Hall with mixed feelings.

His mind was in chaos, but he didn't show it on his face. He was still the same person who would live freely.

He got into the van, and Xu Xiyan came out from the clinic with a few bags in her hands.

Yi Xiao helped her open the door, and she dropped all the things inside. She walked to the back and sat beside Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen noticed that all the bags had the clinic's logo on them and asked, "What are these?"

"Mr. Huo, from today onwards I'll be your personal doctor. You can call me Doctor Jing from now on. Here's my license," Xu Xiyan handed him her medical license.

Huo Yunshen looked at the license in awe and asked, "You will be treating me?"

"Yup," Xu Xiyan nodded. "I'll be performing Chinese manipulative therapy once every day and acupuncture every other day."

She opened the bags and explained, "These are the acupuncture needles and medicine I hijacked from grandpa."

Xu Xiyan noticed Huo Yunshen was staring at her intensely.

"Don't worry," she said, laughing. "I'll take care of your treatment personally in the future."

"You?"

"What? Are you suspecting that I don't have what it takes?" Xu Xiyan tilted her head and joked.

"No, it's just..."

Xu Xiyan grabbed his arm before he could even finish his sentence and said, "You don't have to worry about anything. I was personally taught by my grandpa, he even agreed to this."

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You'll be taking care of it...

Shouldn't it be the other way around?

"I've even made a bet with my grandpa." Xu Xiyan added. "If I successfully heal you, he will drop all his prejudice towards the Huo family."

"Then I'll be in your care," Huo Yunshen said thankfully.

You even made a bet with your grandfather for me?

Huo Yunshen was genuinely touched by her actions. He would definitely remember this by heart.

"It's just some acupuncture and massage to me, so don't worry that you'll be troubling me. Also, if I can heal you, then that will mean I've done a good deed, too." Xu Xiyan was serious about healing him.

But...

"Won't it be awkward if you are the one performing the massage and acupuncture?"

I would have to take off my pants, and we would have skin contact too...

I have to undress in front of the person I admire...

"What's there to be awkward about? Just treat me like any other doctor. If I'm able to treat you, that would mean that I've paid off my debt, right?" Xu Xiyan just wanted to heal him as soon as possible.

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Chapter 147 - A Perfect Gentleman

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

As long as he recovered, she would no longer have to shoulder the billion Yuan debt!

Huo Yunshen: "..."

No wonder she was being so proactive. It turned out that she only wanted to lift the debt from her.

Was she in such a hurry to make a clean break from him?

He sighed and felt as if his heart was bleeding as he replayed Xu Xiyan's conversation with her grandfather in his mind, how she had said that he was just an "ordinary friend" to her. How could he turn their relationship into something more than just ordinary friendship?

Huo Yunshen wanted to invite Xu Xiyan to lunch, but she still had work and had to rush over to the studio. So he ordered the driver to drive to the film studio.

On the way to the film studio, Huo Yunshen ordered the driver to stop and let Yi Xiao out. He went into a restaurant called Tong Fu House to get a lunch box for Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan opened the lid and looked at the delicious and exquisitely prepared food inside. Somewhat surprised, she asked, "They don't do takeaways at Tong Fu House. Yi Xiao, how was it possible that you could get the food from Tong Fu House within 2 minutes?"

Yi Xiao chuckled. "The young master ordered the food in advance. He knew that you would have no time to eat, so he

decided to order a lunch box for you."

So it was Huo Yunshen again. Why was he always this thoughtful?

"Mr. Huo, you are too kind." Xu Xiyan smiled at Huo Yunshen and gave him a thumbs up.

Huo Yunshen sat slumped in his wheelchair, leaning his head on his hand. There was a hint of sultriness in his shimmering melancholic eyes.

Was he trying to kill her with his devilish good looks?

"It must be tiring," Huo Yunshen said, "being an actor and still having to be my caretaker. This is nothing compared to what you have done for me."

Huo Yunshen meant that this was just a small favor and it was not worth mentioning.

"You should eat now!" he said, smiling lightly, his dimples appearing on his cheeks.

"Okay!" Xu Xiyan said, smiling. She picked up her lunch box and started to eat big mouthfuls.

The food from Tong Fu House was much better than the lunch prepared at the studio. The food was so delicious that Xu Xiyan was gobbling it up.

Xu Xiyan ate too fast and felt something get stuck in her throat. She looked around for a drink, but Huo Yunshen had already opened a bottle of mineral water and handed it to her.

Xu Xiyan took the bottle, gulped down the water and felt better.

Oh my...

What a perfect gentleman; he really understood her needs.

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Huo Yunshen dropped Xu Xiyan off at the studio gates. Xu Xiyan waved goodbye to him after she got down.

After the van drove away, Xu Xiyan walked onto the studio grounds.

At the same time, a grey S Class Mercedes Benz pulled up to the studio grounds. Chu Yuhe, who was in the driver's seat, was surprised to find Xu Xiyan walking on the side of the road.

Chu Yuhe sneered.

Heh. Xu Xiyan, Xu Xiyan...you just had to snub the easy way and take the hard way out, didn't you? Today's your unlucky day for crossing paths with me.

He slammed on the gas and his Mercedes Benz let out a roar. He swerved the car to the right and blocked Xu Xiyan on the side of the road.

Xu Xiyan was shocked by the sudden appearance of the car. Before she could curse the crazy driver, someone got out and walked towards her imposingly.

It's that bastard, Chu Yuhe!

"Chu Yuhe, do you even know how to drive? You almost hit me!" Xu Xiyan said angrily.

Chu Yuhe said nothing and immediately grabbed her wrist, dragging her towards a secluded place.

"Let go! Get your dirty hands off me! Do you hear me!?"

Xu Xiyan tried to shake off his grip several times, but she did not succeed.

When he had dragged her into a small patch of trees, Xu Xiyan finally managed to shake him off.

"What the f**k are you doing?" she scolded. "Are you out of your mind?"

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Chapter 148 - What You Owe Me!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan stared at Chu Yuhe, her eyes filled with anger. Just as she was about to turn and leave, Chu Yuhe blocked her path.

"Not bad, Xu Xiyan! You even dared to hurt me with that beer bottle that day. I think we should settle the medical bill that you owe me, am I right?"

"I owe you? It's the other way around!" Xu Xiyan said with a smirk. "How could I ever fall in love with a greedy person like you!? You're worse than a sociopath! I gave you all of my mother's legacy for Juxing Entertainment, and this is how you treat me? You set me up five years ago with Xu Xinrou for that 50 million, and you think I wouldn't find out?"

"..." Cold sweat began to roll down Chu Yuhe's forehead. He had no idea that Xu Xiyan knew everything he'd done.

She was not the weak and pure little girl he thought she was anymore.

"You really are something, you know that? You cheated on me and became a billionaire! Shouldn't you have returned the 80 million I loaned you by now?"

"Oh wait, there's still the 500 thousand break-up fee, which brings the total to 80 million and 500 thousand yuan. When are you going to give me the money?"

Chu Yuhe wasn't going to back down and asked, "When did you loan me that money? Do you have proof that I took the money from you?" Xu Xiyan had already guessed that Chu Yuhe would not pay up.

"Fine then! Since you're not paying me back, don't blame me for being ruthless when I take Juxing Entertainment from you!"

Chu Yuhe was intimidated by Xu Xiyan's words, since the company had been built using Xu Xiyan's mother's legacy.

He was afraid that Xu Xiyan would take everything away from him.

He suddenly kneeled on the ground and begged, "Please, Yanyan, don't do that to me. We were always together when we were young, I've always remembered the good things you did for me. I've been scolding myself for treating you like that, I shouldn't have done that! Please, I beg you... I can help make you into the hottest star in the world! We could even start over!"

Xu Xiyan couldn't believe what she was hearing.

Growing up together?

And you dare to say that we could start over?

You really are the most shameless person in the world. You're so disgusting.

"What about Xu Xinrou?"

"I'll break up with her and cut off all ties," Chu Yuhe said without even a blink.

Five years ago, Xu Xiyan might've believed him. But she was different now.

"Are you sure you can say that in front of Xu Xinrou?" asked Xu Xiyan. "She's in the studio right now, if you can go there and tell her what you told me, then I'll forgive you," she said with a smile.

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Chapter 149 - She Is A Bloodthirsty Carnivore

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Chu Yuhe was now afraid. Very afraid.

He had been under Xu Xinrou's control. All his assets were being managed by her. He was trapped.

If Xu Xinrou had found out what he had said, it was very likely she would kill him.

"Since you can't do it, then you should pay me the money. Don't wait until it's too late and things get ugly, or it will be a lose-lose situation for all of us!"

Chu Yuhe was curling up in fear. Xu Xiyan shoved him away and pushed past him, but Chu Yuhe got in her way again.

The pitiful face he'd just put on was gone, replaced by a vicious look.

"Yanyan, don't try to push me! You don't know what I'm capable of doing if you push me too hard!"

"What? Are you threatening me?"

"Yes! I am threatening you! Don't act all high and mighty in front of me, b*tch! Do you believe that I can ruin you now?"

Chu Yuhe furrowed his brow hard, and his face looked terrible. He looked almost mad, eager to take his revenge.

He approached Xu Xiyan and lunged at her, catching her off guard. He grabbed her, trying to press her to the ground.

Xu Xiyan was no longer the weak little flower that she used to be. If he touched her, she would rip him apart like a bloodthirsty carnivore!

Xu Xiyan raised her elbow and struck his armpit. The pain made Chu Yuhe release her. Then she lifted her knees and slammed them into his crotch.

"Ah..." Chu Yuhe held onto his crotch, his face contorted with pain.

While he was moaning, Xu Xiyan quickly fled the scene.

Now she had completely offended Chu Yuhe. She had to be more careful next time and avoid him whenever he was around.

Even if she could not deter Chu Yuhe from messing with her again for the time being, Xu Xiyan would consider her own safety first, and avoid letting him have his revenge. He was the type of person who would do anything when driven to desperation.

Xu Xiyan arrived at the "Red Sleeved Beauty" set. She greeted the director and the crew and then went for her makeup.

They were going to shoot the 47th scene today. Under the pavilion, Wei Pingting was injured. Yao Yue secretly came to give her some medicine, but she was found out by Meng Jinxin. Meng Jinxin thought that she had stolen the medicine from her palace and betrayed her. Yao Yue knelt, clinging onto Meng Jinxin's leg, trying to prove her loyalty. But Meng Jinxin was angry and kicked Yao Yue down the steps.

All the actors were in their positions and the cameras were standing by. When everything was ready, the director Huang Guoqiang shouted, "Action!"

Sitting under the pavilion, Yao Yue held onto Wei Pingting's hand and examined her injury. "My lady, your burn wound looks serious. Here, I've brought some medicine. Let me help you."

Deeply touched by her kindness, Wei Pingting held Yao Yue's hand gratefully. "Thank you so much, Yao Yue. You're the only one who is kind to me here in the palace! From now on, let us be sisters!" Yao Yue smiled at Wei Pingting. Yao Yue happily called her sister, then helped Wei Pingting apply some medicine to her wound.

At this moment, Meng Jinxin and her maids passed by the pavilion, and saw her own maid caring for Wei Pingting. She became angry.

"How dare you steal the medicine from my palace for her!" Meng Jinxin yelled at her in a domineering manner.

Yao Yue was so frightened that she dropped the medicine bottle. She hurried forward and knelt in front of Meng Jinxin, clinging to her leg and explaining, "My lady! Yao Yue wouldn't dare! Yao Yue did not steal the medicine! This medicine was given to me by the eunuch, Xiao Sunzi, at the medicine hall! I swear I did not steal it!"

"You unfaithful little maid! You dare lie to your own mistress?"

Meng Jinxin kicked Yao Yue and she rolled down the steps off the pavilion.

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Chapter 150 - Getting Her Revenge

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Meng Jinxin kicked Yao Yue, and she rolled down the steps of the pavilion.

"And, cut!" Huang Guoqiang shouted. "That was perfect, Xinrou. The fall was on the spot, too, err... Yao Yue. Onto the next scene."

Of course, it was Xu Xiyan who got praised for the fall.

The director couldn't even remember her name.

Xu Xiyan climbed back up as Qi Liya rushed over to help her. "Jing Xi, are you all right?"

"I'm fine, Miss. Qi. I used to work as a stunt double, I'm used to this." Xu Xiyan brushed the dust off her shirt and smiled.

"Just call me Liya next time." Qi Liya began to like Xu Xiyan more and more. She admired Xu Xiyan's enthusiasm and optimism.

"Can I really call you by your first name?" Xu Xiyan was surprised as she knew she was still miles away from reaching Qi Liya's level.

Xu Xiyan was a hardcore fan of Qi Liya, and she was already grateful to be able to get on the same stage with her.

"Of course, it sounds better than Miss. Qi," Qi Liya said with a smile.

"Thank you!"

Both of them went back to the makeup studio.

Xu Xiyan felt that Qi Liya was a kind and gentle person, a typical person who was cold on the outside, yet warm inside. She didn't boss people around with the fame she had.

Just as the crew was setting up the next scene and the actors and actresses were getting their makeup fixed, Chu Yuhe arrived at the studio.

As soon as Huang Guoqiang had heard another boss had arrived, he quickly went over and greeted him. All the other staff members were trying to get a peek at Chu Yuhe.

Zhao Ruiqi went to Xu Xinrou's side and said, "Xinrou, Mr. Chu is here to see you. You two are the perfect couple! He treated us to some food yesterday, and now he came to see you at work today!"

Xu Xinrou was flattered by Zhao Ruiqi's words. She smiled and looked at the man in the crowd.

Chu Yuhe greeted Xu Xinrou with his eyes as he talked to the crew. He asked them to show him all the scenes they'd shot over the past few days.

After Chu Yuhe finished checking the last shot, he pointed at the screen and said, "No good, scene 47 needs a retake!"

"..." Huang Guoqiang was speechless.

Am I the only one feeling that being a director is becoming harder and harder?

Mr. Huo came the last time, and now it's Mr. Chu; are they both trying to torture me or what?

Yet Huang Guoqiang couldn't go against Chu Yuhe's wishes, and ordered the crew to retrieve all the tools and props for the 47th scene.

Xu Xinrou was glad to hear that Chu Yuhe wanted to do a retake. It was just what she wanted.

At least Chu Yuhe is acting like a man today! I can finally get my revenge.

And I was just thinking about how to get back at Xu Xiyan... what timing!

Xu Xinrou was laughing in her heart and couldn't wait for the shooting to begin. She asked Wenli to go and help her prepare something for her revenge.

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Chapter 151 - I'll Have My Full Revenge

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan and Qi Liya were sitting in the makeup room. waiting for some touch-ups.

Suddenly Xiao Ge ran into the room. "Miss Qi! Jing Xi! The director wants you both ready for the 47th scene! Quickly!"

Qi Liya sensed that something was wrong. "Xiao Ge, didn't we just finish shooting the 47th scene?"

Xiao Ge looked at her helplessly and sighed. "President Chu is here. He wants that scene to be reshot."

Xu Xiyan: "…"

Chu Yuhe is here?

He wants a reshoot?

Of all the scenes, why did he pick the 47th scene?

Xu Xiyan finally understood. This bastard was here to take advantage of the shoot for his personal revenge.

Qi Liya remembered that there was a stunt that required Xu Xiyan to roll down the steps in the 47th scene. She immediately told her assistant to find a pair of knee pads from the boxes and give it to Xu Xiyan. "Jing Xi, you should put these on, just in case."

Xu Xiyan knew that Chu Yuhe and Xu Xinrou were birds of a feather, and they would definitely try to come up with ways to have their revenge. She thanked her for the knee pads and put them on.

Xu Xiyan and Qi Liya returned to the set. Everyone was already standing by. Huang Guoqiang stood up and explained to them, "Liya, and you—Jing Xi, right? There was a little problem with the scene we shot just now and we have to do it again. Everyone to your positions!"

Chu Yuhe was sitting next to Director Huang, a smug look on his face. He looked at Xu Xiyan with amusement, his eyes seemed to be saying, B*tch. Just wait and see. Prepare to suffer.

Hmph... Xu Xiyan sneered inwardly. Fine, Chu Yuhe. I accept that today's my unlucky day for crossing paths with you.

Go ahead and bully me today. I shall have my full revenge one day.

The filming for the 47th scene began and all the actors gave flawless performances. Xu Xiyan clung to Xu Xinrou's leg for mercy, but Xu Xinrou showed no concern for their masterservant relationship, and shoved Xu Xiyan down the stairs with her foot.

The staircase were not short, as there were nine steps. Anyone who fell from the top would experience pain for a good while.

Xu Xiyan fell from the top of the stairs for the second time. The performance in this shot was better than the previous one.

"Pass!" Huang Guoqiang yelled, but Chu Yuhe was not satisfied.

"No good! The way the little palace girl fell down the stairs was too ugly! Again!"

Surely enough, he was scum. How would a scum like him know how to respect a woman?

Xiao Ge wanted to step in and help Xu Xiyan onto her feet, but Xu Xiyan had already picked herself up from the ground and was walking back to the pavilion.

Huang Guoqiang smacked his lips in frustration, then shouted again, "Scene 47, Take 3, and action!"

Xu Xiyan fell down the stairs for a third time, then a fourth time, then a fifth time...

The people watching had a feeling of déjà vu. Didn't Huo Yunshen also request retakes in the same manner to avenge Xu Xiyan a few days ago?

Those who were smart knew at a glance that President Chu was avenging his girlfriend.

Serves Jing Xi right for slapping Xu Xinrou so many times that day!

Chu Yuhe and Xu Xinrou banded together to bully her, each kick harder and more vicious than the one before. Xu Xinrou slammed her feet directly into Xu Xiyan's chest with all her strength.

All the onlookers around the set thought that it looked too real.

If this goes on, someone will be killed!

"Cut, cut, cut!" Chu Yuhe pointed at Xu Xiyan angrily. "You! Palace maiden! Could you be more professional? Do we pay you to just roll around like a sloth? Don't you even know how to fake the fall properly?"

Motherf*cker!

I was falling down the stairs for real, okay!

Although Xu Xiyan had worn knee pads, her elbow, back, chest and the other unprotected areas of her body were throbbing with pain.

Especially her chest, where Xu Xinrou had kicked her. It was so painful that she was dripping with cold sweat.

If Xu Xiyan's suspicions were right, Xu Xinrou must've done something to her shoes; the tip of the embroidered shoes was not supposed to be that hard.

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Chapter 152 - Let Her Suffer As Much As Possible!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Again and again, Xu Xiyan got kicked by Xu Xinrou. Huang Guoqiang was already at his limit and said, "Mr. Chu, I think this should be enough. We can just choose one of the best takes, it's best that we avoid any injuries."

Yet Chu Yuhe had intended to punish Xu Xiyan, and he would never let the opportunity go. He said, "Director, is this how you do things? Shouldn't a director have their actors to do their best? If she's an actor, then she'd better act like one or I'm firing her."

So you want to use this chance to remove me from the team?

You sure are vicious!

Xu Xiyan had gone through many things to get to where she was at, and she was not going to give it all up. She stood up and stared at Chu Yuhe angrily.

It was hard for her to breathe at that point, but she kept telling herself that it would be over soon.

She controlled her breathing and said, "Director, it's okay, we can continue."

Huang Guoqiang was touched by Xu Xiyan's determination. He could only hold in his anger and ordered the crew to continue with the shooting.

Scene 47, take 8. Yao Yue hugged Meng Zhaoyi's leg as she begged. Meng Zhaoyi landed a kick on Yao Yue's chest as she fell down the stairs. Yet, this time, Xu Xiyan did not get up and just lay on the ground, motionless.

Everyone was shocked when they saw Xu Xiyan lying there. Even the director and executive director had no idea how to react.

Just as the director was about to call someone to go and check on Xu Xiyan, someone ran through the crowd and onto the stage.

A man stopped in front of Xu Xiyan and picked her up.

"Jing Xi! Wake up!" Ma Haodong shouted. He'd just finish his shoot for "The Root of Evil" and had come to visit Xu Xiyan.

He never thought he would witness Xu Xiyan being bullied by the investor and directors.

Are they trying to kill her? Ma Haodong shouted in his head.

Xu Xiyan remained unconscious, no matter how hard Ma Haodong tried to wake her.

He turned his head towards the director and shouted, "Huang Guoqiang! Is this how you treat your actresses? This is attempted murder! If anything happens to Jing Xi, you guys are definitely going to jail!"

Ma Haodong lifted Xu Xiyan up and left. Lots of chatters could be heard among the crowd.

"Nothing will happen, right, Xinrou?" Wenli asked.

"Don't worry," Xu Xinrou said. "It's just an accident, anyways."

"That was Ma Haodong," said Wenli. "What kind of relationship do those two have?"

"What else do you think? Did you got the photo?" Xu Xinrou asked.

"Yes, from the perfect angle, too." Wenli showed Xu Xinrou the photo of Ma Haodong picking up Xu Xiyan.

"Well done," said Xu Xinrou. "You know what to do."

Wenli nodded. Xu Xinrou couldn't hold her excitement. Ma Haodong had just escalated her plan.

Trying to save beauty, are you?

Let's see what you fans think of this when they see their little Ma carrying a small fry.

Huang Guoqiang finally couldn't hold his anger and began shouting at Chu Yuhe.

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Chapter 153 - Are They Going To Disband?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"President Chu! What did I tell you just now? Enough is enough! Are you happy now? My actor is seriously injured! What am I going to do?"

Chu Yuhe stood up carelessly, straightening his jacket. "You're the director and you're supposed to be responsible for your crew. This is just a small matter. Can't you handle it?"

Chu Yuhe was pushing all of the responsibility to him. Huang Guoqiang was furious.

"President Chu, everything was fine under my direction until you came and picked at it! I gave you my advice, but you wouldn't listen. Now that there's a serious incident, you push all the responsibility onto me? If you go on with this attitude, I don't think it's necessary to shoot this drama anymore. Go ahead and find whoever pleases you! I'm not directing anymore!"

Huang Guoqiang was a highly respected director in the industry whose opinions were taken very seriously. He was also a principled man and he had always acted in a fair and just manner.

He could tell at first glance that what had happened today was obviously Chu Yuhe trying to teach Jing Xi a lesson and avenge Xu Xinrou.

But since Chu Yuhe was an investor in the drama, he could not say anything.

Now the situation had escalated and these people wanted to place all the blame onto him. He could only tell them two words: No way!

Huang Guoqiang stormed off, extremely displeased with Chu Yuhe. Everyone in the crew was dumbfounded. What were they going to do now?

They had only begun shooting this new drama, and a lot of money had already been invested in it. Were they going to disband just like that?

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Meanwhile, Ma Haodong carried Xu Xiyan to the car and rushed her to the hospital.

In the emergency room, the doctor diagnosed Xu Xiyan's condition as shock.

It was fortunate that she was rushed to the hospital in time, otherwise, the consequences would have been nearly unimaginable.

When Xu Xiyan woke up, it was already dark outside. She opened her eyes and saw Ma Haodong at the bedside.

"Haodong?"

"Jing Xi, you're awake."

Ma Yindong was relieved that she had woken up.

Xu Xiyan winced as she tried to get up. Her chest was still in a lot of pain. She sucked in a breath of cold air and fell back on the bed.

"Where am I, Haodong?"

"Don't move! You're hurt. You need to lie down and rest."

Ma Haodong held her down on the bed and told her, "You're in the hospital now. You went into shock while you were filming."

Ma Haodong furrowed his thick eyebrows, wrinkling his forehead. What if he hadn't come to visit her on the set? He shuddered at the thought. What would those people have done to her?

"I was in shock?"

Xu Xiyan only remembered that there was great pain and then everything turned black. There was nothing else she could recall after that. How would she have known that she had gone into a serious shock?

"Yes. You could've been killed if I hadn't rushed you to the hospital in time," said Ma Haodong starkly.

"Thank you, Haodong, you're such a good bro. I shall never forget your great kindness, as long as I live." Xu Xiyan spoke exaggeratedly, trying to lighten the mood.

"Yes, you owe me your life. Now I'm going to think about how you could repay me," Ma Haodong said, scratching his chin, looking like a haughty young noble.

"Well, I'll let you think about it. Except for my body, I can promise you everything else," Xu Xiyan said, laughing.

Ma Haodong stared seriously at her for a while as he contemplated. "Okay then. Let's play three hundred rounds of battles after you've recovered."

He wanted to play an online game with her? What a trivial request!

Xu Xiyan agreed. "Deal!"

The two continued to talk for a while. Ma Haodong's mobile phone kept ringing. Xu Xiyan asked, "Haodong, why don't you pick up the call?"

"It's okay, it's only my agent. He wants me to go back to the studio."

Ma Haodong did not answer the phone and did not reply the text messages either. He had stubbornly ignored the calls of his agent and the film crew. He only wanted to stay with her.

Xu Xiyan did not want to delay the progress of his filming because of her.

"Haodong," she said. "You should go back to the studio. I'm fine now. I'll call my friend to come over and accompany me

later."

Chapter 154 - Something Must Be Going On

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"All right, fine. I'll go back now. Call me if you need anything," Ma Haodong said after pondering for a few seconds.

"Sure thing, thank you."

Xu Xiyan suddenly thought of Huo Yunshen, and was afraid that Huo Yunshen might be waiting for her at home, so she sent him a message.

She told him that she was going to her grandfather's place.

A few seconds after the message was sent, Fang Xiaocheng called her.

"Yanyan, who are you with right now?" Fang Xiaocheng asked anxiously. "What are you doing?"

"What's wrong?" Xu Xiyan asked.

"You don't know yet? The news just reported that Ma Haodong was seen hugging you, carrying you out of the studio."

Fang Xiaocheng had noticed that it was Xu Xiyan in the news and quickly got ahold of her to hear the truth of behind the gossip.

"Spill it! How do you two know each other? Are you two dating? Come on, I know you two aren't on the same set."

What Fang Xiaocheng meant was that something must have been going on between Xu Xiyan and Ma Haodong, because they were photographed together while they were working on different movies.

"You sure love your gossip," Xu Xiyan said, shaking her head. "We're just friends."

"Hey, social media is getting flooded with your picture. Ma Haodong's 'girlfriends' are going on a cyber manhunt. You might become famous after this."

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Cyber manhunt? Me?

I have a bad feeling about this.

Ma Haodong's "girlfriends..." Even the sound of it is scary enough.

"Where are you at right now?" Fang Xiaocheng's voice broke the silence.

"The hospital."

Fang Xiaocheng rushed into Xu Xiyan's hospital room half an hour later and saw Xu Xiyan lying on the bed.

"What the hell! Everyone thought you were having a date with a handsome man, what did you do to get yourself into the hospital?"

"A date? Yeah, right. I almost got a date in hell."

"What happened?" Fang Xiaocheng asked as she sat down.

Xu Xiyan told Fang Xiaocheng the whole story.

"Are you shitting me?" Fang Xiaocheng shouted angrily. "Are those two trying to kill you?"

"Well, can't do anything about it," Xu Xiyan said with a sigh.

"See, I told you to drop the job, and you didn't listen to me," said Fang Xiaocheng. "Of course Xu Xinrou will find some way to get her hands on you. You better stop this right away."

Xu Xiyan understood that Fang Xiaocheng was worried about her, but she wasn't going to give up just yet.

"Orange, I have to go on! I've gone through many hardships to get to where I am now. If I quit right now, doesn't that mean they get what they've wanted? Believe me, the tides will change very soon."

Fang Xiaocheng couldn't help but sigh. She was Xu Xiyan's best friend. Even though she wanted to support Xu Xiyan's decision, she couldn't just ignore the trouble Xu Xiyan had gotten herself into.

Xu Xiyan left the hospital the next day. Fang Xiaocheng took her back to Shengshi Yujing.

Chapter 155 - Caught Her By Surprise

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The two entered the house. Fang Xiaocheng helped Xu Xiyan to the sofa so she could rest there, then went to pour a glass of water for her.

Just as Fang Xiaocheng returned to the living room with the glass of water, someone was unlocking the door of the apartment. When the door swung open, Huo Yunshen entered in his wheelchair and met Fang Xiaocheng face to face.

Huo Yunshen froze. He had waited the whole night but Xu Xiyan did not come back. When he heard the door of apartment 102 opening, he thought Xu Xiyan had returned.

He had been so anxious and in such a hurry that he didn't bother knocking and had directly unlocked it with the key. He had certainly not expected that someone else would be in the house.

It was already too late for him to retreat.

Fang Xiaocheng realized that someone had come in. She took a good look at the stranger and realized it was Huo Yunshen. She was so shocked that the glass fell from her trembling hands, spilling water onto the floor.

Xu Xiyan, who was on the sofa, heard the commotion. She turned to look at Fang Xiaocheng. "What's wrong, Orange?"

Fang Xiaocheng flicked her eyes and gestured to the door. Xu Xiyan turned and looked, then jumped from the sofa. Oh my god!

Xu Xiyan looked more startled than Fang Xiaocheng and Huo Yunshen. She had kept the matter between her and Huo Yunshen as a secret from Fang Xiaocheng.

Huo Yunshen's sudden appearance had caught her by surprise.

"Errrr...M-M-Mr. Huo! Why are you here?" Xu Xiyan felt her skin crawl as she rushed over to greet him awkwardly.

Huo Yunshen had seen the news about Xu Xiyan and Ma Haodong. He had come over to ask her about it, but it seemed to be a bad time.

"I'm sorry, it seems that I've intruded. Please excuse me."

Huo Yunshen turned his wheelchair to leave, but Xu Xiyan held onto the wheel of his wheelchair, chuckling nervously.

"Mr. Huo, you came at the right time. My BFF is here. Why don't I introduce you guys?"

Fang Xiaocheng and Huo Yunshen had already run into each other. If she tried to cover it now, it would cause an even bigger misunderstanding. Wasn't it better to openly introduce them to each other now?

Xu Xiyan braced herself and introduced Fang Xiaocheng and Huo Yunshen to each other.

Huo Yunshen was a well-mannered gentleman. He held out his hand to Fang Xiaocheng and said, "Pleased to meet you, Miss Fang."

Fang Xiaocheng had been in a state of delusion. It was already shocking that a handsome, princely man had appeared in Xu Xiyan's house. And now he wanted to be friends with her.

Oh my god, the sun has risen from the west!

It would be a divine honor to shake hands with the movie king, Elvis!

Fang Xiaocheng almost flew off the ground with excitement. She wiped her hand on her clothes before reaching out to shake his hand.

"Hello, Mr. Huo, I am so glad to meet you! I'm a big fan, and I've seen all of your movies!" "Oh, thank you! A friend of Jing Xi is my friend, too."

Huo Yunshen's eyes glimmered as he smiled lightly, dimples surfacing on his cheeks. That smile would sway all those who had seen it, and capture every girl's hearts.

After introducing them, Huo Yunshen found an excuse and left.

After the door was closed, Fang Xiaocheng grabbed Xu Xiyan and sat her down on the sofa. "Yanyan! Tell me the truth! What's going on!?"

"Didn't I tell you just now? I'm his neighbor," Xu Xiyan said, her eyes evasive. She felt guilty.

Fang Xiaocheng saw the guilt in her eyes and raised an eyebrow at her.

"Don't try to fool me. How could it be a coincidence that you happened to be the neighbor of a superstar? And what kind of a neighbor would enter your house directly without knocking?"

She had already figured it out. The woman who was involved in a rumored scandal with Huo Yunshen at the hospital front that day was definitely Xu Xiyan. Why, this girl had kept it a secret from her...

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Chapter 156 - Ask Him For Help

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan knew she couldn't hide everything from Fang Xiaocheng any longer.

"Fine, the truth is we're in a creditor and debtor relationship. I owe him 10 billion, and I can't pay him. That's why I'm working for him right now."

"10 billion? How can you owe him that much money?" Fang Xiaocheng couldn't understand the situation, as Huo Yunshen had just come back to Zstan five years ago.

That was when Xu Xiyan left to Estan, so they shouldn't have had the chance to meet each other.

"There's another thing, Xu Xiyan said. "Promise not to hit me though. I was the one who got him into the accident five years ago. He's paralyzed because of me, too. Do you still think 10 billion is a lot?"

Wait, say that again?

Elvis got into the accident because of Xu Xiyan?

She's the one who's responsible for him being crippled?

If that's true, then 10 billion is nowhere near enough. If it was another person, they could just had the police catch her and have her sent to prison.

"Oh my god, what kind of relationship is this? Your luck sure is bad. Looks like you can never pay back all the money." Fand Xiaocheng shook her head. "What did you do in your past life to get a life like this?" Fan Xiaocheng continued. "You lost your mother when you were young, then were abused by your father for so many years. Then you were framed by Chu Yuhe and Xu Xinrou. Not to mention you've become a single mother at such a young age. And you thought your life could become better when you joined the showbiz, yet now you have to work as a personal assistant for someone for your whole life. Yanyan, why is your life so hard?"

Xu Xiyan opened her arms and said, "Well, this is my life, and I have to live with it."

Fang Xiaocheng suddenly thought of something and grabbed Xu Xiyan's hands. "Hey, isn't Huo Yunshen the CEO of Yunhai Entertainment? The lord of Peijing's showbiz? Why don't you ask him for help and join his company? With his help, you wouldn't have to be afraid of Chu Yuhe anymore."

"Stop it, Orange," Xu Xiyan said, frowning. "I want to achieve success with my own strength and not by relying on others. I also don't want people to say I got my fame by using Huo Yunshen. I want to remain friends with him, you get me?"

Fang Xiaocheng was stunned by Xu Xiyan's words. "I know what you're thinking, I get it. But it's just so stupid."

Xu Xiyan smiled and did not argue back.

It might have seemed like she wasn't using every chance she had, but she wanted to live a life without regret, a life where she could stand tall and not bow down to others.

She wanted to become a girl who could support herself. This was her way of life.

Fang Xiaocheng suddenly thought of another possibility and said, "Yanyan, since you're Huo Yunshen's personal assistant now, I'm worried that he might fall for you."

"That would be the best," Xu Xiyan said, smiling. "I wouldn't have to waste time and find myself a boyfriend."

"Don't be stupid. He's in a wheelchair and needs someone to take care of him every day. Plus, he has sexual dysfunction.

You still have Ying Bao to take care of. Your life would be hard if you were in a relationship with him."

Chapter 157 - Don't Be Foolish!

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"I don't think so! I think Mr. Huo is a good person."

Fang Xiaocheng was going nuts. "Don't tell me, you've already fallen for him."

Xu Xiyan smiled sweetly as she thought of Huo Yunshen. "Well, what can I do? If you knew him well enough, you would like him too. He's really talented."

After getting along with Huo Yunshen for some time, she came to know his character well enough and was attracted to his temperament and talents.

But Fang Xiaocheng could only imagine everything wrong about their future if Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen were to be together.

"Yanyan! You can't depend on talent to survive! Don't be foolish! I know that you're kind and compassionate, but...I won't object to whoever you're marrying, but if you want to be with Huo Yunshen, I strongly advise you to think carefully."

Seeing that Fang Xiaocheng had become overly anxious, Xu Xiyan laughed and placated her. "Okay, okay, I was just teasing you! Mr. Huo is not interested in me. We're only in an employment relationship. Nothing more."

"Oh! All right, that's good then." Fang Xiaocheng seemed completely relieved.

Fang Xiaocheng stayed for a while before something came up and she had to leave. After Xu Xiyan had escorted Fang Xiaocheng out, she went over to apartment No. 101.

She knew that Huo Yunshen had come to her just now because of the scandal rumor about her and Ma Haodong.

Xu Xiyan had seen the news report herself. The article was biased and there were photos of her being carried by Ma Haodong after she had fainted on the set.

There was no report on the cause and effect of the situation. It was one-sidedly interpreted out of context, and the photos that came with it showed her being carried like a princess in distress, accompanied by a bullshit headline that read:

[Ma Haodong Carries Greenhorn Actress In His Arms, Both Suspected To Be In Relationship]

As she opened the door and entered the house, Xu Xiyan saw Huo Yunshen waiting in the living room. He heard her come in and turned his wheelchair toward her.

"Jing Xi, your friend has already left?"

"Yeah!" Xu Xiyan smiled as she walked toward him. "You've been waiting for me?"

Huo Yunshen nodded, then said, "I'm sorry, did I create trouble for you again?"

"No."

Xu Xiyan pushed him into the room and sat down facing him on the sofa. She took the initiative to explain first.

"You saw the scandalous news? Actually, Ma Haodong and I are not what you've imagined. We're only friends. Because I fell on the set and he happened to be passing by, he carried me away. And someone photographed me and shared the pictures on the internet with bad intentions."

Xu Xiyan did not want to complicate matters, so she did not explain the real reason for her fall in detail.

After Huo Yunshen had listened to her explanation, he smiled. "Jing Xi, I didn't come over just now to question you about this. It's just that you didn't come back all night, and I got worried. You don't have to explain it to me. I believe in you. I trust you no matter what you do."

Whether it was Ma Haodong or the man who had gone to her apartment that other night, Huo Yunshen decided not to interfere with her right to interact with other men.

Therefore, no matter who she was with, he would always guard her silently. And as long as he could see her every day, that would be enough.

After listening to him, Xu Xiyan couldn't help but sigh. "If only I had a kind and generous boyfriend like you, it would be great."

Huo Yunshen: "..."

What did she mean?

Could it be, because of that rumored scandal, she had quarreled with her boyfriend?

As he was wondering about the possibilities, Xu Xiyan's cell phone rang.

She looked down at the caller ID. As it would be inconvenient to pick up this call in front of Huo Yunshen, Xu Xiyan apologized and then ran out to the balcony to answer the phone.

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Chapter 158

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen remained quiet, as he thought it was Xu Xiyan's boyfriend.

What kind of a person is her boyfriend?

The kind that gets jealous of everything?

Will he be good enough for her?

Yet, it was Ying Bao on the other side of the phone. She'd call Xu Xiyan to check up on her.

Xu Xiyan hung up after a few minutes and went back to the living room. Huo Yunshen was about to leave.

"Mr. Huo, are you going out?"

"Yes, there's an important meeting at the company." Huo Yunshen had changed into a dark suit with a white oxford and black tie underneath. His hair was pulled back with wax. The usual lazy Huo Yunshen had been replaced by a well-groomed, handsome man.

"Let me push you to the van." Xu Xiyan pushed him out to the van and waved goodbye.

As the van was getting farther away from Shengshi Yujing, Huo Yunshen pulled his head back from the window. The scene just now had felt to him like a wife sending his husband to work.

It was sweet, but it also made Huo Yunshen worried.

Who will Xu Xiyan marry in the future?

Who will stay by her side?

Will that person love her as much as I do?

Xu Xiyan went back to Room 102 and checked the bruises on her chest.

It even hurt to breathe. Xu Xinrou had not held back when she kicked Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan took out some medicine and applied it to the bruises. The medicine was from her grandfather, and could cure any bruises in mere days.

Xu Xiyan did not follow up with everything that was happening at the studio while she was resting at home. Ever since Huang Guoqiang quit his job, the whole shooting process had been put on hold.

For their own future benefits, Xu Xinrou asked Chu Yuhe to go and ask Huang Guoqiang to come back since it was Chu Yuhe's fault from the beginning.

Huang Guoqiang agreed to continue the shooting under the condition that no one would interrupt him when he was directing the movie.

Chu Yuhe agreed, and Huang Guoqiang returned to the set.

Everything went back to normal, except for the scandal. The cyber manhunt was just the tip of the iceberg.

Everyone was asking who the girl in Ma Haodong's arms was.

Millions of female friends flooded Ma Haodong's official social media account, demanding an answer to his relationship status.

The possibility of him being in a relationship was too sudden for his fans.

They couldn't accept it.

On the other hand, Xu Xinrou was excited by the recent development and asked Wenli to proceed with their plans.

She believed that Ma Haodong's fans would take care of Xu Xiyan for her.

Xu Xiyan logged into her social media account and noticed that the hot search topics for that day were [Ma Haodong hugging a girl] and [Ma Haodong's relationship.]

And Ma Haodong's official account had been flooded with visitors and comments.

Yunshen, don't you worry the man who will marry Jing Xi will love her very much as that man is gonna be you!!!! I hope he just talk with her at once so that he doesn't make assumptions and be worried. As for Mr. Ma scandal, well Xinrou do you think u can bully Jing Xi as u want!? NOPE!!!! Be careful what if it backfires!?!! Hahahaha

How long will this misunderstanding Yunshen have last? Kind of annoying how quickly he jumped to a conclusion she had a boyfriend without really knowing anything. Really troubling to have such a weak willed and low confident ML, can only look forward to him regaining his confidence in the future.

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

He was such a super celebrity and his fans were plentiful.

[It must be fake! My dear little Ma has no girlfriend! Stop spreading rumors!]

[Little Ma is not that kind of person. If he really falls in love, he will definitely tell us in advance!]

[Nooo little Ma! You can't leave us!]

[Is this all intentionally done to hype up the new drama "The Root of Evil"?]

[Who is that woman? Why did she want to hook up with our little Ma?]

•••

In the afternoon, there were already new developments on the online news sites. Xu Xiyan was surprised that the netizens had already found out who she was. They had shared her information and recent photos, and even found her Weibo account.

For a time, Xu Xiyan's Weibo account, named "Jing Gongzi", had skyrocketed in popularity, but in a bad way.

[Breaking news! It is her, Jing Xi, a nameless little actor!]

[A bitch is what she is!]

[You nameless actor, clear little Ma's name now!]

[She's not even a good match for Ma Haodong!]

[Shit! Don't ruin my little Ma!]

[What an unworthy face! I don't hate you, but I still think you're disgusting!]

[I know she wants to take advantage of Ma Haodong's status! I hate this kind of scheming woman! Go back to your hole, nobody!]

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[Get lost, Jing Xi!]
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Xu Xiyan clicked her tongue as she read the hate comments. She never expected that her page would be on fire, and burning with hate.

Because of Ma Haodong, her unpopular Weibo page began to attract more followers.

The hate comments continued to flow in, but Xu Xiyan was unaffected by it and went on with her own business.

After all, the truth would speak for itself!

Even if she tried to explain on Weibo, she could not give a reasonable explanation. She would rather let it be as scandalous news that would be overwritten by other news in a few days, anyway. Who cared about a nameless actress like her?

In the evening, Xu Xiyan prepared dinner, but Huo Yunshen had not returned yet.

A few dishes were served on the table. She covered each one so that they would not go cold.

The clock on the wall read 6:50. Xu Xiyan took out her phone to send a text message to Huo Yunshen, but she had forgotten to charge her phone. It was out of power and had automatically shut down.

At this moment, Xu Xiyan heard some movement outside the door.

It must be Huo Yunshen. She was like a wife waiting for her husband to return home, and happily ran over to open the door for him.

The door opened and a girl appeared inside. Huo Yunshen's eyes widened with surprise. "Jing Xi?"

The girl was dressed comfortably in homewear with her hair tied up into a neat ponytail. She smiled warmly at him. "Welcome home, Mr. Huo."

Xu Xiyan went forward cheerfully and found his slippers for him. She helped him change into them, then pushed him into the room.

He hadn't expected that she would be in his house. To see his beloved woman appearing at the door first thing after coming home made Huo Yunshen feel an indescribable joy.

That morning, she had sent him off to work. And at night, she welcomed him home at the door. It was such a wonderful feeling.

For a moment, he forgot that they were in an employment relationship. She was just like a wife taking care of her husband, and it warmed his heart.

What was even more heartwarming to Huo Yunshen was that Xu Xiyan had already prepared dinner and had waited patiently for him to come home.

All the stress and exhaustion of the day were swept away after he walked through the door.

They washed their hands and began to eat. After dinner, Xu Xiyan pushed Huo Yunshen outside into the community for a

walk.

The Shengshi Yujing community was peaceful. The night lights lit the community with beautiful colors. Walking through the area was like walking into a fantasyland.

Xu Xiyan pushed Huo Yunshen along as they strolled for a while. They talked about the recent happenings in the studio.

Then Huo Yunshen suddenly said, "Jing Xi, your identity had been exposed by netizens. I saw the comments online and Ma Haodong's fans were threatening you. Do you need my help in dealing with them?"

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Chapter 159 - Like A Wife Taking Care Of Her Husband

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

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[It must be fake! My dear little Ma has no girlfriend! Stop spreading rumors!]

[Little Ma is not that kind of person. If he really falls in love, he will definitely tell us in advance!]

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Chapter 160 - A Favor

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"It's okay, Mr. Huo," Xu Xiyan said. "Please don't use your power for me. I already know how cruel the entertainment business can be. It's just a scandal, every celebrity will go through one of them eventually. Plus, it doesn't really affect me that much. Me and Ma Haodong are just friends. I wouldn't enter this line if I didn't know of its risks."

"All right," Huo Yunshen nodded. He knew that scandals like this would just help Xu Xiyan gain fame and would not cause her too much trouble.

He wasn't in a rush to help her settle the scandal. Instead, he wanted to see how things would turn out first.

Xu Xiyan had never wanted to gain fame by using Ma Haodong, and a sudden uneasiness flooded her heart.

"Mr. Huo, can I ask a favor from you?" she asked.

"What is it?"

"I dragged Ma Haodong down, and he helped me a lot over the past few days. If he were to find himself in any trouble, I hope that you could help him, for me."

Xu Xiyan was worried that fans might misunderstand Ma Haodong and cause him troubles.

I was right, this girl in front of me is a kind-hearted person, Huo Yunshen praised in his heart.

She did not make use of the situation to gain fame and instead was worried about her friend.

"All right, I can do that. I promise, as long as I'm alive, Ma Haodong will never find himself in any trouble," Huo Yunshen said. He would do anything for her as long as she wanted it.

Xu Xiyan was relieved and glad to hear the answer. She suddenly remembered about introducing Ying Bao to Huo Yunshen and said, "Oh right, are you free tomorrow?"

"Yup." In truth, Huo Yunshen had a full schedule the next day, but for her, he would always be free.

"Do you remember, we were talking about Cherry Baby? Since we have time tomorrow, why don't I bring her over?"

"Of course! I'll leave it to you," Huo Yunshen replied immediately. His heart melted just by thinking about the cute little girl's face.

"Okay," Xu Xiyan said. "It's late, why don't we head back?"

They went back to their own respective apartments.

Huo Yunshen finished his shower and came out wearing a robe. He went into his bedroom and was stunned by what he saw.

Xu Xiyan was standing inside his bedroom.

Illusions?

Xu Xiyan turned around and said, "Good evening, Mr. Huo."

"..." Huo Yunshen stared at her curiously. Xu Xiyan was wearing a white robe and hat, her face was covered with a surgical mask and in her hand held a bag.

"Jing Xi, what..." Huo Yunshen arranged his robe nervously. He had put on his robe in a hurry and hadn't bothered to tie it up. His hair was still wet as water dripped down onto his body. He felt that he must've looked terrible.

What should I do?

I'm in such a mess.

Yet, Xu Xiyan saw something different.

What she saw was an awfully attractive man that had just come out from the shower, his body half-covered by his robe

and his messy hair making him even sexier.

Chapter 161 - Take Them Off?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

He's so gorgeous!

She would be lying if she said she wasn't swayed by seeing this devilishly handsome man every day.

"Mr. Huo, I promised that I would help you with acupuncture starting tonight. Let me dry your hair first!"

Xu Xiyan forced herself to calm her beating heart. She put the acupuncture kit on the bedside table and went to look for a hairdryer.

The hairdryer hummed loudly as she dried his hair for him. Huo Yunshen did not want to trouble her. "Let me do it myself."

"It's okay, this is easy work."

Xu Xiyan insisted on drying his hair for him. Her fingers were gentle as she ran them through his hair. It was a nice feeling for him.

It was such a comfortable feeling that Huo Yunshen closed his eyes to enjoy her touch. He suddenly had a strange notion: if he had long hair, she would spend even more time drying it. Wouldn't that be great!

After drying his hair, Xu Xiyan turned off the hairdryer and pushed his wheelchair toward the bed. "Mr. Huo, please lie down on the bed."

Huo Yunshen was feeling a bit embarrassed. "Do I need to change my clothes?"

"No, it's better to take them off for massage and acupuncture!" Xu Xiyan said, looking very professional in her white coat. She regarded herself as a doctor and was treating him as a real patient.

Take them off?

Huo Yunshen was somewhat unsure. Would he need to take off his pants?

Xu Xiyan had probably noticed his doubts and told him, "Just take off your bathrobes. Do you need my help to lift you up?"

"No need."

Huo Yunshen held onto the support beams by his bed and applied a little force with his arms. He moved his body onto the bed and then lay down on it.

Xu Xiyan took out her acupuncture tools. She had a set of silver needles that her grandfather had given her and she usually carried them with her.

After disinfecting the needles, she began to press Huo Yunshen's body with her fingers to find the acupuncture points.

Acupuncture was a method of treatment in Chinese medicine. It was complicated and difficult to learn, and one mistake could paralyze a healthy person.

However, since Xu Xiyan was young, she had learned the acupuncture points from her grandfather and mastered the method of acupuncture and moxibustion therapy from him.

From the Shanzhong point, then the Tianshu point, the Zhongyuan point, the Qihai point... All the main points of the body must have a needle applied to them.

She applied the needles gently, like a dragonfly treading on water, swiftly moving from point to point. Only when the needle pierced his flesh could Huo Yunshen feel the numbness.

"Does it hurt?"

"A bit."

"Is it numb or painful here?" Every time she placed a needle at an acupoint, she would ask him how he felt.

"A bit numb."

"Now?" More needles were placed at the acupoints on his legs.

"I don't feel anything."

Even if he did not feel anything, it was still necessary to apply the needles to stimulate the nerves there.

Huo Yunshen watched Xu Xiyan working as he lay on the bed. Her eyes and brows were focused as her fingers continued to touch his skin, looking for acupuncture points and prickling his skin with needles.

The feeling was pleasant. She was very gentle.

Xu Xiyan's eyes were bright and clear as they intently looked for the acupuncture points. Her eyes were like the most beautiful gems in the world.

She carefully applied the needles at the acupoints on his upper body down to his toes and on both sides.

Every time her sight was on his thighs, Xu Xiyan had to force herself to focus and not look at him inappropriately.

She carefully rotated and adjusted all the needles after she was done applying them. When the time was up, she removed them one by one.

"Mr. Huo, please turn over with your back facing up," Xu Xiyan said.

Huo Yunshen said nothing and obeyed her, straining his arms to turn over his body.

Xu Xiyan began to apply needles on his back from top to bottom. When the time was up, the needles were removed.

"The needles are removed. I am going to give you a massage now."

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Chapter 162 - Feel Like Pouncing On Him

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan took out a white cotton cloth, covered his body, and began the massage.

She was very good at it; both her skill and strength were on point.

She started from the top and moved towards the bottom to help his blood flow.

One hour had passed, and Xu Xiyan broke the silence. "All right, that's it for today. Good night, Mr. Huo."

Xu Xiyan packed her stuff, helped Huo Yunshen cover himself with his blanket and left.

Huo Yunshen lay on the bed as he kept thinking about how her hand had touched his skin.

Her fingers must've been enchanted, as Huo Yunshen's heart had begun to beat faster each time she touched him.

Xu Xiyan took off her mask once she'd left Room 101 and let out a deep sigh. Her face was already burning.

Why do I feel like pouncing on him every time?

Am I becoming indecent?

Xu Xiyan shook her head to get her mind off it.

Huo Yunshen is like a god in heaven. I shouldn't tarnish my prince charming like that...

• • •

It was the second day, and Xu Xiyan was about to head to the Jing mansion to fetch Ying Bao.

Before she left, she went to Room 101 to inform Huo Yunshen of her schedule.

"Mr. Huo, I'll have to go to my grandfather's place first. I'll bring Cherry Baby over for dinner at my place, is that all right with you?"

"Of course, I can't wait to meet the cute Cherry Baby!" Huo Yunshen said with excitement.

Huo Yunshen escorted Xu Xiyan out, and suddenly she noticed a white Porshe was parked in Huo Yunshen's spot.

"Who the hell left their car here? Are they blind?" Xu Xiyan asked.

Huo Yunshen wheeled himself over and said, "This is my car, actually."

·· ... ''

Can I take back what I said?

Huo Yunshen didn't mind Xu Xiyan's insult and continued, "You can use this car from now on. Oh, you can pick up Cherry Baby with this car, too."

"This is too much for me to accept, Mr. Huo..." Xu Xiyan stared at the keys and declined.

The car had been explicitly bought for Xu Xiyan. Huo Yunshen had guessed she might decline and said, "It's fine. I used to drive this car before the accident. Since I can't drive anymore and it's collecting dust in the garage, you can borrow it. It should save you some time when you want to head out."

Oh, so he's lending me his car.

That's good, I thought he bought it for me...then that would be too much.

Xu Xiyan noticed a child seat was installed and the car was decorated with pink Minnies, which were Ying Bao's favorite.

"This is beautiful, and you had the child seat installed too?" Xu Xiyan asked.

"I hope Cherry Baby will like it," Huo Yunshen said.

"She definitely will. Thank you, Mr. Huo, this is perfect."

"Here, the keys." Huo Yunshen handed them to her.

Xu Xiyan was thankful to Huo Yunshen for solving her daily transportation problems.

She climbed into the car and headed towards the Jing mansion.

Chapter 163 - The Little Girl Was Worried About Her

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Ying Bao happily ran around the garden of the Jing family house with a kite. Xu Xiyan sat down beside her grandfather, Jing Huaduo, and poured the old man a cup of tea.

"Have some tea, Grandfather."

"Mmm."

Jing Huaduo drank the tea, moving his eyes away from Ying Bao and onto Xu Xiyan.

"How're things? Is the shoot going well?"

Xu Xiyan would never complain about her troubles. She smiled. "It's all good. It's going very well."

Jing Huaduo did not press her or ask any more questions. He had seen the news that she and a man named Ma Haodong had been involved in a scandal, but he would not interfere with his granddaughter's affairs.

As long as she did not get involved with the Huo family, he would allow her to see any man she wished.

"Grandfather, has Ying Bao been obedient?" Xu Xiyan asked. "Has she given you any trouble?"

"No. Our little Ying Bao is sensible and well-behaved. She's just like you when you were a child. She's curious and loves learning, particularly about herbal medicine. With her by my side, every day is a happy and interesting day."

Jing Huaduo loved Ying Bao with all his heart, mainly because the little girl was a thoughtful, sensible, and lovable child. It was difficult not to love her.

Ying Bao ran in a large circle around the garden with her kite. When she came back, she saw her mother and happily ran towards her, yelling "Xi Baabyyy!"

"Ying Baaaoo!"

Xu Xiyan stood up and bent over with her arms wide. The little girl flew into Xu Xiyan's arms like a bird and hugged her tight.

They showered kisses onto each other. Then Xu Xiyan released Ying Bao, holding her little face in her hands. "Let Xi Baby have a look at you. Has our little cutie grown fatter?"

Ying Bao smiled, showing off a row of little white teeth, then pointed at her chubby little face.

"Yes, Xi Baby. Baby has grown more fat! Yesterday, great grandpa weighed me. Baby has grown one kilogram, and it's all here."

"Yeah, I see it. You're so chubby and even more lovable!" Xu Xiyan said affectionately, pinching the little girl's nose.

After Ying Bao was done playing with her mother, she suddenly turned serious and asked, "Xi Baby, did you get into trouble lately?"

"No, I didn't!"

Xu Xiyan was surprised. She didn't know why her daughter would ask such a question.

Ying Bao pouted and ran over to her great-grandfather, picking up his cell phone. She swiped the phone with her little finger, then showed the screen to her mother.

"Xi Baby, don't lie to me. Baby is not a three-year-old anymore. You were being bullied. They're all bad people. Baby hates them."

Ying Bao showed Xu Xiyan a picture of her being splashed with coffee. No wonder the little girl was worried about her.

It was unexpected that the incident had already spread onto the internet in such a short time.

Xu Xiyan took the phone from Ying Bao and carefully checked the article on the forums site. There were already a lot of people following and commenting on the article.

Almost all of them had commented that Xu Xiyan deserved it. Some even said the coffee was nothing, and that it should've been acid.

Looking at the long chain of hate comments, Xu Xiyan only clicked her tongue and said nothing. She returned the phone to Jing Huaduo and said, "Grandpa, I'm going to take Ying Bao to my place this afternoon. I'll bring her back here tomorrow."

"Sure thing. Go have some fun!" Jing Huaduo chuckled.

Ying Bao clapped her hands in delight and hopped like a rabbit. "Yay! Baby can hang out with Xi Baby again!"

"Yeah, your Orange Mommy is coming, too," Xu Xiyan said, poking at her cute little nose, "and Uncle Dazhi as well."

The little girl thought for a moment, then said, "Let's have steam boat for dinner tonight, okay?"

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Chapter 164 - A Father and Daughter's First Meeting (Part 1)

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"How 'bout we have steam boat for dinner?"

"Sure thing," Xu Xiyan said.

After they had their lunch at Jing mansion, Xu Xiyan took Ying Bao shopping for ingredients.

Ying Bao sat in Xu Xiyan's new car and hugged the cute Minnie doll. "Xi Baby, when did you buy this new car? It's so beautiful!" Ying Bao said in excitement.

Xu Xiyan looked at the little girl through the back mirror and smiled. "I borrowed it from a friend."

"Friend? Is it your boyfriend?" Ying Bao asked in awe.

"It's just a kind uncle, he was the one who prepared all the Minnies for you."

"Then, have I seen the uncle before?" Ying Bao asked. "How did he know that I like Minnie?"

"Yes, and he also watches your live stream," Xu Xiyan said.

"Really? Then doesn't that mean he's my fan?"

"Yup."

"What does he look like? Is he handsome?"

Man, she really loves handsome guys, huh?

"Yup! He's very handsome," Xu Xiyan replied as sudden happiness filled her heart.

The cute little girl shrieked as soon as she heard that the uncle was handsome. "Really? I want to meet him."

"I can bring you to meet him, but you have to promise me one thing first," Xu Xiyan said.

"Okay."

Xu Xiyan told Ying Bao to keep their mother-daughter relationship a secret, and to say that she was Fang Xiaocheng's sister's daughter. The cute little girl nodded.

They went to the mall wearing masks and bought a whole bunch of food.

When they went back to Shengshi Yujing, Ying Bao asked for the keys to Xu Xiyan's room, as she remembered where her mother stayed.

She ran towards Room 102 and tried to open to the door but couldn't reach the keyhole.

At that moment, the door to Room 101 opened.

Huo Yunshen had guessed Xu Xiyan had returned when he heard the sound of the Porsche. He wheeled himself out of his house and saw a little girl trying to open the door to Room 102.

It's Cherry Baby! Huo Yunshen screamed in his head as he instantly recognized the little girl.

Ying Bao was wearing a sky blue dress, and her hair was tied into braids. She wore two cheery hairpins on her head and was much cuter than what Huo Yunshen had seen on screen.

"May I help you with that?" Huo Yunshen asked.

Ying Bao turned her head when she heard the unfamiliar voice and stopped what she was doing.

As soon as she saw it was Huo Yunshen, her eyes widened and said, "Uncle Dimple? I know who you are!"

"Oh? Do you know who I am?" asked Huo Yunshen, surprised.

"Yes, I saw you when we were at the airport! So, Uncle Dimple lives here too!" Ying Bao jumped excitedly as her eyes shone with brightness.

Uncle Dimple, what a cute nickname.

Huo Yunshen also remembered that they had meet each other briefly at the airport.

He smiled, and his two charming dimples appeared on his cheeks.

Ying Bao noticed the dimples, and jumped onto Huo Yunshen's lap, poking his cheeks.

Chapter 165 - A Father And Daughter's First Meeting (Part 2)

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Look, Uncle Dimples! Baby also has dimples like you! Great-grandpa said that people who have dimples are good at drinking without getting drunk. Can you drink?"

"A little."

Huo Yunshen gazed at the pair of small dimples peeking out on the little girl's face and felt a closeness between them that he couldn't explain.

However, Huo Yunshen had not thought about the possibility of a blood relationship. After all, people with dimples were common everywhere.

Just like he had imagined, the little girl was very vocal in person, just like in her livestream. She was very adorable.

Xu Xiyan was carrying several bags of groceries as she arrived from the parking lot. After turning a corner, she spotted Ying Bao at the door. She called out to her, "Ying Bao, is the door open yet?"

"Xi Baby!"

Ying Bao ran over to Xu Xiyan, giggling and tugging at her clothes. "Xi Baby! Come! Come quickly! Baby would like to introduce you to a handsome guy."

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Xu Xiyan: "…"
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She wanted to introduce her to a handsome guy?

Was she serious?

The girl dragged Xu Xiyan to the door of apartment No. 101. There, she saw Huo Yunshen.

Ying Bao ran to Huo Yunshen's side excitedly and tugged at his arm. "Xi Baby, look! He's the handsome man at the airport who smiled at Baby last time."

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Xu Xiyan had no idea that Ying Bao had already met Huo Yunshen that early!

Huo Yunshen saw the bags in Xu Xiyan's hands and promptly moved forward to take them from her.

Now that Xu Xiyan's hands were free, she pulled Ying Bao over and said to her, "Ying Bao, do you know? He's the thoughtful and handsome uncle who decorated the car with Minnie Mouse for you!"

"Wow! So Uncle Dimples was the handsome man who Xi Baby wanted to introduce Baby to! Baby is so happy."

Ying Bao was very pleasantly surprised and started to like Huo Yunshen even more.

The handsome man that she liked not only had good looking dimples but had also prepared a nice gift for her.

Wow, he was really thoughtful!

Xu Xiyan tried the door but couldn't open it. She turned to ask Ying Bao, "Ying Bao, you haven't unlocked the door yet?"

"Baby couldn't reach the keyhole."

Ying Bao handed the key back to Xu Xiyan and she unlocked the door without trouble.

When Xu Xiyan turned to push Huo Yunshen into the house, Ying Bao had already ran to the back of Huo Yunshen's wheelchair.

She grabbed the handles of the wheelchair and said into Huo Yunshen's ear, "Uncle Dimples, let Baby push you into the house." "Let me do it!" Xu Xiyan stepped in to help.

"No! Baby will do it herself!"

The child was so small that the wheelchair towered over her. But she was determined to try, and pushed with all her strength.

Seeing that the little girl could not move the wheelchair, Huo Yunshen pressed a button on the controls and his wheelchair moved smoothly into the house.

Ying Bao thought that she had managed to push Huo Yunshen into the house and clapped her hands, proud of herself. "See, Xi Baby! Baby is able to push Mr. Dimples."

"Wow, Baby! You're so strong."

After entering the house, Xu Xiyan took the bags of groceries from Huo Yunshen into the kitchen.

The little girl accompanied Huo Yunshen to the living room. There was no sense of strangeness between them and they were completely at ease with each other. Ying Bao attended to him warmly like a host, "Uncle Dimples, would you like a drink? Baby can pour you a glass of water."

"Thank you, but I'm not thirsty."

"Then, would you like some candies? Baby can give you some candies. They're very sweet. Great grandpa bought them for Baby. Baby still has one more here. You can have it."

Ying Bao began to fish around in her pockets for the candy. She turned her pockets inside out but they were empty. She pouted as she mumbled to herself.

"Huh? It was clearly in Baby's pocket. How did it disappear? Where did Baby's candy go?"

Huo Yunshen felt like laughing at the little girl's panicked look.

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Chapter 166 - A Father and Daugher's First Meeing (Part 3)

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen took out a chocolate lollipop from his pocket and said, "Well, since you can't find your candy, how about I treat you to this one?"

Ying Bao raised her head, and her eyes lit up when she saw it was a bunny-shaped chocolate candy.

She wanted to have it so badly, but she suddenly remembered that her mother had told her to not accept any gifts from strangers.

The cute little girl looked at Xu Xiyan for her approval. Xu Xiyan walked out of the kitchen and said, "Since it's from this uncle, you can take it if you want."

"Yay! I love chocolate the most!" Ying Bao took the chocolate from Huo Yunshen and asked him to help her remove the packaging. But she didn't eat it right away. She took the candy into the kitchen to let her mother have a bite first.

This was Ying Bao's habit; whenever she had something to eat, she would always think of her mother first.

Xu Xiyan took a bite and gasped, "Wow! It's so good."

Ying Bao took her first bite after she saw her mother had eaten it.

The chocolate melted in her mouth instantly and the sweet taste filled her mouth.

"It's delicious! This is the tastiest chocolate I've ever tasted in my life! Thank you, Uncle Dimples."

Huo Yunshen was glad that she liked it and rubbed the top of her head.

The three of them moved themselves to the living room. Xu Xiyan had made tea for Huo Yunshen. Ying Bao lay on Huo Yunshen's lap and asked, "Uncle Dimple, what happened to your legs? Why can't you walk?"

"I was hit by a car," Huo Yunshen explained.

Ying Bao frowned as she looked at Huo Yunshen. "That's so sad, do your legs still hurt?"

"No, they don't," Huo Yunshen said, shaking his head and smiling.

Ying Bao remembered that her mother used to work at a welfare center for the disabled when they were still in Estan. She had seen many people who were in a wheelchair like Huo Yunshen.

"Uncle Dimple, I've seen many people like you before. Some of them are able to walk again!" Ying Bao encouraged. "My best friend, Mathew, was also in an accident, and he's able to walk again now!"

Huo Yunshen had never thought that Ying Bao would know how to give people hope at such a young age. He was touched deeply and said, "Thank you, little one. I'll do my best to stand up again."

"Then, when that happens, can we fly kites together? It's lonely to play alone..."

A promise?

Huo Yunshen nodded and said, "Okay. I'll fly a kite with you when I'm able to walk again."

Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen continued to play with Ying Bao in the living room.

Fang Xiaocheng called Xu Xiyan around four and told her they were already waiting at the security booth. Xu Xiyan went out and brought them in.

The three of them entered Room 102 together. Even though Fang Xiaocheng wasn't as surprised as when she had first seen Huo Yunshen, her expression still seemed to ask Xu Xiyan, Why is he here?

Xu Xiyan signaled to Fang Xiaocheng that she shouldn't probe, and introduced them to Huo Yunshen.

"Mr. Huo, this is Fang Xiaocheng, you both have met before. And this is Wang Dazhi. They're both my university mates."

Wang Dazhi?

His name is Wang Dazhi?

He went to the same university as Xu Xiyan?

Huo Yunshen recognized Wang Dazhi and mistook him for Xu Xiyan's boyfriend.

He felt kind of down and was quite frustrated when he saw Wang Dazhi came in.

But no one could blame him for the rivalry.

Chapter 167 - No Point Being Envious

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Hello, Mr. Huo."

Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi both greeted him. Huo Yunshen nodded at Fang Xiaocheng with a smile.

When he moved his gaze from Fang Xiaocheng to Wang Dazhi, his warm glimmering eyes instantly turned sharp and cold.

Those eyes sent a chill running down Wang Dazhi's spine. It was his first time meeting a famous person in such close proximity. He gulped, feeling uneasy.

Especially Elvis's eyes. They looked hostile. Why?

Had he offended him before?

Xu Xiyan was wondering why, ever since Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi had come in, the harmonious atmosphere of the room had become strange?

The first person to break the odd atmosphere was Ying Bao. When she saw Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi, she ran happily toward them and hugged their legs. "Orange Mommy! Uncle Dazhi!"

"Hey, Cherry! What a good girl!"

Fang Xiaocheng took the little girl's hand and walked in, Wang Dazhi following behind. They all sat down on the sofa. Xu Xiyan poured them some drinks and brought out a plate of fruit. They chatted for a while. Then Xu Xiyan said, "You guys stay here and chat. I'll go prepare dinner."

Fang Xiaocheng knew that they were having steam boat tonight and she didn't want to tire Xu Xiyan. "I'll come help."

The two women left. Ying Bao watched some cartoons. The two men were left sitting opposite each other, and the strange atmosphere crept in again.

Wang Dazhi, who rarely had much to say, appeared even more uneasy and quiet in front of Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen picked up his cup of tea, quietly observing his rival between sips.

Wang Dazhi was a big man, and looked like an honest person, but he seemed to be a bit dim-witted.

No matter how Huo Yunshen looked at him, there didn't seem to be anything special about this man.

What did Xu Xiyan see in him?

Wang Dazhi noticed that Huo Yunshen was watching him. He had been staring at him with those unfriendly eyes. He was starting to sweat.

What should I do?

I knew I shouldn't have come in the first place.

Huo Yunshen looked at him for a moment, then put down his cup and asked, "Mr. Wang, both of you were from Peijing University?"

The superstar Elvis was talking to him!

Wang Dazhi was flattered. He thought that Huo Yunshen was asking about him and Fang Xiaocheng. He replied, smiling dumbly, "Yes, she was majoring in Chinese and I was majoring in computer science."

"How long have you two been together?"

"Eight years," Wang Dazhi answered truthfully.

Eight years... He and Xu Xiyan had been in love for eight years!?

Huo Yunshen was really shocked by that number. He felt a bitter pang in his heart at the thought of Wang Dazhi being together with Xu Xiyan for so long.

There was no point being envious.

If he had not gone abroad and stayed in Peijing, could he have met Xu Xiyan earlier?

Huo Yunshen seemed to have fallen into deep thought and no longer spoke.

Wang Dazhi quietly wiped off some cold sweat. He couldn't exactly explain why he had felt extremely stressed out in the presence of the superstar.

Fortunately, they didn't have to wait long before Xu Xiyan called them to dinner, and the negative vibes lingering around Wang Dazhi and Huo Yunshen were soon lifted.

Xu Xiyan put the double-flavored steam boat on the table. Fang Xiaocheng brought the ingredients out. Ying Bao ran into the kitchen for chopsticks.

They all sat at the table. Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen sitting on one side, Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi on the other. Ying Bao sat alone at the end of the table.

While they were eating, Huo Yunshen continued to stare at Wang Dazhi secretly.

He could not understand why Wang Dazhi was picking food for Fang Xiaocheng's plate.

According to Huo Yunshen's logic, Xu Xiyan should be sitting with her boyfriend, Wang Dazhi.

That Wang Dazhi was supposed to be picking food for Xu Xiyan!

Was it because his appearance had upset Wang Dazhi, and he was deliberately doing that to irritate Xu Xiyan?

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Chapter 168 - Eager To Set Them Up

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen was puzzled, and whispered to Xu Xiyan, "Is it all right that I sit here?"

"Of course. Or else it'll be hard to help serve you your food." Xu Xiyan had to serve both Ying Bao and Huo Yunshen, and the best way to do that was to sit in the middle.

"Then, what about Mr. Wang?" Huo Yunshen asked, looking at Wang Dazhi.

Xu Xiyan placed a small bowl filled with her specially made sauce in front of Huo Yunshen and said, "Don't mind that couple, they can take care of their own."

"Couple?" Huo Yunshen was surprised by the word and shrieked.

"Oh, didn't I tell you that Dazhi and Orange are a couple?"

Wang Dazhi... is Fang Xiaocheng's boyfriend?

I'm sure no one has told me that before.

It was like his whole world was lit up again. He could see roses blooming in front of him as his heart was filled with happiness and surprise.

So, this means that Wang Dazhi is not Xu Xiyan's boyfriend?

It was a misunderstanding?

"I.. I kind of thought that... Wang Dazhi was your boyfriend..." Huo Yunshen stammered.

"..." Wang Dazhi looked at Fang Xiaocheng with a serious face, like he was telling her that he would always be loyal to her and he hadn't ever cheated on her.

"Oh my god!" Fang Xiaocheng laughed when she saw that Elvis had such a cute side to him. "This is too funny, Mr. Huo..."

Xu Xiyan scooped some vegetables from the pot and placed them on Huo Yunshen's plate. "What were you thinking?" she asked, laughing. "I don't have a boyfriend."

Don't have a boyfriend?

Huo Yunshen's heart was about to explode when he heard these words straight from Xu Xiyan's mouth. The thunderstorm that was in his heart was nowhere to be seen anymore.

That means she's still single and I still have a chance, right?

Ying Bao heard their conversations and laughed. "Xi Baby is still single. How about you, Uncle Dimples, do you have a girlfriend?"

Huo Yunshen shook his head awkwardly.

Ying Bao half kneeled on the chair and stared at Huo Yunshen intensely. "Then, do you like Xi Baby?" she asked, tilting her head to the side.

The cute little girl was already eager to set them up because she liked Uncle Dimples very much.

She wanted a kind father like him.

Huo Yunshen's face reddened and he had no idea how to answer the direct question.

"Cough..." Xu Xiyan was surprised by her daughter's sudden question and almost choked.

She'd never thought that her daughter would try to set them up or ask this kind of question in such a direct manner. It was very embarrassing.

To hide her embarrassment, Xu Xiyan picked up a fishball and gave it to Ying Bao. "Here, have a fishball."

She then turned to Huo Yunshen and smiled apologetically. "Don't mind her, you know how kids spout nonsense."

"..." An awkward expression hung on Huo Yunshen's face. It was impossible for him to express his true feelings in front of other people.

There's a kind of love that will make people say "I love you, but I have no idea how to truly tell you that." This was what Huo Yunshen was feeling.

When will I muster the courage to tell her my true feelings?

Chapter 169 - One In A Million Chance

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The ingredients at the bottom of the hot pot were almost cooked, and the soup was simmering. Xu Xiyan invited everyone to dig in. "Come, everyone! Let's eat! Please help yourselves!"

Fang Xiaocheng picked a mushroom ball from the hotpot and dipped it in peanut sauce. "Here, Cherry, have a mushroom ball! I've dipped it in peanut sauce for you."

"It's okay, Orange Mommy, you can have it. Baby doesn't want it," Ying Bao shook her head. She scooped up a beef ball with a spoon and took a big bite out of it happily.

Xu Xiyan added, "Oh, I forgot to tell you that Ying Bao cannot have peanut butter. She's allergic to it."

She's allergic to peanut sauce?

Huo Yunshen jerked his head up at the little girl. She was also allergic to peanuts?

He was allergic to it too!

What a coincidence!

After dinner, Wang Dazhi and Fang Xiaocheng bid them goodbye. Before leaving, Fang Xiaocheng said, "Cherry, would you sleep with Xi Baby tonight? Orange Mommy will pick you up tomorrow, okay?"

"Okay!" Ying Bao jumped happily.

After sending Fang Xiaocheng and Wang Dazhi off, Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen joined Ying Bao for a game of Chinese checkers.

As Xu Xiyan watched Huo Yunshen and Ying Bao getting along in harmony, she felt the long-lost warmth of being with a family.

She couldn't help but think: If...If Huo Yunshen liked her, that would be great, and Ying Bao could live in a complete family.

She really felt like asking him. Huo Yunshen, do you like me?

Why do you have to bury your feelings so deep?

Xu Xiyan had always been confident and insightful. However, when it came to Huo Yunshen, she could understand him, but couldn't figure him out. She could never guess what he was thinking.

She had heard some ugly rumors from the public. It was rumored that the reason Huo Yunshen had never been intimately close with women was not that he had anxiety towards women or had gotten into a car accident, but that he seemed to be gay.

As for that night when he had a sexual relationship with her five years ago, it had happened because she had been drugged and couldn't control herself from throwing herself onto him. Otherwise, he wouldn't have touched a woman.

He had helped her again and again, and she had wondered whether he had been interested in her. But back at the hotel that day, he did not even look at her, as if she was halftransparent.

Therefore, Xu Xiyan had always thought that it was true that he did not like women.

It was nearly 10:30 PM when they were done playing the game. Ying Bao was holding onto Xu Xiyan, arms around her neck, dozing off.

Xu Xiyan picked the child up and said, "She's already sleepy. I'm going to bathe her and then put her in bed. You can go back to your place and wait for me." "Okay," Huo Yunshen replied.

After Xu Xiyan had bathed Ying Bao and put her in bed, she came out of the bedroom and found that Huo Yunshen was still in the living room.

"You haven't left yet?"

"I was waiting for you."

He had nothing to do at home, anyway, so he had decided to wait for her.

"Why don't you stay here for the night? Do you need anything? I can go over and bring it for you."

Xu Xiyan was asking for his opinion. The main reason for asking him to stay here was that it would take a long time for his massage and acupuncture, and she was not comfortable leaving Ying Bao alone in the house.

"Sure, why not."

It was a one in a million chance and Huo Yunshen had happily agreed to it.

In the guest room, Huo Yunshen lay on the bed as Xu Xiyan gave him a body massage.

Nonchalantly, Huo Yunshen asked Xu Xiyan, "What do Ying Bao's parents do?"

He really wanted to know. What kind of parents were able to raise such an obedient and lovely child as Ying Bao?

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Chapter 170 - Did He Find Out?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"What?" Xu Xiyan was stunned by his question. She remembered that Fang Xiaocheng's sister had a shop that sold children's clothing and said, "They have a shop that sells clothes."

"Really?" Huo Yunshen asked curiously. "I remembered Cherry Baby said in her live stream that she wants to save a lot of money to buy the best father in the world...I thought her mother was single?"

Huo Yunshen was actually curious from the first moment he'd met Ying Bao; he thought that she was very similar to him in many aspects.

First, the dimples...and then they also had the same peanut allergy.

Even though Ying Bao was Fang Xiaocheng's niece, she should be closer to Fang Xiaocheng, but Huo Yunshen had noticed that Ying Bao was actually closer to Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan almost lost her composure under pressure.

But her mind was still clear, and she quickly replied, "They had a divorce after Cherry Baby was born. She was raised by her mother alone."

"But she looks close to you," Huo Yunshen added.

"That's because I used to go to Orange's sister's house to play a lot."

Xu Xiyan began to worry that Huo Yunshen might notice something.

"But Ying Bao's only four years old, you left the country five years ago and had only returned recently, so how did she become so close to you?" Huo Yunshen continued to ask.

Xu Xiyan became anxious by his question, and her hands began to shake.

"That's... that's because I'm good with people, maybe kids love me."

Not only kids but adults also loves you too...

"I see," Huo Yunshen said. He didn't ask any further questions.

Xu Xiyan let out a sigh of relief. I think I should stop lying so often, I almost sold myself out...

After she'd finish with the therapy, she tucked Huo Yunshen in and went back to her room.

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The next morning, Xu Xiyan felt a slight itch on her face. She opened her eyes and was greeted by Ying Bao's kisses.

"Oh, you're awake?" Ying Bao asked with a smiling face.

"Yes, good morning, my child," Xu Xiyan said, kissing Ying Bao on the cheek.

"Xi Baby, you look like sleeping beauty when you're asleep!" Ying Bao sat on her mother's stomach and smiled.

"Then you must be the little princess!" Xu Xiyan got up from her bed and left her bedroom with Ying Bao.

Just as they pushed open the door, the door to the guest room also opened. Huo Yunshen was leaving the room in his wheelchair.

"Why is Uncle Dimples in our house?" Ying Bao asked in awe.

Xu Xiyan's face reddened. In front of her early-developed child, she had to explain the situation so she didn't mistake it

for something that it wasn't. "It was late yesterday, that's why I asked Uncle Dimples to stay over."

Huo Yunshen smiled at Xu Xiyan and greeted Ying Bao. "Good morning, Cherry Baby!"

Chapter 171 - The Little Girl Gave Herself A New Life Goal

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Ying Bao slipped down from her mother and ran over to Huo Yunshen and greeted him, "Good morning, Uncle Dimples!" Then she went to the back of his wheelchair, "Let Baby push your wheelchair!"

"Ying Bao, come wash your face and brush your teeth first," Xu Xiyan called out to her. She was just like her daughter now. Both were unpresentable, with messy hair.

"Go wash up, Cherry. I'll wait for you outside," Huo Yunshen said as he stroked her little head.

"Okay, Uncle Dimples! You must wait for me! Baby will return after this advertisement," Ying Bao giggled and ran towards the bathroom.

"Mr. Huo, please wait for me in the living room. I'll make breakfast later," Xu Xiyan said and then went to the bathroom.

After both mother and daughter were done washing up, they came out and found Huo Yunshen in the dining room. Breakfast was already ready on the table along with glasses of milk.

Ying Bao saw the food on the table and ran over excitedly. She climbed onto the chair and knelt on it. "Wow! Uncle Dimples, did you make all this delicious food?"

"Yup," Huo Yunshen said with a smile and a nod. He placed a tray of nutritious kiddie breakfast in front of Ying Bao. He had specially prepared it for her. "Here, try it. Tell me what you think."

Ying Bao picked up a sandwich and took a big bite out of it. Her eyes lit up. "Mmmm, it's so delicious! You're so awesome, Uncle Dimples! The sandwich you made is really delicious!"

The food was so delicious that Ying Bao immediately called out to her mother, "Xi Baby! Come! Quick! Look at the breakfast Uncle Dimples made! It's so delicious! Come and try it!"

Xu Xiyan sat down opposite Ying Bao and tried the food. She gave a thumbs up, "Mmm, it's good."

She had always been full of praise for Huo Yunshen's craftsmanship in the kitchen. There was no mistake that he was a good cook.

Ying Bao was totally excited. "Xi Baby, Uncle Dimples is a really good person! He's exactly what I imagined my ideal daddy would be like. I wonder if Uncle Dimples is expensive?"

Xu Xiyan told her bluntly, "Of course he is! Uncle Dimples is the most expensive daddy in the world. You can't afford him."

Ying Bao decided to give herself a new life goal. She took another big bite of her sandwich and said with determination, "Baby will have to work harder to make more money. I have to save lots and lots of money so I can buy Uncle Dimples."

"All right! Uncle Dimples will wait for you," Huo Yunshen said, laughing. He was delighted by the adorable little girl.

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After breakfast, Xu Xiyan said goodbye to Huo Yunshen.

She drove Ying Bao back to the Jing family house and handed her over to her grandfather, then drove over to the Eastern Suburbs Film Studios.

After arriving on the set, Xu Xiyan noticed that many people were giving her odd looks.

Zhao Ruiqi was the first busybody to come over, questioning her, "Hey, Jing Xi, what's your relationship with Ma Haodong?"

Xu Xiyan glanced at her and sneered, "What do you hope it is?"

"Well, I'm just curious. Everybody saw how angry Ma Haodong was that day. We're all in the same crew. You wouldn't mind telling me, right?"

Zhao Ruiqi was the kind of person who would purposefully stir up trouble, a typical busybody and a pain in the ass. She wanted to make a fool out of Xu Xiyan.

At the moment, Xu Xiyan was being lambasted by netizens. Many of the minor actors were silently watching her being made fun of.

Xu Xiyan only smiled and immediately mocked her. "Zhao Ruiqi, I noticed that you have great potential to become a member of the paparazzi. Why don't you become a tabloid journalist? I can guarantee that if you became a reporter, you would become an outstanding paparazzi. It's a much better job than your little palace maiden role here."

"..." Zhao Ruiqi's face darkened. She was speechless.

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Chapter 172 - Is He Trying to Ruin His Career?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan had insulted Zhao Ruiqi without any cursing, which shut her up.

Xu Xiyan was smart, so any person who tried to insult or argue with her would only find themselves on the losing side.

Xu Xiyan walked past Zhao Ruiqi and went into the makeup studio.

As Linda applied Xu Xiyan's makeup, she explained everything that had happened on the day after she'd collapsed.

"Ma Haodong scolded Huang Guoqiang?" Xu Xiyan asked in disbelief.

"Yup. He said that the director is trying to murder you."

Linda had already befriended Xu Xiyan, so they would discuss a few matters from time to time. "Looks like he's really worried about you. You're so lucky that you've found yourself such a good boyfriend."

"Come on, you're mistaken. We're just really good friends," Xu Xiyan laughed. "But I never would've thought that he would scold the director because of me."

What is he thinking? Is he trying to ruin his career?

Doesn't he know what will happen if an actor gets on the director's bad side?

If not for Linda, Xu Xiyan would have had no idea what had gone down after she fainted that day.

"Wait, did you also say the movie was almost canceled?" Xu Xiyan asked.

"Duh! Without the director, everything would have to stop. If Chu Yuhe hadn't gone and asked him to come back, they might've had to stop the whole thing."

Xu Xiyan could not help but praise Huang Guoqiang's boldness in challenging the investor.

He did not try to cover the whole thing up. Instead, he took it up with Chu Yuhe and threw everything behind.

Huang Guoqiang was definitely a director with principles.

Xu Xiyan went to look for Huang Guoqiang after all her makeup had been applied.

Huang Guoqiang was discussing the script with the writer when Xu Xiyan walked up and greeted them.

Huang Guoqiang saw that it was Xu Xiyan and stopped what he was doing. "Oh, Jing Xi! How's your health? I wanted to send someone to check up on you at the hospital, but they told me that you'd already left."

"Thank you for your concern, I'm fully healed and ready to work," Xu Xiyan smiled. "I'm sorry for causing you and the crew all that trouble."

Huang Guoqiang did not fully blame Xu Xiyan for everything that had happened and said, "It's fine. I guess someone wanted to get back at you for slapping Xu Xinrou so much last time. That's what this line of work is like sometimes; the strong prey on the weak."

Huang Guoqiang did not suspect that Xu Xiyan had a relationship with Huo Yunshen but instead knew in his heart that Chu Yuhe did what he did that day to avenge Xu Xinrou.

"I understand," Xu Xiyan said.

"Since you're still a rookie, try to proceed with caution," Huang Guoqiang added. "Don't try to challenge things that are out of your league."

"I will. Thank you," Xu Xiyan said, smiling as she left.

Huang Guoqiang watched her back as she went and thought...

Chapter 173 - Let's See How You Wash It Off

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huang Guoqiang watched her turn away and was silent for a moment. He believed that he had not judged her wrongly. Jing Xi was talented and had great potential.

She was intelligent, courteous, and hardworking. It would make no sense for an actress like her not to become successful.

While contemplating, he suddenly came up with a bold idea. "I know how to change it," he told the writer. "Here...and here...add a few more scenes for Jing Xi... Yes, that's it. Let her be Lin Huaijin's opponent."

The director had the right to change the script and add more scenes whenever he desired. If Jing Xi's performance was satisfactory, it could be possible to convert her minor palace maiden role into a proper supporting actress role.

On the way back, Xu Xiyan bumped into Xu Xinrou and her assistant, Wen Li.

Many people in the crew had said the reason that Xu Xinrou had kicked Xu Xiyan that day was for revenge.

In order to protect her reputation, Xu Xinrou pretended to express concern. "Jing Xi, you're back for work today? Are you okay? Have you been injured?"

This bitch can really put on a show.

It would be a mistake not giving you the best drama queen award.

Xu Xiyan let out a snide chuckle and pulled out a hospital discharge receipt from her pocket. "I'm lucky that I'm not dead. You know what to do. This is my medical bill. Please reimburse me a total of 2,419 Yuan and 8 cents."

Xu Xiyan had openly asked her for that meager sum of money, and Xu Xinrou had no words for her. She thought Xu Xiyan was more disgusting than a beggar.

Like hell she was going to pay her.

Xu Xinrou smirked at her. "Jing Xi, you were at the set when you were injured, so it was a work-related injury. Don't you think it's inappropriate to ask for reimbursement from me?"

Xu Xiyan knew Xu Xinrou would not pay a single cent, but she would not let her off easily. She smiled and moved closer to her.

"If you won't pay, I shall have a little chat with the police and tell them that you have tampered your shoes with the intention of murdering me. What would everyone say if they learned that a star actress like you tried to commit murder?"

Xu Xiyan only suspected that Xu Xinrou might have tampered with her shoes, since there was no real evidence. She was only trying to intimidate her now.

"How dare you," Xu Xinrou said, grinding her teeth angrily.

"I have nothing to fear," said Xu XIyan. "I'm just a nobody who has yet to make her debut. I've got nothing to lose."

Xu Xiyan's eyes glimmered, their darkness catching the light as she smiled amiably and gave the threat. Afraid now?

Xu Xinrou was beaten, though she had already told Wen Li to dispose of the shoes.

If Xu Xiyan was serious in her threats to escalate the matter, Xu Xinrou's reputation would definitely be affected. It wasn't worth the trouble.

Xu Xinrou had no choice but to grit her teeth and order Wen Li to pay Xu Xiyan 2,500 Yuan. Xu Xiyan pocketed the money and walked away. Suddenly Wen Li grabbed her, "Have you forgotten the change?"

"What change?" Xu Xiyan said scornfully. "The change was not even enough to pay for the taxi fare that day. You're lucky that I didn't ask you to reimburse me for the lost time and mental distress, yet you still want the change?"

Xu Xiyan shook Wen Li off of her and walked away. Wen Li stomped her foot angrily and turned to Xu Xinrou,

"Xinrou, your sister is so arrogant."

Not only had she been arrogant, but she had also gone too far in bullying them.

Xu Xinrou stifled her anger and told Wen Li, "You can submit the draft when it's ready. Start from the smaller sites, and don't let anyone trace it back to us."

"Don't worry, I know what to do."

Wen Li obeyed and immediately contacted the tabloid reporters.

Xu Xinrou sneered. Xu Xiyan, just wait and see!

There will be mud in your face soon. Haha! Let's see how you wash it off!

Chapter 174 - Ban Me If They Can

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Everything ended smoothly that day. After the shooting had finished, Xu Xiyan went to the "Root of Evil" set.

Ma Haodong was shooting a murder scene where he was dissecting a woman.

Ma Haodong's acting was definitely top-notch, and his expressions and emotions were all on point. He was like a real sociopath on stage.

Ma Haodong finished the scene and his manager, Ms. Song, handed him a towel.

He wiped the fake blood off his hands and noticed Xu Xiyan standing in the crowd. Just as he was about to walk over to her, Ms. Song stopped him and said, "Haodong, we still have an interview later, hurry up and prepare."

Ms. Song had already noticed Xu Xiyan was in the crowd and guessed that she was here to meet Ma Haodong. Yet because of the scandal, she did not want the celebrity to have any relationship with a C-class actress.

"Okay. My friend's here, I'll go say hello," Ma Haodong said and left, ignoring his manager.

He stopped in front of Xu Xiyan and said, "Jing Xi! You're out of the hospital already? And I was thinking of visiting you at the hospital later today too..."

Xu Xiyan was happy to see Ma Haodong and praised his acting. "Damn, your acting is so good!"

"Thank you." Ma Haodong scratched his head awkwardly.

"Hey, you got into the scandal because you helped me, and that caused a ton of your fans to leave you, I'm really sorry about that."

"That's nothing. The scandal will blow over in a few days. My fans will naturally return after that."

"I know, but I also heard that you argued with the director because of me. I'm afraid that it might affect your career."

Ma Haodong was born with a golden spoon in his hand, and he'd never cared about that kind of stuff. He pulled his hair back and smiled. "Whatever, I don't really care about that.

Even if his career in the showbiz was over, he could still go back and inherit his family business. He would even dare those higher-ups to ban him.

Xu Xiyan couldn't help but appreciate his generosity. "Thank you, really. I'll never forget this!"

"Don't worry about it," Ma Haodong said with a smile.

Xu Xiyan took out the 2,500 Yuan from Xu Xinrou and handed it to Ma Haodong. "Oh, this is for the hospital fees."

Ma Hadong did not take the money and said, "Come on, we're friends. I'm going to get angry if you insist I take these."

Ma Haodang's family was loaded with money, and he believed that if he could help a friend by spending a little on them, then it was worth it.

"But I can't just let you pay..." Xu Xiyan knew that Ma Haodong was rich, but she still insisted on returning the favor.

Ma Haodong finally gave in and said, "How 'bout this...don't pay me back the money. Instead, treat me to a meal."

Chapter 175 - Riled Up

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Sure! I'll definitely treat you to a meal!"

Xu Xiyan and Ma Haodong had agreed to a meal together. When they both weren't busy with work, she would treat him to a feast.

Xu Xiyan came out of "The Root of Evil" set and went to a nearby beverage store to order coffee for everyone in "The Root of Evil" crew. She used the 2,500 Yuan to purchase the drinks and ordered them under Ma Haodong's name.

Even though Ma Haodong had generously refused the money, Xu Xiyan still didn't want to owe him. She hoped that by using his name to buy everyone drinks, she would feel more at ease about it.

At the beverage store, Xu Xiyan had a feeling that someone was whispering about her. She turned and saw a group of four or five girls.

Xu Xiyan left the beverage store and the girls followed her. When they came to a bend, they surrounded her.

"It's her! She's Jing Xi!!"

"She looks even more crafty in person than in the photos!"

"I knew she was a manipulative green-tea girl!"

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After listening to their discussion, Xu Xiyan tilted her head and asked, "Why are you blocking my way? Have I offended you?" One of the girls in a red dress said angrily, "You didn't offend us, but you've seduced our little Ma. You're taking advantage of him, so you must not be a good person!"

A girl in black agreed, "That's right! You've tainted our little Ma's reputation! Be sensible and stay away from little Ma. Don't pester him!"

Another short-haired girl added, "If you don't listen, we will rally more fans online to crush you!"

Xu Xiyan believed that these people were Ma Haodong's fangirls. They had seen the scandalous news on the internet and had come to stand up for their beloved idol.

Xu Xiyan held no grudges against them, and she didn't want to create any unpleasantness. She tried to persuade them:

"You're all fans of Ma Haodong, right? If you really love your idol, please be sensible and try to believe him. Don't make a big fuss out of it, okay? Please listen to me and go back to school!"

Xu Xiyan was ready to leave, but one of the girls had been emotionally agitated. In the heat of the moment, she threw the coffee she was holding at Xu Xiyan, splashing her with the black liquid. "Leave little Ma alone! Or else I'll splash you every time I see you!"

"Ah…"

It happened so suddenly that Xu Xiyan could not avoid it, and her body was drenched with coffee from top to bottom. She had never thought that Ma Haodong's fans could become so riled up.

Xu Xiyan froze in place, dripping with coffee. She couldn't take her anger out on them because they were only underage teens. It wouldn't be proper to beat them up!

The truth, which Xu Xiyan hadn't guessed, was that these fans were not actual fans of Ma Haodong, but people whom Xu Xinrou had deliberately arranged to humiliate Xu Xiyan.

In addition to arranging fans to assault Xu Xiyan, Xu Xinrou had also arranged for the paparazzi to hide and take pictures

nearby. When the girl splashed coffee onto her, the paparazzi would have first-hand information.

Seeing that Xu Xiyan was surrounded by the girls, the paparazzi left, feeling pleased and returning to Xu Xinrou for payment.

Those kids were young and impulsive. They continued to curse Xu Xiyan non-stop without minding the intensity of their vulgarities.

"Dumbass! Don't act all innocent! You disgust me!"

"You don't deserve our little Ma... just get out of the entertainment industry!"

"You shameless bitch, leave little Ma alone..."

After the first girl had splashed coffee onto Xu Xiyan, the other girls followed her example and started throwing their drinks at her.

Xu Xiyan could not scold or fight them. She could only raise her arms and shield herself.

She braced herself for the coffee attack but it did not come. A black plaid umbrella had blocked the assault.

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Chapter 176 - A Touching Moment

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan lowered her arms and her gaze was met by a pair of angry eyes. Her heart skipped a beat as she noticed who they belonged to.

It was Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen was the one who had taken the splash for her.

Most of the coffee had splashed onto his suit, while Xu Xiyan remained dry.

Yi Xiao took care of the girls that were causing the commotion. Huo Yunshen closed the umbrella and handed Xu Xiyan a handkerchief. "Sorry I'm late, Jing Xi."

Huo Yunshen felt a little guilty that he hadn't been able to rush to her in time because of his legs.

He was hurt deeply when he saw how others were treating her.

"Mr. Huo..." Xu Xiyan was about to cry when she saw that his face was filled with guilt. She would have never thought that he would appear in front of her at a time like this.

You aren't late or anything, it was very touching for you to be here at all...

"Come on, let's get into my RV," Huo Yunshen said as he turned his wheelchair and wheeled towards the luxurious RV parked not far from them. Xu Xiyan followed him.

When they'd entered, Huo Yunshen handed her a bag filled with clean clothes and said, "Go get a shower."

Xu Xiyan was already shocked by his sudden appearance, and now he'd even prepared clothes for her. "Mr. Huo, how did you know I would be splashed today?"

"I didn't. All I know is that it's best to be prepared for anything," Huo Yunshen said. The clothes were there in case anything happened.

"Thank you," Xu Xiyan thanked him from the bottom of her heart and found her way to the shower room.

• • •

Ma Haodong was sipping on his cold drink on the set of "The Root of Evil" while everyone thanked him for their drinks. He'd already guessed that it was Xu Xiyan who had bought them the drinks in his name.

That girl...

She really hates owing other people, huh?

Ma Haodong finished his drink and went to the interview where different reporters kept asking questions about him and Xu Xiyan.

"Mr. Ma, please explain the scandal that surfaced yesterday."

"Mr. Ma, are you in a relationship with a girl named Jing Xi?"

"Mr. Ma, can you tell us how you and Jing Xi met?"

"Mr. Ma, are you trying to increase the popularity of 'The Root of Evil' with this scandal?"

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Ma Haodong kept his gentle smile in the face of all the reporters.

"Thank you for all of your concerns, I'll explain everything. Jing Xi and I aren't in a relationship. We're really good friends, that's all. As for why I carried her, it was because she got hurt when she was shooting a film."

One of the reporters thought that Ma Haodong was trying to hide his relationship and asked, "Can you give us the details about that day? Everyone knows that you're shooting for the 'The Root of Evil' while she's shooting for the 'Red Sleeved Beauty.' How is it that you were near her set when everything happened?"

"I was there visiting her," Ma Haodong explained.

"Isn't that too unconvincing? You're one of the most famous celebrities out there, and she's just a C-list actress," the reporter said, continuing to probe.

"Why is that unconvincing? Then who should I visit?" Ma Haodong asked. "Is it wrong for me to have my own friends?"

Chapter 177 - Stirred

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

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Larbre Studio

"Furthermore, Jing Xi is a very good actress. She has no reason to take advantage of my status. I want to say that Jing Xi was originally a stunt double, and her talents and abilities are real. She's not some sort of pretentious pretty face. I respect her and I would be honored to have the opportunity to work with her again!"

Ma Haodong's tone was harsh and the atmosphere had become tense.

His manager, Miss Song, quickly stepped in and reminded the reporters to ask questions regarding 'The Root of Evil' instead.

After the topic was changed, the tense atmosphere relaxed and the reporters started to ask about "The Root of Evil."

After the interview, Miss Song secretly bribed the reporters without Ma Haodong's knowledge. She requested that they delete all of their interview content about Ma Haodong's speech about Jing Xi, and that they only report content related to "The Root of Evil."

She did this mainly because of the way Ma Haodong's had commented on the matter. It could be easily misunderstood. If the report went out, it would not only fail to clear up the rumors about Ma Haodong and Jing Xi, but also cause even more misunderstandings.

She was the type of manager who prioritized profits for her celebrities and was obliged to protect them.

In Huo Yunshen's RV, Xu Xiyan took a quick shower and put on a change of clothes. Huo Yunshen had already prepared a glass of hot water with lemon for her.

Xu Xiyan picked it up and drank it all in one go. She wiped her mouth with the back of her hand, smiling at Huo Yunshen.

She had always felt that as long Huo Yunshen was there for her, even the worst experiences would become worth it, and all negative feelings would be swept away by his care and concern.

Huo Yunshen watched her with affectionate eyes. She was like a young lotus flower that had just risen from the water. The way she drank the drink he'd prepared was not in a typical womanly way, but she still looked very beautiful.

Her fair skin glowed with a pearl-like luster, and her face was tender like a hardboiled egg that had just been shelled, soft and fragile. There was a faint blush on her cheeks and her eyes were bright as stars, her lips rosy and seductive.

Xu Xiyan was really beautiful. So beautiful that it moved Huo Yunshen deep within his heart.

He felt the emotions he had suppressed for many years beginning to stir within him. Just looking at her made him feel restless.

The two looked at each other silently for a moment. Xu Xiyan put down her glass and said, "Mr. Huo, you haven't told me what you were doing at the studios!"

"Me?" Huo Yunshen snapped out of his fantasy. He lightly licked his lower lip and replied, "I had just finished recording a song and was passing by."

"Oh! You were recording a new song? What is it? I can't wait to hear it!"

"I'll let you be the first one to hear it when it's done," Huo Yunshen said.

"Sure! I feel so honored!"

Xu Xiyan's eyes sparkled. She wondered what his new was song like.

She had heard all of the songs he had released under the name "Ni Yun." Her favorites were "Dreamchaser,""Sleepless Stars" and "Memories in the Wind." They were all very nice.

His voice was deep, mellow and magnetic. It resonated with power and was easily distinguishable.

The two talked about music on the road. Huo Yunshen remembered Huang Guoqiang's request for a song. "Your director Mr. Huang requested that I write a traditional-style song for him."

"Really? That's great. If we use your song in this show, it would be even more perfect!"

Xu Xiyan knew Ni Yun was good at pop songs, but she had never heard him compose a traditional-style song before. She wondered how it would turn out.

Huo Yunshen was being modest. He told her his concerns honestly. "I haven't tried composing traditional music before, and I might have trouble coming up with the lyrics."

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Chapter 178 - Trying to Stop Her

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan was afraid that Huo Yunshen might refuse Huang Guoqiang's request and said, "Well, try it first. I can help you with the lyrics if you can't come up with them. Don't forget that I still hold a degree in Chinese Language and Literature."

It would definitely help Huo Yunshen a lot to have Xu Xiyan writing the lyrics.

"All right, I'll try," Huo Yunshen nodded.

They drove back to Shengshi Yujing. Xu Xiyan asked Huo Yunshen to relax in the living room while she prepared dinner.

Just as Xu Xiyan was busying herself in the kitchen, Huo Yunshen got a call from Huo Sanyan saying that she wanted to visit him.

"Don't come, I'm not at home," Huo Yunshen said.

He wanted to stop her from disturbing his alone time with Xu Xiyan.

"Don't try and bluff to me, my little brother," Huo Sanyan said. She did not buy his bluff. "I've already asked Yi Xiao, and he said you're already back at your house. I'll arrive in a few minutes."

"..." Huo Yunshen felt like he was about to fight the demon king, and had to think of ways to stop her.

"Jing Xi, I'm going to head out for a while," Huo Yunshen said.

"Okay, don't rush."

Huo Yunshen wheeled himself out of his house.

Xu Xiyan finished cooking and set the food on the table. She suddenly heard someone moving outside.

She thought it was Huo Yunshen and hurried to the door to help him.

She was used to checking through the peephole before opening doors. She almost shouted when she saw Huo Sanyan outside with Huo Yunshen, both of them approaching the door.

Huo Sanyan was the first to arrive at the door, followed by Huo Yunshen whose face was already as dark as it could get.

It was scarier than seeing a ghost. Xu Xiyan didn't have enough time to hide in the bedroom and could only hide behind the sofa.

The door opened and Huo Yunshen's voice sounded throughout the living room. "This is me. If that's all, then please leave."

"Come on, I'll help you get into your house," Huo Sanyan said. She was already used to emptying Huo Yunshen's place of food, and wanted to look for something to eat.

They went in, and Huo Yunshen said, "That's it, please, just go."

He did not get a response. He turned and noticed Huo Sanyan wasn't standing behind him.

Wait... Did she leave? Not bad...

Just as he was about to relax, Huo Sanyan's voice came from the other direction. "Man, I'm beat. I've been sitting in a meeting for the whole afternoon."

"..." I shouldn't have celebrated so early...

Huo Sanyan was lying on his sofa lazily.

"Why are you still here?" Huo Yunshen asked, gritting his teeth.

"Little brother, is this how you treat your sister? I've been taking care of you ever since you were little. I would even buy you candies," Huo Sanyan scolded.

Huo Yunshen was already speechless.

When they were little, their parents would ask Huo Sanyan to take care of Huo Yunshen. She would buy candies and eat them in front of him.

Yet, he couldn't blame her since she was just a kid then, too.

Chapter 179 - Intrigued

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Later, after she'd started school, she became more sensible and knew how to take care of her brother. She protected him well and prevented others from bullying him.

Huo Yunshen was so upset that he didn't feel like talking anymore. Huo Sanyan still would not leave. Xu Xiyan, who was behind the sofa, thought that she was gone. She peeked out from behind the sofa and met Huo Yunshen's eyes.

Huo Yunshen saw Xu Xiyan hiding behind the sofa where Huo Sanyan was sitting and his heart lurched. What should he do now?

Xu Xiyan saw Huo Sanyan sitting on the sofa. Shocked, she quickly lowered her head behind it.

In order to get rid of Huo Sanyan as soon as possible, Huo Yunshen secretly sent a text message to Tang Yichen and told him to call Huo Sanyan so she would leave.

After a minute had passed, Huo Sanyan's phone rang. She saw that it was Tang Yichen but she didn't pick up the call, muttering, "It's already late. What does Mr. Tang want with me?"

Huo Yunshen replied, "It must be something important. You should pick up the call!"

"No. I'm already off work. No one can bother me now."

Huo Sanyan immediately switched off her phone.

Huo Yunshen: "..."

She was obviously a devil sent by God to ruin his life.

Huo Sanyan did not want to leave mainly because she had something important to ask her brother. "Hey bro, what does your friend, Ye Xun, do?"

Though she was an award-winning entertainment journalist and a public relations director, herself, Huo Sanyan had not been able to dig out any information about Ye Xun. Therefore, this "Ye Xun" intrigued her.

"Why do you want to know?"

Huo Yunshen felt something cold crawling down his back and an ominous thought drifted through his mind. Could it be that his third sister—who was not interested in marriage—was interested in Ye Xun?

"Just curious. When are you two hanging out again? Let's have a meal together," Huo Sanyan said.

Huo Yunshen steered his wheelchair around to her side, staring at her incredulously. "Don't tell me you're interested in him?"

"What's so strange about that? Your sister is a woman, too. Isn't it normal for me to be interested in a man?"

Huo Sanyan turned and threw herself on the sofa, giggling like a love-struck girl. "Hey, do you think we're compatible?"

"No! Not compatible at all!"

Huo Yunshen's face was so dark, it looked as if ink could drip from it. He was going nuts.

His sister had actually fallen in love with Xu Xiyan's male persona. What the f*ck!

Xu Xiyan, who was still hiding behind the sofa, heard the conversation between the two. She had the same sentiment as Huo Yunshen. Yes, what the f*ck!

"Hey! Are you my brother or not? How could a beautiful and talented woman like me not be worthy of him? Why don't you think about your sister? I'm almost thirty and I don't have a boyfriend yet. Are you not worried? It's not easy for me to fall for someone and yet you're disparaging me," Huo Sanyan complained. Huo Yunshen let out a sigh. He was skeptical. "I thought you wouldn't marry."

"That was before."

Huo Sanyan clasped her hands together as she fantasized. "Ever since I met Ye Xun, my lonely heart of 30 years was suddenly swayed. It must be God's arrangement that I was destined to meet him."

Huo Yunshen facepalmed, "Forget it! He is 7 years younger than you. You aren't suitable for each other!"

"So what if he is 7 years younger? Nowadays it's common to see older women dating younger men. A 7-year gap is not a problem. I can even accept a 17-year gap!"

Huo Sanyan begged him, "Brother, please consider the fact that I've been an unpopular single. Help me meet him, okay? You should always reserve good things for your sister!"

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Chapter 180 - Even His Sister Is Interested in Xu Xiyan

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"I thought you said you are a woman that's gorgeous and talented? It's impossible that no one has tried and date you all these time," Huo Yunshen said.

"It's because I'm too perfect, and men are afraid to come near to me!" Huo Sanyan argued.

"..." Such a narcissist!

Seriously...

Huo Yunshen sighed in his heart and said, "All right, I'll ask him when I meet him."

"Oh my god, thank you, little brother! My future is all up to you now! Maybe you'll get yourself a new brother-in-law in the future!" Huo Sanyan smiled.

"..." Brother-in-law? Are you kidding me?

Even my own sister is romantically interested in Xu Xiyan...

What have I done in the past to get such treatment?

"Now that this is settled, you should leave. It's late," Huo Yunshen said.

"I know it's late, but I'm famished," said Huo Sanyan. "Make me something, I'll leave after I eat."

"..." Huo Yunshen almost fainted.

Aren't you the one who's supposed to make a person in a wheelchair dinner?

Are we really blood-related?

Huo Sanyan stood up and went to open the fridge.

Just as she was walking past the dining room, she noticed something and screamed, "Little brother!"

"What now?" Huo Yunshen's asked, his eardrums almost rupturing from the scream.

"Look! Who made these?" Huo Sanyan pointed at the food on the table as she swallowed her saliva.

"..." Huo Yunshen felt like a ship that was about to sink.

Oh god! Why did you give me such a sister?

Huo Sanyan stared at Huo Yunshen and went into Sherlock mode. "Who made these? They're still hot! It definitely was not you, since you were in the meeting with me the whole afternoon. Could it be... that you have a girlfriend here?"

Huo Sanyan rushed out from the dining room to look for his "girlfriend".

Xu Xiyan was crawling her way to the main door when she heard Huo Sanyan rushing out. She quickly hid behind the mini bar.

Oh yeah! This tension is worse than having a secret relationship!

Xu Xiyan kept asking herself why was she hiding like a thief. She had not even stolen or robbed anything.

"Don't be absurd. There's no girlfriend here," Huo Yunshen scolded as he came out from the dining room.

"Then who made the food on the table?" Huo Sanyan asked.

"Yi Xiao had it ordered from Tong Fu House," Huo Yunshen lied.

"Tong Fu House?" Huo Sanyan asked curiously as she took a bite from of one of the dishes. She noticed it had the same taste as the food she had eaten last time. "It has the same taste as last time! You told me you made them that time, and now it's Tong Fu House?"

Huo Yunshen should've remembered that Huo Sanyan was very sensitive when it came to foods.

"Fine, the truth is I ordered the foods from Tong Fu House last time, too," Huo Yunshen said.

"I see! Their foods sure are tasty!" Huo Sanyan finally accepted his explanation. "You really are my little brother! You know I really like them, don't you? Did I save the king in my past life for me to get such a good little brother?"

Chapter 181 - Don't You Think This Is Very Exciting?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Ah! I'm so grateful to have such a good brother in my life. What more could I ask for?"

Huo Yunshen: "..."

Suddenly he had an impulse to move into outer space and get away from Huo Sanyan.

It must be God who had bestowed upon him this good-fornothing sister to ruin his life.

Huo Sanyan flew over to the dining room and began to gobble up the food.

It was as if a tornado had spun over the dining room table. Only a single plate of fried mushroom with vegetables was spared. She didn't like that dish, so she hadn't touched it.

After she'd finished eating and drinking, Huo Sanyan rubbed her tummy and said, "Wow brother, I didn't know that the food from Tong Fu House had gotten so much better than before. They must have a new chef. It's really delicious! It's so tasty that I couldn't stop eating! I must give them 36 likes later."

"Now that you're done eating, you can get lost!" Huo Yunshen was at his limits. If he hadn't been crippled, he would have literally kicked her out.

Huo Sanyan picked up her bag from the sofa, changed her shoes and opened the door. "Okay! I'm leaving! Take care of yourself. Next time you order from Tong Fu House, remember to call me!"

"Get lost! Don't come again!" Huo Yunshen said, visibly upset.

His meaning was hopelessly lost on Huo Sanyan. Cheerfully she said, "You have such a great sense of humor, bro. Okay, I'll bring Mr. Tang along for a drink next time, too!"

F*ck!

Is she deaf?!

"No thanks!"

Huo Sanyan was starting to drive him mad. He flung his slipper at her but it slammed into the door as she slipped away.

After Huo Sanyan had left, Xu Xiyan came out from behind the wine cabinet. She picked up the slipper at the doorway and walked back to Huo Yunshen, helping to put it back on his foot.

Huo Yunshen jerked up his head and saw her. He felt embarrassed. "Jing Xi, you're still here?"

He thought that Xu Xiyan would've quietly left while Huo Sanyan was eating, but she had not. "If I leave, what would you eat tonight?" she asked.

Xu Xiyan pushed Huo Yunshen back to the dining room. She sighed as she saw the aftermath on the table. "Your sister is really a glutton."

"She's worse than a glutton, she's a greedy pig!"

Huo Yunshen felt like changing his sister's name. Her nickname should not be "Three Eyes" anymore; she should be called "Three Mouths."

"Hahaha..." Xu Xiyan burst into laughter. When she'd finished laughing, she realized Huo Yunshen had been looking at her with guilt. "What's wrong, Mr. Huo?"

Huo Yunshen apologized, "I'm sorry, Jing Xi. I've been very selfish. I've been thinking of myself and not of you. If you can openly introduce me to your best friend, then I should openly introduce you to my sister. At least, in case she comes back, you don't have to hide anymore."

After listening to him blaming himself, Xu Xiyan felt that he did not need to apologize like this.

She turned and half knelt in front of him, looking straight into this eyes.

"It's okay, Mr. Huo, you were not being selfish. I actually think you were being very thoughtful. I know that you're thinking about me, and I think our current situation is fine now. Considering your sister's character, and the fact that if you had exposed me, she would probably tell the whole world that you have a girlfriend."

After all, Xu Xiyan was only a nameless actor, with an unimportant supporting role. If the Huo family knew about her existence, it would be hard for them not to think that she was taking advantage of Huo Yunshen's status.

If that happened, she would be criticized for it, and it might really be detrimental to her career.

"Thank you for your understanding. Thank you so much, Jing Xi."

Huo Yunshen could not express how grateful he was to her. She may have been the one who best understood his feelings.

"You don't have to be modest, Mr. Huo," Xu Xiyan smiled and blinked at him, "but, don't you think this is all very exciting?"

Huo Yunshen: "..."

Err...

Chapter 182 - Love Is Enough to Fill One's Stomach

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan did not wait for Huo Yunshen to reply. She walked towards the kitchen and asked, "What do you want to eat?"

"Noodles. I still want noodles," Huo Yunshen said while looking at her back.

"Okay, give me 10 minutes," Xu Xiyan said with a smile.

Xu Xiyan finished cooking two Stewed Meat Noodles in 10 minutes, and they ate together.

To Huo Yunshen, the love he was feeling was enough to fill his stomach.

As long as he was together with Xu Xiyan, he didn't care what he was eating, even drinking water was enough for him as long as they were together.

Xu Xiyan helped him with his massage and went back into her own house.

The next day, after a good night's rest, Xu Xiyan went to the set. She got a call from Fang Xiaocheng on her way, and Fang Xiaocheng shouted, "Yanyan! Yanyan! You're on the headline!"

"What headline?" Xu Xiyan hadn't had the time to check the news.

"You better look at it, yourself, I have no idea what to say anymore," Fang Xiaocheng said and hung up. She was already furious at the reporters who wrote the news.

Why do people keep trying to hurt Yanyan?

Why do they keep trying to frame her?

Xu Xiyan stopped at the studio and checked her social media. A new hot topic had appeared.

[#Ma Haodong's girlfriend scandal: selling her body for fame?]

[#Ma Haodong's girlfriend, Jing Xi's sugar daddy.]

[#Jing Xi 's secret boyfriend?]

[#Ma Haodong just got cheated on.]

Wait, what and what?

How did I just become Ma Haodong's girlfriend?

And what's with the cheating and sugar daddy stuff?

Xu Xiyan clicked on one of the headlines and saw a blurry photo. In it was a girl in a sexy nightgown lying on a bed decorated with roses.

Xu Xiyan knew straight away what the photo was. It was from the day that Xu Jinshan knocked her out and gave her as a gift to Huo Yunshen.

Even though the photo was blurry, it wasn't hard to piece together who it was. Her face was unique, and it was easy for people to guess that it was her.

The description under the photo mentioned that Jing Xi was on a date with a man at Kai Yue'r Hotel, and the supposed "date" was someone who had authority within the entertainment industry. They even stayed at the hotel for the night.

Other than that, the report also mentioned that Xu Xiyan got her part in "Red Sleeved Beauty" without going through the audition, and only someone who had sold her body to a higher-up could achieve that.

People began to guess who Xu XIyan's date was.

There were only two people who fit the description. It was either the CEO of Yunhai Entertainment, Huo Yunshen, or the vice-president, Huo Jingtang.

Most people had guessed that it was Huo Jingtang because of Huo Yunshen's unique situation.

Since the news mentioned Ma Haodong and the top dog of the entertainment industry, the scandal took over social media instantly.

[Jing Xi sure is something! First it's Ma Haodong, then it's someone who has the highest authority in the entertainment industry?]

[Is it someone from Yunhai Entertainment? Who do you think it is? HYS or HJT?]

[It should be HJT. Since HYS can't do 'that thing.']

[Ma Haodong just got cheated!]

[Get lost! Don't pull Ma Haodong down with you!]

[What a cunning girl! She's using every option she has to gain fame!]

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[What a bitch!]
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The netizens didn't even make any investigation for themselves, and scolded Xu Xiyan straight away.

Xu Xiyan began to wonder who had the power to get the photo.

Chapter 183 - Why Does She Want To Target Her Like This?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The answer was obvious. It must have been someone in the Xu family!

Was it Xu Jinshan?

It shouldn't have been him. He was very protective of his own face. If he had harmed her and her identity was exposed, it would be bad for his reputation.

There was one person that made sense...the person who had sent her photos to the media and wanted to taint her reputation was most likely Xu Xinrou.

That woman had been jealous of her and hated her. She would try to destroy her at all costs.

It was impressive that she was willing to go so far to smear her name.

Now, Xu Xiyan was getting even more suspicious. Had Xu Xinrou been fabricating the scandal between her and Ma Haodong too?

She must ask her personally. Why had she targeted her like that?

Thinking of this, Xu Xiyan hastened her steps. As she approached the set, a group of about twenty female students suddenly appeared. Together they all condemned Jing Xi and scolded her for being a cheating and exploitative woman. Some of them even threw eggs and vegetables at her.

Xu Xiyan was caught off guard by the eggs. They struck her, and yolk dripped down from her hair. It felt disgusting.

Back when she was being splashed with coffee, she was fortunate that Huo Yunshen had appeared in time to fend off her attackers. But she was not so lucky today.

The students who came today were real fans of Ma Haodong. They were all very angry, and looked like they could rip Xu Xiyan apart.

A celebrity van passed by. Wen Li, who was sitting in the passenger seat, saw the commotion. She turned to the back of the vehicle and called out to Xu Xinrou, "Xinrou, look! Jing Xi is being struck by eggs. Just look at that wretched girl! Haha! This is so satisfying!"

Xu Xinrou took off her sunglasses and looked out the window. She curled her lips into a smile, pleased to see Xu Xiyan in such a sorry state.

Xu Xiyan, there's no way you can win a fight with me!

She had only needed to order someone to stir things up within Ma Haodong's fan group, and those dumb fangirls would fall for the bait.

It was a very suitable method to attack Xu Xiyan.

There was no need for her to get her own hands dirty to teach Xu Xiyan a lesson. Even without using a knife, she could kill her.

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Meanwhile, at the president's office at Yunhai Entertainment...

Huo Jingtang, who was dressed in a black suit, pushed the door of the president's office open and entered directly, dropping an entertainment newspaper onto Huo Yunshen's desk. "What's the meaning of this?"

Huo Yunshen stopped writing and lifted his head to look at his cousin. His slender eyes looked at him, puzzled. "What?"

"See for yourself," Huo Jingtang said coldly as he stared into Huo Yunshen's face.

Without a word, Huo Yunshen picked up the entertainment newspaper and took a quick look. It turned out to be scandalous news about him and Xu Xiyan when they were at Kai Yue'r Hotel.

He threw the newspaper back onto the table, unaffected by what he'd read. "It's only a rumor. Why bother?"

"Why bother? It was obviously you in this scandal, but everyone thinks it was me!"

Huo Jingtang's face was sullen and his mood had become somewhat unpleasant. He thought Huo Yunshen had deliberately diverted the public's attention onto him to make him carry the blame.

"I'm sorry, big brother."

Huo Jingtang was being accused, even though he had done nothing. Huo Yunshen apologized. "I didn't expect this to happen. If the reporters ask, please don't tell them about Jing Xi."

Huo Yunshen wanted to protect Jing Xi. As long as he did not admit it, the public could only make groundless accusations. He could simply ask Huo Sanyan in public relations to deal with it, and this matter would pass.

This was the first time Huo Yunshen had begged Huo Jingtang, all for a woman!

"You and that woman Jing Xi...are you both in a relationship?!" Huo Jingtang asked suspiciously.

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Chapter 184 - Fine, I'll Cover For You

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Huo Yunshen did not answer Huo Jingtang's question. But Huo Jingtang could already see the feelings Huo Yunshen had for Jing Xi.

Huo Jingtang suddenly thought of a possibility and asked, "Yunshen, be honest to me. Is your sexual dysfunction cured? What were you doing with Jing Xi at the hotel?"

The question was of importance to Huo Jingtang. If Huo Yunshen was able to mate and have children, the heir to their fortune would naturally fall to Huo Yunshen.

"No," Huo Yunshen dropped his head and said. "We're just friends."

In truth, that part of him was already cured, but he knew he couldn't tell Huo Jingtang or any of the Huo family for that matter.

Huo Jingtang looked at Huo Yunshen and believed that he was telling the truth. He let out a sigh of relief in his heart.

"Fine," Huo Jingtang sighed. "I'll cover this matter for you since you're my brother. Remember, you owe me for this."

"I know, thank you," Huo Yunshen said.

"But I want you to promise me one thing."

"What?"

"I hope that you'll let me have Xue Yating," Huo Jingtang answered. "She's the woman I have my eyes on." "Come on, why would I want her?" Huo Yunshen laughed. "I don't even like her at all, she's all yours."

"Really?" Huo Jingtang found this hard to believe. "But I thought grandpa's birthday was specifically made to set up a marriage between you and Xue Yating?"

"What? Me?" Huo Yunshen raised his eyebrows. I thought it was for him?

"Don't tell me you didn't know?" Huo Jingtang asked.

Huo Yunshen understood what Huo Jingtang was thinking. Huo Jingtang was the type of guy who would worry over everything. "You know I wouldn't fight with you over a girl. I've never even fought with you over anything."

There was a reason for Huo Yunshen to respect Huo Jingtang. When they were still both young, Huo Yunshen almost died from drowning. If Huo Jingtang hadn't saved him in time, he would've died.

To Huo Yunshen, Huo Jingtang wasn't only his cousin but also his role model.

Huo Yunshen chose to leave Zstan because Huo Jingtang had told Huo Yunshen that he didn't want them to fight over the family legacy. Huo Yunshen had intended to give him everything.

"You sure about that? Then why are you still sitting in that chair?" Huo Jingtang asked.

"Grandfather wanted me to, and you know I can't say no to him," Huo Yunshen answered calmly.

His grandfather had once told him the difference between him and Huo Jingtang.

In his grandfather's eyes, Huo Jingtang was too proud of himself, and he would always look for ways to gain success in a short amount of time.

Yunhai Entertainment would collapse if it were handed to Huo Jingtang.

As for Huo Yunshen, he was careful to attend to every detail. He was kind and had a sense of justice; he could take on great responsibility. Huo Yunshen was definitely the better choice to take over their family legacy.

Huo Jingtang cursed in his heart. You know what I hate the most? You act one way but actually behave in the other way. Even though you kept saying that you wouldn't fight with me, in truth, you kept taking all the things that I wanted.

If Huo Yunshen had remained outside of Zstan five years ago, Huo Jingtang would've taken over all of Yunhai Entertainment by now.

Chapter 185 - Can't Stand It Anymore

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

But he just had to return to Zstan.

At first, because of Huo Yunshen's car accident and the fact that he'd become disabled, many of the shareholders had proposed that Huo Jingtang take over the company, and his grandfather would've certainly agreed to it. But eventually, they only gave him the temporary post of acting president.

They should have asked themselves: How much hard work and effort had he put into Yunhai Entertainment Group? All of his youth and blood were spent for that company, but what happened in the end?

They let Huo Yunshen simply waltz in and take the president post.

Huo Yunshen had always used "Grandpa's will" as an excuse. But only he would know the truth of whether it was really his grandfather's will or his own!

Huo Jingtang looked at Huo Yunshen piercingly and said nothing. Then he turned to leave, slamming the door behind him.

The two brothers left each other on a bad note. Huo Yunshen sighed and rubbed his tired eyes.

Yunhai Entertainment was divided into two factions. One group consisted of long-time shareholders who supported Huo Yunshen's grandfather and himself, and the other consisted of new shareholders who supported the vice president, Huo Jingtang. Huo Jingtang had made many connections in Yunhai Entertainment and now he was strong enough to challenge Huo Yunshen.

His grandfather had often said that when the two brothers were united, nothing would stop them.

But now the two brothers would never return to their carefree childhood selves, and the distance between them continued growing as they drifted further and further apart.

Many times, Huo Yunshen had wondered if giving up the position of president would result in him having a big brother who really cared for him.

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At the film studios, the fans were still causing trouble.

Xu Xiyan didn't have an assistant or a manager. Nobody would help her.

It took her a lot of time before she could escape the crazy fangirls and return to the set.

The dressing room was particularly lively. When Xu Xiyan came in, Wen Li was telling everyone an exaggerated story of how the fans had struck Xu Xiyan with eggs. Zhao Ruiqi and others relished the tale as they listened, overjoyed.

When they saw Xu Xiyan come in, they all stopped talking and went back to their business.

Wen Li wanted to upset Xu Xiyan and deliberately asked her, "Oh, Jing Xi! What happened to you? Why have you come to the set with egg all over your head?"

Xu Xiyan's eyes were sharp as knives as she shoved Wen Li away and went straight to Xu Xinrou. She kicked over a stool that was beside her.

"Xu Xinrou!" she said angrily. "This is all your doing, isn't it? You deliberately made those scandals to smear my name, didn't you?"

The director, Huang Guoqiang, had asked her to stay away from trouble, but she could not stand it anymore.

The more tolerant she was, the more Xu Xinrou would oppress her.

Wen Li was eager to protect her boss and squeezed her way in front of Xu Xinrou. "Jing Xi, how could you say that? It was your own negligence that led others to exploit your shortcomings. You fell into a scandal, yourself. This has nothing to do with Xinrou."

"And this has nothing to with you! Get lost!"

Xu Xiyan shoved Wen Li away and stared at Xu Xinrou. She was taking her sweet time doing her makeup. "God is watching all your deeds! Xu Xinrou, do you dare swear to Him?"

The other people in the dressing room had not thought that a no-name actress like Jing Xi would dare to openly challenge a big shot actress like Xu Xinrou.

Everyone was silent as they watched the scene. Ever since Jing Xi and Xu Xinrou had their falling out, the set had become much livelier, and they always had something to gossip about.

Xu Xinrou put down the powder case in her hand and stood up slowly. She was still smiling.

"Miss Jing Xi, I think you're mistaken. Do you think that with my current fame and status, I would have to resort to such lame methods to deal with a little nameless actress like you?"

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Chapter 186 - Let's See How You Get Yourself Out Of This

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"I don't really know about your scandal. Why don't you ask your company to set up a PR campaign or something? What good does making a fuss here do for you?"

Xu Xinrou did not take responsibility for what had happened and continued to act innocent.

"Fine, keep acting innocent," Xu Xiyan said. "You'll ultimately find yourself in a tough spot if you keep on doing all these things. The fans will notice your true nature one day!"

"Hey, stop insulting Xinrou!" Wen Li shouted.

How loyal she is! Xu Xiyan laughed in her heart.

"Why don't you go and ask Ma Haodong to help you? Or maybe that sugar daddy? If all else fails, why not ask your managing company? Just stop harassing Xinrou! Oh, wait! You don't have a manager, do you? Your contract is signed directly with the crew! How could I even forget that? That means you don't belong to any entertainment company, am I right?"

Wen Li kept on insulting Xu Xiyan. She was implying that Xu Xiyan did not have a company to back her up.

So what if you have a sugar daddy?

You are still in big trouble!

"And who told you I don't belong to an entertainment company?" asked Xu Xiyan. "I just signed a contract with Jingyue Entertainment!"

"Jingyue Entertainment? Who are they?" asked Wen Li. She used to work as a manager and had never heard of the company.

Zhao Ruiqi quickly opened her phone and searched for Jingyue Entertainment, but came back empty-handed.

"There's nothing about Jingyue Entertainment on the internet! Did she just sign a contract with a bogus company?"

Everyone who heard Zhao Ruiqi burst out in laughter. They were laughing at Xu Xiyan for signing with an unknown company.

They began to wonder if Xu Xiyan made up that company as a cover-up.

Xu Xiyan could feel that she was being mocked and alienated by others.

She had nothing to fight back with, since Jingyue Entertainment was just a small company made up of three people: a boss, a receptionist, and an actress.

She finally understood why Huang Guoqiang had warned her not to fight with the strong as it would only bring her harm.

"Jing Xi, go and take a shower and come back," Linda said, trying to help Xu Xiyan out of the situation. "I'll help you put on your makeup after that."

"Thank you," Xu Xiyan said and left.

Xu Xinrou and Wen Li laughed in their eyes. Let her shower, even if she can wash away the eggs, she still won't be able to get herself out of these scandals!

Qi Liya had heard everything from the studio next door and gritted her teeth.

Most of the time, she couldn't care less for other people. But Xu Xinrou had gone too far this time.

Chapter 187 - Finding A Way To Shirk Responsibility

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The girl named Jing Xi, who had just entered the entertainment circle, had already been targeted and had her reputation tainted.

If no one was going to help her in time, it was very likely that she would fall into an even more unbearable situation, or even trap herself in a bottomless abyss.

She had seen too many examples of actors who had been attacked and oppressed because they had offended someone. It was a common case.

Herself included. She had gone through the same troubles back in the day.

Qi Liya sighed softly and turned to her assistant Xiao Ke. "Go and do it according to my instructions."

"Yes, Miss Qi."

Xiao Ke obeyed and left to settle the task.

Qi Liya decided to give Jing Xi a hand because she knew that everyone in the crew had been bribed and influenced by Xu Xinrou and Chu Yuhe.

The incident that had happened on the set that day was quickly kept hushed up. Other than the photos of Ma Haodong carrying Xu Xiyan, nothing else had leaked out.

In other words, the public did not know the truth as to why Ma Haodong had carried Jing Xi that day.

She now wanted to be the one to expose the truth.

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Thanks to Chu Yuhe and Xu Xinrou's plotting, rumors of Ma Haodong and Jing Xi, as well as her sugar daddy, had gone viral on the internet. Everyone was criticizing Xu Xiyan.

Her Weibo account, "Jing Gongzi," was filled with all kinds of hate and rubbish comments.

When the situation had seemed hopeless, a 2-minute video clip accompanied by a short persuasive description of several hundred words was posted onto the Internet and quickly attracted the attention of netizens.

The video was recorded with a mobile phone and the picture quality was clear. The time of recording was displayed on the video clip and it was clear that it was recorded on the set.

The video was sped up and clearly showed the scene at the time. Xu Xiyan was kicked down the stairs at least three times for three retakes. During the last retake, when she was kicked down the steps by Xu Xinrou, she went into shock. Then Ma Haodong rushed into the set and carried the unconscious girl away.

Anyone who saw the video would clearly see that Ma Haodong was trying to help Jing Xi, not show his affection for her.

The video gave those prejudiced fans and netizens a good face-slapping and proved them wrong.

[Oh sh*t, is Xu Xinrou being too hard-handed? She kicked Jing Xi and made her faint.]

[Jing Xi went into shock on the spot. If Ma Haodong hadn't gotten her to the hospital in time, she might've lost her life. This is a matter of life and death. Those who were criticizing Jing Xi for seducing little Ma, show yourselves!]

[This is not a show of affection, Ma Haodong was clearly being a hero for saving her. If it was me, I would have rushed over to save her too.]

[Little Ma is so great!]

[Have we been misunderstanding Jing Xi? She doesn't look so bad after all.]

[Are we being misled by the media?]

•••

Public opinion was slowly changing. Many people began changing their perception of Jing Xi because of this video.

Xu Xinrou, who had been pleased about the situation, saw the news while browsing the net on her tablet. News about Jing Xi exploiting her way into the industry had been a hot topic on Weibo, but now other topics had appeared:

#The Truth Behind Ma Haodong & Jing Xi

#Newcomer Actress Jing Xi Faints on Set, Ma Haodong Saves Her Life

#Xu Xinrou Kicks Greenhorn Actress into Shock

After clicking the news title and watching the video, Xu Xinrou could not contain her fury and questioned Wen Li. "Didn't we bribe the whole crew? Why has someone betrayed us?"

Wen Li did not know why the video had leaked onto the internet, but she couldn't admit that it was her fault. She immediately tried to find a way to shirk her responsibility.

The best person to push the responsibility on was Xu Xinrou's opponent. She would certainly not doubt it.

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Chapter 188 - Who's Making Up All These Stories to Hurt Her?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Wait, is it Qi Liya? She didn't cooperate with us last time. She might be the one who leaked the video," Wen Li suggested.

"Qi Liya!" Xu Xinrou shouted. "Her again! Why is she always doing this to me?"

It's always her! Looks like I have to look for a way to get rid of her as soon as possible!

But I'll have to take care of the video first! If it gets viral, I could get myself some unwanted attention!

Xu Xinrou quickly called Chu Yuhe and said, "Yuhe, have you seen the news?"

"Yes, I'm taking care of it as we speak," Chu Yuhe said on the other side of the phone.

"Take care of it as fast as possible! Use any means necessary!" Xu Xinrou ordered.

"I know. Don't worry, I'll handle it!" Chu Yuhe had already been working on taking down the video before Xu Xinrou called.

After she hung up, Xu Xinrou was still worried that the video had already gone viral.

Only a few people had seen the video before it was taken done, yet Huo Yunshen was among them.

He had set his computer to notify him of any news regarding Jing Xi.

Huo Yunshen studied the video and description. As he watched Xu Xinrou kicking Xu Xiyan, he could feel every kick in his heart.

She was kicked in her chest until she fainted that day.

And went into shock.

If not for Ma Haodong, she would be dead!

That's why she didn't return that night! She lied and said that she'd gone to her grandfather's, but in reality, she was in the hospital!

Huo Yunshen felt guilty in his heart, as he'd never thought that she might get herself into that scandal, and could only care about his own emotions.

How can I say that I like her?

She got hurt, and I had no idea!

So Xu Xinrou was the one who kicked her?

Looks like she really hates Xu Xiyan.

Is she trying to get revenge for the slaps?

The nerve!

Looks like I'll have to prepare a surprise for her that she'll never forget!

After Huo Yunshen had watched the video a few times, the screen showed a message saying the video had encountered a problem.

Huo Yunshen refreshed the page and noticed everything regarding the incident had been taken down with astounding speed.

As the person who reigned over the entire entertainment industry, Huo Yunshen instantly knew that someone was trying to cover for Xu Xinrou.

A fire of rage could be seen in Huo Yunshen's eyes.

Who's the one responsible for hurting Xu Xiyan?!

Who has the authority to do this?

Xu Xinrou definitely wasn't working alone!

When Yi Xiao was called into the CEO's office, he could feel a chill from Huo Yunshen who was sitting in front of his desk.

It could only mean one thing when Huo Yunshen gave out that vibe: his anger was already at its maximum level.

Huo Yunshen looked like the demon who ruled over hell, surrounded by flames that could destroy everything in their path.

Chapter 189 - She'd Had Enough Of This Hypocritical Bitch

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Yi Xiao was Huo Yunshen's closest assistant. He guessed that his master's bad mood was definitely related to Xu Xiyan. It had to be those scandals.

Yi Xiao came to Huo Yunshen's side and asked cautiously, "Young master, are you okay?"

"Go investigate!" Huo Yunshen spat out the two words coldly. The lines on his face were hard and cold without a trace of warmth.

"Young master, do you want me to investigate those scandals..."

Yi Xiao had also seen the video. He had wanted to show it to Huo Yunshen, but all the news related to the video had been removed, and the source could not be traced anymore.

Huo Yunshen did not wait for Xi Yiao to finish his words and handed him a piece of paper with a date on it. His voice was unbearably cold. "Go find out what happened to Xu Xiyan at the set that day. I want every detail."

"Yes, sir!" Yi Xiao obeyed and left.

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The video and the advertorial released by Qi Liya had been wiped, never to appear again. It left a small ripple, but what was going to follow was a tsunami. In order to ruin Xu Xiyan's reputation, Chu Yuhe had ordered more people to create additional materials to sabotage her.

For example: Xu Xiyan broke up families, Xu Xiyan was a troublemaker during her school days, Xu Xiyan smokes and fights and swears, Xu Xiyan had an abortion for her sugar daddy... and so on and so on and so on...it was almost enough to carry someone away.

The turbid waters of the entertainment industry had become even muddier.

Qi Liya saw the various scandalous news stories popping up on the internet and couldn't help but worry about Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xinrou had Juxing Entertainment to back her, as well as Chu Yuhe's support. She was simply invincible and could do anything she wanted.

Furthermore, Juxing was protected by Yunhai Entertainment. She was afraid that there was a disaster waiting for Jing Xi.

Her assistant Xiao Ke was also very anxious. "What should we do, Miss Qi? Are we making things worse?"

"There's nothing we can do now. I can only pray for her and hope God will help her!"

At that moment, Xu Xiyan left the set and came backstage, preparing to remove her makeup and change her clothes before going home.

Zhao Ruiqi met her with eyes full of mockery, and deliberately said, "Hey, Jing Xi, you look like a good girl; I wouldn't have guessed that you were a troublemaker back in school!"

"..." Xu Xiyan did not know why she'd suddenly said that. She only glanced at Zhao Ruiqi and continued to change her clothes.

Zhao Ruiqi was leaning against a pillar and chewing gum, her arms crossed. She gave a spurious smile. "You're pretty impressive! You must now have the attention of the whole internet! Also, I heard that the director wants to give you more screen time!" Xu Xiyan's reputation was tainted, but for little actors like Zhao Ruiqi, being infamous was also a kind of fame!

She couldn't wait for someone to spread some rumors about her and make her famous overnight!

She just couldn't figure out what Jing Xi had done to make her haters fan what was a pile of cinders into a flame. And the director was still willing to give her extra screen time.

She was dying of envy and jealousy.

Xu Xiyan listened to Zhao Ruiqi's words. She turned toward her, puzzled. "Give me more screen time?"

"Don't act all clueless! How could you not know about it?"

Zhao Ruiqi thought that Jing Xi had climbed into the director's bed in exchange for more screen times.

"I really didn't know," Xu Xiyan said.

"Stop pretending, will you!?"

Zhao Ruiqi sneered and turned to leave. She'd had enough of this hypocritical bitch.

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Chapter 190 - The Caring Prince Charming

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

After Zhao Ruiqi had left, Xu Xiyan began to think about everything that had happened.

The staff didn't tell me anything about any new scenes for me, so someone must be spreading fake news about me!

Well, whatever, let them do what they want.

After she'd changed her clothes, she went to have her makeup removed by Linda. She checked social media during the process and noticed the presence of her haters had increased.

Some were there for the story while the others were there to blow off some steam.

There were many comments, and most of them were bad ones. They questioned her, scolded her, and even suspected her; not one of them was supporting her.

Should I just delete my account?

Maybe not...

Xu Xiyan had already prepared for the worst before she decided to enter showbiz.

This is just one of the trials that I'll have to go through.

This is how I get stronger.

Just as she was getting lost in her thoughts, one of the staff members, Xiao Ge, came in and handed her something. "Jing Xi, there's something for you." It was a long white box, and inside it was a medicine for bruises.

There was also a card in it. Medicine for bruises, use it, the card read.

It sounded like some cheesy advertisement, but Xu Xiyan recognized the writing.

It was Huo Yunshen. Only he would care this much about her.

It was a simple sentence, but it was filled with love.

Even if her chest was still in pain from the bruises, the medicine gave her warmth and eased the pain.

What a caring prince charming!

Even if everyone hated her or misunderstood the situation, it was still worth it for Xu Xiyan as long as Huo Yunshen still believed in her.

As soon as Xu Xiyan walked out of the studio, she was surrounded by a massive crowd.

Just as she'd expected, the scandal had made her famous.

Yet, the fame was not what she wanted.

The crowd was mainly formed by reporters and paparazzi. All of them were there to interview her about the scandal.

"Miss Jing Xi, is it true that you're a mistress to a married man?"

"Jing Xi, is it true that you used to smoke and fight in high school?"

"Jing Xi, please comment on the rumor that you used to have a child with some millionaire."

"What is your relationship with one of Yunhai Entertainment's higher ups?"

"How did you get a spot in 'Red Sleeved Beauty' without going through the audition?"

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The questions kept on coming, and Xu Xiyan guessed that more fake news about her had already been spread online.

She had no idea how to answer all of the questions, She was pushed around by the reporters and almost lost her footing.

Suddenly, a van stopped nearby, and a few men came down. They were all dressed in dark suits as they opened up a path for Xu Xiyan.

A girl came running down from the van and took Xu Xiyan's hand. "Jing Xi, over here," she said.

Xu Xiyan raised her head and noticed it was Wan Dou and understood that Jingyue Entertainment had sent people to help her.

Chapter 191 - Everyone Was Shocked

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xu Xiyan left the scene safely under the cover of Wan Dou and the other people. In front of her, a slim woman approached and brushed by her.

Xu Xiyan could only look where she was going and did not manage to get a good look at the woman. After she'd gotten into the celebrity van, she could still hear the reporters outside calling her name and constantly repeating their vicious questions.

Xu Xiyan looked out the window. The reporters were like greedy hyenas, baring their disgusting teeth and claws, drooling at her. They were all sickening people.

But in just two minutes, the riot of reporters had calmed down. It turned out that the slim woman had stopped the chaos and taken control of the situation.

Her back was facing Xu Xiyan. Xu Xiyan could not see her face, but she had long hair that went down to her waist, and she wore a beige business suit. She had a slender back and her body had a nice shape.

"Dear friends of the media! I am Jing Xi's manager, Xiao Yuqian. I stand here to talk to you on behalf of Jing Yue Entertainment. Jing Yue Entertainment will hold a press conference in three days to answer all your questions about Jing Xi. We will announce the time on the Jing Yue Entertainment official website and Weibo page. Thank you for your patience." A reporter recognized her and cried out, "You are Xiao Yuqian? Aren't you the ace manager Xiao Yuqian?"

After the name "Xiao Yuqian" broke out, the reporters started to turn their attention to the woman. Many of them also recognized that she was the Xiao Yuqian who had disappeared for six years, one of the most highly praised and influential ace managers in her field.

Back when she was at the peak of her career, she suddenly announced her retirement and left Zstan, and there hadn't been any more news about her ever since.

Her reason for retirement had always been a mystery.

Now, after a lapse of six years, she had re-appeared as the manager of a little-known actress. Everyone was shocked and curious.

The reporters felt that if they could not interview Jing Xi, it would also be advantageous if they could obtain news related to Xiao Yuqian. They had nothing to lose and the barrage of questions continued.

"Miss Xiao, you disappeared for six years. Why did you suddenly come back?"

"Miss Xiao, what was the reason for your retirement six years ago?"

"Miss Xiao, why are you Jing Xi's manager now? What is your relationship with her?"

...

Despite the flood of questions directed towards her, Xiao Yuqian smiled lightly at them, then turned to leave, keeping them in mystery.

After Xiao Yuqian boarded the celebrity van, the uniformed bodyguards fell back. The driver drove the van away and left the film studios.

Xu Xiyan was shocked to see the fair looking woman in front of her. She had a zen-like look on her face and looked as if she had reached enlightenment. She seemed out of place in the noisy city. What was a woman like her doing here?

The woman sat down beside Xu Xiyan and smiled at her. "Long time no see, Yanyan."

"Qianqian..."

Xu Xiyan stared at Xiao Yuqian's face for a while, then began recollecting the memories she had of her and the familiar nextdoor big sister.

She still remembered that, when she was a child, Xiao Yuqian, Xiao Yuqian's younger brother, Xiao Yuche, and Chu Yuhe had all lived nearby. They were all very close to each other and often played together.

Xu Xiyan was the youngest and she was a wild little child, running all day with her big brothers and sister.

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Chapter 192 - Entrusted By A Certain Person

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Xiao Yuqian was the most mature of the four of them and would always take care of the others. Chu Yuhe would always bully Xiao Yuche because his body was weak.

Xiao Yuqian worked her way up to become one of the top managers, but she quit her job and left Zstan abruptly 6 years ago.

No one knew why she'd left, not even Xu Xiyan. But Xiao Yuqian had disappeared from Zstan for the past six years.

Tears filled Xu Xiyan's eyes as soon she saw the girl who she'd once treated as her older sister. Xiao Yuqian had reappeared just in time, just when Xu Xiyan needed her, and took care of the reporters outside.

Xiao Yuqian was still the same as ever, taking care of Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan was curious about Xiao Yuqian's sudden disappearance six years ago and asked, "Qianqian, why did you leave without saying goodbye?"

Xiao Yuqian handed Xu Xiyan a tissue and said, "That doesn't matter right now, what's important is that I'm back, right?"

"Yes, thank you! But...how did you become my manager? I thought you wanted to leave all this behind."

Xiao Yuqian scratched her chin and was silent for a few seconds. "Yanyan, do you still remember that you and I...

Yuhe and my brother used to play together, and Yuhe would always make fun of you?"

"Of course," Xu Xiyan said, wiping her tears. "You would always punish him for me."

"Well, I'm back to punish him again," Xiao Yuqian smiled. In truth, someone had asked her to come back and help Xu Xiyan.

It was Huo Yunshen. If not for him, Xiao Yuqian would have never returned to Zstan.

Tears began to roll down Xu Xiyan's face again. They'd all grown into adults, but Chu Yuhe was still bullying her, and even worse, he was using her.

Yet, Xiao Yuqian was still the same as ever, protecting Xu Xiyan like her own little sister.

Human nature will never change with age. A gentle and kind person will always be that way, and a hypocrite will always stay a hypocrite.

Wan Dou was staring in awe at the two of them, as they looked like they'd known each other for a long time. "Wait, both of you have known each other ever since you were children?"

"Yup, Qianqian used to live opposite me," Xu Xiyan said with a smile. "I would always open the window and shout whenever I wanted to find her."

"Open the window and shout?" Wan Dou asked in awe, as she couldn't picture what Xu Xiyan was like when she was little.

"She was more like a boy when she was little," Xiao Yuqian laughed.

"Come on, I'm a full fledge lady now, don't spoil my image," Xu Xiyan said as she bumped Xiao Yuqian's shoulder with hers. Even after six years of separation, they were still very close.

"Lady?" Xiao Yuqian said as she scanned Xu Xiyan. "Where?"

"..." Xu Xiyan was rendered speechless.

Wan Dou began to laugh at Xu Xiyan's reaction. She never would've thought that the cold and stern Xiao Yuqian was actually a kind person with a sense of humor.

Chapter 193 - His Hug At That Moment

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

The celebrity car drove to Jingyue Entertainment and they returned to the company. Mr. Tang Nade, the role being occupied by Tang Yichen, was waiting in the office. Upon seeing Xiao Yuqian, he shook hands with her kindly.

"Great! Really great! Welcome Miss Xiao Yuqian! With you joining, our Jingyue Entertainment team has expanded tremendously!"

Xu Xiyan chuckled in her mind.

Three people expanding to four people, a tremendous expansion indeed.

"Mr. Tang, I would have to trouble you from now on," Xiao Yuqian said.

"Of course, we all belong to the same company. Since you're back, my job here is done."

After Tang Yichen finished shaking hands, he explained to Jing Xi, "Jing Xi, the company will be managed by Xiao Yuqian since she's back. Just look for her if there's anything you need."

"Mr. Tang, I don't really understand what you mean. Are you saying that Qianqian will replace you as the CEO?" Xu Xiyan asked with surprise.

"That's correct. This company will be handed over to her, I have other businesses to manage."

"Oh!"

It can be done this way?

Xu Xiyan understood now that Jingyue Entertainment would still be a company of three this way.

Company owners like them are truly willful.

Tang Yichen did not want to continue to be Tang Nade anymore. It was originally a promise to Huo Yunshen, to cameo as the CEO of the new company temporarily.

Now that Xiao Yuqian was back to take over Jingyue Entertainment, his mission had been accomplished, and he could return to his position of First Legal Consultant at Yunhai Entertainment.

Even though Jingyue Entertainment was now just a company of three, no one would have expected that such a small company would complete acquisition of Juxing Entertainment in the near future, and become a big company that was on par with Yunhai Entertainment.

Years later, Xu Xiyan came to understand how wise she'd been to enter the company and follow the right person.

That is, of course, a story for later.

Xu Xiyan wanted to treat Xiao Yuqian to dinner, for it was such a rare reunion. She wanted to invite Tang Nade and Wan Dou, but Tang Yichen was eager to go home and accompany his wife, so he turned down the invite. It was just Wan Dou and the two of them for dinner.

In the private room of Peijing's renowned Red Palace Restaurant, the three chatted merrily while waiting for their food to be served.

In the midst of chatting, Xu Xiyan's phone rang. She took it out and saw the name "Haodong" on the caller ID.

Xu Xiyan stood up from her seat and walked to the window to pick up the call. As the call was connected, Ma Haodong's worried voice could be heard on the other end of the line.

"Jing Xi! Jing Xi, are you all right? Where are you now?

"I'm fine. I'm pretty good now. I'm currently having dinner outside with my friends."

"I've seen all the scandalous news stories, I did not expect it to be so serious. I'm so sorry, Jing Xi! I explained it for you during my interview the other day. But my manager betrayed me. I'm really..."

Ma Haodong felt really apologetic toward Jing Xi, as his hug at that moment had actually led to so many scandals. It had almost ruined Jing Xi.

As for saying sorry, it was because his interview was censored. He had already explained it clearly and it would have cleared Jing Xi's name if the reporters had published it.

But his manager secretly bribed the reporters and censored the explanation interview.

He was furious. He even had a big quarrel with his manager, Miss Song, because of this.

Hearing Ma Haodong's remorse, Xu Xiyan felt really warm. At the very least, it meant that he was a loyal, good friend, and that he was really helping her.

Xu Xiyan thought about it and said, "Why don't you come too? Let's talk when we meet. I'm at the Red Palace Restaurant."

I do have a lot to say. Ma Haodong agreed and made his way to the Red Palace Restaurant.

Chapter 194 - The Person He Longed For

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Waiters began to serve them food, and Xu Xiyan ordered a bottle of red wine. Wan Dou helped pour the red wine and sat quietly as she listened to them, speaking occasionally.

Xiao Yuqian began to discuss their future plans and kept insisting that she was just helping a certain boss to take care of the company.

The company's current plan was to invest in finding the best employees and form the structure a company should have.

Xu Xiyan kept nodding at all the plans Xiao Yuqian laid out and said, "Qianqian, I thought you were only good at managing celebrities, but you're actually also good at managing a company too!"

"I have no choice but to give it all I've got. Since it's a favor for someone powerful, I'll have to do my best and help Jingyue as much as possible."

Xiao Yuqian raised her glass, clinking hers with Xu Xiyan's and Wan Dou's.

"Someone powerful? Is it Tang Nade?" Xu Xiyan asked after taking a sip.

"No, not him. He's just a temporary manager, the company doesn't belong to him."

"Then who's the real boss?" Xu Xiyan asked curiously. The person behind Jingyue Entertainment must have been someone

powerful, she thought, since he was Huo Yunshen's friend and even could ask Xiao Yuqian to come out again.

"It's not the time to tell you who it is," Xiao Yuqian said, as she'd also signed the Non-disclosure Agreement. "You'll meet him one day."

"Wan Dou, have you ever met him?" Xu Xiyan asked, since technically Wan Dou should've met the boss at least once.

"N-n-no, not really." Wan Dou kept shaking her head like a robot. Of course, she knew who the boss was, but she couldn't tell Xu Xiyan because of the agreement.

In fact, Xu Xiyan was the only one who didn't know who Jingyue Entertainment's boss was.

Xu Xiyan did not pursue it any further and started to eat.

After a while, there was a knock on the door, and a waiter led a man wearing a hat and the surgical mask in. He wore a set of simple clothes to disguise himself, no one would have known that he was a celebrity.

Xu Xiyan realized that it was Ma Haodong and quickly greeted him. "You're finally here, the food would've been gone if you'd come a minute later."

"I'm sorry, there's quite a huge traffic jam outside," said Ma Haodong.

Even if he was wearing a mask that made his voice seem deeper, Xiao Yuqian instantly recognized who it was.

She raised her head in surprise and scanned the person who'd just came in. Her surprised expression was gone in just a few seconds, and she returned to her cold self and looked the other way.

"It's all right, here, have a seat," Xu Xiyan said as she pulled out a chair for Ma Haodong.

After Ma Haodong had sat down, he raised his head and saw the girl that had her head turned to the side. He was shocked by who it was. "Qianqian, this is my friend, Ma Haodong," Xu Xiyan said after the waiter had left. "This is my manager and new boss, Xiao Yuqian."

Xiao Yuqian!

It's really her!

The person I've longed for.

She's back after six years... She's finally back...

Ma Haodong showed a mixed expression on his face and was stunned by Xiao Yuqian's appearance.

Xiao Yuqian turned her head slowly towards Ma Haodong. Her face was calm, and her eyes were cold, as if the person before her was a total stranger.

Chapter 195 - Entangled Heart

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Because of the sudden arrival of Ma Yindong, she had returned to a state of alienation and coldness, as if nothing in the world could affect her.

The calmer Xiao Yuqian seemed, the more entangled Ma Haodong felt in his heart.

From the moment he saw Xiao Yuqian, his mind was in a turmoil.

After Xu Xiyan introduced the two of them to each other, Wan Dou happily stood up and greeted Ma Haodong. There was no interaction at all between Xiao Yuqian and Ma Haodong.

The two of them remained frozen, and looked at each other in silence. Xiao Yuqian's eyes were cold and distant.

If one looked carefully, they might have been able to detect a trace of hurt deep in her eyes.

Ma Haodong's gaze was extremely complicated and apologetic at the same time. At this point, he was a little less cynical, and he became serious and deep on the whole.

Especially when he was facing Xiao Yuqian, he seemed a little at a loss.

Xu Xiyan was puzzled and couldn't help but try to break the cold air.

"Qianqian, Haodong, do you know each other?"

Xiao Yuqian: "No."

Ma Haodong: "Yes"

The two of them almost spoke in unison, but they gave two different answers,

"..." Xu Xiyan had a strong instinct that the two of them must have known each other in the past. Not only did they know each other, but they might have been rather close.

The atmosphere became even more awkward.

In order to ease the tension, Xu Xiyan smilied and said, "Fate brought us together as friends. Come, let's eat! Help yourselves!"

Xiao Yuqian no longer spoke, as if the humorous and funny person from moments ago was someone else entirely. She also did not eat anything, and just drank the red wine in her glass, one glass after another.

Ma Haodong became very silent too, and began to drink.

During dinner, Xiao Yuqian excused herself to go to the washroom, stood up and left the private room. Moments later, Ma Haodong lost his cool and excused himself to the washroom, too.

After they left, Wan Dou curiously asked, "Jing Xi, do you know what's going on between them? Miss Xiao has not spoken a word since Xiao Ma came."

"I have no idea."

Xu Xiyan sighed silently; she, too, wanted to know what was going on between them.

What had happened between them?

Why had the relationship between two old friends turned so awkward?

In the washroom, Xiao Yuqian washed her face with some cold water. Leaning on the sink with both hands, she looked at herself in the mirror.

She was uncertain when, but she suddenly noticed that Ma Haodong's face had appeared in the mirror, and he looked at her unwaveringly with so much to say on the tip of his tongue. After Xiao Yuqian discovered Ma Haodong, her heart was slightly shocked, but she calmed down quickly. After a cold glance, she stood up straight.

She took some paper towel from beside the sink and wiped her hands. She threw away the used paper, turned and walk away.

However, the very next moment, Ma Haodong grabbed her wrist and pulled her back.

Xiao Yuqian was caught off guard, and her back hit the wall as she was pinned to the wall by Ma Haodong.

They were so close, their eyes locked, their breathing almost overlapping.

Six years ago, Ma Haodong was only 20 years old, four years younger than Xiao Yuqian. At that time, he had yet to enter the entertainment industry. He was a toff, a jerk who didn't know how to cherish anything.

Now, he understood what love is. But could he still find his way back to the love that he'd lost?

He took Xiao Yuqian in his arms and looked down at her, his voice cracking as he spoke.

"I thought you'd never come back. Since you're back, why do you pretend that you don't know me?!"

Chapter 196 - Can We Never Get Back To How We Were?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Let go of me!" Xiao Yuqian shouted as she pushed Ma Haodong away. She kept her distance and averted her gaze from his. "Please keep your distance, I have nothing more to say to you."

Xiao Yuqian quickly left the bathroom and went back to their table.

"Qianqian..."

Xiao Yuqian heard Ma Haodong calling to her with a weak voice, but she kept on walking.

Ma Haodong watched her back as she went and said, "It's been six years since that, can't you forgive me?"

Xiao Yuqian did not turn around and replied with a cracked voice, "No."

Xiao Yuqian would never forget what hap happened six years ago, no matter how much time had passed.

She could still remember that incident whenever she closed her eyes.

It had been haunting her for the past six years and would continue to haunt her, maybe for the rest of her life.

She closed her eyes and tried to get rid of the demon that was haunting her. She opened her eyes after a few seconds and left without turning back. Ma Haodong was left standing there as he punched the wall. Blood began to drip from his hand and stained the white mosaic tile.

What should I do?

Can we never get back to how we were?

Ma Haodong returned to their table and kept drinking.

Even if he was a well-known celebrity, he was still a human with emotions.

And like any human, he would try to drown his sadness with alcohol. Xu Xiyan would do the same thing if she was in his spot.

Xu Xiyan tried to stop him but gave up after trying two times. Ma Haodong lay on the table, drunk, after finishing two bottles of wine.

"Jing Xi, do Xiao Ma and our boss have a past? They're like rivals or something. Our boss didn't even come back after she went to the toilet, and Xiao Ma is lying here unconscious," Wan Dou said.

Xu Xiyan sighed as she looked at Ma Haodong. She thought that he was a playboy and it surprised her to see him showing such emotion.

"What should we do?" Wan Dou asked. "He's completely out."

Good question...

It'll be hard to bring him back by ourselves...

Xu Xiyan thought.

I could bring him home, but we might get caught by paparazzi.

And Huo Yunshen might mistake us as a couple.

What worried Xu Xiyan the most was the latter. She wouldn't mind how the world treated her, but the most important thing to her was Huo Yunshen's opinion about her.

"Do you know how to drive?" Xu Xiyan asked Wan Dou.

"Yes."

"Good, then we'll drive him to a nearby hotel. I can't drive since I've drank some wine too."

The only thing she could do was send him to a nearby hotel for the night.

Chapter 197 - No More Complications

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

"Sure."

Just as the two of them were packing up to leave, the mobile phone in Ma Haodong's pocket rang. Xu Xiyan hesitated, and took out the phone to see that "Miss Song" was the caller.

"Wan Dou, wait. I have a better idea."

Seeing that it was a call from Ma Haodong's manager, Miss Song, Xu Xiyan felt relieved. It would be the easiest arrangement for them if Miss Song came to pick up Ma Haodong, so no misunderstandings would occur.

After the call was connected, Miss Song's anxious voice spoke on the other end.

"Haodong, where are you? Why didn't you reply to my messages? Your temper is getting worse! You want to turn against me just because of an unimportant Jing Xi? Okay, other things aside! One more thing! Do you still want to film the night scene?"

Hearing the anger in her voice, Xu Xiyan worried that Ma Haodong would delay the work of the production team, thus she explained:

"Hi Miss Song, I'm Jing Xi. Haodong is with me now. May I trouble you to arrange for someone to pick him up? He's drunk."

Upon hearing Xu Xiyan's voice, Miss Song exploded, "Jing Xi! You... again... you wait... where are you guys!?"

She might have been so furious that she could not speak properly. She asked for the address from Xu Xiyan and hung up the call, making her way to fetch Ma Haodong with an entourage.

Xu Xiyan and Wan Dou, along with Ma Haodong, waited for about half an hour before the private room's door was kicked open with a bang. Miss Song walked in angrily with four or five men.

Seeing that they'd come, Xu Xiyan stood up. But before she said anything, Miss Song came up to her and gave her a quick slap.

It was a loud slap, and Xu Xiyan's cheeks were hit to the side. Several clear red marks soon appeared on her white cheeks.

"Hey! How could you slap her!?"

Wan Dou saw that Miss Song had come up and slapped Xu Xiyan without any explanation, so she rushed over and pushed Miss Song away. She stood in front of Xu Xiyan, protecting her from Miss Song.

Miss Song took a few steps back before she stood firm, staring maliciously.

"Why do you think I slapped her? Jing Xi, you know that Haodong now has to shoot all day and night, how could you still let him drink? Don't you know it's the time when Haodong's career would rise? And yet you're still clinging onto him tightly. Is it not enough that there's a scandal? Will you only rest when our Haodong is ruined?"

"Miss Song, I'll say this one more time. Haodong and I are just good friends! I have never pestered him! He drank on his own accord, no one forced him. If you don't want word of this to spread, you should hurry and send him back."

Xu Xiyan had been holding back, because she really didn't want any more complications from this matter.

Wan Dou also protected Xu Xiyan and called out to Miss Song, "Did you hear that? Our Jing Xi did not pester Xiao Ma! They are just friends!" "Friends? You dare to say otherwise? Haven't you pestered enough men? Look at yourself! Your image has been smeared to the worst there can be, your reputation is rotten to core! Can you just stay away from our Haodong? Don't give him any more trouble, will you? You can just be a bitch on your own, leave our Haodong alone!"

Miss Song hated Xu Xiyan, anyway. She just wanted Ma Haodong to draw a clear line between them as soon as possible.

"What did you say! Who are you calling a bitch! I dare you to repeat that!"

Wan Dou crossed her arms and sternly questioned Miss Song, like a hen protecting her chicks.

"I'm talking about Jing Xi! What? Since she dared to do it, she shouldn't be afraid that people will talk about it!"

Chapter 198 - All Hail Xu Xiyan

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Miss Song had a smug look on her face, as she had come prepared.

"You..." Wan Dou rolled her sleeves up and was about to cover for Xu Xiyan.

But just before she could do anything, she heard a gust of wind fly by her ear, and four slaps echoing throughout the private dining room.

She looked at where the slaps came from and saw Xu Xiyan standing in front of Miss Song.

Both of Miss Song's cheeks were red from the slaps. She held her face and glared at Xu Xiyan.

"How dare you hit me!" Miss Song shouted.

"And who says I can't?" Xu Xiyan said as she stared at Miss Song. "Let me tell you something. I'll always bite back at anyone who dares to bring me harm! Those four slaps are me biting back! I'll let you go since you're acquainted with Ma Haodong. I don't want any more trouble for today."

"Leave?" Miss Song said. "Do you think I will just leave like this? Let me show you what despair looks like."

Miss Song turned towards the four men behind her and ordered, "Take care of her. Let her know what it's like to look down on me!"

"Don't... don't come closer!" Wan Dou shouted as she tried to block the four men. "Do you know who Jing Xi is? Who our boss is? If..."

Wan Dou didn't finish her sentence as she was pushed aside by one of the men.

Wan Dou was afraid that they might harm Xu Xiyan. She picked up her phone and called Huo Yunshen.

The four men ignored Wan Dou and tried to grab Xu Xiyan.

Good, it has been some time since I've exercised!

Xu Xiyan thought as she loosened her arms and legs, the four men fast approaching.

She threw a quick left hook at one of the men, and he staggered backward, bringing down the table as he fell.

She kicked another guy and sent him flying into the wall.

Punches and kicks echoed throughout the whole room as Ma Haodong slept soundly. Wan Dou suddenly felt that calling Huo Yunshen seemed unnecessary.

She had been worried about Xu Xiyan before everything happened, but now she let out a sigh of relief as she saw the four men were the people getting their butts kicked.

The only thing going through Wan Dou's mind was how strong Xu Xiyan was.

All hail Xu Xiyan!

Xu Xiyan kept on punishing the four dudes. Miss Song was stunned as she saw Xu Xiyan grabbing a chair and bringing it down on one of the men.

She knew that Xu Xiyan used to work as a stunt double for the "Root of Evil," but she'd never seen Xu Xiyan in action before. Now she was witnessing Xu Xiyan beat up the four men that she'd brought with swift and powerful movements.

The room was already in a mess after Xu Xiyan had stopped. All of the furniture was destroyed, except for the table that Ma Haodong was sleeping on.

No matter how strong Xu Xiyan was, she was still fighting four fully grown men. Even though she'd won, she still suffered some hits here and there. She was massaging her arm when a swarm of bodyguards wearing dark suits rushed in.

"Jing Xi, are you all right?" Yi Xiao asked.

Hahaha B*tch Song you are forgetting you are just a manager and you don't rule over the world. You think you can easily bully Jing Xi, well you have seen the results. Better not mess with her in future.... Let's all say as it's true- "ALL HAIL XU XIYAN"

You can't beat XX.

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

Upon seeing Yi Xiao, Xu Xiyan guessed that Huo Yunshen would probably come too. Without thinking, she lay down on the floor and started moaning in pain.

Wan Dou: "…"

She was confused as to what had happened to the powerful and energetic Lady Boss.

Why did she suddenly lie on the floor and mimic Lin Daiyu1?

Unsurprisingly, a wheelchair came through the door, and the man in the wheelchair had a stern face and a look of repressed anger.

His eyes shot sharp cold glances, like a sword piercing the skin of others.

Huo Yunshen wheeled his wheelchair in, sweeping his gaze across the messy private room. He caught sight of the woman lying down on the floor. His pupils dilated slightly and his brow furrowed. He rushed over.

"Jing Xi! Jing Xi..."

He couldn't hide his anxiety or worry, and reached out his hands to grab hold of Xu Xiyan's wrist, wanting to help her up. How could Xu Xiyan give up on the opportunity to test Prince Charming's heart!

She took advantage of the situation, lay on his knees and cried, "Mr. Huo, is it really you? Mr. Huo, you are finally here. I was being bullied!" She sobbed.

"Was it them?"

Huo Yunshen glanced at the group of men that crouching on the floor, obviously in pain.

Xu Xiyan answered with all seriousness, "Yes! If it wasn't for Wan Dou who subdued these people, I might have lost my life."

Wan Dou: "…"

Lady Boss, is it really good to be so humble?

I really didn't do anything...

You are the one that subdued all these people.

"Did you get hurt? Is it painful?"

Seeing Xu Xiyan's aggrieved little face and lingering tears, Huo Yunshen felt a wrenching heartache.

He felt that it was all his fault for being late, and not being able to protect his woman at the first moment of the incident.

"It hurts! It hurts... here! Here...and here...it all hurts!"

Xu Xiyan pointed at multiple areas on her body, moaning aggrievedly.

In reality, if she had been seriously injured, she would not have told Huo Yunshen because she did not want to cause him any trouble.

Someone had touched his darling, and Huo Yunshen was very angry. He was furious. He immediately ordered Yi Xiao to have these people arrested.

Huo Yunshen pointed at Miss Song who had collapsed, and was now sitting on the floor.

"Is she the one who brought them here to seek trouble?"

Wan Dou felt confident and proud upon seeing the Boss, so she explained the situation quickly. "Mr. Huo, it's her! She slapped Jing Xi. Not only that, she also spoke insolently about Jing Xi. She said a lot of nasty words to insult her!"

"Oh! Really?" Huo Yunshen sneered. "Who has such guts?"

At this time, as though he had a computer software installed, Yi Xiao recited Miss Song's background.

"Ma Haodong's manager, Song Xiangping, worked as manager for 5 years. Her parents are working class. Has an 80year-old grandfather and a younger brother in middle school. Her boyfriend is a cameraman at Huayin Entertainment."

Huo Yunshen's bewitching eyes shot a cold glance, and his tone was light. "Song Xiangping, go on, how do you think I should punish you?"

At that moment, Miss Song felt as if she was in hell. Her legs trembled and she could not run any longer.

Huo Yunshen, that's Huo Yunshen!

The iron CEO of Yunhai Entertainment, dominator of the whole entertainment industry, in control of the life and death of many. He, too, is Jing Xi's backer?!

Endnotes

1. Lin Daiyu is one of the principal characters of Cao Xueqin's classic Chinese novel, Dream of the Red Chamber. She is often referenced when discussing beautiful young women who are frail and vulnerable.

Chapter 199

Editor Group: Liber Reverie

It was strange that the Crown Prince was beside him, but as she could only think of it, she revealed her hostility, and then Asher, who was still, intervened in the conversation.

"Madame, please be a little angry. This is the Marquis of Piast of the Kingdom of Croa. Sorry for the late introduction."

"... Who?"

When Asher introduced him again as the Marquis of Piast, the Countess did not move. It was as if she had stopped breathing.

"The man you met, Chloe, is my eldest son, and I think you have guessed to some extent, but I was wondering if the blood had been linked to Lady Aria. I don't think she looks like him unless it does."

"So... Aria succeeds the blood of the Marquis family?"

"I think so."

·· · · ·

The Countess's eyes wandered in disbelief, and she seemed to be embarrassed at the thought of how to take it for it was not bad, but it was something she had never thought of.

There had been several lower-class noblemen who had visited her, and she had thought that it might be possible, but she had never thought that he was a man of the Marquis family.

"My son was in trouble, and he couldn't come to see you, but... he still misses you. He'll be delighted to hear that he has a daughter."

"... Wait, wait, give me a moment to think. It's so sudden, and I don't know what to say. Besides, it's not certain, but you just came because she looked like..." The Countess put down her teacup because of what the Marquis said. His beautiful appearance was uncommon, but it was difficult to confirm that because of her previous job.

"Don't worry about that, ma'am, I have a way to check it out."

At his words, the Countess and the Marquis looked at Asher at the same time.

'How could he confirm if the name was not written on the blood?' Then the Marquis opened his eyes wide as if he had realized something.

"... The pond of the Imperial Castle."

"Yes, if Lady Aria was the granddaughter of Violet, who drank the holy water, she could touch the pond of the Imperial Castle."

She didn't know what they were talking about, but the Countess nodded at the words that there was a way to check.

"... Then, if you're sure, tell me again. As for me, I'll have to sort things out by then."

The Marquis asked in an urgent voice as she finished the conversation. "If you don't mind, may we send you a letter?"

"... Will you send it to me or Aria?"

"I will send it to you... No, maybe Chloe..."

Chloe might want to get in touch with her, who he had been finding for a long time. He might even visit the empire by forging his identity.

The Countess rose, answering with a chilling voice. "Well, it would be a misunderstanding if another man writes a letter to a woman who has already been married, and if you're done, I'll excuse you first."

Yet the Marquis had a little hope for her unsure refusal; and the Marquis, who had the means to contact and some good news, left the empire without hesitation.

On the other hand, when he returned to the office, Asher was thinking, touching the ring in his hand.

* * *

At the end of the day, before going to bed, Aria screamed a little at Asher who suddenly appeared. It was fortunate that the maids were not there anymore, but she complained that he almost showed a great scene.

"Why didn't you talk and come to me?"

"I'm sorry."

Asher's apologetic gaze passed the ring in Aria's hand and headed for the box of the hourglass box in the cabinet. As he thought that the blood of violet flowed to Aria, he had a doubt for the box that she had always carried.

"Mr. Asher?"

Asher, who could not take his eyes out of the box, turned to her at her call. Then all of a sudden he told her why he visited her room.

"Why don't we take a night walk?"

"... But it's cold, right?"

As Aria's birthday was near now, it was not good to take a walk this late at night. Asher smiled softly at her question and put his coat over her shoulders.

"The pond of the Imperial Castle is not very cold."

"Yeah...? The pond of the Imperial Castle...?"

He suddenly talked about the story of the pond of the Imperial Castle, and she was embarrassed and was about to ask something when he grabbed her hand and used his power. Aria was lost in the picturesque landscape, which she had only heard in stories, without being surprised by the sudden change of view.

"It's the pond of the Imperial Castle. This is a place I often visit because of its mystical atmosphere and soothing landscape."

"... That's, that's awesome."

She didn't know why it looked like that. Maybe it was because it was late at night, but it was as if the stars in the sky were melting in a small pond. The flowers around it were also mysterious. As Asher said, the cold of winter could not be felt there.

Because of that, her look of surprise and embarrassment vanished, but she was carried away by the ecstatic scene. Asher quietly watched her for a while and led her inside.

"Well, my feet are on the grass..."

She thought it would be trampled, but strangely, the grass and flowers stepped on by Aria's feet did not bend or die, and they rose again. At the peculiar sight, she checked again the grass and flowers she stepped on, but they were still there. It was a strange place indeed.

"The water in this pond is called the holy water. It's because there's a legend that the pond was formed after the emperor of the empire died here."

"Ah, so there was such a legend..."

Aria's eyes were dull as she answered, and the stars in the pond gleamed in her eyes. She was already completely charmed by the pond.

Asher asked her what she really wanted.

"Would you like to touch it?"

"The pond? Can I touch it?"

"Yes, there is a myth that it brings happiness."

Even though Asher's permission had been granted, she hesitated, but she lost her heart at the words that it would bring happiness. So she bent over and reached out to touch the pond's water. She felt a cold sensation on her fingertips.

"It's cold, I think only this pond is affected by winter."

"… I see."

As he watched this, his eyes were shining, and Aria, who touched the water in the pond, straightened herself and came near him.

"I touched the water. Will happiness come now?"

Aria's face was a little flushed. She seemed to like Asher's sudden visit, and their walk in the middle of the night. Asher glanced down, saying yes. The ring on her finger was shining softly.

"Mr. Asher?"

Aria called Asher in a curious voice because he was not making eye contact. In time, as the light faded from the ring, Asher, who turned his eyes from her hand, met her eyes.

He was now convinced after seeing Aria touched the holy water. It was not a mistake that the ring had changed its color the other day.

"Is there something in my hand...?" Aria, who was aware that his gaze had been in her hand, asked, lowering her gaze.

She remembered he had mentioned the color of the ring the last time, and as she touched the ring, he answered as if it was nothing.

"No, I thought it was a butterfly, and I think it was an illusion."

"Butterfly? This winter night?"

'Is it because of this excuse that he looked at the butterfly in front of her?' She answered that she could not believe it.

Nevertheless, she seemed to be caught that she was hiding something. Asher stared at Aria, who was in disbelief and was lost in thought. On the other hand, he wanted to ask why the color of the ring had changed in the past, and what she was hiding, unlike how the color of the ring changed when she touched the holy water earlier.

But if he asked it here now, he had to confess that the reason why he brought her to the pond of the Imperial Castle was because he wanted to confirm her identity. He could not ask her honestly because he had lied to her, so he could bring her to the pond.

It would be best if Aria would tell what she was hiding, but since she did not seem to have any intention of doing so, it was better to wait for the right moment and ask it naturally.

Chapter 200 - This Is Mercy?

Translator:

Larbre Studio

Editor:

Larbre Studio

As soon as Song Xiangping thought of the rumors about Huo Yunshen's cruelty, her whole body began shaking.

If Huo Yunshen was to bring his wrath on her family and boyfriend for Xu Xiyan's sake, the outcome would be disastrous.

Song Xiangping finally understood that she'd offended a person that she shouldn't have and began to regret her choices.

Before Huo Yunshen could even continue, Song Xiangping kneeled on the ground and begged, "Mr. Huo, please, let me go. I'm an idiot for going against Jing Xi, I shouldn't have looked down on her. Please, let me go..."

She'd lost all of her proud composure from a few minutes before and was begging on the ground like a slave.

Huo Yunshen looked at her from his wheelchair and asked, "How many times did you hit her? How many times?"

"O... one," Song Xiangping replied while she lifted a finger.

"Very well, slap her 10 times," Huo Yunshen said like he was talking to an old friend.

One of the bodyguards stepped up and slapped Song Xiangping's face 10 times.

Song Xiangping's cheeks were burning from the slaps as the world began to spin.

"Does it hurt?" Huo Yunshen asked.

Song Xiangping nodded, hoping that Huo Yunshen would let her go.

"Then it means you weren't hit hard enough, another 10 times," Huo Yunshen ordered.

It was like the anger in Huo Yunshen's eyes had died down as they returned to their charming state.

He was ordering his man to hit someone as if he was asking someone how their day was.

Another 10 slaps echoed throughout the room, and Song Xiangping's pretty face was replaced by a swollen one.

"So, does it hurt?" Huo Yunshen asked.

"No..." Song Xiangping shook her head as she spat out some blood.

She tried her best to hide the pain from him.

Xu Xiyan was holding in her laughter as she watched from the side.

What is he trying to do? He's giving her hell, but he doesn't allow her to scream?

Those 20 slaps were refreshing.

"You don't have to be so afraid," Huo Yunshen said. "I'm not a cruel person. Since you've made a mistake, you have to bear the consequences. You are to leave your post at once and never show your face in Peijing from tomorrow onwards."

It was like the devil himself was speaking through Huo Yunshen.

One sentence from him was enough to exile a person and destroy their future. And he said that he's not cruel?

Xu Xiyan glanced at man in the wheelchair, who appeared almost lazy.

So this is what he looks like when he's serious.

Song Xiangping knew that Huo Yunshen had shown mercy towards her.

At least Huo Yunshen did not take her life.

"Thank you," Song Xiangping said. "I'll leave Peijing tomorrow and never come back!" "Oh," Huo Yunshen said, scratching his head. "Not a word about anything that has happened today goes out, or else..."