

Real You 201

[Chapter 201](#)

Mo Chenhao's hand paused midway, his expression changing subtly.

He put down his chopsticks and was about to fish out his phone but was stopped by Mu Yangyang.

"You should finish eating first. Gu Zhiyan has probably taken care of this matter." In truth, Mu Yangyang wasn't sure if the matter was resolved yet.

She previously thought that it was Mo Chenhao who ordered Gu Zhiyan to handle it, and she fully believed that Mo Chenhao would resolve this matter. After she got back, she put the matter aside to prepare dinner and waited for Mo Chenhao to come back.

Even so, Mo Chenhao stubbornly took out his phone and called Gu Zhiyan.

Gu Zhiyan, who had been busy the whole day, had just fallen asleep but was jolted awake by his phone. He answered it in a daze and yelled, "Who the hell is calling me at this hour?"

"It's me," Mo Chenhao responded with two simple words. Instantly, Gu Zhiyan became wide awake.

He then fell silent for a moment and softened his tone when he spoke next, "Mr. Mo, don't you know what time it is now? If you have the time to call me at this hour, you should use it to investigate the matter of Si Chengyu going viral. Even Yangyang has been dragged into this mess. Besides, I haven't been getting enough sleep recently because I was too busy dealing with this to go home."

Gu Zhiyan and Mo Chenhao were close friends who never bothered beating around the bush when discussing important matters.

"I don't know what the person pulling strings hopes to gain by doing this, but I'm sure he or she knows about your relationship with Yangyang. Otherwise, that person wouldn't stick to Yangyang like superglue and use her to create hype while leaving us to deal with the aftermath."

Mu Yangyang noticed Mo Chenhao's solemn expression, but she didn't know what Gu Zhiyan had said on the other end of the line.

After the call ended, both of them remained seated without speaking for a long time.

"I saw Chengyu at the company today," Mu Yangyang broke the silence first.

Mo Chenhao's head whipped up abruptly, and his brows subconsciously knitted together into a frown as he stared at her.

"Don't worry. I didn't say anything," Mu Yangyang reassured with a smile. "And he didn't mention

anything about the topic trending on the internet either.”

After a while, Mo Chenhao got to his feet and stated, “I’m done eating.”

The sound of the chair scraping against the floor could be heard as Mu Yangyang bolted upwards and raised her voice, “Mo Chenhao, stop being in denial. You’ve clearly found evidence against him, but you’ve been telling me otherwise because you refuse to believe what’s right in front of you.”

To be honest, Mu Yangyang had been suppressing these words in her heart for a very long time.

Mo Chenhao paused in his stride and looked over his shoulder at Mu Yangyang.

This time, he did not deny nor admit it. He pursed his lips and spoke in a chilly tone, “I’ll handle it.”

There wasn’t a single trace of warmth in his gaze.

Mu Yangyang shuddered slightly. She parted her lips to say something, but the words never came.

His eyes were so cold that Mu Yangyang could barely recognize him. The Mo Chenhao in front of her felt distant and completely foreign to her.

With that, Mu Yangyang stood rooted to the ground.

Perhaps, there was never a place for her in his heart.

He was reluctant to share his feelings with her, so she brought the topic up because her heart couldn’t take it anymore. However, the impassive look on his face seemed like he was accusing her of being nosy.

That night, both of them didn’t hug or speak, only lying on the same bed with their backs facing each other.

...

There were still many things Mu Yangyang needed to take care of at the company.

Since she didn’t sleep well last night, she went to the pantry to make some coffee for herself during her lunch break.

As Mu Yangyang filled her cup with water, she was lost in her thoughts. Only when the water overflowed did she snap out of her daze.

After taking a sip of coffee, she fished out her phone and was about to check her Weibo.

It was already Friday, but there was no news from the blogger who threatened to expose Mu Yangyang’s

identity. This was probably thanks to the extra work put in by Gu Zhiyan and his team yesterday.

She clicked on the Weibo icon and logged into her account, but before she could scroll through it, a call came in.

It was Gu Zhiyan.

Why is Gu Zhiyan calling me?

Was it because he couldn't reach Mo Chenhao again?

Mu Yangyang answered the call, but before she could utter a word, Gu Zhiyan's anxious voice drifted over the phone, "Yangyang, where are you now?"

"I'm in the pantry. Is something wrong?" Upon hearing the panic in his voice, Mu Yangyang's heart leaped into her throat, assuming something bad had befallen Shen Yu.

However, Gu Zhiyan indicated otherwise when he ordered, "Stay there, I'm coming to you right now. Don't hang up."

Why does Gu Zhiyan sound like he's worried about me?

Mu Yangyang tentatively queried, "Did something happen?"

She assumed Gu Zhiyan was calling her because he couldn't reach Mo Chenhao. It was either that or something to do with Shen Yu. Out of her expectation, he asked her to stay where she was, saying that he would come to her.

"I can't explain now. I'll be right over."

Gu Zhiyan was panting slightly, as if he was running.

Mu Yangyang was recently forced into the limelight, so she had become slightly numb to being the focus of public scrutiny.

At that moment, she realized something serious must have happened to make Gu Zhiyan this nervous.

She didn't hang up the call but exited the call interface to scroll through Weibo.

The moment she saw photos of her appearing all over Weibo, her ears buzzed, and she stiffened in place. Instantly, her mind went blank, and she didn't react for a long time.

Photos of her.

Photos of her and Mo Chenhao in an intimate position.

Photos of her eating with Si Chengyu.

Photos of her coming in and out of Sheng Ding Media.

And also photos from the time she pretended to be ugly.

Lastly, there was a single photo of a marriage certificate.

The photo of the marriage certificate was very clear, but it took her several glances to confirm the two names stated on it: Mo Chenhao and Mu Yumei.

Thud!

The phone in her hand suddenly felt like it weighed a ton. It slipped from her fingers and fell onto the floor.

The door to the pantry was pushed open at the same time.

Mu Yangyang didn't seem to hear someone pushing open the door to the pantry. She remained frozen in the same posture from when her phone had fallen to the ground, completely motionless.

Gu Zhiyan cursed inwardly when he saw the state Mu Yangyang was in.

He walked over in a few quick strides and noticed the phone on the ground.

The phone screen was still intact after being dropped, and the photo of the marriage certificate was clearly displayed on the brightly lit screen.

With a headache brewing behind his eyes, Gu Zhiyan picked her phone up and switched it off before tugging Mu Yangyang out by the arm.

"Let's talk outside."

Mu Yangyang was dragged outside by Gu Zhiyan like a lifeless puppet.

The security guards standing guard by the entrance escorted them out while the employees of Sheng Ding Media pointed fingers at Mu Yangyang and gossiped among themselves.

Although they didn't loudly criticize her or throw eggs at her, Mu Yangyang felt as if she had been stripped naked and exposed for all to see.

The first few trending topics on Weibo were all related to her.

And the top trending topic read: The Most Shameless Mistress.

From the time she was forced to marry into the Mo family until the day she became a 'mistress' to everyone else, she still couldn't understand what she had done wrong.

Her only sin was having a mother who didn't love her and wanting to love a man who was legally her husband. What did she do to be subjected to such cruelty?

[Chapter 202](#)

Gu Zhiyan brought Mu Yangyang out of Sheng Ding Media through the back door.

A black car had been waiting there for quite some time.

As soon as Gu Zhiyan and Mu Yangyang approached the car, a bodyguard opened the door for them. Gu Zhiyan nudged Mu Yangyang into the car and scanned their surroundings before getting in after her.

The moment they were in the car, the driver started the engine and drove away.

Gu Zhiyan sighed in relief after successfully bringing Mu Yangyang out.

However, when he turned to look at her, his body tensed up with anxiety again.

"Yangyang, are you okay?"

As soon as the words left his lips, he felt incredibly stupid for asking such a question.

It was impossible for Mu Yangyang to be fine after something this big happened.

Mu Yangyang and Mo Chenhao were legally married, but a marriage certificate appeared out of nowhere, making her look like a mistress now.

It was so outrageous that even a grown man like him felt immensely disgusted by this scheme.

Mu Yangyang sat there, completely expressionless. Her silence and lack of movement worried Gu Zhiyan.

"Don't worry too much about this. It's not that serious. You have to trust that Chenhao can take care of it." Gu Zhiyan tried to comfort her.

Unfortunately, he found that his reassurance had no effect on her whatsoever.

He scratched his head in frustration. Women are such complicated creatures.

Mu Yangyang turned to look at him and spoke for the first time since she saw him, "Where's Mo Chenhao?"

"He..." Gu Zhiyan noticed that something seemed off about Mu Yangyang, but he couldn't bear to keep the truth from her. "He went to inspect the development zone in the suburbs, and he's on his way back now. He'll probably be back in an hour."

"Oh," Mu Yangyang replied, then leaned back against her seat and stopped talking.

Seeing her acting this way, Gu Zhiyan chose to remain silent as well.

It was because he knew that whatever he said could never compare to a single word from Mo Chenhao.

...

The driver drove them directly to Gu Zhiyan's house.

It was a duplex suite within a high-end residential area.

He opened the front door while explaining to Mu Yangyang, "Since Luo Ying knows the address of Chenhao's villa, there's no doubt that there are a whole bunch of reporters staking out there as we speak, so I brought you to my place first."

Gu Zhiyan treated Mu Yangyang with gentleness, which was a rare occasion since he was only ever like this with Shen Yu.

"Thank you," Mu Yangyang thanked him in a mechanical manner and followed him into the house.

After they went in, Gu Zhiyan asked her, "Do you want some water? I have other drinks too if you want."

Mu Yangyang shook her head.

However, Gu Zhiyan still poured her a glass of warm water.

After a while, Mu Yangyang extended her hand towards him. "Give me back my phone."

"Your phone? Honestly speaking, there's nothing much to see. We should chat over some drinks. Sounds better, don't you think so?" Gu Zhiyan was well aware of how vicious the netizens could be with their words, so of course, he wouldn't return Mu Yangyang her phone.

Mu Yangyang did not insist either.

Just then, the doorbell rang.

“That could be Chenhao,” Gu Zhiyan surmised while standing up to get the door.

Mu Yangyang finally responded slightly.

She turned towards the direction of the door, but it wasn’t Chenhao; it was Shen Yu.

Shen Yu had always been an uninhibited person who was emotionally driven. She came straight from the film set while wearing her filming costume and a hairpin that was barely keeping the strands of her hair together. Her disheveled appearance showed just how anxious she was as she rushed over.

“Yangyang!” Shen Yu dashed towards Mu Yangyang. Her lips moved as if she wanted to say something, but in the end, she forcefully choked out, “Everything will be fine.”

Mu Yangyang nodded. “Mmm.”

Shen Yu inspected every inch of Mu Yangyang, finding that besides her pale complexion, she seemed to be otherwise alright.

However, Mu Yangyang’s absolute calmness worried her even more.

She shared a look with Gu Zhiyan, to which the latter shook his head helplessly.

Heavy silence blanketed the three of them as they sat in the massive living room.

Mo Chenhao finally showed up after an hour.

As soon as Gu Zhiyan opened the door, Mo Chenhao strode purposely towards Mu Yangyang.

When he was inches away from Mu Yangyang, he faltered slightly in his footsteps.

He crouched down in front of her and held her hand. “Mu Yangyang.”

Mu Yangyang raised her head, exposing her face which was drained of color but completely free of tears. “You’re here.”

“Mm-hmm.” Mo Chenhao nodded just before a hesitant expression appeared on his face.

In the end, all he said was, “Trust me.”

Mu Yangyang did not reply to that.

How could I not trust him?

The person she trusted the most had always been Mo Chenhao.

Even though she was put in the hot searches against her will, she had never been afraid because she knew that Mo Chenhao would handle it all.

Mu Yangyang stared vacantly at Mo Chenhao. There was no trace of emotion in her beautiful eyes, only numbness.

After a while, she asked softly, "Was it him?"

Gu Zhiyan and Shen Yu exchanged glances with each other, wondering who Mu Yangyang was talking about.

Only Mu Yangyang and Mo Chenhao knew.

Mo Chenhao knew that Mu Yangyang was referring to Si Chengyu.

There was a time when Mu Yumei had been in close contact with Si Chengyu, whereby she even wanted to enter the entertainment industry because of him.

Hence, it would be within reason to say that Mu Yumei and Si Chengyu had colluded to orchestrate the incident today.

This was the first time Mo Chenhao did not dare to meet Mu Yangyang's eyes. He pressed his lips into a tight line and turned his head to the side with his hands clenched into fists by his sides.

Suddenly, a soft and humorless laugh escaped Mu Yangyang's lips.

"Until now, you still refuse to believe that he would oppose you. You refuse to believe that he has turned against you." Mu Yangyang paused briefly. "Even if he repeatedly leaks personal information about me and drags me into a whirlpool of scandals; even if the incident this time was his doing, you still regard him as your brother-"

"I'll give you a proper explanation about what happened," Mo Chenhao interrupted her in a hoarse voice, but his tone was very firm.

Something seemed to finally snap in Mu Yangyang, and there was a bite in her voice when she spoke next. "I don't need a proper explanation from you! What do we have to do with each other? Nothing, apparently!"

"I don't know anything about that marriage certificate," Mo Chenhao explained as he grabbed her hand again.

Mu Yangyang sharply withdrew her hand from his and stopped talking.

If even she had begun to suspect Si Chengyu, then Mo Chenhao must have discovered his involvement in this matter a long time ago.

Mo Chenhao looked cold and ruthless on the outside but was, in fact, someone loyal especially to those closest to him.

Because he refused to believe that Si Chengyu was capable of doing this, he never confronted him about any of it.

Thus, Si Chengyu kept using the same old trick.

Mo Chenhao was in no way an indecisive person, but it was because he cared too much that he wanted to give Si Chengyu another chance.

However, this decision of his was made at the expense of Mu Yangyang.

To put it bluntly, it meant that Si Chengyu mattered more than she did to him.

Mo Chenhao's leniency was what led to the incident that happened today.

Gu Zhiyan and Shen Yu were completely dumbfounded after listening to the conversation between the two.

Shen Yu asked in disbelief, "This was the work of Si Chengyu?"

"Why would he do something like this?" Gu Zhiyan could not believe it either.

"I'm a little tired. I want to rest." Mu Yangyang glanced at Shen Yu and asked, "Liang, can I go to your place?"

Shen Yu immediately got to her feet and replied, "Of course you can."

[Chapter 203](#)

With that, Shen Yu walked over and slipped her arm through Mu Yangyang's, about to head outside together.

Mo Chenhao shot up from the ground, his long legs eating up the space between him and Mu Yangyang before he grabbed hold of her arm. "Come home with me."

"I don't want to." Mu Yangyang's eyes were lowered. Without sparing him a glance, she shook off his hand with a frosty expression.

A look of utter defeat flashed across Mo Chenhao's eyes, but it quickly disappeared. His jaw tightened as he controlled his emotions, with hands that clenched and unclenched by his sides.

Finally, he parted his lips slightly to speak in a gentle voice, as if he were coaxing a child, "I'll pick you up in a few days' time."

Although his tone was soft, he was not asking for Mu Yangyang's permission; he was merely informing her.

"Let's go." Mu Yangyang ignored him and tugged Shen Yu out of the house.

Gu Zhiyan's eyes darted to Mo Chenhao, looking as if he wanted to say something.

"I'll see them out," Gu Zhiyan ended up saying these simple words before following the women out.

With all three of them gone, Mo Chenhao was left alone in the living room.

He remained motionless on the same spot for quite some time before bending his knees to sit down on the sofa.

Leaning forward, he propped his elbows on his knees and held his forehead with one hand. His entire posture projected the exhaustion he was feeling, making him seem slightly fragile.

...

Only a few were privy to Gu Zhiyan's address, so the media had no idea about their whereabouts.

However, he was still worried, scanning the gates to the residential area to make sure the coast was clear before allowing both women to leave.

He wanted to send them directly to Shen Yu's residence but decided against it when he thought about Mo Chenhao, who was still at his place. In the end, he stayed behind and watched as Shen Yu's car left. After waiting a few minutes by the gates to confirm that no car of suspicious origins had trailed after them, he turned and went back to his house.

He bumped into Mo Chenhao just as he was about to enter the elevator.

Mo Chenhao walked out of the elevator with a cold expression and looked straight at Gu Zhiyan. "I'll have to trouble you these few days."

Gu Zhiyan understood that he was referring to Mu Yangyang.

Mu Yangyang obviously did not want to see Mo Chenhao now, so Gu Zhiyan had to keep an eye out for her.

"Since when have you not troubled me? I don't think I'll ever get used to it if you stop doing it one day,"

Gu Zhiyan said half-jokingly.

However, Mo Chenhao did not share his fake enthusiasm and was about to leave.

“What the hell is going on? Does it really have something to do with Si Chengyu?” Gu Zhiyan quickly stopped him.

Mo Chenhao stiffened slightly but still left without saying a word.

After departing from the residential area, Mo Chenhao called Si Chengyu as he was driving.

The call was answered only after one ring. It was as if the person on the other end had been eagerly waiting to receive a call from him.

“So, you’re finally calling me?” Si Chengyu drawled, and a hint of a smirk could be detected in his voice.

“Where should we meet?” Mo Chenhao’s voice was devoid of all emotion.

“My place.”

Mo Chenhao hung up the call and sped directly to Si Chengyu’s house.

The moment Si Chengyu opened the door, Mo Chenhao seized him by the collar and pushed him harshly into the house, slamming the door shut behind them with his free hand.

“Why are you doing this? Just come at me if you have a problem!” Mo Chenhao’s face had darkened, and a murderous aura surrounded him.

Si Chengyu’s air supply was cut off slightly by the death grip on his collar, but aside from a flushed complexion, he seemed completely unruffled.

It seemed like they were no longer brothers who were willing to go through thick and thin for each other, nor cousins who had a bond deeper than blood.

“Come at you? What’s the use in that?” Si Chengyu smirked slightly with an odd note in his voice, “Coming at you is like punching a rock. Only Mu Yangyang can make you this anxious.”

Mo Chenhao’s expression became impossibly darker, and he directly shoved Si Chengyu to the ground. Even so, his anger did not seem to be relieved in the least, apparent in the clenching and unclenching of his fists. However, he did not make another move.

Being thrown mercilessly to the ground, Si Chengyu’s features contorted with pain, and his indifferent expression instantly slipped from his face.

He coughed a few times before finding his voice again, "It seems like I was right."

"Does bullying a woman make you feel good about yourself?" Mo Chenhao gritted the words through his teeth.

"Well, as long as it does the trick, right?" A smirk played on Si Chengyu's lips again, and it was an especially provoking sight.

Mo Chenhao stared at him for a few seconds. "The other day at the teahouse, did you overhear the conversation between Grandpa and Mo Qingfeng? Is that why you did all this?"

Something he said seemed to agitate Si Chengyu, and all color drained from his face, leaving him as white as a sheet.

He became extremely flustered, clutching at his chest as violent coughs racked through his chest. "What do you know?"

"What is it that you're afraid of me knowing?" Mo Chenhao prowled towards him with a face void of any expression.

Both of them faced off each other for quite some time when Si Chengyu abruptly bellowed with maniacal laughter. He looked like a madman, completely different from how he usually was.

"You don't know anything, do you? And you'll never find out." Si Chengyu stated with certainty, then turned around to stagger into his room.

...

Mu Yangyang and Shen Yu returned safely to the latter's home.

"What do you wanna drink?" Shen Yu brought a pair of indoor slippers for Mu Yangyang while asking.

Mu Yangyang took the slippers and shook her head.

She went further into the house, picked up a pillow, and curled up on the sofa.

Shen Yu poured her a glass of warm water anyway. After passing it to her, she sat down beside her and asked, "What happened?"

Mu Yangyang held the glass of water with both hands and sunk deeper into the sofa before recounting the recent events and her own speculations regarding everything that had happened.

"That can't be true..." Shen Yu scratched her hair in frustration. "Aren't Si Chengyu and Boss buddies? How could he do such a thing? It just doesn't make sense."

“Yeah.” Mu Yangyang nodded her head in agreement.

Even Shen Yu, an outsider, couldn't believe that Si Chengyu would do such a thing, let alone Mo Chenhao, his cousin by blood.

However, Mu Yangyang was different from them.

Shen Yu came from a harmonious family. Meanwhile, although Mo Chenhao was kidnapped when he was young, he still had his father and grandfather, as well as other relatives.

Mu Yangyang, on the other hand, was considered an outsider by the Mu family since she was a child. She never felt any sense of belonging there and had no other relatives either. Shen Yu was her only friend. Hence, she had no choice but to be brave and independent from a young age. This molded her to become a very sensitive person as she grew up.

Hence, she trusted her own judgements.

Since Mo Chenhao did not deny the allegations she made, she knew Si Chengyu must have been the one behind this.

Seeing Mu Yangyang's lack of spirit, Shen Yu's heart ached, and she pulled Mu Yangyang into her arms. “I didn't mean it like that. Yangyang, please don't-”

“I'm just a little tired.” Mu Yangyang worked her lips into a smile but found that she really couldn't bring herself to smile at a time like this, even if it were only for show.

[Chapter 204](#)

“Go ahead and nap for a while then,” Shen Yu urged.

“Okay.” Mu Yangyang got up and went into the bedroom.

As she was closing the door, she noticed that Shen Yu was looking down at her phone with a deep crease between her brows.

I guess Shen Yu is reading the comments online.

After shutting the door to the bedroom, she was finally alone.

Mu Yangyang leaned her back against the door and slid to the ground as tears streamed down her cheeks without her realizing it.

Truth be told, she wasn't that sad. She was just exhausted.

Since young, she had envied other families. After she successfully got into film school, she started writing scripts to earn money. Hence, she began to stop envying other people because she was able to support herself.

Living on her own was not so difficult after all.

Later on, after she married into the Mo family, Mo Chenhao had assumed the identity of Mo Zhenxuan and fooled her for such a long time. Although she was infuriated by this, her anger could not hold a candle to the barrage of feelings she felt for Mo Chenhao because of how well he treated her.

She was too deprived of warmth and love.

And because of that, once someone voluntarily got close to her, she wouldn't be able to control herself from baring her heart and soul to him.

Once humans developed feelings, greed would overwhelm them, making them crave for more.

To her dismay, she wasn't the most important person in Mo Chenhao's heart.

She knew that now.

He had used her to test Si Chengyu.

It turned out that she was expendable to him.

...

That night, Mu Yangyang couldn't remember how she had fallen asleep or how she had woken up.

However, Mu Yangyang had calmed down a lot after one night.

This incident had a huge impact on her.

She planned to enter the entertainment industry as a screenwriter in the future.

However, with such a derogatory title of a mistress hanging over her head everywhere she went, even if she became famous in the future, people would associate her with that title forever.

Even so, she couldn't give up her dream of becoming a screenwriter, nor could she admit to being a mistress.

After all, she was the one who married into the Mo family from the very beginning.

She took out her phone and scrolled through Weibo.

People were criticizing her everywhere.

Even though she had mentally prepared herself for this, seeing so many vile comments still made her throat close up.

“Yangyang, come on out and have breakfast.” Shen Yu’s voice came from outside the bedroom, and her tone sounded slightly cautious.

Mu Yangyang turned off her phone, wore her slippers, and came out. “Coming.”

When she swung the door open, she found Shen Yu standing there looking lost.

Mu Yangyang offered her a smile and chirped, “C’mon. Let’s have breakfast.”

“Oh.” Shen Yu scurried after her with the same blank look on her face.

The dejection evident in Mu Yangyang’s expression and body language yesterday had made her very worried. Thus, she searched her mind for a way to comfort her today.

She never expected to see Mu Yangyang coming out of the room looking completely fine.

Looking at Mu Yangyang, she spoke up as they were seated at the dining table, “Yangyang-”

“I’m going to go back to the Mu residence later,” Mu Yangyang cut her off.

“Why?” Shen Yu was taken aback, putting down her chopsticks to look at her with questioning eyes.

“Mu Yumei must have had something to do with the marriage certificate. Both Mo Chenhao and I don’t know anything about it, but I bet the Mu family does.”

With that, Mu Yangyang gulped down the last of her milk and stood up. “I can’t go back on my own if you’re busy.”

“But...” Shen Yu was still worried about her.

“They’re all lies built by distorting facts, but distorted facts can never pass off as the truth.” Mu Yangyang smiled faintly. “Everything will be revealed.”

Eventually, it would all come to pass. She couldn’t figure out Mo Chenhao’s thoughts, but the most important thing right now was to resolve the matter at hand first.

...

Before leaving Shen Yu's house, Mu Yangyang changed into a set of Shen Yu's clothes.

She also put on a pair of shades and a mask.

While she was getting ready, she noticed the concern lining Shen Yu's features and tried to reassure her. "Just consider this as me having a taste of fame in advance."

When Mu Yangyang arrived at the gates of the residential area, she immediately saw Shi Ye.

"Mrs. Mo." Shi Ye's hair looked slightly tousled as if he hadn't slept well last night.

Mu Yangyang's brows knitted together as she queried, "What are you doing here?"

"Mr. Mo ordered me to wait here and take you wherever you wished to go." Shi Ye gave her a nod, explaining to her in that same respectful tone he always used.

Mu Yangyang's blinked in surprise and didn't speak for a while.

That man is sometimes smart to the point of being scary.

He even predicted that I would want to go back to the Mu residence.

"I'll have to trouble you then."

With the predicament she was in right now, having Shi Ye send her home could save her a lot of trouble.

After getting into the car, Mu Yangyang fished out her phone and logged in to Weibo.

The trending search topics related to her had all been taken down, without a trace of them in sight.

Even the major web forums were cleared of all posts about her.

However, there were still some posts of webpage screenshots with trending content.

It is said that Young Lady Yumei of the Mu family, who is also the elder sister of the current Mrs. Mo, was the one supposed to marry Mr. Mo of the Mo family. Unexpectedly, it was Young Lady Yangyang who married into the Mo family.

Isn't Young Lady Yangyang rumored to be hideous and stupid?

Who knows? Maybe rich people have an acquired taste?

Or maybe both sisters are serving that Mr. Mo guy or whatever he's called.

Rich people are so complicated...

At the end of the day, both sisters are conniving b****es.

As Mu Yangyang was reading the comments, anger coursed through her veins.

But after reading them, she consoled herself by saying that they were all unimportant people. Thereafter, she felt slightly better.

Suddenly, the sound of a cellphone ringing filled the car.

It wasn't Mu Yangyang's phone, but Shi Ye's.

Shi Ye answered the call and sent a furtive glance at Mu Yangyang through the rearview mirror.

It was Mo Chenhao on the other end of the line.

"Is Mu Yangyang in the car?" His voice sounded hoarse from a whole night of not sleeping.

"Yes," Shi Ye replied.

"I've arranged for a bodyguard to be stationed there. Be on the lookout. If I find so much as a scratch on her, you can forget about coming back to see me."

Mo Chenhao's voice was monotonous, and there was no trace of a threat in his tone, but Shi Ye broke out in cold sweat nonetheless.

"Understood."

The moment Shi Ye ended the call, Mu Yangyang handed him a piece of tissue. "Do you wanna turn the temperature down? Why are you sweating so much?"

Little did she know, he wasn't sweating from heat but from fear.

However, in the next second, Shi Ye forced himself to lie, "Yes, it's a little bit hot. Thank you, Mrs. Mo."

Soon, they arrived at the gates of the Mu family villa.

Two vehicles were parked in front of the villa.

Mu Yangyang was curious as to who those vehicles belonged to. Then, a group of men in suits hopped down from both cars, looking a lot like bodyguards, not to mention familiar ones too.

They seemed to be bodyguards from Mo Chenhao's villa.

The bodyguards marched towards the car Mu Yangyang was in, and one of them opened the door for her while greeting her, "Mrs. Mo."

Mu Yangyang got down from the car with a bewildered expression. "What are all of you doing here?"

The bodyguards seemed to have had a discussion in advance, because they answered in unison, "Waiting for you."

Their answer made them look silly to Mu Yangyang.

Suddenly, a group of reporters charged out of the woods across the street. "Mrs. Mo! Mrs. Mo! Can we ask you some questions?"

[Chapter 205](#)

Mu Yangyang froze for a transient moment. By the time she recovered, the bodyguards had already formed a barricade around her to keep the reporters out. With a frown on her face, she answered, "Sorry, but I'm not accepting any interviews."

Shi Ye also got out of the car to shield Mu Yangyang as they made their way through the gates into the Mu family villa.

She couldn't help herself from looking over her shoulder.

The reporters were held back by the heavily built bodyguards, but they still relentlessly tried to squeeze their way through. They were carrying heavy equipment on their shoulders with unkempt hair and skin that looked clammy from sweat.

Even from a distance, Mu Yangyang squinted from the glare of the camera flashes.

There was no shortage of people who loved watching free entertainment in this world. They did not care about facts, only seeing what they wanted to see, without caring about their actions could impact the victim.

They had zero empathy for the victim. Hence, certain things could only be resolved by her and her alone.

Mu Yangyang had a pensive look on her face as she stepped into the villa's living room.

With something like this going on, no one from the Mu family dared to step out of the house. Mu Liyan was the only exception because he had to go to the company.

When the maid saw Mu Yangyang, she immediately scampered off to inform the rest of the Mu family.

Xiao Chuhe and Mu Zhengxiu happened to be descending the stairs at that time.

When Xiao Chuhe spotted Mu Yangyang, she called out to her, "Yangyang."

"Mother," Mu Yangyang lowered her gaze and greeted her in a flat voice before turning towards Mu Zhengxiu. "Grandfather."

As they approached Mu Yangyang, Xiao Chuhe remained a respectful distance behind Old Master Mo. When they were in the living room, the former tentatively said, "Take a seat first. I'll go make some tea."

A hint of ridicule streaked across Mu Yangyang's eyes. Xiao Chuhe did not even show concern for her after something of this magnitude happened. All she cared about was pleasing Old Master Mu.

Xiao Chuhe had been living with caution her whole life. When she wasn't pleasing Mu Liyan, she was flattering Mu Yumei and her brother. It was either that or buttering up Mu Zhengxiu.

She was too busy sucking up to the entire Mu family that she never thought to care about her own biological daughter.

She never once thought to ask how her daughter was doing with everything that was happening.

It was like she had become accustomed to neglecting Mu Yangyang.

After Xiao Chuhe left to make tea, Mu Zhengxiu kept silent for a moment before speaking, "I know about everything they're saying on the internet. I've already grounded your sister because she's still acting like a child at her age!"

His tone was laced with a tinge of resentment, but he could only be keeping up the pretense.

"I want to see her." Mu Yangyang's whole purpose of returning to the Mu residence today was to confront Mu Yumei.

Mu Zhengxiu did not turn her down and immediately instructed the maid to bring her upstairs to see Mu Yumei.

Only when she was upon Mu Yumei's bedroom door did she hear the furious screams coming from inside.

"Let me out!"

"You're all b*tches! I'll teach all of you a lesson once I'm out of here! And I'll make sure the lot of you are out of my sight!"

She yelled a string of angry words but stopped for a while as if she were exhausted.

When another maid saw Mu Yangyang approaching, she bowed respectfully and greeted her, “Young Lady Yangyang.”

Mu Yangyang gave her an imperceptible nod before ordering, “Open the door.”

It seemed that Mu Zhengxiu was serious when he said he had put Mu Yumei on house arrest. A lock had been installed on her bedroom door, and there was even a maid standing guard outside.

After the maid unlocked the door, Mu Yangyang breezed in without the slightest hesitation.

Mu Yumei was sitting on the sofa with her eyes glued to her phone screen. She was smiling from ear to ear and failed to notice when Mu Yangyang walked into her room.

Mu Yangyang narrowed her eyes a fraction and said blandly, “What’s got you in such a good mood?”

Since Mu Yumei was too engrossed with whatever she was looking at, she jerked in fright upon hearing Mu Yangyang’s icy voice. Then, her startled expression morphed into a vicious one as she turned towards Mu Yangyang’s direction. “Are you a ghost? What happened to knocking before entering?”

Yet, Mu Yangyang wordlessly walked towards her.

Mu Yumei then put her phone down with a smug look on her face. “Oh! It’s the street rat! You’ve got some guts roaming around freely given the circumstances. Aren’t you scared of getting killed by people throwing rotten eggs at you?”

After Mu Yumei was done saying her piece, her lips curled into a complacent smile with a sinister look on her face.

“Of course I’m scared, that’s why I came looking for you.” Mu Yangyang gave her a smile that didn’t reach her eyes. The coldness she exuded seemed to show that fear was the last thing she was feeling.

What Mu Yumei despised the most was that Mu Yangyang seemed to be completely immune to anything she said.

She wanted to see Mu Yangyang spiral into depression and madness.

“How shameless. You can still act like everything’s fine when you’re being called a mistress,” Mu Yumei said these words through gritted teeth.

Mu Yumei was lounging on the sofa while Mu Yangyang looked down her nose at her. “What’s that marriage certificate all about?”

Mu Yangyang was wearing Shen Yu’s clothes today, and the latter’s clothes were all branded. The outfit

she picked out for Mu Yangyang consisted of an inner sweater and a very cool-looking leather jacket with studs. With this combination of clothes, she emanated an extremely glacial and inhospitable aura.

As she looked at Mu Yumei in a condescending manner, she also seemed very intimidating.

Mu Yumei unwittingly spoke the truth, "It was Si..."

She had only said three words when she remembered who she was talking to.

Did I almost tell Mu Yangyang the truth? What the hell is wrong with me?

"All you need to know is that the marriage certificate is genuine and you, Mu Yangyang, have always been nothing but a mistress!" Mu Yumei deliberately emphasized the last part.

Mu Yangyang's expression remained unchanged, but her hands had balled into fists by her sides.

"You don't need to spell it out for me." Mu Yangyang drew in a deep breath, calming the turmoil in her. "I know that it was given to you by Si Chengyu."

"I don't know what you're talking about. Si Chengyu is in the showbiz. How could he have had anything to do with the photo? You're overthinking it," Mu Yumei hurriedly denied.

Humans often avoided eye contact while lying.

That was also the case for Mu Yumei.

Mu Yangyang disagreed with what she said because nothing was impossible in this world.

In the beginning, she never would have expected Si Chengyu to be interested in someone like Mu Yumei.

But in the end, Si Chengyu and Mu Yumei had joined forces to screw them over.

Mu Yangyang gave her a sidelong glance before lowering into the seat opposite her, commenting in a casual tone, "It seems that Si Chengyu doesn't treasure you as much as you think he does, seeing as you don't even know his true identity."

She noticed that at the mention of Si Chengyu, Mu Yumei would become extremely edgy.

It seems like Mu Yumei's feelings for Si Chengyu are sincere.

She had never seen Mu Yumei this nervous about Shen Haochu, or all those random men she toyed around with in the past.

“This is my room. Get out! Now!” Mu Yumei pointed at the door and yelled at Mu Yangyang.

There was no anger on Mu Yangyang’s face as she languidly rose to her feet and said, “Goodbye, then.”

She came here today just to confirm Mu Yumei and Si Chengyu’s cooperation in this incident.

Now that she had her answer, there was no point in staying any longer.

The photo of that marriage certificate was no doubt given to Mu Yumei by Si Chengyu, and the latter had used the former to do his dirty work.

[Chapter 206](#)

Mu Yangyang left Mu Yumei’s room and was about to call Mo Chenhao as she made her way downstairs.

However, before she took her phone out, she spotted Si Chengyu coming through the front doors and walking towards the living room from her position on the stairs.

In an instant, she forgot about taking out her phone, fixing her gaze on Si Chengyu.

Si Chengyu looked slender while dressed in a grey suit. His face was gentle as usual, and the smile on his lips seemed too perfect to be sincere. He looked like he had just walked out of a magazine cover. There was only one word to describe him - flawless.

If all of these never happened, Mu Yangyang would still be a fan of his.

Perhaps it was because of how intense Mu Yangyang’s gaze was, Si Chengyu raised his head and looked in her direction.

The moment their eyes met, the pleasant expression on Si Chengyu’s face cracked a little.

The smile on his lips became slightly stiff, but he returned to normal in only a few seconds.

Si Chengyu withdrew his gaze and humbly walked towards Mu Zhengxiu, who was still in the living room. “Old Master Mu.”

Mu Zhengxiu broke into a smile. “Mr. Si, please have a seat.”

By the time Mu Yangyang reached the base of the stairs, Mu Zhengxiu and Si Chengyu were already seated on the sofa having a conversation.

Mu Yangyang breathed in and out as she resisted the urge to storm over and confront him.

Suddenly, Xiao Chuhe materialized out of nowhere and hauled Mu Yangyang into one of the empty rooms.

She stood by the door to cast a brief look around before shutting the door and pulling Mu Yangyang further into the room. "What's going on? Why is your sister's name on the marriage certificate?"

Mu Yangyang stared at Xiao Chuhe in surprise.

Is this mother of mine finally showing concern for me?

However, Xiao Chuhe's next words shattered her wishful thinking.

"Things wouldn't have gotten to this point if you'd just returned the title of Mrs. Mo to Yumei since the beginning. You shouldn't have been so greedy. Look what happened now. Poor Yumei is now grounded..."

Xiao Chuhe nagged non-stop and finally said in a worried tone, "I hope this incident doesn't affect the company..."

"Hah." Mu Yangyang sneered and spoke in an unusually frigid voice, "Xiao Chuhe, I think you have a loose screw somewhere in that brain of yours. You should go to the hospital and get yourself checked at the psychiatric department instead of getting on my nerves. I've had enough."

The Mu family villa was quite well designed. Almost every room had floor-to-ceiling windows, which allowed an abundance of sunlight to enter.

Because of the good lighting, the expression on Mu Yangyang's face was clear as day.

Xiao Chuhe could clearly see annoyance and exhaustion lining her features, as well as the calmness after a certain duration of constantly being let down.

She could hardly believe her ears. "Yangyang, what's going on with you?"

The Mu Yangyang she knew had always been obedient and compliant. She always did what she was told, without any protests.

However, what Mu Yangyang just said made her panic a little.

"How can you talk to your mother in this manner?" Xiao Chuhe frowned, thinking that she must have heard it wrong.

She reached out with the intention to grab Mu Yangyang's hand. "I know you're in a bad mood because of what happened recently, but you're the one who brought it upon yourself..."

"What's wrong with the way I talk to you?" Mu Yangyang nimbly backed up two steps, avoiding Xiao Chuhe's hand. "Mu Yumei called you the Mu family's dog, but here you are, tripping over yourself trying

to please her. I was only speaking the truth. Don't tell me you can't even accept that?"

Xiao Chuhe's expression changed slightly. "Yumei is still young and immature. It's completely normal for her to throw a tantrum occasionally."

"I'm younger than her," Mu Yangyang spat back.

Xiao Chuhe was speechless for a while. Mu Yangyang had always obeyed her, so when she suddenly did the opposite, her originally bad mood soured even more, and she snapped, "Why are you comparing yourself to her? The reason I trip over myself to please them, as you described it, is so that the two of us can keep our places in the Mu family."

Mu Yangyang remained expressionless as she corrected her, "Not us. Just you."

Without even giving Xiao Chuhe the chance to speak at all, Mu Yangyang continued, "Don't give me that nonsense about how it's all for the sake of you and me. I don't want to hear it anymore. Also, stop making excuses for Mu Yumei. Don't forget that you were the one who knelt and begged for me to marry into the Mo family."

Mu Yangyang had nothing to lose anymore, so she spoke without restraint.

Mo Chenhao repeatedly gave Si Chengyu chances and did not hesitate to use her to test him. Consequently, she was given the demeaning title of a mistress.

Perhaps they were no different from each other.

She had given Xiao Chuhe one chance after another, but she only ended up getting hurt more deeply by Xiao Chuhe after each time.

Humans were born to grow up thinking differently. However, once a person's thinking developed in a certain direction, trying to alter its pathway would be in vain.

This was the case for her and Xiao Chuhe.

And it was probably the same for Mo Chenhao and Si Chengyu.

The difference was that the foolish expectations she had for Xiao Chuhe only resulted in herself getting hurt, while those around her remained unaffected.

However, Si Chengyu had directly put a target on her head.

With that, she became the victim in this sick game between Si Chengyu and Mo Chenhao.

Mu Yangyang took a deep breath. "Since the day I agreed to marry into the Mo family, our mother-

daughter relationship was over. Later on, when you conspired with Yumei and the others to kidnap me, I voluntarily surrendered my black card to save you because I wanted to give you one last chance.” Then, she turned around and was about to head out of the room.

“You probably didn’t know what Mu Yumei planned to have those two kidnappers do to me after you left, huh? They were going to...” Mu Yangyang looked over her shoulder with a cold glint in her eyes and finished her sentence, “Rape and kill me.”

The moment Xiao Chuhe heard it, her pupils constricted, and she shuddered violently.

Mu Yangyang smiled with satisfaction and slowly made her way out.

Xiao Chuhe watched as the distance grew between her and Mu Yangyang. Suddenly, panic surged in her heart.

She subconsciously shuffled two steps forward and shouted, “Yangyang!”

Nevertheless, Mu Yangyang went straight out as if she hadn’t heard her.

Bang!

She slammed the door behind her and silence instantly fell in the room.

Xiao Chuhe stood in the center of the room with an ashen face.

Am I really the one at fault?

But what did I do wrong?

Aren’t all stepmothers supposed to treat the children of their husband’s ex-wife better?

Mu Yangyang is my biological daughter. Hence, it wouldn’t matter how I treated her - that fact could never be changed.

Yes. That’s right.

Mu Yangyang said all these things to me because she’s stressed out about what happened in the past two days.

No matter what happens, I’m still her mother.

Mu Yangyang won’t disown me. She won’t.

Xiao Chuhe managed to calm down with these thoughts.

Mu Yangyang had always listened to every word I said. She's just slightly more temperamental now. So I'm sure everything will go back to normal after two more days.

[Chapter 207](#)

Mu Yangyang exited the room and saw that only Si Chengyu was left.

He turned around when he heard the door open and called out like usual, "Yangyang."

"Please don't call me that, Mr. Si. You may address me by my surname," her tone was as cold as her expression.

She could not act as nonchalant as him.

After all, even though he was not Mo Chenhao's cousin, he was still technically the man she had been idolizing for eight years.

He was supposed to be the honest and kind celebrity actor, Si Chengyu.

Nobody said that he had to be a good person, though.

However, it did not matter what reasons he had. She could not understand the reason he did what he had done.

She did not do anything wrong. Besides, even if Si Chengyu and Mo Chenhao had some huge conflict between them, he should not have shifted his anger to her.

Si Chengyu's expression shifted slightly at her chilly attitude. A bitter and frustrated look crossed his face.

"I apologize for what happened," he stated solemnly.

"I don't accept your apology." She could sense that he did not really mean it. It was obvious that he did not even think he had done anything wrong.

He did not seem to care whether she accepted or not, merely nodding his head.

"While I don't know what happened between you and Mo Chenhao, I know that you're someone very important to him. Ever since the first time you made a move, he already knew the truth. He was just giving you a chance to come clean."

After she had calmed down, what had confused her before suddenly became crystal-clear.

She cocked her head and continued in a serious tone, "I really envy you, you know."

She was incredibly envious of how nice Mo Chenhao was to him.

Her last statement seemed to have touched a raw nerve, and Si Chengyu's entire demeanor changed.
"You envy me?"

Before Mu Yangyang could answer, a well-built figure suddenly rushed inside and came to a stop before her.

"Mo Chenhao?" she stared at the man in puzzlement, "Why are you here?"

For a brief moment, she had wondered which bodyguard had come charging in like that.

It was obvious from his wan face that he had not slept a wink last night. Despite that, the powerful aura he exuded remained the same.

He did not answer her question as he swept an assessing gaze across her body. Satisfied by what he saw, he breathed a sigh of relief before turning to look at Si Chengyu.

There was a smile on Si Chengyu's face when he said, "You arrived faster than I expected."

His words implied that he had contacted Mo Chenhao and told him to come here.

Mu Yangyang watched as Mo Chenhao visibly tensed.

She hesitated before taking a small step forward and reaching out to take his hand.

As if he had eyes on the back of his head, her hand was only halfway there when he grabbed it.

His palm was warm and dry where it wrapped around hers, making her feel secure.

She lowered her eyes while a chaotic mix of emotions raged in her.

Taking all this in, a mocking glint entered Si Chengyu's eyes. "How loving and trusting. It almost makes me jealous. However, I can't say that others will think the same way as I."

Mo Chenhao's expression darkened dangerously. "Si Chengyu, do you honestly think I can't do anything to you?"

"Of course, you can. The thing is, you need to give Yangyang an official title first. Otherwise, she'll just be a mistress and nothing more." With that said, he glanced at the woman. "She's going to be a screenwriter someday, so I wonder what people will do when they find out that she's somebody's mistress."

Si Chengyu's words stabbed into Mo Chenhao's heart like a sharp blade.

Previously, he had told her to resign so she could do what she liked. He had even tried to come up with ways for her to join Mo Corporation.

Yet now, he had inadvertently caused her to be ashamed of even stepping out the front door.

The veins on his temples throbbed as he snarled, "Shut up!"

The smile on Si Chengyu's face widened.

"Chengyu!" Mu Yumei's voice rang out.

Mu Yangyang glanced over to see Mu Yumei running over before throwing herself into Si Chengyu's arms.

Si Chengyu steadied the both of them and asked in a gentle voice, "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine." Mu Yumei had a shy look on her face even as her cheeks blushed lightly. "You're really here to see me? I'm not dreaming, am I?"

Stroking her face lovingly, Si Chengyu murmured, "No, you're not dreaming."

Mu Yangyang could only stare in astonishment. Subconsciously, she turned to look at Mo Chenhao, who looked calm and unsurprised.

Sensing her gaze, Si Chengyu chuckled. When he spoke, it was to Mo Chenhao, "Even though I feel like Yangyang looks a lot like Qingning, Yumei is even more so. I'm sure Qingning will be ecstatic that you're marrying a woman who looks so much like her."

Mu Yangyang would be an idiot if she could not tell that he was deliberately driving a wedge between her and Mo Chenhao.

"Don't think that everyone is like you, finding a replacement when you can't get what you want." She did not hold back her ire at all as she snarled back, "Looks like your love for Qingning is nothing much either. I'm sure she'll feel disgusted that you're using the hand you used to touch her with to touch another woman."

Si Chengyu's face fell, and he growled, "Mu Yangyang!"

"Don't say my name. It feels disgusting to hear my name coming from your lips." Just looking at him now had her feeling nauseous.

I guess what they say is true. The more perfect something looks on the outside, the more rotten the

insides are.

Mo Chenhao did not say anything further as he led her out of there.

In the car, Mu Yangyang was still feeling upset, so she tried to retract her hand.

However, Mo Chenhao refused to let her go, even going so far as to tighten his grip on her hand.

Taking in a deep breath, she snapped, "Let go."

"No." His face remained blank.

In response, she bent her head and bit down on his hand, hard.

However, she had completely forgotten that this was a man who could withstand the pain of digging a bullet out of him without anesthetics. Her bite was probably like a kiss for all that it hurt.

She continued to struggle with him for a while before finally growing tired. Through it all, he never released his hold, so she relented.

He pulled her to his chest. "Feeling better?"

"No."

"Then you can continue." He sounded indifferent as he brought his hand to her mouth again.

She twisted her head away. "It's too hard."

His hand was too bony.

"Well, you have bitten harder."

"..."

Mo Chenhao was as dumbfounded as she. He was so used to teasing her that the words had just spilled from his lips.

Mu Yangyang flushed bright red and shot a glance at the driving Shi Ye before beginning to kick and punch at Mo Chenhao.

He was surprisingly patient as he bore her anger silently and did not move to retaliate at all.

[Chapter 208](#)

Upset at the man, Mu Yangyang did not hold back as she attacked him.

However, the stoic way he accepted her beating had her feeling like she was hitting someone defenseless, a thought that did not sit well with her.

In the end, she stopped what she was doing and turned her head away from him pointedly.

Mo Chenhao watched her through hooded eyes, scrutinizing her expression.

This was the first time he had taken a good look at her since the incident yesterday.

She had bounced back much faster than he expected, which had a sense of defeat crawling over him.

She was a strong and independent woman, overly so. That meant that she would rely on him much less.

Perhaps he had been wrong from the start.

He had grown up together with Si Chengyu and was understandably close with the other man.

The second time Si Chengyu became one of the trending topics on the internet, Mo Chenhao started looking into the matter.

Although he desperately wanted to believe in Si Chengyu, he was also well aware that he was not the sort of man who would do something like that in a fit of confusion.

That was only the beginning.

What happened after was as he expected as well.

He let Si Chengyu do as he wished and did not confront him because he wanted to see how far the other man would go.

He had predicted that Si Chengyu would use Mu Yangyang against him, but he had not expected how ruthless he would be.

Foolishly, he had thought that he would be able to handle the matter even if the woman were used against him.

But now, he was coming to realize that she was the exception.

No matter what he did, he still felt like it was not good enough.

Sensing the weight of his stare on her, Mu Yangyang pursed her lips and turned to face him.

“You...”

He suddenly grabbed her hand, and his face seemed as cold as ever. The slight tightening of his jaw was the only sign betraying his current feelings.

It almost looked like unease and panic.

“Mr. and Mrs. Mo, we’ve arrived,” Ye Shi’s voice drifted over from the front.

Snapping back to her senses, Mu Yangyang extracted her hand from his grip again.

“We’re here.” She shot him one last look before getting out of the car and heading for the villa.

Even Shi Ye could feel how the relationship between the couple had become tense after the events of last night.

He exited the car only to realize Mo Chenhao was still sitting inside. In a careful tone, he called out, “Mr. Mo...”

In response, Mo Chenhao raised his hand and gestured for him to keep quiet.

With no other choice, Shi Ye left.

It had only been a night since Mu Yangyang came back, yet it felt surreal to step back into the villa.

She returned to her room, changed into some clean clothes, and began to browse the internet on her phone.

With Mo Chenhao and Si Chengyu involved, the popularity of this incident would definitely cause them to shoot to the top of the latest trending topics. If they were to suddenly smother all news and searches about this matter at this time, that plan would surely backfire on them.

Mentally bracing herself, she was dumbfounded when she saw the newest hot topic: Gu Zhiyan Coming Out Of The Closet.

Gu Zhiyan coming out of the closet...? Huh?

It was several moments later before she could snap out of her shock. Next, she hurried downstairs to speak to Mo Chenhao.

The bodyguards directed her toward his study.

She pushed open the door to enter, only to be greeted by a face full of smoke.

Cough cough!

The thick clouds of cigarette smoke choked her, and she coughed to clear her throat.

Standing with his back toward her was Mo Chenhao smoking at the windows. Surprised at the sound of her coughs, he was quick to extinguish his cigarette.

This was the first time she had seen him smoke.

His low voice rang out, "What's going on?"

"Gu Zhiyan came out of the closet?" Then, thinking that a straight man like him might not know what that meant, she explained, "Coming out of the closet means - "

"I know what it means," he interrupted, "I told them to do it."

"To fill the trending topics with news about Gu Zhiyan coming out of the closet?"

"Yeah."

Mu Yangyang was rendered speechless by his response.

He turned around and walked toward his desk while continuing, "I'm just diverting their attention. It'll die down in two days or so."

His tone was impassive.

She was silent for a bit before she asked, "Gu Zhiyan doesn't mind?"

Pausing, he mused it over and stated, "So what if he does? It's not like he can do anything about it."

Even though she knew he was doing this for her, she still could not help but pity Gu Zhiyan.

He must have been an evil man in his past life to have a ruthless friend like Mo Chenhao in this life.

Just then, Mu Yangyang's phone rang.

Checking the caller ID, her lips twitched in a smile as she announced, "It's Gu Zhiyan."

"Oh," he answered before plucking the phone from her hand and ending the call.

He did not even show the slightest bit of hesitation or guilt.

"..."

Abruptly, her chest tightened as a thought occurred to her.

Sucking in a deep breath, she questioned, “Mo Chenhao. You won’t hold back as long as someone is useful to you, will you? Not even if they’re your friends or family.”

The moment those words left her lips, the atmosphere around them cooled and became tense.

Mo Chenhao’s face darkened, and the aura he exuded felt more menacing than ever.

After several beats, he finally spoke up, “That’s how you think of me?”

“What else could I possibly think?” Mu Yangyang gave a mocking laugh.

She was not exactly sad. It was more like she was troubled by the thought.

His lips thinned as a dangerous expression appeared on his face.

She thought that he would rage, or at the very least, leave the room.

Yet, in the end, he cast his gaze away and murmured, “It won’t happen again.”

His voice seemed as placid as ever, but the determination in his words was shocking.

‘It won’t happen again’? As in, he won’t use me again, or he won’t allow me to appear on the trending topics again?

The suspicion and doubt in her eyes were glaringly obvious. Infuriated, he strode toward her and swept her into his arms for a kiss.

He had not slept a wink last night. Not because there was no time but because he could not sleep without her beside him.

He had underestimated her position in his heart.

...

The various news channels and social media were exploding with news about Gu Zhiyan’s coming out.

Mu Yangyang was looking through her friends’ posts when she saw Shen Yu’s post that showed her disdain for men.

She sent the other woman a message: The news is fake. Gu Zhiyan will clear things up soon.

Shen Yu replied with: Being gay is being happy. True love can only be found with the same sex. Wanna consider me?

Mu Yangyang sent back: ...Have you gone crazy?

[Chapter 209](#)

Shen Yu sent her a neutral face emoji: I'm being serious. You're single now anyway.

It was at this point that Mu Yangyang was reminded of the issue with the marriage certificate.

The names listed on the marriage certificate were, indeed, Mo Chenhao and Mu Yumei.

After she married him, neither of them had actually seen the marriage certificate, and so, none of them knew whose names were on the document.

But then, Si Chengyu had sent that photo to Mu Yumei.

Now Mu Yumei had appeared on the scene as a victim. No matter how messed up her private life was before, as long as she was Mo Chenhao's legal wife, Mu Yangyang would always be the mistress, the third wheel.

Realizing how offensive that sounded, Shen Yu hurriedly tried to explain: Wait no, I didn't mean it like that!

Mu Yangyang assured her: It's fine.

After that, she went looking for Mo Chenhao.

He had not gone in for work the past few days as he was busy handling the incident with Mu Yangyang.

The first day was the news about Gu Zhiyan coming out. The second day was about two celebrities publicly announcing their romantic relationship with each other. All these celebrities were associated with Sheng Ding Media.

It was currently the third day, and the previous two days' news were enough to divert the attention of the netizens. On the surface, it seemed like nobody was talking about her anymore.

Mu Yangyang was well aware this was all Mo Chenhao's work.

Since the news regarding her had been smothered, all that was left was the matter with their marriage certificate.

Mu Yumei had not been having a good time these past few days either. Mu Zhengxiu had kept her locked up in the house and refused to let her go out or meet with Si Chengyu.

Mu Zhengxiu was a strict man, and he knew Mu Yumei well.

He was sure that if he let her out of the house now, the first thing she would do would be to make a fuss before the media.

Hence, he did not want her making a mess of things and offending the Mo family further. All he wanted was some peace and quiet after all that.

...

Mo Chenhao had not shut his study door all the way. With a gentle push from Mu Yangyang, it swung open.

Even before she entered she could already hear his furious shouts.

“Do you seriously think that I didn’t know it was you all along? That you did all those shameful things to ingratiate yourself with Mu Zhengxiu? And now, you even wanted to get involved in that marriage certificate issue?”

The entire study only had a small table lamp switched on, casting his figure in shadows. His cold voice was particularly cutting in the darkness.

Suddenly, his head snapped up like he had sensed her presence. His gaze then landed on the petite figure standing by the doorway, and he paused before ending the call.

Mu Yangyang made her way over to him. “I’m here about the marriage certificate.”

Mo Chenhao’s eyes narrowed imperceptibly, and he tried to contain his anger. He was somewhat successful as his voice came out calmer. “You don’t have to worry about that.”

“I just want to ask what’s going on.” Her mind was in turmoil right now as she struggled with her chaotic feelings.

She was certain she liked him.

Although she was stunned when she found out that they did not actually have a marriage certificate, there was also a part of her that was glad.

Without an official document like that, they were not legally recognized as husband and wife. If there ever came a day when she wanted to leave him, she could do so freely without much hassle.

He was a dangerous and unpredictable man. Thus, when she chose to be with him, she had the sudden realization that she was like a moth flying to a flame.

But now, she abruptly had a way out...

Mo Chenhao's eyes slowly darkened as he continued to stare at her.

At first, her gaze was locked with his. However, guilt steadily grew in her at his continuous scrutiny. It was almost like he could read her mind.

She turned her head away, breaking their eye contact. "If you don't want to talk about it, that's fine."

"Let's have a wedding."

The way he drawled it out had the words ringing in the silence and reverberating in her head.

A wedding?

Her mouth fell open slightly in astonishment. "What?"

"We never had a wedding ceremony. You should use this time to think about where we're going for our honeymoon. I'm fine with anywhere - either overseas or local."

Mo Chenhao's tone of voice brooked no room for argument.

Even so, Mu Yangyang still answered, "There's no need for so much trouble. We'll talk about it when we come to it."

Such matters held little interest to her presently.

Naturally, he could tell. She did not make a huge fuss and nor was she incredibly sad. This showed that she was not as invested in the two of them as before.

Her words had his face darkening.

...

Since Mu Yangyang did not need to leave the house for work for the next few days, she holed herself up at home to write her script.

Meanwhile, Mo Chenhao left the house early the next morning, and she did not ask where he went.

Wanting to take a break from scriptwriting, she headed downstairs to get a glass of water and sat down on the couch.

She then turned on the TV only to see Mu Yumei being interviewed by some reporters.

Her sister looked wan and sallow, like someone who had just recovered from a serious illness.

Didn't I meet Mu Yumei two days ago, and she was fine? What happened?

"It was I who took a photo of that marriage certificate and uploaded it to the internet. I only wanted to become famous in the entertainment industry. The certificate is fake. Mu Yangyang is Mo Chenhao's legal wife. I was just trying to gain media attention..."

Mu Yumei's expression was blank, while her tone was dull.

One of the reporters boldly asked, "Ms. Mu, why would you suddenly come out and admit that the certificate is fake? Did someone force you to say that?"

In response, her eyes bulged widely, and she shrieked, "No! I was the one who forged that marriage certificate and took a photo of it! Yangyang is my sister, so I shouldn't have done that! It's all my fault!"

The reporters clamored for attention after that, but Mu Yangyang did not hear their questions. All her attention was focused on Mu Yumei herself.

From what she knew of her older step-sister, there was no way she would admit to being wrong.

Instantly, she knew that Mo Chenhao most definitely had something to do with this confession of hers.

She wondered what he had done for Mu Yumei to be so afraid.

Flipping through the other news channels, they were all showing the interview with Mu Yumei.

Bored, she settled on watching an old movie.

Halfway through the movie, Mo Chenhao returned home.

He made a beeline for Mu Yangyang and reached down to part her hair so he could kiss her.

Instinctively, she shied away from him by turning her head. He paused for the slightest moment before continuing forward to press a kiss on her. There was a rare note of warmth in his voice when he stated, "You'll need to go for a wedding dress fitting tomorrow."

As he spoke, he pulled her into an embrace.

Yet, she moved her head further away from him and protested, "I'm busy. I haven't finished my script yet."

"You can finish it after the fitting."

“No, I can’t. Inspiration has struck.”

Mo Chenhao’s expression chilled, and he grabbed her chin. He seemed to have reached his limit as he bit out through clenched teeth, “Mu Yangyang, stop rejecting me.”

[Chapter 210](#)

Mu Yangyang cocked her head, her tone firm as she replied, “I’m not going.”

Mo Chenhao was visibly taken aback.

She reached up to remove his hand from her chin. “Don’t always grab my chin like that. It hurts.”

Her obvious rejection of him had his gaze hardening, and he demanded, “Mu Yangyang, just what do you want?”

“I want to write my script. I’ve been feeling inspired recently.” She shoved him away and stood up to head back upstairs.

Since the media exposed her photo, she had not left the house in several days.

It was likely she would be fired from Sheng Ding Media, so other than focusing on writing her script, she did not know what else she could do.

Mo Chenhao’s eyes followed her up the stairs while the hands by his side slowly clenched into fists.

...

Due to Mo Chenhao’s efforts, Mu Yangyang soon became old news.

There was no lack of such scandalous news in the entertainment industry, and the public soon forgot about her in favor of other more interesting gossips.

That was the reason why so many celebrities tended to buy off the headlines and searches.

What surprised her more was that Si Chengyu had also posted an explanation about her eating together with him.

It was a randomly created excuse, but it still managed to help calm things down further.

Despite that, Mu Yangyang’s life was not going smoothly at all.

It had been more than a week since that incident when Shen Yu invited Mu Yangyang out for a shopping trip.

She and Mo Chenhao had been giving each other the cold shoulder ever since the mention of marriage.

He seemed to always be busy and was gone for all hours of the day while she buried herself in her work.

Even though they were living under the same roof, eating at the same table, and sleeping on the same bed, they hardly interacted with each other.

However, when he heard that Mu Yangyang was leaving the house, he still arranged a driver and some bodyguards for her.

She did not even hesitate in refusing, "There's no need. I'm just going shopping with Liang."

The moment the words left her lips, the temperature around her seemed to drop several degrees.

She paused for a few seconds before proceeding forward with a neutral expression.

The poor bodyguards were left standing there silently. None of them dared to even breathe for fear of breaking the tense atmosphere.

Taking in a deep breath, Mo Chenhao uttered, "What did I say just now?"

The words left his lips like bullets, slamming into the bodyguards and causing them to quail in fear. They answered simultaneously, "Yes, Sir!"

Then, they sped out of there like the hounds of Hell were on their heels.

Mu Yangyang had only just exited the villa when she heard marching footsteps behind her.

Before she could realize what was going on, the bodyguards had already stopped in front of her.

A black car came to a stop before her, and a bodyguard quickly pulled open the car door. "Ma'am, please get in the car."

The other bodyguards hastily surrounded her. On the surface, it looked like they were just escorting her into the car. In truth, they were worried that she would try to run.

She did not know whether to laugh or cry.

They really are his men. As unreasonable as the man himself.

"Fine, I'll get in. Now can you leave me alone?" With that, she entered the car.

The bodyguards glanced at each other. It appeared that the woman had already seen through them.

...

Mu Yangyang had wanted to go shopping with Shen Yu as a way to relax, yet Mo Chenhao had sent such a huge group of bodyguards to follow her.

Now wherever she went, a large group of men trailed along behind her. How could she maintain a low profile like that?

Shen Yu's eyes widened at the sight of the burly men, and she blurted, "Are you like some empress leaving her palace? Why the scores of men?"

Mu Yangyang turned her head to look at the bodyguards, who swiftly directed their gazes elsewhere when they saw her looking at them.

Sighing, she lamented, "Me, an empress? Hah! More like Mo Chenhao has gone off the deep end!"

With the bodyguards following them, the two women wandered around half-heartedly for a bit before searching for a place to eat.

Since there were so many men, they had to select a restaurant that could fit them all.

Finally, they settled in the private room of a restaurant and had another table set aside for the bodyguards outside in the main area.

Starving, the bodyguards eagerly dug into their meal.

Seeing all this from a crack in the door, Shen Yu gestured for Mu Yangyang to change her clothing before they slipped out the backdoor of the restaurant.

It did not make sense for a bunch of men to be trailing after two women as they shopped.

Successfully ditching the bodyguards, the two women headed for the night market near their high school.

They ordered two sticks of grilled mutton and chatted as they ate.

"I kinda miss high school sometimes."

Shen dabbed at the oil around her mouth with a napkin and questioned, "Why?"

Smiling, Mu Yangyang replied, "Everything was simpler back then."

At the time, all she had to focus on was school and being an invincible person in the Mu family. Looking

back on it now, she found that it did not sound so bad.

Just then, Shen Yu seemed to recall something that dimmed her good mood, and she threw away her unfinished food. "I don't really miss it."

Mu Yangyang was about to ask her why when a male voice called out from behind her.

"Yangyang!"

The voice sounded rather familiar, but she could not seem to recall whose it was.

Glancing behind her, she saw that it was Shen Haochu, a man she had not seen in a very long time.

A smile spread across the man's face when he spotted Mu Yangyang.

He weaved through the crowds toward them. His voice was filled with excitement as he exclaimed, "It really is you!"

Before Mu Yangyang could speak, Shen Yu had moved in front of her to block the man. "Shen Haochu? What are you doing here?"

This night market was not exactly a high-class establishment, and everything sold here was relatively cheap. That was why the usual customers were nearby residents or students. For someone like Shen Haochu to come here was not a coincidence.

Surprised at seeing Shen Yu, he commented, "You're here too?"

Shen Haochu and Shen Yu were distantly related, but she could not remember how. All she knew was that she would occasionally see him at large family gatherings or parties. They both did not much care for the other, though.

Shen Yu absolutely loathed Mu Yumei, which by extension led to her looking down on Shen Haochu since he used to be in a relationship with her. She crossed her arms and raised an eyebrow. "I asked you a question."

Seeing as Mu Yangyang was not talking, Shen Haochu explained, "I saw you two earlier at the restaurant, but I wasn't sure if I had seen correctly. So I followed you."

Hearing his reply, Shen Yu was quick to retort, "Why?"

His expression fell slightly at her demanding tone, but he ignored her. Turning to Mu Yangyang, he spoke gently, "Yangyang, I have something I want to say to you."

"What is it?" Mu Yangyang's face was blank as she watched him.

She had a feeling she would not like what he was about to say.

He glanced at Shen Yu pointedly, obviously wanting her to leave.

As if Shen Yu would abandon her friend like that.

“Forget about it then.” With that said, she grabbed Shen Yu’s hand and got ready to leave.

“Wait!” he called out urgently, “Yangyang, do you want to be with me?”

Both women were speechless at his words.