Real You 31

Chapter 31

Mu Yangyang looked away to avoid his piercing gaze and replied curtly, "That's none of your business."

"Then whose business should it be?"

Mo Chenhao blocked her way with his towering height and fixed his eyes on her. He was clearly denying her the chance to escape.

Mu Yangyang could feel the distinctive scent exuded from his body; a woody scent that smelled like fresh pine, yet it had scarcely nullified the intimidating effect he had imposed on her.

Her heart was pounding wildly in her chest. She feared that every word she uttered would only make her more vulnerable.

It dawned on her that "Mo Zhenxuan" was not just any half-witted blockhead. She had grossly underestimated his alertness and intelligence.

"Trying to act dumb?" Mo Chenhao eased a step back.

Mu Yangyang thought he was finally letting her off, but her muscles stiffened again the next second.

"Go and clean up your face." Mo Chenhao ordered in a nonchalant tone.

Mu Yangyang bit her lip as she tried to think of a way through. She tossed her head towards the entrance and shouted, "Father?" and feigned a surprised look on her face.

"Come on." Mo Chenhao snorted, "These tricks will only work on a five-year-old kid."

Contrary to his expectations, Mu Yangyang's demeanor did not seem like one who would be flushed with guilt when caught red-handed; she gave a perplexed frown instead.

Mo Chenhao began to doubt himself. When he turned around to quell his suspicion, what greeted him was just thin air.

Mu Yangyang seized the opportunity and dashed out.

Her nimbleness caught him by surprise. Mo Chenhao thought of giving chase but soon gave up the idea.

"Be patient." He told himself, "Time is on my side."

He returned to his table and carried on with his meal. The food was much tastier and yummy; a far cry from those made by the subordinates.

Mu Yangyang scrambled back to her room, shut the door, and leaned against it to support herself while she tried to catch her breath.

That creepy "Mo Zhenxuan" had just scared the wits out of her.

Though it wasn't her deliberate intention to turn herself into an ugly duckling, she reckoned it would be hard to come up with a clean explanation without raising some eyebrows.

After the horrendous experience, "Mo Zhenxuan" would appear under her radar as the most dangerous person on earth. Unless he moves out of here, she would need to start looking for a new place soon.

Perplexed and out of sorts, she washed herself up and slumped into her bed. The phone rang - it was Shen Yu.

"Yangyang, there's an announcement on Mu's official website about the video clip. They'll be giving a press conference to the public on the whole incident. What are they trying to do here?"

"What else can it be?" Mu Yangyang puffed with contempt, "All they want to is to put me in front of the media and say that this was nothing but a 'misunderstanding'."

"But that clip is ironclad evidence!" Shen Yu exclaimed. "How could they expect you to account for it? They are just trying to make you the scapegoat."

"Whatever." Mu Yangyang shrugged her shoulders.

It seemed like Shen Yu was the one who was seeking solace instead of her. When she finally managed to calm down and hung up, she turned on her computer and went online. The clarification announcement posted on Mu's official website flashed across her eyes.

Someone from the Mu family would be looking for her tomorrow.

The next morning, Mu Yangyang received a call from Mu Liyan. This was just what Mu Yangyang had expected.

"We'll be having a new product launch today. You'd better be there at the press conference and take the opportunity to give an explanation about the video clip as well."

"Sure." Mu Yangyang responded obsequiously.

Before heading out, Mu Yangyang popped her head out of the doorway to check that nobody resembling the form of "Mo Zhenxuan" was around. Only when his absence was confirmed, she grabbed her bag and boldly stepped out of her room.

She took a few quick bites whilst on her way to the press conference.

Xiao Chuhe was already standing at the entrance as if her feet were on hot coals. She was anxiously waiting for her to show up.

When Mu Yangyang finally turned up, she went up to her with a moan, "What took you so long? And why did you put on a mask?"

"I'm just... a bit down with the flu." Mu Yangyang deliberately kept her voice low and faked a few dry coughs.

Pressed for time, Xiao Chuhe did not pursue further and dragged her to a meeting room.

Both Mu Liyan and Mu Yumei were already waiting there.

"Use this to answer any questions the reporters might ask," Mu Yumei threw a pile of papers on the table. "What should be said and what's not to be said are all written down."

A mocking grin escaped from Mu Yangyang's lips when she glanced through the pile of papers.

What was written in them, essentially, was to shift all the blame to her. From the post on Weibo to the video clip saga that followed - were all nothing but her own fabrications.

How thoughtful of them! She thought to herself. This would only benefit her career as a screenwriter in the future. It would still put her under the limelight, albeit she would only be working behind the scenes. Oh, that would have made complete sense.

Just then, Mu Liyan's assistant came to the door and notified everybody, "Everything is ready, President Mu."

"Okay." Mu Liyan answered and cast a stern glance at Mu Yangyang, "Have you memorized everything from the draft? Don't bother if you couldn't remember. Just admit it's all your fault."

"Yes." Mu Yangyang nodded subserviently like a little puppy.

Just as the door was swung open, a bunch of reporters swarmed in.

Mu Yangyang was certain that they had already made a pact with Mu Liyan to exclude anything that differed from what had been written in the draft.

As a student from the movie academy, Mu Yangyang knew a fair bit about the entertainment business. She threw a glance across the room, and a familiar mark on some of the reporters' microphones caught her attention - they belonged to the flagship company of Sheng Ding Media Group.

Notorious for their affluence and snobbery, Sheng Ding Media was the largest conglomerate within its industry; even their employees were arrogantly rude. They might not be easily swayed by bribery.

Their microphones - marked with Sheng Ding's label - had already squeezed their way to the front row and placed right next to Mu Yangyang, when the interview had even barely started.

"Ms. Mu, is it true that you were coerced into marrying Mo Chenhao? Those things that you and your sister, Mu Yumei had said in that video clip - were they all true?"

Mu Yangyang froze her gaze at the reporter who asked the question. It was as if he was speaking an alien language. The silence persisted a few seconds before she finally reacted and tumbled out the words, "No. I married out of my own will."

The reporters were flustered and began whispering among themselves. Her response had only fueled the curiosity of these people as they have long heard that the third daughter of the Mu family had a loose screw.

Those murmurs began to weave their way into the ears of Mu Liyan and the three who were standing at the side. A thin smile flashed across their faces. They were pleased with what they heard.

"Do you mean that your marriage to Mo Chenhao, on behalf of your sister, was nothing more than your own avarice?"

"But she's your sister, how could you do this to her? Besides, given your looks, do you think Mo Chenhao would genuinely fall for you?"

"No wonder your mother has given up on you. How could you be so shameless to scheme on your sister and snatched away her fiancé?"

"Have you been so twisted ever since you were a kid?"

The reporters bombarded her with a successive string of vicious questions that was akin to personal attacks.

One of them went even further. "Is it true that Mo Chenhao is impotent? So you're willing to spend the rest of your life as a living widow for the sake of money? Or you would just look for some hunky guys from outside to whet your appetite?"

Some people would simply stop at nothing to grab headlines. She sighed to herself.

Mu Yangyang turned towards the reporter who asked the question; her lower face hidden by the mask while her bangs covered her scalp to just above her eyebrows. What only surfaced was her pair of sparkling eyes that radiated like a diamond in a velvety, dark night.

The reporter was starting to feel uneasy under her pensive gaze.

Mu Yangyang paused for a while before she finally spoke, "Perhaps you are like those who'd love to poke into the intimacy of married couples. But I'm not going to talk about such matters regarding me and my husband under the public eye. I have my own pride."

The reporter turned red-faced whilst the others giggled and chuckled.

Chapter 32

Through her words, Mu Yangyang had implicitly implied that the reporter should feel shameless for probing into the intimate affairs of a married couple.

The reporter himself was well aware of the satirical connotation in her words.

In reality, all the reporters at the scene had been bribed by Mu Liyan to seek vindication for Mu Yumei and blame everything on Mu Yangyang. This anomalous reporter, however, had deviated the subject on Mo Chenhao in a bid to grab attention.

Given their wealth and influence, few would have dared to antagonize the Mo family. Nevertheless, there would still be people who were willing to bet on their luck and take a swipe at them.

Utterly humiliated, the reporter hit back, "Take a look at yourself; what on earth do you think Mo Chenhao married you for?" He sneered, "What's fidelity mean to a person like you, who'd stooped so low to snatch away your sister's fiancé?

Even though she had yet to see how Mo Chenhao really looked like, Mu Yangyang was reluctant to drag him into this mess.

Regardless of his weird character, which was said to be due to some incidents that happened in his earlier days, or even for that matter - whether he was indeed impotent - these were matters that shouldn't be laid out in the open and discussed publicly.

"Adultery? Tell me is there another man who is more promising than Mo Chenhao in the whole of Huyang City?" Mu Yangyang rebuked with a hearty smile. "I'm having a terrific time with my husband. You can check with him personally to verify that."

"You!"

The reporter had nothing else to rebuke. Mu Yangyang's composure left him speechless since he had expected to see her getting agitated and angry.

As for Mo Chenhao, they could forget about it. Who would have the guts to ask questions about his innermost privacy, not to mention that it was virtually impossible to get to see him in person?

It struck the rest of the reporters that they were not merely interviewing a neglected daughter from a family that ran a small enterprise. The lady sitting in front of them was the young mistress of the almighty Mo family.

Though she seemed to be the one less favored, how could you validate such rumors - which are bountiful in every family dynasty.

The reporters began to switch tactics and put on a more euphemistic tone.

"How was your relationship with your sister, Mu Yumei?"

"Well, I used to be fond of her when I was a kid," Mu Yangyang answered with ease. "But I don't feel the same anymore since I've grown older."

"Does your mother dote on both of you?"

"Oh yes, she's pretty nice." She answered with a patronizing tone. "Indeed, Xiao Chuhe had always been kind to my sister." Mu Yangyang remarked to herself.

"…"

The reporters suddenly remembered that they were supposed to direct their questions about the video clip saga. That was what they had been paid to do.

"There were some rumors on the internet about the video clip, saying you infuriated your sister on purpose, to let the paparazzi film it and put it online to cause a stir. The paparazzi were there because you have bribed them in advance."

Mu Yangyang waited for almost a minute before she acknowledged with a nod, "That's right."

When the reporters were gone, Mu Yumei charged towards her sister, "What took you so long to admit everything? Don't you know that you are supposed to admit everything all at once?" Her voice trembled, "You just did that on purpose, didn't you?"

Consumed with rage, she raised her hand and attempted to slap Mu Yangyang.

Mu Yangyang had already seen that coming and took a step back. Mu Yumei's slap landed on thin air.

"How dare you!" That further aggravated Mu Yumei; her eyes almost popped out of their sockets.

When she lifted her hand for the second time, Mu Liyan shouted and stopped her.

Mu Yumei's demeanor changed instantly when her father appeared. "Father, I knew she did that intentionally!" She turned to face him with her voice full of grievance, "She purposely hesitated and

took so long to respond when the reporters asked if she was the culprit."

Mu Liyan shot a glance at Mu Yangyang and suspicion etched all over his face.

He had heard what Mu Yangyang told the reporters when they ridiculed her. Her replies were subtle and tactful, and they could not have come from a fool's mouth.

Mu Yangyang took down her face mask and turned to her father, "Father, I'm getting a bit hungry now. I didn't have my breakfast this morning." She bit her lip nervously, "Can I...."

"Go," said Mu Liyan, before he turned to Xiao Chuhe. "You'll go with her and get some food for her."

Mu Yangyang walked out of the building with Xiao Chuhe trailing behind her.

"Yangyang." Xiao Chuhe caught up to her and grabbed her arm.

"What's the matter, mother?" Mu Yangyang acted nonchalantly.

"It's about Mo Chenhao.." Xiao Chuhe hesitated and kept her voice low. "Is everything alright with his body? Or is he really as "dysfunctional" as they have said...?"

Mu Yangyang had not expected this. She lowered her head with feigned shyness, "Mother, how could you ask such a thing?"

"You'd better come clean with me. Is there really something wrong with Mo Chenhao's body?" Xiao Chuhe said with a frown, "Do you think you'd be the chosen one if his body is perfect and fine? They had wanted your sister and not you."

Those words hit Mu Yangyang like a bombshell. She was genuinely shocked.

If she understood it correctly, what Xiao Chuhe meant was Mo Chenhao could divorce her if he wasn't "dysfunctional" and wed with Mu Yumei instead.

It hit her so bad that she almost went berserk. "Do you really believe that they'd want me or Mu Yumei if Mo Chenhao wasn't scar-faced or in any sense "dysfunctional"?" She said with a smirk, "Fat chance!"

All these years she kept her true self hidden behind a fawning facade in order to please Xiao Chuhe; she has outgrown her weariness to carry on with the acting.

"She's your sister, mind you." Xiao Chuhe reprimanded her for addressing her sister disrespectfully.

"Tell me then, ain't I your daughter too?" asked Mu Yangyang sarcastically.

"How can you speak in such a way, Yangyang?" Xiao Chuhe was visibly upset, "You have never spoken to

me like this before."

That's because I was foolish enough to put on such an act to please you. But I've had enough of it now. It's time to stop tormenting myself.

Reluctant to continue with the conversation anymore, Mu Yangyang turned and walked away. Xiao Chuhe trailed behind her and kept calling her name. She picked up her pace and soon disappeared among the crowds.

The pain in Mu Yangyang's heart was indescribable. Even though she kept telling herself not to think about it, the hurt lingered on. It had never left her.

She drifted along with the crowd absentmindedly and kept her head down while crossing the road.

A loud horn banged into her ears and she lifted her head. Unaware of the piece of rock under her feet, she tripped over it.

She fell hard on her knees. The pain was so acute that she let out an excruciating shriek, even though she had been wrapped in her thickest winter coat.

The car door flung opened and a man stepped out. A familiar voice rang in her ears before she could lift her eyes on him. "Mu Yangyang, look at the way you dash across the road. Are you trying to fake an injury and cheat compensation?"

Mu Yangyang could not believe her eyes. It was the last person she ever wanted to see. The man who was standing right in front of her was none other than "Mo Zhenxuan".

Bumping into him would only multiply her misery.

She endured the savage pain and picked herself up groggily. Just as she was about to turn and leave, a steady hand grabbed her by her arm and said, "Are you hurt?"

Mu Yangyang stood silent. She wanted to sling his hand away, but she didn't.

The next moment, she felt as though the ground was moving under her feet. Her legs wobbled and her body slumped like a deflated balloon. "Mo Zhenxuan" caught hold of her and carried her into his arms.

Chapter 33

Mu Yangyang unthinkingly wrapped her hands around his neck and nestled in his arms. When she gradually resumed her consciousness, she instantly put down her hands and went ballistic.

"Put me down, Mo Zhenxuan!" She kicked and yelled in his arms.

Mo Chenhao ignored her and held her tight in his arms. He opened the door at the side of his car and

stuffed her into the car.

Mu Yangyang thought she could escape once he had put her down onto the seat.

Mo Chenhao had already seen through her trick. He rested one hand on the frame and the other on the handle of the door. "If you dare to get off my car," He pressed near and puckered his lips. "See what I'll do to you."

"Disgusting!" Mu Yangyang pouted her lips repugnantly.

Mo Chenhao closed the door, got into the driver seat, and stepped on the pedal.

Mu Yangyang turned and looked away. The sight of him would only exacerbate her irritation.

Mo Chenhao kept his eyes on the traffic. He did not look at her either. "You haven't answered my question." He said indifferently.

Mu Yangyang replayed the earlier incident inside her head. He had asked her if she was trying to fake injury when she dashed across the road, to cheat compensation.

Infuriated, she turned and glared at him. "Looks like the real cheater is you."

"Do you think I would dare to do that?" Mo Chenhao responded with an ironic sneer. "Everybody knows that you're married to the most promising man in the whole of Huyang City."

Though it sounded like a mock, there seemed a sense of dignified pride in his tone.

All in all, she found him inexplicably weird.

She observed him in discreet. Apart from the feigned "aristocratic" demeanor that he had tried to imitate, he was no different from any normal human being.

She was equally surprised that he already knew what she had said during the interview, given that it had just finished. She wondered if Mo Chenhao might have seen it too.

The thought made her uncomfortable.

The Mo family had made their stand clear. Apart from taking down some search queries on Mo Chenhao on the internet, they had not taken any further steps. So long as Mo Chenhao was not involved, they would not want to be entangled in the mess between her family and herself.

She feared she might have overstepped the line during the press conference with the answers she gave to the reporters when they asked about Mo Chenhao. She dreaded to think how he would react to them.

She figured that perhaps "Mo Zhenxuan" might know a thing or two. "Talking about the interview," She uttered the words slowly, "Have your cousin seen it too?"

Mo Chenhao could tell that she was unsure. He peered at her with a surprised look and blinked his eyes. "Of course."

"What was his reaction?" Mu Yangyang probed further.

"Absolutely pissed off." Mo Chenhao replied impassively.

Mu Yangyang felt her heartbeat doubled, and her stress level tripled.

She glanced out of the window and saw the car traveling on a different route. She turned cautious. "Where are you taking me? Take me back to the villa now."

Mo Chenhao ignored her. He stopped the car in front of a clinic.

He got out of the car, walked across, and opened the door for her. "Can you walk? Or do you need me to carry you?"

Mu Yangyang instantly bent over and scrambled out of the car.

"Getting some medicine?" asked Mu Yangyang when she saw him walking straight into the clinic.

He remained muted and walked straight up to the doctor.

"Could you please take a look at her? She had sprained her ankle." Mu Yangyang finally caught up with him and heard what he said.

It came as a surprise.

She had never expected "Mo Zhenxuan" would take her to the clinic to check on her injury.

The doctor threw a glance at Mu Yangyang when he heard about what had happened to her. "Come in and let me take a look." He indicated to her gently. "Where do you feel uncomfortable?"

"It's okay. I'm alright. I'm fine..." Mu Yangyang stuttered and turned unruly towards "Mo Zhenxuan".

There was scarcely an expression on his face. When he was quiet, he exuded an appeal that was noble and elegant. His deep eyes bore a silvery gleam that was intense and serious. He didn't look an inch like those flamboyant pleasure-seekers.

The "Mo Zhenxuan" that she had just seen terrified her.

Hearing what she had said, the doctor shot a glance at Mo Chenhao, turned, and said to her smilingly, "Your boyfriend is simply worried about you, just let me take a look."

"No. We are not what you think." Mu Yangyang corrected him straightaway.

Mo Chenhao seemed to have other thoughts. He pointed to a female doctor a few yards away and said, "Let the lady doctor look at her instead."

The doctor smiled understandably and signaled for the female doctor to come over.

The female doctor came over and could not contain her blushes when she saw Mo Chenhao. She rolled up the edge of Mu Yangyang's pants and checked on her knee.

When she saw Mu Yangyang's fair and slender leg, she sighed as though she had seen a beautiful piece of art. "You do have great legs."

Mu Yangyang hastily rolled down the edge of her pants. The sight of "Mo Zhenxuan" staring down at her made her felt uneasy.

Though her kneecap had swollen a little, she did not consider that as an injury. She could not understand why he had to make such a big fuss out of it.

Just when she lifted her head, her eyes met the gaze of "Mo Zhenxuan".

He swiped a glance over her knee and passed a casual remark. "Quite strong bones you have."

He imagined the injury to be much more serious when he saw the way she fell flat onto the ground.

His comments sounded like anything but a sardonic remark; it sounded more like a sigh of relief.

Though her legs seemed alright, the doctor gave her some cream to take back and apply them to her knees.

When Mo Chenhao stepped out of the clinic and went for his car, Mu Yangyang did not follow suit. She was still standing at the entrance of the clinic when he opened the door for her.

He turned around and squinted at her. "Too painful to walk? Or you'd like me to carry you?"

Mu Yangyang was fuming inside. She would never describe herself as mild-tempered, but she had never met a guy as shameless as "Mo Zhenxuan" who could drive her mad with such ease.

She gave him a stern look and said, "Thanks for sending me here. Just leave me here and I'll go back on my own."

Mo Chenhao was admiring her enduring expression and leaned himself against the car casually. "I'm in no hurry, just grabbing a bite with my friends. Why don't you come along?"

Mu Yangyang turned abruptly and walked away.

She knew it was impossible to reason out with this man. What she could not understand was why did he keep pestering her.

Perhaps he had a peculiar taste for hideous things?

After a few steps, she could sense "Mo Zhenxuan" at her heels again.

He seemed to be making a call.

"Yes cousin, I've just happened to run into your wife here. Would you mind if I take her out for lunch before I send her home? Since we see each other all the time, you know..."

Mu Yangyang paused and turn around to face the half-smiling look on "Mo Zhenxuan"'s face. The threat was obvious.

She was certain that he would not shy from even nastier threats if she continued to ignore him. Maybe something along the lines of "Your wife is trying to lure me."

She clamped her hands tight, sucked in a big gulp of air, turned, and walked back to him.

His eyes gleamed with content. "Please get into the car first, sister-in-law. I'm still on the line with my cousin."

He peeped at his phone after he watched her got into the car. The screen on the phone was locked - there weren't any calls.

Chapter 34

The car stopped in front of a secluded high-end club for members.

Mu Yangyang was just about to unbuckle her seatbelt. She stared quizzically at "Mo Zhenxuan" when she saw the place.

Are we really going to have our lunch here? Or is he here to have fun?

Mo Chenhao cast a nonchalant gaze at her and got out of the car.

She shrugged and followed him into the club.

"Welcome, sir." Mo Chenhao was greeted unctuously by the waiter when he stepped into the restaurant. But when Mu Yangyang appeared at the same entrance ten seconds later, the waiter put up his hand and stopped her.

He inspected her from head to toe; his glare full of hostility. "What are you doing here?"

Mu Yangyang reflected on her appearance - perhaps a little too plain and rustic for such a place. Nevertheless, she did not let it bother her. "I'm here for lunch."

She thought that her answer should suffice her entry into the club. But she was stopped by the waiter again. "We are a high-end members' club and we cater only to a specific class of clients."

He had seen countless women walked through that door who were essentially "gold-diggers" chasing after rich men. But he had never seen a "gold-digger" as ugly and unpresentable as this one. She would be mirch the club's reputation if she was allowed in.

Mu Yangyang reciprocated with a snub. She had no inclination of dining in such a snobbish place either.

Mo Chenhao turned around and noticed that Mu Yangyang had not followed behind him. As he turned and walked back for her, he overheard what the waiter had said.

He strode across, pulled her over to his side, and stared bluntly at the waiter. "What's your name?"

The discerning waiter knew he was in trouble. Through his years of working here, many of the clientele of this club were well-heeled and influential.

Daunted by Mo Chenhao's towering frame and imposing presence, the waiter stammered out his name. "My name is B.....Bing."

Mo Chenhao shot him a stern glance. Without saying a word, he took Mu Yangyang's hand and strode into the club.

Given his tall frame and long legs, she almost tumbled and fell when she tried to catch up with his pace.

Contrary to his wild, flamboyant demeanor, there was warmth and comfort in his thick and sturdy palms. When she looked at his back, her eyes were mesmerized by his broad and square shoulders.

Apart from Shen Yu, this was the first time she felt safe and protected.

Ding!

The sound of the approaching elevator pulled her back to reality.

She lifted her head and saw Mo Chenhao looking straight at her with an enigmatic charm.

His look sent waves of impulses through her body; she drew away her hand immediately and scrambled into the elevator.

She could not believe that "Mo Zhenxuan" had held her hand for such a length of time...

Inside the elevator, Mu Yangyang stood at the farthest spot away from him.

"Why are you standing so far away from me?" Mo Chenhao asked in his deep, low voice. "Are you afraid I'll eat you up?"

Mu Yangyang turned away and ignored him.

Mu Yangyang was hoping for some breathing space when they finally found their VIP room. To her dismay, someone was already waiting in the room.

The man in the room was dressed in a striped suit with a pair of delicate gold-rimmed glasses on his nose. His attractive features were gentle and soft, and his demeanor was refined and gracious.

Everyone in the entertainment business knew who he was - the CEO of Sheng Ding Media Group, Gu Zhiyan.

Gu Zhiyan noticed her surprised look. He turned and offered her a gentle smile.

Mo Chenhao pulled out a chair, made her sat down, and briefly introduced her to Gu Zhiyan. "This is my sister-in-law."

Gu Zhiyan's eyes popped as if he had just heard the most hilarious piece of news. He held a bemused look in his eyes and addressed her respectfully as "Mrs. Mo."

Mu Yangyang found the situation somewhat queer. Nevertheless, she reciprocated politely with "Mr. Gu."

So this ugly duckling knew Gu Zhiyan? Mo Chenhao frowned to himself. He threw the menu to her disinterestedly and said, "Order your food."

Mu Yangyang was baffled. She did not know why he acted this way. But she did not want to create a fuss with a stranger around. So she kept quiet and studied the menu.

Mo Chenhao's mobile phone buzzed. A message appeared on the screen.

Mo Chenhao checked his phone. The message was sent by Gu Zhiyan: Still play-acting with your wife?

The message only aggravated Mo Chenhao's displeasure after he felt that they seemed to know each other. He stretched out his leg and kicked at Gu Zhiyan's hind leg.

"Ooh..." Gu Zhiyan let out a restrained groan. He had not anticipated Mo Chenhao would kick him with such force. But since Mu Yangyang was around, he had no other choice but to quietly sucked it up.

Mu Yangyang could feel the table shook. She lifted her head and gave a dubious look at Mo Chenhao.

Mo Chenhao's demeanor took a drastic change. He moved towards her, placed his hand over her shoulder, and looked straight into her eyes. "So have you decided what you'd like to eat?" His tone turned tender and soft, instantaneously.

"Yes, I've decided." Mu Yangyang cringed at the touch of his hand and put the menu away as far as she could.

When their food came, "Mo Zhenxuan"

finally put a stop to his erratic behavior. He chatted casually with Gu Zhiyan throughout the whole meal.

Mu Yangyang could tell that they were good friends.

Throughout the whole meal, she kept her head down and crammed down her food as quickly as she could. When she was done, she gave some excuse and ducked out of the restaurant.

When Mu Yangyang had finally left, Gu Zhiyan let out a huge sigh of relief and took down his glasses. "What a great time you're having out there. Play-acting with your wife without a care in the world." He seemed a completely changed person now, talking in a surly tone. "How could you leave everything to me and made me work like a dog all by myself? These glasses are a joke. I had to put them on every day and try to act mature. What a pain!" He ranted. "I've had enough! I need a vacation."

Mo Chenhao was unmoved. "What vacation are you talking about? The CEO of Sheng Ding Media would never take any vacation. Even country bumpkins like Mu Yangyang know who you are, doesn't that make you happy and vow to work even harder?"

"Come on! Do you know how many people adored me on Weibo? Any Tom, Dick or Harry would know me." Gu Zhiyan rebutted. "Moreover, you are the real boss of Sheng Ding Media. I'm just an employee hired by you."

Gu Zhiyan's anger was simmering, and his cheeks slowly turned red. "If you still refused to come back and help out, I'll blow the matter up!" He threatened, "I will jump down from the balcony of our office!"

Mo Chenhao had grown immune to threats like these; he hears them at least thrice a day from Gu Zhiyan.

He lifted his glass leisurely and took a few sips before he switched to another topic. "Are you really sure about that? Our HR department did not receive any job application from Mu Yangyang?"

"I've asked my secretary to check with them every day." Gu Zhiyan answered surly, "Nothing."

Talking about Mu Yangyang, Gu Zhiyan's curiosity was aroused. "How can you stand the sight of your wife? She is so..."

"So what?" Mo Chenhao cast him a cold stare.

"So...so adorable, beautiful and graceful.." Gu Zhiyan's attitude took a stark turn.

"Hey, are you blind?" asked Mo Chenhao, sarcastically.

"....." Gu Zhiyan was loss for words. What else more could I say? Either way you'll be grossed!

He sensed that Mo Chenhao had become eccentric and weird since his marriage.

Before leaving the restaurant, Mo Chenhao seemed to remember something. He turned to Gu Zhiyan and said lightheartedly, "By the way, there's a waiter here by the name of Bing...Sack him!"

It was already mid-afternoon by the time Mu Yangyang returned to the villa.

She entered the villa with Mo Chenhao returning shortly thereafter.

"Is Young Master home today?" She asked immediately upon entering the house.

"No. He's not in." The bodyguards answered without twitching a muscle. After repeating the same lie over and over again, they had all became professional liars and became immune to it.

Back in her room, Mu Yangyang slouched on her bed as she tried to ready herself to face Mo Chenhao. She expected him to be back anytime soon, and he might question her about the interview.

Her thoughts somehow drifted to "Mo Zhenxuan".

He was so abnormal today, and he was so nice and gentle all of a sudden.....

Chapter 35

Mu Yangyang had yet to watch the interview herself. She hardly had the chance to do so, since she had been pestered by "Mo Zhenxuan".

She turned on her laptop and went online. Multiple media companies had already reported about the interview. Even more had been replicated by what had been known as "Verified Internet Celebrities" on Weibo; those who were merely targeting to solicit more viewers to their websites.

The majority of them ridiculed her. Those who were more rational, however, tried to dissect the meaning of her answers.

"Should have known that it was all her fabrication. Those who had pitied her initially should be kicking themselves by now."

"Why did she put on a mask? She thinks that she is a big shot?"

"Is it only me who thinks that she was in fact pretty cool? Look at the way she snubbed those reporters?"

"I don't think she'd admitted that she had stolen her sister's fiancé...."

Mu Yangyang smiled to herself when she read the last comment.

That was her strategy. She had given them ambiguous answers, which were anything but the exact answer. Otherwise, that would have given Mu Yumei an excuse in the future to threaten her if she had admitted to snatching Mo Chenhao away from her sister.

Mu Yangyang continued to read the remaining comments with great enthusiasm.

"Looks like this will be our major blockbuster for this year. I bet there will be further episodes. I'd better get my popcorns ready before the next episode."

Mu Yangyang thought about her family members. Having seen through their real faces, she would never be the same complaisant daughter anymore, who would give in to their every demand. She anticipated more drama to evolve in the coming days.

Soon after, all the comments about her had turned to criticisms and condemnations.

She knew it must had been the work of Mu Yumei.

Such minor moves could hardly affect her.

Having stayed together with her for such a long time, she could easily retaliate by digging out some of Mu Yumei's past deeds, especially those rotten ones.

"Leave them alone for one more day," she told herself. I'll hang out all their dirty laundry tomorrow.

This would ensure Mu Yumei would never have the opportunity to clear her rotten reputation.

After browsing through a couple more comments, she logged into her mailbox. There was an unread email.

She opened it up and gasped in surprise.

It was an interview request from Sheng Ding Media Group.

But did she send her resume to Sheng Ding Media? She doubted.

She checked her outbox several times, and she was sure that she did not send any resume to Sheng Ding Media. Right at that moment, she was baffled.

The face of Gu Zhiyan surfaced in her mind; she recalled how "Mo Zhenxuan" had introduced her to Gu Zhiyan when they met at lunch today...

But she could see that the email was sent at nine am in the morning. That was when she was still stuck in the interview.

She decided to ask "Mo Zhenxuan" about this.

In the hall, Mo Chenhao was on the sofa playing games on his handphone.

Shi Ye stood behind him to answer the call and turned to speaker mode.

The call was from Gu Zhiyan. He was ranting and raving in his high-pitched voice. "Those directors are idiots! The minute I'd stepped out for lunch with your Young Master, they almost turned the company upside down." He raged on, "You'd better tell your Young Master to get back to work, otherwise I would really jump from the balcony here."

Shi Ye stole a glance at Mo Chenhao, who was still meddling with his phone. "Young Master is busy now." He replied indifferently.

Gu Zhiyan refused to budge as he knew Shi Ye was lying. "Busy? What is he busy with? Switch to video call and show me."

Mo Chenhao had been listening. "Turn it on." He said.

Shi Ye twitched at the side of his lips. He dreaded to think of what will be Gu Zhiyan's reaction.

He switched to video mode using the rear camera.

"Playing games!" Gu Zhiyan shot up from his seat to almost ten-foot-high when he saw Mo Chenhao was playing games. "That's what you called "busy"? What about me?" His voice faltering, "I am at war with these "dinosaurs" every day in the office. I'm on the verge of losing my mind."

"I see," said Mo Chenhao, who was devoid of emotion. He was about to go back to his games when he

heard footsteps coming down the stairs. He turned around and saw Mu Yangyang making her way down the staircase.

Mo Chenhao made a quick gesture to Shi Ye. The servant instantly turned off the speaker mode and tried to get Gu Zhiyan off the phone. "I've got to hang up now, President Gu."

Gu Zhiyan knew Mu Yangyang was in the hall now as he saw her coming down the stairs in that video call. The bizarre relationship between Mu Yangyang and Mo Chenhao had aroused his deep interest, and he didn't want to miss the opportunity. He warned Shi Ye, "You'd better not hang up on me, or I'll never let you off. I'd really jump."

Shi Ye knew very well in his heart that Gu Yanzhi was just a paper tiger. He would not even harm a single hair on his body if he would really hang up on him. But Shi Ye had unfashionably acceded to Gu Yanzhi's demand and kept the camera on.

Mu Yangyang had come out of her room and stood at the balcony. She was looking around for "Mo Zhenxuan". When she saw him in the hall, she descended the stairs to the ground floor. She had not noticed Shi Ye's presence until she came near to the area where he stood.

Shi Ye, however, was busily texting with the phone in his hand and did not seem to notice her at all. She decided it should be safe and walked towards "Mo Zhenxuan".

She sat down at the chair facing him and said, "I have something to ask you."

Mo Chenhao shot her a quick glance and continued meddling with his phone. "What is it?"

She tried to pick her words carefully, "You seem to know Mister Gu very well. Are you both good friends?"

Mo Chenhao stopped meddling with his phone and tossed it to one side. The pause had cost him his game; the enemy killed his hero.

He looked at her with a half-smile, "What about him? Are you interested in him?"

Mu Yangyang frowned with displeasure. "Do you always have to talk in such a way?"

Mo Chenhao leaned back against the sofa and stretched out his arms. "Come over here." He signaled to the seat next to him in a domineering tone.

"Forget about it." Mu Yangyang stood up and was on the verge of giving up.

"You have been looking for a job recently. I guessed it must be about the interview request." Just when she was about to make her way up the stairs, came the deep voice of Mo Chenhao.

She paused and turned around with question marks flashing in her eyes. "How did you know that?"

"Gu Zhiyan told me that he needed some fresh faces in his company. So he had selected some high school graduates and offered them the opportunity to join his company."

Mo Chenhao rested his eyes on her and looked at her from top to toe with surmise and asked dubiously, "Don't tell me you are one of those?"

Though he had acted indifferently, Mu Yangyang could still spot a tinge of contempt between his eyes.

She curled her lips with a scarcely perceptible smile. "What makes you think I'd be interested?"

Without waiting for him to respond, she headed for the stairs.

As Mo Chenhao watched her silhouette disappeared under the dimly-lit staircase, he sat motionless like a statue. A glittering smile lit up his face amidst the fading evening light.

He was astounded by the grit and fortitude from this hideous woman that made her dare to defy him and even challenge him.

Knowing the temperament of his master, Shi Ye could tell that the atmosphere had turned frosty; Mo Chenhao was enraged.

He was more dismayed to find that Gu Zhiyan had already hung up before he did.

But it did not take too long for the phone to ring again.

Mo Chenhao checked the number. It came from Gan Zhiyan.

He picked up the phone and said icily, "Go ahead if you want to jump from the balcony. Don't even bother to inform me."

What came the reply was a series of hysterical laughter from Gu Zhiyan. "Hahahaha...This is what you deserved for taking advantage of me all the time!" He said in a gratifying tone, "So you thought your wife would thank you when you just pull some strings and offer her a job? Huh! She didn't have the slightest interest. I bet you must be fuming like a boiling kettle now...hahaha..."

"I just couldn't control myself when I think of your angry face. I could laugh till my stomach hurt..."

Mo Chenhao gave a wry smile and said, "If that's the case, I'd better wait until she joins the company before I return to work."

Gu Zhiyan's euphoria was short-lived. "Okay. I'm sorry..."

The response he could get was the monotonous tone of a deadline.

Chapter 36

At the Mu family villa, Mu Yumei sat on the sofa while scrolling on her phone. She had spent money to make sure that Mu Yangyang's interview found its way to the top of the trending topics. Plus, she also paid a huge group of Internet ghostwriters to scold Mu Yangyang in the comments below. Right now, even those websites that had different opinions had caused the beginning of a defection.

She could not help but feel that when she was photographed by the paparazzi, it had something to do with Mu Yangyang.

She was elated about the fact that Mu Yangyang was being humiliated.

It didn't matter that she was photographed by the paparazzi since there was no solid proof about the content of their conversation. However, that Mu Yangyang had actually admitted to sensationalism right in front of the media.

Who did that ugly woman think she was, trying to go up against her?

Mu Yumei surfed the Internet for a while before heading to bed contentedly.

However, something happened in the middle of the night while she was sound asleep.

A rather close friend called her up and said, "Yumei, someone has just exposed some of your videos and pictures, and they are now on the top of the news. What happened? Did you offend someone?"

When she heard "videos and photos", she had an ominous feeling inside her.

Frustrated, she grabbed at her own hair while logged online with her phone.

The entire Internet was talking about her. Her indecent photos and videos went viral overnight.

Even though the Mu family was not as prominent as the Mo family, they were still considered a fairly well-known enterprise. In this circle, many women from wealthy backgrounds like Mu Yumei were party animals. On the surface, they were graceful socialites; but behind closed doors, they slept with different men, did drugs, and pretty much everything else.

Mu Yumei's hands trembled as she mumbled, "How did this happen..."

Many netizens sent her private messages to scold her.

"Whore! Shameless!"

"And you still had the cheek to let your sister go out to take the blame?"

She was fuming with rage and scolded back every single one of them.

Suddenly, she thought of Shen Haochu.

It was the middle of the night now, so he shouldn't have seen those videos and pictures.

If he saw them, it'd be over for them.

She changed her clothes and went to knock on Mu Liyan's door, "Father, quickly help me get rid of the trending topic..."

On the other side, Mu Yangyang was snuggled up in her bed while having a video chat with Shen Yu.

Shen Yu was a school bully back then. Now that she was a celebrity, she looked reserved on the surface, but she was still the same troublemaker inside.

She read the netizens' comments excitedly.

"I've always thought that Mu Yumei wasn't anything great, but she still had so many supporters!"

"She looks quite demure. Who would have thought that she would be so promiscuous?"

"My conspiracy theory is that her sister married into the Mo family because they knew that Mu Yumei was sleeping around out there. I heard that her sister was not as good looking, but at least she still has her innocence. Who would want someone pretty, but acts like the public transit?"

Shen Yu thought that this comment was quite logical too. "Yang Yang, I think this netizen is making quite a lot of sense. Do you think that the Mo family had known all along about what Mu Yumei was up to out there?"

Mu Yangyang frowned slightly. She had never thought about it that way before.

She laughed and said, "No matter what, this situation is up Mu Yumei's alley. She can now be together with Shen Haochu with zero stress and pressure."

Shen Yu and Shen Haochu were distantly related. She snorted a little and said, "Shen Haochu may be retarded, but I don't think he would want to marry a 'public transit'."

Since Mu Yangyang and Shen Yu had stayed up all night chitchatting, Mu Yangyang woke up a little later than usual the next day.

When she switched on her computer and logged online, she realized that Mu Yumei's indecent photos

and videos on the trending topics had already been taken down. The related hashtags had also been removed.

She didn't need to guess to know that this was Mu Liyan's work.

Since she was a child, Mu Liyan barely spoke to her, but he really loved Mu Yumei.

So what if they had deleted the trending topic? Many of the nosy netizens had already screenshot the pictures and videos. As the news spread from one to many, it was just impossible to contain it.

Just when she had completed her morning routine and had changed for the day, she received Shen Yu's phone call.

She sounded like she was about to explode when she said, "Now that the 'public transit's' trending topic has been taken down, I'm going to pay to push it up to the top once again!"

Shen Yu had given Mu Yumei a new nickname, 'public transit'.

Mu Yangyang comforted her, "Don't act so rashly. Mu Yumei's reputation is already tainted now. You have a new movie coming up, and you'd definitely attract a lot of attention later. If people find out that you have been sponsoring trending topics, it won't look good on you."

Shen Yu reluctantly agreed before saying, "Come out for lunch. I'm going back to the drama team tomorrow. I'll pick you up."

"All right."

When Mu Yangyang walked past Mo Chenhao's study, she could not help but halted her steps.

She hadn't seen Mo Chenhao yesterday and did not know if "Mo Zhenxuan" was lying about him being angry.

Suddenly, the door to the study opened from the inside.

Mu Yangyang took a step back in shock and faced "Mo Zhenxuan's" emotionless face the moment she lifted her head.

Slightly taken aback, she asked, "Your cousin....is he here?"

"Is there something wrong?" Mo Chenhao closed the door and looked at her while leaning against the door frame.

He looked a little pale and generally lacking in energy, but his black eyes still looked as deep as ever.

Mu Yangyang shook her head and said, "No, it's nothing."

She then turned to head downstairs after saying that.

Suddenly, from behind her, she heard a loud thud. It sounded like something heavy had hit the ground.

Mu Yangyang turned her head to find that "Mo Zhenxuan", who had been standing up, was now on the floor.

Mu Yangyang ran to him and tried to help him get up, "Mo Zhenxuan, what happened?"

Even though she hated him, she still could not just stand aside and ignore him when something's definitely askew.

It was only upon a closer look that she realized that his face was completely pale. His eyes were lightly shut, and his long eyelashes created a fan-like shadow on his face. Suddenly, he looked a lot more obedient than usual.

She reached out to touch his forehead and noticed that it was hot to the touch.

There was no way she could carry a large 6'3 "Mo Zhenxuan". She then ran to the staircase and shouted, "Is there anyone there? Come up here quick, Mo Zhenxuan had fainted!"

The bodyguards immediately came up and brought Mo Chenhao into his room. Soon, a doctor came to check on him.

Mu Yangyang stood at the side and watched them busied themselves. It was weird that Mo Chenhao was not around. Thus, she felt that there was nothing else for her to do, so she thought she should leave.

Shi Ye came in hurriedly and stopped her immediately when she saw that Mu Yangyang was about to leave. "Ma'am, can you stay back to take care of Young Master?"

It sounded a little strange to Mu Yangyang to hear him being addressed as "Young Master", but she did not think too much about it.

"But I have something to do." Mu Yangyang glanced at the time as she expected Shen Yu to arrive soon.

"Mother, no, I beg you...."

Mo Chenhao began to sleep talk from the bed.

Mu Yangyang turned around and saw his panic-stricken face. He clenched his jaw tightly and looked so fragile that she finally softened her heart and agreed to Shi Ye's request.

There was no maid in the villa, and the bodyguards were all crude and careless, so they wouldn't be able to take care of him properly either.

Chapter 37

The doctor gave Mo Chenhao a shot for his fever, and his condition began to stabilize.

Mu Yangyang brought a towel to help "Mo Zhenxuan" wiped away the beads of cold sweat forming on his forehead as everyone else in the room had left.

She then felt that it was a little strange. The other day at the restaurant, Shi Ye saw her falling into "Mo Zhenxuan's" arms, but he didn't say anything about it. And right now, he still asked her to care for "Mo Zhenxuan" without any attempt to be cautious at all.

"Mother..."

"Mo Zhenxuan" began sleep talking again. Just as Mu Yangyang was about to pull her hand away, he grabbed her.

Mu Yangyang struggled to get away from his grip, but she soon realized that his clasp was as tight as a pair of pliers, and she could not free herself from his grasp.

She then glared at him in annoyance, "I am not your mother, so let go!"

In his sleepy blurry state, he did not hear her at all, so he merely gripped her hands tightly while his furrowed eyebrows slowly relaxed and his breathing returned to normal again.

At this moment, Shen Yu called her.

"Liang, are you here?"

"I'm in front of the villa. Where are you?"

Mu Yangyang lowered her head to take a look at "Mo Zhenxuan", who was sleeping soundly with his hands tightly clasping onto hers. She had no choice but to instruct Shi Ye to let Shen Yu in to meet her.

Shen Yu's eyes widened in surprise when she walked in, "Didn't you say that Mo Chenhao was really ugly? You call this ugly?"

Behind her, Shi Ye tensed up suddenly and explained, "This is Young Master's cousin, Mo Zhenxuan."

"Cousin?" Shen Yu glanced at Shi Ye. "Then, why is he not letting go of Yangyang's hand? Shouldn't there be some boundaries between a sister-in-law and a cousin?"

Shi Ye was dumbfounded by her questions.

Mu Yangyang heard that and could not help but look at Shi Ye. These were the exact questions in her mind too.

After a long while, Shi Ye finally said, "The oldest sister-in-law is like a mother."

Mu Yangyang feigned a smile and looked at Shi Ye, "Is that why he called me mother just now?"

Young Master, please wake up soon! I can't take this any longer!

Shi Ye made up an excuse to slip out of the room.

"Take a seat first. We will go out and eat in a short while." Mu Yangyang patted the chair next to her.

Shen Yu sat down before moving in closer to examine "Mo Zhenxuan".

Shen Yu had seen countless good-looking men and women in the entertainment industry, but she still could not stop her surprise when she saw his face. "Damn, the Mo family's genes are good. He is so good looking. Is he even a real person?"

As she said that, she then reached out her hand with the thought of pinching his face.

Just as her hand was stretched out halfway, his tightly shut eyes suddenly flung open.

His deep dark eyes showed a hint of confusion, but it dissipated just in two seconds and was instantly replaced by a cold stare.

Shen Yu shivered under his gaze. She then retracted her hand, gulped a little, and said, "Are you awake?"

Mu Yangyang saw Mo Chenhao's hostile look and stretched out her arm in front of Shen Yu before saying to him, "What are you doing? This is my friend!"

When Mo Chenhao looked at Mu Yangyang, his tight face slowly relaxed, and the cold hostility in his eyes soon disappeared as well. In his hoarse voice, he croaked, "Water."

Mu Yangyang held up her hand that was still in his grip and said exasperatedly, "Then you have to let me go first!"

Mo Chenhao looked at their entwined hands and released her hands after a long deep look at her.

Mu Yangyang was about to go out when she heard someone talking outside of the room.

"I'll go in and see if he is dead."

"Young Master is really ill."

Both voices were quite familiar, but she could only make out the latter voice to be Shi Ye.

The next thing she knew, the door was pushed open.

Gu Zhiyan and Shi Ye stood at the door, one behind another.

Gu Zhiyan did not expect Mu Yangyang to be there. He was first dumbfounded a little, and then calmly put on his glasses and said politely, "You are here too, Mrs. Mu."

Mu Yangyang replied, "Yes I am."

That was one hell of a change in his expression.

"I heard that Zhenxuan was ill, so I am here to see him. He...." Before Gu Zhiyan could finish speaking, she was interrupted.

"Gu Zhiyan!"

Mu Yangyang turned her head and saw Shen Yu rolling up her sleeves while walking towards Gu Zhiyan. She then went up to her and immediately landed a hard punch onto Gu Zhiyan's stomach.

Her punch made Gu Zhiyan fall two steps backward. The sight of it looked painful, but he kept a straight face without even blinking his eyes.

Mu Yangyang was stunned. What is going on?

After a few moments of silence in the room, Gu Zhiyan chuckled a little and said in a deep voice, "Shen Xiaoliang, that was quite a punch that you landed on me just now. Are you going to take care of me if I become handicapped?"

Shen Yu shot him a cold look. "I've said it before that I'd give you a punch each time I see you!"

Mu Yangyang had never seen this side of Shen Yu. In fact, she could see hatred burning in Shen Yu's eyes.

Shen Yu turned and looked at her, "I'll wait for you outside."

Mu Yangyang nodded.

After Shen Yu left, Gu Zhiyan headed straight to the bedside, as if nothing had happened, and sat down.

He looked at Mo Chenhao for a while before saying, "Are you really ill?"

Mo Chenhao was supposed to go to the office today, so when he heard he was ill, Gu Zhiyan immediately felt that it must have been an act.

"Keep a distance away from me." Mo Chenhao frowned with no attempt to hide his disdain for Gu Zhiyan.

He then looked at Mu Yangyang silently.

She understood what he wanted to say. "I'll let Shi Ye get you some water."

She was a little worried about Shen Yu, so she left the room after that.

Mo Chenhao glared at Shi Ye, "Get out."

Shi Ye nodded. "I'll get you your water immediately."

Mo Chenhao said coolly. "I don't want it anymore."

Shi Ye was speechless. Young Master is really becoming weirder by the second.

The moment Mu Yangyang stepped outside, she pulled Shen Yu as they headed downstairs. "You know Gu Zhiyan?"

"Mmhmm." Shen Yu paused a little before adding on. "That dude owes me too much. Even if I were to beat him to death, he would never retaliate."

The grudges between Shen Yu and Gu Zhiyan sounded pretty serious.

Mu Yangyang did not continue asking and did not mention anything about the interview invitation.

The two of them went out for dinner together. Just as the dishes arrive, Mu Yangyang received a phone call from "Mo Zhenxuan".

She didn't save his number, so she didn't know he was the one who was calling.

"When are you coming back?" "Mo Zhenxuan's" voice sounded a little weak, but it was still very distinctive, and Mu Yangyang could recognize it immediately.

She asked him, "Is there something wrong?"

After a few seconds of silence, his voice finally said, "I haven't had dinner."

"If you can't eat, just get the doctor to fix a drip for you. I am still..."

She was then interrupted by him, "I want you to cook for me."

He did not sound very energetic, and this was a clear contrast from his regular arrogant behavior. However, when Mu Yangyang heard this, it somehow made her rather uncomfortable.

All of a sudden, she did not know how to respond to him, so she just hung up on him.

Shen Yu had been eavesdropping from the moment she picked up the phone call.

She swirled the juice in her glass and gave Mu Yangyang a meaningful smile, "So, that irresistibly handsome cousin called you?"

Chapter 38

Mu Yangyang was a little bitter with the way Shen Yu had described "Mo Zhenxuan" and said, "They are just looks, what he is on the surface, that's it."

Shen Yu shook her head and looked enthralled, "I refuse to believe that you are not charmed by his looks, not even by a little...?"

Shen Yu stretched out her hand and put her thumb and index finger close together, clearly indicating the 'tiny finger gesture'. For some reason, she looked completely like a gangster while doing that.

Charmed by his looks?

One would give a second look even to the lovely flowers by the roadside, let alone a handsome and stylish man like "Mo Zhenxuan".

"Actually, I still have not met Mo Chenhao. They are all part of the Mo family, so if he were not disfigured, I am sure he would be very good looking as well."

Mu Yangyang's tone showed some heartfelt pity for Mo Chenhao, her husband that she had never met.

"You still haven't met him? Are you husband and wife for real? You've been married into the Mo family for a few months now." Shen Yu had to drink a large glass of water to subdue her shock.

She then continued as if she had just thought of something, "I think that Mo Zhenxuan treats you quite differently. When he looks at me, his glare is icy and brutally scary, but he is so gentle towards you."

Mo Zhenxuan is gentle to me?

Mu Yangyang shook her head, "I think you have gone a little crazy with your filming."

Shen Yu was about to argue back in defiance, but her phone rang. It was from her manager.

After she hung up, she said reluctantly, "They want me to go back to the office for an emergency meeting. It has been so hard to carve out time for a meal with you!"

Mu Yangyang comforted her, "Just go ahead. When you are done with filming, I'll buy you a meal."

After parting ways with Shen Yu, Mu Yangyang headed back to the villa.

The moment she entered the door, she saw "Mo Zhenxuan" in the living room.

He still looked rather unwell and was dressed in a casual lounge wear. He had a laptop in front of him with a glass of water next to it. With a serious expression on his face, it was unclear as to what he was looking at.

Mu Yangyang sighed in her heart: This man is really made out of steel.

When he was shot, he had asked her to remove the bullet for him. After his fever, he fainted and had an injection. Yet here he is, working again.

He could feel a pair of eyes watching him, so he lifted his head, and their eyes met.

"You are back." His voice still sounded a little hoarse, but his aura still remained.

Mu Yangyang glanced at the laptop in front of him and asked him from a distance, "Are you working? How do you feel?"

Apart from a pale face, he really did not look ill at all.

"I'm all right," His fingers tapped on the keyboard a few times before lifting his head and stared at her, "Just a little hungry."

As she recalled his phone call earlier, Mu Yangyang opened her mouth to say, "You..." ...could have asked the bodyguards to cook for you.

As if he could read her mind, he interrupted her and said, "Tasted awful."

He did not provide any context for what he had just said, but Mu Yangyang understood clearly that he was referring to the bodyguards' cooking.

Shi Ye brought his medicine and had overheard Mo Chenhao said "Awful."

He snickered silently.

He had never heard Young Master complain about their cooking before. However, after marrying Ma'am, it seemed that he had started making up all sorts of stories.

Honestly, apart from being really ugly, he could not tell what was so special about Ma'am.

However, Young Master did not detest Ma'am at all. In fact, he seemed to like her. Therefore, as his subordinate, he would respect Ma'am as well.

Mu Yangyang took a look at the time, and it was almost 2 pm.

She saw Shi Ye still standing there, so she asked, "Is Mo Chenhao at home?"

"Mhmm." "Mo Zhenxuan" replied her.

Mu Yangyang was a little surprised, "Then, has he eaten?"

Mo Chenhao's hand twitched a little before he lifted his head to give Shi Ye a look. Then, he continued to drink his water calmly.

"Young Master hasn't eaten." Shi Ye was quite impressed with his own adaptability sometimes.

Mu Yangyang's eyes lit up and said, "Then I'll head to the kitchen and cook, then you can send it to him later."

Saying that, she went to the kitchen excitedly.

The last time she made a meal for Mo Chenhao, it was eaten by "Mo Zhenxuan".

As Mo Chenhao looked at her reaction, he was somehow rather jealous of "Mo Chenhao".

Shi Ye then handed the medicine to him.

He did not take the medicine, but turned his head to ask Shi Ye seriously, "Do you think she really is dumb? She doesn't even bother trying to please me, someone who is normal physically and in terms of looks, but she keeps trying all ways to please an invalid? Or do you think she's faking it?"

Shi Ye thought to himself quietly. Young Master has always been so cold and standoffish. Since Ma'am married into the family, he has deliberately provoked her multiple times. He was also beginning to question his Young Master's standards.

However, he could only say quietly, "Young Master, you are quite concerned about Ma'am."

"Hmm."

With Mo Chenhao's personality, of course, he immediately understood what Shi Ye meant.

Shi Ye immediately said earnestly after hearing his cold response, "Ma'am shouldn't be mad. She was quite meticulous when it came to the actions to punish Mu Yumei."

"Meticulous..."

If it was not for him, his snobbish family members would have definitely found fault with her after she created such a big brouhaha online.

Mu Yangyang did not quite believe "Mo Zhenxuan" when he said that Mo Chenhao liked spicy food, so she cooked a pot of vegetable congee and made some nutritious vegetarian food.

It does not matter what his preference was, she knew she could never go wrong with light and healthy food.

When she was done cooking, she scooped out a portion of each dish onto the tray and placed the leftover food on the dining table.

Shi Ye took a look from the dining room entrance, then walked in and smiled, "Ma'am, you can pass Young Master's portion to me."

Mu Yangyang then passed the tray to Shi Ye and asked, "Is he going out in the afternoon?"

"I'm not sure." Shi Ye had been living in lies every day, and this made him feel rather depressed. When will these days of lying end?

The moment Shi Ye left, "Mo Zhenxuan" walked into the dining room.

He sat at the dining table and looked at the light vegetable congee and the few plain-looking vegetable dishes. Then he frowned and said, "Is that it?"

Mu Yangyang poured a cup of warm water and placed it in front of him with a thump. She then replied in a slightly huffy manner. "What did you expect? Do you really want to have mala hotpot with that condition of yours? And put the blame on me if you die of your illness?"

Then, she suddenly realized that perhaps she shouldn't have spoken like that.

Whatever!

However, "Mo Zhenxuan" did not throw any tantrums. He just picked up his chopsticks and began eating slowly.

Standing by the side, Mu Yangyang saw that he kept up a steady pace of eating both the vegetables and

the congee. His appetite was so good that he didn't seem ill at all.

Perhaps to "Mo Zhenxuan", there was only life or death. Hence, he would never be affected by illnesses or injuries. Indeed, his steel-like body was different from others.

Usually, after he finished eating, someone would clean up after him. Therefore, Mu Yangyang headed straight back to her room.

When she opened up her computer, she realized that this morning's topic about Mu Yumei's indecent videos was at the top of the trending topics once again!

She refreshed the screen several times to make sure that she wasn't making a mistake. The first thing that came to her mind was that Shen Yu had spent money to gain control over the list.

Chapter 39

Mu Yangyang immediately called up Shen Yu.

"Did you pay for ghostwriters to trend the topics again?"

"Didn't you forbid me from doing so? Are you changing your mind now?" Shen Yu sounded very excited.

Mu Yangyang immediately explained, "No, it's just that I saw Mu Yumei's topic trending again."

"Really?" A rustling sound came from Shen Yu's side. By the sound of it, Mu Yangyang guessed that she must be logging onto Weibo.

Indeed, in a short while, Shen Yu said, "I just took a look, and this is what they call karma!"

Mu Yangyang felt that there was something fishy about this matter.

Who could have done this? Was it done by someone else that Mu Yumei had offended? It was entirely possible, considering her arrogant attitude and huge temper. She had offended many people.

Mu Yangyang did not think too much about this matter. She glanced at the time and thought that Mo Chenhao should be done eating, so she got up to look for him.

She thought that she should still look for Mo Chenhao to discuss this matter no matter what.

The door to the study was shut, so Mu Yangyang lifted her hand to knock it.

A husky male voice came from inside, "Come in."

She pushed the door and walked in, and immediately saw him seated behind the desk, with his back facing her.

She was a little frustrated that Mo Chenhao did not want her to see his face, but yet he would still leave the house.

Based on her understanding, Mo Chenhao was an extremely introverted person who never stepped out of the house and did not care for other people's businesses. He was a loner who did not like to socialize.

He made the first move and asked her, "Is something wrong?"

Mu Yangyang tilted her head and looked at him curiously, "Do you know what happened online recently?"

Mo Chenhao fell silent for a while before speaking coldly, "Don't mention about the past again. As the Young Mistress of the Mo family, you should know your place."

She felt that his tone was quite similar to "Mo Zhenxuan", but she chalked it up to the fact that they were cousins.

When she left, she heaved a sigh of relief.

Even though Mo Chenhao was a little strange, he wasn't like some other people who had turned psychopathic after experiencing trauma, or else she would have a tough life ahead of her.

For some strange reason, she headed downstairs to the dining room.

Not only was the dining room void of "Mo Zhenxuan's" figure, but even all the utensils were also cleared from the dining table.

The next morning, Mu Yangyang changed into some slightly more formal clothes for her interview.

These few days, Mu Yumei's matters had taken up quite a bit of her time.

She was a graduate from a prolific school and had done well academically. Her resume was very well done, thus both companies that had interviewed her had expressed immediate interest in hiring her.

She was feeling rather agitated. Before this, because of Xiao Chuhe, she did not focus wholly on her career. Now that that was no longer a consideration, and also that she was presented with choices, of course, she had to consider them carefully.

She then found a restaurant for lunch, while reading up on the company details that she was going to interview with.

She had barely sat down when a flash went past her eyes. Just then, a mysterious woman in a mask and a baseball cap came up to her, picked up the glass of water in front of her, and immediately poured it

down her head.

Then, she heard someone calling her name through gritted teeth, "Mu Yangyang!"

She closed her eyes and reached out to wipe away the water on her face before looking at the person.

After a close look, she realized that this person in disguise was actually Mu Yumei!

Indeed, with her "reputation" right now, she would be recognized everywhere she went if she had not disguised herself.

"You could have talked to me properly, but what were you thinking?" Mu Yangyang lifted her eyes calmly to meet hers.

Mu Yumei's eyes were filled with rage as she snarled softly, "Mu Yangyang! You were the one who released the videos online right? I am not letting you off!"

Mu Yangyang was a little taken aback because she did not expect Yumei's intuition to be so sensitive.

However, she will never back down and admit her mistakes.

Mu Yangyang asked surprisedly, "What video are you talking about?"

"All these years at the Mu family, you must have been merely pretending! You are not dumb at all!" Mu Yumei's eyes started to turn ferocious.

Mu Yangyang smiled. "Turns out you know me better than my parents do."

Up till now, both Mu Liyan and Xiao Chuhe probably still thought that she was dumb. After all, they had chosen to abandon her when she was little. Therefore, they would rather believe that she was dumb rather than to acknowledge that they had been played out by their abandoned daughter.

"Bitch!" Mu Yumei raised her hand and was about to hit Mu Yangyang.

Just when Mu Yangyang was about to dodge the slap, she saw a familiar figure coming from the opposite. Her eyes lit up, and she let Mu Yumei land a solid slap on her face.

Seeing that Mu Yangyang was slapped, Shen Haochu picked up his pace. He then came forward and immediately caught Mu Yumei's wrist.

When he realized Mu Yumei's face under the disguise, his eyebrows furrowed deeply, "Yumei?"

"Hao Chu!" A spark of joy appeared in Mu Yumei's eyes, and her voice instantly became gentler. "You are finally willing to meet me! Please listen to me. This whore was the one who released all the videos

and pictures online! She is jealous of our relationship and wants to sabotage me!"

Mu Yangyang covered her face and feigned a look of fragility.

She was rather impressed with Mu Yumei's highly complicated and convoluted mind. She probably thought that every woman in the world was jealous of her.

Mu Yangyang then bit her lip tightly and said determinedly with a pale face, "...I did not."

She had never been jealous of Mu Yumei anyway.

Mu Yumei then screeched, "You liar!"

Frustrated, Shen Haochu roared at her, "That's enough!"

The two of them had gotten into such a huge argument that it had attracted unnecessary attention. Shen Haochu was a little more prideful and thus, he spoke to Mu Yumei coldly, "Move this to the private room. We'll talk there."

Then, he lifted his head to look at Mu Yangyang. With a softer tone, he said to her, "Yangyang, you come along too."

Mu Yangyang was eager to witness the pathetic sight of Mu Yumei being scorned at, so she tagged along.

The moment the three of them reached the room, Mu Yumei immediately pointed at Mu Yangyang and said, "Hao Chu, you have to believe me. Everything was orchestrated by this woman. I am innocent! The video was doctored, and the pictures were edited too!"

At times like this, Mu Yumei could still come up with such terrible lies.

As if this was the first time he had met her, Shen Haochu scrutinized her with disappointment and said, "You're still lying at this time!"

It was like she was beginning to lose her mind, Mu Yumei suddenly dragged Mu Yangyang to face Shen Haochu before shrieking, "Tell him! Tell him that you were the one who planned everything on purpose, tell him that you were trying to hurt me!"

Mu Yumei thought that Mu Yangyang was still acting dumb. But Mu Yangyang did look really dense just now after being slapped, and that gave her the illusion that Mu Yangyang was still as amenable as she was. Thus, Mu Yumei thought that she would still do whatever she requested.

Mu Yangyang shot a glance at Shen Haochu before looking away instantly. With a pencil straight posture and a soft yet firm voice, "I cannot admit to something that I didn't do."

Shen Haochu already had a fairly good impression of Mu Yangyang. Now that he saw how Mu Yumei was forcing Mu Yangyang, he quickly dragged her to one side and said, "Yu Mei, go and pick up your own mess first. Stop following me around if there is nothing urgent."

Mu Yumei had been contacting him non-stop for the past two days. He avoided meeting her by all means but did not expect that she would actually follow him.

Chapter 40

Mu Yangyang stepped back a little to increase the distance between herself and Shen Haochu.

At this point, Mu Yumei was so angry that her eyes were practically spitting out flames. "Hao Chu, what do you mean by that? Are you defending that ugly woman now?"

"She is your sister." Shen Haochu frowned as he was rather annoyed by this Mu Yumei.

Mu Yumei had been extremely spoilt growing up, and there was no way she would listen to Shen Haochu. She then sneered, "Stop pretending to be the good guy here. Back then, it was your idea to frame this ugly woman into admitting that she snatched my fiancé!"

In a tensed voice, Shen Haochu said, "That was only because I believed in your nonsensical lies!"

It was only when Mu Yangyang heard their conversation that she realized she had underestimated Shen Haochu. He was like a wolf in a sheep's clothing. But thankfully, she had already seen his true colors.

"Stop talking, you two." Mu Yangyang walked out from behind Shen Haochu. She then looked at him and said, "Can you please leave? I have something to say to my sister."

Shen Haochu had misunderstood Mu Yangyang because of Mu Yumei's words. Now because of Mu Yumei's scandal, he was naturally leaning towards Mu Yangyang. In his eyes, they were sisters after all, and of course, they would want to settle their differences in private. He then nodded and left the room.

The moment Shen Haochu left, Mu Yumei lunged towards Mu Yangyang, "You bitch! It is all because of you! You have ruined everything!"

Mu Yangyang already saw that coming. She moved aside, and Mu Yumei lunged into nothingness before crashing onto the floor.

Mu Yangyang then bent down to pull up Mu Yumei's hair, and spoke with an icy chill in her beautiful eyes, "Mu Yumei, you've brought these all to yourself. You all should have never pushed me to the edge."

She used a lot of strength to tug at Mu Yumei's hair, and the pain made Mu Yumei's face turn pale. She struggled to tilt her head in the direction that Mu Yangyang was pulling her hair in an attempt to

alleviate the pain.

She then screamed, "Are you nuts? How can you treat me like this?"

Mu Yangyang sneered and lifted her hand to give her a slap.

Slap!

The clear yet deafening sounds of her slaps repeated itself three to four times.

"You....me.... Xiao Chuhe....let go...."

Mu Yumei's face was already swollen. She looked at Mu Yangyang with disbelief and fear in her eyes, while she could only stutter with nary a complete sentence coming out of her mouth.

Mu Yangyang then chuckled softly, "These few slaps are for what you have done. Do you still want to use Xiao Chuhe to blackmail me? I don't care what you do to her anymore."

Even though she said that she knew that she could never be that cruel towards Xiao Chuhe. If she were that cruel, she would have sought revenge right when she was forced to marry into the Mo family. However, she could not bring herself to do it back then. If they had not used her or framed her, the idea of revenge really would have never crossed her mind.

"From now on, mind your own business so that everyone can then live peaceful lives." Mu Yangyang released Mu Yumei's hair. Then she stood up, stepped over her, and left the room.

Mu Yumei crawled up from the floor with a face that was swollen beyond recognition. She had a sinister look in her red eyes.

Mu Yangyang! I will ensure that you pay back and more for what I have endured today!

Despite having punished Mu Yumei, Mu Yangyang did not feel carefree at all.

After all, Mu Yumei was her biological sister. Even though the same blood flowed through them, they were destined to be enemies.

Since the whole incident had affected her mood, her interview did not go smoothly either.

On her way home, she got another call from Shen Yu.

Shen Yu went straight to the point and asked her, "Mu Yangyang, did you receive an invitation to interview with Sheng Ding Media?"

"How did you know?" Mu Yangyang was a little surprised. Even though Shen Yu was acquainted with Gu

Zhiyan, he couldn't have told her, right? Logically speaking, why would a big boss like Gu Zhiyan concern himself over such a small matter?

"Don't bother how I found out. Such a large company invited you for an interview, and you didn't go. Are you nuts?"

Mu Yangyang said, "Back then, Sheng Ding scouted for you as well. But didn't you also rejected their offer?"

Shen Yu paused for a moment and said, "It was just because I didn't like seeing Gu Zhiyan. You have no grudge with him, so why won't you go?"

Mu Yangyang was about to reply her when she heard someone calling for Shen Yu on the other end of the line.

Shen Yu then said hurriedly, "Yangyang, I have to hang up. There is some banquet tonight, so I have to get my make-up done and choose my dress."

Tooot.....

She hung up without giving Mu Yangyang any chance to respond.

Mu Yangyang clenched her phone somewhat heavy heartedly. She had said to "Mo Zhenxuan" before that she did not want to work at Sheng Ding Media. However, she didn't expect the slap on her face to arrive so soon.

Back then, Shen Yu was part of the reason that she had chosen to major in dramatic arts. Shen Yu would be an actress, and Mu Yangyang would write scripts for her.

However, Shen Yu's current company was a direct competitor to Sheng Ding. Even if she wrote a good script, later on, it would not be easy for her to try to work with Shen Yu.

Now that Shen Yu knew about this, Shen Yu might begin to blame herself for not joining Sheng Ding.

Actually, she was really quite interested in joining Sheng Ding Media. At most, she would not let "Mo Zhenxuan" know that she was joining the company!

In front of the villa, Mu Yangyang had just come down from her car when she saw a black car driving slowly towards the villa entrance.

The car stopped in front of the entrance, and she then realized that it was a luxurious Bentley. The smooth and beautiful curves on the car radiated an air of understated calmness.

Mu Yangyang felt that this car looked quite good. The owner must be a modest and firm person as well.

However, at the very next moment, she saw "Mo Zhenxuan" getting down from the car...

Mo Chenhao had seen Mu Yangyang even when he was still in the car. He walked up to her, laughed a little, and called out, "Sister-in-law."

Shi Ye was behind him as they got down from the car. When he heard that, he immediately felt tensed.

"Mmhmm." Mu Yangyang responded hurriedly before going in.

However, she was a little confused as to why "Mo Zhenxuan" was always with Shi Ye.

However, she did not overthink this matter. When she found out that Mo Chenhao was at home, she went to prepare dinner again.

After dinner, she returned to her room and went online.

Suddenly, a trending Weibo topic appeared on her screen.

"The Racy Upper Class: A friend sent me a party invitation. Since I was bored, I attended the party. I had thought that it was a proper party, but it turned out to be an orgy...."

There was a video below the text as well.

Mu Yangyang clicked on the video, and to her surprise, she spotted Shen Yu. She was in the video for a split second, but it only showed her back view. Thus, those who did not know her well would never be able to recognize her.

She recalled that Shen Yu had mentioned about a banquet tonight. Then, she quickly took out her phone to call Shen Yu, but no one picked up the call at all.

Mu Yangyang could not sit still anymore, so she immediately picked up her bag and sped out.

She arrived at the party venue and found a way to get in. The atmosphere was indeed rather strange. Besides, she could not find Shen Yu despite combing the entire banquet hall.

Just when she was panicking, she felt a hand grabbing her arm. As she was about to turn and look, she realized that her other arm was pinned down too. And before she could react, someone had forced open her mouth and poured alcohol down her throat.

After that shot, her vision became blurry, and she was brought out limply by the two...