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Mo Lian's face fell and snarled, "Ms. Mu, you're being unreasonable."

"Is that so? I believe you're the unreasonable one here, Mrs. Si," Mu Yangyang scorned. "I don't know what you think about your son, but to me, Xuan is like a little brother. If Si Chengyu hadn't looked for me, I wouldn't have known that his father had passed away. You don't seem particularly affected by your husband's passing, though. In fact, I'm impressed by how you're still in the mood to stir up trouble with me."

Mu Yangyang's contempt was obvious in her tone.

Mo Lian's expression soured but she continued calmly, "Don't change the subject."

Mu Yangyang shut the conversation down coldly, "Goodbye, then."

"You..." Mo Lian huffed. "I finally understand why Chenhao divorced you now. Such an unreasonable and ill-mannered woman isn't worthy of him!"

Due to her experience at the Mu family, Mu Yangyang was able to remain calm despite being insulted by others. She replied, "Well, being the reasonable and ladylike woman you are, I'm sure that you'll be able to convince Xuan to stop talking to me."

Mo Lian finally lost her temper and yelled, "Mu Yangyang!"

"Hold up there, Ms. Reasonable Lady. If you have Xuan's best interests at heart, then please make sure you tell him to stop talking to me or meeting up with me. That way, he can maintain his good grade.

Mo Lian was clearly looking for trouble. After all, Mu Yangyang had not asked Mo Zhenxuan out for a long time.

In addition, Mo Zhenxuan had managed his time well and knew how to prioritize schoolwork.

Mo Lian would not tell Mo Zhenxuan to do so since they were not on good terms. That was why she approached Mu Yangyang instead.

Unable to find a good retort, she simply insulted her, "You're an unreasonable wench!"

Mu Yangyang smirked, "Oh my, how ladylike of you."

Mo Lian stormed off.

Mu Yangyang's expression darkened as she watched Mo Lian leave.

What's her problem? Don't tell me she was jealous that Mo Zhenxuan spent the entire day with me but ignored her!

This was a possibility, but unlikely.

Mu Yangyang's Grab had finally arrived.

She mulled over the past on her trip home.

She recalled how she saw Mo Lian and Mo Qingfeng enter the same room on New Year's Eve. Now that she thought about it, it probably had something to do with Si Chengyu.

After all, the fact that Si Chengyu was Mo Qingfeng's illegitimate son was not exactly something one would announce to the public.

Mo Chenhao had gone to M Nation to confirm who Si Chengyu's birth parents were, but things ended with Si Minghuan having a traffic accident.

In that case, why did they try to kill Old Master Mo?

Old Master Mo had loved Mo Chenhao the most out of all his grandchildren, but he had treated Si Chengyu and the others fairly as well.

Even if he knew that Si Chengyu was actually Mo Qingfeng's son, nothing would change.

After all, Si Chengyu would still be his grandson. Old Master Mo would be angry, but there would be no reason to treat him differently.

Mu Yangyang felt that something was off with the matter regarding Old Master Mo.

She told the driver to change course to Mo Chenhao's home instead.

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Mo Chenhao was late, as usual.

This time, Mu Yangyang had not turned in without him and waited for him in the living room.

When Mo Chenhao returned, Mu Yangyang was watching a variety show on the couch from her phone.

Shen Yu had participated in one of the seasons of this show and there were many positive comments in the comments section.

Mo Chenhao was taken aback to see Mu Yangyang on the couch when he got home, but he strode in nonetheless.

The sofa was placed with its back facing the door, so Mo Chenhao walked over, placed his hands on the backrest, and gave Mu Yangyang a peck on the cheek. His hoarse tone was unable to disguise his joy as he asked, "Did you miss me just after two days?"

Mu Yangyang paused her video and patted the seat beside her, "Sit here."

Mo Chenhao took a seat as instructed and asked, "What's up?"

"I met your aunt today. This reminded me of what happened back during New Year's Eve. I saw your dad and your aunt sneaked into the room that night, but I didn't overhear their conversation. Now that I think about it, it might have something to do with Si Chengyu..."

Mu Yangyang paused and turned to face Mo Chenhao.

Mo Chenhao patted her head without any emotion and ordered, "Continue."

Mu Yangyang recounted, "Then, something happened to grandpa the following day. If it was just because of Si Chengyu, there was no need to attack grandpa at all. Something must be up."

Mo Chenhao's gaze darkened and his expression was unfathomable.

Mu Yangyang tugged at his hand, "What do you think?"

Mo Chenhao queried, "So, you think that they attacked grandpa because of Si Chengyu?"

Mu Yangyang paused and concluded, "That sounds plausible, but I feel that there's more than that to this case. Something feels wrong."

She then stared at Mo Chenhao intently.

Mo Chenhao turned around, poured them a glass of water each, and explained, "Has it ever occurred to you that they had two targets in that incident? Other than grandpa, they might have noticed that you spotted them during New Year's Eve and thought that you found out about their secret. That was why they targeted grandpa then pushed the blame to you."

Mu Yangyang was stunned and did not take the glass Mo Chenhao passed her.

She had always believed that Old Master Mo was their primary target and she was just an easy target to push the blame onto.

After all, she was the only one present who was not a Mo, so she would be the prime suspect.

When Mu Yangyang considered the fact that the Mo family's aim was to throw her into jail, she knew that she would not have made it out alive.

She would have met with a worse fate than Old Master Mo.

The very thought sent shivers down her spine.

Mu Yangyang shook her head and replied hoarsely, "But I didn't hear anything that night."

Mo Chenhao patted her head silently.

The other reason for this was they wanted to see how important Mu Yangyang was to him.

If he had done everything in his power to protect Mu Yangyang, the moment Mo Qingfeng and the others realized how important she was to him, they would target her directly.

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Mo Chenhao shoved his glass into Mu Yangyang's hand. "They don't need to be sure whether you've heard them. They'll show no mercy as long as they think someone's a threat to them."

Mu Yangyang's hand felt extremely cold.

"Are you afraid?" Mo Chenhao asked, holding her hand.

The woman responded with another question instead, "Is Mo Mu going to be okay?" she suddenly choked.

Considering how unscrupulous Mo Qingfeng was, Mu Yangyang had no hopes that those guys would even let a child off.

"Yes," Mo Chenhao answered resolutely. "If they want me to serve Mo Corporation, they won't lay a finger on Mo Mu."

Mu Yangyang's expression took a slightly better turn upon hearing those words. She lowered her head, seemingly in deep thoughts.

Mo Chenhao held her hand without saying a word.

After a long while, Mu Yangyang finally spoke up, "I just don't get it. What on earth are they trying to hide by going to such extent?"

"Do you remember helping Grandpa pass me a message before his accident? He wanted you to tell me to see him."

“Yes, I do,” Mu Yangyang said with a nod.

“Grandpa told me that as long as I stayed at the mansion over the New Year, he’d tell me everything I wanted to know,” Mo Chenhao explained, his eyes turning especially frosty. “That includes the truth behind the kidnapping back then.”

Mo Chenhao had never spoken to Mu Yangyang about this.

It was mainly because he didn’t want the woman to know too much about the Mo family. It would be extremely disadvantageous to her.

Mu Yangyang quickly caught on.

“So your father is trying to bury the truth? He wants to kill everyone who knows what happened back then?” asked Mu Yangyang.

Then, she paused for a moment and frowned. “They thought I had eavesdropped on them, and your grandfather wants to tell you the truth. That’s why they’re after your grandfather and I.”

Mo Chenhao responded with silence.

Silence implied agreement.

“I saw your aunt and father enter the same room on the night of New Year’s Eve,” Mu Yangyang recalled after a moment of silence. “If they were trying to conceal the truth behind the kidnapping, doesn’t this mean that your aunt was an accomplice too?”

Mo Chenhao looked rather tired. He massaged his eyebrow area and leaned back against the couch with his eyes closed. “Your grandfather also mentioned seeing my aunt at the crime scene,” he remarked coldly.

Mu Yangyang pursed her lips. “How much more are you hiding from me?”

Still, she knew it wasn’t the time to bicker over this matter now.

“So your father sent my grandfather abroad to ‘retire’ just because he saw your aunt back then?” It all makes sense now.

“Why don’t we look for my grandfather and ask him about this?” Mu Yangyang suggested.

However, Mo Chenhao rejected her proposal. “There’s no need.”

“But...”

The man cut her off. "It's getting late. We should sleep."

Sensing that Mo Chenhao didn't want to discuss this matter anymore, Mu Yangyang stopped talking.

After all, Mo Chenhao used to be rather close to Mo Lian, and the latter was best friends with Mo Chenhao's mother. If Mo Lian truly was involved in the kidnapping incident...

But why would they do that to Chenhao and his mother?

One of the culprits was Mrs. Mo's beloved husband, and the other was her best friend.

Did the two of them really join forces to hurt her?

Mo Chenhao stood up. Seeing that Mu Yangyang remain seated on the couch, he swiftly picked her up without prompting.

Mu Yangyang gasped in shock, but the man placed his hand on her lips, hinting her not to say a word.

There was an unprecedented look of seriousness on his face. "You can't get yourself involved in this matter, Mu Yangyang," he warned. "Don't go looking for your grandfather, and don't try to find out about anything else. Most importantly, don't even think about approaching Mo Lian or Mo Qingfeng."

Mu Yangyang certainly couldn't agree.

However, Mo Chenhao's expression looked so terrifying that Mu Yangyang could only hold her tongue.

"You're being unreasonable," she finally responded.

Mo Chenhao continued to speak in a hoarse voice. "Then I'll talk some sense into you now. I'm fine as long as you are, but if anything ever happens to you, I'm as good as dead."

There wasn't much emotion in his voice, but every word he said rang clearly inside the woman's head, causing her to space out.

Seeing her remain in such a daze, Mo Chenhao raised an eyebrow. "Did you hear what I said?"

Looking rather stunned, Mu Yangyang tried probing, "I did, but I don't understand what you meant. Do you mind repeating yourself?"

Mo Chenhao squinted as he heard that. "You want me to say it again?"

Mu Yangyang nodded.

Mo Chenhao curled his lips into a smirk. Mu Yangyang listened intently, thinking the man would repeat his words.

Yet, Mo Chenhao lifted her and headed straight into the bathroom instead.

“Didn’t you say you’d repeat yourself?” Mu Yangyang argued.

“I never agreed to,” Mo Chenhao replied blankly.

“Then why’d you ask if I wanted to hear it again?” the woman pounded her fists on his chest.

“I was just asking.”

Mu Yangyang was speechless.

The two had spent so long chatting last night that Mu Yangyang remained sound asleep when Mo Chenhao left for work.

It was already well into the day by the time she woke up.

The woman leaned against the bedpost and spaced out for a while.

Mo Lian and Mo Qingfeng have been trying to keep the truth behind Mo Chenhao and his mother’s kidnapping.

As she pondered for a moment, a thought suddenly flashed in her mind. What Chenhao wants to know right now should be more than how they carried out the kidnapping. He must also be trying to find out why they had done such a thing to him and his mother.

They’re probably not just trying to hide the truth behind the incident, but also the reason behind their joined efforts.

Realizing this, Mu Yangyang hurriedly dialed Mo Chenhao’s number.

The man quickly picked up. “You’re up.”

“I thought about it, Chenhao,” Mu Yangyang said urgently. “I think what’s more important right now is to find out why they carried out the kidnapping back then. They’re your mother’s closest ones, so why would they do something so cruel? There must be some secret they’re hiding. I’m guessing they acted against my grandpa for the same reason they did against you and your mother!”

Mo Chenhao fell silent after hearing Mu Yangyang’s words.

“Are you listening, Chenhao?” the woman called out to him.

"I am." Mo Chenhao's voice deepened.

He was never an expressive man, but anyone who understood him well would be able to discern the changes in his emotions based on his tone of voice.

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Mu Yangyang bit her lip and continued, "I also think they abducted Mo Mu for the very same reason."

This time, she was met with an extremely long silence.

"What's wrong, Chenhao?" the woman asked after not hearing Mo Chenhao's voice for a prolonged time.

"I've got it," the man responded adamantly. "Remember what I told you last night. Don't involve yourself in this anymore."

With that, he immediately hung up.

Mu Yangyang stared at her phone in a daze. The screen had now returned to her contact list.

How could he hang up just like that? He used to let me hang up first.

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After hanging up, Mo Chenhao gripped his phone so tightly that his knuckles began to pale.

Shi Ye walked in with a document file and found the man standing frigidly before the French windows.

After placing the documents on Mo Chenhao's desk, Shi Ye called out to him, "Sir."

"Do you have any cigarettes?"

Mo Chenhao didn't turn his head, but the question was clearly directed at Shi Ye since there was no one else inside the office.

Shi Ye wasn't much of a smoker himself, but he always carried some cigarettes with him.

He took out a pack and handed Mo Chenhao a cigarette.

Yet, instead of taking the cigarette, Mo Chenhao grabbed the entire pack from his assistant, along with the lighter in the man's other hand.

Mo Chenhao lowered his head and placed a cigarette between his lips. "You can leave," he said blankly.

Shi Ye hesitated for a moment before giving his boss a reminder. "You have a meeting in ten minutes..."

Mo Chenhao didn't respond, but Shi Ye knew he had heard him.

The assistant's job was to do whatever that was required of him; but there were things that were out of bounds.

After Shi Ye left, Mo Chenhao began to smoke, one cigarette after another.

Shi Ye returned ten minutes later to remind his boss about the meeting once again.

The intense amount of smoke inside the room sent him into a coughing fit the moment he opened the door.

Mo Chenhao remained standing by the windows, and Shi Ye walked over. "The meeting's about to begin, Mr. Mo," he said politely.

He noticed the cigarette butts all over the floor, as well as the empty cigarette box.

It's not like Mr. Mo has a smoking addiction, so why is he smoking this much all of a sudden?

Did he get into another argument with Mrs. Mo?

How bad is it this time that he smoked up the entire room?

While Shi Ye was still lost in thought, Mo Chenhao had already turned and headed outside.

Shi Ye swiftly followed him to the meeting room, carrying with him all the necessary information.

All the top-level managers had already arrived.

"This is our latest proposal, Mr. Mo. Please have a look."

Mo Chenhao took the documents and glanced through them briefly before leaning back against his chair without a word. No one could tell what that dark gaze of his meant.

The manager who handed him the documents paled with fright, thinking that his boss was displeased with their proposal. The other attendees exchanged glances, not daring to make a sound.

From one glance, Shi Ye could tell that Mo Chenhao wasn't upset over the latest proposal; rather, his mind was occupied.

The meeting room was in complete silence. No one dared utter a word.

After a long while, Mo Chenhao finally looked up. "Is there anything else any of you have to say? If not, then we're done here."

He got up and walked out of the room.

The moment he left, everyone began to discuss among themselves.

Just as Shi Ye was about to follow his boss out, one of the managers hurriedly called out to him, "Mr. Shi! Is Mr. Mo happy with the new proposal, or is he not satisfied?"

Shi Ye pursed his lips. How would I know?

Still, the man wasn't new to dealing with such matters. "I'm not sure either. Why don't I let Mr. Mo have another look at your plan?" he proposed.

The manager instantly smiled. "Sorry to trouble you, Mr. Shi."

"It's part of my job," Shi Ye replied as he left with the documents.

He returned to the office and found Mo Chenhao sitting down with a stern expression on his face while holding his phone.

Knowing his boss was troubled with something, Shi Ye placed the documents on the desk and left.

It must be a really huge fight this time.

Mo Chenhao continued to stare at his phone screen. In truth, he wasn't doing anything, but he felt slightly uneasy.

After some time, the man suddenly stood up, grabbed his outerwear and headed outside.

Shi Ye had just returned with a cup of coffee for his boss. "Where are you going, Sir?" he hurriedly asked as Mo Chenhao exited the room.

"You don't have to come with me," the man replied without looking back.

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Mo Chenhao drove straight to the mansion.

There weren't many people here on a weekday morning.

"You're back, Mr. Mo."

“Hello, Mr. Mo.”

The maids greeted him.

Mo Chenhao headed straight for Mo Lian’s room and opened the door.

Mo Lian turned as she heard the noise. “What are you doing here, Chenhao?” she asked with a hint of astonishment in her eyes.

“There’s something I want to talk about.” Mo Chenhao remained standing at the door with an insidious look on his face.

Mo Lian’s expression turned rigid, as though she feared him. “Come on in if you want to talk.”

The man continued to stand outside. “Who is Si Chengyu’s birth mother? he asked frostily.

“I’m not sure,” Mo Lian answered, shaking her head. There wasn’t much change in her expression.

“Really?” Mo Chenhao began to head over while keeping his eyes locked on the woman, causing her to feel particularly tense.

Mo Lian instinctively two steps back, but she sounded calm nonetheless. “I really don’t know.”

Mo Chenhao stared at her for a few seconds before breaking into a smile. “Why do you look so scared of me? I was just asking you out of pure curiosity. Chengyu and I have been cousins for almost three decades, after all,” he said gently while placing a hand on the woman’s shoulder.

Mo Lian was taken aback by how quickly the man’s demeanor seemed to change. “I know. I’m sure it’s not easy for you or Chengyu to accept this fact,” she remarked after a pause.

“So what if we can’t accept it? We’re still family.” Mo Chenhao retracted his arm and placed his hand into his pocket. Then, he reverted to his usual indifferent voice. “You can drop by Mo Corporation when you have the time, Aunt Lian. It’s been years since you last visited.”

A trace of surprise flashed in Mo Lian’s eyes. “Okay.”

“I still have work to do, so I’ll be going now.” Mo Chenhao turned and headed out of the room.

“I’ll see you off,” Mo Lian said gently.

After Mo Lian bid Mo Chenhao goodbye, the man entered his car and spread out his palm. In his hand was a strand of long hair.

He had retrieved it from Mo Lian's shirt when placing his hand on her shoulder earlier.

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If Mu Yangyang could figure out those things, he certainly would have too.

Even if Mo Chenhao made the vilest of decisions and slowly removed every obstacle before him, he still had difficulty relating the truth behind the secret to the aforementioned suspects.

Blood was thicker than water, after all.

Mo Lian had always treated him kindly, and Si Chengyu was his closest friend. Even his own father, Mo Qingfeng, had given him many happy memories during his childhood.

Mo Chenhao was cold, but he wasn't ruthless. When everything began pointing to the people he cherished most, he certainly had some moments of doubt.

Still, the man didn't immediately try to uncover the truth. Instead, he waited for the situation to take a turn.

But if even Mu Yangyang doubted them, could there really be a turning point now?

So many people have suffered all these years.

It's time to get to the bottom of this.

...

Mo Chenhao never returned ever since he left that morning.

Shi Ye realized this and tried to call him, but the latter never picked up.

He knew how irrational Mo Chenhao could be whenever Mu Yangyang was involved. He smoked so much this morning. They must have gotten into a huge fight.

The more Shi Ye thought about it, the more concerned he became. Ultimately, he decided to call Mu Yangyang.

Mu Yangyang was rather stunned to receive a phone call from Shi Ye. "Shi Ye? What's the matter?"

"Hello, Mrs. Mo. Is Mr. Mo not with you?"

Shi Ye would always address her as Mrs. Mo despite being told not to numerous times, so Mu Yangyang eventually stopped trying to correct him.

The woman happened to be digging up some information on the computer. "Isn't he at work? Why would he be with me?" she asked, frowning.

Upon hearing that, Shi Ye became even more worried.

"Well..." He wanted to find out if they had gotten into an argument, but it seemed inappropriate to ask.

"If you have something to say, just say it," Mu Yangyang pushed her laptop aside and said earnestly.

Shi Ye gritted his teeth. "Did... Did you and Mr. Mo get into an argument?"

There certainly weren't many assistants like him.

Not only did the man have to keep track of Mo Chenhao's whereabouts, schedule and lifestyle, but he also had to pay attention to his private affairs.

Mu Yangyang immediately denied. "Not at all! Who would dare argue with him?"

As if she'd dare try to pick a fight with Mo Chenhao. If she ever ticked him off, it often only took him one glance to silence her.

An argument? Like that'd ever happen.

"Really?" It was Shi Ye's turn to be surprised. "Mr. Mo smoked an entire pack of cigarettes this morning."

So he didn't smoke because of Mu Yangyang.

Mu Yangyang couldn't sit still upon hearing that. "What happened?" she asked, immediately getting off her chair.

While speaking, she grabbed her purse, walked toward the door to put on her shoes and headed outside.

"I don't know either," Shi Ye replied sternly. "Mr. Mo left the office this morning and hasn't been back since."

Mo Chenhao was a disciplined man who took everything seriously. There was no way he'd suddenly leave the office during work hours.

Not unless it involved Mu Yangyang, of course.

"Okay. I'll go look for him."

Mu Yangyang hung up, rushed downstairs and drove out.

Something must have happened for him to smoke a whole pack of cigarettes.

But he was just fine this morning; what could've happened after he arrived at work?

Mu Yangyang dialed Mo Chenhao's number while driving.

Mo Chenhao didn't pick up, but he left her a simple text: What is it?

Mu Yangyang asked where he was, only to no longer receive a reply.

The woman headed to Mo Chenhao's apartment. Then, she went over to Jinding.

After dropping by every place she could possibly think of, she gave Gu Zhiyan a call.

"What's up, Yangyang?" After realizing that Mo Chenhao was the man who had kissed Mu Yangyang inside the car, Gu Zhiyan felt guilty for initially misunderstanding her. Hence, he spoke to her with much ardor upon answering her call.

Mu Yangyang got straight to the point. "Have you seen Chenhao?"

As compared to not picking up her phone call all night previously, the woman still felt anxious even though Mo Chenhao had responded with a text this time.

From Shi Ye's account, it was clear that Mo Chenhao's emotions were a little muddled.

"Not at all! Seeing him these days is like a commoner meeting an emperor. I won't get to meet him unless he graces me with his presence!"

Gu Zhiyan was furious at the mention of this.

Mu Yangyang sighed. "Okay."

Just before she hung up, Gu Zhiyan probed, "What's going on? Has something happened to him?"

"I'm not sure. I just don't know where he is. I've looked everywhere but I can't find him." Mu Yangyang sounded rather worn out.

She thought she understood Mo Chenhao, but now she realized she actually didn't know him that well.

"Hmm..." Gu Zhiyan pondered for a moment. "There's surely one place you haven't tried yet."

“Where?” Mu Yangyang hurriedly asked.

“The cemetery!”

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The two met up at the entrance of Sheng Ding and headed to the cemetery where Mo Chenhao’s mother had been buried.

Mo Chenhao had never brought Mu Yangyang there.

Mu Yangyang bought a bouquet of flowers as they passed by a florist.

“That’s nice of you,” Gu Zhiyan remarked while seated on the passenger seat.

They continued their journey to the cemetery.

A faint smile appeared on Mu Yangyang’s lips.

Just as they arrived, rain suddenly began to pour.

Fortunately, Mu Yangyang had an umbrella inside her car.

They proceeded to head up to the gravesite together, with Gu Zhiyan holding the umbrella for the two of them.

The cemetery was especially quiet at this time, and there were no other visitors around.

The gravesite was located on a hill. As Mu Yangyang continued ahead, she soon spotted a tall figure.

“It’s Chenhao!” She began to run over.

Gu Zhiyan chased after her while holding the umbrella. “Why are you running? It’s raining! We’ve already spotted him, so why can’t we just walk over?”

Mu Yangyang paid no heed to him, so the man could only run together with her.

Then, he realized that he couldn’t catch up with her at all.

“Mo Chenhao!” Mu Yangyang began to dash toward him with the flowers.

Mo Chenhao was completely soaked by now thanks to the rain. He looked rather disheveled with his wet, messy hair.

Mu Yangyang was in no better state.

Seeing Mo Chenhao standing there completely unscathed, the woman turned to the headstone before even saying anything.

The downpour was so heavy that she couldn't open her eyes.

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Wiping away the moisture from her face, Mu Yangyang knelt down in front of the tombstone with a bouquet of flowers in her arms.

She stared at the tombstone for a long while before speaking softly, "Mom, I'm Yangyang. Chenhao and I have been married for quite some time now. Sorry, I only manage to visit you now."

With that, she offered three kowtows before the tombstone.

Looking down at her, Mo Chenhao removed his jacket and placed it over her head. Then, he helped her to her feet before asking with a calm face, "How did you find out about this place?"

Mu Yangyang pointed at Gu Zhiyan, who was breathless after running over to them, and answered, "He brought me here."

Mo Chenhao adjusted the jacket on her to make sure she was properly sheltered from the rain and could open her eyes. Then, he reached for her face and wiped the raindrops away.

"Yangyang, you must have been an athlete in school to be able to run so fast." Holding an umbrella in one hand, Gu Zhiyan placed his other hand on his waist.

He walked over and handed the umbrella to Mo Chenhao before he approached the tombstone and bowed at it. Then, he turned around to face Mo Chenhao and questioned him, "Why didn't you just tell Yangyang you came here to visit your mother? You could have saved her the trouble from looking around for you."

In response, Mo Chenhao lowered his head and glanced at Mu Yangyang.

Holding the umbrella over her head, he took the jacket and draped it over her body.

The white shirt she was wearing became see-through because it was soaked by the rain.

Thinking that it was not appropriate of him to stay, Gu Zhiyan quickly told them, "I'm leaving to give the two of you some space to talk."

With that, Gu Zhiyan walked away in the rain, leaving Mo Chenhao and Mu Yangyang behind.

It was only then did Mu Yangyang look up and examine Mo Chenhao.

He didn't look any different from how he usually looked. Other than looking somewhat disheveled because of the rain, nothing seemed to be out of place.

She started thinking about the reason he made this trip over here all of a sudden. The accident happened to his mother took place during the winter so she reckoned it was not her mother's death anniversary that day as it was summertime.

There must be something else that prompted him to come here alone.

Mo Chenhao spoke with a hoarse voice after some time, "My original plan was to take both Mo Mu and you to visit my mother after the two of you came back from Sydney. But now that Mo Mu has gone missing, I'm worried that the news might upset her."

With his ominous tone and droopy eyes, his entire being was exuding a depressed and gloomy aura.

Not knowing what she should say, Mu Yangyang decided to snuggle up to him and wrap her arms around his body.

Mo Chenhao placed his hands gently on her shoulder before gently pushing her away. Then, he held her hands and brought her toward the tombstone where he introduced her to his mother in a level voice, "Mom, she's my wife, Mu Yangyang. We have a daughter named Mo Mu and I'll bring her to visit you some other time."

Although what he said was simple and not too emotional, Mu Yangyang still felt a lump in her throat when she heard that.

She turned her head away from him and dabbed at her eyes in silence.

After making the introduction, he placed his arm on her shoulder and said, "Let's go."

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Mu Yangyang gave Shi Ye a call after leaving the cemetery, informing him that she had found Mo Chenhao and there was no need for him to worry about his safety.

After hanging up on Shi Ye, she thought of reminding Mo Chenhao to notify Shi Ye of his whereabouts next time. Nonetheless, she thought better of it in the end when she noticed how weary he looked.

In fact, she was glad that he still remembered to reply her message.

They parted ways with Gu Zhiyan when they reached the city and then headed straight to Mo Chenhao's condominium.

Without saying a thing, Mo Chenhao went to the bathroom to fill up the bathtub with warm water. In the meantime, Mu Yangyang stood by the door watching him.

Sensing her presence, he spun around to find her standing in front of him. "Come over here," he said.

He then started helping her to remove her clothes.

"I can do it myself..." Mu Yangyang quickly wrapped both arms in front of her chest protectively.

Raising an eyebrow at her, he spoke in a serious tone, "It's faster with my help."

She was left stumped.

While she was stuck in a trance, he made use of the time to peel her clothes away and put her in the bathtub.

It's indeed faster than doing it myself.

As for Mo Chenhao, he left after changing into a bathrobe.

Mu Yangyang took a quick bath. When she walked out of the bathroom fully clothed, she could hear some noises coming from the kitchen.

She entered the kitchen to find Mo Chenhao putting some seasoning into a pot of soup while reading something intently off his phone.

"What're you fixing?"

Giving his attention to the screen of his phone, Mo Chenhao replied without turning, "Ginger soup."

She tilted her head to glance at the screen of his phone, and found that he was looking at a recipe of ginger soup on the internet.

"You should go and take a hot shower and let me do the cooking." She was unconvinced he could handle the soup on his own.

Seizing her by the collar of her shirt, he shoved her away from the stove and insisted in a steady voice, "Let me do it."

Mu Yangyang was left speechless.

Since he insisted on doing so, she had no choice but to observe him on the sideline.

Perhaps it was because he was a very intelligent man, the taste of the ginger soup turned out to be fine although he had never cooked anything in the kitchen before.

After taking a sip of the soup, Mu Yangyang looked up and found herself meeting Mo Chenhao's intent gaze. "How does it taste?" he asked.

"Not bad." She nodded in approval before taking another sip.

He caressed her head and urged, "Drink as much of it as you want. Now, I should go and take a shower."

As soon as he vanished into the bathroom, she immediately stuck out her tongue and fanned at it with her hand to cool it down.

Although the taste of the soup was fine, it was a tad bit too spicy.

In the end, she still managed to finish a big bowl of it considering that it was a heartwarming gesture from him.

However, she vowed to never have any ginger soup again for the rest of her life after that.

After Mo Chenhao finished taking a shower, he walked out of the bathroom and found Mu Yangyang on standby with a hair dryer.

He queried with an eyebrow raised, "What're you doing here?"

"I'm going to help you dry your hair." Waving the hair dryer in her hand, she dazzled him with a gentle smile.

However, he turned down her offer flatly, "That won't be necessary. You should go and have some sleep instead."

"Huh?" Mu Yangyang was stunned by how big a fuss he made out of it. It was not like she had never been caught in the rain before, and she believed she wouldn't be that weak to fall sick immediately just because of some rain.

Hence, she dragged him to the living room and seated him on the sofa. "I have to dry your hair first because you will catch a cold with your hair wet."

This time, he did not reject her gesture.

After placing her hand in front of the nozzle of the hair dryer to make sure the temperature of the air was just nice, she started drying his hair.

She could sense that he became gradually relaxed during the process. "What inspired you to visit the

cemetery today?" she asked tentatively.

He replied her airily, "Do I have to choose an auspicious day to do it?"

Taken aback by his answer, Mu Yangyang trailed off, "I didn't mean it that way..."

Mo Chenhao was so great at keeping secrets that no one was able to lure him into saying anything that he had no intention of divulging.

Therefore, Mu Yangyang was naive to think that she could induce him into letting down his guard with her affection and gentleness.

She neglected the fact that Mo Chenhao was unlike any other ordinary guy.

Getting sentimental over how miserable he looked when he was standing alone before his mother's tombstone earlier, she sighed. "I'm just worried about you because Shi Ye told me that you've finished a whole pack of cigarette today."

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Mo Chenhao seemed to be enjoying her service very much with his eyes half closed. "Shi Ye told you about that?"

Just as Mu Yangyang was about to answer him, he commented in an inquisitive tone, "So, does it mean that he has your phone number? What about Gu Zhiyan?"

She was left speechless. It didn't seem like a great time to talk about them.

Pursing her lips, she relented, "Fine, it's okay if you don't feel like talking about it."

There was a trace of frustration in her voice when she said that but to her utter dismay, he really went along with what she said by keeping his mouth shut.

In a spiteful move, she thrust the hair dryer on the sofa and raged, "Go on and dry your hair yourself!"

With his eyes widened, he held her back and said in a solemn tone, "How can you give up something you've already done halfway?"

"It's none of your business." She glared at him.

He drew her closer to his chest. "You're right but I still have to give you some punishment for that."

She lifted her chin cockily in response.

The next second, he put her down on the sofa all of a sudden and started tickling her.

“Argh!”

Mu Yangyang was caught off guard by his attack that she let out a scream in horror. As she could imagine what he was going to do to her next, she flipped over in an attempt to make a run for it.

Nonetheless, she was no match for Mo Chenhao who extended his arms to pull her back to the sofa.

Knowing all the sensitive spots of her body better than her, it took him little effort to make her giggle non-stop.

“Mo Chenhao, let go of me... Hahaha...”

She could withstand it at the very beginning but she soon decided to raise the white flag.

When she was laughing so hard that she started tearing up, he finally stopped it and helped her sit up straight.

Wiping away the tears at the corners of her eyes, he asked, “Is that enough of a punishment for you?”

Mu Yangyang slapped his hand away and snapped angrily, “Don’t you talk to me, you childish guy!”

“I’m childish?” He raised one brow at her and said mischievously, “Seems like you deserve another round of punishment.”

Before he started doing anything to her, Mu Yangyang ran away from the sofa just in time. She scrambled to the bedroom and locked the door. “You will sleep on the couch tonight!”

Mo Chenhao’s face fell as he bellowed, “Mu Yangyang!”

She was elated to hear the suppressed anger in his voice.

However, she was not heartless enough to let him sleep on the couch and in the end he was allowed in.

Seconds before she was about to fall into a slumber, Mu Yangyang suddenly recalled that her question was actually not answered by Mo Chenhao just now.

Obviously, he was getting better and better at steering their conversation away from the topic he wished to avoid.

...

When she woke up the next morning, he was no longer lying next to her.

She was worried about him up until then because of what happened the day before.

Hence, she sat upright and dialed his number.

She was feeling slightly restless while waiting for him to pick up her call. Fortunately, he didn't let her wait too long.

"You're awake." He must be at some very quiet place because she could hear nothing else but his breathing.

"Are you at the office right now?" she asked.

"Yup." After he responded, there came the flipping sound of papers.

"If that's the case, I shall not disturb you then."

She hung up on him first.

...

Mo Chenhao put down his phone and fixed his gaze on a DNA test report he was reading earlier.

In fact, the flipping sound Mu Yangyang heard just now was from him flipping through the DNA test report.

He took his time in reading it. When he reached the end of it, he suddenly let out a cold sneer.

Shi Ye was standing opposite of him in front of the desk. When he heard the eerie laugh from him while he was rifling through the DNA test report, goosebumps started breaking out all over his skin.

He glued his eyes on the ground not daring to take a peek at the DNA test report.

Early in the morning, Shi Ye went to pick up the DNA test report for Mo Chenhao as per the latter's instruction.

As he was not bold enough to check its content, Shi Ye had no idea whose report it was but then again, he had a vague feeling that it belonged to someone from the Mo family.

Lowering his head slightly, Shi Ye spoke, "Mr. Mo, I'll go out if you have no other instruction for me."

Mo Chenhao tossed the DNA test report onto the ground in front of him and said flatly, "Send this to the old mansion by post."

Shi Ye picked it up and asked, "May I know who should I put as the recipient?"

As expected, the DNA test report belonged to someone in the Mo family.

Mo Chenhao leaned back on his chair and said casually, "Write any name you want."

Write any name I want?

Without probing any further, Shi Ye turned around and left Mo Chenhao's office.

...

When Mo Qingfeng returned home that night, a maid immediately approached him and took his jacket. "Sir, we received a parcel from an unknown sender. Do you want to open it now?"

As Old Master Mo was suffering from dementia, Mo Qingfeng automatically became the head of the family. Therefore, they had to keep him informed about everything that happened at home.

A parcel?

After a brief moment of silence, he instructed, "Bring it to me."

The maid immediately obeyed by taking the parcel over.

Mo Qingfeng slit open the package from which he took out a kraft paper bag.

Judging from the weight of the paper bag, he assumed a document was placed inside.

He then opened the paper bag and pulled the document out.

However, his face turned grim in an instant when only a corner of the document was revealed.

With his hand frozen in midair, he yelled at the maids with a sullen look. "All of you, out!"

Despite feeling confused by his sudden outburst, the maids left him alone hastily without saying another word.

Just as all of them were leaving the living room, Mo Qingfeng said, "Hold on."

"Sir, how can I help you?" The maid at the last of the line turned around.

In a somber tone, he instructed the maid, "Get Ms. Mo here."

The maid knew he was alluding to Mo Lian.

Before long, Mo Lian reached the living room.

“Qingfeng, what’s the matter?” Mo Lian knew there must be something huge because it wasn’t common of Mo Qingfeng to ask to see her so urgently.

With a grave expression, he handed the paper bag to her and said, “Take a look at what’s inside.”

Feeling slightly alarmed, she took out the document from the paper bag. With just one glance at its content, it was enough to make her look horrified. “This is...”

A cold glint flickered in Mo Qingfeng’s eyes when he pointed out, “Chenhao has found out about the truth.”

Shuddering, Mo Lian lost the ability to speak coherently. “H-How’s that possible? How did he find out about it? Could this be sent by someone else?”

“Other than him, who else knows Chengyu is my illegitimate son? Obviously, he’s trying to provoke me by sending me this!” Letting out a cold sneer, a trace of ruthlessness flashed in his eyes when he muttered, “What can he do to me? There’s nothing he can do because I still have a trump card up my sleeves.”

“Qingfeng, Chenhao is too intelligent of a man. We...” Still trembling vigorously, Mo Lian continued, “Your plan won’t work...”

Mo Qingfeng kept his cool better than his sister. Reaching out to place his hands on her shoulder, he reassured her, “Don’t worry because we still have his daughter with us. There’s nothing he can do to us and of course, he won’t have the guts to reveal my secret.”

“Why is his daughter with you?” Mo Lian had returned to M Nation after New Year, so she had no idea what happened subsequently.

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With a sly smile, Mo Qingfeng explained, “Chenhao is as bright as his mother and he has been suspicious ever since what happened to the old man. I know it’s only a matter of time before he learnt about our secret so of course I have to plan ahead.”

Feeling much relieved after listening to his assurance, Mo Lian appeared more at ease. “You really gave me such a huge fright just now.”

Mo Qingfeng patted her shoulder in a soothing manner. “Don’t worry because he is no match for me no matter how intelligent he is!”

Still, Mo Lian looked quite concerned with her brows furrowed.

...

The production of the web series Mu Yangyang participated in was progressing smoothly.

Mu Yangyang decided to visit the set because it was the first time her script was made into a series. Although it was just a web series, the whole idea was new to her and she would visit the set whenever she was free.

However, she seldom visited the set recently.

The filming of the web series had been going on for almost a month and about half of the content was completed. The rest of it would then take place at another location.

As the entire production team consisted of many members, everyone was given two days' break as they needed time to shift everything to the new location.

Qin Shuishan made use of the free time by asking Mu Yangyang out for dinner and it so happened that she fixed the place at Jinding.

Her invitation was accepted by Mu Yangyang readily.

However, Qin Shuishan arrived slightly later that night.

Mu Yangyang waited for around ten minutes before she arrived.

"I'm so sorry for being late because I was stuck in a traffic jam just now," Qin Shuishan spoke somewhat apologetically.

Mu Yangyang shook her head and said, "It's fine. I've just arrived anyway."

They ordered the food and started talking about gossips at the set.

Suddenly, something struck Qin Shuishan that prompted her to ask Mu Yangyang, "Have you heard of this rumor that has been spreading like a wildfire recently?"

"What sort of rumor is that?" Mu Yangyang was not surprised to hear that. As Qin Shuishan came from a wealthy family and she was working in the showbiz, it was perfectly normal for her to learn about gossips of celebrities and tycoons through various sources.

In a mysterious tone, she revealed, "It's related to the Mo family."

Looking stunned, Mu Yangyang queried, "What's the rumor about?"

It had been days since she last met Mo Chenhao. She had been trying to reach him through phone calls

but he was always too busy to pick them up.

Every time he returned the call, he would be forced to hang up on her prematurely because of work.

Furthermore, she had been resting at home for the past couple of days, she didn't get to learn about the rumor.

"Someone revealed that Mo Qingfeng is having a steady relationship with a woman and they even have a child together out of wedlock." Speaking in a disdainful tone, Qin Shuishan continued, "Meanwhile, all of us have been assuming that he's a faithful guy to his deceased wife because he doesn't remarry nor does he have any relationship scandals with other women..."

Mu Yangyang looked dumbfounded but it took her a short time to recover. "Isn't it just a rumor? It might be some fake news."

"You're right. After all, people nowadays tend to form their own presumptions based on just a tiny bit of information they could find. There's a celebrity I know of and there was a time she crouched down by the road because she was having a stomachache at the moment. In the end, photos of her squatting down were captured by some paparazzies who spun the tales to claim that she was crying her heart out at that time because her boyfriend just cheated on her."

Mu Yangyang went speechless.

"Whether it is fake news or not, the rumor has quite a damaging effect on Mo Corporation as its share price has been plummeting over the past two days."

It was obvious that Qin Shuishan was very interested in the rumor because she went on to ask Mu Yangyang's opinion. "I seldom get the chance to meet Mo Qingfeng in person before. What do you think about him? Do you think he looks like a man who has an illegitimate child?"

Swaying her drinks mindlessly, Mu Yangyang answered her after some contemplation, "I don't know him well enough to form an opinion because I don't get to interact with him much either..."

To Mu Yangyang's relief, Qin Shuishan did not dwell on the matter too long as their conversation slowly shifted to the gossips of other celebrities.

Meanwhile, Mu Yangyang did not pay full attention to what Qin Shuishan was saying because she was using her phone to search for news about Mo Corporation on the internet at the same time.

Indeed, she found the news article about Mo Qingfeng's scandal.

It was obvious that the media company was doing everything it could to prevent lawsuits as they only pointed out that Mo Qingfeng was 'suspected' of having an illegitimate child instead of making it sound absolute.

If what Mo Lian had told her before was true, she must say Mo Qingfeng was indeed a man who was very faithful to his relationships.

Comments on the internet regarding the rumor was a mixture of good and bad.

'I'm sure someone is trying to sabotage Mo Corporation by releasing this.'

'Hey, do you have any idea how powerful is the Mo family? No one dares to mess with them!'

'Mo Chenhao be like: am I dead to all of you?'

'If the rumor turns out to be true, Mo Qingfeng's image as a loyal and faithful guy will crumble.'

'It's been two days since the rumor was leaked out but Mo Corporation has yet to address the rumor. Does it mean the rumor is true?'

At the sight of the comment, Mu Yangyang couldn't help but wondered whether it was Mu Chenhao who deliberately released the rumor to the media.

In fact, it was not a rumor because Mo Qingfeng really had an illegitimate child.

Putting down her phone, she looked up at Qin Shuishan and asked, "How long has this rumor been circulating?"

"It's been there a few days." A crafty smile then appeared on Qin Shuishan's face. "Seems like you care a lot about the Mo family. Be honest with me. Do you still have feelings for Mu Chenhao?"

Mu Yangyang chuckled and clarified, "I'm just being curious."

"You didn't deny it." The amusement in Qin Shuishan's eyes intensified.

As Mu Yangyang raised one brow at Qin Shuishan in response instead of answering her, the latter quickly changed the topic of their conversation. "Fine, let's talk business from now on. Since the production team will set off to the new location in another state tomorrow, will you go with them?"

Mu Yangyang shook her head and said jokingly, "Count me out. Since things have been going so well lately, my presence doesn't seem to be necessary. Besides, I will take up an extra hotel room and consume extra lunch boxes if I join them."

Qin Shuishan rolled her eyes at her and taunted, "You deserve the gratitude of the entire production team for trying so hard to cut costs for them."

...

Mu Yangyang couldn't shake the rumors off her mind ever since Qin Shuishan shared it with her.

After she excused herself to the bathroom, she couldn't resist the urge to give Mo Chenhao a call.

As soon as she reached him, she could hear clamorous voices coming from his background.

She checked the time and found that it was seven o'clock at night. "Are you busy with work at the office?"

"Nope, I'm having dinner outside." As soon as his voice trailed off, she could hear his firm footsteps in the background. "Do you have anything to tell me?"

"Nothing." She decided not to ask him too many questions considering that he was having dinner.

After ending the call with him, she walked out of the bathroom and made her way to the lobby of the restaurant. When she was there, she spotted Mo Chenhao stepping out of the elevator by himself.

The weather was still warm despite it was early September but he was still dressed immaculately in a suit as if the heat did not bother him in the least bit.

He strode out of the elevator with a poker-face. Exuding a detached and aloof aura that made him seem hard to approach, he then headed in the direction of one of the private rooms.

At first, she thought of greeting him but his pace was too quick for her to catch up. Therefore, she could only follow him at the back.

He stepped into one of the private rooms and the moment he closed the door, she noticed there was no one else inside.

Who was he going to meet up for dinner?

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Mu Yangyang was lost in thought for a moment before returning to her table.

The entire restaurant was crowded at that moment because it was dinnertime.

After sitting down at her table, she spun around and strained her eyes trying to catch a view of the private room where Mu Chenhao was in through the thick crowd.

When he told her over the phone that he was having dinner outside, she thought he was eating with Gu Zhiyan but as it turned out, he actually just arrived at the restaurant.

Also, if he were having dinner with Gu Zhiyan, Gu Zhiyan would surely be there earlier than him.

So, who could he be having dinner with?

Before long, she spotted a familiar figure at the restaurant. The moment she saw the person entering the private room where Mu Chenhao was, she couldn't help but felt shocked.

As the public dining hall was separated from the private rooms, it was comparatively quieter at the area where the private rooms were.

"You seem distracted. What are you looking at?" Qin Shuishan, who was sitting opposite her, turned around and followed the direction of her gaze. She did it at the most opportune time as she happened to catch Mo Qingfeng walking into a private room.

Feeling excited by the sight of Mo Qingfeng, Qin Shuishan asked cautiously in an undertone, "Isn't that Mo Qingfeng, your ex-husband's father?"

"That's him," Mu Yangyang responded calmly.

Is Mo Chenhao having dinner with his father? She wondered why they would even have dinner with each other alone judging how sour their relationship had become.

Could Mo Chenhao be the one who released the rumor to the media so his father wanted to have a negotiation with him?

"You know what, I'm having this urge to call all the reporters over here." As soon as Qin Shuishan said that, she quickly shook her head dismissing her own idea. "But then again, I guess none of the reporters would dare to interview your ex-husband's father even if they were here."

"Why do you have to refer to him as 'my ex-husband's father'?" It sounded so awkward to Mu Yangyang.

Qin Shuishan fell silent as she glued her eyes on Mu Yangyang without blinking.

"What's wrong with you?" Mu Yangyang was left dumbfounded. "You may continue calling him that if that's what you want..."

All of a sudden, Qin Shuishan remarked indifferently, "To be frank, I don't quite believe that you have divorced Mo Chenhao."

"Huh?" Blinking her eyes to disguise her guilt, Mu Yangyang countered, "Do you really think so? Seems like you know Mo Chenhao very well to have that kind of opinion..."

"My sixth sense tells me so! Do you know what that is? I can determine whether someone is a jerk or a two-timer by just taking one glance at the person. Yet, I have a feeling that Mo Chenhao is a guy who

will stay loyal to the woman he really loves. So, I'm suspecting that you guys didn't get a divorce at all but instead..."

She suddenly paused at that moment.

Feeling restless under Qin Shuishan's penetrating gaze, Mu Yangyang couldn't help but pressed on, "But what?"

Qin Shuishan completed her sentence by articulating, "It's you who dumped him!"

Mu Yangyang choked on the mouthful of water she just drank. "Do you have any idea what are you talking about?"

Staring at her with her eyes widened in consternation, Qin Shuishan exclaimed, "Did you really dump him?"

It was just a casual remark. But, could it turn out to be a correct guess?

"Since you have an early flight tomorrow, we should wrap this up sooner so that you can go home earlier. Since you are so nosy, I would suggest you make a career change and be a paparazzi instead."

"If I ever make that decision you'd be my prime target!"

Mu Yangyang was left speechless.

As soon as they finished dinner, Qin Shuishan left immediately after receiving a phone call from her assistant.

Meanwhile, Mu Yangyang continued watching Mu Chenhao's private room but she didn't see him come out for even once.

After some hesitation, she decided to go there and take a look.

One, two, three...

When she followed him there just now, she noted that his private room was the sixth from the left.

She stood still in front of the door and leaned on the wall next to it. Just as she was about to press her ears against the wall in an attempt to catch the conversation inside, she noticed a waiter walking her way. She took out her phone frantically and pretended to be engaging in a phone call.

At the same time, she kept on checking the corridor to make sure the coast was clear.

Just as she tried to press her ear on the wall again when the corridor was finally empty, the door

creaked open all of a sudden.

She became petrified in an instant. Before she could even see who walked out of the room, she felt a large palm on her shoulder and the next minute she was shoved to a corner of the corridor.

With a loud thud, the door of the private room was closed.

She spun around and found Mo Chenhao staring at her with a grim expression.

After being caught red-handed, Mu Yangyang felt a pressing need to speak amidst the awkward situation.

She asked him somewhat guiltily, "What's the matter with you?"

Without answering her, Mo Chenhao held her hand and hauled her toward the elevator.

As his strides were large and his pace was quick, Mu Yangyang felt like she was being dragged along the way.

However, she dared not make a sound seeing how bleak his face was and how dangerous the aura he was giving out.

It was only after he brought her to a room which was exclusively reserved for his use did he let go of her.

While she was massaging her sore wrist, she heard him questioning her in a grim voice. "Why are you here?"

She answered him immediately, "I was having dinner with Qin Shuishan."

With his face turning frosty in an instant, he clarified, "What I'm asking you is, why are you standing outside my private room and what are you planning to do?"

"I saw you and your father entered the room one after another, so..."

The way she addressed Mo Qingfeng as his father angered him right away. He cut her off by speaking in a menacing tone, "I beg your pardon?"

Mu Yangyang quickly rectified, "I mean, Mo Qingfeng..."

Before she married the man, Mo Qingfeng once asked her out for a meeting.

At that time, she only thought of him as an aloof and unapproachable man. As Mo Chenhao's father, she reckoned he must have had his own reason for acting that way.

However, her opinion was proved totally wrong because of a series of event that took place later.

Undoubtedly, she was a soft-hearted person when it came to kinships and relationships.

Otherwise, she would not have put up with her own family for so many years before she totally gave up trying.

In fact, she didn't think it was too heinous for Mo Qingfeng to have an illegitimate child.

Looking at how frightened and innocent her eyes were when she was staring at him, a trace of resignation flashed in Mo Chenhao's eyes. He softened his voice but still spoke sternly, "Please stay as far away as you can from Mo Qingfeng when you bump into him in the future."

"Okay," Mu Yangyang responded somewhat perfunctorily. "What are you discussing with him now?" she asked.

"Something private between the two of us." After saying that, Mo Chenhao turned around and sat down on the sofa.

With his eyes droopy, he sat cross-legged and stayed tight-lipped.

Mu Yangyang understood him well enough to know that it was his typical expression whenever he was reluctant to tell her something.

She scurried over to the sofa and sat down next to him. "What's this rumor all about? Did you hire someone to spread it around?"

Although he refused to speak, it didn't mean she was not allowed to ask him questions.

"Nope." Indeed, he was not responsible for the widespread of the rumor because all he did was to send an email to a reporter only.

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Mu Yangyang refused to believe the things Mo Chenhao had told her.

Suddenly, Mo Chenhao said, "I'll be pretty busy soon. Get in touch with Gu Zhiyan if there's anything you need."

"Why? What is it about? Is it regarding the sudden dip in Mo Corporation's stock prices?" Mu Yangyang queried, expressing her concerns in a surprised tone.

Mo Chenhao tilted his head, staring at her in the eyes. Mu Yangyang exchanged glances with him with anticipation. But instead of answering, he leaned over, and kissed her out of the blue.

“Mo...” Trying to avoid the man’s kiss, Mu Yangyang leaned backward immediately.

Similarly, he moved away from Mu Yangyang. Adjusting his necktie, Mo Chenhao suggested as though he was up to something else in his mind, “The beds in Jinding’s guest rooms are custom made by a supplier from abroad. I’m the one who instructed my subordinates to order them. Do you want to give it a try?”

Flushed, Mu Yangyang pushed Mo Chenhao away from her immediately. “I’m going back!”

Consequently, Mo Chenhao fell to the couch since Mu Yangyang managed to take him by surprise.

He decided to lie on the couch, asking nonchalantly, “Are you sure you’re not going to give it a try?”

However, Mu Yangyang responded to his query by slamming the door with all her might.

Once Mu Yangyang departed, Mo Chenhao finally returned to his calm and collected self.

He brought himself up, reaching for the box of cigarettes he had with him and lighted a cigarette for himself.

...

In the meantime, Mu Yangyang got increasingly infuriated as she drove home.

She thought something bad had befallen Mo Chenhao, but he turned out to be his usual shameless self.

Halfway through her way home, she recalled she was running out of fruits. Therefore, she pulled over to purchase some fruits before heading home.

She brought the pack of fruits she bought and returned to her place. Everything seemed to be fine when she made her way into her place. As she was closing the fridge door after storing the fruits, a topless man with a towel around his waist walked out of her room.

“W-Who the hell are you?” Taken aback by the man’s sudden appearance, Mu Yangyang took a few steps back, distancing herself away from the suspicious man.

Although she tried her best to put on a calm front, fear was written all over her face as she stuttered at the man’s presence.

As a woman living alone, it was only natural for her to be afraid of the unknown man’s presence in the middle of the night.

Although she used to be a delinquent, she was, after all, a woman.

The man marched over and lowered his gaze the moment he reached her side. He asked, "Don't you remember me anymore?"

The handsome man, who was on par with Mo Chenhao in terms of height, stood in front of Mu Yangyang.

The only thing he had on him was a towel around his waist. Horrendous scars, which didn't match his gorgeous look, could be found all over his body.

There were countless beads of water droplets all over his body, indicating that he had just taken a cold shower not long ago.

Who the hell is this maniac? Has he lost his mind? He's infiltrating my house in the middle of the night for a cold shower?

Mu Yangyang became alert all of a sudden. She dashed into the kitchen as soon as the suspicious man approached her. Reaching for a random knife in the kitchen, she raised her voice and warned the man, "Stay away from me!"

He's as tall as Mo Chenhao. Look at his sturdy figure. I'm sure he has been working out. If that's the case, it's impossible for me to take him on fair and square!

She had her eyes glued to the suspicious man because she was afraid he would resort to something brutal and hurt her. Meanwhile, she secretly reached for her phone in her pocket.

Upon detecting Mu Yangyang's response, the suspicious man introduced himself with a smirk, "It seems like you have forgotten about me, huh? If that's the case, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Li Jiuheng."

He initiated a handshake with a smile as though he meant no harm once he finished introducing himself.

Li Jiuheng? What the heck does he think he's doing? An ordinary man will never infiltrate a woman's home in the middle of a night just for a shower, right?

Mu Yangyang had already reached her phone by then. She secretly tilted her body diagonally in an attempt to conceal her ulterior goal from Li Jiuheng.

However, he was way swifter than she could imagine.

In the blink of an eye, she detected an excruciating sensation coming from her wrist because Li Jiuheng had taken over the knife she had with her.

He gripped her wrist and dragged her away with him against her will. Since Mu Yangyang wasn't a match for Li Jiuheng in terms of strength, Li Jiuheng took her into custody easily.

Instinctively, Mu Yangyang raised her knee with all her might as soon as she was near the man. In the end, she managed to assault the man's pelvic area.

"Ah..." Li Jiuhe ng gasped in pain, frowning as his face puckered.

"You're the first woman who has ever gotten the better of me!" Li Jiuhe ng asserted with an odd expression.

Mu Yangyang couldn't be bothered by his so-called compliment at all. She attempted fleeing once she got the opportunity, reaching for her phone in her pocket while rushing out, but she found that her phone was not in her pocket anymore.

She turned around abruptly and saw her phone in Li Jiuhe ng's hands.

"Are you looking for your phone?" Li Jiuhe ng asked contemptuously, waving her phone in front of her.

Once he finished teasing Mu Yangyang, he accessed her phone's contact log and announced the names he came across one by one, "Mo Chenghao, Mr. Shi, Gu Zhiyan, Liang, Shuishan... Two of these names ring a bell."

Brimming with excitement, Li Jiuhe ng raised his head and looked at Mu Yangyang as soon as he finished going through her contact log.

Mu Yangyang finally figured out Li Jiuhe ng wasn't an ordinary burglar who broke into others' place for theft. If he had intended to harm her, he wouldn't have allowed her the chance to flee.

Since he was so nimble as to snatch her phone away from her without her noticing, Mu Yangyang was certain Li Jiuhe ng was no ordinary man.

Staring at the man indifferently, Mu Yangyang stood by the entrance and asked, "Who are you? What do you want from me?"

He started taking a selfie using Mu Yangyang's phone as he introduced himself, "I'm Li Jiuhe ng! I didn't get the chance to introduce myself during our last meet up because we were in a rush to leave! You don't have to introduce yourself because I know you're Mu Yangyang, the ex-wife of Mo Chenhao."

"How do you know my name?" Mu Yangyang got tensed once more.

"Excuse me? You are the talk of the town. I don't think there's anyone who isn't aware of your identity." Scrolling through her album, Li Jiuhe ng commented casually, "Wow! We look great! I think this is worthy of a post on your social media account."

P-Photo? Wait! He has taken a selfie a few minutes ago, right? Is he seriously going to upload the photo?

I mean, he's topless. Worst of all, I'm inside the photo!

Mu Yangyang's eyes widened in disbelief. She rushed over, instructing furiously, "Hey! You're not allowed to do that! Return me my phone at once!"

"Hold on. I'm not done uploading the photo yet." Li Jiuhe raised Mu Yangyang's phone. Since she was shorter than him, she couldn't reach her phone at all.

She dared not resort to anything reckless because he merely had a towel wrapped around his waist.

In the end, Mu Yangyang figured out Li Jiuhe had dropped by her place to visit her, but she couldn't figure out the reason behind his visit. Hence, she made up her mind and decided to leave.

"Are you going to leave your phone behind? Aren't you afraid I'm going to upload our photo to your social media account?" Li Jiuhe asked in an attempt to stop Mu Yangyang since she was about to leave.

"Please suit yourself," Mu Yangyang replied nonchalantly. She had already reached the entrance of her place and opened the door by then.

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Chuckling with a seemingly harmless look, Li Jiuhe accessed her social media account in front of her once more.

Her expression changed because he seemed to mean what he said.

Li Jiuhe proceeded to edit the photos he had taken a few minutes ago, drafting the post, and inserting a nauseating caption: Jiu has such a great body!

She was rendered speechless by his action and found the man odd as though he was mentally impaired.

"That's it? It seems like you aren't against the caption, huh? If that's the case, I'll proceed to upload the photo, okay?" Li Jiuhe grinned because Mu Yangyang remained silent throughout the session.

"Wait!" Mu Yangyang yelled and stopped him in the nick of time.

"Oh? Am I not supposed to upload the photo?" Li Jiuhe lingered his finger on the upload button.

"What exactly do you want? Let's have a conversation if there's anything you wish to talk about, okay?" Although her name had been trending on social media lately, but it took a real follower to actually know her matters.

She was certain Li Jiuhe was up to something in his mind since he was aware of her relationship with Mo Chenhao and infiltrated her place.

Li Jiuhe deleted the drafted post and put her phone aside, suggesting in a serious manner, "Okay. Let's have a seat and talk about it."

Standing right where she was, Mu Yangyang instructed indifferently, "Can you please put on a shirt or something?"

She had surveillance cameras installed everywhere. Therefore, she was certain he dared not resort to anything reckless either.

"Okay," Li Jiuhe nodded and replied before heading into Mu Yangyang's bedroom once again, whistling nonchalantly as he made his way in.

In the meantime, Mu Yangyang gritted her teeth as she stared at Li Jiuhe entering her room as though it wasn't a big deal.

She was utterly disgusted and made up her mind to move out as soon as she had everything sorted out.

Two minutes later, Li Jiuhe walked out of Mu Yangyang's room fully dressed.

He seemed different because he had changed into a set of monochrome outfits, covering his scarred figure. At that point, he could easily deceive other women with his outgoing appearance.

Li Jiuhe sat on the couch and asked, "What are you doing at the entrance? Hurry up! Aren't you the one who suggested to have a proper conversation?"

Standing next to the entrance, Mu Yangyang refused to close the door because she had no intention to leave at all. "I'm fine with having a conversation by the entrance."

Li Jiuhe was taken aback for a short while, but returned to his senses and leaned against the comfortable couch, stretching his arms leisurely after a few seconds.

He proceeded to survey the surroundings, searching for something. In the end, he asked, "Where's your child? Did Mo Chenhao get the child's custody after the divorce?"

"Who the hell are you?" Mu Yangyang's expression changed drastically the moment Li Jiuhe brought up her child.

There were only a few who were aware of Mo Mu's existence. Others would never figure out the existence of their daughter.

"Why have you gotten so defensive all of a sudden? Are you afraid of me?" Li Jiuhe burst into laughter. Staring at Mu Yangyang with a vicious grin, he seemed as though he was up to no good.

“You’re but a poor, barren woman, who has been abandoned by another man. Do you really think I’m interested in you?”

Li Jiuhe sized her up, suggesting something eerie out of the blue, “To be honest, you’re quite a beauty. Maybe we can have some fun before I send you to hell?”

His words would easily intimidate an ordinary person, but oddly, Mu Yangyang had a hunch he wouldn’t resort to the things he had mentioned.

Without responding to him, she stared at him silently.

Suddenly, Li Jiuhe heaved a long sigh of despair. “With that being said, I have never once make a move against a woman before. I’m afraid I have to let you down.”

Bursting into laughter due to extreme frustration, Mu Yangyang confronted the suspicious man. “Where are you from?”

She suspected he must be a lunatic who had escaped from the psychiatric hospital.

“Australia,” he replied with a serious expression, stating his origin.

Australia?

Previously, Mu Yangyang fled to Australia after he burnt down Mo Chenhao’s villa to the ground under Shen Haochu’s aid. That was her only trip to Australia throughout her life.

She recalled the question Li Jiuhe asked her the moment she returned home, inquiring if she had forgotten about him.

Mu Yangyang scrutinized Li Jiuhe and found him familiar all of a sudden, but she figured she could be influenced by the man’s words.

Before she could verify if she had run into him back in the day, she heard the sound of footsteps growing closer.

A woman’s voice could be heard yelling, “Officer, they’re right here!”

The moment Mu Yangyang turned around, she detected an old lady rushing over with a few police officers behind her.

The old lady asked Mu Yangyang, expressing her concerns the moment she reached the latter’s side, “Miss, are you okay?”

The old lady was Mu Yangyang’s neighbor. Occasionally, they would greet one another.

The old lady was a woman living alone as well. Perhaps she detected a sense of familiarity since they shared a similar background. Hence, she had always treated her in a friendly manner. She wasn't aware of the incident Mu Yangyang was involved in because she didn't know how to browse the internet.

Mu Yangyang greeted the old lady politely, "Grandma."

The old lady saw Li Jiuhe, who looked in their direction, the moment she reached Mu Yangyang's side. She brought Mu Yangyang out of her place immediately, explaining the rationale behind her visit, "Are you okay? Earlier, I saw someone entering your unit, but I paid no heed to it. However, I noticed you weren't around since your car was nowhere to be seen when I headed downstairs for a stroll. I wanted to stop you when you were back, but I didn't get to reach you in time. I thought a burglar must have broken into your house. Therefore, I got the cops to rush over as soon as possible."

In return, Mu Yangyang shook her head, assuring the old lady, "I'm fine, Grandma. Thank you so much." Deep down, she felt a heartwarming sensation.

"That man..." The old lady pointed at Li Jiuhe who was in the living room.

Mu Yangyang turned around and detected Li Jiuhe smirking once again.

"I don't know him," Mu Yangyang pouted her lips, replying to the old lady's query.

...

In the end, Li Jiuhe was taken into custody by the police, but Mu Yangyang was requested to join them in the police station because they needed her to give her statement as well.

"Sir, what's your name?"

"Li Jiuhe."

"What's your occupation?"

"I'm a psychologist. I have just returned from Australia. Hence, I haven't reported for duty."

The police officer raised his head, staring at him in disbelief upon hearing Li Jiuhe's reply.

Since he wasn't involved in serious offense, Li Jiuhe wasn't sent behind bars. Instead, he joined Mu Yangyang in the police officer's office to have their statements taken.

Mu Yangyang, who was nearby Li Jiuhe, turned around, and scrutinized Li Jiuhe once more because she was equally shocked by his words.

It seemed as though Li Jiuhe detected the woman's gaze. Hence, he turned around and returned the favor, blinking in return.

The police officer, who was in charge of taking Mu Yangyang's statement, also heard Li Jiuhe's words. He got up from his seat and approached the police officer in charge of Li Jiuhe's statement, whispering something into his ears.

Consequently, the expression of the latter changed.

He cleared his throat once his colleague returned to his seat. Soon, his attitude changed, asking politely, "Mr. Li, why were you in Ms. Mu's unit?"

"It's a prank. After all, we have been friends for years." Li Jiuhe replied with a smile. He behaved as though he was telling the truth.

Mu Yangyang turned around, glaring at the man, whom she deemed a total stranger.

Similarly, Li Jiuhe gazed at Mu Yangyang before showing the police officer the photo they had taken. "Look! We're friends! She was irritated because I didn't notify her of my return."

Li Jiuhe placed great emphasis on the word 'friend' the moment he introduced himself. In the end, he nodded in an evocative manner, signaling the police officer with an odd expression.

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