

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 41

Lin Xinyan sent him a location, and then got up from the bed. Aunt Yu happened to be coming to wake her up, so when she saw her getting up, she said, "The food is ready."

"I won't be eating at home. I need to go out." Lin Xinyan tied up her hair that was slightly messy, walked to the door, and went out after changing her shoes.

Not wanting He Ruize to come here, she walked to the intersection and waited there.

Without making Lin Xinyan wait for him too long, He Ruize arrived very soon, looking different than usual.

Since Lin Xinyan knew him, he was always in casual wear or a white coat. It was the first time she saw him in suit and tie.

He Ruize got off the car to open the car door for her.

Lin Xinyan didn't get in immediately, but asked, "Is it an important occasion?"

His attire looked very formal.

"Not really." Because he didn't care.

Lin Xinyan bent down to get in the car, and neither of them mentioned the previous topic.

He Ruize was driving, whereas Lin Xinyan remained silent.

The atmosphere in the car was somewhat ambiguous.

“Don’t be nervous. Just follow me when we’re there.” He Ruize deliberately looked for something to say.

It would be awkward if it was too quiet, particularly after he made the confession.

Lin Xinyan readily agreed because of his care for her, which had nothing to do with her feelings.

“Okay.”

He turned to look at her. She had a ponytail, with her face the size of a palm, a pretty nose, and pink lips. Every part of her was delicate. She had really grown up and was no longer that little girl.

“Do you not like me because I’m too old, Yan?” He Ruize raised the corners of his lips.

Lin Xinyan smiled. “You’re only in your twenties. You’re not old, Ruize.”

You’re not even 30 years old yet.

He reached over to touch her hair. “It’s true that girls are sweet.”

Lin Xinyan took his hand off her head. “Why do I feel like you’re taking advantage of me?”

“Am I?” He Ruize smiled.

Lin Xinyan pretended to be angry and ignored him.

Whilst they chatted, the car had been parked in front of a building. The huge display screen was showing the development history of Dingfeng Jewelry, and

rows of luxury cars were parked at the entrance. Lin Xinyan was inexplicably nervous.

He Ruize opened the car door for her and extended his hand to her. "I'm here with you. Don't be nervous."

Lin Xinyan looked at him for two seconds, whereas He Ruize stretched out his hand again. "You have to go in with me. You are my plus-one today."

Lin Xinyan stretched out her hand.

The red carpet was laid out until it reached the lobby. On both sides of the door stood two men in black suits, and in the middle stood a slightly older receptionist.

Seeing He Ruize, he took a few steps forward to greet him. "Young Master Ruize."

Lin Xinyan turned her head to glance at him. She knew that he wasn't an ordinary person, but she didn't expect that he was from the same He family that owned Dingfeng Group.

The Zongs, on the other hand was a rising star with many talented members. When the business was passed on to Zong Jinghao, it was already a market leader in B City, that even Dingfeng, a time-honored brand, could not compare.

Wanyue had diversified industries and covered a wide range of fields. Its Superior Investment Bank co-invested with HSBC had a good reputation internationally.

He Ruize lightly nodded in respond.

"Let's go." He Ruize turned to look at Lin Xinyan. "Are you feeling awkward?"

Lin Xinyan nodded.

“Actually, I am feeling awkward too.” He Ruize said with a smile.

He wasn't interested in doing business.

The family business was run by his brother.

“Why did you go to Country A? To recover from a break-up?” With He Ruize's family background, he should not be working as a psychiatrist in a small clinic there.

He Ruize was stunned, not expecting her to ask such question abruptly. Feeling funny, he asked, “What makes you think that I was there to recover from a break-up?”

“Wasn't Lin your girlfriend?” She remembered this name that his mother mentioned at the villa back then.

The way she put it made her feel like He Ruize seemed to care a lot about the person named Lin.

She was sure that Lin was the name of a girl, as it sounded very cute.

Hearing this name, the smile on He Ruize's face slowly vanished. “Her name is He Ruilin, my sister who got missing when she was a kid and has not been found until now.”

Lin Xinyan couldn't say anything. She thought 'Lin' was his ex-girlfriend. She accidentally touched his wound.

“I'm sorry—”

“Don't be.” He Ruize smiled again.

The magnificent lobby was full of people; men were in suit and tie, whereas women were wearing the most beautiful makeup and their best dresses, keeping up appearances for their men.

Meanwhile, Lin Xinyan was wearing no make-up, which made her look out of place.

“Ze.” Xia Zhenyu chose a plus-one—the daughter of a boss of a building materials company—for He Ruize for the event tonight, and yet was refused by him.

He brought this girl instead.

“Mom, her name is Lin Xinyan,” He Ruize introduced.

This was a big occasion. Therefore, even though Xia Zhenyu was dissatisfied that he brought this girl, she didn’t show it in public. Instead, she said with a decent smile on her face, “Oh. Let’s go and meet new people over there.”

He Ruize was frequently abroad all year round, so everyone had almost forgotten that there was a younger son in the He family, and only remembered the eldest son, He Ruixing.

In the center of the hall, the chandelier hanging from the second floor emitted crystal clear light, making it look dazzling.

There was a group of people standing in the center. Perhaps the most eye-catching sight was the tall and handsome man that was being surrounded by people in the middle. Even though they were far away, Lin Xinyan could recognize who that man was.

Her heart inexplicably skipped a beat.

He Ruize patted her on the hand. “You have me.”

“You know he’s here?” Lin Xinyan looked at him.

“I just want him to know that you’re not alone.” Then, He Ruize took her over.

“The market belongs to all you young people from now on.”

Tang Zheng, the former president of HSBC, who seldom attended events after his retirement, let out a hearty laugh when he spoke. “Jinghao is the most promising youngster of this generation.”

“You flatter me, Mr. Tang.” Zong Jinghao was standing with one hand in his pocket, whereas Bai Zhuwei held his arm while holding a red wine glass that shone brightly under the light with the slender fingers of her right hand.

“Heard that Wanyue built—” Stopping in mid-sentence, He Ruixing was stunned when he saw his brother walking over with a girl.

“Ruize, who is she?” He Ruixing asked.

He Ruize walked over with Lin Xinyan. “She’s my girlfriend.”

While speaking, he glanced at Zong Jinghao, as if he was getting the better of him.

Since he didn’t want to recognize his wife, he would gladly be the honest and straightforward one.

Lin Xinyan didn’t expect He Ruize to say so in public.

She instinctively wanted to take out her hand that he was holding.

Noticing her intention, He Ruize held it even tighter to prevent her from breaking free.

He said with a smile, "There's nothing to be afraid."

Lin Xinyan felt inexplicably guilty and didn't even dare to look up.

As for the reason of her guilt, she didn't know either.

He Ruixing introduced him to everyone with a smile, "He is my brother who has not been in the country for many years. Now that he has come back, please guide him in his future undertakings."

Bai Zhuwei clenched her fist. "Miss Lin—"

Looking up slowly, Zong Jinghao took a quick glance at Lin Xinyan, and then showed his indifferent look again.

Lin Xinyan's unsettled state of mind slowly returned to peace amidst Zong Jinghao's ignorance.

She laughed at her own nervousness.

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During such occasions, the things people talked about were nothing more than business affairs. He Ruize was also biting the bullet while socializing. Lin Xinyan could see that he didn't like such occasions, so she tugged He Ruize's arm and whispered, "I want to get some fresh air outside."

He Ruize took her hand, "I will take you to the back room."

The lights, noise, conversations, and flatteries gradually faded out.

Passing through the corridor, they came to the back room, which was spacious, bright, and much quieter than the lobby. Occasionally, there were people standing in front of the window talking.

"You do not like to listen to those conversations, do you?" He Ruize smiled faintly. "I don't like it either."

He had no choice but to agree to come after being forced by Xia Zhenyu.

He didn't like socializing, people scheming against each other, and doing everything possible to make money.

This might be due to his family background, as he was born rich and didn't need to worry about money.

"I knew it. So, do you want to thank me for taking you out of that place?"

"How do you want me to thank you?" He Ruize leaned over. Lin Xinyan could clearly smell the breath of masculinity on his body, lingering in the air around her. She couldn't help but try to pull away, but He Ruize held her waist.

“I used to think you were young, but unknowingly, you have grown up.” He paid attention to her before but had no other thoughts. He didn’t know since when he had such a feeling towards her.

Lin Xinyan felt that He Ruize was different from the one she knew. He was warm and always wore a gentle smile on his face, taking care of her, and caring for her like a big brother.

But now he had changed. He was always ‘flirting’ with her.

“You’ve changed.” Lin Xinyan turned her head, her hands clenching uneasily.

“You are an adult, so of course I can’t treat you as a child anymore, don’t you think so?” He gave a faint smile.

Lin Xinyan pushed him away. “But I’m your sister.”

He Ruize was caught off guard and took a step back. After returning to his senses, he looked at her. “Not a biological one.”

Lin Xinyan walked to the window and looked up at the stars in the sky. “I want to treat you as my brother.”

He Ruize looked at her back. Did she reject me?

“I might just know who the father of the baby inside my belly is,” she said in a light tone, as if to herself, and also to He Ruize.

He Ruize changed into a serious look and said, “Who is it?”

“I’m not sure. There are a lot of things that I still don’t understand.” Lin Xinyan took a deep breath and turned around to look at He Ruize. “I feel conflicted, and at a loss. I don’t know—”

She was unable to describe her feelings.

“Who do you suspect?” He Ruize frowned. “Could it be a Chinese man?”

He was annoyed thinking of what happened that night. “Why didn’t you go to me at the time?”

Lin Xinyan lowered her head. “I did, but I couldn’t find you.”

She didn’t want to owe others favors, but she didn’t bother as it was related to the safety of her younger brother and mother. She went to look for him, but to no avail. Later, the woman found her.

At the time, she was desperate and needed the money to save her mother and brother.

He Ruize carefully recalled what happened that night. It was the day when He Ruilin was lost. He was in a bad mood and drank a lot of wine. Maybe he fell asleep and didn’t hear it when she knocked on the door.

He always thought that Lin Xinyan didn’t look for him at all.

His heart sank even more at this moment.

“I’m sorry.” If I didn’t get drunk and heard her knocking on my door, maybe everything would be different now.

She didn’t have to bear the stigma of being unmarried and pregnant, while he could also legitimately take care of her.

But all this had changed because he was drunk.

“You didn’t owe me anything, so if you apologize, I feel ashamed instead,” Lin Xinyan said in a self-deprecating tone.

It was her own choice, and also her destiny.

“I want to go back.”

“I’ll send you home.”

He Ruize walked over, held her hand tightly in his palm. “From now on, I will always be readily available to you, and will definitely take good care of you.”

Lin Xinyan did not move, nor did she break away. At this moment, she somewhat understood that his feelings toward her might not be love, and instead came from his feelings for his sister.

It was just that he didn’t know it clearly.

They came out from the back door, while the neon lights outside the building were still flashing brightly under the dim streetlights, making the dark sky as bright as the day.

He Ruize opened the car door, whereas Lin Xinyan bent over to get in the car.

They didn’t talk to each other along the way, each with something weighing on their minds.

Lin Xinyan didn’t want him to send her to the villa, so she asked him to stop at the intersection. “I’ll get off here.”

She unfastened the seatbelt and opened the car door.

“Yan.” He Ruize stopped her.

“Yeah?” Standing by the car window, Lin Xinyan bent over to look at him.

He Ruize paused. “Who is the person you suspect?”

Lin Xinyan looked down. She didn't have absolute proof, and it was just her speculation. "I'm not sure."

He Ruize pursed his lips, saying nothing for a moment. "I'll help you." He paused. "Tell me first, who do you suspect?"

He felt extremely self-contradictory, as he hated to know, yet also wanted to know.

Lin Xinyan thought for a while. She couldn't figure out the hidden truths behind on her own.

"Zong Jinghao."

After Lin Xinyan finished speaking, the air was suddenly tense.

He Ruize was also stunned for a long time.

He didn't expect Lin Xinyan to suspect it was Zong Jinghao at all.

How is this possible?

Could it be that she purposely comes up with an excuse in order to turn me down?

"You know where I live in A Country. It was a woman named Mei Lan who introduced me. If we find her, we might know what happened that night—"

"Why did you want to look for that man?" He Ruize interrupted her.

At first, Lin Xinyan didn't plan to look for him.

It was just that she unintentionally found some hints on Zong Jinghao.

“Didn’t you say that children that grow up in single-parent family will have character flaw—”

“I said, I can take care of you and your child.” He Ruize interrupted her again.

Pursing her lips, Lin Xinyan stared at He Ruize. “But you’re not my child’s biological father.”

She said it on purpose, as it was impossible for her to be together with He Ruize.

On the one hand, she wanted to make it clear to He Ruize that she could not be with him; on the other hand, she really wanted to know the truth.

She knew that she couldn’t be with Zong Jinghao either.

She only wanted to find out if he was the father of the child, and also what happened that time.

At least, when the child was born, she could tell him about his father.

Perhaps it was some sort of compensation.

“I think I’d better not trouble you. It’s late. You should go back and rest earlier, Ruize.” Lin Xinyan straightened her body and smiled. “Drive safe. I’m going back.”

Then, she turned around and walked along the roadside toward the villa.

After she took a few steps, He Ruize stopped her. “I’ll do it for once I promised you, but I hope that you will leave him when the time comes.”

“You don’t understand each other. He won’t love you and won’t accept you just because of a child.”

Lin Xinyan halted, and then started walking again.

I know, and I don't have any improper thoughts. I just want to know the truth.

She was walking on the side of the road, while the streetlight shone on her slender figure, casting a long shadow.

A black car was parked not far away from her, with a tall and straight figure leaning against the car. The intertwining warm yellow light reflected on his profile, making him more beautiful, less rigid, and gentler.

Lin Xinyan stopped walking. She thought he hadn't come back yet. Unexpectedly, he came back earlier than she did.

She wasn't far away from him, and yet she found herself unable to move her legs.

He turned to gaze at her for two seconds before saying in an intriguing tone, "Come here."

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Lin Xinyan hesitated for a moment before walking up to him.

Lin Xinyan had never looked at him at such a close proximity without any distracting thoughts before. He was covered in a scent of maturity that built up over the years, which was flamboyant, intense, and magnanimous.

At this moment, there was only peace on his face, and no waves could be stirred up.

Such a calm look made her feel flustered instead.

Perhaps she knew that he might be the father of her child, so she subconsciously cared about his opinion of her.

Women were always so emotional.

Moreover, she was pregnant now, so she was particularly sensitive.

“He helps me a lot. I didn’t know that he wanted me to be his plus-one at such an occasion, and I didn’t even know that you were there. I didn’t do it on purpose.”

He frowned with a complicated expression on his face; so complicated that no one could see through.

Lin Xinyan thought that he didn’t believe her, and that he thought of her as a flirty woman, which she was not!

“I...”

“Are you explaining?” His Adam’s apple bobbed in his throat.

“I don’t want you to misunderstand me.” If it were before, she didn’t care what Zong Jinghao thought of her, but it wasn’t the case now.

If it was really him that night, they would have a child together, so they needed to leave a good impression on each other.

“You are so sincere, making me unable to hate nor choke you. I really don’t know what to do with you.” Seeing her appear with He Ruize, he was really mad.

He was so mad that he wished he could strangle her to death, as she always didn’t take his words seriously.

“Let’s go in.” He stood up straight and walked towards the courtyard, whereas Lin Xinyan followed behind.

Aunt Yu had gone to bed, so the spacious living room was empty and quiet.

He was unbuttoning his suit while saying, “I’m hungry.”

Lin Xinyan took the coat from him. “It’s so late now. I’ll make you some noodles.”

He replied drily in acknowledgment and walked over to sit down on the sofa. Leaning back in a relaxed posture, he closed his eyes, while his slender fingers undid the collar button, and pulled off the tie.

Lin Xinyan hung his coat on the hanger and went to the kitchen to cook noodles.

She found vegetables and tomatoes from the refrigerator, and before long, she made scrambled eggs with tomatoes, as well as noodles in clear soup.

In the living room, Zong Jinghao was looking at the slender woman moving around in the kitchen, and suddenly felt like home.

Lin Xinyan put the food on the table. "There you go."

She then went to pour two glasses of water, and one was placed in front of Zong Jinghao, before she pulled the chair out and sat down across from him. His collar was slightly open, revealing his sexy collarbones, while his cuffs were rolled up to reveal his strong arms. Undeniably, he was favored by the Creator as a man.

Even his movement of holding chopsticks was very pleasing to the eye.

Lowering his head, he brought the noodles to his mouth, then frowned slightly because there was no taste.

Lin Xinyan couldn't help but smile, as she picked up a spoon next to him and scooped two spoonful of scrambled eggs with tomatoes onto the noodles. "Tomato and egg noodles will only be delicious when you eat them like this."

Zong Jinghao looked up and saw Lin Xinyan's smiling face.

As far as he could remember, he had never seen such an unobstructed smile on her face, looking so bright like blooming magnolia—so clear and pure.

He was actually fascinated by it.

Looking up, Lin Xinyan saw the entranced man, and cautiously asked, "Is it not tasty?"

Regaining his composure, Zong Jinghao coughed lightly, and stuffed a mouthful of noodles into his mouth, muttering, "It's tasty."

Lin Xinyan took two sips of water and looked out the window with her face propping on her hand.

"Aren't you going to sleep?" Zong Jinghao glanced at her.

“After you finish eating, I will do the dishes before going to bed. Aunt Yu will still need to clean up in the morning if it’s left here.” She rested her chin on her hand.

Zong Jinghao continued to eat the noodles with his head down, as he mixed the scrambled eggs with tomato with noodles together like what Lin Xinyan told him.

Borborygmus...

Lin Xinyan’s face turned red all of a sudden.

She put her hands on her belly, as this inappropriate growling embarrassed her.

Zong Jinghao looked up at her. “Are you hungry too?”

Feeling like her cheeks were burning, Lin Xinyan tugged the hem of her clothes while drooping her head. “I didn’t eat anything for dinner. I wasn’t hungry just now.”

That was why she didn’t cook for herself.

She stood up. “I’ll go make some more.”

“I can’t finish mine. I’ll give you some. You just have to bring a bowl over.” Zong Jinghao only realized the inappropriateness in his words after he finished speaking, as he had eaten the noodles. So he pretended to be indifferent and said, “I kissed you before. We had been intimate, before so there is nothing wrong in sharing a bowl of noodles, right?”

Opening her mouth, Lin Xinyan was actually unable to say a single word. Didn’t he want to be noble and indifference?

Why does he appear a little like a ‘rogue’ now?

“I’ll make another bowl for myself—”

“Are you despising me?” His face broke into a smile, making him look less unkind, while his smiling eyes lit up flirtatiously, looking like a seductive ‘demon’.

Lin Xinyan’s heart instantly skipped a beat.

“I-I will go get a bowl.” Lin Xinyan quickly left the dining room.

Seeing her being so flustered, Zong Jinghao raised the corners of his mouth.

Lin Xinyan brought a bowl, and Zong Jinghao gave her the noodles at the bottom that he had never eaten, whereas she kept her head down, not even dare to look at him.

She felt that this was an intimate behavior, that only existed between couples who had been married for a long time.

Zong Jinghao fixed his eyes on her face for a moment, not expecting her to be shy.

He smiled.

After eating, Lin Xinyan did the dishes, while Zong Jinghao went upstairs to get ready for bed.

This was probably the first time Lin Xinyan got along with Zong Jinghao so peacefully after moving in.

The next morning when Lin Xinyan woke up, Zong Jinghao was also heading downstairs. Their eyes met, but Lin Xinyan looked away first.

Zong Jinghao walked down the stairs and went into dining room.

When Aunt Yu brought breakfast to the table and put the coffee in front of Zong Jinghao, she deliberately asked, "Is it popular for newlyweds to sleep in separate rooms now?"

Zong Jinghao stopped what he was doing and stared intently at Lin Xinyan who was sitting across from him while raising his eyebrows, making the atmosphere between them inexplicably ambiguous.

As Lin Xinyan heard what Aunt Yu said, she nearly spat out the milk she had drunk. Her cheeks were flushed, while fine beads of sweat continued to form at the tip of her nose. Her mind was blank, and she was a little at a loss.

"Aunt Yu, are you frying eggs?" Zong Jinghao's reminder came at the perfect time.

There was a faint burnt smell in the air.

Aunt Yu was shocked. "My eggs."

She hurriedly turned around and ran into the kitchen. Her fried eggs got burnt.

Zong Jinghao smiled faintly, and his gaze inadvertently fell on the corner of her lips where there was some milky white residue. He handed over a napkin. "Aunt Yu is the one who takes care of me and is especially concerned about my marriage."

She knew it as Aunt Yu made it so obvious. It was just that she felt very embarrassed being fixed up with him so openly by Aunt Yu.

She reached out to take the napkin that Zong Jinghao handed over, and her fingers accidentally touched his. At that moment, it was as if there was an electric current formed between her fingers that flowed with her blood to fill her cheeks, as her cheeks turned burning hot. She quickly withdrew her hand.

“Umm, I’ll take one myself.” Lin Xinyan reached out to take a piece of napkin and wiped her mouth.

Zong Jinghao was not embarrassed and took it back naturally.

Lin Xinyan lost her appetite while having her breakfast, as the strange atmosphere made her feel uncomfortable.

After finishing her meal, she left the dining room first. “Enjoy your meal. I’ll leave first.”

Zong Jinghao put down the coffee cup in his hand unhurriedly and looked up. “Wait a minute—”

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Huh?

Lin Xinyan turned around.

Zong Jinghao didn't explain, but wiped his hands slowly, and put the napkin on the table, before he stood up, and walked towards her. "Let's go to the office together."

Lin Xinyan's mouth fell open. Together?

Did I hear it wrong?

"We go together—is it appropriate?" After all, no one knew their relationship. If people saw them going to the company together, there might be some kind of rumors spreading around.

"What's so inappropriate? You're married. Who would dare to say anything?" Aunt Yu interjected, thinking that it was a good thing for Zong Jinghao to ask Lin Xinyan goes to company together. Is he already accepting Lin Xinyan?

After all, they were married, so their relationship should be close.

Lin Xinyan was forced to go out with Zong Jinghao.

Like a surveillance officer, Aunt Yu only went inside the house after watching her get into Zong Jinghao's car.

Lin Xinyan forced a laugh. "Aunt Yu, heh, is so zealous."

Instead of replying her, Zong Jinghao asked, “Are you so afraid of others knowing our relationship?”

Lin Xinyan was baffled at his question. What’s there to be afraid of?

Disclosing their relationship would only do her good, and no harm.

“Our marriage is a deal. If such a short marriage is made known to the people in your company, it’ll be troublesome for you,” she said calmly while looking down.

Despite her planning, she was feeling empty and panicked, as she didn’t know how true the answer was she guessed.

If it was false, she would just see it as a misunderstanding.

If it was true, was this man able to accept this child?

“You’re saying it’s for my sake then?” A hint of faint smile tugged at the corners of his mouth—it seemed that this answer pleased him.

With complicated train of thoughts in her mind, she clenched her fists, and tentatively said, “I guess so. After divorcing, you will immediately marry Miss Bai, right?”

The mention of Bai Zhuwei made Zong Jinghao’s face grew gloomy. Turning his head sideways, he asked with a fierce look, “Are you testing me?”

Indeed, Lin Xinyan wanted to test whether he would marry Bai Zhuwei, and also wanted to know whether he had a deep affection for Bai Zhuwei.

Lin Xinyan pretended to be calm. “I’m just curious about your relationship with Miss Bai. Testing you? Is there a need for me to do so? What good will it do me?”

Although what Lin Xinyan said was reasonable, Zong Jinghao didn’t believe her.

He felt that there was another meaning behind her words, but he didn't know specifically what it was.

His intuition told him that she had a purpose.

At this moment, the car was already in front of the company's building. Usually, Zong Jinghao's car was parked in the underground garage. This time, he parked in the parking lot above.

Lin Xinyan got off the car and stood aside, waiting for Zong Jinghao to go in first before she went in.

Zong Jinghao glanced at her, whereas she forced a faint smile. "I don't dare to cause you any troubles."

"How do you know that I'm not willing to take the trouble?" He asked her in a calm tone, and then the look in his eyes changed. "Can you read my mind?"

Lin Xinyan was rendered speechless.

Seeing a car coming in, she took a step back to distance herself from him completely.

Zong Jinghao glanced at her indifferently before turning around to walk towards the building.

The quietness of the morning diluted the usual tense working atmosphere, and even the entire building now seemed a little laid-back.

The person who just drove in was also the employee of Wanyue Group, who worked in technical department. Seeing Lin Xinyan standing there, he walked up to her. "Are you working at Wanyue too?"

Lin Xinyan gave him a polite smile. "Yes."

“Let’s go inside together.” On the bridge of the man’s nose was a pair of round-framed glasses. He was thin and had fair skin, looking very gentle.

Lin Xinyan nodded her head.

“Which department are you from?” asked the man.

“I’m a translator,” Lin Xinyan replied drily.

“I see.” The man paused. “You’re new here? I’ve never seen you before.”

“Yeah, I’ve just started working here few days ago.” While talking, she looked up at Zong Jinghao, who was ahead of her. He had gone up the staircase at the entrance and was now walking into the company’s reception lobby.

Suddenly, a dark shadow rushed out and made a spring at Zong Jinghao.

“Go to hell!” The person springing at him was a woman with fruit knife in her hand, as if she had come prepared.

The knife’s blade was glowing with a chilly light, as it drew an arc in the air and headed toward Zong Jinghao’s back.

“Watch out—”

At an extremely critical moment, Lin Xinyan rushed over.

She couldn’t think at this moment. It was not that she wasn’t afraid of death, but when she thought about the possibility that Zong Jinghao could be the father of her child, her sanity went beyond her control.

Or perhaps a woman would have special feelings for her first man.

In short, she had lost her mind and wanted to block off the danger for Zong Jinghao.

Hearing the sound, Zong Jinghao turned around, and saw her lunging at him as well as knife-wielding Shen Xiuqing—

Bam!

Lin Xinyan crashed into his arms, while Shen Xiuqing was plunging the knife towards them—

At this moment, she regained her sanity. Will I die like this?

I hadn't had time to confirm whether he was the man that night and the father of the child.

A lot of things from the past emerged in her mind: Mother, brother, all happy and unhappy things, and the baby in her belly now.

Feeling reluctant, she did not want, and was unwilling to die.

When the brain decided, the body responded. So, she pushed him with both hands, trying to leave.

However, she felt a force tightly grabbing her waist, while her body crashed hard into a strong and hard chest. She was being held so tightly that she couldn't move.

She regretted it.

But there was no chance for her to regret it.

Resignedly, she closed her eyes.

I hope the pain doesn't come too fast. I want to live as long as I can.

There was a scream.

One second, two second, three second—

The pain didn't come.

Slowly opening her eyes, she saw Zong Jinghao looking down at her, with unpredictable expressions on his face; shocked, astonished, and a faint hint of fear and surprise.

It was as if he didn't expect her to block off the danger for him recklessly, as a smile formed in his eyes. "Do you know what you're doing?"

At this moment, Lin Xinyan was preoccupied with the reason for the absence of pain in her body.

Turning her head, she saw Zong Jinghao catching the blade that was going to be plunged into her body with his bare hand. The tip of the blade stopped a few centimeters away from her, and almost touched her, while his bright red blood was dripping from between his fingers.

Shen Xiuqing stared at Zong Jinghao with her bloodshot eyes, extremely annoyed that she didn't stab him to death.

"I want to kill the both of you!" Shen Xiuqing seemed to have suffered from a great shock, as she drew out the blade to strike again, as though she wouldn't give up until her goal was achieved!

Zong Jinghao frowned slightly.

"You made me lose everything. I want to kill you!" Like a mad woman, Shen Xiuqing pounced on them recklessly.

With his arms around Lin Xinyan's waist, Zong Jinghao turned his body sideways to dodge Shen Xiuqing's attack and kicked out at her.

The security guards in charge of the company's security heard the movement and came out to stop Shen Xiuqing who was kicked to the ground. No longer holding the image as an upper-class woman, she struggled and made a scene. "Let go of me, or I will sue you for molesting me."

During this time, more people came to work, and unknowingly, there were people standing all around at the entrance, causing a stir.

They seemed to be shocked by this farce, and were all straining their ears to find out what was going on—

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After being injured, Zong Jinghao didn't even frown. He just put his injured hand behind his back, with an indifferent expression on his face, yet looking as if he wasn't as calm as he looked.

He fixed his eyes on Shen Xiuqing who was swearing, the chill around the corners of his mouth growing in intensity. "What are you doing there staring blankly?"

Receiving the orders, the security guards held Shen Xiuqing down to drag her away.

Looking like a lunatic, she rolled on the ground screaming and bit the security guards.

"Zong Jinghao, you molested my daughter, and yet you refuse to take responsibility. You will go to hell. Do you think you can do whatever you want since you're rich? You think you don't need to be responsible for it as you're rich? Should those with no money and power like us be bullied by you?!"

Shen Xiuqing yelled uncontrollably, while her mind still seemed to be very clear, as she complained about being bullied and suppressed by Zong Jinghao.

She was the victim.

Everyone smelled something fishy upon hearing her words.

Did Zong Jinghao molest her daughter?

This was really a shocking news.

Even the security guards holding Shen Xiuqing wanted to hear more, not to mention the employees in the company.

Without any sense of shame, Shen Xiuqing sat on the ground, crying loudly while lamenting, "What a hard life I have. I have only one daughter who was ruined by others, and there was no place to voice it out. Is there no justice now? Should the poor like us be bullied and deserve to die? "

More and more people gathered at the entrance.

Their eyes fell on Zong Jinghao.

Zong Jinghao's had completely clouded over. Lin Xinyan turned to look at his profile where the blue veins stood out, knowing deep down that he was very angry.

She was happy that he loathed Shen Xiuqing, but now it was obvious that someone wanted to embarrass him.

A scandal involving an important and powerful figure would be the pastime topic for ordinary people.

"She is a lunatic. What are you doing letting her disturb the order here? Hurry up and get her out of here," Lin Xinyan suddenly said in a cold voice.

"You're the lunatic!" Lin Xinyan's words seemed to have irritated Shen Xiuqing, as she rushed toward her while the security guards were not paying attention. With a hateful, twisted look on her face, she said, "I'm going to kill you!"

Lin Xinyan stepped back in fright, only to hear an angry shout, "How dare you!"

Shen Xiuqing was kicked out again. This time, it was even more embarrassing than the last, as she fell to the ground on her back.

Zong Jinghao's sharp eyes swept over those security guards who failed to hold her back. "What are you doing? Do you want to get fired?"

The security guards broke out in a cold sweat. They were too careless, that was why Shen Xiuqing had the chance to attack them. This time they didn't dare to waste time anymore, or they would lose their jobs.

"Send her to the police station. Tell them she attempted murder with a knife." Being really furious, Zong Jinghao spared no mercy, as the culpability of stabbing and killing with a knife was completely different.

The security guards grabbed Shen Xiuqing, who was like a lunatic, dragged her onto the car and sent her to the police station.

Shen Xiuqing's cursing shouts were completely inaudible after she was being locked inside the car.

"Get back to work," Zong Jinghao said in a cold voice, and the crowd dispersed.

The man who struck up a conversation with Lin Xinyan quietly came up to her. "I didn't expect you to be so bold and stand in front of Mr. Zong earlier."

He saw it too. He had the idea of making good impressions in front of Zong Jinghao, but just then Lin Xinyan rushed forward.

"I need to interact with you more now. Mr. Zong will surely pay more attention to you from now on. After all, you risked your life to block the knife for him." The man was a little envious.

Only then did Lin Xinyan understand what he meant.

Did he think that I did it on purpose to win Zong Jinghao's favor?

But she herself knew that she did not.

Then, she glanced at Zong Jinghao's wounded hand, wondering how his injury was.

She never expected that he would catch the blade with his bare hand.

It must hurt a lot!

"What's your name?" asked the man suddenly.

Absentmindedly, she simply replied, "Lin Xinyan."

"Are you free tonight? Let's have dinner together. I can wait for you after work."

Huh?

Lin Xinyan turned to look at the man. Is he asking me out?

Seriously? We've just met for the first time.

Lin Xinyan was baffled.

"|—"

"You, come with me!" Zong Jinghao's face clouded over. Is she hooking up with a man in front of me?

Does she ever feel ashamed?

Lin Xinyan hurriedly followed him.

The man behind them said relentlessly, "Miss Lin, I'll wait for you at the company entrance after getting off work to have dinner together."

Zong Jinghao stopped walking and turned to look at Lin Xinyan.

She was about to answer when she met his eyes that were burning with rage. It was as if he could strangle her to death once she agreed to the man!

Lin Xinyan flinched, and asked tentatively, "Are you angry?"

Saying nothing, he simply stared at her fiercely.

Lin Xinyan swallowed hard before she turned to look at the man. "Sorry but I've made plans."

She turned around again to see that the expression on Zong Jinghao's face eased. He was satisfied with Lin Xinyan's reply.

After thinking for a while, she finally asked, "Is the wound on your hand serious? Do you want to go to the hospital?"

She felt that his injury from clutching the blade with bare hand should be quite serious.

Zong Jinghao didn't reply, but went into the elevator, whereas Lin Xinyan followed.

She took the initiative to press the floor and stood aside staring at herself in the elevator's steel surface where the human figure could be reflected. After hesitating for a while, she said, "Ask Miss Bai to dress your wound when she comes to work."

Regardless of the reason, he was injured because of her, so she should show her concern.

Looking at her reflection on the elevator wall, Zong Jinghao said calmly, "She's gone to Country A on a business trip."

Lin Xinyan abruptly looked up at him. Didn't she just attend the event last night with him?

Why is it so sudden?

Zong Jinghao composed himself. "Work arrangement."

He would never say that he deliberately sent Bai Zhuwei away.

He was not a fool. His uncontrollable emotions toward Lin Xinyan might be due to the fact that he kind of liked her.

He had never loved nor liked anyone, so he didn't understand the feelings. In short, he was attracted by Lin Xinyan.

"I see."

After that, Lin Xinyan fell silent.

With a ding, the elevator stopped at their floor, and its door slowly slid open.

Zong Jinghao walked out of the elevator with Lin Xinyan trailing behind. She saw blood all over the injury on his hand. As for the wound, she couldn't see it clearly.

Seeing that Zong Jinghao was about to enter his office, Lin Xinyan quickened her pace to catch up with him. "Umm, can I clean your wound for you?"

Saying nothing, Zong Jinghao stood still at the door of his office.

Lin Xinyan seemed to understand his body language, and hurriedly stepped forward to open the door of the office. Thinking of the medicine box in the pantry for emergencies, she said, "I will get the medicine box."

Turning around to look at her walking away, Zong Jinghao smiled faintly.

When Lin Xinyan came back with the medicine box, Zong Jinghao was sitting on the sofa with his injured hand on his knee, while the blood on his hand had clotted. Walking over with the medicine box, she then put the medicine box on the coffee table and opened it to get disinfectant and gauze. She looked down and said, "The medicine here is limited. If it is serious, you have to go to the hospital."

She was ready while talking. She was fully focused on his wound and didn't have any other thoughts. Holding his hand, she clearly saw the wound on his palm.

The wound ran across the palm of his hand. If he hadn't clenched his fist to apply pressure to the wound, he would have lost a lot of blood.

With slightly trembling hands, Lin Xinyan said in a low voice, "It may hurt a little. Bear with it."

She took a cotton swab soaked in alcohol to clean up the blood on his hand. Although she hadn't done it before, she did not panic. Instead, she was calm, serious, and careful.

Looking up, Zong Jinghao stared at this woman who was close at hand. She was looking down, while her eyelashes were curled up, and flickering, gently brushing across his heart like feathers.

Hiss—

"Did I hurt you?" Looking up, Lin Xinyan met his eyes.

Their distance was so close that even their breaths were entangled and indistinguishable. Zong Jinghao's breathing was a bit heavy, and from time to time, it was blowing at her hair on her collarbone.

"You ease the pain for me."

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Lin Xinyan was puzzled. There was no anesthesia in this medicine box; even if there was, she wouldn't be able to use it, as she had never studied medicine, and anesthesia could not be simply administered.

How to ease the pain?

“Umm, maybe you should go to the hospital. I think your injury is quite serious—”

Hot and humid breathing enveloped her in an instant.

In the next second, her lips were blocked by his, and she was in a daze for a moment. Then, she raised her hand to push him, but both of her hands were caught, making her unable to move.

His kiss was more passionate than before. His tongue slid past her teeth to toy with hers, as he sucked and licked every corner of the interior of her mouth.

His movements were delicate and lasting, but his strength was domineering.

Lin Xinyan's body completely stiffened, but she closed her eyes again to savor it to find out if there was any similarity to that night.

At a certain moment, her heart suddenly pounded, as if it was about to jump out of her chest.

She wanted to forget the feelings that she remembered so clearly.

Compared with Zong Jinghao, her feelings were profound, whereas Zong Jinghao was not sober and had chaotic thoughts, so he couldn't remember the

details of that night. He didn't have much feeling, and only clearly knew that he had slept with a woman and ruined the innocence of that woman.

He was responsible.

The impulse and great times Lin Xinyan gave him was something that Bai Zhuwei had never given him before.

"Weren't you afraid?" His eyes were particularly beautiful, as if they were filled with a puddle of water, looking so clear and deep, while mixing with a trace of incomprehensible emotions. He looked at her. "Didn't you know it was dangerous?"

He was really surprised that she would rush up to him.

Lin Xinyan held her breath. Of course, I was afraid. It was just that the situation at the time made me act out of reason.

If she was given three seconds to calm down, she might not do so.

What filled her mind now was why Shen Xiuqing could do such a reckless thing, and what drove her to act like that.

Could it be that something really happened the day Zong Jinghao and I went to the Lins?

Zong Jinghao glanced over her wet lips. Although she still rejected this time, it was not as strong as before.

Is she used to my kisses?

"What are you thinking?" Zong Jinghao took the gauze from her and wrapped it around his wound.

Lin Xinyan was distracted earlier. When she saw him dressing the wound, she said, “I haven’t done cleaning—”

“It’s okay,” he said in a calm tone.

Looking at his action, Lin Xinyan expressed her doubts, “Has Shen Xiuqing lost her mind that she actually dared to make a scene here? Did you really not touch—”

Zong Jinghao shot her a cold and gloomy look. What does she trying to say?

Is she suspecting me?

This was a mystery. From Lin Xinyan’s point of view, if Shen Xiuqing could come here recklessly to make a scene, something serious must have happened, otherwise, she would not be so crazy.

“I did not!” He shouted.

What kind of person does she think I am? A person that can do any woman?

“Why would she come here to make trouble, and even want to kill you? Although this approach is very mindless, it is absolutely impossible to do such crazy things without being forced into desperation.”

Lin Xinyan couldn’t figure it out, but Zong Jinghao knew that it might have something to do with Lin Guoan. His face darkened.

Zong Jinghao didn’t say it, so Lin Xinyan thought that he had no idea as well.

“Okay then, I’ll get back to work.” With doubts in her mind, she packed up the medicine box, whereas Zong Jinghao made a sound, as he thought of something, and reminded, “Lin Guoan may come to you in these two days.”

Lin Xinyan stopped what she was doing and turned to look at him. “How do you know?”

Then, as if realizing something, she asked, “It has something to do with Lin Group, and also you?”

She didn’t know the details, but she knew that it definitely had a direct relationship with Zong Jinghao.

Otherwise, Shen Xiuqing wouldn’t be so crazy.

“Why do you do that?” Lin Xinyan didn’t feel sorry for Shen Xiuqing and Lin Guoan, but she just didn’t understand Zong Jinghao’s approach.

Zong Jinghao sneered, “She’s allowed to do despicable things, and yet I’m not allowed to play some tricks?”

Lin Xinyan gasped. Is he holding grudges over what happened that night?

She thought silently in her heart that she would never offend this man in the future.

Standing up, Zong Jinghao walked over to sit down at his desk and said drily, “Come in.”

Guan Jing pushed open the door and walked in with documents in his hand. He was stunned upon seeing Lin Xinyan, not expecting her to be here.

“This is all the information about Lin Group.” Guan Jing handed over the file.

Hearing Lin Group, Lin Xinyan stopped walking, trying to find out something she didn’t know.

“Want to have a look?” asked Zong Jinghao, who read through her mind.

Lin Xinyan nodded, and replied frankly, "Yes."

Zong Jinghao didn't reach out to take the file but raised his chin at Guan Jing. "Give it to her."

Guan Jing was dumbfounded.

When did Lin Xinyan's relationship with Mr. Zong get so close?

His eyes twitched, as he couldn't understand what Zong Jinghao was thinking.

"Mr. Guan?" Lin Xinyan extended her hand while she reminded Guan Jing in a low voice, after he didn't pass her the file.

"Oh, okay, here you go." Guan Jing handed over the file. "This is Lin Group's business in recent years." Then, he added contemptuously, "Which is getting worse every year."

It was not that Guan Jing looked down on Lin Guoan. It was just that he couldn't make others think highly of him.

Lin Group was considered to be a family-inherited enterprise. It was founded by the grandfather of Lin Guoan. Although it didn't flourish, the company's development was considered stable.

But when it was inherited by Lin Guoan, there were two great turmoil in over 20 years that he had taken over; the first time was 19 years ago when it almost went bankrupt, and later after he married Zhuang Zijin, only did he manage to save it from bankruptcy.

This time, it was also him who put the company into a crisis. Even if Zong Jinghao didn't add fuel to the fire, he might not be able to survive it either.

Lin Xinyan knew that something happened to Lin Guoan's company, but she didn't know it was so serious.

Previously, while she made Lin Guoan divorce Shen Xiuqing, he was a little reluctant. Now that Shen Xiuqing became like this, he might not be in a good condition too.

She didn't feel the pleasure of revenge, but just a deep melancholy.

Putting down the file, she went out holding the medicine box.

As expected by Zong Jinghao, when Lin Xinyan returned to the villa after work, she saw Lin Guoan.

Perhaps he was looking for help, so he brought over everything that he didn't give Lin Xinyan last time, including the piano.

Learning that he was Lin Xinyan's father, Aunt Yu naturally showed him warm hospitality.

"Your dad has been waiting for you for a long time, and he said that those are the things you liked. He's afraid you will be uncomfortable living here, so he asked people to send them over," said Aunt Yu after seeing Lin Xinyan come back, while refilling the drinks.

Lin Xinyan turned to look at Zong Jinghao, who looked expressionless. As he unbuttoned his suit, Lin Xinyan reached out. "Your hand is injured. I'll help you take it off."

Zong Jinghao replied in agreement and let go, allowing Lin Xinyan to serve him.

Looking at the two of them, Aunt Yu smiled wider while the folds around her eyes deepened. They were becoming more and more like husband and wife.

Lin Guoan stood up, somewhat at a loss.

He didn't expect that Lin Xinyan really had a good relationship with Zong Jinghao.

Until today, he had never thought Lin Xinyan was good-looking, why would Zong Jinghao fall in love with her?

Lin Xinyan hung Zong Jinghao's coat before walking in and saying blankly, "What brings you here?"

Lin Guoan only realized one thing at this moment. She had not called him dad since she came back, and always addressed him by 'you'.

Is she holding grudge against him for sending her abroad?

"Yan—" Lin Guoan spoke after hesitating for a while.

He was about to become a poor wretch and might even go into prison. How could he be bothered about his pride?

Lin Xinyan sat down next to Zong Jinghao. Perhaps, she subconsciously wanted to act in front of Lin Guoan, so that he thought that her relationship with Zong Jinghao was good.

"The things that I gave you last time were not complete. This piano is a birthday present from your mother. I specially sent it here for you—"

"Just go straight to the point. I don't think you have the heart of a loving father who visits me and gives me stuffs."

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She thought she could be very calm, as she was mentally prepared when she heard Zong Jinghao's reminder. Yet, upon seeing him, the past, the wounds, the pains that were hidden in her heart surfaced.

She thought she had let go, but she did not.

Lin Guoan looked gloomy, but now it was him who was asking help from them shamelessly, so he couldn't care about his dignity.

He knelt down with a thump by Lin Xinyan's feet. "Yan, the company is going to close down, as we have a conflict with the owner of a project that suffered a collapse, which leads to casualty. I'm driven into a corner now. Please help me this time."

Due to the project, he was already facing a lawsuit. Worse still, someone had died. Fortunately, he sold the Repulse Bay contract that Lin Xinyan gave him to get some money and appeased the family with a large sum of compensation in private settlement.

However, for the collapse of the project, the relevant authorities held a very serious attitude, so he would inevitably be held accountable.

Due to the inability to recover the large amount of funds invested in this project, the company suffered a capital chain rupture, and was facing bankruptcy.

Looking at the man kneeling at her feet, Lin Xinyan clenched her fists, and was trembling slightly. She didn't want to admit her father-daughter relationship with him, nor the fact that she was once held by him, nor that she had called him 'dad' affectionately.

Such a man knelt down at this moment.

It would be a lie to say that she felt nothing, as she was not so hard-hearted.

Lin Xinyan said nothing, so Lin Guoan thought that she refused him, and said, with his horribly bloodshot eyes, "I have done what you asked me to do last time. Shen Xiuqing and I have divorced. She is left with nothing at all, as I don't give her anything."

This was also one of the reasons for Shen Xiuqing's loss of control. Before she was married to Lin Guoan, she was a penniless and powerless call girl. After she married Lin Guoan, she never went out to make money and lived her life as a wife of a rich man.

How could she survive being left with nothing after a divorce?

She had familiarized herself with the circle of upper-class ladies, so she couldn't stand doing some low-grade jobs now.

She had become accustomed to a life of superiority.

In addition, Lin Guoan blamed everything in the company on her, saying that the company fell into such a crisis because of the consequences of her angering Zong Jinghao. Not only did she fail to get him on their team, but also do him harm.

He even said that, Lin Xinyan would help him through the company's difficulties as long as he divorced her.

Therefore, he forcibly took her to the Civil Affairs Bureau to get a divorce.

Shen Xiuqing blamed all this on Zong Jinghao. If it weren't for the fact that he pretended to be lame, she wouldn't have asked Lin Guoan to bring Lin Xinyan and her mother back from abroad.

If he didn't pretend to be lame, she wouldn't have asked Lin Xinyan to marry him.

There wouldn't be the things that happened thereafter. She wouldn't be afraid of Lin Xinyan's revenge, and crazily wanted to get Zong Jinghao for her daughter. She also wouldn't fall into the fate of having nothing and being divorced.

This was all Zong Jinghao's fault.

If he didn't pretend to be lame, everything would change.

Lin Xinyan wanted to make herself smile but failed. This man is as ruthless as ever.

First, she and her mother; and now, Shen Xiuqing.

"Yan, I regret it, really. I really shouldn't abandon your mother and you." Lin Guoan's eyes reddened, and he almost shed tears. "If Shen Xiuqing wasn't pregnant with my son, I wouldn't be so cruel. You know, you were ten years old at the time, and your mother didn't get pregnant again. I'm a man, and I needed a son—"

"Enough!" Lin Xinyan couldn't bear to hear it anymore. Son? Son?

She detested it so much that her nails almost sank into the flesh of her palm without her realizing it.

She was trembling all over.

Zong Jinghao, who was sitting close to her, noticed her agitation, so he stretched out his uninjured hand to hold her hand tightly in his palm.

His palm was broad, strong and warm.

Yet, it could inexplicably comfort her.

Lin Xinyan slowly calmed down.

“You should leave first.”

“Yan—”

“Stop it. If you say one more word, I won’t even consider it!” Lin Xinyan snarled. Her emotions were a little out of control, as she became agitated once the emotion hit her.

Maybe it was the things that Lin Guoan did that couldn’t stop her from getting agitated.

“Calm down.” Zong Jinghao clasped her shoulders.

Lin Guoan opened his mouth and wanted to speak, but Zong Jinghao interrupted him. “If you want us to help, leave immediately!”

Despite his reluctance, he didn’t dare to stay any longer.

Soon, the living room fell into silence, while Aunt Yu didn’t dare to say anything. She initially thought that it was just a visit from a father, and never thought that there was even such a grudge between them.

Aunt Yu felt sorry for Lin Xinyan.

The child was always the ones that suffered the most when parents divorced.

Lin Xinyan wiped away the tears from her face. “Sorry for the disturbance.”

She lowered her head, her hair covering most of her face.

Whereas Zong Jinghao pursed his lips, not wanting to persuade her.

Some things couldn't be let go with just a few words of relief from others, particularly in such a case.

Regardless of how much she hated Lin Guoan, she would still feel bad seeing him in such a state.

"Umm, what do you want to eat? I'll make it for you." Aunt Yu changed the topic, trying to ease the atmosphere.

Lin Xinyan appreciated Aunt Yu's effort, and said, "I want something sweet."

After she was pregnant, she didn't like sour or spicy food, but preferred sweet food.

"Alright. I just bought fresh ribs today. I can make you sweet and sour ribs and a dessert." Aunt Yu turned around and went to kitchen. When she reached the door, she glanced back and saw that the two people on the sofa were smiling.

After Aunt Yu left, the living room fell silent for a while.

"Did you do it?" Unknowingly, there was a questioning tone in her question.

"What?"

Lin Xinyan looked up to meet his eyes. It's said that all businessmen play dirty, is he the same as well?

Will he use every means in his power—even murder—to achieve his goal?

"What do you mean?" Zong Jinghao's pupils were dark, while he pretended to be calm and said, "Do you think that I have something to do with the person's death?"

After three seconds of silence, she asked, "Don't you?"

Suddenly, Zong Jinghao pinched her jaw. “In your opinion, what kind of person am I?”

He did do something to make Lin Group collapse and disappear.

Lin Group was originally like a dilapidated building under a tornado. With just a light push, it would immediately collapse. Why would he bother to go so far and even kill someone?

She actually thought that he did it.

She suspected him twice today; the first time was whether he really did something to Lin Yuhan at the Lins that day, and now she suspected that he had killed someone in order to achieve his ends.

Who does she think he is?

Met with his eyes that nearly exploded with rage, Lin Xinyan realized that she might be wrong. “I’m sorry. I didn’t mean to suspect you.”

Zong Jinghao was breathing heavily, but he didn’t ease his grip on her jaw.

He was still upset because she suspected him.

As his fingers were strong, her jaw hurt like it was dislocated. She didn’t say a word, nor plead, but accepted it in silence.

Zong Jinghao’s anger gradually eased under her silent forbearance.

He moved closer to her. “From now on, if you dare to suspect me indiscriminately again—”

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He moved closer to her. “From now on, if you dare to suspect me indiscriminately again—” He stared at her lips with his deep gaze, and bit it.

There was a sudden pain, as the blood taste spread in her mouth.

“From now on, I’ll punish you in this way every time you wrongly accuse me. Is it fair?”

Lin Xinyan stared blankly at the man in front of her. She couldn’t understand all his strange behaviors.

“Do you know what you are doing?”

Zong Jinghao was rendered speechless. Everything that happened after meeting this woman caught him off guard, and made him lose control, becoming less like himself.

He knew it clearly deep down that this woman wasn’t good. She wasn’t pure and didn’t have self-respect.

Yet, such a broken woman aroused his interests, and made him feel like a real man.

He would have normal physiological reactions to her.

He hid his emotions deep inside, while he appeared calm.

He chuckled and asked, “What about you? You risked your life and lunged forward to block the knife for me. Are you—”

While speaking, he leaned in. When Lin Xinyan moved away, he continued to move closer to her. They were so physically close that the quiet, soft and delicate smile on his face couldn't be ignored. "In love with me?"

That's why you rushed forward recklessly when the danger comes?

In fact, he was shocked to see her rushing over the moment he turned around.

Looking away, Lin Xinyan refused to look at him. "You're so good at making jokes, Mr. Zong. Will I fall in love with you after knowing you for only a few days?"

If it weren't for the fact that she suspected that he was the father of her child, she would certainly not be so impulsive.

She cherished her life very much. She had to live well for the sake of her mother and her child.

Zong Jinghao didn't get angry either, as he leaned back on the sofa, smirking. "What if you fall in love with me at first sight? We can never be certain about love."

He seemed to be talking to Lin Xinyan, but also to himself.

Lin Xinyan abruptly clenched her hands that were placed on her legs, but calmly said, "I don't believe in love at first sight."

After that, she got up to pour herself a glass of water, trying to ignore this topic. They were initially two strangers, but fate brought them to live under the same roof and talk about the most inexplicable thing in the world—love. How ridiculous and funny?

While drinking water, Lin Xinyan looked at the piano that was placed by the floor-to-ceiling window through her glass, feeling sad.

The next day, Lin Xinyan went to visit Zhuang Zijin at the hospital. She was awake this time, and recognized Lin Xinyan at first glance, so she refused to let go of her hand after holding it.

“Yan, you finally came to see me. I’m very happy. I miss you so much.” Zhuang Zijin held her hands tightly, as if fearing that she would disappear once she let go.

Lin Xinyan was happy that Zhuang Zijin was so clear-headed. “I won’t leave. I’ll bring you out after you get better.”

After the agreement with Zong Jinghao ended, she would buy a small house and live with her mother.

“Why doesn’t Doctor He come to see me these days? Did you have a fight?” Zhuang Zijin roughly knew what He Ruize was thinking.

She liked him very much and recognized his characters as well.

Moreover, his profession was a doctor.

It would be good if Lin Xinyan could be with He Ruize.

It was just that Lin Xinyan was pregnant with a child whose father was unknown.

The thought of this child aggravated Zhuang Zijin.

“He has something to do, so he may not come back for a while.” Lin Xinyan looked down slightly. He Ruize promised to help her find out what happened that night, so he should be in Country A now.

“It would be so good if you aren’t pregnant and can be with him. I think he is a very good man...”

“Mom.” Lin Xinyan hurriedly interrupted her and put a bracelet on her hand.
“Mom, do you still recognize this?”

Zhuang Zijin lowered her head. “Of course.” This was her dowry. She then felt weird and looked up at Lin Xinyan. “Why would you have it?”

“Lin Guoan gave it to me.” Lin Xinyan came today with a purpose. She was confused and didn’t know what to do. “Lin Guoan encounters difficulties. He came to me yesterday, and I don’t know what to do.”

Lin Xinyan hated him so much that she wished he was dead.

But in the end, no matter how bad he was, he was still her father, and his blood was flowing through her veins.

Zhuang Zijin looked down. “I don’t want you to take it seriously. Don’t dwell on the past, and don’t tie with people in the past. Don’t hurt people, and also don’t forgive.”

She understood what Zhuang Zijin was trying to say.

No matter how Lin Guoan was—good or bad—she didn’t want to have something to do with him.

“Okay.”

Later, the two spoke for a while, and when the visiting hour was up, Lin Xinyan walked out of the room.

After coming out of the room, Lin Xinyan went to the nurse’s desk to inquire about her mother’s condition.

“She’s so sober. Does it mean that she has recovered?”

No, she selectively forgets some things and also remembers the current things, but this condition won't last long. It's always temporary."

Lin Xinyan was a little disappointed, as she thought that she had recovered. "Please take good care of her then."

"We will. Doctor He has specially reminded us. Don't worry."

After saying her thanks, Lin Xinyan left the hospital.

Since Zhuang Zijin said so, she wouldn't be bothered about it, and would forget the past grievances. Then, she took a taxi to the company.

Sitting in the car, she looked out the window at this familiar yet strange city.

When the car passed by Lin Group, there were many people at the entrance holding banners with huge characters on it—return my hard-earned money.

"Sir, stop here please." Lin Xinyan wound down the car window to look at the situation outside.

The driver glanced at the rearview mirror and said, "Have you heard of it too? This profiteer cut corners, so the building collapsed even before it's completed. Those owners who have paid for it are very unfortunate. Would people still dare to live in such a building? However, the company won't refund the money. So there are people around here every day now, but it seems like it isn't useful either. Did you buy a house with the company too, Madam?"

Lin Xinyan shook her head. "No."

"That's good. Many people can't afford to buy a house for all their life, and some people can only buy one after emptying all their savings. They would be pissed when something like this happens. After all, it's the bad developer that causes trouble to so many people." The driver became angrier as he spoke, as if he was also a victim.

“Do you want to get off here?” asked the driver. It was a waste of his time to stop here. He still had to work.

“No. Let’s go.” Lin Xinyan withdrew her gaze, not wanting to see it.

These were none of her business.

Soon, the car stopped in front of the Wanyue Group building, so Lin Xinyan paid and got off the car. When she was about to walk forward, a man in a black suit ran over and said, “Are you Miss Lin?”

Turning her head, Lin Xinyan glanced at him up and down. It was a completely strange face. She searched for this man’s information in her mind, and was sure that she didn’t know him, nor seen him before.

After being victimized last time, she became very vigilant. She didn’t admit her identity, but asked, “Who are you? I don’t know you.”

The driver didn’t panic and was calm. “I’m the driver of Madam, who wants to see you.”

“Madam?” Lin Xinyan frowned, and saw a black luxury car parked on the side of the road.

It seemed that the person inside the car felt Lin Xinyan’s gaze, as the window of the car was slowly wound down.

The driver followed Lin Xinyan’s gaze and said, “That’s Madam over there.”

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When the car window was wound down, Lin Xinyan saw the Madam's appearance, which was as elegant and noble as ever. She was He Ruize's mother.

Why does she want to see me?

Lin Xinyan tried to get some information from the driver. "Why does Madam want to see me?"

The driver shook his head. "I have no idea about this. I'm just told to invite you over."

He Ruize was good to her, so she should agree to it regardless of the reasons. She then said, "Let's go."

Walking up to the car, Lin Xinyan greeted her politely, "Hello."

Sitting inside the car, Xia Zhenyu smiled gracefully. "Are you free now, Miss Lin? There's a cafe not far away. Shall we go there?"

Lin Xinyan nodded her head after hesitating for a second.

"Come into the car."

The driver came and opened the door for her, while she bent over and got in the car.

Soon, the car stopped in front of the cafe.

Lin Xinyan followed Xia Zhenyu into the cafe.

Xia Zhenyu chose a relatively quiet place to sit down, whereas Lin Xinyan sat across from her. The waiter walked up to them and asked, "Excuse me; what would you like to order?"

Putting her bag on the sofa next to her, Xia Zhenyu looked at Lin Xinyan and asked, "What would you like to drink?"

"Just give me a glass of water," Lin Xinyan replied calmly.

"Another one for me too. We'll call you if needed."

"Okay."

The waiter left, and silence followed.

Lin Xinyan sat quietly, waiting for Xia Zhenyu to speak.

She suddenly came to me. Maybe it isn't just for coffee, or is it?

Xia Zhenyu took a sip of water, and when she put down the glass, she said, "How did you meet Ruize?"

"My brother was ill, and he was his doctor. We become friends after some time," Lin Xinyan answered frankly.

"I see. How long have you been together?" When she was speaking, she sized her up. "I think you're very young. Is Ruize your first love?"

Lin Xinyan was baffled by her questions. Did she think that I'm in a relationship with Ruize?

Lin Xinyan suddenly remembered that on the day of the banquet, He Ruize introduced her to others as his girlfriend, so she asked her those questions.

Lin Xinyan was about to explain when Xia Zhenyu spoke again, "I don't want you to be together."

She looked serious. "I hope his wife has a family background that is socially well-matched. I heard that a lot of things have happened to your family now."

Lin Xinyan pursed her lips tightly, finally understanding her motive of seeing her.

"Given the current situation of your family, it's even harder for me to accept you. You will understand, right?" Xia Zhenyu softened her tone, took out a card from her bag, and slid it on the table toward Lin Xinyan. "There's some money here. Although it can't help you through the hardships that your family is facing, at least it's enough to sustain your life."

Lin Xinyan pushed the card back to her, smiling. "Auntie, I'm not handicapped, how can I take your money?"

Is she trying to get rid of me with money?

She smiled bitterly in her heart. She was sent away by Lin Guoan at the age of ten, was only able to come back because Zong Jinghao became 'lame'.

She had never enjoyed the privileges given by the Lins, and yet now she had to bear the impact of the fall of the Lins.

"I understand what you meant. I won't be with him. I always see him as a big brother. If it's okay, I'll leave first. I still have to work." Then, she rose to her feet.

"Wait a minute." Xia Zhenyu stopped her. She had thought of a lot of words to say, but those words were only for when Lin Xinyan refuses to leave him. Yet now, she agreed to her so easily, which made her look mean instead.

“I don’t know if Ruize told you about his sister. The incident is a great blow to him. He has been abroad all these years, and now that he is willing to come back and face the past. I’m very pleased. You said that you see him as a big brother, and I think he may have other feelings for you too. Perhaps you are too cute, so he mistakes you for Lin.”

Lin Xinyan had the same thought as well after she learned that He Ruize had a missing sister.

When they were in Country A, he took care of her and cared for her, maybe because he saw her as his sister.

Xia Zhenyu talked about her lost daughter with a sad expression. She gave birth to three children in her life, and her only daughter was lost.

However, as the Madam of the He family, she couldn’t dwell on the past, and be sad in front of her husband, as she needed to take care of everything in the family.

To wear a crown, one must bear its weight.

She enjoyed the status given to her by the He family, so she had to sacrifice something in return.

“I also want my son to be with the woman he likes, but he was born in this family and enjoys the glory and money that the family has given him, so he has to make sacrifices for it.” Xia Zhenyu took back the card and handed her a business card. “You’re so easy to talk to, and I’m not a mean person. If you need my help in the future, you can come to me.”

It was impolite to keep refusing others, so Lin Xinyan accepted it. “Thank you, auntie.”

Lin Xinyan stood up. “If it’s okay, I’ll leave first.”

“Umm, I hope you don’t tell Ruize about our meeting. He’s stubborn, and if he knows about it, I’m afraid—”

“Don’t worry, auntie, I won’t tell him.” She had never seen He Ruize as someone dearer than a friend. People like her didn’t deserve to be with anyone at all.

Regardless of the reasons, she wasn’t a pure woman.

She had no rights to talk about relationships.

Walking out of the cafe, she placed her hand on her belly. “With you here, I’m no longer alone and helpless.”

This child was her courage and her future.

She took a deep breath and left.

She walked back to the company along the road, just in time to see Guan Jing returning from outside.

“Where have you been?” Guan Jing closed the car door and walked up to her. “Didn’t you say you went to the hospital? Why didn’t I see you there?”

Before she went to the hospital, she told Zong Jinghao. After all, she had to work, and didn’t have the freedom.

“I came back very early, met someone and had a chat. What’s wrong?” Guan Jing looked anxious.

Did something happen?

“Let’s go in first.” Guan Jing walked into the lobby quickly, whereas Lin Xinyan trailed behind, feeling a little uneasy. “What happened? Does it have anything to do with me?”

Standing by the elevator, Guan Jing pressed the up button several times, and glanced at her.

“See it for yourself.”

Lin Xinyan opened her mouth hesitantly. What does he mean?

She was about to ask him further when the elevator door opened. Guan Jing walked in first, whereas Lin Xinyan walked a little slower due to her uneasiness, so Guan Jing urged her, “Hurry up.”

Lin Xinyan walked in.

“Is it related to my dad?” Not giving up, Lin Xinyan tried to ask.

She just came back from the hospital, so it must not be about Zhuang Zijin. Therefore, it was Lin Guoan.

Only there two people were related to her now.

This time, Guan Jing replied her in agreement. Immediately afterward, the elevator stopped with a ding, and the door slowly slid open.

Guan Jing walked out and headed to Zong Jinghao’s office.

Lin Xinyan followed him.

When he reached the door, he raised his hand to knock on the door.

A deep voice was heard coming from inside, saying, “Come in.”

Guan Jing pushed open the door—

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Guan Jing opened the door, and Lin Xinyan followed him in. Zong Jinghao was on the phone, and he motioned for them to be quiet after seeing them walk in.

Lin Xinyan desperately wanted to know what happened, and was extremely anxious, but she could only wait now.

After a few minutes, Zong Jinghao hung up the phone, and waved at Lin Xinyan. "Come here."

Lin Xinyan walked over and stood before the desk.

"Give me your phone." Zong Jinghao extended his hand toward her.

Huh?

Lin Xinyan widened her eyes. Didn't he want to tell me what happened? Why does he want my phone?

What's going on?

Guan Jing stood by and looked at the sky silently, praying for Bai Zhuwei to come back quickly, otherwise, she might lose Mr. Zong.

Zong Jinghao raised his eyebrow, and said, a little displeased, "Do you not want to give me?"

"No." Lin Xinyan quickly took out the phone and handed it to him. "No password."

Zong Jinghao took it, slid to turn on the screen, clicked on the contacts, and entered his phone number. Looking down staring at the screen, he suddenly moved his fingers to type the words 'Mr. Zong' on the space for a name to be saved as a contact.

Lin Xinyan was the only one who addressed him like that.

He dialed the number he had entered, and soon the phone he placed on the desk vibrated.

Lin Xinyan looked at Guan Jing and then Zong Jinghao. What are they doing?

“What exactly happened? Can you talk to me?” It wasn't fun to ignore her and make her anxious like this.

Zong Jinghao handed the phone to her. “Don't make it impossible for me to find you again.”

When he wanted to contact Lin Xinyan, he realized that he didn't even have her phone number.

He was inexplicably yet extremely upset!

Instead of answering him, Lin Xinyan stared at him, as if questioning him. Did Guan Jing look for her in such a great rush just so he can save her phone number?

Zong Jinghao put the phone on the desk and sighed. “Be mentally prepared.”

Before Lin Xinyan could think what Zong Jinghao meant, the big screen for video conferences in front of them suddenly lit up, and the image quickly came into view clearly.

On top of the building of Lin Group stood a pregnant woman, seemingly trying to jump off the building.

Police cars, reporters, and onlookers occupied the area surrounding the building.

The sound of exclamation and wailing was constantly heard.

Lin Xinyan could also feel the chaos there through the screen.

She looked at Guan Jing with a stiff look. "W-What is going on?"

"This woman bought a unit at the building that your dad invested and built. Now that there's a collapse, she doesn't want the house, but according to the contract, it's non-refundable. So now she's standing on the top of the building, using suicide to force your dad to return her the money."

Lin Xinyan gasped, her body shaking. "S-She won't really jump off the building, will she?"

Although money was important, life was more important. What was more was that she was pregnant.

So it wasn't just her own life.

"Who knows. Maybe it's just a mean to force your dad to return her money, but your dad also knows that if he gives her the money, others will also threaten him by trying to jump off the building. Given the current situation of the company, he may not be able to return the money to many people too," said Guan Jing coldly, looking uninterested.

Lin Xinyan's mind was in a whirl. "Is there any way to fix this?"

Guan Jing poured cold water over her. "No!"

After it had reached this point, Lin Group was considered over. No one would be willing to take over the building that had collapsed. Since they couldn't recover their funds, Lin Group would be declared bankrupt. The judicial department would intervene, and their assets would be auctioned. These were all certainties.

Staring at the screen, Lin Xinyan's only thought was to stop the pregnant woman from jumping off the building.

"I'm going there." She ran out as soon as she finished speaking.

Frowning, Zong Jinghao got up and followed. "Guan Jing, bring a few people with you."

The scene must be in chaos. Going there like this, she might hurt herself.

When Guan Jing was about to reply, Zong Jinghao had already gone out, leaving him standing rooted to the spot in confusion.

Is he still the noble and arrogant Zong Jinghao that I know?

He doesn't care so much even when he's with Bai Zhuwei, does he?

Guan Jing was uneasy. Lin Xinyan isn't good enough for Zong Jinghao at all.

He thought that he had to remind Zong Jinghao, to prevent any irreparable things from happening in the future.

Outside the building of Wanyue Group, Lin Xinyan stood on the side of the road anxiously waiting for a taxi.

Zong Jinghao drove over and said, "I'll send you there."

Glancing at him, Lin Xinyan opened the car door without hesitation, and got in. "I'll go to the bank first."

She needed to withdraw some money. Initially, she planned to use the money to buy a house, but now that it involved human life, she couldn't be bothered to care so much.

"How many can you save? Once a person gets the money, there will be more people asking for their money using this method. Can you afford it?" In Zong Jinghao's opinion, this was an irrational behavior.

There was police at the scene, and it seemed that the woman didn't really want to jump off the building, but just used this method to force Lin Guoan to return her money.

"In the eyes of you businessmen, is money more important than life? That woman is pregnant, and two lives will be gone if she's dead. This is Lin Guoan's sin, and I'm his daughter—" Lin Xinyan trembled and smiled helplessly. "I know, I can't save him. I just don't want him to commit more sins."

Zong Jinghao stared at her. After all, she softened toward Lin Guoan.

Even though he abandoned and hurt her before, still she wanted to help him.

It was obviously stupid, but his heart was moved by such a stupid behavior.

"I'll ask Guan Jing to bring it over." He started the car and activated the Bluetooth connection at the same time to call Guan Jing and ask him to bring a million in cash.

Lin Xinyan didn't expect that he would do so. "Umm, thank you. I'll return the money to you after this."

Zong Jinghao looked steadily forward. "You're my wife. You don't need to make everything so clear between us."

Lin Xinyan turned her head to look at him. His emotions were hidden too deep, and she couldn't detect any trace of it, so she slowly withdrew her gaze and looked ahead.

After about twenty minutes, they reached Lin Group. Lin Xinyan could already see the noisy crowd ahead even though they were at some distance away.

Zong Jinghao parked the car by the side of the road.

"I won't go down without getting my money back." The pregnant woman stood on the edge of the building, holding up the banner asking for money to be returned in a standoff with the rescuers. She looked very agitated. "I spent all my parents' hard-earned money to buy this house, but in the end it's a collapsed house. I would never accept it. Return my hard-earned money. Return my hard-earned money," shouted the pregnant woman on the building, while the people on the road echoed.

The mother-in-law of the pregnant woman sat at the entrance of Lin Group, crying. "The money is gone. We can earn again. You should come down." This mother-in-law also cherished the child in the belly of the pregnant woman very much, as she cried until she lost her voice.

The pregnant woman on the building ignored her and took advantage of her status as a pregnant woman to force Lin Guoan to pay back the money.

Lin Xinyan squeezed through the crowd. Looking at her petite figure forcing her way through the crowd, Zong Jinghao frowned and gritted his teeth. He followed her, protecting her as she walked forward.

The rescuer spoke into the loudhailer, "You should get down first, and talk to us. We can always talk through money matters."

The place where she stood was too unsuitable for rescuers to grab her.

One group was persuading her, while another was trying to find a way.

Lin Xinyan walked up to the rescuer with the loudhailer. “Can you let me talk to her?”

The rescuer didn’t dare to give her the loudhailer easily. Who would be held responsible in case the pregnant woman was provoked and jumped off the building?

“Whatever you say is useless if you don’t return the money!” The attitude of the pregnant woman was firm.

The stalemate had lasted for almost two hours, and the pregnant woman was covered with sweat, but she wouldn’t cave in.

“Please believe me. I won’t provoke her,” Lin Xinyan pleaded.

The rescuer hesitated and handed her the loudhailer.

Just when Lin Xinyan took the loudhailer to tell the pregnant woman that she would give her money, a scream was suddenly heard—

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The pregnant woman slipped, and nearly fell off the building, causing people below to scream.

There was only a thin line between life and death.

The pregnant woman's mother-in-law was also in shock, as she sat there crying.

Lin Xinyan's mind also went blank in an instant, as she froze.

After a while, she regained her composure, and said, "If you come down, I will give you the money you used to buy the house."

The pregnant woman clearly didn't believe her. "Don't try to make me get down from here with a lie. I won't believe you!"

"I'm not lying. I'll really give it to you. Do you not think for the child in your belly?" Lin Xinyan continued to persuade her.

The sore point of the pregnant woman seemed to have been touched, as she got a little agitated. "That's why I'm standing here now. Do you think it's easy for us to buy a house? I emptied all my savings just to have a safe home, but would I dare to let my child live in a dilapidated house? Where I'll be worried all the time that it'll collapse and smash us to death!"

Lin Xinyan knew what she cared about, what she was worried about, and what she feared, she empathized, "I know, you just want to give your child a place to call home. I understand very well. As long as you're willing to come down, I'll give you the money as promised."

“Why should I believe you? What if I go down and you refuse to give it to me?”
The pregnant woman refused to cave in.

Lin Xinyan pursed her dry lips. “I didn’t lie to you. I’m Lin Guoan’s daughter. I won’t lie to you.”

“Is she the daughter of the profiteer, Lin Guoan?”

“You should settle your father’s debts. Return my money.”

“Return our money!”

Lin Xinyan was immediately being surrounded. “Return our money. Return our money!”

An agitated man reached out to grab Lin Xinyan. Zong Jinghao reacted quickly by putting his arm around Lin Xinyan’s waist to pull her toward him, while he stared coldly at the man who extended his hand.

The man was stunned, his arrogance instantly diminished. He said stubbornly, “One should pay off debts. Her father took our hard-earned money, and refuses to show up, so she has to pay us back!”

“That’s right. She should settle her father’s debts. If her father doesn’t show up, she has to return us the money!” someone agreed.

Soon, his words were agreed by everyone who then pounced forward, making the whole scene out of control.

The pregnant woman on the building was also rescued by the rescuers, who took advantage of her distraction.

When Guan Jing came with his men, Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan were being surrounded in the middle, and couldn’t get out at all.

Fortunately, he came with his men. With the help of the rescuers, they managed to make a way out of the crowd. The men Guan Jing brought opened the way, while Lin Xinyan left the crowd under Zong Jinghao's protection. They entered the office area of Lin Group, blocking the crowd outside the door.

The rescuers helped the pregnant woman down. When they passed by the lobby, she saw Lin Xinyan through the glass door, and suddenly broke free from the rescuers to run over. "You said you would pay me back."

Guan Jing and security guards stopped her outside.

She couldn't get in, so she could only shout out of control at Lin Xinyan, "You said you would give me money. If you lie to me, you will go to hell. Those that make money without their conscience will go to hell!"

Zong Jinghao frowned, and said coldly, "Throw her out."

Guan Jing was about to do it when Lin Xinyan stopped him. "Wait a minute."

She turned to look at Zong Jinghao. "I know you think I'm stupid. After giving this money, there will be endless troubles behind. But if one's not forced into desperation, one wouldn't make fun of life. She just wants to have a home, to give her child a home. Unfortunately, she met my dad. Just like what she said, if I don't fulfill my promise to her, I will be restless, because I understand how she feels—"

I understand her desire to give her child a home.

This was because she also thought about giving her child a perfect home, despite knowing it was out of her reach, and even unachievable for her whole life.

She was so weak and so thin that as if a gust of wind could blow her away.

But her clear and bright eyes looked so determined at that moment.

It was the kind of determination that he had never seen before.

He was in a daze for a while. Keeping his eyes on Lin Xinyan, he said to Guan Jing, "Give her the money."

Guan Jing understood, and glanced at the pregnant woman. "Come with me."

Meanwhile, Lin Guoan came over in a hurry. He had been hiding in the office until he knew that Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan had come, only then did he dare to come out.

He saw his daughter, like he had seen hope.

"Yan." He was a little emotional. "You finally come to save me."

Lin Xinyan looked indifferent. "How much money do you still have?"

Lin Guoan was taken aback, not expecting her to ask him that question. If he had money, he wouldn't have fallen into such a state.

"I have no more money," said Lin Guoan honestly.

"What?" Lin Xinyan didn't believe it. Even if Lin Guoan was deep in debt, it was impossible for him to have no money at all. "If you don't tell the truth, no one can help you."

With a ghastly expression on his face, Lin Guoan said nothing.

Lin Xinyan didn't want to waste time with him. "Since you don't want to say it, I won't force you."

She looked at Zong Jinghao. "Let's go."

Zong Jinghao reached out to put his arm around her shoulders, nodded slightly, and left the office area under the escort of the security guards.

Lin Guoan panicked. Seeing that Lin Xinyan was really leaving, he gritted his teeth and told the truth. "I don't have much money left. Other than the house, there are about over two million in cash, which have been stolen by Lin Yuhan. I lodged a police report, but couldn't find her."

Lin Guoan didn't want to tell Lin Xinyan about this. The daughter that he loved so dearly stole his money and ran away when he was in the most difficult times.

Instead, she, the daughter that he abandoned, was still standing here at this moment.

He said with bloodshot eyes, "Yan, it's my fault—"

"Forget it." Lin Xinyan didn't want to listen to him. The more she delved into it, the more heartbroken she felt. "Sell the house. Get as much as you can, and pay those people back first—"

"That's my only property. I—" He wasn't willing to sell it.

"Do you still have money?!" Lin Xinyan suddenly roared in anger. "If you don't pay back the money to restore your reputation, no one can save you. It's your own choice!"

Lin Xinyan was resolute.

Zong Jinghao looked at her with admiration in his heart.

Unexpectedly, she could think of this.

If Lin Guoan was smart enough, he should appease these people first to prevent the matter from escalating, then find ways to raise money, and perhaps Lin Group could still be revived.

After leaving Lin Group, Zong Jinghao returned to the company, whereas Lin Xinyan returned to the villa, and didn't go to work today.

Zong Jinghao asked her to go back to rest as she didn't look well.

Lin Xinyan felt tired, but couldn't sleep after lying on the bed. Her mind was in a whirl. She thought about many things, but didn't have any clues. So she got up and went up to Aunt Yu, who was cleaning the doors and windows. "I'll help you out."

Aunt Yu waved her hand. "It's okay. Someone will come over to help later."

Every week, a certain group of people would come over to do a major cleaning. The lawn and plants in the yard would be trimmed. The places in the house that she usually couldn't clean would also be cleaned.

She alone couldn't keep such a big villa perfectly clean.

She was a diligent person, and couldn't stand being idle. The glass doors and windows were cleaned by specialized personnel, as there were many places that she couldn't clean, whereas the professional personnel could wipe them clean.

Lin Xinyan was pushed onto the sofa by Aunt Yu, who then washed her hands and asked, "What fruit you want to eat? I'll wash it for you."

"Apple," Lin Xinyan said casually.

"Okay." Aunt Yu went into the kitchen.

Lin Xinyan nestled on the sofa in the living room, staring at the floor-to-ceiling window in the living room. There was white foam left from the cleaning done by Aunt Yu, and it was sliding down the glass. She was lost in thought.

Suddenly, the phone in her pocket rang. Taking it out, she felt her heart skip a beat after seeing that it was a call from He Ruize.

Did he find out what happened?

Unknowingly, she answered the call with her trembling hands, "Hello."

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Soon, He Ruize's voice was heard. "Yan, it's me."

Lin Xinyan's voice was tight. "Yeah."

After a moment of silence, he said, "The woman that you said is dead—"

"What?" Before He Ruize could finish his sentence, he was interrupted by Lin Xinyan.

Why would she die?

She's obviously very healthy and not very old. Why would she die so suddenly?

"Yan." He Ruize called her name softly to calm her agitated emotion. "Don't worry. We don't have to start with that woman—"

Clutching the phone tightly, Lin Xinyan was still upset. She didn't know why she was so upset either. Was it because she was disappointed, or something else? She didn't now.

She only knew that her mind was in a whirl.

She looked down. "Not a single clue is found?"

Am I thinking too much?

He Ruize fell silent.

The two of them didn't hang up the phone, nor did they talk.

The air was so still that they could hear each other's breathing.

After a long pause, He Ruize spoke first, "Yan—" He hesitated. "Do you really want to know who the father of the child is?"

Lin Xinyan lowered her head to stare at her feet. The light from outside scattered across them, casting shadows on the floor. She asked herself in her heart, do I really want to know who the father of the child is?

When did this idea come about?

It was when she found clues from Zong Jinghao that she began to have the urge to know.

"If the answer disappoints you, and it's not the person you think, would you still want to know?" He Ruize continued to ask her.

Lin Xinyan didn't know how to answer his questions.

Perhaps she was also conflicted inside.

"Why don't you speak?" He Ruize questioned closely.

There were thousands types of feelings in this world.

One of them was the feelings that grew over time.

Zong Jinghao and she lived under the same roof, would they develop feelings for each other?

This was also why He Ruize questioned her closely.

"Yan—"

“I’m listening.” Lin Xinyan interrupted him; for fear that he would say something that she couldn’t answer.

It was nighttime in Country A now. He Ruize was standing on the side of the road in the foreign country, while the streetlamp illuminated him, casting a long silhouette on the ground—

He lowered his head and looked at his shadow. In fact, he also wanted to know if the man that night was the person Lin Xinyan suspected, which was Zong Jinghao.

That woman died, and the hotel surveillance footage was deleted.

But he still managed to find out. He asked around in the hotel with Lin Xinyan’s photo. An attendant, who recognized Lin Xinyan and witnessed the incident, told him clearly what happened that night.

She was right.

That man was Zong Jinghao.

He didn’t want to admit it, nor did he want Lin Xinyan to know.

There would be a connection between them with the presence of a child. Even if Zong Jinghao didn’t love her, but for their child, would he—

He didn’t dare to imagine.

He didn’t want Lin Xinyan to know.

He liked her and wanted to take care of her.

He met her first.

He met her when she was still a child.

“Yan, I found out that the man that night...” He Ruize clutched at the phone tightly.

Lin Xinyan’s heart was suddenly at her throat.

All of a sudden, she was enveloped by a shadow. Turning around, the person was standing against the light, with his profound facial features hidden in the light. Through the light, she could see who was standing behind her, while anxiety and vigilance abruptly emerged in her eyes.

Yet, there was also an inexplicable anticipation.

She anticipated He Ruize to say the answer that she guessed.

“Was a local.” He Ruize’s voice was heard coming from the other end of the call.

Boom.

This answer was a sudden shock to Lin Xinyan.

A local?

In other words, what she saw in Zong Jinghao was a coincidence.

My guess is also wrong?

“Yan, are you listening?”

“I have something to do. Got to go.” Lin Xinyan hung up the phone in a panic. Perhaps she was too panic, so the phone fell to the floor, making a loud noise.

She wanted to bend over to pick it up, but Zong Jinghao picked it up first. Looking at the phone number on the screen, he narrowed his eyes slightly. “Who are you talking to? Why are you so nervous seeing me?”

Lin Xinyan pretended to be calm. “I’m not nervous. You suddenly appeared and scared me.”

Smiling, Zong Jinghao bent over to stare at the woman who was pretending to be calm. “Really?”

Being stared at by him, Lin Xinyan felt a chill running down her spine, and her throat was too tight to speak. At this moment, Aunt Yu came over with the sliced apple and got Lin Xinyan out of a fix.

“This is an authentic Qixia apple. It’s sweet and crisp. Try it.” Aunt Yu put the apple on the table.

Lin Xinyan quickly looked away from Zong Jinghao’s gaze and went to pick up a slice of apple. It was really crisp, sweet, and juicy. She picked up one and handed it to Zong Jinghao. “Want to try?”

Zong Jinghao looked down and stared at her hand that was holding the apple, without moving.

Lin Xinyan sent it to his lips again, and the apple juice got on his lips. It was cold, but he could taste the sweetness.

Lin Xinyan blinked her eyes. “It’s really sweet.”

Zong Jinghao bit the apple, glancing at her. “I’ll spare you this time since you’re so sensible.”

Do you think I don’t know that you’re deliberately changing the subject?

Knowing her place, Aunt Yu smiled, and exited the room to go outside to see people doing their jobs.

Lin Xinyan pursed her lips, not daring to refute. He then unbuttoned his suit while chewing the apple, threw it on the sofa, and sat on the sofa. Seeing the piano, he asked, “You can play piano?”

Lin Xinyan turned around to see the piano and nodded. “I used to play. I haven’t played for a long time. I’m afraid my fingers have become stiff.”

Then, she lowered her head to look at her fingers.

Zong Jinghao’s gaze fell on her fingers. Her fingers were skinny and fair, but there were calluses on her palms. Frowning, he wanted to reach out to grab her hand when she rose to her feet and walked towards the piano.

She sat against the light in front of the piano, and her finger lightly touched the key, producing a crisp and pleasant sound.

She squeezed her hands, looking for a feel. Although she hadn’t played the piano for a long time, she still had the courage to start playing it as she had learned for many years.

She closed her eyes and took a deep breath before placing her fingers gently on the keys.

When her fingers pressed the keys, My Soul was slowly presented in a melodious tune.

This was the first song she learned to play, and also her favorite.

Various scenes from the past—including the happy ones and sad ones—flashed across her mind.

Her life was short, but she had experienced too much.

Zong Jinghao stared at her back, while having some deep thinking about something.

Did she get the calluses on her hand when she was in Country A?

Does it hurt very much being abandoned by her father?

He was lost in thought and was suddenly interrupted by his phone's ringtone. This inappropriate ringtone seemed to displease him, as he knitted his brows hard. Lin Xinyan seemed to hear the sound and stopped playing the piano.

The air instantly became still.

The ringtone of the phone became clearer.

Lin Xinyan stood up and walked over, wondering why he didn't pick up his phone.

Then, she saw the name shown on the phone—Bai Zhuwei.

Lin Xinyan sat across from him. "It's Miss Bai. Why don't you pick up the phone?"

Of course, I didn't pick up because I didn't want to.

The caller was very patient, as the ringtone kept ringing persistently.

Lin Xinyan smiled. "Are you afraid that I'll hear what you two say? I won't disturb you then—"

Then, she rose to her feet, and was about to leave when Zong Jinghao grabbed her in the wrist, and pulled her, causing Lin Xinyan to fall into his lap. When she wanted to move, Zong Jinghao put his arm around her waist and held her tightly.

With another hand, he picked up the phone.

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 53

Lin Xinyan frowned. Why is he holding me while answering Bai Zhuwei's call? So that I can witness their sweet talk?

She was in a dull mood inexplicably and struggled hard. The more she struggled, the harder Zong Jinghao held her, and he said in a low voice, "Don't move."

When Lin Xinyan still wanted to move, Zong Jinghao put his lips to her ear, and said in a warning manner, "Be still. I will answer the call."

Lin Xinyan didn't dare to move anymore and quieted down amid his deep and mellow voice.

A smile tugged at the corners of Zong Jinghao's mouth, as if he was satisfied with Lin Xinyan's silence. Meanwhile, his thumb inadvertently rubbed the flesh on her waist through the fabric.

When the call was picked up, an anxious voice of a man was heard saying, "Mr. Zong, Miss Bai had a car accident, and is now in the hospital."

What?

Bai Zhuwei had a car accident?

Lin Xinyan could also hear it.

She turned to look at Zong Jinghao, who was looking at her, obviously surprised at the news. "When did it happen?"

"One hour ago."

Zong Jinghao let go of Lin Xinyan, stood up and took his coat. After taking a few steps, only did he remember that Lin Xinyan was there. He looked at her, and said, "I will go there."

Lin Xinyan was also looking at him. "Go ahead."

That was his girlfriend, and the woman he liked. Now that she was in danger, he should go there.

Pursing his lips, he seemed to want to say something, but nothing came out. He put on his coat and walked away, while making a phone call. "Get me a ticket to Country A. The earliest flight."

Watching him leaving, Lin Xinyan smiled bitterly.

This is the original trajectory, where I'm alone, and they are together.

I'm the redundant one. They are obviously a pair of lovers who love each other, but their relationship is sabotaged by me.

"Where is Young Master going in such a hurry?" Aunt Yu walked in and asked.

He finally came back early; shouldn't they stay together longer to bond? Is he really so busy with work?

Aunt Yu didn't understand at all and was very upset.

Is he not rich enough?

Is his marriage not important?

Pursing her lips, Lin Xinyan smiled. "Miss Bai had a car accident. He's going over to see her."

Aunt Yu's face darkened instantly. It's only been quiet for a few days, and yet this woman comes out to make trouble again.

"She should look for a doctor if she meets a car accident. Young master isn't a doctor. Could he treat her?" Aunt Yu was displeased, looking obviously upset.

Walking over, Lin Xinyan took the leaves off Aunt Yu's shoulder, and looked at the worker who was pruning the plants not far away. "Can't you see that I'm the redundant one here, Aunt Yu? They're the true love."

Huh?

Young master and the mistress are true love.

Aunt Yu was exasperated. How could she say that her husband and other woman are true love? Is she out of her mind?

"You're the wife Madam got for him. You're the legitimate one. She is nothing." Aunt Yu stared at Lin Xinyan bitterly. "How can you let him go to her just like that? Can you fight back?"

Smiling bitterly in her heart, Lin Xinyan reached out to hold this lovely old woman. Lin Xinyan knew that she was saying that for her own good and wanted the best for her and Zong Jinghao.

But she didn't know about the relationship between her and Zong Jinghao.

"Aunt Yu, you're so good to me. What should I do if I'm reluctant to leave?"

Aunt Yu raised her head and looked at Lin Xinyan. "Where are you going?"

As the old Chinese saying went, follow the man you marry, be he a cock or dog. Once she was married to Zong Jinghao, she belonged to the Zong family. Where would she go?

In Aunt Yu's eyes, only the girl chosen by Madam herself was Zong Jinghao's real wife, and she wouldn't recognize any other woman.

In ten days, her marriage with Zong Jinghao would reach one month, so she should leave by then.

Lin Xinyan held Aunt Yu's arm. "I want to take a walk outside."

"Okay, I'll go with you." Aunt Yu was familiar with the surrounding here, and also she could talk to her.

After dinner, Lin Xinyan went back to her room. She tossed about in bed for a long time, and then slowly fell asleep when she was extremely sleepy in the middle of the night.

Country A

Zong Jinghao got off the plane. Chen Hao, the staff member who came with Bai Zhuwei, waited at the exit of the airport. He saw Zong Jinghao coming out of the exit and greeted him quickly.

"Mr. Zong."

"How is she doing now?" Zong Jinghao asked while walking.

"Her condition is stable for the time being, and she is now in the ward. It's just that—" Chen Hao stopped talking, as if he didn't know how to say it.

Zong Jinghao said coldly, "Stop beating around the bush. Just say it."

Chen Hao raised his eyes and glanced at Zong Jinghao, then lowered his eyes quickly. "Miss Bai had a miscarriage—"

Zong Jinghao stopped walking, while his eyes narrowed slightly. “What did you say?”

His powerful aura was so oppressive that it made people out of breath.

Chen Hao swallowed hard. “M-Miss Bai had a miscarriage. The doctor said she was almost three months into her pregnancy when this accident led to her miscarriage.”

Zong Jinghao was stunned, as if he had been struck by lightning.

He clenched his fists angrily, seemingly vexed over something.

He walked fast, so Chen Hao had to trot to keep up.

After getting in the car, Chen Hao drove the car quietly, hardly daring to breathe, for fear of offending the man in the back seat.

Soon, the car stopped at the hospital.

After parking the car, Chen Hao got out of the car and went to the passenger door. Just as he was about to stretch out his hand to pull the car door open, the car door was already pushed open by Zong Jinghao, so he quickly retreated to the side.

Zong Jinghao got out of the car and looked down at his watch. At this time, it was daytime here, but it was already nighttime in China.

He put down his hand and glanced at Chen Hao. “Lead the way.”

At this moment, Chen Hao had walked to the front to lead the way. “Mr. Zong, this way.”

Through the corridor, Chen Hao led Zong Jinghao to Bai Zhuwei's ward. "Miss Bai is inside."

Zong Jinghao stood quietly at the door for two seconds before pushing the door open and entering.

There was a faint smell of disinfectant in the room. Bai Zhuwei was lying on the bed with a weak look and tried to sit up upon seeing Zong Jinghao. "Hao, w-why are you here?"

Zong Jinghao walked over quickly to support her. "You're injured. Don't move."

Bai Zhuwei was in his arms. "How do you know I'm injured?"

Standing at the door, Chen Hao drooped his head. Bai Zhuwei seemed to have come to understand and pointed at Chen Hao. "Did you tell Hao?"

"The doctor said that your life was in danger, so I took the liberty and notified Mr. Zong—"

"Why are you so meddlesome?!" Bai Zhuwei took the pillow and slammed it on him angrily.

"Chen Hao, you should go out first." Zong Jinghao held Bai Zhuwei—who was agitated—in his arms and patted her back to soothe her. "Why are you hiding it from me?"

Zong Jinghao felt very complicated.

Bai Zhuwei lowered her head, tears slowly falling down her cheeks. "How do I say it? It'd been two months when I found out. At that time, you and Miss Lin were already married. I originally thought that when you and Miss Lin ended your relationship, I would give you a surprise. I didn't expect that—"

Then, Bai Zhuwei burst into tears, while she hugged Zong Jinghao tightly. “Hao, our baby is gone.”

She cried heartbreakingly. “Hao, it’s my fault for being unable to protect our child—”

There was a serious look on Zong Jinghao’s face, with some inexplicable emotions.

Emotions were stirring in his heart after learning that he had had a child before.

Every man had a desire to be a father.

This woman was pregnant with his child, but he sent her here.

If he did not send her here, she would not meet a car accident and suffered a miscarriage.

He closed his eyes. “It’s not your fault.”

It was his fault. He was crazy for trying to find an inexplicable sense of familiarity in Lin Xinyan—

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 54

After Zong Jinghao left that day, he did not return for a week. Lin Xinyan slowly returned to a state of homeostasis.

She went to work as usual.

“I heard that Mr. Zong went to Country A to keep Miss Bai company.” During the lunch break, everyone gathered together to gossip.

“Mr. Zong has already acquiesced in the identity of Miss Bai as his girlfriend. It is normal for him to go and see her, but—” Looking in the small mirror, the woman fiddled with her long hair, looked at herself in the mirror, and smiled faintly with her red lips, thinking that the woman in the mirror was a stunner.

Everyone seemed to be used to her narcissism and thought nothing of her behavior.

It was just that her unfinished sentence aroused everyone’s curiosity, as they gathered around. “But what?”

The woman looked at everyone out of the corner of her eye. “If Mr. Zong really likes her, will he still ask her to go to Country A? With so many people in the company, why must he send her there?”

Everyone found it reasonable, but some disagreed.

“If, as you said, Mr. Zong doesn’t like Miss Bai, he hasn’t come to the company for a week in order to accompany her. How can you explain it? Everyone knows that this has never happened before.”

The two of them made sense. With differences in opinions came dispute. Therefore, there were some who said that Zong Jinghao loved Bai Zhuwei, while some who said that he did not love her, both sides sticking to their own stand.

“Hey, Miss Lin, do you think Mr. Zong love Miss Bai?” A colleague tugged at Lin Xinyan who was sitting in her seat quietly. “Why are you being anti-social?”

Lin Xinyan smiled bitterly in her heart. Isn't it funny to discuss whether my 'husband' loves other woman or not?

The colleague shook Lin Xinyan, and said, “Why don't you talk?”

Feeling helpless, Lin Xinyan expressed her thoughts, “I don't know. I've just joined the company, so I'm not clear about their affairs. I think, he likes her. Why would he recognize her identity if he doesn't like her?”

After a few seconds of silence, it seemed that what she said was reasonable too. If Zong Jinghao didn't love Bai Zhuwei, why would he recognize her identity?

“See. I know Mr. Zong loves Miss Bai.”

They didn't stop gossiping, so Lin Xinyan went to the pantry to avoid them. After the lunch break was over, and everyone had gone back to work, only then did Lin Xinyan go back to work.

Zong Jinghao still did not come back that day.

After listening to the gossip of colleagues in the company, Lin Xinyan just wanted to enjoy some tranquility. Unexpectedly, when she came back to the house, Aunt Yu also nagged.

“Why hasn't young master come back after so long?”

Lin Xinyan felt headache and rubbed her forehead. So Aunt Yu thought she was unwell, and came up to ask, "Are you sick?"

Lin Xinyan shook her head. "No."

"Then—"

"Umm—" Lin Xinyan suddenly smelled a fishy smell, frowned, and looked at Aunt Yu. "Did you buy fish?"

Aunt Yu nodded and pointed at the fresh produce on the table. "I just came back from the supermarket, and I will cook fish for you tonight—"

Before she could finish her words, Lin Xinyan had already covered her mouth and ran to the bathroom, retching.

Aunt Yu hurriedly followed, and stood by the door, looking at Lin Xinyan. "A-Are you pregnant?"

Although Lin Xinyan and Zong Jinghao had been sleeping separately, they slept in the same room the night they got married.

What if she gets pregnant from that one time?

Aunt Yu was a little excited. "Let's go to the hospital."

By having a child, any mistresses have to move over

Lin Xinyan shook her head. "It's okay. M-My stomach is upset."

"We need to go hospital too." Aunt Yu was resolute. She only trusted the doctor.

"Aunt Yu." Lin Xinyan struggled, but Aunt Yu didn't let go. "It's for your sake."

“Hurry up and change your shoes.” Aunt Yu took Lin Xinyan toward the door.

Lin Xinyan didn't dare to move too much. On the one hand, she was afraid of hurting Aunt Yu; on the other hand, she was afraid of hurting her baby in her belly.

Creaking!

Just as Lin Xinyan racked her brains to come up with an explanation for Aunt Yu, the door was pushed open.

Lin Xinyan and Aunt Yu looked at the door almost at the same time.

Zong Jinghao stepped inside with a suit on his arm, while the collar of his shirt was loosely open, revealing his delicate collarbones. There was green stubble on his chin, and dark circles under his eyes, making him look unrested and a little tired, which was different from his usual high-spirited manner.

He must have not rested well enough while going there to accompany and take care of Bai Zhuwei this time, Lin Xinyan thought secretly in her heart.

Seeing that it was Zong Jinghao, Aunt Yu was overjoyed. “Young Master, Young Mistress may be pregnant.”

The expression on Zong Jinghao's face remained the same.

Whereas Lin Xinyan only felt embarrassed.

They looked at each other knowingly.

Only Aunt Yu didn't understand, so she stared at Zong Jinghao, and asked, “Your wife is pregnant, aren't you happy?”

Zong Jinghao's face was tense, while his Adam's apple bobbed in his throat, as he calmly said, "Let's get a divorce."

It was something that was bound to happen sooner or later.

She just didn't expect it to come so suddenly.

It was originally the wrong encounter. Therefore it should end.

She wasn't reluctant, but she just suddenly felt empty all over her body.

She replied with a smile, "Okay."

She was so clear-cut that Zong Jinghao had no time to react, and even could not accept her attitude.

Lin Xinyan said lightly, "Let's go through the formalities tomorrow."

After speaking, she turned and went back to her room.

Aunt Yu stood rooted to the spot, as if she had been struck by lightning. They're going to divorce?

Is marriage a child's play?

"Young Master, y-you're getting a divorce?" Aunt Yu felt that she must be hearing voices.

Otherwise, how could they suddenly want to get a divorce, and even look so calm?

"I'm tired." Zong Jinghao didn't want to talk more about this, so he walked upstairs after speaking.

Aunt Yu was stunned for a moment, and then turned around to stare at Zong Jinghao's back, saying, "This is the marriage that was made for you by Madam when she was alive."

Zong Jinghao stopped walking for a short while before he continued to walk and took the stairs upstairs.

Aunt Yu still didn't give up. "Do you not care too even if Young Mistress is pregnant?"

The bedroom door was closed with a bang. Zong Jinghao was voicing his dissatisfaction in silence!

The baby Lin Xinyan is carrying isn't mine.

It is not!

If it was, he might not be so angry.

His baby is dead!

It was dead!

Aunt Yu was also taken aback, as he rarely got angry at home.

Lin Xinyan barely slept that night, as she sat alone on the head of the bed, with packed luggage on the table next to her. She didn't have many things with her, other than a few pieces of clothing, and some daily necessities.

At dawn, she changed her clothes and walked out of the room, whereas Zong Jinghao also got up and walked downstairs neatly dressed. He was completely different from yesterday. His tall and slender physique was wrapped in a straight and fitted suit, making him look like a Prince Charming coming out from a fairy tale.

He looked extremely noble, handsome and charming.

Their eyes met in the air calmly.

Lin Xinyan spoke first, "It's still early, and the Civil Affairs Bureau may not open yet. I have something to do, so I'm going out now." While speaking, she glanced at the clock. "I'll be back at nine. Do you have the time?"

She needed to go out to find a place to stay. Zong Jinghao suddenly mentioned the divorce, so she didn't have time to prepare. She was negligent on this matter, as she should have gotten herself a way out first.

Zong Jinghao walked down the stairs. "Go to the Civil Affairs Bureau. I will let Guan Jin handle it."

After speaking, he walked towards the door.

Lin Xinyan smiled self-depreciatingly. How can I forget that Guan Jin was the one that took me to apply for the marriage certificate? Zong Jinghao didn't show up at all. So why would he go in person when we divorce?

Their marriage was seemingly destined. What kind of fate was it that they had been engaged since childhood?

However, this short marriage now seemed like a joke.

Lin Xinyan took a deep breath—it was time to end.

Zong Jinghao sat down at the table to have breakfast.

Lin Xinyan came over and sat down across from him. "Is Miss Bai okay?"

After he went to see her, he made the decision. Maybe he's planning to marry her?

But that woman is scheming, can't he tell?

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 55

It was not that Zong Jinghao didn't know that Bai Zhuwei was a little scheming, but the news of her miscarriage was too shocking.

So what if a woman, who had been with him for a long time, gave him her body and even had a miscarriage, was being scheming?

Zong Jinghao lowered his eyes slightly and drily replied in agreement.

It seemed that he was reluctant to talk much about Bai Zhuwei.

Having no idea what she was expecting, Lin Xinyan just wanted to hear him say it, so she asked, "After the divorce, will you get married with her?"

Zong Jinghao's hand that was holding a coffee cup slightly paused, and then he put it down smoothly. After wiping his mouth slowly, he put down the napkin and slowly looked up. "I will marry her."

After speaking, he got up and left the villa.

As expected, he loves Bai Zhuwei.

Lin Xinyan had no appetite, but for the sake of her baby in her belly, she emptied the fresh milk prepared by Aunt Yu and ate an omelet.

After breakfast, she also left the villa.

Now she had to find a house to settle down first.

Fortunately, she was lucky. Without spending a lot of time, she found a two-bedroom apartment that was enough for her to live with Zhuang Zijin at an appropriate price. So she paid the deposit and rented it.

After signing the contract, she left the agency and stood by the road waiting for taxi.

She took out her phone and looked at the time. It was 8:50AM, and it would be 9 o'clock in ten minutes. She was a little anxious about not going back on time, but it was not easy to get a taxi here. In the end, she only managed to flag down a taxi when it was almost nine.

She got in the car and made a phone call to the villa, which was answered by Aunt Yu. "If Mr. Guan goes to the house, ask him to wait for me. I will be there soon."

She didn't want to be misunderstood that she didn't want a divorce or was dragging her heels.

Aunt Yu answered in acknowledgement before Lin Xinyan hung up the phone. When she was about to put her phone in her pocket, her phone rang and it was a call from He Ruize.

She picked it up, and soon his voice was heard saying, "Yan, where are you? I'll go to meet you. I'm back."

Lin Xinyan looked out the window of the car. She was outside and was going to the Civil Affairs Bureau with Guan Jin later. She didn't have time to meet him now, so she said, "I'll call you la—"

Before she could finish her sentence, the driver turned his steering wheel, and when he crossed the intersection, a large truck rushed toward their car, as if it was out of control!

Lin Xinyan's pupils shrank sharply, as she saw the contorted face of the truck driver—

“Yan—”

Bang!

There was a loud bang and the two vehicles collided. As the truck was too fast, the taxi was sent hurtling through the air after being hit, rolled a few times on the road, and finally came to a stop on the edge of the green belt with its four wheels up.

Meanwhile, the truck swerved off tens of meters away into a huge billboard before it stopped.

“Yan—” There was still sound coming from the phone that was dropped outside.

He Ruize's voice sounded particularly anxious, as the loud noise just now told him that something had happened.

Lin Xinyan's face was full of blood, and she couldn't see everything around her clearly. She was in pain all over her body.

No, I can't lose my consciousness. I still have my baby. I can't die.

She held back the great pain and shouted, “Can anyone save me—”

Her voice was very weak.

A kind person helped to call the police and ambulance to come and rescue the people in the car.

“Save me—” Lin Xinyan gradually lost her consciousness, as her voice got fainter and fainter until no one could hear it.

Later, she passed out completely.

When she woke up, her nostrils were filled with a strong smell of disinfectant.

Seeing that she was awake, He Ruize held her hand excitedly. "You are awake."

Lin Xinyan looked around and saw clearly that she was in a hospital ward.

"You were in a car accident, which was due to the brake failure of a truck. You had been rescued when I arrived."

At that time, she was covered with the blood of her own and of the driver.

He held her hand tightly. "Do you know how scared I was at the time? I'm afraid you will be gone like this—"

Then, he slapped his own mouth. "I shouldn't have said such ominous thing."

Lin Xinyan moved and wanted to sit up. He Ruize held her down and kept her from moving, "You can't move. You are injured."

Lin Xinyan frowned.

She knew she was injured because now she still remembered the pain at the time.

He Ruize's expression became serious, as he held Lin Xinyan's hand and kissed it, saying in a low voice, "I have two news, one good and one bad. Which one do you want to know first?"

Lin Xinyan opened her mouth, and replied in a hoarse voice, "Bad one."

The bitter must come before the sweet.

“A small piece of metal has pierced into your lower back and needs to be removed surgically. Otherwise, it will compress the nerves in your waist and make you unable to walk.”

Lin Xinyan breathed a sigh of relief. Luckily, my baby is fine.

This was not a very bad thing for her, as it was just an injury.

“What about the good news?” She looked sideways at He Ruize, her face as pale as a piece of white paper without any trace of blood.

He Ruize held her hand tighter and tighter. “You are pregnant with twins.”

What?

How is this possible?

“W-What did you say? I did a B-scan, and obviously there’s only one—”

“There are two. One is at the posterior wall of uterus and blocked by the one on the front, so we didn’t see it.” Because of her serious injury this time, the most detailed examination was done. The accuracy of the four-dimensional B-scan was much higher than that of the ordinary B-scan.

It was true that she was pregnant with twins.

He Ruize didn’t know what he was thinking either.

He felt very contradictory, as he was happy yet unhappy.

Lin Xinyan looked at the ceiling quietly, her chaotic heart was making her unable to feel at peace.

She was obviously smiling, but tears flowed out of the corner of her eyes and fell onto the white pillow.

Is this a joke from God?

Does He send two angels to accompany me because He thinks I'm too lonely?

I'm unfortunate yet lucky.

"Yan." He Ruize held her hand tightly, hesitating. After thinking for a long time, he made up his mind, and said, "You should terminate your pregnancy."

Lin Xinyan stared at him in surprise. What did he say?

Does he know what he is talking about?

She struggled hard to break free from his grip on her hand in silent resistance.

"Yan..."

"I don't want to listen to you. So what if their father is a foreigner? They are in my body and are part of my life. Can I give up my life?"

She would not give up.

It had been three months. Their flesh, blood, and souls had long become at one with her.

He Ruize knew the importance of her babies to her.

He clearly remembered the scene where she kneeled in front of Zhuang Zijin in order to keep her baby.

He didn't want her to be sad either.

He Ruize reached out and stroked her pale face, softly, gently, and pityingly. "You must be anaesthetized for the operation, and you will lose your babies—"

Her body trembled slightly. "Can I not get anesthesia?"

"You will not be able to stand it!" He Ruize almost jumped up and scolded her.

Cutting through flesh to extract foreign object without anesthesia would be extremely painful!

"Yan, listen to me." He Ruize tried to persuade her, "They have only been in your body for three months. In the future, you can still have—"

"Even so, aren't they a life too?" Lin Xinyan was resolute. "I will not give up."

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 56

Six years later, Country A.

The warm yellow light illuminated the room.

A woman with a thin and slender body was busy preparing a sumptuous dinner in the kitchen for her family.

He Ruize sat on the sofa in the living room watching Lin Xinyan who was busy in the kitchen. Lin Ruixi crawled on top of him. "Uncle, do you like my mommy?"

He Ruize's eyebrows twitched. It drove him crazy every time he heard them calling him like this. Lin Xinyan was unwilling to accept his confession and said that she only regarded him as her brother.

Therefore, both of her children called him uncle.

But they were really cute.

Their skin was fair and tender, and their big round eyes were like pools of clear water, with curly eyelashes that made them look like a porcelain doll.

He Ruize reached out and picked up the little one and walked towards the kitchen.

He stood by the kitchen door. "Yan."

Lin Xinyan looked back at them and smiled. "Are you hungry? It'll be ready soon."

Saying nothing, He Ruize just looked at her back.

Six years ago, Lin Xinyan insisted on not getting anesthesia to keep her babies. He Ruize couldn't make her change her mind, so he could only agree to it—under the condition that she left China and returned to live in Country A.

Lin Xinyan agreed, and brought Zhuang Zijin here with the help of He Ruize.

Since then, six years had passed.

“I have to go China in two days.”

Lin Xinyan's hand that was stirring the thick soup with a ladle paused slightly. It seemed that she still had lingering fears about the kind of pain she suffered from six years ago.

She pretended to be nonchalant and didn't look back. “Do you have things to do there?”

“Well, my sister is engaged.” He Ruize stared at Lin Xinyan's back.

Lin Xinyan turned around. When she gave birth to Lin Xichen and Lin Ruixi, He Ruize said that he had found his sister who had been missing.

She had always been happy for him.

“This is a good thing. You should go back,” Lin Xinyan said sincerely.

He Ruize stared at her intently. “Her fiancé is Zong Jinghao.”

Clatter!

The ladle in her hand slipped and fell to the ground, breaking into countless pieces.

She quickly squatted down to pick it up, lowering her eyes. "I have nothing to do with him anymore."

Six years was a long time, so she couldn't remember that such a man ever appeared in her life.

Now, she just wanted to take good care of her two children.

She just didn't understand. Shouldn't he and Bai Zhuwei get married six years ago?

Why would he be engaged with He Ruize's sister?

She looked at He Ruize with a seemingly inquiring gaze.

He Ruize looked back at her, pursing his lips. "I'm sorry. I hide something from you."

Lin Xinyan frowned. "What are you hiding from me?"

As soon as she spoke, she seemed to think of something again, as her eyes widened, and she expressed her speculation, "Is Bai Zhuwei your sister?"

"Yes." That year, he went to investigate the incident that night for Lin Xinyan and learned about what happened that night from the hotel attendant. He looked deeper and uncovered the role that Bai Zhuwei played in it.

He naturally loathed such a scheming woman, but unfortunately, Bai Zhuwei was also in Country A at that time, and they met there.

They didn't cross paths initially, but because Bai Zhuwei wore a slip skirt that day, the green birthmark on her shoulder caught his attention.

His lost sister also had such a green birthmark on her shoulder.

So in order to clear his doubts, he did an in-depth investigation on Bai Zhuwei. She grew up in an orphanage without parents. At first, he was just curious about the woman, who had the same birthmark as his sister, and naturally wanted to understand her a little more.

But when he found out that she was an orphan, He Ruize had the doubt that she was his long-lost sister, so he followed her, collected her hair and saliva for DNA.

It turned out she was really his sister.

He knew his sister's secret and that she liked Zong Jinghao.

Therefore, he never told Lin Xinyan.

He Ruize put down Lin Ruixi and asks her to play in the living room.

Lin Ruixi nodded and ran toward the living room with her short legs. "I will wait for Xichen to come back and play with him."

"Easy. Don't fall down." He Ruize took hold of her. "Go slowly."

Lin Ruixi pouted, looking upset.

He Ruize let go of her and pinched her little nose. "Be good." After speaking, he turned to walk into the kitchen, squatted beside Lin Xinyan, and reached out to hold her hand. "Isn't it good for me to take care of you?"

"I have two kids—"

"I don't care..."

"I do." Lin Xinyan looked up at him. She wouldn't let her children live under others' roof.

She knew He Ruize's family. Such a family would not be able to accept a woman like her.

Moreover, she had promised Madam He that she would never be with him.

She smiled and withdrew her hand. "Go to the living room. Dinner is almost ready."

As He Ruize's hand became empty, he also felt empty in his heart. Perhaps he was looking for his sister's shadow on her in the past, but the six years of getting along made him fall in love with this brave and stubborn woman.

He Ruize didn't understand why she rejected him so unreservedly.

"Do you reject me because you have someone in your heart?" He Ruize voiced his guess, "And that someone is Zong Jinghao."

This man was the only man that appeared in her life.

"No!" Lin Xinyan answered quickly, as if to prove that she was telling the truth. "If you didn't mention him, I would have long forgotten this person."

"Why do you—"

"Mom." Lin Ruixi ran in and wrapped her arms around Lin Xinyan's neck.

"Mommy, when will Xichen and grandma come back?"

Lin Ruixi's appearance interrupted Lin Xinyan's conversation with He Ruize.

It happened that Lin Xinyan was reluctant to talk about this topic as well.

She looked up at the clock and picked Lin Ruixi up. "School is over at 6:30. It is already 6:20 now. So they will be back soon."

Lin Xinyan put her down. "Be good. The kitchen is dangerous." She stretched out her hand to show Lin Ruixi. "Look at my hand. Is it dirty?"

Lin Ruixi blinked her eyes. "Yes."

"Will you listen to me?"

"Yes."

The little one looked upset, whereas Lin Xinyan sighed and kissed her on the forehead. "I'll bathe you tonight, okay?"

Lin Ruixi's eyes lit up. "Okay."

As Lin Xinyan had to go to work during the day and study at night, she had no time to take care of them.

It was Zhuang Zijin who took care of them and bathed them.

Zhuang Zijin's condition was now under control following He Ruize's meticulous treatment. As long as she wasn't triggered, she was like an ordinary person.

She could help Lin Xinyan take care of her children, so Lin Xinyan had time to study. Her previous profession was as a fashion designer, and after these few years of hard work, she got her graduation certificate and joined LEO.

She was very talented in fashion design, and the dresses she designed had won many awards. She even designed a wedding dress for the daughter of the national leader of Country A, which had amazed everyone in the country. Now she had become the chief designer of LEO and owned its shares.

When it was time for dinner, Zhuang Zijin returned with Lin Xichen.

Lin Xichen was just over five years old, but he had an extremely strong memory and mathematical ability. He was extremely sensitive to numbers, and talented, so Lin Xinyan wanted to train him.

He wasn't a letdown, as he actually passed the test of AC University.

AC was a world-renowned top college in the computer field.

The development of electronic chips and processing systems here had long been popular around the world.

Comparatively, Lin Ruixi didn't have any talents, and was like any other ordinary children, but she was cute and warm.

Seeing that Li Xichen was home, Lin Ruixi ran toward him happily. "Xichen—"

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Lin Xichen was wearing a camel-colored sweetheart neckline sweater with a white shirt, a pair of slacks, and white sneakers. He had an erect bearing, beautiful facial features—rosy lips, white teeth, delicate cheeks, and a Roman nose—and black hair that was slightly curly, looking very handsome.

He touched his sister's head. "Ruixi, did you listen to Mommy?"

Lin Ruixi nodded her head hard, with a great deal of respect for her elder brother. They were born only a few minutes apart, but Lin Xichen appeared relatively mature and sensible.

Whereas Lin Ruixi was innocent and cute like a girl next door.

Lin Xinyan had already put their dinner on the table. "Dinner's ready. Wash your hands and come eat."

He Ruize came over and reached out to pick Lin Ruixi up, but Lin Xinyan stopped him. "Ruize, you go eat. I'll wash them."

"I'll help you." He Ruize didn't feel bitter toward Lin Xinyan because of the topic earlier.

"Dr. He, let Yan do it. You should have a seat first," Zhuang Zijin came over and said politely.

He Ruize had no choice but to sit down at the dining table first, whereas Zhuang Zijin took a bottle of wine, walked to the dining table, and pulled out a chair to sit down.

She glanced at the bathroom and made sure that Lin Xinyan could not hear her before looking at He Ruize and saying, "I thank you for all these years on behalf of Yan."

Then, she poured a glass of wine for He Ruize and herself. The wine didn't burn the throat as much as the Chinese spirits did, and it was relatively mild. After drinking the wine in the glass, she said, "I hope she can be with you, but she is stubborn, and now she only focuses on her two children. Therefore, you should get married if you find someone suitable, as you are no longer young."

"Auntie, I was hoping you can persuade her for me." Glancing at the wine in front of him, He Ruize didn't drink it.

Of course, Zhuang Zijin had already persuaded her.

She had always been satisfied with He Ruize. He took care of Lin Xinyan and took her away during her most difficult times.

It could be said that without He Ruize's help, Lin Xinyan could not become who she was now.

She was grateful and satisfied with He Ruize.

But Lin Xinyan refused. What could she do?

Zhuang Zijin smiled bitterly. "I persuaded her, but she won't listen."

She also understood why her daughter was like this. After all, she had given birth to two children, whereas He Ruize came from a good family and had a good character. Even if he didn't mind, her daughter might mind.

She knew how important a woman's innocence was to her husband.

He Ruize picked up the glass of wine on the table, emptied it, and slammed it down on table. "I won't give up."

I'll wait until she accepts me.

"Well, I think you should. She's as stubborn as a donkey, and not worth waiting for—"

At this time, Lin Xinyan was walking over while holding Lin Ruixi in one hand and Lin Xichen in the other.

Zhuang Zijin stopped midsentence and stretched out her hand to pick up Lin Ruixi from Lin Xinyan's arms. "Come, I'll hold you."

"I want mommy." Lin Ruixi wrapped her arms around Lin Xinyan's neck, unwilling to let go. She was closer to Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xinyan was usually busy, and had little time to take care of her, so how could she let go since there was a chance for her to take dinner in her mommy's arms?

Zhuang Zijin glanced at her, pretending to be upset. "Look at your brother."

Lin Xichen climbed onto a chair and sat by himself, eating by himself. Upon hearing Zhuang Zijin talking about him, he raised his head to look at his sister, and said solemnly, "Ruixi is still young."

Speechless, Zhuang Zijin thought, you are only a few minutes older than her.

His display of maturity beyond his years had people smiling.

Lin Xinyan sat down with Lin Ruixi in her arms.

After eating, He Ruize wanted to go back, so Zhuang Zijin took the little one from Lin Xinyan's arms, and said, "You go and see Dr. He off."

Lin Xinyan stood up readily, and said with a smile, "Ruize, I will see you off."

Even if she could not accept He Ruize, she was grateful to him.

Over the years, he had indeed helped her a lot.

"Alright." He Ruize smiled.

The two walked out of the house one after another, with Lin Xinyan walking behind and closing the door.

"Have you ever thought about going back?" He Ruize asked tentatively.

Lin Xinyan shook her head. "No."

She was telling the truth, as she was satisfied with her life now.

He Ruize lowered his head. "I may not have time to come and see you these coming few days."

It was due to his work, and on the other hand, he had to go back to China, so he had no time to come.

"Go ahead. I'll be fine here." When she went to work, Zhuang Zijin could take care of her children at home.

"Okay." He Ruize reached out to put his arm around Lin Xinyan's shoulder, then he licked his dry lips. "Your mom just spoke to me."

Lin Xinyan glanced at his hand around her shoulder. "What did my mom say?"

"She asked me to give up on you, probably because she thinks I am too old, and is afraid that I will be alone for life," He Ruize said lightly.

Lin Xinyan chuckled. “It’s true that you’re old and should get married.”

He Ruize looked at her. “Can’t you really try to be with me?”

The smile on Lin Xinyan’s face suddenly froze. She knew how good He Ruize was.

It was not that she never thought about it, but she promised Madam He.

“You deserve someone better—”

“But in my eyes, there is no one better than you.” He Ruize suddenly paused and clasped her shoulders to look at her face-to-face. “My love for you isn’t that of brotherly and sisterly, but romantically.”

Lin Xinyan didn’t know how to respond to him at all.

“I...”

“Shhh.” He Ruize leaned closer, his hot and humid breathing close at hand. Lin Xinyan froze.

She was an adult and naturally knew what He Ruize was going to do.

Just when He Ruize was about to kiss her lips, she turned her head, and Rui Ze’s lips were pressed against her cheeks. He was not angry and said with a smile, “All right. Try first to see if you are allergic. If you’re not, let me kiss your lips next time.”

Lin Xinyan was rendered speechless.

“Ruize—” Lin Xinyan wanted to make it clear to him that she really couldn’t be with him.

“We’re still possible,” He Ruize interrupted her. He was not young anymore and didn’t want to wait any longer.

Lin Xinyan lowered her head. “I have to work tomorrow, so I will go home first.”

“Okay.”

Lin Xinyan turned around and went back. Zhuang Zijin was tidying up the kitchen when she heard the door opening. Knowing that it was Lin Xinyan, she said, “They don’t want me to bathe them today, and want you instead. Do you have time?”

“Yes.” Lin Xinyan went to the bathroom to fill up the tub with warm water and bathed her two kids.

Lin Ruixi pointed at the pink bottle of shower gel, and said, “Mommy, I want to use this.”

She stood naked in the tub, and moved around, splashing water everywhere.

Lin Xinyan pointed at her. “I will get it for you only when you stop moving around.”

The little one pouted, feeling unhappy.

Meanwhile, Lin Xichen was doing okay, and didn’t trouble Lin Xinyan. Lin Ruixi was the demanding one, as Lin Xinyan’s clothes were soaking wet after bathing her.

Lin Xinyan wrapped her in a bath towel, and took her to bed, before taking out a pair of pajamas with pink baby elephant, and putting it on for her.

She bounced around on the bed.

Lin Xichen really couldn’t stand her being so noisy, so he said calmly, “Be quiet.”

His words were more effective than those of Lin Xinyan, as Lin Ruixi climbed up to him and said softly, "Xichen."

Looking at them, Lin Xinyan sighed with a smile. This girl only listens to Lin Xichen.

"Xichen, take care of your sister while I take a bath."

"OK, mommy, don't worry." Lin Xichen promised, patting his chest, "I will surely take good care of her."

Lin Xinyan reached out and rubbed his hair before turning around and taking her clothes to the bathroom.

After a shower, she came back to tell them stories and put them to bed.

In the morning, after Lin Xinyan had breakfast and was going to work, Lin Xichen came over, and said, "Mommy, can I go to work with you?"

"Huh?"

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“Huh?” Lin Xinyan looked at him as she changed her shoes. “You don’t have to go to class on weekends. Don’t you want to rest at home?”

Lin Xichen said solemnly, “Ruixi is at home, so I think I may not have time to rest.”

Lin Xinyan knew very well the fact that Lin Ruixi was clingy.

She put on a jacket for her son and took him to work with her.

Her son was quiet and would not make her worry.

If it was Lin Ruixi who wanted to go, she would definitely not take her.

Lin Ruixi was exactly how a child this age should be, and Lin Xinyan didn’t know whether it was good for her son to have such a personality.

She picked up her son and kissed him on the cheek.

Blushing slightly, Lin Xichen said shyly, “Mommy.”

Lin Xinyan smiled. My son is so cute when he is shy.

She took Lin Xichen in the car and buckled his seat belt.

When they arrived at LEO, Lin Xinyan parked the car, and got her son out of the car before entering the company hand in hand with him.

“Ms. Lin, the client who made the appointment last time is here.” It was her assistant, Qin Ya, who spoke. “I have taken them to the reception room.”

This client had already made an appointment last month for an engagement gown.

Lin Xinyan had come up with several designs for the client to choose from. She then asked Lin Xichen to play by himself. “Don’t run around.”

“I know.” This wasn’t the first time he came, so he was very familiar with the place, and the ladies here liked him very much.

“Make two cups of coffee and bring them in.” Lin Xinyan looked through the design drawings again and made sure that there was no problem before she took them to the reception room.

She pushed open the door of the reception room. On the leather sofa by the window sat a man and a woman. When she saw their faces clearly, Lin Xinyan’s body froze for a while, and only managed to regain her composure after catching her breath for a while. She forced a decent smile, as if not knowing them. “Hi there.”

She came in calmly holding the design drawings.

Bai Zhuwei—now He Ruilin—turned pale in an instant. How could it be her?

She instinctively looked at Zong Jinghao next to her.

He was staring straight at the woman who just came in.

She had let go of everything in six years.

Now she just wanted to live a quiet life, so these people were strangers to her.

Lin Xinyan just walked to the sofa and sat down as if she didn't know them. She was wearing black business attire with her legs elegantly crossed. Then, she put the design drawings on the table and pushed it to He Ruilin. "These are the preliminary designs. You may have a look."

He Ruilin clearly felt the chill radiating from the man next to her.

If she knew that the famous designer was Lin Xinyan, she would never choose LEO.

She insisted on choosing this company, so now she couldn't back out.

Biting the bullet, she could only pick up the design drawings, and flipped through it. Her hand shook slightly, as each design was very distinctive, particularly the gown called The Beginning—it was a pink, off-shoulder dress with a cinched-waist design, looking simple yet elegant.

She didn't want to recognize Lin Xinyan's designs, and yet she liked the dress very much.

Qin Ya came in with the coffee and bent over to put the coffee in front of them. Lin Xinyan looked at her, and said, "Ya, go and get The Beginning."

"Okay." Qin Ya left with the tray, and soon came in with a mannequin that was wearing the dress called The Beginning.

It was even more stunning than it looked on the drawing. The specially treated pink silk material was glistening, and when the light fell on it, it shone like stars in the sky. The off-shoulder neckline could show the sexiest and most graceful parts of a woman, which were the neck, collarbones, shoulders, and arms; the cinched-waist design could highlight the waist; its ankle-length hemline made the wearer appear decorous and modest.

It was the perfect dress for engagement.

He Ruilin reached out and touched the material, which was soft, smooth, and very comfortable to the touch.

“This is Ms. Lin’s award-winning dress. Many people want to buy it, but she has not been willing to sell it. You really have a good taste for choosing this right away. It just so happened that Ms. Lin decided to sell it,” Qin Ya said proudly.

Zong Jinghao’s gaze fell on Lin Xinyan’s face, while her gaze fell on the dress. She had only glanced at him once since she entered, and never looked at him again.

Is she treating me like air? Like a stranger?

His lips were pursed tightly into a thin line.

He Ruilin raised her head. She was now the daughter of the He family, and not a helpless orphan like before, so what if Lin Xinyan became a designer?

She still needs to design a dress for me and watch me get engaged to Zong Jinghao.

He Ruilin felt much better thinking about it this way, and said arrogantly, “Why is it called The Beginning?”

Lin Xinyan lowered her eyes. While designing this dress, she was thinking of her dream in the beginning, which was to become an excellent designer. However, due to some changes in circumstances, she didn’t complete her studies. Later, she had the opportunity to complete her studies and designed this dress after she joined LEO.

This is her debut work, which was inspired by her dream in the beginning, so it was named The Beginning.

When it came to her work, she could always talk confidently, with a faint smile on her face. “In my opinion, everything at the beginning is the most beautiful. I think

all younger selves have one thing that they want to do. I call it the dream at the beginning. Falling in love with a person in the beginning is the most primitive urge and the truest emotion. It's the most moving at the first moment in the beginning. Don't you agree, Miss He?"

Then, she glanced over Zong Jinghao's face, and finally fixed her eyes on He Ruilin. "It's just like the love between you and Mr. Zong. After going through ups and downs, you will always get back together in the end and regain the feeling you have towards each other in the beginning—"

"Enough!" Zong Jinghao interrupted sharply.

Suddenly, he stood up, walked up to Lin Xinyan, and grabbed her in the wrist.

Lin Xinyan frowned. "What are you doing?"

Without saying anything, Zong Jinghao directly pulled her away.

"Hao—"

Zong Jinghao turned around shooting her a dark look, like a warning, so He Ruilin didn't dare to speak anymore, and could only shut up even though she was afraid.

Lin Xinyan struggled, but Zong Jinghao's hand was very strong. She couldn't break free even a little. She couldn't help but sternly say "You're hurting me!"

Zong Jinghao didn't pay attention to her reluctance and struggle, as he forcibly dragged her to the stairwell and pressed her against the wall. His angry face twisted into a grimace of anguish, while he stared intently at the woman before him. "Why did you hide?!"

Lin Xinyan frowned. Hide?

She had never deliberately hide from him, though she didn't want to see this man.

It was just that He Ruize said that the medical conditions here were suitable for her to undergo surgery and give birth at the time.

Her injury gave her no choice but to follow He Ruize's arrangement.

"Mr. Zong, where should I begin? We are already divorced. What does what I do have to do with you?" Lin Xinyan tried her best to calm herself down.

In fact, she was not as calm as she appeared to be.

She didn't want to admit that this man who appeared for a short time in her life caused ripples in her calm heart.

After so many years, the ripples had already returned to peace.

So she didn't want to get entangled with the things and people from the past anymore.

Heh!

Zong Jinghao sneered. "Divorced?"

He let go of Lin Xinyan, took a step back, and stood two steps away from Lin Xinyan, before looking at her up and down. In six years, she had changed. Her facial features had matured, looking incredibly exquisite; her black hair tied up into a clean and neat ponytail; her professional attire and speech gave off a feeling that she was a successful woman. He then laughed. "Are you sure we are divorced?"

Lin Xinyan's heart skipped a beat. When she was about to rush back to apply for the divorce certificate that day, she had a car accident and was then taken here by He Ruize.

The divorce certificate had not been issued—

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The divorce certificate had not been issued, but it has been six years. The marriage can also be automatically dissolved if a normal couple has been separated for six years, can't it?

Lin Xinyan pretended to be calm. "If the husband and wife have been separated for two years, the marriage can be automatically dissolved—"

"Who taught you the law?" Zong Jinghao mocked.

Six years ago, this woman disappeared without a trace.

He had become accustomed to having one more person at home, but since she left, the villa had become deserted again, without any human touch and sense of home, while his heart had also become empty.

Lin Xinyan thought he was ridiculous.

"You are about to get engaged, is there still a marriage between us? What good will it do you? Don't you know that it is a crime of bigamy?"

Zong Jinghao didn't get angry, and just looked at her calmly.

She was still as eloquent as ever.

Being stared at like this made Lin Xinyan nervous, as there seemed to be a large invisible weight on her chest, and her hands kept shaking. "I still have to work."

After speaking, she wanted to escape this tight space.

Zong Jinghao grabbed her arm and pulled, causing Lin Xinyan's body to lean back sharply. With his arm around her waist, he pulled hard, and her body was pressed against his tightly without any gaps. Through the fabrics, she could even feel his burning hot body and his strong heartbeat.

Lin Xinyan glared at him, her body stiff and not daring to move, while she said in a stern voice, "Let go of me, otherwise I'll sue you!"

With his fingertips against her wrist, Zong Jinghao placed her hand on his clothes, his eyes slightly narrowed and moist. He asked in a low and hoarse voice, "Sue me over what?"

Without waiting for Lin Xinyan to answer, he added, "Over molestation?"

Before Lin Xinyan could react, his body pressed against hers, as he grabbed the back of her head, and kissed her lips.

He tasted the familiar breath that fascinated him.

Lin Xinyan gasped, and in an instant, her neck and cheeks were all burning red, like being burned by fire. She felt that her heart was about to jump out of her chest. So she forced herself to calm down, before she decided to open her mouth, and bite the unruly lips on her mouth.

Zong Jinghao was in pain, and slightly loosened his grip. Lin Xinyan took advantage of it and pushed him away.

Then, she turned around and ran away.

After being pushed, Zong Jinghao stumbled backward. Looking at her fleeing in a hurry, he raised his hand to wipe the corner of his mouth and saw bright red blood on the back of his hand.

This woman bit me. She didn't do that before.

With her breath remaining in his mouth, he moved the tip of his tongue over his teeth and swallowed together with the taste of blood.

“Hao.” He Ruilin stood tremblingly at the door of the stairwell.

Judging from her state, she should have seen the scene just now.

Looking up, Zong Jinghao didn't care about her feelings, as he curled his lips and said, “The engagement is cancelled. I will not marry you.”

He Ruilin panicked and rushed to grab his arm. “Hao, our families have agreed on it, and it's also what your dad wants—”

Zong Jinghao shook off her hand unceremoniously. He might have exerted too much force, so He Ruilin was caught off guard and stumbled backward. If it weren't for the wall behind, she would definitely fall down.

“I will explain it to my dad myself.” Zong Jinghao didn't mean to help her up, and was about to leave when she put her arms around his leg and cried, “Hao, after so many years, why can't you forgive me?”

Zong Jinghao closed his eyes, and said coldly and resolutely, “You should have thought of the consequences when you lie to me.”

Six years ago, she said she had a miscarriage, and he thought it was true. Even if there was no love, he wanted to be responsible for her.

But she lied to him.

She had never been pregnant.

This was also why he did not marry her six years ago.

This time they wanted to engage only because it served as a union of two families by marriage, which was an order given by Master Zong.

Without Lin Xinyan, he was willing to accept this order, but not now!

“Hao, I was wrong. I was wrong. Forgive me this time, can’t you?” Without bothering her image and her dignity, He Ruilin just wanted to get back the man she had tried so hard to get, and whom she loved so much.

I can give you whatever you want, except marriage.” He bent over to pry He Ruilin’s fingers. “You are the daughter of the He family, and there are so many men in the world, why bother to shame yourself?”

“Hao, please—”

No matter how He Ruilin begged, Zong Jinghao didn’t cave in, and simply left.

He walked out of LEO and gave Guan Jing a call while pulling the car door open, asking him to find out Lin Xinyan’s address.

Guan Jin was stunned for a while. Why would this name that had disappeared for a long time suddenly appear?

“Mr. Zong, a-aren’t you about to get engaged? Why do you think of finding out where she lives? She disappeared for so long without any news. Where can I find out her address?”

“Guan Jing.” Zong Jinghao sounded calm, with his voice like a spring breeze. Yet, Guan Jin knew that this breeze would turn into a tornado at any time, that ravaged him so hard that he would be left with nothing.

“The capital of Country A.” After speaking, he hung up the phone. Before that, he also thought that Lin Xinyan would be in Country A, and deliberately looked up the place where she lived before, but there was no trace of her.

Even the traces of her leaving the country were deliberately erased.

She said she didn't hide?

So, who did those things and why?

His mind was occupied by Lin Xinyan who suddenly appeared, so he didn't notice a person in the back seat.

After seeing Lin Xinyan being bullied by this man, Lin Xichen stomped angrily, but he couldn't beat him. It was obvious that this man was very powerful.

He had no strength, but he had brains.

So while Zong Jinghao was on the phone, he got into the car.

He wound down the car window, leaned on the window, and shouted, "Help, help. I've been kidnapped!"

Zong Jinghao was driving into the downtown area, so his shouting attracted the attention of the passers-by.

Lin Xichen's eyes reddened. "This bad man is a human trafficker, and he is going to sell me. Save me please and call the police for me."

Zong Jinghao's face darkened in an instant. When did this kid get in the car?

And who does he say is a human trafficker?

Who is selling him?

"How can anyone have the heart of trafficking such a beautiful child?"

Lin Xichen's tearful eyes, aggrieved, and frightened look finally attracted everyone's attention. Someone bravely stood in front of the car to stop Zong Jinghao's car.

He had to stop the car.

After being rescued, Lin Xichen said as he sobbed, "Thank you, everyone. Otherwise, I will be sold, and maybe my organs will be removed. Sob—"

As he said, Lin Xichen was more afraid and sadder.

"This kind of people is worse than a dog!" Human traffickers, no matter what country they were in, were targets of being spurned and condemned.

"He looks like a gentleman, but it turns out that he is a human trafficker."

"What a waste of his good look!"

Zong Jinghao was being reproached harshly, and no one would listen to his explanation.

They were determined that he was a bad guy.

After all, he was accused by a child, a very likable child.

Naturally, people would not doubt what a child said.

Zong Jinghao was taken away by the police, and Lin Xichen was also taken to the police station, so that they could investigate the situation.

Lin Xinyan locked herself in her office. Due to Zong Jinghao's sudden appearance, her heart that had remained calm for a long time made waves again.

She propped her chin with one hand, wondering if she should find a new place to settle down.

She didn't want to be disturbed.

Buzzing—

The phone on the table vibrated suddenly.

She stared at it for two seconds, and only reached out to answer after it didn't mean to stop.

“Are you Ms. Lin Xinyan?”

“Yes, I am.”

“Your son was abducted by a trafficker and was saved by some good-hearted men. He is now at the police station. Come over now.”

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 60

What? Lin Xichen was abducted?

Lin Xinyan stood up abruptly. Her movements were too fast, causing her leg to be scratched by the drawer, but she didn't feel any pain.

She was just worried about the safety of her son.

Tension and fear filled her mind. The kid usually looked more mature than the average kids, but he was a kid after all.

She ran out of LEO and got into the car, almost speeding all the way.

When there was a red light on the road, she clutched the steering wheel tightly, wishing to drive past it.

It was already twenty minutes later when she reached the police station.

Lin Xinyan was led to the interrogation room by police officers.

Zong Jinghao and Lin Xichen were sitting opposite each other.

The little one was not afraid of Zong Jinghao's sharp look at all.

"Kiddo, tell me, why would I kidnap you?" Zong Jinghao stared at the little boy who looked very young but very calm at the moment.

Although he framed him, Zong Jinghao admitted that this child was very smart.

He was curious about what his parents were like and how could they give birth to such an excellent child.

Lin Xichen stayed silent, with his hands folding across his chest, while insisting that Zong Jinghao abducted him.

Upon entering the room, Lin Xinyan saw her son, and rushed over to hug him tightly, then she studied him, and asked anxiously, “Did you get hurt?”

Lin Xichen shook his head. “Don’t worry, Mommy, I’m fine—”

“Fine?! You’ve just been abducted; how can you be fine?! Aren’t you very smart usually? Didn’t Mommy tell you that you can’t talk to strangers and that you can’t eat what strangers give you? Why would you still be kidnapped?” Love well, whip well.

This sentence could just be used to describe Lin Xinyan now. She rarely spoke to her son so harshly.

She was really scared by the incident.

Lin Xichen’s eyes were reddish, and he reached out to touch Lin Xinyan’s anxious face. “I’m sorry, Mommy, for making you worry.”

Lin Xinyan’s heart softened, and she hugged her son tightly, with her face deeply buried in his arms. “I’m scolding you. I’m just worried about you.”

Lin Xichen sniffled. “I know.” Then, he looked at the man who was looking at him at the moment. He would do the same if he were to do it again.

At this time, Lin Xinyan had also calmed down. Who is the bastard that dares to abduct my son?

She put down her son and stood up. “Officer—”

Before she could continue, she saw the man sitting at the table with his hands handcuffed. Her heart skipped a beat. Why would he be here?

“You—”

Lin Xinyan felt confused. What exactly had happened?

Zong Jinghao studied Lin Xinyan and the little boy and found that the little boy really looked similar to Lin Xinyan.

Is this her son?

After some calculation, he thought that her kid should be about this age

“He abducted your kid, Madam,” the police officer in charge of this case said to Lin Xinyan.

What?

Zong Jinghao kidnapped my son?

Lin Xinyan seemed to understand something, so she turned to look at her son.

Lin Xichen quickly lowered his head and looked at his feet.

Meanwhile, Chen Hao, the person in charge of a branch in another city in A Nation, rushed over with a lawyer. “Mr. Zong, the lawyer has already talked to the police and this matter will be resolved soon.”

When he received the call, his jaw almost dropped. Kidnap a child?

Does Zong Jinghao have any special hobbies?

But he had been in the head office for many years previously, and as far as he knew, Zong Jinghao wasn't a pedophile.

"Mr. Zong, what's going on? Whose child did you kidnap?" Chen Hao really wanted to know what kind of child could attract Zong Jinghao's attention and even make him abduct him.

Children were innocent, so no one would believe that this child framed the adult and would look for problems in adult.

Children were all naive.

So it was impossible for them to be so calculating.

However, Lin Xichen's mentality was much more mature than the children of the same age and was very smart.

Zong Jinghao raised his chin to ask him to look at Lin Xichen.

Chen Hao followed Zong Jinghao's prompt and looked over. When he saw the little boy standing at the table showing only half of his head, his expression changed.

This kid is really handsome, with his clean fair face, big black and bright eyes, and an erect bearing, looking a little like Zong Jinghao—

When the thought popped into his mind, Chen Hao was shocked. He turned his head to look at Zong Jinghao, perplexed that he actually thought that the kid looked like him.

Now that he thought about it carefully, he didn't think it was possible.

Only two women appeared in Zong Jinghao's life. One was a marriage partner he had never seen before. He heard that they divorced after less than a month of marriage.

The other was Bai Zhuwei, the former secretary of Zong Jinghao, who now known as He Ruilin, the daughter of the He family. Since she faked a car accident six years ago, and lied that she had a miscarriage, Zong Jinghao had long loathed her after he learned the truth.

No matter what, it's impossible that Zong Jinghao has kids.

"Aren't you going to say something?" Zong Jinghao looked at Lin Xinyan, smiling, but at this moment the smile looked fake.

Lin Xichen was afraid that Zong Jinghao would bully Lin Xinyan again, so he took her by the hand and stood in front of her to protect her, looking very manly.

Lin Xinyan was moved, yet she sighed helplessly, and patted him on the shoulder. "Be good and wait for me here."

Lin Xinyan was about to go out when the lawyer had resolved the matter, and the officer said that Zong Jinghao could leave.

Lin Xinyan didn't want to assess blame for this matter either.

After all, it wasn't a real 'abduction'.

Zong Jinghao rubbed his wrist. He was handcuffed for the first time in his life, and it was because he was 'framed' by a child.

Lin Xinyan led Lin Xichen out of the police station and couldn't help but squat down and ask him, "Why did you do this? Can a good boy lie?"

Lin Xichen pursed his lips. He was quite stubborn, like Lin Xinyan.

“Say something!” Lin Xinyan frowned. When did this kid learn to lie?

And it was too big a lie that they had to go to the police station.

Lin Xinyan gasped in anger, but she didn't have the heart to raise her hand at him. “Are you going to piss me off?”

Lin Xichen clenched his hands tightly and suddenly shouted, “He is a rascal, why can't I get the police to catch him?”

Lin Xinyan was taken aback. W-What is he talking about?

Lin Xichen's domineering little hand then wiped Lin Xinyan's mouth. “I don't want him to kiss you. He is a bad guy, a robber, and a bastard. He bullies Mommy, so I'm going to teach him a lesson!”

When Zong Jinghao walked out of the police station, he heard a series of Lin Xichen's comments about him.

It was the first time he heard someone scold him so smoothly.

“Wait for me in the car.” Zong Jinghao walked down the steps. “Kiddo.”

Lin Xinyan hugged her son in her arms and looked at Zong Jinghao vigilantly. “He is still a kid, and you are fine, so just forgive him.”

Zong Jinghao chuckled. “This kid gave me the surprise of my life, and yet you want me to overlook it?”

Lin Xinyan instinctively took a step back, as she just wanted to stay away from this man. “What do you want?”

Looking angry, Lin Xichen glared at Zong Jinghao so hard that he wanted to glare him to death.

Zong Jinghao was not angry. He took two steps closer and stretched out his hand to pinch Lin Xichen's face and tease him.

Lin Xichen turned his face, so his hand missed his face and stayed in mid-air for a while. He then retracted his hand naturally with his fingers gliding over Lin Xinyan's cheek, while he teased, "You will pay for what he did."