Sweet Love 2001

Chapter 2001: Coldness toward Hua Jin

At the side, several doctors rushed forward to their rescue. "Sir, please calm down. I think you're mistaken! This man isn't your wife's attacker. The culprit is also injured and is currently being interrogated by the police!"

Realizing that it was a misunderstanding, the man released Qin Zhou instantly and gave him a small, remorseful smile.

The agent tidied his wrinkled shirt and glanced at the bed. His anger had yet to dissipate, but he controlled his unhappiness and asked calmly, "The person on the bed is your wife?"

"Yes, and you both are..."

Yun Shishi was instantly speechless as a strange look appeared on her face.

She walked over and carefully lifted the white cloth. Glimpsing the long hair of the victim from the corner of her eyes, she let out a sigh and covered the body again.

"What are you doing?!"

The man went forward with a livid face and pushed her away. He glared at the actress like a tiger watching its prey, clearly resentful of her rude action just then.

"I'm sorry! This is a misunderstanding; I made a mistake..."

Outside the door, an awkward voice belonging to a woman was heard.

"Mr. Qin, Shishi, what are you two... doing?"

Both turned their heads around, only to see Hua Jin's manager looking at them with startled eyes and a bewildered expression.

"Yugi?" Qin Zhou was particularly astonished.

"You both..."

The female agent glanced at the body in this room before her lips curled into a smile speechlessly. She let out a burst of awkward laughter before asking, "Did you two recognize the wrong person?"

...

Half an hour later, in a special care ward.

Hua Jin lay quietly on the hospital bed. The skin on his pale face showed how morbidly thin he had become.

His eyes were shut tightly. At that moment, his handsome and beautiful face did not seem to have an ounce of life left in it due to his excessive loss of blood.

He was extremely skinny. Normally, he relied on makeup to conceal this fact.

Now, with the makeup removed, his slim face could no longer be hidden.

He was too skinny.

Especially his wrists, they were almost only as thick as Yun Shishi's.

He had lost a lot of blood and needed to be given two bags of it.

The actress, who was sitting by the bed, glanced at the tag hanging at the headboard. On it was the actor's real name, Rong Jin.

That's his name, huh.

Rong Jin...

His surname is Rong?

She stared at the young man's face in confusion.

Apart from him and her, the only other person in this ward was the actor's manager.

Through their interactions on the plane, the actress and this female agent had become on rather good terms.

Qin Zhou had headed out to get certain work in order.

Since it was confirmed that neither one was in danger, there were many matters left that he needed to settle.

The female manager sat by the bed, sighing as she peeled an apple. "I got a call in the middle of the night from the hospital, telling me that Hua Jin was injured. I was so shocked that I cried on the cab while heading here. In the end, it's just a false alarm! The doctor said that he got stabbed in the appendix, so it wasn't much of an issue cutting the part out, but he lost a lot of blood and needed blood transfusion. Unfortunately, there is now a scar on his abdomen. We'll have to think of a way to have it removed, or else it'll be awkward once we film his portraits."

The agent's focus was on their future business.

With her charge injured, her worry was centered on the delay in their schedule. If they ran into a difficult organizer, they would have to pay a hefty penalty fee.

She was also worried that there would be a scar left on his body, which was a huge taboo for an idol.

The actress suddenly felt her heart aching terribly for the actor.

Ji Yuqi was probably the closest person to him, just like how Qin Zhou was to her.

Chapter 2002: You will cause him harm.

From what the actress could see, though, Hua Jin was nothing more than a commodity to his agent. To Ji Yuqi, the actor was a money tree. She could not sense the care that the female manager might have for her charge.

The concern, which was displayed, could be likened to a merchant assessing the value of a product after suffering damages.

It was just too pragmatic.

Since she entered the room, his agent had mentioned nothing more than a series of damages that his injury might bring.

In fact, to this woman, the actress was also a source of trouble.

The actress not only spelled trouble for her charge but also a bigger headache for her.

When she first caught the admiration and yearning the idol had for the actress, she harshly snubbed out the flame of desire in him without delay.

She was not just this young man's agent; she was also the 'guardian' sent by his woman to keep tabs on him.

Her mission was to keep watch and report his every move to his master. Hence, she was especially wary of the actress.

Yun Shishi popped a question out of the blue. "Who was that 'Xin'er'? What happened to her?"

The idol's agent paused for a while before replying, "I heard that the woman got robbed tonight and was stabbed by the robber when she resisted. She died on the spot."

"Oh, how pitiful."

She had mistaken that body to be Hua Jin, only to discover the blunder after crying her eyes out.

It was fortunate that the young chap in question did not witness that fiasco or he would have laughed his head off at her expense.

After peeling the apple and cutting it into slices, Ji Yuqi took a wet wipe to clean her fingers. She looked up with her usual, calm demeanor and said to the actress, "I have something to tell you."

"Yes?"

"I hope... that you can stay away from my charge."

As she talked, she placed the plate on the table. The female manager then turned to look at the actress with wary eyes. "You're getting too close to him for comfort."

The actress was stunned by this unwelcome advice, asking the agent puzzledly as she forced a smile, "What do you mean?"

"I know that he's been trying to get close to you, but you should know that someone like him is young and impulsive. He doesn't know the consequences of his action—"

The actress cut her off once and for all with a frosty question. "What do you mean?"

"Let me be forthright about it."

She cocked a brow and gave the actress a charming smile, continuing to speak thereafter. "Hasn't anyone warned you to keep a distance from him when you joined this industry?"

Yun Shishi frowned.

Of course, others had warned her about this, and it did not just come from her agent, who had issued such deterring advice multiple times, but this did not mean that she knew the reason for all the dissuasion.

"What's the reason for that?"

"That's because if you stay too close to him, you'll bring harm to him... and to yourself, too." The other woman responded matter-of-factly to her.

"Shut up!"

Suddenly, an impatient rebuke was heard coming from the bed.

The two women were taken aback, and their eyes turned to the bed simultaneously.

"Hua Jin, you're awake!"

"You're awake!"

Both uttered in unison.

The actor had finally regained consciousness. As he slowly opened his eyes, he threw a sidelong glance at his agent, his eyes clearly showing enmity and disdain over her presence here.

It was obvious that the two were not on good terms.

Most artists might not consider their agents as part of their families, but they could at least get along with them.

From the brief exchange the artist had on the plane with his agent, Yun Shishi could see that the idol was rather hostile toward his manager. He would either display impatience at her or openly ignore what she had said to him.

His disgust for the agent was apparent from his attitude toward her.

Chapter 2003: He yearns for her warmth.

He was about to sit up when Yun Shishi stopped him. "You can't move yet. You have fresh stitches, so any movement from yours can tear your wound open."

Her concern for him melted his heart.

As he nodded his head meekly like a gentle, little lamb, he said with a smile, "Alright; I'll listen to you."

Even his agent was astounded to find him so cooperative as she reiterated the actress's advice, "That's right; you'd better not move in case you tear the stitches apart."

"You should shut up!" The actor had an instant change of attitude when it came to dealing with the other woman and told her off coldly. "Did I say that you could talk to me?"

"I..." Ji Yuqi opened her mouth again to say something but decided against it. As she anxiously pulled her lips taut for a second, she hurriedly picked up the plate of apples that she had prepared and brought it to him. "How about having some slices?"

"Go away!"

With a wave of his hand, the plate of apples was swept off her hands and onto the floor with a loud smash.

The plate broke into pieces and scattered across the floor with the apple slices.

Yun Shishi's eyes widened in shock.

"Get lost! I don't wanna see you."

"Hua Jin—"

"Did you hear me? I said to get out!"

He glared at his agent furiously.

Realising that she could not placate him, the female manager got up awkwardly as she bit her lower lip hard. "Please help me look after him." After saying that, she left the room and closed the door behind her.

With his hands clenching the sides of the bed, the man tried to prop himself up into a sitting position.

The actress immediately walked over and softly chided him, "Can't you lie still on the bed?"

"But I wanna sit up."

He pouted like a spoiled kid.

She had no choice but to help him up. After raising the head of the bed, she carefully assisted him to sit upright on the bed. She also helped place a couple of cushions behind his back so that it would be more comfortable for him.

His wan face seemed to be fazed by her fussiness as he watched her silently at one side. He was so tense that he did not even know where he should put his hands.

The actress looked up after sitting down next to him and, with a start, realized that he had been observing her.

"Why are you staring at me?"

"It feels so good."

"I've only realized how good it feels to be fussed over," he commented with utter satisfaction.

The woman was surprised to hear that. "Has no one taken care of you before?"

He shook his head, pursed his lips, and finally admitted. "You are the only one."

She did not know if she should believe his words.

Patting an empty spot on the bed next to him, he cried, "Don't sit so far from me! We're comrades who have just overcome a life-and-death encounter, aren't we?"

"We're not comrades," she refuted petulantly, though she had already moved her seat closer the moment he said that.

"Can't you move a little closer?" demanded the man coyishly, and she willingly obliged again, giving in to his demand.

He grabbed hold of her hand the moment she sat down. The movement was so sudden that she unconsciously shook off his hand the instant she felt his skin contact on hers.

The man's face immediately distorted with exaggerated pain from her rash action.

Thinking that she might have aggravated his wound, she quickly got up and checked his condition. "What happened? Did I hurt you?"

"Yes. I was just trying to gain warmth from your hand, but you were rough..."

His forlorn accusation made her feel deeply sorry for her behavior. She hastily presented her hands again and coaxed, "I'm sorry! I-I didn't do that on purpose. Come and I'll let you hold my hands now, alright?"

"No, thanks."

Pretending to throw a tantrum, the man rejected haughtily and refused to look at her.

Knowing that she had been utterly defeated, she grabbed his hands without further ado.

Seemingly affected by anemia, his hands felt cold, whereas hers were warm; they were so warm that he could not help yearning for more.

Chapter 2004: Chilling Recollection

Seemingly affected by anemia, his hands felt cold, whereas hers were warm; they were so warm that he could not help yearning for more.

Hua Jin's eyes lit up as he held her hands gently in return; a deep and satisfied smile hung on his lips.

He was greedy for more of her warmth.

Honestly, the pain that he was experiencing right now was nothing compared to what he had gone through in the past. There was a time when he had really gone through hell over someone breaking a few of his ribs simultaneously.

Still, the actor knew that he was lucky this time around, too. He might not have survived a liver puncture if the dagger had gone a few more inches to the side.

He was not thinking straight, then. All he could think of was to protect her with all his being. When he saw Mu Wanrou charging right at her, his first thought was to push the actress away from danger, not realizing that the attacker had a dagger in her hand.

This was how he got stabbed in the end. He had no regrets, though.

In fact, he could still feel the chills when he replayed that scene in his mind. Where the hell did that madwoman come from?!

"Who was she?" he asked, alluding to the crazy lady.

There was no response from Yun Shishi until he called her name again.

After recomposing herself, she replied, "That's a thief."

"A thief?" He was torn between laughing and crying at the reply. "I saw her wearing a hospital gown. That woman might've escaped from a mental asylum."

Mental asylum?!

The actress got a rude shock.

That's right. She remembered the name of the hospital. It was a well-known mental hospital in the capital and offered the strictest patient supervision. How was it possible for her to escape there, then?

She did not know how her enemy had ended up in a mental asylum, either. All along, she had let Mu Yazhe handle that matter entirely.

Still, it took three to four hours to reach Sea City from the capital by air. Putting aside the issue of the latter's escape from the mental institution, how did the woman manage to get herself an air ticket to get on the plane and then fly all the way to her side in another city? With her current state of delirium, it would be impossible for her to buy a ticket or even appear at the airport.

The thought was too ludicrous for her.

How about that suspicious SMS she had received, too? Her agent swore that he did not send such a message to her.

She knew him well enough to know that she could trust him absolutely. Besides, her manager would know better than to play a fool with her when she had Mu Yazhe as her shield.

What was it exactly, then? What was that all about?

Her mind was thrown into disarray momentarily.

When Hua Jin saw her in a state of stunned silence, he assumed that she was unwilling to share her private affairs and quickly reassured, "It's fine if you don't wanna talk about it."

Everyone had an unwanted past that they did not want to talk about.

She suddenly gripped his hands hard.

This matter seemed fishy enough to warrant a deeper investigation. There must be a mastermind behind this disaster.

The first name of the most likely culprit that flashed across her mind was: Song Enya.

That woman was the most formidable of all the enemies she had made so far, and this could explain the whole story.

The missy had the status and power to pull strings behind. She was the only one able to sneak Mu Wanrou out of a prestigious mental hospital and then ferry her to another city without detection.

She would stand to gain the most by having the disgraced woman get rid of her competitor. The best scenario for the missy would be to have the two died in each other's hands.

Even if the actress were to survive the attack, she would not get away unscathed. Just as what the missy had hoped, she was considered a suspect in a homicide case now. With no valid evidence in her favor, she did not know if she could prove her innocence. She had no confidence that Hua Jin's testimony would work to her benefit, either.

With her manager's strong and extensive PR network, he had managed to get her temporary freedom on bail. She knew her arrest would also be kept under wraps with him in control of the situation.

Chapter 2005: A Smart Plan to Lure the Tiger Away from Its Den

The suspicion against her was still not eradicated as she remained at large.

Yun Shishi was a bit worried. She did not know how the media would make this matter public if the news were to get out.

Those callous reporters would always see one thing and say another. Who knew how they would misrepresent this?!

What about Mu Yazhe?

He promised to head to Sea City together with her, yet he broke his promise for some reason.

This was probably the work of Song Enya!

What a smart plan to lure the tiger away from its den!

Still, thinking about it now, she realized how scary this was.

After all, that missy had long wanted to get rid of her.

The actress had always been wary of her, but she had never thought that the other was this vicious and merciless.

Although it could not be confirmed if it was really that missy's orchestration, she was the most suspicious of all.

Apart from her, she could not think of a second suspect.

Still...

What was the text message all about?

She could not think of a logical explanation for that even now.

Perhaps, it was done through some sort of advanced technology. They hacked Qin Zhou's phone and sent her a message before deleting it speedily from his records.

She had encountered such things at this level previously. If they were amazing hackers, they could easily complete such a task.

Was it not reported online before?

The more she thought about it, the more her head hurt. She knitted her brows gently from exhaustion.

The actress had not slept well for several nights, and with the series of events that had just transpired, she was utterly drained.

Seeing how tired she was, Hua Jin's heart ached. He caressed her face softly and asked, "Shishi, do you want to sleep for a while? You don't look good."

She shook her head. "I'm not tired. I'll accompany you."

The woman raised her gaze and looked at the young man before giving him a gentle smile. "Thank you... for today. If it hadn't been for you... I don't know what might've happened to me."

However, the other disagreed. He did not think that this was such a world-shattering matter. "Why are you thanking me? If it were others, they would do the same thing."

"Still, I must thank you. You got hurt because of me..."

Despite how unaffected Hua Jin seemed, she still blamed herself for what had happened.

"Don't say that, or else I'm going to be angry."

The actor paused for a moment before smiling gently. "If I had been with you, such things wouldn't have happened in the first place. It was my mistake for not thinking that she would have a weapon in her hand."

"Didn't you ever think that you might die at that point in time?"

Hearing this, the young man was stunned for a moment and then retorted mockingly, "I'm not even afraid of being alive. Why should I be afraid of dying?"

He had been through a life crueler than death, so much so that death was no longer something he feared.

"What do you mean?"

"Nothing at all!"

He shook his head and did not say anything else. "Shishi, how could you be so stupid? Why would anyone invite you on the rooftop in the middle of the night? It was clearly a trap. Only you would've gone over so eagerly."

"I didn't think that much about it."

"You may have a huge bosom, but you are brainless."

Hearing this, the actress turned furious in an instant. "What did you say?!"

Amused, he burst out laughing. "Nothing! I was just kidding!"

"What was that?! It's not funny at all."

Yun Shishi sulked.

"Alright; don't be angry. I said something wrong!" Hua Jin asked for forgiveness at once.

The hospital ward turned quiet, and all they could hear was the beeping noise of the medical equipment.

The woman broke the silence suddenly as she asked carefully, "Actually... what you said earlier about your life experience... You weren't kidding around to amuse me, right?"

"Mm?"

"Why did so many people tell me to keep my distance from you?"

Chapter 2006: A Past Too Unbearable to Recall

After suddenly asking that perplexing question buried in her heart, Yun Shishi was afraid to look at him.

Hua Jin was taken aback, his face losing color in an instant.

The actress was dumbfounded when she saw how his face had turned ugly following her question. She did not know what it was she had said that had hit him in his sore spot.

"They're likely afraid of the consequences it will bring if you and I get too close."

The young man's eyes drooped in disappointment as he bit his lower lip helplessly. "I'm... probably selfish for not considering that, but..."

He raised his head and spoke seriously. "Do you know? I love being with you."

Shock filled the woman's eyes.

"Please don't misunderstand! I didn't mean anything romantic about it! I love being with you because you let me feel... the warmth of a family."

Even though he said that with a small smile, his tone was extremely sad. "I've always been greedy for such warmth because I've never had it before. That's why..."

"Hua Jin..."

The young man's smile was laced with bitterness as he spoke seriously. "Perhaps you should keep your distance from me—at least, until I have cut things off with that woman."

That woman?

...

Was this the woman Mu Xi had mentioned to her previously? Hua Jin's financial backer?

The actor glanced at her, seeing through her thoughts. He had a meticulousness unlike any other man. Therefore, he quickly sensed what she was suspecting.

"I'm aware of the countless rumors about me in the industry. Some are unfounded, but some are indeed true."

Yun Shishi looked at him with a deep gaze.

"The life experiences I've told you before are all... true. They are. I wasn't joking. I'm afraid that you'll think I'm dirty once you find out about it..."

He shrank his shoulders helplessly. His colorless lips were as dry and cracked as the Mother Earth.

"Why would I?" Unexpectedly, the actress smiled. "I don't think you are dirty. The past is in the past. Who doesn't have one?"

"Really?"

His eyes were filled with surprise as a slight vigor returned to his face.

"You really don't find me dirty?"

"Yes."

The actor examined her expression. Her gaze was genuine and her look was serious. Thus, he sighed. "I'll tell you if you're willing to listen."

"Okay."

...

In fact, Hua Jin's father truly did sell him to a man with an extraordinary background when he had nowhere to go.

This man was very powerful and had a reputation in the financial industry.

He had several businesses and investments in many domains, from Internet and media to property...

An entertainment company under his control was just a small part of his properties.

That guy had his eyes set on him and offered to take him in as payment for his father's debt; his old man naturally agreed to that proposal.

The following years after that were something the actor could not bear to look back on.

From being inexperienced and young, he eventually became cold and detached from the world. It was all because of that man.

He remembered that one time when he was brought to attend a prestigious private banquet. The host of the banquet had booked an entire island for half a month of wild fun, filled with wannabe models and drugs.

The man threw him into the circle and gave a speech about how they could play with him however they wanted.

He was violated beyond recognition during that half a month.

At the banquet, several financial backers had been so wild that a few wannabes died amid their fun.

Chapter 2007: I cannot escape.

It was said that they died from drug overdose and overexertion.

There was nothing too sinful or grotesque at that mass orgy. Games like the bomb shot and Russian roulette ruled the place.

He personally witnessed a group of girls, blindfolded, being led to form a circle with their butts sticking out. The men could do whatever they wanted with those girls once the music started playing. The first one to give up would have to drink a shot. Likewise, the bomb shots they had at that debauchery were simply outrageous.

The death of a few younglings was nothing of concern to those rich men. They could easily cover up the matter with some hushed money.

A few naïve ones did not realize how deadly this place could be until they stepped in it. Alas, it was too late for any regrets. There was no way for them to retreat once they entered; the men practically forced themselves on them.

He became a drug addict after that party and had to spend a few months in recuperation.

His paymaster did not show any concern for him despite that and, instead, sent him to work at a bar for a living.

In the end, that man decided to sign him on as an artist. He was determined to transform the latter into a period-drama idol with some careful makeover. By then, Hua Jin was nothing more to him except a means to earn money. He had probably grown tired of him, but in any case, he did not touch him again.

The young man met Xiaoya about half a year after he stepped into show business.

Actually, he did not know the lady's full name even now. He only knew that she came from an influential family which had ties with the long-lasting Zheng Tan clan. It was said that this family was behind a rich and powerful conglomerate.

In a way, that woman had saved him from his dark and sleazy past, but then, she turned him into her prisoner. He was like a canary trapped in a cage, and no one was permitted to get close to him.

He reckoned that she was smitten with his good looks or taken by his sweet talks.

Thus far, any actress who was on close terms with him or who wanted to do a CP with him had all been banned by her without fail.

To her, getting a starlet banned for life was a simple affair, but for those young stars, it meant a great deal.

Hence, all female artists avoided him like the plague. They were quick to draw a line with him even when they were on the same production set.

He sneaked a careful peek at Yun Shishi before making fun of himself. "Don't you find me laughable? Look at me; my body is a commodity which has changed hands so many times that it is disgusting to behold. I find myself dirty."

"Don't say that!" She immediately stopped him; her heart was in turmoil by the time he finished with his life story.

All she could feel was heartache, shock, sadness, and a range of other persistent emotions.

She realized, with some shock, that he had told her the truth that day. He was not joking with her at all.

On that day, he opened about his painful past to her, only to brush it off lightly, telling her that he was only pulling her leg.

"Do you... dislike me now?"

He was really terrified about sharing his dark history with her. It was a past that he had been actively trying to hide and forget. The reason he shared this with her now was that he wanted to be open to her.

However, having told her everything, he was suddenly afraid that she would despise and avoid him.

She quickly shook her head. The actress felt empathy and heartache for him. Never, even for a moment, did she think that he was filthy because of his experiences.

Nothing could surpass the darkness and filth of a man's heart.

Actually, this young man had retained a tinge of his childhood naivety. Beneath his aloof and vicious façade lay a kind heart.

Chapter 2008: I will guarantee your safety.

"Haven't you thought of leaving showbiz?"

"Of course, I did," he answered truthfully.

"Then, why—"

"I can't escape." His head dipped as he shut his eyes in despondency. "I can never escape..."

"Why not?!"

The woman thought otherwise. As she stared closely at him and noted his forlorn look, she could not help feeling a trace of heartache for him.

However, before she could go on saying her piece, Hua Jin cut in. "Shishi, you don't understand how materialistic and frivolous the industry we're part of is. Since ancient times, thespians like us have been deemed as nothing more than entertainers and playthings for the rich and powerful. One should stay as far away from it as possible, for once anyone is in, it's only a continuous upward climb and no chance for an out, unless you have someone with an extraordinary background backing you. Things are different for you, though. You're only acting for leisure and you don't make a living from it. Besides... with the Mu Group backing you, you don't have to worry about anyone offending you at all."

He then flashed a bitter smile at her. "Do you have any idea how many people I've offended over the years? As soon as I'm no longer under my backer's protection, I'll surely be devoured alive by those people. I... I used to feel unafraid, but now, I want to live a proper life."

Yun Shishi felt increasingly baffled by his situation.

From what the actor had said, she vaguely perceived that the person behind him had great influence and realized that he was deeply involved in a precarious situation where he could neither retreat nor advance.

No one, apart from that paymaster of his, could ensure his safety.

The idol softly added. "To be honest, I've long grown tired of this hypocritical and scheming industry. I hate the constant need to wear different masks to pander to someone, and that's why... I'm so envious of you."

She furrowed her brows as she lifted her gaze at him. "Do you wish to quit showbiz?"

"Pardon?"

"I'll try to help you if you wish to do so!"

His eyes lit up in hope.

"You'll try to help me?"

"Yes! I'll find a way to guarantee your safety."

Shocked, the man fell silent for a good while before suddenly shaking his head in resignation. "Stop joking around. Why would you find trouble for yourself?"

"I don't see it as something troublesome."

She went on speaking in a serious tone. "If you really wish to quit showbiz, I'll do my best to help you!"

The man nodded softly.

Although he was not quite convinced that the rookie actress could help him in any way in this matter, he accepted her help with a thankful heart.

...

It was six o'clock in the morning by the time the plane touched down at the airport.

The plane was supposed to take off from the capital airport at seven o'clock yesterday. However, the depressing thing was that, due to poor weather conditions, an alert level of orange had been raised, resulting in most flights to be delayed.

Private jets were, all the more, unable to take flight as they could not take off on a whim. One must submit an application to the airport's air traffic control center a week before the flight. Furthermore, when the weather condition and many other risk factors were considered, it was only understandable that Min Yu's application for an emergency take-off was rejected.

As he was unable to book any tickets for the first-class cabin, a certain man, who was used to traveling first-class, now had the chance to experience traveling in the economy class cabin for the first time in his life.

The assistant was coldly rejected when he mentioned to his boss that he might as well stay in the capital and wait for his wife's arrival since the earliest he could arrive at Sea City was 6 AM if his flight was scheduled at around 2 AM.

Mu Yazhe was worried about his woman.

In particular, he was worried that she might delay her plan to return to the capital out of pique.

Chapter 2009: Are you sure it was her?

It was not until 2:50 AM that the plane took off.

When the man turned on his phone, he received a lengthy message from Qin Zhou, which was a summary of what had happened to the actress.

He phoned the manager at once, and the call only connected after ringing for a while. The other's surprised voice was heard from the other end.

"Boss!"

The agent sounded so shocked it was as though he had bumped into a ghost.

Never did he think that his boss would fly over to Sea City overnight. In fact, he thought that he would not come at all!

"Why are you here, boss?"

"Where is she?"

"Uh... at the hospital."

"Which hospital?"

The man was about to hang up the call after receiving the hospital address from him when he blurted out, "Boss, is it convenient for you to make a trip down to the police station where I'm currently at?"

"What is it?"

"You don't have to worry about Shishi for now. She's only suffering from slight abrasions, and I've already sent my men to protect her. There's a slight problem on my end, though, so I hope that you can come over to deal with it."

"Deal with it by yourself!"

"I wish I could do that, sir. If I had such authority, I wouldn't trouble you."

A frown settled on Mu Yazhe's face, his expression turning grave.

"What is it?"

...

Half an hour later, the man arrived at the public security bureau.

Qin Zhou got so worked up when he saw the man that he promptly rose to his feet and rushed over to greet him.

"Boss, you're here!"

"Eh!"

Signs of fatigue could be seen on the man's face, for he hardly slept a wink due to this overnight schedule. In fact, the average person would have already collapsed at that point. Even with his amazing stamina, he was feeling slightly tired right now. His exhausted look called for pity.

He had never revealed such a haggard look.

Upon noticing this, the star agent told him out of concern, "Boss, you look burned out. Do you want to get some rest first?"

"Spill it. What's the matter?"

He waved the other's concern and just went straight to the point.

The agent cast a complicated look at the assistant, who appeared equally worried for their boss, and sipped his lips in resignation. "Mu Wanrou is dead."

"Mu Wanrou?"

His superior appeared a bit shocked by the news.

"How did she die?"

He then gave him an overview of the events that had happened that night.

"The police are now suspecting that Shishi murdered that woman. All evidence is working against her favor, and every clue taken from the scene can't prove her innocence at all. I bailed Shishi out earlier, but based on the current situation, the police will likely summon her for another round of questioning soon."

"Why would Mu Wanrou appear in Sea City?!" Min Yu raised a doubt. "Wasn't she locked up in the asylum?"

"I have no idea, either."

A baffled look crossed the manager's face.

The man's eyes were gleaming as he asked askance, "Are you sure it's her?"

"The corpse has been placed in the morgue. Although... she fell from a high building, and her body has been badly deformed, she's still recognizable."

He then ordered his assistant. "Send someone to find out what happened at the asylum."

"Boss, do you mean—"

His countenance grew cold and dark. "How could a lunatic escape from the asylum on her own? It's impossible without external help!"

If that was the case, then this matter would become much more complicated.

From how crazy that woman had become, how could she possibly sneak out of the asylum, which was heavily guarded twenty-four seven, with that unclear head of hers?

Chapter 2010: I am Yun Shishi's husband.

He did not doubt the possibility of Mu Wanrou acting crazy.

No one could act to such an extent, after all.

Furthermore, even if she did act crazy, she did not have the capability to trace Yun Shishi's every move and know her work schedule.

"The most problematic issue at hand is that the police may summon my charge any time for one day of questioning."

"Didn't you post a bail?"

"It's of no use."

Mu Yazhe frowned. "Of no use?"

"I've exhausted all possible authority and connections I could think of, but I don't know why... the police seem hell-bent on pinning this on Shishi. Even before they managed to obtain any evidence, she's already been listed as a prime suspect."

"What about the autopsy?"

Before the manager could answer, an officer, who seemed to be the bureau's police chief, suddenly exited the interrogation room, followed by the hotel's lobby manager and attendants, who were on duty that night.

The officer swept a glance at him, his eyes narrowing slightly.

When he noticed that he was deep in conversation with Qin Zhou, he raised his voice and asked curtly, "Who are you, and why are you here?"

His antagonistic attitude had Min Yu stepping forward from the side to rebuke him. "Who are you to—"

The man stopped his assistant, who then tacitly retreated to the back at once.

The officer shot the assistant a look before letting out a snort. "Drop the thinking that you can throw your weight around just because you have some authority! This is a serious place. Please correct your attitude and don't show off your influence here!"

The senior officers in this bureau tended to speak more curtly and pretentiously, but clearly, this one was utterly oblivious of the identity of the man before him. Otherwise, he would not be behaving so arrogantly and tyrannically in front of him.

Mu Yazhe slowly answered, "I'm Yun Shishi's husband."

"Oh, that's good! Please cooperate with us and let us take your statement."

The officer then pointed at Qin Zhou and demanded, "Where is that woman? Get her here as soon as possible. There is another round of questioning awaiting her!"

The manager's forehead creased. He was somewhat fed up with this uniformed personnel's attitude.

His boss, however, replied in his stead. "You can just ask me any questions."

The officer gave him a measuring glance before pointing straight to the interrogation room and ordering, "Go in there and sit first!"

Min Yu thought, What an obnoxious officer! Who's giving him the right to throw his weight around?! From the way he talks, it's clear that he's not afraid of offending anyone!

In the time he was grumbling to himself, his boss had already stridden off in the direction of the interrogation room. However, when he made a move to follow him, he was stopped by the police officer.

"Wait here!"

The guy then tasked his men with several other works and entered the interrogation room as well.

Thus, the two men sat face-to-face in the room.

Mu Yazhe sat elegantly in his chair with one leg slightly crossed on top of the other. His imposing, emperor-like aura made this small, cramped room seem even tinier and more suffocating.

"What's your name?"

"..."

"I'm asking for your name!"

Only then did he spare the officer a glance. "Mu Yazhe."

As the officer took down notes, he questioned, "What's your relationship with the suspect?"

"Suspect?"

The other man's cold, aloof eyes slowly narrowed and gleamed dangerously.

"What's your relationship with the suspect, Yun Shishi?"

"She's not guilty of any crime."

"?" The officer was momentarily stumped by that response of his.

"Did you witness the murder yourself?"