

## Sweet Love 2091

### Chapter 2091: Suspicious Actions

In the parking lot, they happily chatted as they headed to their car and moved to place the luggage in the trunk.

Just as Mu Yazhe closed the trunk, he acutely sensed an abnormal gaze from behind him. He turned around, his expression guarded, but did not see anything out of the ordinary.

His instincts were exceptionally sharp. He would still be alerted even if the one monitoring him was a hundred meters away.

He could feel a pair of eyes coldly sizing him up. It seemed that this mysterious, thorny gaze wanted to pierce through the muscles on his back right into his heart, just like a poisonous snake watching its prey.

However, the parking lot was dim with several lights flickering, swaying his vision. With his sight impaired, he could not see where the gaze was coming from.

Nonetheless, that abrupt, fixed stare did not go away.

Seeing that he was being slightly strange, Yun Shishi unconsciously began to feel nervous.

Thinking that a paparazzo had discovered them and was now sneakily taking pictures of them, she asked frantically, "What's wrong?"

"It's nothing!"

The man nimbly tidied up their luggage and ushered them in the car.

Only when their car was gone did a person slowly emerge from a dark corner.

From their build, this was a petite woman in a cool-looking black coat and a huge hat, which only revealed half of her malevolent and terrifying face.

A strange aura surrounded the lady. It was eerie, horrifying, and deathly.

Especially that pair of eyes, it was exceptionally sinister. She appeared to have just returned from the gates of hell to the mortal world, for she seemed not human at all as there was no vitality in her.

Only after witnessing the car's departure did she turn back around and slowly disappear into the darkness.

...

Yun Shishi had stopped working these few days as she was determined to do a general cleaning of the house. It was time to do some tidying around the house and bring back some festive spirits as it was close to the end of the year.

The Yuns had the tradition of conducting spring cleaning when it was the new year.

Mu Yazhe originally wanted to hire some maids, but Yun Shishi said that she wanted to make use of her rare vacation to do things herself. After all, this was her home.

Besides, with a virtuous little helper like Youyou, as well as Little Yichen volunteering to take part in the spring cleaning, she presumed that the task would only take about a day and that it would not be too tiring.

They did not use the third and fourth floors much; therefore, everything would be in order after cleaning the first two levels.

It was a breeze saying it, but when they began cleaning, she felt a different sourness in her heart!

No wonder the rich, who knew how to enjoy themselves, would prefer bungalows over villas, while most of those who bought villas would hire maids.

Due to the structure and architecture of villas, there were many dead corners, especially the stairs. Every step collated a bunch of dust easily, and the vacuum cleaner was not that useful in cleaning them.

After just cleaning a few rooms, the woman was so exhausted that she could no longer straighten her back. She panted tiredly, sneaking in breaks during her work.

Youyou walked past her coincidentally with a basket full of clean clothes which he planned to air on the balcony for drying.

### **Chapter 2092: New Year Spring Cleaning**

Seeing his mother lying lifelessly on the couch, Youyou sniggered as he secretly enjoyed her plight. "Mommy, you are so weak! I can't believe you are skiving off!"

With that, he walked casually to the balcony.

Yun Shishi hated herself for being so weak. She took another look at the diligent fella busying about until now and saw that he was not even panting. He did not look tired at all.

As for Little Yichen, he also instantly shriveled up into a ball when he saw his mother lying paralyzed on the couch.

"Mommy, I can't do it anymore... I am so tired..."

The boy was completely listless. He had never done household chores before. Normally, he would be following Youyou around to provide some assistance, but those were just simple tasks, and his brother rarely gave him anything heavy.

When their spring cleaning started, the mother-son trio sat down and seriously planned their tasks before splitting them among themselves. The woman would oversee the packing and elimination of dust, the older boy was tasked with cleaning the window panes, while the younger one was in charge of washing clothes and mopping the floor.

Little Yichen was initially filled with confidence. Was it not just cleaning the windows?

What kind of suffering and exhaustion had he not been through in the army? Cleaning glasses was belittling his capability.

However, when it was time to get to it, his mouth almost fell to the floor in shock when he saw the row of French windows on the second level.

There were so many windows?!

He did not notice them normally, but now that it was time for spring cleaning and he finally paid closer attention, he realized that there were thirty windows in total on the first two levels of the house.

Oh, god! What kind of concept was this?

It was fine if this was just the first level, but why was the second level full of French windows as well?!

He felt as if the sky were collapsing as he wiped across each window pane.

Youyou noticed his ashen complexion and asked sarcastically, "What? Are you terrified now? Didn't someone want to make a vow earlier, saying that cleaning the windows is just a simple task? You haven't even started, yet you already want to give up?"

"What are you saying?!"

The older boy puffed out his chest confidently and volunteered eagerly. "Give me a day's time. I will make sure that they are all wiped clean!"

The other did not hold back his cold huff as he glanced at the tools he was holding in his hand, instructing coldly, "You are not allowed to use this cleaning equipment. They won't clean the windows properly. Wear your gloves, then get a pail of hot water, and melt the soap in it. Use some cloth to wipe the windows once. Once they are dry, use some newspapers to wipe them again. This way, the windows will be clean."

He opened his mouth in shock. "Newspapers?"

"Yeah. Using that tool of yours will leave marks. As someone with obsessive-compulsive disorder, I won't be able to stand that.

"All the best!" With that, Youyou patted his shoulder before heading down the stairs.

Little Yichen gulped before rolling up his sleeves and going into full swing with the cleaning as per his brother's instructions.

Initially, it was not that tiring as he went through the workflow step by step.

However, when he reached the last step of the process, he lay on the windows and wiped them with newspapers bit by bit. It had only been ten windows, yet his entire body already felt crippled.

The little lad floated down like a spirit after cleaning ten windows and lay paralyzed on the couch. He felt like a crippled prince.

He was so tired.

It was more tiring than doing a dozen sets of push-ups.

When Youyou saw him lying down, he thought that he had accomplished his task. Therefore, he ran up the stairs to do a spot check. Alas, when he saw the half-finished work, he yelled angrily, “Mu Yichen, get up here right now!”

The older boy ran up the stairs like an obedient, little dog, only to be berated by his brother harshly.

“Are these windows considered clean like this? There are newspaper bits left on them!”

### **Chapter 2093: The Virtuous Youyou**

“It can only be considered clean when it won’t look like there are windows installed here!”

“...”

Yun Shishi’s hair stood on end when she heard the commotion above. How could she still be skiving off right now? With that, she scampered off to pack the cloakroom again.

However, the more she cleaned up, the more bitter she felt.

Normally, she would not be involved with the household matters when she was home, but every time she returned, the house was always very clean and dust-free.

Although it was due to the maids they hired on some level, most of the credit still went to her younger son’s daily care and upkeep.

Especially their closet, their clothes, shoes, and hats had all been placed neatly.

She wondered again if her younger son was a Virgo.

At night, Yun Shishi was close to evaporating from exhaustion. When she lay down, she felt as if her soul had left her body. She was truly, terribly exhausted.

Similarly, an exhausted Little Yichen lay limply on the couch. He could not lift his spirits at all, only responding lazily to anyone who spoke to him.

As for Youyou, not only did he complete his mission perfectly, which was washing all the clothes and mopping all the floors, he had also just returned from the market and was in a frenzy, preparing dinner in the kitchen.

This fella...

Did he not know what exhaustion was?

One should not see it as merely washing clothes and cleaning the floors. There were many clothes in their household which needed to be washed by hand and not in a machine. As for cleaning the floors, there were some places that the boy had to kneel and clean with some wet cloth bit by bit.

What a god.

Why was the fella’s energy so exuberant?

She wanted to ask him if he was tired after doing so much, but she was extremely ashamed to do so!

Was she not even comparable to a child?!

Yun Shishi pulled herself together and climbed off the couch. She walked into the kitchen and asked her son if he needed a hand, but just as she pushed open the door, the woman was met with the scene of Youyou sorting the vegetables. Her heart felt mixed emotions when she saw the bullets of sweat on his forehead.

This kiddo...

He was clearly also tired, was he not?!

How could there be a person with that much energy? Moreover, he was only a child. After doing so many chores, he must be exhausted, yet he was still preparing dinner for them.

Her heartache deepened in an instant. Feeling touched and guilty, she walked over immediately and wanted to take over the task at hand.

The next thing Youyou said utterly knocked her down, though.

“Mommy, you should just lie obediently on the couch and not make a bigger mess.”

The woman was rendered speechless.

Her heart broke slightly as she hurriedly explained, “Let me give you a helping hand, alright? I am still very good at sorting the vegetables.”

Alas, he retorted in a slightly disdainful manner, “I will not let you touch anything in the kitchen. There was once when you cooked and affected the texture of the food because you did not pick the vegetables well.”

She felt as if her heart had been pierced by a million arrows at that moment...

She brought over a small stool and sat down. Since her son refused her help, she decided to accompany him here, instead.

Youyou was very meticulous when he was sorting the vegetables. Even if it was just a small piece of withered leaf, he would remove it. He was also skilled in differentiating between the young and old vegetables.

Yun Shishi suddenly felt a little upset.

“Youyou, it must be hard on you after working for an entire day.”

The boy let out a small huff in acknowledgment before glancing at her. However, when he saw the heartache in her eyes, he was unconsciously moved. He stopped what he was doing and replied, “Mommy, I am not tired.”

“How can you not be tired?”

His mother did not believe him. “You worked for the entire day, and your chores were not small at all. You must be exhausted! I am sorry for troubling you, my little baby!”

## Chapter 2094: Invitation to Visit the Mu Family

"I am a little tired, but I do not feel troubled at all."

Youyou smiled gently. His eyes teemed with warmth as if there were fragments of moonlight in them. "Using my heart to protect my home is an extremely happy feeling."

When they had just moved into this house, Mu Yazhe had hired a team of maids to keep the place pristine every day.

In the beginning, little lad was happy to be idle. Who liked doing chores, anyway? With these tiring and dirty chores being handled by the maids, he could relax and be at ease.

However, gradually, he began to feel that, though the house was spotlessly clean and he could relax to his heart's content, there was some liveliness missing in it.

It felt like a clean and tidy hotel which was lacking in any warmth.

Therefore, apart from where his parents stayed, he decided to clean all the rooms and places in the house.

This way, he could feel the warmth of a home.

Youyou did not find this tiring at all.

Especially when he was washing his parents' clothes, he would receive a spontaneous warmth from that.

Cleaning their home easily gave him a huge satisfaction.

If it were someone else, they probably would not understand such a feeling, but to a child born without a sense of security, this helped make up for some of the uneasiness he felt.

The boy smiled gleefully. "Mommy, I already feel at ease with you accompanying me like this."

As warmth filled her heart, Yun Shishi's lips curled into a smile as she caressed his head gently.

All of a sudden, her phone rang.

She took out her phone and saw an anonymous number on her screen.

Thinking that it was just a harassment call, she hung up immediately.

A few seconds later, her phone rang again.

She picked up the call. "Hello? Who is this?"

"Is this Yun Shishi?" An unfamiliar but deep male voice was heard from the other end.

From the man's pitch, she could tell that he was between fifty to sixty years old, and based on the tone of his voice, he was a steady person who maturely handled things.

Her heart cooled secretly. The voice was not familiar, so she was unsure of the man's identity.

Still, the man speaking her name directly caused her to hesitate.

"How do you know my name?"

"Does knowing your name take you by surprise? He he! Your name is as familiar as the sound of thunder around here!"

This man seemed to be coming from a stance that was more like an enemy than a friend. His tone was laced with faint mockery and ridicule, which made one feel exceptionally uncomfortable.

Youyou heard the string of noises as well. Although he could not distinguish what was being said over the phone, he could faintly sense that the person on the other end was not friendly.

He stopped what he was doing and looked at his mother.

Yun Shishi's voice turned cold. Since he was not being courteous, she naturally would not be friendly, either. The woman asked in an icy tone, "Who are you?"

"I am Yazhe's second uncle! I am calling you because I want you to visit the Mu family's residence. I have something important to discuss with you!"

Inviting her to their Mus' residence for a visit?!

It probably was not anything good, was it?

Naturally, she would not just go along with it hastily. "Asking me to visit the place for no reason makes it feel like an ambush."

"Young lady, the way you speak is really rude. You have no respect for your elders at all. Clearly, you don't have a proper upbringing. I have no idea what Yazhe was thinking to acknowledge a woman like you."

### **Chapter 2095: An Important Discussion**

The older man really had the ability to ruffle one's feathers, for his provocation managed to rile up the young lady. She, thus, did not hold herself back when she shot back at him. "I've always been a stickler for courtesy, especially toward the elderly. While I might not be a rich, young missy or a socialite, I still know enough about basic manners. Nonetheless, there's no way one can willingly respect an elder who flaunts his seniority and doesn't know how to respect others. 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.' Surely, you know this basic principle?"

Silence ensued on the other end for a while, and all she could hear was his heavy breathing. Cold, angry laughter could be heard moments later.

"For a useless woman like you, I must say that you have quite a vicious tongue! I'm in no mood for chit-chat, so listen up: I have an important matter to discuss with you, so I'm inviting you to come to the Mu residence! It's all on my nephew's account that I'm speaking so politely and extending such courtesy to you; that's why don't test my patience by stirring sh\*t with me!"

“What are you saying? Since when have I ever done that? Rather, it’s you guys who have been—”

Mu Linfeng, who did not have the patience to listen to the woman any further, just rudely cut her off mid-speech. “Cut the crap and just get your \*ss here! I’ll send you our address in a moment, so you’d better be here in half an hour! We’ll talk when we meet!”

“I won’t go! Even if I am, I’ll wait for my husband to return from work first!”

Despite her firm attitude, she was no match for the senior who had braved through countless storms and bloodbaths in his many years in the political arena! Even her husband’s rigorous means and temperament had more or less been picked up from his uncle.

The elderly one, meanwhile, was naturally very much ticked by her adamant attitude!

“Now, don’t go all aggressive on me, young lady! We’re no beasts; we won’t eat you up or do anything to you! You can be at ease that I’m only asking you to come over for a discussion—no dirty tricks! I’ve already informed my nephew about this, and he’ll be here soon. I suggest that you don’t make things difficult for the both of us if you don’t want things to turn ugly!”

After leaving that threat behind, the old man promptly hung up the call.

As Yun Shishi held the phone in her hand, she could feel a blazing ball of fury surging within her, which was sparked by the caller’s antagonistic attitude. She was already feeling very offended in the first place, but he just had to say such things to her. She had the increasing impression that he was simply beyond reasoning!

*Why should I go?!*

*There’s no way that the so-called important matter is anything good! I don’t even give a hoot about being Young Madame Mu to begin with! They are the ones who wouldn’t stop hounding me! Their relentless harassment is getting annoying!*

At the thought of this, however, the woman snorted.

*Fine! It’s just as well! I haven’t gotten the chance to meet those people from the Mu family, anyway. Since Mu Linfeng has personally extended an invitation to me, there’s no reason for me not to show up!*

*I’ll go and make things clear to them once and for all! Be they pleasantries or nasty words, we’ll thrash things out today, lest they come harassing me again!*

With the intention of having a showdown in mind, the determined woman rose to her feet and told her youngest son, “Youyou, I have to go out for a bit. Be good and stay at home with your brother.”

“Where are you going, mommy?”

“I have an important matter to attend to. You boys can take your dinner first. I’ll be back for dinner later in the evening.”

“I’ll go with—”

“No need. You just stay at home.”

## **Chapter 2096: Mommy must not suffer from any grievances.**

Yun Shishi then went to the living room, where she put on an outer coat and tidied herself up before she hastily left the house.

By the time Little Yichen rushed to the front porch, his mother was already gone. Feeling baffled, he turned to ask his brother. "Did you make mommy angry?"

His twin shot him a withering look. "How's that possible? She just left after telling me that she has an important matter to attend to."

"Oh... What sort of important matter does she have?"

The younger boy answered with a frown on his forehead, "Someone from the Mu family has seemingly invited her to go down for a discussion."

"..."

He was surprised to hear that.

Out of nowhere, his brother abruptly asked, "Who is daddy's second uncle?"

His eyes widened in shock and he exclaimed, "Second grand-uncle?!"

"?"

"Is he the one who called mommy to go over?"

The other nodded with a serious expression.

As he bit his bottom lip, he paced back and forth anxiously at the front porch before suddenly saying, "What should we do? Second grand-uncle is a very domineering person. I'm afraid that mommy will suffer from grievances if she meets him on her own."

"That won't do; I'm going over, too."

Youyou plucked his phone at once to give his subordinate a ring. Li Hanlin, who was in the middle of sorting out the company's annual financial report, immediately dropped his work to go pick up his boss upon receiving the latter's call.

It did not take long for the man to arrive at their house in his car.

After putting on their coats, the twins hastily left the house and got inside the car.

The agent whipped his head around and asked, "Do you have any order for me, sir?"

"Drive to the Mu residence."

"?"

He was confused for a moment.

“The Mu residence?”

“Yes.”

The boy shot the man a glare upon seeing his dazed look.

“Set off at once!”

“Y-Yes, sir!”

Despite not knowing what was going on, the agent immediately stepped on the gas pedal to set off at once as told.

...

It was seven o'clock in the evening by the time Yun Shishi arrived at the stated address in a cab.

Her stomach was no longer crying out for food at this moment. Instead, she was consumed with fury as she paid the fare, alighted from the vehicle, and stormed toward the Mu residence.

The Mu's main residence was located at Shimao Champagne Lake, which was the capital's most expensive piece of land.

There used to be other residents living in this villa estate, most of whom were people with lofty status or affluent backgrounds. However, when the Mu Group later acquired this entire piece of land, they razed all other buildings—save for their residence—to the ground and re-did the whole landscaping as per the Feng Shui layout.

From what she knew about this place, the land here cost a jaw-dropping 500,000 yuan per square meter.

Upon reaching the front gate, she was stopped by the security personnel manning the entrance, whom she just told straightforwardly, “I was invited to come here! You may report my arrival to the Mus.”

The security, thus, made a phone call and, upon verifying the matter, allowed the woman in.

The walk from the front gate to the main residence was unimpeded, and when she finally arrived at the doorway of the house, she stopped to take a deep breath.

Speaking of which, it was her first time visiting the Mu residence. Her initial impression of this place was that it was imposing, and it was exactly how she imagined it to be. Ancient Chinese elements, such as a fake water feature and a pavilion, were used in the design of the main residence. Even the villa itself had been rebuilt to look magnificent and impressive.

With her fists balled up tightly, the woman tried soothing her emotions and felt somewhat calmer after a moment or two.

While on the way here, she had imagined all sorts of possibilities about Mu Linfeng's intentions for inviting her here, but she could not derive an answer.

## **Chapter 2097: Negotiation**

*Since I'm already here, I might as well seize this chance to thrash things out with them!*

Taking a deep breath, she gradually made her way into the Mu household with her fists clenched.

Despite being mentally prepared, she was still quite surprised by the impressive yet imposing lineup in the living room when she stepped in there.

What came into sight was a living room full of people. Without even needing to think, she knew who these people were. She could tell from their overwhelming presence that they were no simple folks.

The duo sitting at the seats of honor, in particular, had even more extraordinary statuses. Of the two, one was Mu Linfeng and the other was his sister, Mu Shumin.

If she remembered correctly, she had met these two before—in fact, she had met the elderly woman just a few days ago and even had a feud with her.

As for this Mu Linfeng, he was most likely the one who had gatecrashed her engagement!

Being the meticulous person that she was, it did not take long for Yun Shishi to realize that the man who had spoken to her over the phone was him.

She might have met the man briefly during her engagement, but it was hard to recognize his voice over the phone, especially when she was not familiar with him and his voice. Upon meeting him now, however, she knew that it was him.

Even though she did not know anything about his status, the presence he exuded was vastly different from the rest. Anyone could tell at a glance that he had a distinguished background.

He gave off the feeling of an extremely calm and traditional person and was very similar to her husband in the way that they had the same authoritative aura and a calm yet introverted personality. Nonetheless, that stern look of his was something that could only be attained after experiencing countless storms and bloodbaths! Only those who had truly gone through the battles of fame and power and were in the middle of them all could develop such a frightening aura!

One look, and it was evident that he had ties to the military. It was also why, despite gaining on in years, he still appeared to be very energetic.

Dressed in a well-ironed set of traditional Chinese garments, the man sat upright in the seat of honor with his hawkish eyes looking sharp and stern!

Right at that moment, a servant carried a stool over and placed it right beside Yun Shishi. This stool did not seem to be meant for a guest, though; rather, it appeared more for a prisoner who was waiting to be tried!

There was a deep, profound knowledge even to the placement of seats. Of course, a centuries-old family like the Mus was more particular about the details of such a matter.

The woman took a glance at the stool meant for her but did not hasten to sit on it. She merely scoffed at the sight and turned her attention to surveying her surroundings.

Despite being in such a pressuring situation, she revealed no trace of relief or even fear on her face. She stared right into the elderly man's eyes as she questioned him coldly, "Is this how the Mus welcome their guests? With all due respect, I don't sense an ounce of sincerity coming from you guys."

A smirk appeared on Mu Linfeng's countenance when he heard that. This lady might be young, but she had quite the attitude. She was not cowed by this scene and was rather forthright.

This reminded him of the woman's son, Yun Tianyou. To think that the mother-son pair shared such a similar trait! Both could maintain their calm and composure in the face of pressure!

Upon receiving an eye signal from the man, the servant walked over nervously and shifted her seat to the guest spot.

Only then did Yun Shishi smooth her clothes and calmly take a seat.

The servant politely retreated after serving her a cup of tea.

The woman leisurely sipped her drink, not in a hurry to speak; after all, there was no need for her to open her mouth first since she was a guest here.

The old man was quite impressed by her when he noticed this.

### **Chapter 2098: A Great Deal**

The woman leisurely sipped her drink, not in a hurry to speak; after all, there was no need for her to open her mouth first since she was a guest here.

Since Mu Linfeng was the one who had asked her to come down for a discussion, she decided to wait for him to tell her what important matter it was that required her presence here.

Besides the few authoritative figures of this family, several seniors and high-ranking stakeholders of Disheng were also present. By the looks of this lineup, she appeared to have been led into an ambush!

If this were someone else, they would probably be quivering in fear and stuttering incoherently.

Yun Shishi, however, was not fazed by them. These people were the ones who had invited her to come over, so there was no need to worry that they would do anything to her.

Furthermore, she had already let her husband know of her location, even though her call on the way here was picked up by his assistant. According to Min Yu, the man was in a meeting and was unavailable to take the call. When he inquired about the purpose of her call, she smilingly replied, "Just pass the message that I'll be waiting for him at the Mu residence; remember to ask him to come straight here after work!" The assistant had also agreed to relay this message to his boss.

*My husband doesn't know that I've been summoned to the Mu residence, huh?*

*Is Mu Linfeng playing tricks with me?*

She was not worried at all, nonetheless.

There were several unfamiliar yet young-looking faces among those present as well.

She glanced at the young man who was sitting beside Mu Shumin.

By appearance, he looked to be around his twenties. She could even see traces of her husband in the young chap's features; the latter's eyes and nose, in particular, somewhat resembled the man's, though they were not exactly the same.

Genes were truly such a curious thing.

While Mu Yancheng's features were quite alike Mu Yazhe, he did not have half of the insufferably arrogant demeanor of the other. Hence, despite his outstanding looks and extraordinary presence, the two appeared to be worlds apart when they stood side by side.

No wonder he had always been neglected and cast in the shadows in this family. With the other man around, he could only stand on the sidelines—in fact, he might not even be qualified to do so.

Nonetheless, ever since that deep conversation with his aunt, he had soon gained the trust and acknowledgment of his second uncle.

What the elderly man expected from him was very simple should he succeed the position of the family head: the former wanted absolute power and authority of Disheng and the Mu Group.

Strictly speaking, though, the young chap would be no more than a puppet on a string—to be a mere figurehead.

Still, he was fine with it either way since he was, admittedly, neither as capable and talented as his cousin, nor was he confident in leading both the family and the company. He could not guarantee that he could bring the Mu Group to a greater height, surpass the achievements of the other, and become a more formidable overlord of the commercial world.

Since his uncle wanted the power from him, he would just leave it all in his hands!

Why should he not do so?

He did not mind being just a nominal head, for he was very much content with the wealth, fame, and status the position would bring him.

He could enjoy exercising the right of a family head while not taking on its responsibilities and burdens; where else could he find such a great deal?

After all, given his illegitimate status, he had never dared to even hope of becoming the family head one day!

### **Chapter 2099: All she needs is her husband's acknowledgment.**

The title itself was enough for him to stake his life and fight to the very end!

His second uncle had given him a forewarning, though. The former's consent did not mean that the latter could become the family head right away.

Mu Linfeng, after all, still thought highly of Mu Yazhe, who was the most capable among the rest. This was why he had called Yun Shishi over; he wanted to put his foot down and exert pressure on her.

If his dearest nephew knew repentance and would, for the sake of their kinship and the family head position, forsake this woman, he did not mind giving him another chance!

It was hard and, in fact, rare to find such an outstanding talent like him in the family, after all.

Also, he would have to bear certain risks should he force the young one to abdicate his position. Now that he was getting on in age, he no longer had the stamina or guts to take such a huge risk, so he wanted to work something out for the last time by requesting to meet the woman. It could be considered a showdown between both parties.

At the thought of this, Mu Linfeng sipped a mouthful of tea before getting straight to the point.

“I hope you can leave my nephew’s side.”

Yun Shishi was not surprised by his forthcoming attitude.

She had imagined all sorts of scenarios, including this one, of what would happen while she was on the road here.

Nevertheless, she merely narrowed her eyes and did not rush to speak. Calmly and patiently, she waited to see just what this wily, old fox had in mind!

The elderly man was somewhat astonished to see such composure coming from her. Doubt flashed across his eyes for a moment before he parted his lips. “Ms. Yun, we can agree to any of your requests as long as they’re reasonable! While you probably know what a one-in-a-million outstanding person Yazhe is for coming this far and succeeding the position of the family head, you have perhaps no idea how much effort or what price he had to pay to do so! I don’t wish to see my precious nephew sacrificing his bright future for you! First and foremost, you should know that, no matter what may happen in the future, our family will never acknowledge you! There won’t be a chance for you to become Young Madam Mu, so you can forget about dreaming of the day that our family’s doors will open for you! I’ll be frank with you: I don’t think you’re worthy of my nephew at all.”

“Unworthy?” She chuckled, finding this opinion of his to be interesting. “How am I unworthy of him?”

Her words drew the mocking laughter of her audience at once.

Mu Shumin, in particular, snapped back at her unkindly, “How about I return you this question? How are you worthy of my nephew at all? Even though our family no longer holds the old tradition of deciding the marriage of our descendants, their partners must at least be someone of a well-matched background. Ask yourself this: Is your background worthy of him?”

The woman was not provoked by her demeaning words, though. She merely laughed it off and did not comment further.

All she could think of was how prejudiced and arrogant Mu Linfeng was. To her, these people from the Mus all looked at others in the same, prejudiced light.

Still, she feared nothing, for she had decided to bear the weight of such prejudice ever since she chose Mu Yazhe to be her husband. As such, she remained indifferent to these shrilling insults and humiliations.

There was no other reason for her nonchalance other than that no logical person would take other people's prejudice seriously.

All she needed was her husband's acknowledgment, and it was truly enough for her.

### **Chapter 2100: Pride and Prejudice**

Mu Linfeng was quiet for a while before he slowly opened his mouth. "We did a thorough background check of you. Your mother, Mu Qingcheng, was an adopted daughter brought into our family by Old Master Mu. She was a songstress in the capital when she was young, whereas your biological father was from the Gongs. We can accept your connection to that family, but don't you dare take their name to justify your marriage into our family! Besides, you're an illegitimate child who has never been acknowledged by your father. You aren't fit to marry into our household! Your dubious background will only turn us into a laughingstock; we can't afford to be ridiculed! You'll bring disgrace to our family and smear our age-old reputation!"

The young lady merely replied with a snort, "There's something I should correct here. I have nothing to do with the Gong family."

The middle-aged man cocked his brow in astonishment. He was expecting this woman to cling onto her birthright as a Gong to fight for a place among the rich and famous!

In the end, not only did she deny that, she was in fact eager to dismiss any misconceived connection with that powerful family.

He was befuddled by this lady's action all of a sudden!

The other party did not know what was on his mind at all, however, as she gave a cold retort. "Anyway, what dubious background are you talking about? What's wrong with my status?"

"You had children when you were eighteen." Mu Shumin took over the dialogue after sniggering. "Everyone will look down on this family if we get a peasant for a daughter-in-law—all the more so when you gave birth to two children out of wedlock! A girl has to preserve her reputation and body, yet you chose to become a surrogate mother at the age of eighteen for the sake of money! Even though this was done for our family's benefits, what would others say about us? Besides, the surrogacy was in exchange of money; you would've done the same regardless of who the person was! It was pure coincidence that you got the Mus as your employers, so don't think you could use this as an excuse to marry into this household!"

This was something that the middle-aged woman had felt sore all along.

What if the one to seek surrogacy was not them but the Gus or some other families, instead? This girl would have agreed to the assignment with no qualms.

No matter the circumstances, they would not welcome such a materialistic woman!

Something else, other than this, was her biggest concern, though.

“More importantly, you are using this so-called surrogacy to marry into our family! You have this planned out, haven’t you? You’re leveraging your Mu offspring, stowing the boy away from our sight until he’s old enough to claim his inheritance. You are only using him to pave the way to a life of riches and fame for yourself! Let me tell you: Your plot to marry into this house will not work! We’ll accept the two boys you gave birth to but not you!”

The elders made clear their stand to her there and then.

They would accept her two children. That was to say, as long as he was willing, Yun Tianyou could become part of this family anytime. They would let him take after their family name and carry their lifeline.

However, this could not be said for her. There was no way she could enter their family no matter how hard she tried.

Mu Linfeng had this prejudice against her all this time. To him, the only reason she wanted to be with his nephew was for his status as the heir to the Mu empire. Thus, if she were to marry into their Mu household, not only would she become the young mistress of the family, she would be the matriarch in this resounding clan.