

Chapter 261: Popularity

"Over here! I'm here!" Yi Ling got out of her car and waved furiously at Luo Lin to catch her attention.

Luo Lin turned to look in the direction of Yi Ling's voice, and finally saw her.

She quickly walked over to the sports car, wondering where Yi Ling had gotten it. It looked brand new.

"Get in." Yi Ling put on her sunglasses and motioned at her car with a quick flick of her chin. At that moment, she looked and behaved exactly like a rich superstar.

Luo Lin immediately slid into the passenger's seat and buckled up.

After a few minutes on the road, Luo Lin finally asked: "Whose car is this? You're a good driver, by the way."

"It's mine." Yi Ling smiled cheerfully. It was true that she was a good driver; she had earned her driver's license a long time ago, but did not have the opportunity to drive her own car. It had taken her only a few minutes on the road to get used to the sports car.

"Yours?" Luo Lin could not believe her ears. "This car costs at least a million yuan. Where'd you get the money?"

"I don't have money," Yi Ling answered honestly, "but Huanhuan does."

Luo Lin sighed inwardly: she was sure that Yi Ling was pulling her leg. There was no way that Yan Huan would be rolling in money with the handful of acting roles under her belt. How could she afford to buy Yi Ling a sports car that cost at least a million yuan? Divorced had raked in 600 million at the box office, but Luo Lin automatically assumed that Yan Huan would not be taking a share of the box office earnings.

Yi Ling merely smiled. She decided not to explain what had happened.

Luo Lin was a part of the team now, but Yi Ling felt that it was better to keep the fact that Yan Huan had pocketed almost 200 million yuan from Divorced a secret.

They arrived at the private kitchen, and saw a black Hummer parked outside. Yi Ling knew the car: it was Lu Yi's. She had seen him driving it a few times, and it was easy enough to recognize the car's special license plate number; those unique numbers were given only to the special department Lu Yi worked in.

Luo Lin opened the door to the restaurant, and saw that Yan Huan was already there. There were also two other men seated at the table with her. The icy-looking man dressed in a black trench coat sat properly in his chair without slouching; next to him, a large, bear-like man took up most of his chair.

The man in the black trench coat seemed vaguely familiar to Luo Lin, but she could not recall where she had seen him. She wondered if he was also an actor; something told her he was not part of the entertainment industry, but she could not place his familiar face.

"There you are," said Yan Huan in greeting when she saw Luo Lin enter. She stood up to let Luo Lin sit beside her. "We have the whole place to ourselves. Let me introduce you: this is Lu Yi, and Lei Qingyi."

Lei Qingyi had become a close friend after the incident with Yi Ling and Lei Qingyi's briefcase. He usually followed Lu Yi over to Yan Huan's apartment to score a free meal. But the food was always secondary for him; he asked Yan Huan for her autograph every time he saw her, because his mother, Madam Lei, was Yan Huan's hardcore fan.

Not many people had Yan Huan's autograph. She had only just become famous, after all, and was not yet at the point where she would be mobbed by people on the streets asking for autographs. Every single day, Madam Lei reminded her son to help her get Yan Huan's autograph, because she was also asking on behalf of her group of middle-aged housewife friends. After so many autograph runs, Lei Qingyi had become good friends with Yan Huan. It was therefore only natural for him to be invited to this dinner, too.

"Nice to meet you." Lei Qingyi smiled cheerfully as he offered his hand to Luo Lin.

Lu Yi, on the other hand, merely acknowledged Luo Lin with a slight nod. He did not seem as enthusiastic or as friendly as Lei Qingyi, but that was just the way he was. He was not the type to be overly generous with his smiles.

In fact, given his reputation, it was better for him to remain stoic and expressionless at all times.

A smile from him would be so uncharacteristic of him it would probably cause its recipient to weep with fright.

Luo Lin still had not recognized Lu Yi. Suddenly, it dawned on her.

Lu Yi? Lu Yi...

She remembered that the youngest prosecutor in Sea City was also called Lu Yi. She stole a few glances at Lu Yi, and finally understood why he seemed so familiar to her.

The man was not part of showbiz, but his face was familiar to her because he frequently appeared on TV.

Luo Lin's eyes lit up. She was smart enough not to say anything, however.

She knew now that she had underestimated Yan Huan.

Yan Huan was not a no-name newcomer without anyone watching her back. On the contrary, the person backing her was incredibly powerful.

She had assumed that Xiao Rongrong had been struck by bad luck, but it was apparent now that the man behind Xiao Rongrong had fallen from grace not because of karma, but because someone had forcefully pulled him off his horse. Only a handful of people could do that to Zuo Fanrui.

One of them was Lu Yi.

Lu Yi's name struck fear into the hearts of everyone, no matter which industry they worked in. He was known to be an impartial man who always sided with justice. He had stepped on many toes, but no one dared to avenge themselves because they knew Lu Yi would not pull any punches if they tried. The fact that he was a member of the powerful Lu family did not help, either.

Zuo Fanrui was proof of Lu Yi's power. He had met the prosecutor, and had immediately collapsed like a house of cards.

Yan Huan. Luo Lin mentally repeated the name of the actress she was managing.

She knew she had chosen the right actress to work with. She had a feeling that the young 21-year-old actress who had just started her journey to stardom would eventually become a priceless treasure in showbiz.

No, not a priceless treasure. A bright, dazzling star.

Yan Huan had ordered many dishes. Yi Ling and Lei Qingyi devoured most of the food, exchanging loud, friendly banter between bites. Lu Yi and Yan Huan, on the other hand, did not talk much while they ate.

But Luo Lin could tell that the comparative silence between Lu Yi and Yan Huan was not borne out of awkward, polite reservation. In fact, she could tell that they had merely chose not to say anything because they understood each other very well.

After the success of *Divorced*, Yan Huan's popularity had ballooned into terrifying proportions. She had been flooded with movie offers, but Yan Huan still had to shoot *Please Close Your Eyes*, which meant that she would only be able to start her next project a few months from now. To make up for her inability to commit to long-term projects, she accepted offers for magazine photo shoots in her free time. All the photographers who worked with her praised her for her easy confidence, and also for her photogenic appearance. There were no "bad angles" with her; the photographers could take a photo at any angle and it would turn out perfect.

Yan Huan was used to such praise; she had received similar praise in her previous life, after all. It was hard to tell just by looking at her, but her photogenic quality quickly became apparent as soon as she stood next to another woman.

She was not tall, but her body proportions were perfect. She had a small face and long legs.

All the other actresses were reluctant to stand beside Yan Huan, because her perfect proportions made them look ugly in comparison. Her tiny face was smaller than an open hand; even the most beautiful actresses looked like a bobblehead doll next to her.

Yuelun Entertainment had decided to gamble big on Yan Huan; they offered their best, most promising projects to her, knowing that she would do well on all of them because she has proven herself to be a versatile actress with her roles so far.

She could play a pure, innocent woman, a cute, adorable girl, a warm, passionate woman, or an icy, haughty woman. No role was too difficult for her. She had only been in a handful of projects, but everyone could already tell that she was a truly remarkable actress who could play whatever role she had been given. No, that did not sound right: she was not "playing a role"—that was an insult to what she did with her characters. She brought all of her characters to life.

Chapter 262: She Wants To Take Time Off

After a month of busy work, Yan Huan finally caught a breather in the weeks before Chinese New Year. She would be able to celebrate Chinese New Year in relative peace and quiet, but that did not mean she

had abandoned her work entirely. She spent her free time reviewing the script for Please Close Your Eyes, and tried to get inside her character's head.

She continually asked herself: "What's the correct approach to this character?"

An idea came to her.

"Like that. See?" Lu Yi said after showing Yan Huan his martial arts moves.

Yan Huan was sitting at the table, her chin rested upon a hand. She nodded.

"Yup. I saw it..."

Lu Yi raised an eyebrow as he waited for the rest of the sentence.

"...I saw it, but I still don't understand it."

Lu Yi knew Yan Huan was honest, but he had not expected her to be this honest.

"Then you'll just have to watch me do it again." Lu Yi repeated his moves; it was part of an ancient martial art he had learned from the Lei family. He knew modern ways of fighting, but they were all too violent to use with Yan Huan. He did not want to accidentally kill her.

Yan Huan committed his moves to memory as she quickly made notes on the paper before her. She was an experienced stunt double, but most of her moves had been smoke and mirrors, instead of the real deal. They were convincing enough to fool the audience, but she would be beaten senseless if she tried to get into a real fight with the true experts.

But Yan Huan was tenacious. She would continue her lessons even if she was guaranteed to be beaten to a bloody pulp.

Her role in Please Close Your Eyes was that of a policewoman skilled in martial arts. Yan Huan was nowhere near proficient in fighting right now, and she would rather drop out of the project than put in a substandard performance, if it came down to it. But she had agreed to take on the role, and her primary goal now was to try to do her character justice, to bring her fighting skills to the standards that she had set for herself.

Her agency had arranged a martial arts teacher for her, and there would also be a choreographer on the set to show her what to do. But the lessons by the martial arts teacher had not been effective; her punches and kicks still lacked power.

She had thought of Lu Yi then. Lu Yi had studied the ancient martial arts; he was a true expert when it came to fighting, and she knew she would be able to learn a thing or two from him.

She had only mentioned it in passing, but Lu Yi had generously agreed to give her lessons.

Yan Huan did not intend to be a martial arts master, of course; she only wanted to study Lu Yi's moves and stance.

A moment later, Lu Yi walked over to her and placed a cup of milk tea on the table. Yan Huan immediately reached out and unabashedly claimed the drink for herself without asking. Lu Yi's lips

curved when he saw that, but Yan Huan was quite sure it was not actually a smile—it was a sign of defeated resignation at the loss of his milk tea.

“I’ll be away for a few days. We’ll have to continue our lessons later,” said Lu Yi as he stared steadily into Yan Huan’s eyes. His demeanor was still cool, but he no longer kept himself at a distance. He treated her like a friend now, someone he trusted enough to openly discuss where he would be going next.

He realized that he had begun to let his guard down around the young lady.

That was the way relationships worked.

Sincerity was always rewarded with sincerity.

After spending time with him, Yan Huan now had a firm grasp on Lu Yi’s character. He seemed like a difficult man to approach, but he was actually easy to get along with. He did not smile much, but he was not the type to lose his temper over trivial things, either. She had thought of Lu Yi as a rude, bad-tempered, insensitive blockhead in her previous life, but she knew now that his frosty, unsmiling face belied his kind and gentle nature. He rarely declined requests by his friends and family if it was within his means to fulfill them.

“Where are you going?” Yan Huan immediately regretted the question; she had never asked him about his work, because she knew that his job often required the highest level of confidentiality.

“I’m going to Peace City. I’ll only be back in about two weeks.”

Yan Huan was caught off-guard by Lu Yi’s straightforward reply; she had not expected him to actually tell her where he was going.

Yan Huan blinked in surprise. “Two weeks? That means you won’t be able to celebrate Chinese New Year.”

Chinese New Year was the most important event in the country, not least because it was the most lively festival in the whole year. The excitement and merriment had decreased somewhat in recent years, but the trains all over the country still ran at full capacity every Chinese New Year. The mad rush to get back to their hometowns and families showed that the spirit of Chinese New Year was still deeply ingrained in everyone’s subconsciousness.

It was a shared cultural memory, one that could never be forgotten.

“I guess so.” Lu Yi stood up and walked over to the water dispenser to pour himself a glass of water. A flicker of melancholy crept into his eyes as he watched the crystal clear water stream steadily into his glass.

Yan Huan nursed her cup of milk tea, feeling inexplicably upset and agitated. She felt as though she had forgotten something important, but she could not recall what it was.

That night, she had just gotten into bed when she was suddenly flooded with an assortment of jumbled memories.

It was a recollection of TV footage she had seen in her previous life.

The footage had been chaotic and noisy.

Mudslide, trapped, eight people...

Mudslide, Chinese New Year.

She suddenly sat up. Her brow was drenched in cold sweat; her pajamas, too, were soaked, even though it was still winter.

Mudslide, Lu Yi.

She hugged her head and doubled over, her forehead almost touching her knees.

It came flooding back to her now. In her previous life, a mudslide had occurred in Peace City around Chinese New Year. About a dozen people had been trapped beneath it, and Lu Yi had been one of them. She remembered it clearly because the TV stations had covered the mudslide practically 24/7, due to the tragedy happening just before Chinese New Year. She had heard Lu Yi's name on the news then, but had only known who he was after marrying Lu Qin. She had actually joked to Lu Qin when she found out that it was a pity that Lu Yi had not died during the mudslide; the Lu family would have been theirs then.

She had even looked up footage of the mudslide back then, out of morbid curiosity. She remembered that the mudslide had happened before she had become a famous actress, when she had achieved early infamy for her porno movie. It had happened when she was 21 years old, and that was this year.

But how was she going to warn Lu Yi? She could not very well tell him outright: "Lu Yi, don't go, you'll be trapped under a mudslide if you go." Even an indirect warning such as "I had a dream last night, and I saw you trapped under a mudslide" sounded crazy to her ears. She could not expect Lu Yi to believe that.

The name "Yan Huan" would be synonymous with "bat-shit insane" if she tried that.

Even if Lu Yi believed her, how was she going to explain to him how she had known about the mudslide beforehand? That she was psychic? That this was actually her second run through life?

She would be captured and turned into a lab rat, to be experimented on.

She did not sleep at all that night. She got out of bed the next morning with dark circles under her eyes; they were so obvious she had to conceal them with foundation before leaving her apartment.

She went to Yuelun Entertainment's office building for her martial arts lessons. After that, she participated in a photo shoot. That was all the work she had scheduled for the day; she had nothing to do in the afternoon.

She went to see Li Changqing.

"You want to take time off?" Li Changqing asked Yan Huan again, to make sure he had heard her correctly. He did not actually mind Yan Huan's request for time off; her schedule was still relatively open, and Chinese New Year was just around the corner. She could take ten days or even two weeks off, if she wanted to.

“Yes, for about two weeks.” Yan Huan had gone over her plans, and knew that she would only have to take two weeks off. That meant she would miss out on celebrating Chinese New Year, but that was a sacrifice she would have to make.

“All right,” Li Changqing agreed. “But you’ll have to participate in a few photo shoots first. We’ll be using those photos to build up your popularity.”

Yan Huan nodded; she did not mind.

After a few days of photo shoots, she finally completed all the work that had been scheduled for her.

Chapter 263: Borrowing Car

“Lu Yi, it is me,” Yan Huan placed her phone by her ear side as she held Little Bean’s tail in her fingers. It didn’t like this as it wanted to retract its tail from time to time.

“What’s up.” Lu Yi was in his office as he was handling what was left behind from the past year as well as giving himself ahead start as he would be travelling for work soon.

“Will you be driving your car when you go out?” Yan Huan asked him as she touched the cat’s paws this time, making some unintentional movements.

“I won’t.” Lu Yi closed his laptop and gave his eyes some rest. Of course, he didn’t hang up on his call with Yan Huan.

“Then can I borrow your car for a few days? Yiyi is preparing to bring me out to play.” She tried asking. Lu Yi’s car was great. It had been modified and the space was huge too. If they used Yi Ling’s sports car, they wouldn’t be able to fit much inside.

“Sure.” Lu Yi agreed to it without thinking too much. Before he left, he had already given the car keys to Yan Huan.

“If there is anything, wait for me to return. Do not panic.”

He extended his hand and grabbed Little Bean from Yan Huan. He was looking at the cat but was speaking to Yan Huan.

“I know.” Yan Huan laughed as she grabbed the keys tightly. She felt a slight pain within her fingertips.

Lu Yi didn’t say too much either as he returned the cat to Yan Huan. He still had much to prepare and hence, he had set off the following day without even greeting Yan Huan.

Yan Huan shook the keys in her hand. When Yi Ling returned in her sports car, she looked much more refreshed.

“Yiyi, I have a very long break but I don’t want to move about too much. What should I do? Should I wait or wait?”

She asked Yi Ling uninterestedly.

Yi Ling bit into her apple.

“You have applied for leave with Li Changqing?”

“Yes, half a month.” Yan Huan laid on the table. She really couldn’t get her spirits up.

“My pitiful Huanhuan. You might be too tired.” Yi Ling stopped biting her apple as she extended her hand to pat her on her head, almost as if she was petting a pet who was lazing around.

“What about this,” Yi Ling took another bite of the apple. “Let’s go out and travel, I will drive you around.”

“Are you serious?” Yan Huan used the table to support her lower jaw but there was a certain warmth from her eyes.

“Of course,” Yi Ling smacked her chest. “You’ve also allowed Luo Lin to return home to celebrate the new year early. It will be easy for us to go out and play too.” At this point, Yi Ling’s eyes had lit up.

“That’s right where should we go?”

“Where do you want to go?”

Yi Ling asked Yan Huan.

“Go where?” Yan Huan was also considering this seriously. “Should we go to Peace City, the one that Lu Yi went to last time/ If it wasn’t fun, they wouldn’t have gone there too right?”

“Let’s go to Peace City then.” Yi Ling decided to go there upon hearing Lu Yi’s name. They must go there.

“If we go there, we can stop that lightning rod Lei Qingyi from showing off again. Where he went and what he ate.” She felt uncomfortable at that thought.

She took another bite of the apple. Peace City it was then. Yes, they would decide on that then.

Yan Huan sat up before slowly putting on her shorts. She then picked up her bag and her phone.

“What are you doing?”

Yi Ling blinked. Didn’t she say she wanted to rest, where was she going?

“Buying stuff.” Yan Huan cocked her head. “I am buying some stuff to put in the car. We can’t go empty handed, can we?”

“That is right,” Yi Ling threw away her apple into the rubbish bin. “Let’s go, I will follow you. I want to buy my favorite food and many others.”

Her others turned out to be the two of them carrying back four big bags.

“Why did we buy so much in such a short time?” Actually they haven’t really counted. However, when they went to foot the bill, they realized it was a lot. There were even more stuff piled up here now.

‘What if there is not enough?’ Yan Huan bent down to count the items on the table. There were mineral water, instant noodles, chocolate, different sweets as well as pastries.

“That’s true,” Yi Ling bend down too. “But why are we bringing so many things, isn’t there a hotel?”

“I want to find a place to pitch a tent and live in the wild.”

Yan Huan turned around and said seriously, “I can be closer to nature like this.”

“That is true, why haven’t I thought of that?” Yi Ling clapped her hands. This was a good feeling. They could find a place with mountains and rivers with endless supply of food. This was more meaningful than a normal vacation.

“But these things might not be enough?”

Yi Ling counted with her fingers, “There is not enough water and instant noodles. I am afraid of getting hungry. You know it too, I eat a lot. I want to buy those self-heating steamboat and rice too. We need to buy more water to wash our face and hands. In any case, it isn’t enough.”

The second day, Yi Ling went to the supermarket herself without Yan Huan. She bought a bunch of stuff back but she was still afraid that she would get hungry. No matter how much more she bought it was still the same. Anyway they were driving and if they had to bring it back, she would eat them. They do not lack money now and it was better to have more than less.

She brought back a car worth of food but she still felt that it wasn’t enough. Hence she went back to buy again and again. She was never like this before, buying without so much as a blink. Anyway, she was happy to buy all these.

Huanhuan had given her a high salary and she had saved a lot of money in her bank account. It was enough for her to spend the rest of her life comfortably.

However when she started counting the items, she looked at the stack of items and started to worry.

“I have bought too much, how?” she started biting her fingernails. She had really bought too much and the entire living room was filled. Actually, she hadn’t thought about how much she should have bought. But who would know that she could buy so much in such a short period of time? She couldn’t stop and when she realized it now, she was starting to get a headache from the pile of items.

“Bring all then.” Yan Huan took a packet of biscuits from the pile as she opened eat and started eating.

“Bring all of them?” Yi Ling widened her eyes. “How do we bring all of them, they cannot fit in the car.” Her sports car could only fit 1/3 of the items at best. Unless they had a bigger car that could store more items.

“You can drive Lu Yi’s car.” Yan Huan opened the drawer and took out a bunch of keys. The keys had nothing else hanging on the keychain unlike Yi Ling’s. She had a bunch of random and useless stuff on it.

“Hummer?” Yi Ling grabbed the keys from Yan Huan. “Is it Lu Yi’s Hummer, the one that has been modified?”

Chapter 264: Over Here

Her eyes shone so brightly that it could blind someone. Lu Yi’s car was a really good car but it was more expensive than her sports car. Of course, that car isn’t something one could buy with money. The car plate that it had was akin to having a special pass.

She already had the idea of using Lu Yi’s car but she didn’t dare to bring it up. Now that the car keys were in her hand, she would be dumb not to drive it.

“Let me test the car.” She couldn’t wait to test it out. Of course, if the car could hold more things, she wouldn’t mind buying more stuff too. She hadn’t bought her yogurt, milk and drinks.

When Yi Ling left, Yan Huan bent down again to count the things that Yi Ling had brought back. All these should be enough. She sat on the floor and Little Bean walked over.

Yan Huan carried it over.

“Little Bean, we might be going out for a while, you will need to stay somewhere else again.”

“Meow...”

The cat licked Yan Huan’s finger before jumping onto the pile of items.

It was a pity that almost none of them were something that it could eat.

When Yi Ling returned, she couldn’t stop talking about how good Lu Yi’s car was; how comfortable and spacious it was. She loved that car to death. Of course, she loved the car plate number even more. It wasn’t a car plate that any normal person could get.

Anyway, there was enough space at the back of the car and there was still space even after she had stuffed everything that she had bought inside. She decided to buy more stuff. If the place was good enough, she might even stay there for 2 weeks and not return for the new year.

She placed the things that she had bought into the car with Yan Huan. There were dozens of cartons of mineral water alone totalling a few hundred bottles.

“Why are you bringing so much water, to shower?”

Yan Huan carried another carton of water and place them in the car. She wouldn’t mention the other things yet but Yi Ling had bought a lot of water.

“To shower,” Yi Ling carried more water to the car. “Anyway I am not the one carrying it. It’s in the car, it doesn’t matter if we buy more. This car can store things and I want to see how much things I can stuff inside. I want to see if I want to change to this car next time.”

The car had been stuffed quite to the brim and there was everything inside. It even had blankets and pillows. Yi Ling had brought a few sets of them. Anyway, they didn’t take up much space and were soft. She managed to fit in the rest of the snacks and other small items too. The only thing she didn’t bring along was the cat.

“Not bringing Little Bean?”

Yi Ling couldn’t quite let the cat go. “Should we bring the cat along too? Anyway this is a free and easy trip and we are not staying in hotels or going through customs.

“No, what if it gets lost?” Yan Huan had no intention of bringing it at all. She had already left the cat at the pet shop. This wasn’t the first time and even if it wasn’t used to it, it had to learn to get used to it. At the very least, it wouldn’t go hungry or thirsty.

“Alright,” Yi Ling didn’t say much already. She would listen to Yan Huan. If it went missing, where would she find another Little Bean?

Yan Huan entered the car and covered herself with a thin blanket. Even though there was a heater in the car, she liked to be covered by a blanket. It felt warm.

She hadn't had a good sleep in a very long time and it didn't take long for her to fall asleep.

Yi Ling slowly drove out of Sea City towards Peace City. They were taking the highway directly to Peace City. Yan Huan and Yi Ling took turns to drive and they didn't feel too tired upon reaching.

Actually, Yi Ling was quite worried as Yan Huan had just gotten her driver's license not long ago. She was afraid the car would flip; she was afraid of a female driver. Even though she was a female driver herself, she had always treated herself as a man.

She dared to say that her driving skills were one of the best among a bunch of men. She used to drive a lorry in the past and that is when a test of skills is really needed.

At the start she was incredibly tense as she stared at Yan Huan. She guided her from time to time as she was afraid that she would mistake the accelerator for the brakes. However, after Yan Huan had driven a distance, she realised that she was worried for nothing.

"Huanhuan, why are you so good at driving?" Yi Ling took out a ham from behind and started eating. She wasn't afraid of her anymore. This female driver's skill was decent, her driving was stable.

"I am smart," Yan Huan stared straight ahead. Yi Ling only knew that she had gotten her driver's license recently but she had no idea that Yan Huan had been driving for a few years in her past life already.

Even though she didn't drive for very long, her driving skills weren't bad. She was thankful that she was able to drive in her past life. If not, she wouldn't have been able to get her license this easily. She didn't have to retake the test and she essentially passed it on the first try.

Even the instructor thought she was here to have fun. She didn't need any coaching and she was a skilled driver.

For Yan Huan, no explanation was necessary. She only needed a license as a proof. Luckily she got this proof on time, if not she really had no idea whether Yi Ling could drive to Peace City by herself.

They spent almost three days on the road. Yan Huan drove for half a day while Yi Ling drove the other half. When night came, they would find a hotel to rest in. They continued driving the next morning.

Yan Huan had covered herself up very diligently and no one recognised her up until that point.

Only until the fourth day did they reach a small village outside of Peace City.

"Over here." Yan Huan stopped the car and jumped out.

She looked around and thought to herself. She made use of the map of Peace City and her experience from her past life and knew that this was the right place. There wouldn't be any mudslide here and it was definitely safe.

Even though she knew this area was dangerous, she still brought Yi Ling here. She was incredibly sorry to Yi Ling. Even though they will be safe, she was putting additional danger onto Yi Ling and she was very unwilling.

However she had no choice. She couldn't come here alone for no rhyme or reason and spend half a month outside. That was impossible. She could only let Yi Ling follow her this time but she would use everything to protect her.

Yi Ling jumped out of the car too, and walked out. She looked around for a long time before snapping her fingers. OK this will do. They would set up their tent here. It was a good location with a good view. Even though it wasn't the mountain and river scenery that she imagined, it had a different look here. At the very least, there was a large river in the distance and it ran across them. It left a surge of feeling in them.

Chapter 265: Mudslide

She was increasingly pleased with this place.

She walked to the car and opened the door before taking out the tent. She then placed a blanket inside and clapped her hands. Their house had been arranged.

She even took out a barbecue rack and waited for Yan Huan to cook for her. She had bought the barbecue rack on the way here and it even had charcoal wood with it. It came in a set. There were fresh ingredients too and they can eat barbecued meat tonight.

Yi Ling found many tree branches on the floor. There were many on the floor and it didn't take her much to collect a bundle of them. When she started the fire and Yan Huan took out the ingredients and seasonings, they could start cooking.

The two of them sat on the floor and started barbecuing meat skewers. However, there seemed to be something on Yan Huan's mind. Since coming here, she had been a little distracted but Yi Ling's mind was completely focused on the grilled meat right now.

This was too blissful, really blissful.

The grilled meat that her Huanhuan made was divine. No one could fight against it.

Yan Huan barbecued a skewer of meat and passed it to Yi Ling. She quickly took it and bit into it. The taste was divine. At this moment, Yan Huan was dressed in a large cotton jacket and she had wrapped herself up tightly. Even though the weather was cold, their faces were smoked white-red from the fire.

Yi Ling took out her phone and took a few photos as she prepared to post them on weibo.

She used her phone while eating and uploaded the photos.

Letting go of myself together with barbecue meat

The photo was of Yan Huan barbecuing meat seriously. Her face was tinged red, yet pale. Her lips were slightly curved and her brows were like those from a painting. It was incredibly exquisite.

They had stayed here for two days and to be honest, letting go to nature like this was a good cleanse for their mind. Even Yi Ling felt her mind broadening. She had thought of all the things that she hadn't thought of in the past and any things she couldn't let go in the past, she had placed them down. It was sufficient to say that this trip wasn't in vain. At the very least, it was a chance to relax and to take their

minds off work for a moment. They were enjoying the surprise and beauty nature was letting them taste.

However, she had no idea that there could be a disaster within this beauty too.

"I even said we should bring water to shower, the water is a waste." Yi Ling took off her shirt. Luckily it wasn't summer or else they would be smelly from not showering for three days. It was still in the middle of winter and even though it wasn't very cold in the tent, they couldn't use the spring water to shower. They would turn into a block of ice.

Yan Huan had no intentions of showering; this wasn't the time to have a shower. However, she was looking at the scenery from afar and it wasn't long before everything here was about to be destroyed. It was formed by nature and about to be destroyed by nature. Nature had given them gifts but sometimes, it brought disaster too.

In her previous life, the mudslide here had destroyed many villages and took away countless lives. Lu Yi was here for an inspection and he was trapped for a total of 5 days. In these 5 days, only she knew what he ate and drank and how he survived. The image on TV showed him looking like a refugee with wounds all over his body.

Actually, she had no idea what brought her here. However, whatever the case was, she was here already. Perhaps she couldn't stop it but she could do what she could.

For example, she turned around and looked at Lu Yi's Hummer.

A car of food and water should help them suffer less.

In the morning, Yi Ling woke up freezing. Why was it so cold, it wasn't this cold yesterday.

She quickly put on her down jacket and opened the tent. She gave a good stretch. What a nice scenery. Even if it was cold, all of this was worth it.

Just as she was looking out into the horizon and to take in the splendid mountains. She froze in shock. She opened her mouth wide and couldn't seem to close them.

This...

What was happening?

"Huanhuan, Huanhuan..." Her voice trembled as she shouted for Yan Huan. Yan Huan was still sleeping.

"Huanhuan..." She suddenly shouted, scaring even herself.

"What's up?" Yan Huan came out from the tent and Yi Ling grabbed her tightly.

"Huanhuan, look."

She pointed at the front. What was happening? The villages, the river and the trees. She was shivering in fear and her scalp was numb.

Yan Huan was shocked too. She stared at what was happening in a daze. She was prepared mentally and knew this would happen. But a disaster like this was more shocking when one saw it with their own eyes.

With the rocks rolling around, the entire village was almost destroyed. Even the rivers looked different and it was no different from an earthquake.

“Call the police,” Yan Huan opened her lips and she could hear herself mumble these 2 words through her trembling voice.

Call the police, yes, call the police.

Yi Ling took out her phone while trembling but she quickly burst into tears.

“What to do, Yan Huan, there is no signal!”

Yan Huan took out her phone too and indeed there was no signal. Her phone was in a no service zone. She turned back and looked at where the car was parked. Less than 20 meters away from the cars, there were signs of the mudslide already.

They had dodged it but how many people were as lucky as them?

At one point of time, she wanted to tell the villagers nearby. However, what should she say to get them to believe her. Moreover, although they looked close to the village, they had to cross a mountain and a river which would take them a few days. She didn't have that much time.

“Huanhuan, what should we do?” This was the first time Yi Ling met with such a situation and she felt like they were almost goners.

“What can we do?” Yan Huan tugged at her lip but she had no answers either.

“Let's wait.”

That was right, wait. They could only wait.

She didn't know how long they would need to wait for. She only knew that they would be saved within five days.

“It will be fine. We will be saved.” Yan Huan comforted Yi Ling.

“Yes, I know we will be fine.”

Yi Ling wiped her tears too before going into the car. She opened the car door and her feelings were more comforted. At least they had this. If not, they would have nothing to eat and drink and she might not even be able to cry.

Chapter 266: Why Is Everyone Here

They had a car full of food and water that was enough for dozens of people to eat for half a month. She had the foresight to bring all these foods. See, now they were saving lives.

Yan Huan found a place for herself to sit. They would go find a road later and see if they could walk out of the area. Actually, she wanted to see if there were other people, like Lu Yi.

On the first day, the two of them just sat there. They had walked around in their surroundings and there were no one. They didn't dare walk too far in case there was another mudslide. At that moment, it was no longer raining. Yan Huan felt that the possibility of it happening was very small. There must have been a rain storm last night and they had slept too deeply to realise anything.

She was quite regretful now for bringing Yi Ling along. It was fine if only she was in danger but now there was Yi Ling. She knew nothing about this place and the only thing they were sure about was that this place was definitely safe. However no matter how safe it was, it was hard not to worry and overthink in this wilderness without anyone to count on.

There was still no rain on the second day and this time, Yan Huan wanted to go further.

"I will go alone. You take care of the car." Yan Huan didn't want Yi Ling to go too as it was dangerous.

"No, I will follow you." Yi Ling held onto Yan Huan's arm. "How can I let you go alone. What if you meet danger?"

"Don't worry, I am nimbler than you." Yan Huan wrapped herself tighter with the coat. "I will be fine and I will be back in a while. The things on the car is a life-saver, do not lose them."

"There is no one here, how would I lose it?"

It had never crossed her mind that they will lose these things. In any case, no matter what, she was going to accompany Yan Huan. She wouldn't feel at ease letting her go alone.

"There might be wild things."

Yan Huan said seriously but it really got to Yi Ling. Her eyes couldn't help but twitch.

There wouldn't be wild things here, would there be?

In the end, Yi Ling stayed and locked herself in the car. She wouldn't go down even if she was going to die. She knew very clearly that the wildings Yan Huan mentioned were fake and meant to scare her, but she had been duped and was scared. This wasn't her fault. Anybody would be afraid in a place like this. It was deep within the forest and there was not a living soul here.

Yan Huan had ventured off very far but she hadn't seen a single person. She was even worried that she had remembered wrongly but it seemed like the place that was reported in the news then was around here. Because only here was the safe zone.

At this moment, her shoes and clothes were full of mud. She wasn't clean anywhere but she didn't really care. Being dirty was better than dying.

She stopped and wiped the sweat on her forehead. She was sweating even in this weather.

She shook her head and decided to walk further down the road. If she went back, it would take her more than half a day to come here again.

She had almost given up and thought she had really remembered wrongly. They weren't here and was at some other safe region. However at this moment, she heard some sound in her ear.

There was someone?

She quickly ran towards the voice as her shoes stepped in the mud from time to time. The mud splashed up onto her body and soiled her clothes.

“Lu Yi, what should we do?” Lei Qingyi used his sleeve to wipe his face. His sleeve was soiled and his face was covered in mud. At this moment, there were streaks all over his face. There were wounds and soil on it.

“Bring them somewhere safe.” At this moment, Lu Yi was no cleaner than Lei Qingyi. His entire body was covered in mud and he had a dozen people following behind him. They were the villagers that he had saved from the rubble. There were males and females and more than half of them were children.

With the signal down now, they had no way of contacting the outside world. They could only take things one step at a time. He was not optimistic or relaxed about their situation at all. They not only had to deal with the mudslide, there was the issue of food and water.

Food and water were what they had to solve right now.

There were mud and soil all around the floor. From time to time, there were small potholes too. They drank the water that had collected in it but the water wasn't clean. In the conditions they were in now, it wasn't easy to survive. If they fell sick, they could only wait for death.

Lei Qingyi walked forward on the uneven ground. Suddenly, he stopped walking.

“Lu Yi!”

“Yes, what?” Lu Yi was still carrying a child and wasn't looking far.

“Look,” Lei Qingyi pointed to the front. “That person looks like Yan Huan.”

“Yan Huan?” Lu Yi thought Lei Qingyi must be seeing wrongly. How could there be anyone here. Even if there was, how could it be Yan Huan. She was still in Sea City.

“It really is Yan Huan, Lu Yi,” Lei Qingyi pointed in front, “look, it is Yan Huan.”

Lu Yi raised his head and saw a woman looking dishevelled not far off. His pupils contracted involuntarily.

He put down the child he was carrying and walked forward with big steps.

Yan Huan walked over to the guy that was walking towards her, almost as if they were separated by a lifetime. She had never been so touched or grateful in her past and present lifetime.

She had found him, she had finally found him.

He extended his hand and cleaned the mud on her face.

“What are you doing here?”

Yan Huan sniffed, her eyes turning red.

“Yi Ling said she wanted to travel and we came here.”

“Why did you all choose this place?” Lu Yi had no idea what to say to this woman. There were many places that had good scenery, why did they have to choose this place? Now they were trapped here.

“We wanted to experience life,” Yan Huan lowered her head and didn’t dare to look into Lu Yi’s eyes that could pierce through her lies. It was better not to look and let him think she didn’t mean it.

All of this was a coincidence, that’s right. A coincidence.

Lu Yi took back his hands and helped straightened Yan Huan’s blouse.

“Let’s go.” He pulled Yan Huan’s hand. There was nothing to say now and any blaming wouldn’t be useful.

“Why are you here?” Lei Qingyi felt his head pounding. At this moment they couldn’t even save themselves. One less person meant less danger. Now that she was here, wasn’t she seeking death?

Chapter 267: My Shower Water

“Don’t tell me that bitch is here too?” The bitch he was referring to was Yi Long. Of course, he didn’t dare call her a bitch in front of her. He only mentioned it in passing for fun.

However, he was beautifying what was happening. How can Yi Ling not be here if Yan Huan was here.

But when Yan Huan nodded, Lei Qingyi couldn’t help but let out a huge cry.

“Why are both of you here? Is this a fun place to be? Is the scenery here nice? This place is half dead.”

When Yan Huan brought them to where she had parked the car. Lei Qingyi’s eyes twitched. “Lu Yi, your car.”

My god. He didn’t know what to say anymore. They were here with the car. He was most proud of this car. Wouldn’t it rust over here?

“Huanhuan!” Yi Ling quickly got down from the car upon hearing noises outside. When she saw who was outside, she was shocked.

“Why are you here too?”

She almost screamed.

Lei Qingyi felt a tinge at the back of his eyes, almost as if he was about to cry.

He opened his mouth into a smile, “It’s good that I can see you while I am still alive.”

Yi Ling looked down from his smile as she noticed a piece of cloth wrapped around his arm. There were blood stains on it that hadn’t dried. He was covered in mud and soil and looked incredibly dishevelled.

She looked at the rest of them; they were the same.

Yan Huan walked to the front of the car and opened the car turnk. Lei Qingyi almost shed a tear upon seeing this. There was food to eat and water to drink.

“Lu Yi, Lu Yi. Look. We have food to eat and water to drink, we won’t starve.”

Yan Huan took out a bottle of water from inside and asked Yi Ling to pass them to the rest. She then took a bottle of water and handed it to Lu Yi. At this moment, Lu Yi's lip had cracked from the thirst and there were blisters all over. It wasn't hard to see that it has been awhile since he last drank water. His face was pale and he was probably dehydrated.

She opened the cap and placed it in front of him.

"Thank you," Lu Yi took it over and drank one mouth.

"Don't worry, Yiyi brought a lot of water, it is enough for us to drink for half a month." Yan Huan knew he was saving the water but there really wasn't a need to. Yi Ling had brought enough water to shower and it really didn't matter if he drank more.

Lu Yi drank half a bottle upon hearing this and returned the rest to Yan Huan.

Yan Huan took it over before pulling his hand. She flipped over to his palm. There was a long cut on his palm and one could almost see the fats underneath his palm. He didn't even bandage the wound up.

She knew Lu Yi had this wound. She knew it since her last life and he had gotten it while saving the people from the mudslide. Even though the wound would recover one day, it would leave a scar and follow him for the rest of his life. It was visible when he extended his hand; it stretched horizontally across his palm and left an ugly mark.

"Yiyi, bring the first aid box over." Yan Huan said to Yi Ling. She had brought a first aid box this time, 2 in fact as she was afraid one wouldn't be enough.

"Okay, right away." Yi Ling distributed the rest of the water to the rest and a packet of instant noodle to each person too to eat. She then went to look for the 2 first aid boxes in the car. Just as she was about to go, she saw the burly looking guy behind her laughing in a daze.

"What are you standing here for?" Yi Ling looked back and glared at Lei Qingyi.

Lei Qingyi was still eating his instant noodles. He thought Yi Ling wanted him to help out and he quickly placed his half-eaten instant noodles aside as he helped her carry the first-aid box.

At this moment, Yan Huan tugged at Lu Yi's hand as she poured water on his wound. She slowly washed away the dirt and mud on his palm bit by bit. When Yi Ling brought over the first-aid box, she took out the medicated water inside. There was rubbing alcohol and some medical powder. She disinfected the wound first before putting some of the powder. She then bandaged it with a clean bandage, wrapping around his palm over and over.

Yi Ling also squatted and took out different medicine from the first-aid box. When she lifted her head again, she saw Lei Qingyi still standing there in a daze, his brows were furrowed.

"Squat."

She almost rolled her eyes, does he not know how bear-looking he was?

"Oh..." Lei Qingyi was indeed an obedient child. He squatted when Yi Ling asked him to. If she asked him to scam, he would scam. If she asked him to roll around, he would do so like a ball.

Yi Ling ripped down the tattered cloth that he had used to wrap his arm. Her action was a little rough and even though she had ripped the cloth, a layer of his skin was ripped apart too. Lei Qingyi gave out a shrill cry.

“Are you a man, screaming like this from a small wound?”

Yi Ling took the bottle of medicine and opened it with her teeth.

Lei Qingyi was really innocent.

What could he do? It was painful. Besides, how was this just a small wound? It was a deep wound. He didn't know what scratched his arm but it left a huge cut. It was hard to even make out the blood and meat on his arm and the bone was almost showing. Not just a man, even a rock will cry out in pain from having its skin ripped off.

Yi Ling poured all the water on his wound and almost finished the entire bottle in an instant.

“You don't have to pour any more water, do you?” Lei Qingyi felt a pinch in his heart. This was water, clear water. Their entire group haven't drank a single drop of water for almost the whole night and he felt like it was a pity pouring the water like this.

“I can pour however much I like. It is my shower water.” Yi Ling opened another bottle after finishing this one. Lei Qingyi was like an obedient daughter-in-law. He pitied the water but he didn't dare make another noise.

Yi Ling took the medicated water and cleaned his wound professionally. It was a good thing the blood had stopped following. Or else, she would have no idea what to do. She wasn't a doctor and couldn't help him stitch his wound. She could only disinfect it and wrap it up for him. So long as the wound didn't secrete pus, they could deal with it when they returned.

“You are pretty professional.” Lei Qingyi moved his arm. It didn't hurt too much or perhaps it had gone numb. However, he was quite impressed with Yi Ling's skill at bandaging a wound.

It was indeed professional and she was both quick and accurate. A normal woman would be scared, perhaps even scream upon seeing such a huge wound. However, she didn't feel anything, almost as if the wound wasn't on a person's arm but rather it was a piece of pork belly meat.

Yi Ling passed the remaining half bottle of water to him and rolled her eyes. “Huanhuan used to constantly injure herself when she was a stunt double. I've had enough practice with this.”

Chapter 268: So Much To Eat

Lei Qingyi looked at Yan Huan before it got awkward.

As for Yan Huan, she didn't have much of a reaction. In any case, all these wounds were in the past. Moreover, how could she not have any injuries as a stuntwoman? If they wouldn't get injured, then what was the need for them?

“I will get some food for you to eat.” Yan Huan stood up and walked to the car. She went through the stuff for a long time before taking out a box of self-heating rice. Lei Qingyi's eyes lit up after seeing the box of self-heating rice. It was hot.

“Give it to the kids to eat,” Lu Yi saw that there were still some young kids. He didn’t mind. It was a cold day and the children might not be able to take it.

“There are a lot.” Yan Huan tore open the packet and poured water into it. She then covered the lid.

“It is quite a lot.” Yi Ling nodded. “I was afraid I wouldn’t have enough to eat and bought dozens of packets.”

“Can I?” Lei Qingyi’s stomach growled. He wasn’t full from before. How could half a packet of instant noodles be enough for him? He was tall and had a big appetite.

“Don’t you know how to take it yourself?”

Yi Ling rolled her eyes again. “Do I need to serve you?” She was already upset that she had to share her food with others. Moreover it is this man now, calling her a bitch and had touched her breasts. At this thought, she wanted to poke him with a needle.

Of course, Lei Qingyi didn’t understand the anger in her eyes. He ran to the car unceremoniously and counted the food and water inside. His heart warmed. There was so much. He was thinking that he might need to find some tree branches and bark to eat to stay alive if he was hungry. Now, he didn’t need to and there was everything. Lady Luck was shining on him.

He took out a self-heating steamboat from inside. This was more delicious than the white rice and much hotter.

The rest of the people sat at the side eating their instant noodles and drinking water. Their backs were touching each other and some had already fallen asleep.

After a night of worrying and terror, they finally could heave a sigh of relief. Many of them had broken down at this moment.

Lei Qingyi sighed before he put back the self-heating steamboat from the car. He took his half-eaten instant noodles and started chomping it down. However as he left, he picked up the self-heating steamboat packet again.

“For you,” Lei Qingyi extended his hand and placed the self-heating steamboat packet he was holding in front of Yi Ling. It was time to eat now.

Lei Qingyi sat down and ate his half-eaten instant noodles. He didn’t feel much. He was craving for the packet of rice that was in front of Yan Huan and he could smell its fragrant from where he was. Even though it wasn’t as fragrant as a bowl of rice that had just been cooked, that smell was incredibly familiar and was too much for him.

Yan Huan opened the lid and placed the packet of rice in front of Lu Yi.

“Eat.”

Lu Yi took it over but passed her chopsticks.

“You eat.”

“Alright,” Yan Huan laughed and didn’t wait for politeness. She took over the chopsticks and wolfed down a few mouthfuls of rice. The rice was pretty nice, especially for someone who hadn’t eaten anything hot in a long time, it was indeed nicer and more fragrant than anything else. Most importantly, it was hot, hot, hot. It was hot and felt warm in her hands.

However, she only ate a few mouthfuls before placing the chopsticks back in Lu Yi’s hand. “I am full, if you don’t mind my leftovers.” She was a little embarrassed.

Nobody likes to eat leftovers. This is especially so for those from the Lu family.

Lu Yi furrowed his brows, “You’re eating so little?” Was this woman a cat, how could she be full from a few mouthfuls..

“I have always eaten so few, do you not know?” Yan Huan wanted to comfort Lu Yi with her words but as soon as she said it, it was a little awkward. She took over the first aid kit and prepared to look at the rest, to see if they were injured.

Lu Yi placed the box of rice in front of him before eating it ferociously. It had been a night and a day and was exhausted throughout the night. He had worried the entire night and was thirsty and hungry. Only now did he replenish some of his nutrients. If not, even a body made of steel would not be able to pull through this.

Yi Ling carried the packet of steamboat that she had cooked and looked at the pitiful looking burly guy beside her. He was a big man but his face was filled with grievances. He would still smile at her.

He looked foolish through and through.

It was a pity that he had a great height.

Yi Ling gave into fate as she placed the packet into Lei Qingyi’s hands. “You eat, you are so tall, how can one packet of noodles be enough?”

“Thanks,” Lei Qingyi quickly grabbed the chopsticks and wolfed down the food. He was incredibly hungry indeed and after wolfing down half of it, there was a layer of sweat on his forehead.

It was a satisfying sweat.

He continued stuffing his mouth, this felt incredible. This was more flavourful than any other real hotpot he had been to. Yes, he remembered the brand. When he returned, he must buy a few cartons of them to store up.

Yan Huan went to where the rest were resting before placing the first-aid kit down.

“Beautiful sister, can you help me paste a plaster?”

A small boy walked up and squatted in front of her. He then pointed at his forehead. There was a small wound and the skin had been rubbed off. It looked pretty painful.

In the past when his mother was around, she would apply some medicine for him when he fell and would paste a plaster. It stopped hurting immediately.

“Alright,” Yan Huan opened the first-aid kit and took out a bandage. She dipped it in a little water and slowly rubbed the child’s face. His face was small and white and his pupils were a faint blue. It was almost like the sky, clean and clear.

She took out a cotton bud and dipped it into some medicated water. She helped the child to disinfect his wound.

Even though it hurt, the boy endured the pain.

Yan Huan took out a plaster from the first aid box and paste it on his forehead.

“Okay.”

“Thank you, sister,” The boy touched his forehead as he broke out into a smile. His teeth resembled glutinous rice. Yan Huan rubbed his head but her eyes started spewing tears. She had an unspeakable pain and sadness within her.

Child, are your parents still around, do you still have family. Or are you like me, alone.

Yi Ling took out her phone and snapped a picture. She sighed in her heart. Even though there was no signal, her phone still had battery to take photos.

Yan Huan helped them clean their wound. But it was a small wound and wasn’t as serious as Lei Qingyi or Lu Yi.

Chapter 269: She Wants To Be A Good Person

Night fell, but they remained where they were because it was too risky to walk around without a phone signal. They could only wait.

Yi Ling took several packages of self-heating rice meals from her car and gave it to the children, as they could not take spicy food. The adults ate the spicy self-heating hot pot meals; the portions were generous, and most importantly, the food was piping hot. A good meal in the belly would make the chilly night a lot easier to bear.

Yan Huan and Yi Ling let the children sleep in their tent; the kids were young, scared, and not as resilient as the adults, after all. Yan Huan pulled out the extra blankets from the car and handed them out, asking everyone to make sure to share their blanket with someone else as there were not enough to go around.

The car, too, was already full of people; there was still some gas left in the tank, which meant those inside the car could turn on the heater and stay warm. Even without the heater, the car was still an enclosed space that offered protection from the chilling wind outside.

Both the tent and the car were full, which meant that Yan Huan, Yi Ling, Lei Qingyi, and Lu Yi would have to sleep outside. Luckily for them, they had two extra blankets to share among them.

“Here, wrap yourself with this.” Lu Yi pulled a blanket over Yan Huan, and then tucked it securely around her. Yan Huan had given up her tent; there was no way he was going to let her sleep in the open without even a blanket.

Yi Ling regretted not bringing a few extra blankets with her. Even if the mudslide had not happened, she could have used the extra blankets to cover the car and shield it from the elements. But she had not thought of that, and now they had to share two blankets among four people. She did not mind sharing a blanket with Yan Huan; they had done it many times before this, but the same could not be said for Lu Yi and Lei Qingyi. Both of them were large, muscular men—the blanket was not big enough to cover one of them, let alone two. This was especially true for Lei Qingyi, who was so massive that normal-sized blankets barely covered his feet.

Being too tall had its own disadvantages: you needed bigger clothes, and a bigger blanket.

Okay, fine, Yi Ling thought to herself. This was not the time to be selfish. She handed Yan Huan their blanket, and told her to share it with Lu Yi. Yi Ling, for her part, would be sharing a blanket with the large bumbling bear known as Lei Qingyi.

Ordinarily, it would be extremely awkward for a man and a woman to share the same blanket unless they were in a romantic relationship, but this was not the time to be a prude. They had far more pressing issues to worry about—such as not freezing to death.

“Here, Big Bear.” Yi Ling handed Lei Qingyi one end of the blanket.

“Thanks.” Lei Qingyi quickly pulled half of the blanket over himself. He kept his hands to himself after that, and made sure not to make any unnecessary movements. His mind stayed firmly out of the gutter, which was not that difficult as most people only thought of naughty things when they were warm and well-fed. He was cold and hungry—he had not eaten nearly enough to fill his stomach.

And anyway, Yi Ling did not look like a woman to him. At least, that was what he told himself even as he blushed.

Yan Huan snuggled into her half of the blanket, and then covered Lu Yi with the remaining half, tucking it around his shoulders.

Lu Yi helped Yan Huan brush the bangs away from her eyes. He wrapped the blanket securely around the both of them; it was warm and toasty inside the blanket, thanks to their combined body temperature.

Yan Huan was exhausted. She fell asleep as soon as she settled herself against the car. The cold mountain wind blew against her face every now and then, but she felt warm and at ease.

Luckily, it had not rained. Luckily, they were all safe.

Yan Huan was not worried. It was uncomfortable and inconvenient, yes, but she knew for a fact that they would be rescued in a few days.

She had fallen asleep almost immediately, but she did not sleep well because of her uncomfortable sleeping posture and the biting wind. When she opened her eyes again, she was surprised to find her head resting upon Lu Yi’s thigh. The blanket was wrapped around her; Lu Yi had given up his half of the blanket. Yi Ling, on the other hand, was actually sleeping on top of Lei Qingyi—his massive body was like a soft Simmons mattress to her.

Yan Huan carefully sat up. Lu Yi was still asleep, his face as stoic as always. His eyes were shut, but he looked like a lion that could wake at any moment. There was always a tense aura around him, a palpable undercurrent of formidable strength, even when he was at his most serene.

Yan Huan moved her numb legs and waited for the pins and needles to go away before standing up. She covered Lu Yi with all of the blanket, and then walked towards the roaring river a small distance away. The swift river was now muddy and full of debris. Yan Huan knelt on the ground, and felt the slightly humid wind break against her face. It was not a pleasant feeling; the wind grazed her face like tiny razors.

She sat down on the river bank and let the wind blow against her, again and again. The cold wind helped clear her mind.

She closed her eyes as she waited for the time to pass. For dawn to break.

She was happy to be here. Although she could not provide much help, she had brought them water, food, and shelter from the wind and rain.

She was happy to see that she had helped make the situation more bearable.

She wanted to be a good person this time around.

In her previous life, she had thought that being evil was the easy way through life; she had robbed other people of the fruits of their labor without batting an eye. But she had learned, in the end, that evil people had to pay for their wickedness; she had died a gruesome death, and she was sure that everyone had been happy to see her go. Not even death could have saved her horrible reputation.

She wanted to be a good person this time around. If she was good, perhaps the gods would pity her and reunite her with her daughter—her unborn daughter who had not been able to experience the wonders of life because she had been brutally removed from her mother's womb six months into the pregnancy and killed.

Yan Huan knew better than anyone that life was not a bed of roses. It was sometimes full of suffering, hardship, and pain.

Even so, she wished her daughter had had a chance at life. You had to prevail until the end to know if your life was worth it.

Yan Huan watched the river surge ahead beneath her; its once crystalline waters now turbid with mud and sand. The beautiful view was now forever marred by the mudslide.

She idly pulled a stalk of wild grass from the ground and put it into her mouth. It tasted bitter on her tongue, but she did not mind.

Suddenly, she spotted something floating along the river. She sat up, pulled the grass out of her mouth, and tossed it away.

It was a small wooden bath tub. Something seemed to be moving inside it.

Was it a cat? A dog? Or a baby?

Before she knew what she was doing, she was already scrambling down the steep river bank.

As she slid downwards, the sharp blades of glass cut her palms, and mud clung to her clothes. But she did not mind the pain. In fact, she did not even register the pain; she was so focused on getting to the tub it did not occur to her that she might fall into the river herself and drown. It was a swift river with strong currents; not even the best swimmer would be able to survive it.

Almost there, she told herself as she grabbed a tree branch and carefully tested her weight against it. She reached out with her other hand towards the river.

As soon as the tub drifted within reach, she immediately grabbed hold of it and pulled it towards her. But she lost her footing, slipped, and was about to fall into the river when someone grabbed her arm.

She turned her head around to look, and was greeted with the sight of Lu Yi's pale, worried face. His good hand was wrapped around her arm, and Yan Huan could see that he had anchored himself by gripping a large tree root with his injured hand.

"Climb back up. Be careful now," he said to Yan Huan. Then he turned his head around and shouted, "Qingyi, come here!"

Chapter 270: Found A Child

Lei Qingyi almost had a heart attack when he heard Lu Yi's shout. He jumped to his feet, accidentally dumping Yi Ling—who had been sleeping on top of him—to the side. Luckily for Yi Ling, the blanket cushioned her fall.

She sat up. She opened her mouth to let out a long string of curses and swear words at Lei Qingyi, but he was already running like a mad man towards the river.

Her heart almost stopped. Was that big oaf trying to drown himself in the river? She immediately forgot all about lecturing him for dumping her unceremoniously on the ground. She tossed her blanket to the side and ran after him.

As soon as Lei Qingyi reached the river and saw what was happening, he immediately slid downwards and grabbed hold of Lu Yi.

A few moments later, when he was sure everyone had climbed to safety, Lei Qingyi wiped the cold sweat that had broken out on his forehead.

Yan Huan had been the last one to climb up. She had a wooden tub in her arms.

"Huanhuan, what did you do?" Yi Ling asked. She was still reeling from shock; she had assumed that Lei Qingyi was about to commit suicide, but now it looked like Yan Huan had been the one trying to end her life.

"I pulled this from the river." Yan Huan looked down at the tub in her arms.

Yi Ling ran over to Yan Huan and lifted the blanket covering the tub. She froze.

"Whose child is this?"

Yi Ling had expected a cat or a dog inside the small tub, but it turned out to be a baby who looked only a few months old, at most. She wondered why the baby's parents had left it inside the tub: had they accidentally lost the child? Or had the parents perished in the mudslide? It was a miracle that Yan Huan had spotted the baby in time; otherwise, it would have floated down the river and eventually drowned or starved to death.

Yi Ling lifted the baby from the tub. "What are we going to do with such a tiny baby?"

Yan Huan shook her head: she did not know, either. All they could do now was count the days and wait to be rescued.

Lu Yi found the first aid kit and began to clean Yan Huan's wounds. One of her palms was badly cut up; the bloody cuts were all the more horrifying against her milky white skin.

"Very brave of you," Lu Yi said impassively. The look in his eyes was one of frosty disapproval.

"Didn't you stop to consider you might fall into the river? How do you expect us to find you then?"

"But I didn't fall, did I?" Yan Huan reminded Lu Yi as she obediently let him clean her wounds. "And it was worth it, wasn't it?"

She turned around to look at the child in Yi Ling's arms. The other survivors had also gathered around Yi Ling to see the baby.

They had saved a life. It had been dangerous, but it had been worth it to save the baby. And anyway, aside from a few tiny cuts and scratches, Yan Huan had come away mostly unscathed. It had been more than worth it.

A moment later, the child in Yi Ling's arms woke up and began to wail at the top of its tiny lungs. Try as she might, Yi Ling could not get the baby to stop crying.

Lei Qingyi quickly wiped his hands on his clothes. He lifted the child from Yi Ling's arms.

"What's wrong with the baby?" Yi Ling's arms were sore from carrying the baby, but she did not mind. She was much more concerned about the baby now—why was it crying like that?

"The baby's hungry," a woman standing next to Yi Ling said with a sigh. Babies get hungry quickly, and they had no way of knowing how long the child had been separated from its parents. It was most likely ravenous by now.

"Hungry?" Yi Ling repeated as she stared stupidly at the baby. "What do we do? What do babies eat?"

"Milk," Lei Qingyi replied. "What else? It's a baby." He looked Yi Ling up and down as he said that.

Yi Ling immediately covered her chest with her arms, embarrassed and furious.

"What are you looking at me for? I don't have any milk for the baby."

"I didn't say that, did I?" Lei Qingyi looked away awkwardly. It was the truth; the thought had not crossed his mind. Even if Yi Ling was a new mother, he was quite sure that any woman with a chest as flat as hers would not have any milk for the baby.

But he was wrong about that, of course.

A woman's ability to produce breast milk had nothing to do with the size of her chest.

"What do we do now?" Lei Qingyi asked.

The baby was still crying up a storm. Suddenly, Lei Qingyi felt something warm and wet against his clothes.

He winced. The baby had peed on him.

Yan Huan walked over to join them. She stared at the baby for a long moment; suddenly, an idea occurred to her, and she ran to the car to rummage through the assortment of food inside. Finally, she emerged from the car with a pack of milk powder. The milk powder was meant for adults, but they could not afford to be picky now.

The milk powder was edible, and that was all that mattered.

"Hey, that's mine." Yi Ling's eyes bulged out when she saw the milk powder. "I use that to make my face masks."

"You use milk powder to make face masks?" Lei Qingyi stared at Yi Ling as though she were an alien with three heads. Women made no sense to him—what was the point of slathering perfectly edible milk powder on your face, instead of drinking it?

"You're so out of the loop." Yi Ling stomped on Lei Qingyi's foot. "You can use flour to make face masks, too. Milk powder isn't all that different."

"Okay, we have milk powder, but what about hot water?" Yi Ling squeezed the baby's pudgy fingers. It was impossible to resist cooing over such a tiny, adorable baby.

They had to find a way to feed the baby, and quickly.

"We'll use this." Lu Yi walked over with a self-heating rice meal package. They would be able to heat water with it.

They had milk powder and hot water, but they did not have a milk bottle. They would have to make do with heating the milk in a food tray and then feeding the baby with a spoon.

Yan Huan carefully fed the tiny baby with a spoon. The baby licked the milk on its lips, and then began to gurgle for more. It was probably starving.

Yi Ling got out her phone and snapped several photos in quick succession.

"Can you take a photo of me, too?" Lei Qingyi asked awkwardly from behind Yi Ling. "My phone ran out of juice."

Yi Ling turned around and snapped a photo of his face, without giving him any time to prepare.

Lei Qingyi did not mind; he had been smiling like a goof the entire time anyway. Yi Ling inwardly rolled her eyes as she put her phone away. She walked over to the car and began to hand out food and water.

She did not hand out the self-heating rice meals this time; they would have to use those to heat the milk for the baby.

Everyone got a pack of instant noodles and a few snacks instead.

Yi Ling tossed an extra pack of biscuits to Lei Qingyi. She knew that he had a large appetite; a large bowl of instant noodles in hot soup would have satiated his appetite, but the same pack of noodles, eaten dry, would not be enough for him—not even if he ate two of them.

The chocolate-covered biscuits were high in calories, and would give him more energy to stave off the cold.

“Thank you.” Lei Qingyi sat beside her and began eating his meal. He had finished his pack of instant noodles and half a pack of biscuits when he finally began to feel a little less hungry.

He was less hungry now, but nowhere near full. For that, he would have to eat another pack of instant noodles and an entire pack of biscuits.

But he knew he had to save some food for everyone else. He could not be greedy, not under these circumstances.