

Chapter 851: Did Not Matter Whether They Had A Child

"This isn't a bad painting." Lu Jin was holding the painting in his arms, about to weep but unable to shed a tear, "This is my life."

Lu Yi was listening to the talking voices of Ye Shuyun and Lu Jin in the study and this made the edges of his lips lift slightly. However there was still an indescribable heaviness remained in his chest, as if it was pressing down on his heart until the heart was about to explode.

The phone in his pocket was buzzing so he took it out and placed it near his ear.

"Qingyi, what's wrong?"

Lei Qingyi was holding onto the phone, uncertain whether to tell what he had found. If he were to tell, he was not sure whether to say the truth or fake a lie.

"Lu Yi, I've figured out the thing you asked me to check, but I don't know whether I should tell you what the outcome was. Do you want to hear the truth or a white lie?"

Lu Yi was silent for a long time and this made Lei Qingyi eager to slap himself. What was he even talking about?

"Tell me, I'm listening." Lu Yi rolled his sleeve up, "Who was it?"

"It's..." Lei Qingyi was grabbing his own hair as he was not sure how to tell the truth in words.

"It's..." He hesitated for a while and at last, he had no choice but to spill the beans. Alright, alright, he would say it, he would say it.

"It was your grandfather who did it. I questioned the military doctor but he did not reveal anything to anyone. There was no clue of how your grandfather found out the place but it was indeed him who leaked the news."

Besides, Lei Qingyi was reluctant to talk about this, "Tell me, are we even brothers? How could you not have told me after such a huge incident? Now that things have taken an unfavorable turn, how are you going to fix it? My Lingling had cried her eyes out, because she's afraid that you and Yan Huan might get divorced."

"You can tell her." Lu Yi straightened his body. His expression looked untroubled, except for the tinge of restlessness in his eyes that was almost concealed by his gloominess.

"I will never divorce Huanhuan."

"I've been telling her that." Lei Qingyi left out a gasp. "I understand and trust you too." Likewise, he did not have a definitive answer either, "Don't you think your grandfather was too exertive? How could he reveal these kinds of personal stuff when you've been covering it up for so long? Besides, Yan Huan was the savior of the Ye family back then." He had not seen anyone who would hurt his benefactor this way after gaining an advantage.

“Thank you.” Lu Yi refused to answer Lei Qingyi’s question because he too wanted to know the answer to this unsolved question.

He hung up and kept his phone back in his pocket, before striding away. The breeze outside was so cozy but it was unable to warm his dullness, even with the scorching rays of light shining on him.

He could not feel warmth nor comfort.

He opened the door and entered with mild steps, while throwing the keys in his hands to the side.

“Huanhuan...” He called out her name but no one answered.

He walked into the bedroom while pushing the door ajar softly. On the huge bed was someone who curled up into a tiny ball, like cats and dogs abandoned by their owners.

He removed his shoes and got into the blanket, then he embraced her in his arms tightly.

“Huanhuan, don’t be afraid. Everything will be alright.”

“Will it?” Yan Huan was grabbing Lu Yi’s shirt, her voice was hoarse while her eyes were dry. Right now, she was unable to cry even if she wanted to. How could things be fixed? Someone tell her, how could it get fixed or who could help her, even to bear a child or shut everyone’s mouths?”

From now on, everyone would know that she was a hen that could not lay eggs.

“They would, they certainly would.” Lu Yi was touching her hair gently, while pressing her head deep into his chest.

“No matter what happens, we will face it together. If you feel bad about your body, I’ll get a vasectomy so that you could feel better. I don’t want any children but you.”

Yan Huan shook her head. All of a sudden, she started to weep like a child. She no longer wanted to hold her feelings back, neither could she bottle it up anymore, because this was her wound that was incapable of healing. It was a pain so excruciating that it could not withstand even a gentle touch. Now that her secret was exposed to the public, it was like tearing her flesh piece by piece under scrutinizing eyes, before letting her bleed out.

This was neither insulting nor sarcastic.

This was brutal and unsparing.

She had lived through them once, did she need to bear with the pain again in this life?

“Don’t be scared and don’t cry.” Lu Yi could feel a lump in his throat because he could not carry the pain for her. All he could do was to tell her not to be afraid and not to shed a tear.

That was right. Do not be afraid and do not cry.

He would always be there, not leaving her for this life.

It was fine to have no children. He did not even care if she could not bear a child.

“Listen to me.” Lu Yi was comforting her lovingly, while a pair of big, dry hands which were always warm patted her shoulder.

“It doesn’t matter to me, not my parents, not my grandfather.”

“You’re a part of the Lu family now, a part of all of us. No one is abandoning you and no one is giving you up. So cheer up and do not give in. We’re going to stick together for our whole life, okay?”

“Okay...”

Yan Huan felt another lump in her throat and tears started to stream in big droplets, soaking his shirt wet.

What fault had she had and what kind of sins had she committed? She was not able to bear her own child in this life and keep her child in the last life. However, what good deeds had she done or what form of kindness was she blessed with, to have such wonderful family members like them?

She did not have a family, but Lu Jin, Ye Shuyun, and Old Master Lu were all accepting her with open arms. She could not face them nor had any dignity to stand before them.

“I don’t want to go out,” she said in a stuffy voice. She did not want to step out of the room nor did she want to see anybody. She just wanted to shut herself in this little room, hiding as the days passed.

“Okay, we’re not going out.” Lu Yi embraced her even tighter in his hug, “I’m staying with you. We’re going nowhere, is that okay?”

“Okay...” Yan Huan spoke again, her hands were grasping Lu Yi’s shirt constantly. She then found the buttons on his shirt and held them tight in her palms, as if this action could make her feel more secure.

The wind outside was blowing, slightly cool and leaves were dropping from the trees.

One piece, two pieces...

Gradually the wind was nowhere to be felt but the new leaves had fallen with the breeze.

Was that a green hope?

Chapter 852: Just Because She Isn’t Your Biological Daughter

Or were the green leaves just waiting for their turn to wither, before falling to the ground again? That cycle of seasons very much resembled the cycle of life.

Lu Yi turned off the engine. It was true that he hadn’t been here in a long time, but the place seemed so foreign to him it felt as though it must have been an eternity since his last visit.

Color shimmered off his eyes when he took off his sunglasses, but the icy look within remained unchanged, cold and lasting like an iceberg in the South Pole. Or the combination between ice and water, condensing and freezing again into the ice of the North Pole.

He strode into the room. His uninvited presence made the three people in the living room surprised and uncomfortable.

“Pour your grandfather a cup of tea, Yuhan,” said Ye Jianguo, giving his granddaughter’s hand a soft pat.

“Yes, Grandpa,” answered Sun Yuhan docilely. Inside, she knew that Ye Jianguo was asking her to stay out of sight. As she sped away, she could feel Lu Yi’s sharp gaze stabbing at her, threatening to skin and fillet her. It felt almost as if Lu Yi would have reached out and snapped her neck, had she not gotten away in time.

Unconsciously, she felt her own neck. It felt as though a cold wind was blowing at it, the breath of a ghost.

That made her speed up a little. Toward the end, she was nearly sprinting.

“What are you doing here?” demanded Ye Jianguo. He didn’t like the way Lu Yi looked at his granddaughter. “She’s your cousin, not your nemesis. She has saved your life before—”

“Did she tell you that?” intervened Lu Yi. This was the first time he cut him off. He had always respected his grandfather until he abused that reverence and did something that hurt him deeply.

“It’s true, isn’t it?” Ye Jianguo brought a cup to his lips, but there was a slight trembling in his taut fingers wrapped around the cup. Lu Yi could tell he wasn’t as iron-fisted as before.

Was it because of guilt? Or something else?

“True?” echoed Lu Yi, still standing before him. “Everything she says is true and everything others say are lies. Is that the way of it, Grandpa?”

Ye Jianguo said nothing, but he firmly believed that his granddaughter was in the right. Everything she did had to be right.

“I was the one who saved her. Pulled her out from the flood. I did freeload at her place for a month, to be fair, if she considers that as ‘saving me’. In the two years that followed, I had not taken a single thing from her for free.”

Ye Jianguo slammed the cup on the table. “She almost lost her leg while saving you.”

“And I almost lost my life while saving her,” said Lu Yi coolly. Ye Jianguo was out of words.

“Were you the one that leaked Huanhuan’s condition to the media? She saved the Ye Family. Did you have to go as far as to pressurizing her, my mother, and me just because she doesn’t agree to your granddaughter’s unreasonable request? Or is it because my mother isn’t your biological daughter? Is that why you don’t have any compunction when hurting her and her son?”

Ye Jianguo’s chest began heaving violently.

“Who permitted you to speak to me in this manner, Lu Yi?!” The veins on the back of his hand were bulging, and his face was grey with anger.

“Your actions did,” said Lu Yi, straightening. He was still respectful towards the old man, but his warmth towards him had vanished without a trace.

“If you continue hurting others in the name of your love for your granddaughter, I’m afraid this will be my last visit. The same goes for Yan Huan. Your granddaughter has nothing to do with her. Whether she

succeeds or not is her own business, and the business of the Ye Family. Please refrain from dragging the Lu Family into this again.”

With that, he bowed deeply and strode out. At the door, he ran into Ye Chuji. Ye Chuji tried to say something, but in the end he found himself at a loss of words.

Lu Yi gave him a brief nod and left him standing there awkwardly.

Ye Chuji entered the room and sat across from Ye Jianguo. “Didn’t I tell you not to leak it, Dad? Your actions had wounded Shuyun.”

“Why can’t I say it?” Ye Jianguo never felt like he was in the wrong. “Why would they want a woman who can’t give birth? Does your sister not want a grandson? Does she want the Lu bloodline to end at her son?”

“That’s the business of the Lu Family. Does it have anything to do with us?”

Ye Chuji had said some harsh words to Yan Huan, but he never forgot her help during the tough times, or her saving Ye Xinyu. There were some things he wouldn’t do, despite his threats.

But his Dad was different. Instead of living out the rest of his days in peace, he plotted against the Lu Family for the sake of his granddaughter. His aims had been clear as day; had he truly meant her daughter and the Lu Family well, he could very well have talked to them in private, instead of leaking it online for the world to know.

Ye Xinyu retreated to his school because of this incident, storming off without a word with his luggage in hand. This is probably the last he’ll see of Lu Yi as well. Did he have no choice but to face Sun Yuhan every day and watch her dawdle about?

He swallowed his words when he saw Ye Jianguo’s long face. Fine then. He’ll just come home less in the future and leave the place to Sun Yuhan, just as the old man wished.

Left alone, Ye Jianguo was still disconsolate. Soon, the nanny informed him of a call looking for him.

“Ask Chuji to answer it,” said Ye Jianguo. He didn’t want to pick up any calls or listen to anyone’s voice. Ye Chuji could handle them.

“He’s out,” said the nanny with the phone in her hand, unsure if she should hang up or not.

Left with no choice, Ye Jianguo had to answer the call, albeit with poor grace.

“Who are you?” he said grumpily.

“I’m Lu Yuanyang,” said Old Master Lu as he admired his stolen antiques with his feet on the desk. He had robbed almost half of his son’s collection, and all this good stuff was enough to keep his eyes busy for a year.

“What business do you have with me?” grumbled Ye Jianguo. “You and your good grandson.”

“What’s wrong with my grandson?” snorted Old Master Lu. His temper had certainly improved, and he wasn’t as prickly as before, almost like a bull who had its horns trimmed flat.

Chapter 853: The Unpopular Heroine

“Your grandson has married an old infertile hen that can’t lay any eggs. Do you want your Lu family line to die out?”

Ye Jianguo was being unremorsefully blunt and deliberately chose the harshest words, satisfied only when he was sure that there was not a shred of sugarcoating left.

“That is a Lu family matter, so enlighten me how this is any of your concern?” Old Master Lu planted his feet on the ground and stood up. He walked over to the window to part the curtains, opening them to a delightful verdant scenery of green where summer had made its arrival known.

“Ye Jianguo, you should mind your own business. Yan Huan isn’t alone, she still has the support of the entire Ye family. What kind of daughter-in-law the Ye family has is the business of the Ye family and the Ye family alone. You can be as vicious and unscrupulous as you want, but I, Lu Yuanyang want no part in it. I will not let my grandson divorce Yan Huan. I am forever grateful to her for saving the lives of my son, daughter-in-law, and grandson.”

“Of course...” He let out a cold laugh, “I had forgotten how she saved your entire family. I won’t bring it up. After all, that’s your Ye family’s business, not mine. You’re not young anymore and you don’t want to taint your conscience and innocence. It can’t be redeemed when you’re dead and gone.”

Ye Jianguo had pushed aside all pleasantries so of course, Old Master Lu did not need to be courteous anymore.

They were not stupid. Everyone knew who was in the right and who was in the wrong.

Ye Jianguo was not young anymore, but this was the first time that he had been schooled in such a harsh and unforgiving manner. No one else would have dared to scold him in such a way, but this was not just anybody, this was a man that was the same age as him and had also weathered the hardships of the world.

Ye Jianguo slammed his cellphone down. He had never expected that the Lu family would be so protective of Yan Huan. Also, he had never planned to hound her to death, he only wanted to teach the naive Yan Huan a lesson.

Since persuasion or intimidation did not work, then it was time for more drastic measures.

He had not expected the Lu family to be this conflicted about this situation.

Yes, he had succeeded and he had managed to deliver a blow to Yan Huan. However, he had also offended the Lu family at the same time. At his age, reputation was of the utmost importance to maintain. Regardless, he did not think that he did anything wrong and he would never claim otherwise even if the world was against him.

It was not his fault. However, the thing about blind confidence was that in the end, one would only hurt himself and not anybody else.

The issue of Yan Huan being infertile had a big impact. However, most people were very compassionate toward her about it. Thankfully, there were also not many people who were vindictive and sought to exploit it. Yan Huan did not provide any comment on it and so the company did not provide any explanation either. No matter how big the impact, it was now in the past. This industry had a short attention span and one could not expect to be unforgettable in the people's minds. All memories would fade away and inevitably be forgotten one day.

As for Yan Huan, she had holed herself up in her house. She did not check her cell phone, watch television, or pick up any calls. Lu Yi had brought her many novels to read so she filled her days with them. Lu Yi only worked for half the day and spent his remaining time with her. Her mood had improved tremendously, but she had yet to express any desire to leave the house.

However, Lu Yi was not worried. He would not mind even if Yan Huan remained at home like a turtle in its shell forever. There was a homely atmosphere here, she got everything she wished for and was free from any worries or pain.

"Has that film aired yet?" One day, Yan Huan murmured to herself while she was having her meal. Based on her estimations, the time was near.

"Yeah, it's going to air the day after tomorrow."

Lu Yi knew something was up, "Why? Do you want to watch it?" He placed some more food into Yan Huan's bowl, "Eat more, you finally look like you have some meat on your bones."

Yan Huan felt her cheeks, "Yeah, feels chubbier." Lu Yi was overjoyed every time she gained weight as it was impossibly hard for her to pack on the pounds with her poor constitution. The weight she had worked hard to put on would disappear every time she shot a film or got sick.

"Can you accompany me?" Yan Huan had only remembered that it was the day after tomorrow after Lu Yi reminded her, "I want to see myself trying to act cute like an 18-year-old."

"Fine." Lu Yi replied as he filled up another bowl of soup for her, "Finish this."

Yan Huan held onto the bowl and drank her fill heartily. The way Lu Yi took care of her was not unlike how a farmer fattened up his livestock. Not only had she gained weight, but her appetite had also improved as well.

In actual fact, Yan Huan was not very excited about the film. In her opinion, this was just another mindless fodder of a film, but the audience would still excitedly snap up the tickets.

She laid her head on Lu Yi's lap while she cuddled a lavender bear plush which was a gift from Lu Yi in her arms. She had always treasured it and would constantly embrace it. It was a habit she had, she needed to cuddle something to feel safe. Every time Lu Yi left for work, he could only leave her after he had placed the lavender bear plush in her arms while she slept at night.

Lu Yi understood that perhaps she felt insecure, so he purposefully set aside some time to accompany her. They had already missed out on two years of their lives and he did not want to miss out any further.

The film had started and he was at a loss to describe it.

Yan Huan felt the same. The costumes were first class, the props, the production team and actresses were top-notch as well, but the heroine was rather unpopular.

This was the film that had finally been shot after the director had been so close to exploding from frustration and Yan Huan just wanted to laugh. When she had shot this, she had not felt it at the scene, but now when it was being shown right to her face, it was just hilarious.

What was this film called again? The Life of a Middle-Class Queen? It seemed more like The Slums of a Middle-Class Queen.

The film received pretty good ratings and could be counted as one of the more outstanding films this season. It had been well received by the younger audience and was a good start, especially since the TV series was in a downturn phase.

It had made a couple of actresses famous, even one of the actresses' dog became famous. However, the main heroine just did not seem to be popular.

Sun Yuhan's efforts had not been wasted either. She had filmed yet another blockbuster film but it now seemed like she was following in the footsteps of Su Muran.

Right, Su Muran. Yan Huan had been so preoccupied with Sun Yuhan and Ye family affairs that she had forgotten all about Su Muran. What happened to her? Had she died yet?

It did not seem like it.

She wanted to see Su Muran's reaction when she found out that her husband had been cheating on her with another woman while she was sick.

Hmm, would she be like her past self? She was actually looking forward to it but she felt a little guilty at the same time.

Chapter 854: She Put On Weight

"What's on your mind?" asked Lu Yi as he walked beside Yan Huan. She had put on some weight, he noted to his relief.

"I'm thinking about Su Muran. I wonder if Lu Qin is going to toss her aside now that he has someone more useful," she said as she laid down on Lu Yi's lap, absorbed in the thought.

A man with ambition will want to conquer more wealth, power, and women.

A woman with ambition will want more men.

Lu Yi peered into the distance coolly. "My instinct tells me that Sun Yuhan will not be content with Lu Qin alone, and Lu Qin will want the wealth of both families."

"Aren't they biting off more than they could chew?" asked Yan Huan, pressing her face against Lu Yi's shoulders. The drama between those three was getting more and more convoluted.

“That’s their business. All you have to worry about is eating properly,” said Lu Yi, putting his hand around Yan Huan’s shoulders. She had been looking healthier and plumper lately.

Other women will be worried, or even distraught if they heard that they gained weight, but Yan Huan was different. She was only 40kg, so she didn’t mind putting on some weight. If Lu Yi wanted her to be plumper, she would make it happen for him.

“I’m going over to Mom and Dad’s for lunch tomorrow. Would you like to come with me?” inquired Lu Yi. He knew that Yan Huan had been reluctant to go out ever since that incident, and he was fine with it for a time, but he didn’t want Yan Huan to turn into a recluse. He wanted her to interact with other people, and not trap herself within one location and point in time.

Yan Huan thought about asking if she could not go, but in the end she nodded.

It was about time she went back once. Hiding was only a temporary solution, and she had to go back someday.

Lu Yi brought Yan Huan to the Lu House on the following day. To her surprise, even Old Master Lu was there. She was a little uneasy when she stepped into the house, but that was until Old Master Lu gave her a glare.

“Are you a turtle? Hiding in your shell all day and shutting everyone out. Where are my shoes?”

“Shoes?” asked Yan Huan blankly. For a moment, she didn’t know what he was talking about.

“You know what I’m talking about. Look for yourself!”

In truth, Old Master Lu was a little pissed off at how weak Yan Huan was. It wasn’t even a huge deal to him, yet the incident had knocked her off her feet and left her hiding in her shell like a turtle. It wasn’t even something to be embarrassed about. If anything, he should have been the one embarrassed. None of this would have happened had he not tried to break the couple apart. To cover up for that, he had to yell all the time.

Yan Huan looked down and saw a few pairs of shoes neatly lined up at the doorstep. The black kungfu-shoes caught her eyes almost immediately. The battered shoe had a hole at the front, yet he still wore them all the same. It was a handmade shoe, a relic of the past. For a moment, Yan Huan thought she had travelled through time again.

“Where are my shoes?” demanded Old Master Lu again. “Didn’t I ask you to get me a few more pairs? What am I supposed to wear now? You even told me to get off my wheelchair because they are for disabled people! Can’t an old man use a wheelchair? Huh?!”

Yan Huan was so befuddled by his yelling that she forgot her fears.

“You are scaring her, Grandpa,” said Lu Yi, moving before Yan Huan protectively. His loud voice would have scared any living soul.

“I have always been talking like this!” yelled Old Master Lu. “And she used to be even louder than me! She was relentless back when she scolded me! Where did all that fight go? You are almost behaving like a meek wife now!”

“I am a meek wife,” whispered Yan Huan. Since when was she a tigress?

Lu Yi gave her fingers a light squeeze.

“Shh. Talk less, eat more,” he whispered.

Yan Huan nodded vehemently. Eat less, talk more, got it. Or was it the other way round? The only problem was she had already been eating a lot lately. She would turn into a pig if she kept it up.

Lu Yi could tell with a glance that she had put on at least 2.5 kg. He sure did a good job at fattening her up; she hadn't reached this weight in years.

That was when Ye Shuyun came in. Taking in the situation, she did her best to de-escalate things.

“Why are you two just standing there? Come sit down and eat!” she chirped as she reached out to give Lu Jin a surreptitious pinch. “Why didn't you interfere? Are you just going to watch as our children stand there getting scolded?”

“It's his job to protect his own wife,” said Lu Jin, sitting down and massaging the flesh at his waist. “And can you stop pinching me here? Pick somewhere thicker next time. You do this all the time.”

Ye Shuyun gave him a look. “Speak less. Focus on eating.”

Lu Yi brought Yan Huan to the table.

Yan Huan was filled with unease—a feeling she hadn't felt in years. The seat felt like a spiked cushion below her bottom.

She glanced around at her hosts carefully. It seemed as though they had made it a point not to mention that incident. Their treatment towards her remained unchanged.

“Eat,” prompted Lu Yi, putting some food into Yan Huan's bowl.

Yan Huan dipped her head knowingly.

Eat more, talk less.

None of them made any attempts at small talk throughout the meal. All they could hear was the clinking of chopsticks against plates. Overall, it was a little awkward.

She didn't know how it was for the others, but Yan Huan herself felt pretty awkward.

She nearly burrowed her head in the bowl, following Lu Yi's instructions closely.

“She's been eating more lately,” said Ye Shuyun, pleased with Yan Huan's appetite. “Nearly done with her second bowl.”

“Mhm,” agreed Lu Yi, putting more food into her bowl. “She has learned the art of gluttony.”

Talk less, eat more, Yan Huan told herself.

“That's good,” said Ye Shuyun, heaving a sigh of relief. Her greatest worry was that Yan Huan would starve herself in her distraught state. If she got any skinnier, she would be nothing but skin and bones.

Throughout the meal, Lu Jin seemed to be distracted by whatever was on his mind.

“What are you doing?” Ye Shuyun bumped him on the elbow. Didn’t we agree on behaving normally so that Yan Huan wouldn’t overthink?

“Nothing,” said Lu Jin. In his absent-minded state, he put the thoughts in his mind to words. “I’m just wondering when Dad would stop coming to my place. Every time he comes, my collection diminishes.”

Whenever he thought about his antiques leaving him one by one, his heart bled and ached and breathing became difficult.

Chapter 855: Why Wouldn’t I Go?

“I am your father.” Old Master Lu wanted to throw his chopsticks and bowl to the floor. “All I did was take a few of those lousy calligraphy works of yours. Why are you throwing a tantrum?”

“Well, if you think it’s lousy, then you shouldn’t have taken it.” Lu Jin was almost losing it.

“But I’ve already taken it, so what are you going to do about it? Hit me?”

Lu Jin was about to raise his voice at his father, but he quickly gulped down the words that were forming on his tongue. How would he dare utter such words?

In the meantime, Lu Yi was adding more food into Yan Huan’s bowl from time to time.

“Speak less and eat more.”

He did not stop providing more food to her while she simply ate. Since the beginning, the two old ones in the family had not stopped bickering back and forth and throwing glares at each other, not allowing a single moment of silence to fall during dinner.

Alas, accompanied by Lu Jin’s whines of reluctance, Old Master Lu still took one of his calligraphy works. Lu Jin was on the brink of tears. He was even contemplating not returning home at all so that he could keep his remaining poor paintings.

Ye Shuyun was very satisfied that Yan Huan’s complexion had improved. Her skin had turned fairer and she had put on some weight. It also seemed like her blood circulation had improved and of course, her beauty had intensified.

Whoever had Yan Huan as their daughter most definitely had to be gleeful their entire lives as she had been a beauty since a young age.

“Mother, I...” Yan Huan started to speak, but her words got stuck in her throat.

“I know what you’re about to say.” Ye Shuyun reached out and caressed her hair with a gentle smile on her face. Like all mothers, she was very tolerant of her daughter. No matter what wrong she had done, her mother would still have her back.

“Your father and I are already filled to the brim with gratitude for Lu Yi’s return. You can always just adopt a child, or we can have Yi Ling and Qingyi give birth to another. We already have a son, so if we can’t get any grandchildren, that’s fine too.”

“Also...” She sighed lightly and pressed on, “Stop blaming yourself for everything. This wasn’t your fault. Lu Yi is the one in the wrong. It was his job to take care of his wife but he failed to do that, so in the future, you can always take your anger out on him.”

However, this did not help ease the guilt in Yan Huan’s heart. In fact, the feeling grew with every comforting word leaving Ye Shuyun’s lips.

“Alright, alright.” Ye Shuyun halted herself in fear that Yan Huan would burst into tears if she went on. “Come on, watch television with me! I’m gonna watch the one that you recently starred in. What is it called again? Anyway, your performance is still outstanding.”

Yan Huan simply smiled, making no comments.

She may have performed well, but that did not change the fact that most of her scenes were filled with embarrassment when the main actress dragged her down with her.

Yan Huan wondered whether Sun Yuhan was embarrassed with herself in the slightest bit by her contrived actions, her perpetual non-smiling face and the fact that her so-called acting skills simply meant reading off the script.

Yan Huan could barely bring herself to continue watching after a few episodes. Anyway, this was the biggest defective work among all that Linlang had produced in the past few years. Yet even so, it still had the highest number of views. Perhaps people were not tuning in to watch for the plot development, but for these scenes full of shame.

By the time they had made their leave, the three members of the Lu family had not mentioned a single word about her infertility as if they had planned it beforehand to treat her no different than before.

Old Master Lu was still whining for her to buy him shoes, Lu Jin was still worrying about the antiques that he might not be able to keep, Ye Shuyun was still binge-watching pointless soap operas, and as for Yan Huan herself, she was still “speaking less and eating more” as she was told.

In the car, Yan Huan was bored out of her mind. She produced a packet of snacks to eat.

Lu Yi stopped the car all of a sudden, reaching out to stroke Yan Huan’s cheek. “Aren’t you full?”

“I am.” Yan Huan stuffed another handful of snacks into her mouth. “I just felt like eating.” She jingled the pack of snacks in front of his face. “Do you want some?”

“No, it’s alright, you can have it all to yourself.” Lu Yi resumed the car journey without giving it much thought. Yan Huan was exceptionally prone to hunger as of late, so his car would always be prepared with an endless supply of snacks, solely for her. She would literally munch her way through the entire journey. Of course, even though she had been eating more, she had not put on weight. Her weight would always be fluctuating within the same five pounds.

Every single day, Lu Yi would dedicate much of his time to think of ideas for her to eat more rice and drink more soup so that her body would recover quickly day by day, both physically and spiritually.

“They’re celebrating grandfather’s birthday soon.” Lu Yi took a seat and handed Yan Huan another packet of snacks to eat in an attempt to keep boredom away from her.

“Are you going?” Yan Huan interpreted this from Lu Yi’s statement.

“Yeah.” Lu Yi nodded. “If this was any other time, there would have been a choice of not showing up, but this time, the Ye family invited people from all walks of life, and if we don’t attend, we might pose a topic for discussion. These are uncle’s exact words.”

“Oh...”

Yan Huan felt at peace while eating.

He was probably thinking of taking this opportunity to promote his granddaughter. Everyone knew how Ye Jianguo spoiled Sun Yuhan, so it made perfect sense that he would try to make use of his own birthday celebration to advertise his granddaughter. He would also shed light on Sun Yuhan’s identity at the same time, to prove that she was a part of the Ye family. Of course, there was also the fact that the movie in which Sun Yuhan starred in was about to premiere.

It must be nice to have such a grandfather, Yan Huan thought to herself. She herself did not know if this was sarcasm or envy. For him to use any chance he can lay his fingers on, including his own birthday...

As she finished off the last bit of the packet of snacks, her mood turned sour.

Lu Yi pulled out another packet and handed it to her. Yan Huan snatched it over with sparkly eyes, her mood lifted in an instant.

“What about you? Are you going?” Lu Yi asked. No one would really force her to go if she did not want to.

“Of course I am, why wouldn’t I?” Yan Huan laid down on Lu Yi’s lap. “How can I be absent from a scene like this? Aren’t they wishing that I’ll attend too? Perhaps I’d be the top search result on tomorrow’s headlines, again.”

She simply longed for Sun Yuhan to know the lethality of comparison.

This was precisely the Ye family’s idea. If she really did not show up, then she would have disappointed them.

It was quite likely that Lu Yi was clear as to what she had in mind, but he did not make an effort to stop her. If she wanted to go, then so be it, even if her sole purpose there was to seek revenge. He feared that if she remained locked up in that spacious house of theirs, she would simply go mad or turn into a useless ball of flesh.

Fortunately, Lu Yi had not told Yan Huan that and had simply kept that thought to himself. Otherwise, she might have lost her appetite and not eat well.

Yan Huan had gone the extra mile to get an evening gown specially tailored for her. She wanted something that radiated dominance, like for a red carpet event. There was barely anything in the world that could defeat her anymore. When the Ye family sent out the invitation, she hardly had any secrets left. As for others, there had to be a lot of secrets left and she was burning with curiosity to know them.

It took about three days for the dress to be ready.

Lu Yi was working from home and before he could finish typing a sentence, the door was pushed open.

Chapter 856: Best Actress Yan Has Really Put On Some Weight

“What’s wrong?” He turned and saw Yan Huan with a piece of clothing in her arms, a frown set in her unhappy face.

“Come with me,” she walked up and pulled him aside.

Lu Yi followed her with a baffled expression on his face, curious as to what had offended her so much.

Yan Huan made him wait outside while she went inside the changing room. Before long, she came out in a light blue outfit adorned with crystals. Her legs showed faintly beneath the cloth, accentuating her hourglass figure. This one-piece was extremely demanding on the wearer’s skin tone and figure, which was why Yan Huan had insisted on it. Lu Yi could imagine all the other guests basking in her radiance when she makes her entrance.

It was only to be expected; she didn’t lose to anyone even when she was walking the red carpet, surrounded by international stars.

“You look amazing,” said Lu Yi as he helped her spruce up her clothes. “It fits you perfectly. This is the one.”

“Fits me perfectly? You really think so?” echoed Yan Huan, looking up at Lu Yi, then down at her clothes. “Are you blind?”

“It doesn’t?” asked Lu Yi. He took a few steps back and re-evaluated her, but nothing he saw changed his opinions.

“It doesn’t,” hissed Yan Huan like a furious kitten. Suddenly, she turned around to reveal her back to Lu Yi. “Does it still fit perfectly?”

Lu Yi paused. The zipper on Yan Huan’s back wasn’t fully zipped.

“Why did you leave it unzipped?” he asked as he tried to fix it. That was when he realized the problem.

He couldn’t zip it.

“I’m so fat,” said Yan Huan sadly. Why did the 2.5 kg of flesh all go to her waist? Didn’t her face already suffer the brunt of it?

“The clothes are too small, that’s all,” Lu Yi grabbed her by the shoulder and spun her around. “You are still beautiful, the most beautiful woman in the world. They must have messed up the sizes. Only a child can slip into this.”

“I used to be able to,” said Yan Huan, knowing that he was just comforting her. Messed up the sizes, huh? What a pretty lie. But she remembered how thin her waist used to be, and how pretty she looked

in those tight clothes. She had gained weight, to be sure, and the extra flesh had decided to settle down at her waist.

“I don’t want to go on a diet,” she wrapped her hands around Lu Yi’s waist. She was getting overly sentimental these days, she realized. It took her a lot of effort to gain weight, and she didn’t want to lose weight just because her waist widened. Not even a bigger tummy could sway her.

Mustering her courage, she felt her abdomen. It was wider, but one could only tell upon close inspection. Anyway, she had to choose a different set of clothes. Something less slim, something that could hide her fats...

This was the first time in her two lives that she had a need for such clothes.

“I won’t allow you to lose the weight you finally put on,” responded Lu Yi to Yan Huan’s vexation. He had been plotting on fattening her up for months, and now he had finally succeeded—albeit it was a small victory of 2.5 kg. 43kg was still very light for someone who was 163cm tall. Still, it was kind of strange how all the fat went to her waist and tummy.

A new set of clothes came back a few days after the previous had been refunded—with a few extra inches around the waist. Yan Huan was mortified; she had put on so much weight.

The new dress had a nice design, at least. She no longer looked like a mermaid, but she would at least look good in this a cocktail dress. The ankle-long navy-blue dress gave her movements a floating quality. It was very comfortable too; it felt weightless, clinging to her skin. Most importantly, the zipper could be zipped this time.

Yan Huan was extremely pleased with it. She believed that the stylists at Linlang were way more professional than herself, and wouldn’t dress her in anything less than gorgeous.

Yue Ran arrived early on the morning of the day.

“So sorry to make you come all the way here,” apologized Yan Huan. She was short on time, so she had to ask for Yue Ran’s help.

“It’s fine,” said Yue Ran as he set his makeup kit down. “It’s not like I’m doing this for free. Plus, I’m always honored to work with you. One thing, though...”

He turned Yan Huan’s face to the mirror. “Looks like our best actress has been eating well lately.”

“I know,” said Yan Huan, holding her face out into the mirror. “It was my husband’s work. Impressive, isn’t it?”

“Indeed,” agreed Yue Ran, genuinely impressed. He knew Yan Huan long enough to know that she had a much harder time gaining weight than losing weight. That attribute made her look good on screen, but also gave her a sickly vibe. She looked prettier now that she was a little plumper; though she still willowy when compared to normal people.

Yue Ran was pleased with her current state. “It’s a shame that you aren’t acting or taking on advertisements now. Your looks are at its peak now.”

Yan Huan smiled at the mirror. "I have already reached the peak of my life. Becoming the best actress in the world, producing both of the top two highest grossing films in China that also made it into global top 50s... I'm not an ambitious person, and I want to devote the rest of my time to my family."

Yue Ran listened silently, keeping his opinions to himself. She wasn't stupid, he realized. In fact, he thought of her as smart. She knew when to back out of a complicated industry, and knew what she wanted in life. She was the best actress, and an ordinary woman at the same time.

In the end, an actress did not belong to the entertainment industry, but to a husband that loves her and a family that cherishes her. Like Liang Chen. Despite leaving the entertainment industry, one cannot help but see her as a winner in life when they bump into her, radiant with happiness.

She was a winner in life, period.

Her husband was still taking his college exams when she was making waves as an actress.

Yue Ran's fingers kept working as he shot the breeze with Yan Huan. Before long, he had styled her hair into a wavy waterfall that cascaded down her shoulders. The low-cut dress exposed her exquisite collarbones.

"There. What do you think?"

Yue Ran himself was very pleased with his work. Inspiration always came easy whenever he worked with Yan Huan. Which artist wouldn't love a beautiful art piece?

Chapter 857: She Must Learn To Bear With It

Yan Huan spent a good half of her day standing in front of the mirror admiring her own beauty. She had gone for a graceful, elegant style with clear light makeup and jewelry that complimented her evening gown. Although it was not as brilliant and blinding as she had expected, it still gave her a youthful aura. She looked as if she was trapped in her twenties with her smooth and healthy skin. Under the flashing lights, the thin layer of foundation glowed like diamonds which made her skin look clear without a single pore. The fact that she had put on some weight also made her face slightly rounder like a goose egg's shape, exactly the way the Chinese people liked it.

Among the majority of women who aspired to have lean, long faces, Yan Huan's facial structure gave off a very comfortable and pleasant feeling at first glance. The angles of her face were prominent yet natural and gentle, making her stand out, especially among the sea of female stars.

The key to beauty was in naturality.

"Thank you." Yan Huan was very satisfied with her new look. Now she could stun the entire audience with her magnificent beauty.

She produced her jewelry box and clasped a thin necklace around her neck. The pendant was shaped like a flower with a sapphire laying right in the center. She also wore a bracelet of the same design, as well as a huge diamond ring.

If they wanted to compare their worth with hers, then so be it. Yan Huan did not rely on anyone else. She was an independent woman and she was keen on earning back her worth, which others would have to look up to find, completely on her own. Sun Yuhan, on the other hand, would be worthless if she did not have the Ye family behind her.

Moreover, it was highly unlikely for Sun Yuhan to leave the Ye family now as the Ye family posed the highest starting point for her. As for how far she could go, that would solely depend on how fortunate she was.

The entertainment industry was not a place for the weak-willed and a high rate of success would have to be reflected by a large number of sacrifices. It could be love, or it could be a relationship. There were no more than a handful of women like Yan Huan, who were successful and had a happy family.

As for Sun Yuhan, her starting point may be high, but she had no skills of her own. Gaining fame would be a piece of cake, but an entire hill of ill names would await her.

Anyway, Yue Ran would never deal with such people.

“How do I look?” Yan Huan lifted her dress as she ran over to Lu Yi.

Lu Yi spun around, and a dash of surprise flashed through his eyes immediately. “You look gorgeous,” he cooed. Yan Huan’s beauty had always been at the back of his mind, but needless to say, his feelings for her also played a big part. He sauntered over and caressed her curled locks. Though they were plain black, they gave out a clean and comfortable feeling.

The only issue was just that the ends of her dress were dragging behind her on the ground, but this could be easily resolved by wearing high heels.

Yan Huan had originally planned to stun everyone with her beauty. She wanted everyone to know that she was invincible and that she was undefeated. Wherever she fell, she would pick herself back up in that exact spot.

There were already a number of cars parked in front of the Ye family house as if they were having a meeting when they arrived. Branded luxury cars of all makes and sizes gathered around the house. The Ye family was different than before and they were much wealthier now. They could easily be considered famous in the whole of Sea City and even the entire country. However, the Ye family had always been extra humble, and it was their first time in years to stir up such a big fuss.

Needless to say, this was mainly due to the fact that Ye Jianguo wished to build connections for his newly recognized granddaughter.

Lu Yi opened the door to the passenger seat and Yan Huan emerged with her dress bunched up in her hand. She hooked her other arm around Lu Yi’s elbow just like the lovely young couple that they were and as of that moment, they had already managed to snatch the attention of many around them.

As the grand doors swung open for them to enter, it was as if the moment was seized and not a single voice sounded from inside. Lu Yi maintained his neutral expression as Yan Huan bloomed like a fresh, tender rose while taking her steps forward as her heels clicked against the marble floor. She had been to many more events much grander than this one and it almost felt like she was here for a red carpet event

instead of a birthday party. Many guests began exchanging positive remarks about her, unable to tear their gazes from her.

As the best actress, she was indeed an international superstar. Her majestic aura beamed throughout the hall with every move she made and every frown or smile portrayed on her face. Although she had just recently gone through a rough patch, it did not seem to have affected her severely.

Lu Yi constantly turned to whisper something in her ear. Some things like love and affection just could not be faked. He adjusted Yan Huan's hair before leading her to Ye Jianguo.

"Grandfather," he faintly greeted Ye Jianguo and presented a gift, but other than that, he said no more.

"Grandfather," Yan Huan followed suit, but Ye Jianguo simply eyed her with scorn and disdain, discrimination clear in his pupils.

"Why did you bring your infertile wife?"

Yan Huan kept smiling, but her hands gripping Lu Yi's elbows tensed and started trembling.

"Grandfather, that is my own problem." Lu Yi's expression turned grim as he grew protective over Yan Huan. He was utterly irritated that Ye Jianguo had brought up this issue in public. She was his wife whom he had chosen to marry, so he would take responsibility for her.

He tightened his grip on Yan Huan's hand and guided her away to avoid Ye Jianguo from discussing sensitive matters again.

"I'm sorry," Lu Yi apologized for Ye Jianguo's words earlier. It must have upset her again.

Yan Huan shook her head. "It's fine. What he said was the truth. If I don't get used to it now, what am I going to do in the future?" She had acknowledged her infertility. The damage was there, but she was now able to bear with it.

Lu Yi sat Yan Huan down and simply did not care about the celebration anymore. He only wanted to stay and accompany her. He strode over to a table by the side and picked up a cup to fill it with water, then returned to Yan Huan and delivered it to her hand.

"I want a drink." Yan Huan stared at the colored drinks lining the table, gulping down her saliva.

"Those have too many additives. If you want a drink, I'll make you some fruit juice when we get home."

"I'll just stick with water then." Yan Huan quivered at the thought of Lu Yi's fruit juice. What kind of fruit juice would have carrots in every single glass? They tasted awful. She brought the cup to her lips and chugged the water. She would rather have plain water than her husband's fruit juice.

Right at that moment, Lu Yi stood directly in front of her to shield her from the glances of the gossiping ladies.

Yan Huan started swinging her feet back and forth lightly, the urge to kick off her heels lingering at the back of her mind. Since there was still a crowd present, she told herself to bear with it.

People were still filing into the massive mansion, many of whom were people that Yan Huan knew from within the industry. Indeed, the Ye family was truly wealthy. To give Sun Yuhan such a huge lift with such a majestic event, it was as if they wanted to coat their granddaughter with a layer of gold.

As the crowd continued to grow, many familiar faces had shown up. A number of them were from the art industry, the business industry, the calligraphy industry and so on. A handful were famous individuals whose faces were recognizable to many. A dozen widely-known directors were also present. Upon brief thought, this was just like Su Muran's case in the past, soaring high by depending on their family's relations. However, it would be worthy to note that Sun Yuhan and Su Muran were clearly not on the same level.

Chapter 858: Tasteless Vulgarian

Su Muran, at the very least, was well-bred and had a good taste. Sun Yuhan, on the other hand, was a jumped-up vulgarian at best.

That was when a man and woman entered the room.

The woman wore a black cocktail dress that had a hard time containing her breasts. Many men blushed at the sight of her.

The woman's red lips were fixed in a pout, her hair dyed wine-red—the same color as her nails. There was a devilish beauty to her.

It was Su Muran and Lu Qin. Sun Yuhan, who was in the middle of a pleasant chat with some big-name directors, changed colors when she saw the two of them. Even her smiles became strained.

Just a moment ago, Yan Huan had waltzed in, stealing her thunder and garnering the attention of all the directors. That was only to be expected with her fame, acting abilities, and title of "Box Office Elixir". Now even Su Muran was here. They are doing it on purpose, aren't they? Who even invited them? She was envious and spiteful towards Yan Huan, and she wanted nothing more than for Su Muran to kick the bucket. Wasn't she on the verge of dying? If so, why did she look so healthy and energetic?

Su Muran followed Lu Qin to greet Ye Jianguo and present their gift, but Ye Jianguo clearly wasn't too pleased at the sight of a member from the Su Family. He didn't make a scene, but there was no trace of warmth in his voice.

Yan Huan leaned on Lu Yi's arms as she watched the drama. The matters between the Ye Family and Su Family had nothing to do with her. Suddenly, Su Muran gazed in her direction. There was something angry in her look.

Yan Huan turned away. She couldn't be bothered to deal with some people; in fact, even looking at her made her sick.

She nestled against Lu Yi's body as she toyed with her phone. She had showed up and paid her due respect to the Ye Family, so her job was done. Her presence made Sun Yuhan look like a fly beside a swan.

She could hear whispers being exchanged.

“Yan Huan looks prettier in person than on the screens.”

“Indeed. I didn’t believe it before, but now I do.”

“Miss Ye isn’t that hard to look at on her own, but when you put her beside Yan Huan she becomes a pile of dung beside a flower.”

The last man’s heartfelt comment drew many snickers.

Sun Yuhan heard it too, and it had left her fuming. Even so, she had to maintain her smile, which was more like an unnatural rictus by now.

“I’ll be right back,” said Lu Yi as he handed her a cup of water. “Don’t wander around too much.”

He wasn’t afraid of Yan Huan getting cold feet, but he was afraid of others looking for trouble. This place was rife of trouble, after all.

“I know,” promised Yan Huan, sitting down with her cup in hand. Without Lu Yi blocking her, more people began noticing her, as though every action of her had a certain significance.

But she only sat there staring at the cup in her hand as if it was the most fascinating object in the world. That discouraged many people who would otherwise have approached her.

Still, not all of them were discouraged.

A woman walked towards her, dark-clad and red-lipped like a vicious ghost that had crawled out of hell.

Yan Huan herself had come back from hell, so she didn’t mind taking on any of her counterparts.

“Looking good, Mrs. Best Actress,” smiled Su Muran. Her eyes were poisoned with jealousy. She was jealous of her ruddy skin, her energy, and most of all her boundless vitality, something she herself lacked. Yan Huan looked extremely healthy.

“You too,” said Yan Huan coolly, examining her. It was easy to see the paleness in her skin beneath the makeup. If not for the makeup, she would have been as pale as a sheet.

Su Muran kept the forced smile, staring at Yan Huan as though she meant to pierce through her and steal her vitality away. Why was she afflicted with the disease, and not someone else?

“I heard that Mrs. Yan has a rare blood type,” said Su Muran suddenly, lowering her voice to a volume only the two of them could hear.

“You are right,” admitted Yan Huan, “but what does that have to do with you?”

Yan Huan reached for her cup again, a chilly look on her face. So she found out, huh?

“AB-type,” said Su Muran. The smile on her face made her as sinister a spirit. “RH-negative AB-type blood?”

Yan Huan chose not to answer her question.

“Are you a doctor, Miss Su? Why the sudden interest in my blood type?” She wasn’t planning on letting her find out that they had the same blood type. What’s this? Did she want her blood? The day hasn’t even ended, so isn’t it too early to be dreaming?

“You don’t have to deny it,” said Su Muran, smiling with her teeth clenched. “We have the same blood type, Miss Yan. Don’t you think there is meaning in this?”

Yan Huan regarded Su Muran with a look that suggested she was looking at an idiot.

“First of all, you are mistaken. And secondly, even if I shared the same blood type as you, I won’t give you a single drop of my blood,” she edged closer towards her, her voice dropping to a whisper as she eyed two people in the background. “Rather than wasting your breath with me, I suggest you keep an eye on your backyard before someone sets it on fire.”

Oooo, thought Yan Huan, I feel so evil.

The color on Su Muran’s face changed when she turned around and found Lu Qin missing.

Sun Yuhan was absent too. Hiking up her dress by the hemline, she walked away briskly.

She didn’t have time for her, and she didn’t think she could get away from her either. Yan Huan’s blood will be hers; her bone marrows too, if they prove to be compatible.

She would do anything to survive. If her “brother” turned out to be useless, she had backup plans.

She sped off in search of Lu Qin. She had held him in contempt in the past, but his fame had surpassed hers as of late, due to the state she was in. She was well-aware of the harshness of the industry; even she would be forgotten after a long hiatus from acting. But how could she act in her current state? It was all she could do to even stay alive.

Chapter 859: Little Cabbage

Lu Qin noticed Su Muran running toward him hurriedly when he came out from the washroom.

He quickly reached out and pulled her over. With a concerned expression, he asked in a gentle tone, “What’s the matter?”

Su Muran looked at his face suspiciously for a long time, but she found nothing out of the ordinary. However, she knew Lu Qin’s temper well. What he did not show did not mean that it did not exist. Moreover, Lu Qin was used to keeping things to himself.

“Nothing, I’m just checking on you.” She lowered her eyelids and leaned her body over Lu Qin’s shoulder. She was tired and did not want to move.

She opened her eyes suddenly, “Yan Huan told me to watch out for the backyard of the house just now. Lu Qin, what did you do?”

“What can I do?” Lu Qin put on his usual smile, “What? Would you rather believe in another person’s words?”

"It's not like that." Su Muran moved her rosy lips slightly. That's right, she would rather believe in Yan Huan than Lu Qin.

"Let's go home, you look tired." Lu Qin held Su Muran's to walk forward. What Su Muran did not know was that a woman had walked out while tidying her clothes not far away from them. She gazed at their backs coldly.

That woman was none other than Sun Yuhan.

Outside, Yan Huan chatted with an acquaintance for a while, then another person came over to suck up to her. She was bored until the light in front of her got blocked by someone.

She raised her face and turned her eyes over to the woman standing in front of her.

"Miss Sun, what's the matter?"

Sun Yuhan took over a glass of wine and shook it lightly.

"I don't like women with a long tongue."

"Oh..." Yan Huan nodded, "Miss Sun is talking about me right?"

"Seems like you still have some self-awareness then." Sun Yuhan held the glass by her lips. Her eyes accentuated with thick black eyeliner currently looked brighter than usual and she certainly looked prettier today. However, her acquired beauty from makeup could never compare to Yan Huan's natural beauty.

"Oh..." Yan Huan played with the glass she held in her hand, "Is Miss Sun afraid of others talking about something that you did?"

"What did I do?" Sun Yuhan felt uncomfortable looking at Yan Huan's face. She wanted to scratch her face with a knife and slice off all of her flesh from her body. She hated her for snatching Lu Yi and her grandfather from her.

She would never forget that she acquired everything she had now by snatching, or stealing from Yan Huan. She stole Yan Huan's identity, her house, and her grandfather.

Without all these, Sun Yuhan would have nothing.

Therefore, Yan Huan could not be allowed to stay.

"Miss Yan, I would like to tell you a secret." She smiled abruptly and something indescribable flashed past her eyes.

"I'm not interested." Yan Huan did not want to know any secrets. Usually, secrets came with a price and after all, she understood that curiosity killed the cat.

"It's about Lu Yi. Are you still not interested?" Sun Yuhan asked again. Her acting had improved a lot, at least for that moment. She incited a tiny bit of Yan Huan's curiosity regardless of whether the secret was something real.

However, Yan Huan still had no intention of working together with someone who had bad intentions. Since Lu Yi had told her to stay there properly, she would just stay there and go nowhere. Doubtlessly, she would also refuse to listen to anyone.

She took the glass and placed it before her eyes. Sun Yuhan's distorted face was reflected through the clear glass.

"You can go ahead and tell someone else. I'm still not interested."

"Yan Huan, you really are asking for the hard way rather than the easy way!" Sun Yuhan gritted her teeth in being unable to persuade Yan Huan.

"If that's so, will you let me try what the hard way would taste like?"

Yan Huan replied lazily, even though her posture did not change.

Sun Yuhan raised the glass in her hand suddenly to splash the wine on Yan Huan. However, Yan Huan reached out and blocked the glass. It fell to the ground and crashed into pieces with a shatter.

Sun Yuhan's dress was stained by wine and the outline of her breasts was showing. The sponges she had added in to form some cleavage were now visible.

"Yan Huan, you have gone too far." Sun Yuhan held her hands over her chest in an attempt to cover her breasts. She felt extremely ashamed under the eyes of the public.

"Oh, I've gone too far?" Yan Huan patted her hand, "In all my years, I've been through both the hard and the easy way. So let me tell you now, I'm willing to eat anything but disadvantage. You better put away your filthy thoughts."

"Or else..."

"Or else what?" A voice sounded suddenly, making Yan Huan's fingers freeze momentarily in the air. After that, she retracted her hand and started twisting her hair beside her ear.

"Yan Huan, tell me. What are you doing to my granddaughter?" When did Ye Jianguo come? Yan Huan wondered how much he had heard and seen.

"Grandpa, don't be angry, I'm fine. Yan Huan was only joking with me and it was not intentional." Sun Yuhan made it sound like she was exculpating for Yan Huan. Although she was saying that she was alright and nothing had happened, she was clearly adding fuel to the fire. Her pitiful face was more bitter than a bitter gourd and more pitiful than a withered cabbage. Despite the fact that she did not say anything else, her facial expression implied that she had been bullied by Yan Huan.

However, was Yan Huan really bullying her? Both of them knew the answer themselves.

"Tell me, or else what?" Ye Jianguo asked again with a harsh tone. He had gone all the way to get his granddaughter back and although he had never taken care of her, he could not stand others talking harshly to her, not to mention bullying her.

Yan Huan stood up. Lots of people were surrounding her at the moment and Ye Jianguo was scolding and pointing at her nose as if she had done something unforgivable.

“Or else...” Yan Huan placed the glass in her hand down, “I will do the same to her what she did to me. So, don’t mess with me and I won’t mess with you. However, if you mess with me...”

“Then?”

Ye Jianguo asked again. The tension in the air was heightened at this moment.

Then what? Does she want to kill her?

“Then nothing.” Yan Huan raised her face and showed neither fear nor superiority. Some deserved respect but some did not.

“You can praise her to the sky all you want but I can make her suffer a drastic decline to the extent that she couldn’t possibly stay in the entertainment industry.” She gripped her cell phone tightly. She had not forgotten that she had something on her cellphone which could change Sun Yuhan’s life forever. Even if she wanted to stay in the entertainment industry and get famous, she would have no choice but to leave the industry if the photos were leaked.

Chapter 860: Do Fats Only Go to A Woman’s Tummy?

As of now, the entertainment industry did not belong to the Ye Family, the Lu Family, and least of all Yan Huan. It belonged to the public. If an actor or actress were to commit a shameful act, they would be booted out of the industry before they know it. Some sins aren’t easily forgiven; she knew that better than anyone.

The loud crack of a slap stilled the air. All the noises died away, and everyone turned to stone.

Ye Jianguo’s hand hovered in the air, beside Yan Huan’s slanted face where five conspicuous fingerprints had formed. Ye Jianguo used to be a soldier, and he had not held out on that slap, despite the debt of gratitude their family owed her, and despite the fact that she had dug his grandson out from the rubble. Right now, he cared only about his granddaughter.

Yan Huan touched her face lightly. No one had slapped her this hard in a long time. She quelled an urge to cry. Yes, she might not have a mother or grandfather, but that didn’t give someone else’s grandfather the right to bully her.

Staring at Ye Jianguo coolly, she slowly put her hand down.

“Who do you think you are to hit me?” She took a step forward. “To hit someone else’s daughter? Someone else’s granddaughter?”

She didn’t give a damn about his stature—no one had the right to hit her face if she didn’t do anything wrong.

If she didn’t have a grandfather to back her up, she’ll just have to stand up for herself.

So she slapped Sun Yuhan across the face. Pa! She had to settle for the younger one since she couldn’t touch the older one. Like she said, don’t mess with her and expect her to suck it up.

Shaking the soreness off her hand, she swaggered out on heels. She doubted Ye Jianguo had it in him to clobber her in public, anyway.

Sun Yuhan froze at the hit, and it took her a good moment to recover from her stupor. When she did, she realized that the people around her were pointing at her and sniggering. She still had wine stains on her dress, which made her an amusing sight, as affirmed by Su Muran's look of contempt. To top it off, Lu Qin witnessed the whole thing.

She spun around and pounced at Yan Huan, knocking her to the ground before mounting her to haul her hair and hit her head.

Before Yan Huan could get up and deal with her assailant, a sharp pain from her tummy made her curl up. The pain from her tummy was so bad that it made her injured scalp feel like nothing.

It hurts. It hurts so much. What should I do?

"Lu Yi, Lu Yi..." she muttered softly.

Just as Sun Yuhan was winding up another blow, a hand lifted her off the ground.

"Stop it right now, Lu Yi!" cried Ye Jianguo. Where was his sense of urgency when his granddaughter was on the attacking side? Why didn't he intervene and put an end to the fight then? Why was he only concerned when his granddaughter was in peril?

"You put her down right now," hissed Ye Jianguo.

Lu Yi ignored him. Suddenly, he slammed her to the table like a sandbag. It was good that there weren't many people present; the other members of the Ye Family had done a good job clearing out most of its guests. The ones that remained were on good terms with the Ye Family, and they were sure to be tight-lipped about the incident.

"What on earth is going on here?" cried Ye Shuyun, who walked on his son slamming Sun Yuhan on the table. Sun Yuhan was wailing in pain.

Lu Yi hunkered down to help Yan Huan up. She looked terrible. Even her makeup couldn't hide the paleness of her skin, or the large beads of perspiration that had formed on her forehead.

Lu Yi was aghast.

"Lu Yi, Lu Yi..." Yan Huan grasped his hand. "My tummy hurts."

The pain was nearly driving her to tears. Her skin was clammy from all the cold sweat.

"Calm down. I'll take you to the hospital right away."

Lu Yi quickly scooped her up and marched to the door. It was chaos inside the house; Ye Jianguo was seething, and Sun Yuhan was still wailing on the ground.

But Ye Shuyun didn't have time to care about them. She quickly followed her son, worried that something might happen to Yan Huan.

Lu Yi ran a few red lights in a row, his face sullen and inconsolable.

He Yibin rushed up to attend to Yan Huan when he brought her to the hospital. When Lu Yi looked at his hands, he realized they were covered in blood.

Where had all this blood come from? He looked down again and the corner of Yan Huan's dress soaked in blood.

Is she having a period?

Yan Huan's period had come nearly a month late, which he imagined to be a result of her foul mood recently. When he consulted He Yibin, he told him that it was normal for a woman's period to come a month late. Plus, it wasn't as if she could get pregnant.

He Yibin asked Yan Huan where her pain was. Befuddled by the pain, Yan Huan kept whimpering with her hands on her stomach.

"Is she having menstrual cramps?" asked Lu Yi with uncertainty. Only that could explain why she was in such pain.

"Cramp my ass!" said He Yibin unhappily. "Does it look like menstrual cramps to you? We might be dealing with a miscarriage here."

Lu Yi's head buzzed, as though something had hit him.

"What did you say? A miscarriage?"

"Yes," said He Yibin confidently. He quickly summoned the nurse and told them to get the obstetrician. "Have you ever seen anyone in so much pain from a menstrual cramp?" He put a hand on Yan Huan's abdomen. "You bloody idiot, Lu Yi! Have you not felt the bulge in her tummy?"

"I thought..." Lu Yi passed a tongue across his dry lips. "I thought she was just getting plumper."

"How can all the fat only go to her tummy?" He Yibin felt like he was talking to a halfwit. "Her tummy is bulging, and you thought... Have you ever heard of menstrual cramps that made a woman's stomach swell?"

The obstetrician appeared before long. He Yibin was equally distraught by the thought of misfortune befalling Yan Huan. She had been diagnosed with infertility, and this could potentially be Lu Yi's only chance at having a child. The Lu Family's lineage was riding on the life of this child!