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Liu Feifei looked at him. "And who would I be?"

Lu Yuan was amused. "What other choice do you have, other than be my mistress? You can't bear me any child, and you're not getting any younger. How dare you demand a rightful status from me?"

Liu Feifei was stumped into silence by his rhetorical questions.

Yes. I'm not getting any younger, and I'm not fertile anymore. What can I do?

She glared at Lu Yuan. "Then why did you come looking for me?"

He nudged at the upper right corner. "I think someone up there wants to what how we are related."

Liu Feifei traced his gaze and noticed the discreet surveillance camera in the upper right corner. Her eyes widened in disbelief and stared at the camera apprehensively. *Who could that be*?

Her heart thumped wildly. "Are you trying to frame me?"

Lu Yuan slid his hands into his pockets nonchalantly. "Frame you? Mind your words, lady. Everything that happened between us was consensual. Didn't you sit on my lap yourself when you entered? Moreover, I wonder who said that she was willing to be my mistress if that was what it took to stay by my side. You're not worthy of my effort to frame you. Instead, be grateful that you are still useful to me. Things are going to be tragic for you if you're no longer useful to me."

Liu Feifei did not know where to put her hands as her palms became drenched in sweat. *What do I do? What should I do right now?*

I really want to run away.

Lu Yuan regarded the woman with a fix. He did not feel any sympathy for her, even if she had been together with him for nearly ten years.

To him, women were akin to commodities in which he could use money in exchange for their bodies.

Suddenly, Liu Feifei dashed out of the private room and opened the doors of other private rooms. When she opened the door of private room number two, the sight of Su Zhan greeted her. There was also a huge screen showing the private room that Lu Yuan and she had been in.

She shivered, and her voice went hoarse. "Su Zhan, let me explain..."

Su Zhan turned his head to face her. There was not a hint of anger, or any suppressed emotions. Even he was taken aback by his oddly calm demeanor.

He did not love this woman anymore. That was the reason he was not mad at her unbecoming past. He was only exasperated at her lies.

He used to think that Liu Feifei was pure and innocent. However, she was actually a woman full of schemes and lies.

Su Zhan found it amusing that he had not noticed this before.

"What do you want to explain? That you didn't leave me because of the rich guy? That you were in fact not born infertile?"

"No... No..." Liu Feifei dashed inside and grabbed at his arms. "Su Zhan, listen to me. I really love you..."

"You express your love for me by becoming another man's mistress?"

Su Zhan swatted her off and glared at her. "Why didn't I realize you're such a scheming woman?"

Liu Feifei broke down in tears. She was indeed in love with him. However, her love toward Su Zhan did not supersede the significance of money. That was what drove her to choose money over him.

In the end, she realized she had no future with Lu Yuan. Besides, Lu Yuan's affection for her had faded in view of her withering beauty. It was because of this that she wanted to get back together with Su Zhan.

If she settled for someone who could provide for her high life, and she genuinely liked the person, then it would definitely be Su Zhan.

She actually regretted her decision to leave Su Zhan back then. If she had stuck with him through thick and thin, then she would already be his wife. All the wealth and power she yearned for would be within her grasp.

Alas, there was no use crying over spilled milk.

She hugged Su Zhan's legs, and her very own tears smeared her delicate makeup. "Would you give a chance in view of our past?"

Su Zhan snorted, "Why should I?"

Liu Feifei was at a loss for words, but she knew she had no other way out. Su Zhan was her last glimmer of hope.

He was everything that she ever wanted. The looks, the money, everything. There was no one else but him.

"I beg you." Liu Feifei clutched his legs. "Su Zhan, I know I did you wrong. Please give me another chance to atone for my mistakes. I will stay by your side and take care of Grandma. Please, I beg you," Liu Feifei edged her cheeks close to his calves as she sobbed.

Su Zhan enunciated every word as he regarded her impassively, "Let. Go. Of. Me."

"No." Liu Feifei stubbornly clung to him. It was as if she clutching to her lifeline.

He crouched down and held her chin up to face him. "Tell me. Did you plan everything? I remember you still couldn't walk back in the hospital, but now you're strutting in high heels. So is it because you're meeting your past lover? Even if you hurt your hands, you'd make it to the hospital when you're only able to crawl on all fours?"

"I'm sorry, I really am. Su Zhan, please..."

"I was blind to have fallen for you back then!"

He kicked her away after he was done. Liu Feifei fell over back and knocked into the chair behind her. It resulted in a loud clang.

Su Zhan left without a second glance.

"Su Zhan!" Liu Feifei's wail failed to stop him.

He was as resolute as he was disappointed in Liu Feifei. She had soured their sweet memories together. All he felt was disgust and contempt when he thought of their past.

Qin Ya called Lin Xinyan as soon as she left the hospital. She was all tuckered out.

"I want to leave." Qin Ya lowered her head.

She felt utterly spent and craved for a good rest.

Lin Xinyan noticed her reddened eyes. "Did you cry?"

Qin Ya did not deny it. "I saw Su Zhan at the hospital together with... Liu Feifei."

Lin Xinyan's heart sank as she snorted to herself. *It looks like Su Zhan has finally seen Liu Feifei's true colors.*

"Does he know about the baby?"

Qin Ya shook her head. "I don't know."

"I'll have your back, no matter the decision you make." Lin Xinyan took out a credit card and handed it to her.

"I cannot take this." Qin Ya was reluctant to accept her offer.

"This is not for you. It's for your baby. Use this to buy anything you want. As for Su Zhan, I think you'd have to give him some time to cool down," Lin Xinyan said as she held Qin Ya's hands.

Even if he knew he did wrong and came back begging for Qin Ya's forgiveness, she should not agree to it right away.

How could he not know who's important to him?

He needs to be taught a lesson!

Qin Ya smiled. It did not matter to her anymore. She just wanted to find some place to give birth to her baby and live a peaceful life together.

She did not plan to come back after leaving. Then Qin Ya asked, "Do you need more people to help you out?"

Lin Xinyan tried to calm her. "Don't worry about this. I'll ask for more staff from Mrs. William if I really encounter the problem. The manpower at the store is looking good at the moment."

Qin Ya heaved a breath of relief at her reassurance.

"Have you decided where you're going? Let me send you off," Lin Xinyan said.

Qin Ya agreed. After chatting for a bit, Lin Xinyan's phone rang. The call was from the kindergarten. The teacher called to inform that Lin Ruixi was involved in a fight with other kids.

Lin Xinyan would not feel surprised, had the teacher reported that it was Lin Xichen who was involved in a fight. However, it was impossible for her daughter to be fighting other kids, even if Li Ruixi would sometimes throw tantrums at her brother.

Lin Xinyan excused herself and left in a rush.

Qin Ya walked out of the building to hail a car after she left. Suddenly, a black van came to a stop before her and abducted her.

The sudden attack took her by surprise. "What are you guys doing?"

However, the men paid no heed to her. They cramped her into the van and sped off.

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"Who're you guys?" Looking horrified, Qin Ya stared at the two men. They obviously were a bunch of jerks who harbored malicious intent against her.

It was clear that she was their target, judging from how decisively and swiftly they seized her.

While she was under their supervision, the driver behind the wheel ignored her.

Meanwhile, she tried to wiggle herself out of their control while constantly screaming hysterically, "Let me go!"

The driver, who seemed to find her voice irritating, yelled at the two men, "Do me a favor by keeping her mouth shut!"

They immediately covered her mouth with their hands and warned her, "You'd better be a good girl."

Her mind went blank with fear. The only thing she wanted to do was run away from this terrifying situation, but the little remaining logical sense in her mind told her she stood no chance.

Hence, she could only stay calm for the time being and bide her time.

The further away from town they went, the more panicked she became.

However, she knew her chances to free herself from the two burly men were slim.

After around an hour, the vehicle left the town area and reached Repulse Bay.

There was a construction ongoing by the beach, and many fishing vessels docked at the bay. When they pulled up to a stop, the two strong men hauled Qin Ya off the car callously when she tried to put up a fight. They seized her by her arms and dragged her to one of the fishing vessels.

Panic-stricken, she started shrieking at the top of her lungs, "Is someone there who can help me? Please, help me! Help..." *Smack!*

One man slapped her and issued her a stern warning in a menacing voice, "I'd kill you right now if you dare to utter a word again!"

Her head tilted to one side due to the impact of the slap and the right side of her cheeks was burning with pain; she could taste blood in her mouth. "Are you guys after my money? I'm willing to offer all the cash with me if you guys let me go."

Considering that she had no kins nor enemies in the country, she had not the slightest idea who would want her here.

Therefore, the only possibility she could think of was that the guys did this for her money.

However, they were unfazed by her offer. One of them threatened her with an intimidating look. "You'd better be good and stay quiet. Mind you, we aren't gentlemen, and if we decide to punish you, you will end up being injured or dying. So, I guess you know what to do right now."

A sense of despair washed over Qin Ya as the blood froze in her body. *If they are not after money, what did they want?*

Colors drained from her face as her tongue went numb. It was only after some time did she manage to pose them her question, albeit stammeringly, "Can you tell me why you kidnap me? I want to know the reason because I don't want to die in confusion."

One of the guys was fed up with her badgering. Pinching her jaw, he raged, "B*tch, what's your issue? You will know everything when we arrive later! So now, you'd better keep your mouth shut!"

Qin Ya was immediately deterred from probing any further because she didn't want them to hurt her. The baby in her womb was her priority.

Soon, she was hauled to a battered-looking fishing vessel. There were fishing nets scattered all over the deck with some dried-up dead fishes caught inside. They then threw her into a filthy little cabin which reeked with a horrible stench.

She started feeling nauseous as her insides started churning.

At last, she had no choice but to dash over to an open window and vomited.

Other than casting her a disgusted glance, the two men did nothing to help her. The cabin only came with a door and a small window, which was only large enough for one's head. Anyone who tried to sneak out through the window would fall off into the raging waves and die.

Qin Ya stuck her head out to inhale fresh air from outside.

As she was physically exhausted and mentally drained, her head felt heavy and her mind was in a turmoil.

After some time, she felt the cabin swayed before she heard a string of footsteps from outside. Feeling alarmed, she immediately spun around to find Liu Feifei standing by the door. Just as she was about to speak, her eyes widened in shock as she spotted Su Zhan's grandmother, who was tied up behind Liu Feifei. "What are you trying to do?"

Liu Feifei sneered, "Isn't that very obvious?"

She was left with nothing now. Lu Yuan refused to have anything to do with her, and Su Zhan too resented her.

If it weren't for Qin Ya, she could have been able to salvage her relationship with Su Zhan!

She hated Qin Ya for snatching Su Zhan away from her and she loathed his grandmother who had always preferred Qin Ya over her.

Since he cared so much about them, she kidnapped both of them.

She then waved her hand at her subordinates to let them tie them both up.

As Qin Ya was struggling to stop them, she yelled, "Liu Feifei, are you crazy?"

Crossing her arms in front of her chest, Liu Feifei glanced at her contemptuously and taunted, "Crazy? Haha, I'm more sober than ever right now. I have nothing to lose and nothing to be scared of! I'm going to drag everyone down with me!"

She strutted into the small cabin, producing a crunching noise along her way when she stepped on seashells on the floor. At last, she stopped in front of Qin Ya and pinched her chin as she confronted her, "Are you the one who plotted against me?"

If Qin Ya didn't plot against her and investigate on her, how did Su Zhan know so much about her past?

Qin Ya looked puzzled. "What do you mean?"

Liu Feifei pinched her chin even harder. "Stop playing dumb with me!"

Other than her, who else would dig out the dirt in my past diligently and reveal everything to Su Zhan?

Who would have the motive to do such a thing?

"I really have no idea what you're talking about." Qin Ya's voice came feebly from her throat.

Liu Feifei refused to believe her innocence because she was adamant that she was the culprit.

Other than Qin Ya, no one else would gain a direct benefit from her misfortune. Su Zhan would naturally return to her side when he resented Liu Feifei.

Qin Ya still had no idea what Liu Feifei was talking about, but there was one thing she was sure. The latter hated her. She felt bitter thinking that Su Zhan was most likely the reason behind her sentiment.

That man brought nothing but endless pain and suffering to her.

"Since I'm the one you hate, why do you bring Grandma, who's still sick over here? Shouldn't you be nice to her since you and Su Zhan dated before?"

Be nice to her?

Did Su Zhan treat me nicely when he dumped me?

Liu Feifei's face distorted with hatred. She patted Qin Ya's young and beautiful face. Slowly, she started exerting more force on the latter's cheeks, slapping her so hard that it looked like she was trying to disfigure her.

"Please be patient. We're about to play a very interesting game soon."

With that, Liu Feifei let loose a wicked and frenzied guffaw.

In the meantime, Qin Ya was trembling. Deep down inside she was sure Liu Feifei must have gone mad or she wouldn't do something as crazy as this.

Having lost the ability to speak, Su Zhan's grandmother glared at Liu Feifei, wishing she could attack her with her eyes.

That woman is indeed a vicious one, and she is finally showing her true colors!

Just as Qin Ya was racking her brain trying to convince Liu Feifei to let them go, another person was thrown into the cabin.

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It was a woman tied up with ropes who looked even more disheveled than Qin Ya.

When Qin Ya saw the face of the woman, she felt even more baffled because she was a stranger.

She was sure Liu Feifei must have been insane to keep so many people as her captives.

The woman was Lu Yuan's wife, whom Liu Feifei hated even more vehemently than Qin Ya since she was once beaten up so badly that she became infertile.

In Liu Feifei's opinion, a woman who couldn't conceive would never have a complete and happy life.

Crouching down in front of Mrs. Lu, Liu Feifei lifted the woman's fringe off her face and snickered gloomily, "Can you feel the sense of Deja vu in this situation?"

When Liu Feifei was beaten up by Mrs. Lu's men back then, she too was tied up in the same way with no chance of fighting back. The people who attacked her were so ruthless that she could still remember the pain until now.

The woman glared at Liu Feifei and cursed, "B*tch, how dare you kidnap me! Are you tired of living?"

"Ha." Liu Feifei chuckled coldly. "Yes, I can't wait to die. I consider it a great bargain because I'm gonna drag all of you to hell with me!"

The woman looked greatly shaken, as she didn't expect Liu Feifei would go to such length just to take revenge.

"Aren't you worried that Lu Yuan will kill you if you do harm me?"

Liu Feifei roared with laughter in response. "Do you actually think Lu Yuan loves you? Who has he loved before? Does he even understand what is love? He only married you because of your family background, which will boost his family career. What you're having with him is a marriage of convenience. Do you know what that is? It means your marriage with him only exists to provide benefits and convenience for your as well as his family. What makes you guys any different from a commodity?"

She grabbed the woman's hair, which hurt the latter so much that she started grimacing in pain.

"Do you think you're superior to me just because you were born into a wealthy family? Eh?"

Mrs. Lu surrendered instantly.

"I'll give you money. Just let me go!"

"Money?" Money was no longer important to Liu Feifei because her future was bleak.

The only thing she wanted was to take revenge on those people who had hurt her and made her suffer before!

She loosened her hold on that woman's hair and fished out her phone. "Now, let's play a game to test if the love of your life cares about you, shall we?"

The woman appeared slightly flustered. "D-Do you even know what you're doing?"

Liu Feifei cupped her chin in one hand. "This is by far the soberest moment I've ever experienced in my life."

Mrs. Lu thought she was crazy.

Liu Feifei enjoyed seeing the anxious look on the woman's face immensely. She deliberately took out her phone slowly for the latter to notice Lu Yuan's phone number on the screen. To further provoke the woman, she purposely talked about her past relationship with Lu Yuan. "Come to think of it, your husband is so horny. He used to beg me every night for sex when we were younger."

"You must have seduced him into doing that." The woman wished she could spit on Liu Feifei's face.

"Don't you know that a sealed container can't attract flies?"

The woman looked sullen in an instant.

Liu Feifei was pleased to see her feeling frustrated and angry. Thinking about how she used to look at her with so much cockiness in her eyes, Liu Feifei relished in trampling her dignity.

"Since I can't have any happiness in my life, you have to suffer the same!" At that juncture, she summoned a man into the cabin and stood up to stare at the woman condescendingly. "Lu Yuan dumped me. I will make him do the same to you!"

She turned to face the man and instructed curtly, "Strip her naked."

Looking horrified, the woman shouted, "How dare you!"

Liu Feifei cast her a side eye disdainfully. "There's nothing I don't dare to do at this stage. All of you forced me into this!"

She then gave the man a look. "Do it."

Every penny she saved over the years went into hiring these men from the underworld who would do anything for a price.

Not only were they offered money to help her, but they would also get to spend time with some beautiful women too.

The man stared at Mrs. Lu, who slumped on the ground lasciviously. Rubbing his hands eagerly, he squatted down to unbutton the woman's blouse.

Meanwhile, Liu Feifei stood while aiming her phone at them.

The woman looked utterly dumbfounded. It never occurred to her that Liu Feifei was wicked enough to destroy her life like this.

If the man really raped her, would Lu Yuan still want her as his wife?

"D-Don't come near me!" The woman turned as pale as a sheet. "I'll give you ten times or even a hundred times the amount she has offered you. Please, don't touch me."

The man froze, swayed by her offer.

Sensing his hesitation, Liu Feifei reminded him, "Don't be stupid. If she escapes us, you can forget about the money. Be thankful if she doesn't alert the police. How can you believe what she said?"

After mulling it over, the man agreed with Liu Feifei. The woman would surely hate him for kidnapping her, and there was no way she would give him money.

If he raped the woman as per Liu Feifei's instruction, not only would he get paid, but he would also get to have a taste of a rich man's wife.

"Act faster if you've made up your mind," Liu Feifei urged.

The man nearly drooled after weighing on the pros and cons of the two different decisions. After deciding what to do, he stripped the woman naked and pounced on her without hesitation.

Liu Feifei aimed her camera at the woman's face and started taking a video.

"Liu Feifei, you'll die a horrible death!" As the woman was securely tied up, she could not push the man away despite intending to do so.

Liu Feifei wasn't bothered by the curse the least bit. "I'll die a horrible death, but you'll live a life worse than death. Do you think I will only send the video to Lu Yuan? How naive of you to think it that way! I'll make sure your reputation is tarnished beyond redemption! I want everyone to see you naked and I want you to live your whole life in embarrassment!"

She then ended her sentence with a maniacal laughter.

"Urgh..." Qin Ya experienced a sick feeling in the pit of her stomach as the sight of the man stripping the woman naked was so disgusting.

Su Zhan's grandmother wanted to ask her whether she was all right, but all she could produce was some muffled noises.

The elderly lady thought there was something not right with her condition as she wondered why she was vomiting for no reason at all.

As a married woman, she soon associated Qin Ya's condition with pregnancy.

Her eyes lit up with delight, but soon turned bleak again.

She was feeling pessimistic because she wasn't even sure whether they could make it out of the fishing vessel alive.

Judging from the misfortune that befell the woman, the elderly lady knew it would not be easy trying to escape.

She was in a state of trepidation at the moment, worrying that Liu Feifei would do something similar to Qin Ya too.

However, she could not break her hands free from the ropes no matter how hard she tried.

What should I do?

By then Liu Feifei had already released the video in which the woman was naked to several parties. The first copy she sent to Lu Yuan, who was a rich kid that was spared from the ordeal of managing his family business. He spent most of his time fooling around with his friends. When Liu Feifei sent the video to him, he was having a great time at a club.

He didn't even bother to check when his phone rang.

He pretended not to hear it because he was busy flirting with a beautiful lady.

However, he was not the only one Liu Feifei sent the video. She too gave a copy to some of his buddies she had befriended during the time they were dating.

One of them, who was sitting in a corner watching TikTok videos, looked rattled when he saw the video. He quickly weaved through the throng of crowd in the club to reach Lu Yuan.

Lu Yuan sounded slightly impatient being disturbed by him. "Can't you see I'm busy now? What's wrong with you?"

"Look at this." The man handed his phone to Lu Yuan.

Lu Yuan gave the screen of his phone a nonchalant glance without taking it. When he glimpsed the offensive nature of the video, he grabbed the phone and clicked to play the video.

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Liu Feifei ensured the woman's face was clear in the video.

Lu Yuan's expression alternated between shock and anger while watching the video. He might not have any feelings for his wife, but legally, they were married.

His anger was caused more by embarrassment than pity for his wife.

When his lady companion edged closer to take a peek at the screen of the phone, he shoved her away and smashed the phone on the floor.

His friend frantically rushed over only to find his phone in pieces. His voice cracked in agony when he protested, "That's my phone! What good will you get by smashing it?"

At that juncture, Lu Yuan's phone, which was left on the sofa, started ringing. He grabbed it hastily and answered impatiently, "Hello."

Liu Feifei, who could easily detect anger in his voice, couldn't help but chuckle, "Have you watched the video I sent to you?"

Lu Yuan extracted his phone from his ear and saw that he had an unread WeChat message. After opening it to find the same video inside, he soon got a rough picture of the matter. "Are you behind this?"

Liu Feifei did not deny his allegation. She wanted to tarnish his wife's reputation and humiliate him by making sure everyone in B City knew his wife was unfaithful to him.

Lu Yuan gritted his teeth. "You must be crazy. Delete the video right now. Tell me where you are because I'll be on my way!"

"Haha, are you panicking? I'm afraid it's too late for you to do anything. I've sent the video to a very popular TikTok account and several media companies in B City. I believe they will be more than willing to cover a juicy story like this. After all, your family is indeed quite famous in the city."

"Liu Feifei!" Lu Yuan was infuriated.

Liu Feifei used to be easily intimidated by his angry outbursts because she was worried he might decide to break up with her. But now, she had nothing to fear.

Glancing down at Lu Yuan's wife condescendingly, she asked, "Would you fancy a livestream to see how your wife is faring now?"

Trying his best to subdue his anger, he asked, "Where are you?"

She chortled, "Do you think I'm stupid enough to tell you so you can come visit me with police?"

"What do you want from me then?"

He wished he could slaughter her right now!

"I'm doing this purely for fun." Then, she laughed out loud and revealed, "Your wife is at Drum Tower. Go ahead and look for her now."

She hung up on him after giving him that piece of information. By then, she reckoned his wife's sleazy video had already gone viral in the city. Making her the target of public censure would make her life more torturous than death.

Since she had already achieved her goal, she did not see the need to keep his wife with her.

Therefore, she asked one of her men to send her to Drum Tower and instructed those who remained to sail off.

In the meantime, she dialed Su Zhan's number.

Su Zhan was on his way to visit his grandmother at the hospital. He tossed his phone to the backseat of his car instead of answering Liu Feifei's call.

Soon, he received another call from the maid whom he had arranged to look after his grandmother at the hospital. He needed the maid there while he was away because he found it hard to entrust his grandmother to someone else.

Thinking that the maid was probably calling to update on his grandmother's condition, he bent down to grab his phone and answered the call. The maid's anxious voice soon came from the other end. "Mr. Su, your grandmother is missing!"

Grandma is missing?

"How could that happen? Has she gone for a medical check-up?" Su Zhan found it hard to believe that his grandmother was really missing.

Who could have abducted his grandmother at the hospital in broad daylight?

"I don't think so because I can't find her anywhere at the hospital. I went out just now to get soft bean curd for her, but she was gone by the time I came back." The maid sounded panicky, worrying that she might have to bear the responsibility if anything bad happened to the elderly lady.

Feeling anxious after listening to the maid, he floored the accelerator and nearly crashed into other cars along the way twice.

When he finally reached the hospital, he jumped out of his car and marched toward the inside of the hospital. The maid was pacing around the nursing station apprehensively.

He approached her and questioned, "How long has she gone missing? Have you covered every corner of the hospital to look for her?"

"I have, but there's no trace of her. She was discovered to be missing after I came back with her favorite soft bean curd from Deli Delish..."

Su Zhan fixed an intimidating gaze on the maid. It was situated quite some distance away from the hospital, and the journey to the place was always packed with heavy traffic. It was hard to estimate the exact time the elderly lady had been missing.

However, he knew it was not the time to throw a tantrum at the maid because their priority was to trace his grandmother down as soon as possible.

Knowing his grandmother very well, he knew she always stayed loyal to her favorites. She would refuse to have anything other than the one from Deli Delish when she felt like having soft bean curd.

Instead of searching blindly for her at the hospital, he went to the hospital director first and asked to go through the surveillance footage. That was the convenience brought about by technology, and he thought he should utilize it.

Indeed, his method turned out to be brilliant because he soon found some clues from the footage.

His grandmother was brought away from the hospital by two men.

According to the footage of the cameras installed at the main door of the hospital, his grandmother was dragged into a van which then sped away from the hospital. It had been a long time since he last represented anyone in a lawsuit and he had offended no one lately. Who could have kidnapped his grandmother?

"Is the footage clear enough to show the car plate?" he asked.

The image was not of the best resolution, but it was clear enough for them to make out the car plate which read: *VQ23Y*.

Su Zhan immediately fished out his phone. Just as he was about to dial Shen Peichuan's number, he received another call. Liu Feifei, who was sure he would not pick up her call at the moment, used Qin Ya's phone to reach him. At the same time, she was watching Qin Ya, who looked weak.

As someone who had been pregnant before, she knew how morning sickness felt like and the sight of Qin Ya vomiting reminded her of the experience. A trace of inquisition emerged in her eyes.

Is she pregnant with Su Zhan's baby?

Raising her brows at her, she asked, "Are you pregnant?"

Qin Ya ignored her question, thinking there was no need to respond to someone who had gone mad.

"Qin Ya."

Su Zhan, who was slightly delighted to receive Qin Ya's call, spoke with extra gentleness in his voice when he picked up the call.

"I'm afraid Qin Ya might be too busy to talk to you at the moment." Liu Feifei tightened her grip around Qin Ya's phone when she heard the note of delight in his voice.

A mere phone call from Qin Ya could make him happy.

Does he like her?

Su Zhan's voice turned frosty as soon as he heard Liu Feifei's voice. "Why're you having her phone? What did you do to her? We should settle our dispute between the two of us. You shouldn't involve her in this or I won't go easy on you!"

Liu Feifei fiddled with a lock of Qin Ya's hair leisurely as she said airily, "What're you going to do to me? Hire someone to beat me up or kill me?"

"Pass the phone to Qin Ya."

"I'm afraid she's not available to take your call at the moment."

Suddenly, something dawned on Su Zhan. "Did you kidnap my grandmother as well?"

Although it was a question, he sounded certain.

"You're making me sound like a criminal! Look, let's put it this way. I've merely brought her away for a trip."

With his blood boiling with fury, he demanded, "Where're you now?"

Pinching Qin Ya's jaw, Liu Feifei narrowed her eyes and replied, "I can reveal my location to you but with one condition: you have to come alone. If you bring someone with you, be prepared to see the corpses of Qin Ya and your grandmother later."

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"I won't bring anybody with me." Su Zhan dared not risk their lives.

Liu Feifei responded with a laugh, sounding pleased. Then, she gave him an address and emphasized again, "You have to come alone and I'm not joking with you here. If you bring anyone with you, I won't hesitate to throw them into the sea to feed the sharks."

"I've already promised you I wouldn't bring anyone with me. If you dare to hurt them, I wouldn't go easy on you either!"

With that, he hung up on her and set off to the address given by her.

Soon, he arrived at the beach. He received a message from Liu Feifei when he alighted his car: *Find yourself a boat and sail toward southwest.*

He kept away his phone and began searching for an available boat. When he spotted some fishermen who just returned from a fishing expedition, he approached them. "Can you guys take me to the sea?"

He offered all the cash in his wallet to one fisherman who was mooring his boat to the pier.

The fisherman was a tanned man in his fifties with a scrawny body. Looking at the huge stack of cash Su Zhan offered him, he wondered exactly how much money that would be. As it was not Su Zhan's habit to carry much cash with him, the stack of cash he was holding only amounted to around two thousand.

"Where do you want to go?" the fisherman queried. He would have to pass if Su Zhan wanted to go as far as to the deep sea.

"Somewhere in the southwest direction," Su Zhan answered.

The fisherman pondered it over. The sea in the southwest region was near to the mountains, it was rather remote as he and his fellow fishermen seldom ventured there. "What business do you have there?"

No houses or even shelters were built there.

Su Zhan knew the fisherman had his reservations due to safety issues, but he could not tell him the truth. Hence, he had no choice but to come up with an excuse, hoping it could convince him. "I'm going there to look for my friend who hasn't been back after sailing in that direction. I need to check on him."

After some contemplation, the fisherman took his cash and agreed, "Fine, just hop onto my boat."

Two thousand was considered a handsome sum for the fisherman who might not be able to earn that much of money from his fishing expedition.

Su Zhan thanked him and stepped onto the slippery deck.

The fisherman flashed him a sheepish grin. That there was no need for Su Zhan to thank him because he was paid to do this.

Standing on the deck where the air was permeated with a fishy stench, Su Zhan looked into the distance at the vast ocean. He felt uneasy and restless, just like the boat that was floating on the sea.

The fisherman was very familiar with the sea. It took him a short time to steer his boat in the right direction.

After about twenty minutes, Su Zhan spotted a ship ahead of them and instructed the fisherman to steer the boat toward it.

Liu Feifei experienced a mixed feelings when she spotted him. Yet, she soon returned to her emotionless state. There was no turning back for her at this stage.

She couldn't accept how pathetic her life had ended up to be. While she could only live a lonesome life miserably in the future, Su Zhan would go on to marry another woman and build a happy family with her.

No, that was not what she would like.

She would rather die if she could not get what she wanted in life. However, she had to make sure those who had bullied her before suffered their retribution.

Su Zhan saw her too. "Are you referring to that ship over there?" the fisherman asked.

Su Zhan nodded in response.

The fisherman then steered the boat toward the ship and mounted a wooden plank to connect the two. "Be careful!" he urged.

Su Zhan mumbled a response before stepping on the plank without hesitation.

The wooden plank was narrow and flimsy as it started to waver when he landed his feet on it. Meanwhile, the fisherman tried to hold it still at the side of his boat.

Liu Feifei chuckled. "Did you rush here because of your grandma or Qin Ya?"

Su Zhan landed on her ship and cast her an ominous glance. "Where are they?"

Liu Feifei strolled over to him and adjusted the collar of his shirt. "What's the rush?" Her hands grazed against his skin in a seductive manner when she continued, "Of course I will let you see them since I've asked you to be here."

Standing with his back straight, he looked down at her hands at his collar. "If you want to take revenge, you should come at me."

She snickered, "Can't you see I'm doing exactly that right now? If they aren't related to you, I won't even have them here. Don't you think so?"

He responded coldly, "Just tell me what you want from me. Since I'm already here, shouldn't you let them go now?"

"Would you still be here talking to me if I let them go?" Liu Feifei prodded his chest with her finger. "Do you think I'm dumb enough to do that?"

"Just shoot. What do you want from me?"

She tugged at his belt trying to pull him toward the cabin, but he refused to budge. "Don't you want to see your grandma and Qin Ya?" she asked.

Both of his hands were balled into fists.

Liu Feifei knew he was infuriated, but she believed he wouldn't lay a finger on her because he would want to make sure his grandmother and Qin Ya were safe.

He walked into the small cabin, which was nothing but a filthy mess. Then, he spotted Qin Ya and his grandmother tied to a shelf at the back of the cabin. Noticing Qin Ya's pale face, he was just about to approach her when he was held back by Liu Feifei. "What's the hurry..."

He shoved her away before she could even finish her sentence.

"Urgh... urgh..." His grandmother couldn't wait to tell him that Qin Ya might be pregnant so that he could help her and make sure she was safe.

However, she could not utter a word.

Su Zhan, who had no idea his grandmother was trying to draw his attention to Qin Ya, consoled her, "Don't worry because I will make sure nothing happens to you."

In the meantime, Qin Ya's vision was getting blurry, and she was experiencing an excruciating pain in her lower abdomen. Parting her dry lips, she let out a feeble voice, "Help me..."

Su Zhan failed to catch what she said. Just as he was about to get closer to her to listen to her, Liu Feifei's voice came from behind. "I'd blast them to death if you go any nearer."

He froze in his tracks and turned around to find Liu Feifei holding a remote control for a bomb.

Then, he glanced around and spotted a bomb stashed at a corner of the cabin.

"Liu Feifei!" he bellowed as his eyes reddened with fury.

Unperturbed by his murderous stare, she dazzled him with a bright and warm smile. "Don't raise your voice at me because it scares me."

Su Zhan suppressed the raging fury in him and said, "Tell me what you want from me."

She strode toward him, traced her finger across his chest seductively and finally stopped at the collar of his shirt. Then, she opened the first button of his shirt with her eyes glassy with desire. "Do you still remember the first night you spent with me?"

He pursed his lips tightly without answering.

She cast a fleeting glance at Qin Ya before resting her hands on his chest. "You treated me with so much gentleness because you were worried that I might be

hurt. You whispered next to my ears that you loved me very much and you would be nice to me for the rest of your life. Do you still remember that?"

Grabbing her hand to stop it from moving around his body, he snapped, "Just tell me what you want me to do."

How he wished he could just wipe out all the memories he had with her. The night he lost his virginity should have been a beautiful memory, but it was all ruined by her. Now, he was disgusted whenever he thought about that fateful night. He wondered why he even fell in love with such a scheming and paranoid woman like her in the first place.

He believed he must have been blind to be interested in her.

"What do I want?" Liu Feifei pretended to look shy when she proposed, "Why don't you and I do it again? It must be a very unforgettable memory for you. After all, it was me who made you a man."

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 346

Qin Ya was experiencing a nauseating feeling that she had never had before. She only managed to hold back the urge to puke by biting her lips hard.

The elderly lady sitting next to her could feel her body shaking, but there was nothing she could do except feeling anxious.

"Are you going to turn me down? Don't forget your grandma and your girl are still under my control."

Looking grim, Su Zhan seized her neck and seethed. "You're digging your own grave right now."

His hands caused so much pain to her neck.

She was having difficulty breathing as she felt like her neck was going to be broken by him any minute. Her face contorted with bitterness as she tried hard to speak intermittently, "Go ahead and strangle me to death."

Su Zhan did not relax his hold on her because it was true that he harbored the intention to finish her off at the moment. Snatching the remote control from her, he remarked icily, "Liu Feifei, do you even have any idea how disgusting you are?"

She cackled, her hoarse voice sounding awful and jarring. "Do you think I'm so stupid that I don't have a backup plan ready? You can try killing me and then see what happens to them after that!"

Su Zhan hesitated.

Not daring to gamble with the lives of his grandmother and Qin Ya, he shoved her away, reluctantly.

When her body landed on the floor, producing a loud thump, two guys immediately dashed into the cabin holding a detonator and a knife in their hands. That was the backup plan she just mentioned. In the event she was in danger, they would trigger the bomb in the cabin.

Slumping on the floor, Liu Feifei placed her hands on her chest and gasped for breath. It was only when fresh air filled up her lungs did she feel better.

She then looked up at Su Zhan and chuckled. "You really do care about them a great deal."

Yet Su Zhan was staring at the two guys who just barged into the cabin.

She got to her feet and stood in front of him. "Are you desperate to get them out of here?"

He felt so frustrated by her question that he wished he could kill her on the spot. Of course he wanted to get them out of there.

Liu Feifei fixed her messy hair before looking up at him. "Yes, you may get them out of here."

She threw a look at the two guys who immediately understood her instruction and carried it out by mounting their knives at Qin Ya and the elderly lady's neck.

"Now, I'll let one of them go and you have to make the choice." She laughed triumphantly.

She knew how close Su Zhan was to his grandmother. Therefore, there was no way he would choose Qin Ya over her, no matter how much he fancied Qin Ya.

"I'm bringing both of them with me!"

"I know that's what you want. Since I might not be alive after today, I have to find myself a companion or I would be very lonely on my way to afterlife."

Not to mention that she had already spent all her savings, she had also offended Lu Yuan and Su Zhan. She had prepared for the worst-case scenario. The two would not go easy on her, even if she could make it back to the shore alive.

Su Zhan's anger hit the ceiling as he gritted his teeth and thundered. "Liu Feifei!"

Liu Feifei cringed in fear. It was the first time she witnessed him having an angry outburst.

Yet, she recovered quickly because she still had the situation in her control. As long as he cared about the two women, he would have no choice but to play by her rules.

"Make your choice," she spoke like a winner of the game.

The elderly lady got agitated trying to ask Su Zhan to choose Qin Ya over her. At her advanced age, she didn't mind having her life shortened, but it was a different case for Qin Ya. She was very young, and it was highly likely that she was pregnant with his child.

From all aspects, choosing Qin Ya over her would be the wisest choice.

Meanwhile, Qin Ya remained very quiet. Her messy hair covered her face and her despair deep down inside. She could feel the puddle of sticky, warm fluid beneath her. She knew what it represented without having to check it out. A pain so intense that it was beyond description was coursing through her and it came not from her body but from her heart. She once thought of giving up her child, but at the same time, she looked forward to welcoming the baby into the world. However, she knew it very well that her child had left her for good at the moment.

Back then, she had often come across how people experienced heartache in novels and dramas, but she assumed it to be a mere way of description. She only realized it was real because she was feeling it at the moment. It was a numbing and stifling sensation which made her breathless.

"If you hesitate any longer, I'd let both of them perish together with me," Liu Feifei said impatiently.

That was one tough decision for Su Zhan because he didn't want to give up any of them. With his eyes bloodshot, he croaked, "Let both of them go and you'll be free to do anything to me."

"No way. I want you to make your choice so one of them will live and the other will die. No matter who you're going to choose, you will live the rest of your life in self-reproach. That's exactly what I would like you to suffer! You will live a life worse than death haunted by nightmares every night in the future!"

That was the reason she kidnapped both his grandmother and Qin Ya.

"Save... Ya..."

It was with much effort that the elderly lady produced the two words. Su Zhan understood what she said, but how could he give up his grandmother who had nurtured him and raised him up?

He shook his head, deciding that he couldn't do such a thing or he would really live his entire life in self-reproach as pointed out by Liu Feifei just now.

He looked at Qin Ya and saw how pale her face was. If anything happened to her, he was sure he would spend the rest of his life in pain or he might even kill himself just to free himself from the torture.

At last, he mustered up every ounce of courage in him and pleaded, "Qin Ya, I was raised up by my grandma..."

What he was trying to imply was he couldn't give up his grandmother in any case.

Qin Ya didn't think there was anything wrong with his choice. As it was commonly said that it was harder to raise one than giving birth to one, it was not wrong of him to choose his grandmother over her.

However, she still felt an unbearably intense pain in her heart as tears started streaming down her face uncontrollably.

"If anything happens to you, I will..." keep you company.

He couldn't finish his sentence because his grandmother suddenly fainted.

In that split second, he told Liu Feifei to let his grandmother go.

Qin Ya did not feel any pain because she had expected to hear that from him. She would rather die if she had to live in misery in the future.

Liu Feifei then instructed the two guys to send the elderly lady back to shore. When they walked past her, they secretively passed the detonator back to her, which she hid at her back in a barely noticeable movement.

Pretending as if nothing had happened, she made her way toward Qin Ya. "I bet you've seen how heartless a man Su Zhan is."

Qin Ya lifted her head and stared at her through her fringe. "I don't think there's anything wrong with his decision. Could he still consider himself human if he were to decide to abandon his family member?"
Her comment infuriated Liu Feifei, and she grabbed a fistful of Qin Ya's hair. "I can't believe you're still so stubborn when death is looming ahead of you!"

Thump! All of a sudden, Liu Feifei was sent flying away and then crashed into the wall of the cabin. The entire ship swayed. Su Zhan then dashed toward Qin Ya and untied her hands. "I'll bring you out of here."

His hands trembled when he noticed the puddle of blood beneath her. "A-Are you injured?"

Cough, cough. "Let's head to hell together!" Liu Feifei pressed on the detonator.

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Just before she detonated the bomb, Su Zhan rushed over and kicked the remote out of her hand. He later crouched down and choked Liu Feifei while yelling, "Go to hell."

Liu Feifei didn't struggle. Instead, she grinned evilly.

Su Zhan's gaze darkened. He quickly realized that the only reason she'd be happy was if she had something else up her sleeves. Hence, he didn't kill her. He simply slammed her head against the corner with a bang. Liu Feifei's head started bleeding before she passed out.

Su Zhan walked back to Qin Ya's side to help her up, but she pushed him aside. "You should leave," said Qin Ya.

Su Zhan wasn't expecting that, so he fell hard on his butt. He stared at Qin Ya in bewilderment as he blurted, "You..."

Qin Ya struggled to get up. She glared at him and scowled, "I don't need you and your fake love. And don't touch me. I'll get so disgusted that I might vomit."

Su Zhan knew that there was no point in saying anything to her. His action had already hurt her.

He wanted to say that he would die with her if anything were to happen to her.

Still, he had no choice.

"I'm so sorry. You're injured, so let me take you to the hospital," said Su Zhan. He ignored her reluctance and bent down to carry her like a princess. That was

when he noticed something strapped around her waist. He tilted his head down to take a better look. It was a bomb!

The number on the device kept changing. It didn't take a genius to know that it was a time bomb, and it was counting down!

Su Zhan shifted his gaze upward and meet a pair of eyes shining with hopelessness.

Qin Ya's throat was dry, and her voice was extremely hoarse when she growled, "Let me go. Run as far away as you can if you want to live."

Su Zhan set her down, but he didn't leave. He examined the bomb to figure out a way to free her from it. He promised, "I won't let you die alone. If it comes to it, I will die right by your side."

Qin Ya laid weakly against the cold and dirty wall before she replied, "Do you think I'd forgive you just because you said those words? I will never forgive you, Su Zhan."

He had his head down in shame as he murmured, "I know."

Qin Ya stared at Su Zhan's face and messy hair for a moment before she slowly closed her eyes. She never wanted to see that man again.

He had a shot at disengaging the bomb. He wasn't confident about it, but he had a shot!

"Don't worry, I will..." said Su Zhan as he looked up. He caught Qin Ya with her eyes closed and knew she didn't want to see him. His heart ached, but he knew that was not the time or place for dealing with his love life. He had to prioritize saving her life.

He walked away to find a plier, but he couldn't find one despite searching the entire ship. When he returned to the cabin, he found a rusty box in a secluded

corner. He used a metallic rod to pry it open. As suspected, that was a rusty toolbox that was rarely used. The ship was constantly wet, so the toolbox had a thick layer of rust, but all the necessary tools were shielded inside. He grabbed a pair of pliers and hurried to Qin Ya. "I found the tools!"

Qin Ya had turned even weaker by then, and she couldn't even open her eyes. She was like a withered flower that no longer held the vitality she once had. Su Zhan went into a daze and wondered how things would be if she died just like that.

His heart ached like nothing before when he thought about it. It was like countless needles had simultaneously pierced through his heart, and they stung him.

Su Zhan reached out to caress her face. He decided that if they were to survive, he would beg for her forgiveness and do anything to make up for his mistake.

Su Zhan's hand trembled when he held the pliers and saw the four wires inside the box. His decision would determine whether they survive.

Unfortunately, the bomb was still counting down. Su Zhan didn't have time to think, so droplets of sweat donned his forehead.

He bit down and chose the red wire. With his eyes closed, he applied force on his pliers to cut that wire. *Click*!

Unfortunately, the countdown continued. That got Su Zhan nervous.

"Leave, just abandon me. You don't have to do this," said Qin Ya. Her voice was as soft as a single buzzing bee, but Su Zhan heard her clearly. He didn't know why. When he heard her asking him to leave, his heart ached so much that he felt like he couldn't breathe.

He had never been afraid of losing anyone before, but he was terrified of losing her at that moment.

"I won't leave. I promised I will die with you if you don't make it out," said Su Zhan, before he tightened his grip on his pliers again. *Click!* He cut another wire. The bomb didn't go off. Instead, the timer stopped... for a second before the bomb counted down even quicker. Su Zhan held Qin Ya tightly in his arms when he saw they were about to run out of time.

Qin Ya's heart was cold. A warm embrace engulfed her, but her heart was still cold.

Su Zhan's throat was dry, so his voice was raspy when he apologized, "I'm sorry. I'm so sorry."

He was sorry for breaking her heart, for letting her get physically hurt because of him, and for potentially causing her death soon.

His words seemed so hollow at that moment.

The unconscious Liu Feifei slowly woke up and saw Su Zhan holding Qin Ya. Liu Feifei was jealous. That man used to only love her. His warmth belonged to her and her alone. However, that love had since been transferred to another woman. That disappointed and infuriated Liu Feifei.

She struggled to get up and reached for the detonator. She wanted to blow the ship up and to kill Su Zhan and Qin Ya with it.

Qin Ya saw what Liu Feifei was trying to do, so the former held Su Zhan's collar and requested, "Carry me out so I can have some fresh air."

"Okay," replied Su Zhan.

The wind carried the scent of the ocean when it caressed the couple that had reached the top deck. The bomb strapped on Qin Ya was counting down, and Su Zhan promised, "If reincarnation is real, I will find you again in our next life, and I promise I will treat you right."

Qin Ya's eyes were in a daze. She grinned. *If reincarnation is real, I wish we never meet again. Meeting you in this lifetime is a misfortune. I don't want to go through this again, so let's not get together again in our next life.*

Just before the time bomb went off, Qin Ya pushed as hard as she could, and Su Zhan fell off the boat.

Splash! He landed in the water.

Just before he hit the water, Su Zhan saw Qin Ya sitting calmly on the boat. It was as if she wasn't facing death. Instead, it was like she was looking forward to being released from her tormented life.

She wants to die!

Boom!

The ship exploded. The sparks and the fire swallowed Qin Ya whole.

"No!" shouted Su Zhan before the seawater drowned his voice out. It was burning hot, even when he was under the water, and the ship's wreckage soon surrounded him. The fire continued to glow fiercely above the surface.

Su Zhan swam upward as quickly as he could to find any traces of Qin Ya.

However, the vast ocean only had wreckage floating around. No one was in sight.

"Qin Ya!" shouted Su Zhan.

He grabbed a random piece of floating debris before he searched for Qin Ya.

Surprisingly, Lu Yuan drove his boat over at that moment.

He found the place by tracing Liu Feifei's number. Things were in a mess for Lu Yuan because Liu Feifei shared a video of his wife on the internet, and that got the news to spread like wildfire. It made the Lu family looked bad, and the share price of the company had fallen because of that. Lu Yuan was furious about it.

He wanted to seek vengeance from Liu Feifei, but he didn't realize that he would see an explosion instead.

"Is someone there?"

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A guy tagged along with Lu Yuan. The former was standing on the top deck and pointing at Su Zhan, who was busy looking for Qin Ya.

The tiny dot looked like a human, and Lu Yuan was in a hurry to locate Liu Feifei, so finding any survivor was good news for him. Lu Yuan quickly had his people get the boat over.

Su Zhan and Lu Yuan knew one another, but they weren't close. They never chatted or worked together before, and they were acquaintances at most.

When Lu Yuan saw who the man in the water was, he cleared his throat and asked, "Where is Liu Feifei?"

Su Zhan shifted his gaze up. Water dripped down from his hair and blurred his vision, but he could still see who the man was. He knew that Lu Yuan was the one talking to him. "Help me locate someone, and I will tell you where Liu Feifei is," said Su Zhan.

Lu Yuan scoffed, "Look at the state you're in. How can you talk terms with me? If it hadn't been for me, you would've drowned."

What is Lu Yuan doing here? Something must've happened, and it must be related to Liu Feifei. That is why he is looking for her.

"That is my only condition, and you're right. There is nothing I can do if you don't help me, but you can forget about ever locating Liu Feifei if you don't."

Lu Yuan deliberated. Everyone knew Su Zhan and Zong Jinghao were friends. Lu Yuan's father was collaborating with Zong Jinghao. If Su Zhan died because Lu Yuan refused to extend a helping hand... well, things would be bad. To make matters worse, the company was in hot water because of Liu Feifei. Lu Yuan could not afford to let the woman share any other videos or news online.

"Fine, I'll help you find your friend," replied Lu Yuan. He was there to capture Liu Feifei, so naturally, he had a number of excellent swimmers with him.

"Who are you looking for?" asked Lu Yuan.

"A woman."

Lu Yuan seemed to have sensed what that matter meant to Su Zhan, so the former waved his hand and instructed, "Do your best to locate that person."

It was extremely difficult to locate a woman in the vast ocean,. The longer it took them to locate the woman, the less likely that she would survive.

Su Zhan and Lu Yuan had the men spread out to expand the search.

Then, someone suddenly shouted, "I found somebody."

Su Zhan swam over as quickly as he could. His heart thumped faster as he got closer. He was hopeful and terrified at the same time. He was hopeful about the person being Qin Ya, but was terrified that she might already be dead.

As he got closer, he saw the person's face. Her wet hair had hidden over half of her face, but Su Zhan could tell that the person was Qin Ya.

Su Zhan pushed the other guy aside. He held Qin Ya in his arms as he swam and dragged her to the boat.

It took a couple men to get Qin Ya out of the water. Su Zhan slowly set her down and checked her heartbeat. It was mild, but it was there! "Turn the boat around right away!" growled Su Zhan. Lu Yuan stared for a moment before he had his people take them back to land.

"Dry clothes. I need dry clothes." murmured Su Zhan.

He then went as far as trying to snatch the coat off of Lu Yuan's back.

Lu Yuan was dumbfounded for a second before he roared, "Are you out of your mind?"

"Hand me your clothes," demanded Su Zhan. The weather was too cold, and he was worried that Qin Ya would get a fever. Everyone else had jumped into the water earlier, so only Lu Yuan had dry clothes on.

Lu Yuan bulged his eyes in bewilderment. "You're gay?"

Su Zhan was tempted to cuss upon hearing that. Your mom's gay.

He later snatched Lu Yuan's coat off the man's back then rushed to Qin Ya. He wrapped her in the coat and kept praying. *Please be alright. You can't die. I can't let anything happen to you.*

Su Zhan was on his knees. All he could think about was how calm Qin Ya looked when she stood on the boat, and how she wanted to die.

"Holy f*ck!" shouted Lu Yuan when he saw the bomb strapped on Qin Ya's waist. *It's not gonna go off, is it?*

The boat exploded because Liu Feifei wanted to kill Su Zhan and Qin Ya. She pressed the detonator and the bombs on the boat exploded. The bomb strapped on Qin Ya, however, never went off. Turned out, Su Zhan cut the right wire. The countdown paused at the last second, and the bomb never went off.

"Quick, hurry! Get rid of it," roared Lu Yuan. He could barely form full sentences at that moment. It was a bomb. No one knew if it would still explode.

"You want us to throw the woman overboard?" asked a subordinate.

"I meant the bomb, you idiot!" growled Lu Yuan.

The man Lu Yuan called an idiot then reached out to take the bomb. However, Su Zhan suddenly turned around and glared over. "Do not touch her!"

"I'm not reaching for her. I just..." said the man. He trailed off and pointed at the bomb.

That was when Su Zhan realized that the bomb was still strapped to Qin Ya. Su Zhan quickly took the bomb off. When he did so, the timer on the bomb, which had since stopped, started counting down again. $1 \dots 0 \dots$

Boom!

The bomb exploded at the exact moment Su Zhan tossed it out.

The explosion caused the water to fly over a few meters upward and rain down on the boat.

It was like a storm had hit the boat. The ripple also knocked on the boat and pushed it away.

Everyone on the boat took cover. The only one who remained at the same spot was Su Zhan. He was shielding Qin Ya the entire time.

When everything died down, Lu Yuan regained his composure and cussed, "F*ck! That bomb was live? Holy crap, we almost died."

Lu Yuan thought the bomb was dormant since it hadn't exploded yet. He didn't think that it would go off so suddenly. If Su Zhan had delayed, even for a second, everyone on the boat would've been dead.

I wonder what kind of lunatic would strap a bomb to another human being? That is so cruel.

Lu Yuan quickly put two and two together. "Did Liu Feifei do that?"

Su Zhan ignored the guy. He wasn't in the mood to do anything.

"Where is she?"

"Dead," replied Su Zhan. He looked extremely grim at the time.

There was an explosion in the middle of the ocean. She would most definitely die if no one were there to rescue her.

Lu Yuan repeated, "Dead?"

She died before I could get ahold of her and torture her to settle the score?

Lu Yuan was a little sad to hear that. He loathed Liu Feifei and wanted to torture her in person. He wanted her to have a life worse than death.

Su Zhan was getting on his last nerve, so he urged, "Faster!"

Lu Yuan turned to the poor guy and replied, "We're going as fast as we can. There's no point in shouting."

Su Zhan knew that as well, but he was too worried. The longer it took them to reach land, the more dangerous the situation was for Qin Ya.

Su Zhan reached out to part her hair and reveal the part of her face that was previously covered.

The right side of Qin Ya's face was mutilated, and there were blackened bits on her skin.

Lu Yuan swallowed hard as he stood at the side, and he almost screamed aloud.

Doesn't this mean that she is disfigured? thought Lu Yuan.

Su Zhan felt like his earth had shattered. His fingers trembled, and he didn't dare to check any other parts of her face.

Words could not describe Su Zhan's devastation at that moment.

It wasn't just pain. He was also enduring a lot of disbelief and denial. He didn't even dare to imagine how Qin Ya would react when she learned about her face. *Will she be able to accept it?*

The boat reached the shore at that moment, and Su Zhan carried Qin Ya off.

"How did Liu Feifei die? And where?" asked Lu Yuan. He wanted to see Liu Feifei's corpse with his own eyes to confirm that she was dead.

Su Zhan walked toward his car. Lu Yuan's voice was loud and clear when he asked that question, but Su Zhan acted as if he couldn't hear a thing. It was likely that Su Zhan was in a daze.

A man standing beside Lu Yuan suggested, "She's probably under the ocean right now."

It was obvious that both Lu Yuan and Su Zhan hated Liu Feifei and wanted revenge. As such, Su Zhan wouldn't have kept anything if Liu Feifei actually escaped.

Given his current state, I'm guessing he wanted Liu Feifei dead as much as Lu Yuan does.

Lu Yuan turned around and stared at the vast ocean. It would be difficult for him to locate Liu Feifei's corpse at that moment.

Qin Ya was in such a terrible shape. it was likely that Liu Feifei wasn't any better off either.

"She got what she deserved," murmured Lu Yuan before he got off the boat as well. He had to go back to his post and deal with the mess that Liu Feifei made.

Su Zhan, on the other hand, sped toward the hospital.

He carried Qin Ya into the emergency room as he screamed, "Quick. Please save her."

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The doctor instructed his staff calmly to roll the bed over then added, "Take her into the operating theatre immediately!"

Su Zhan placed Qin Ya carefully onto the bed while the doctor asked, "How did she get hurt?"

"There was an explosion."

The doctor needed to know what he should prepare for. He murmured some instructions to his assistant before they pushed Qin Ya into the operating theatre.

Su Zhan wanted to follow along. He was simply too worried.

The medical experts, however, stopped him. "No one is allowed into the operating theatre. Please wait here."

"I will pay however much is needed. Please, just save her," shouted Su Zhan to the doctor just before the door closed.

The doctor was under oath. He would do his best to save Qin Ya, so he ignored Su Zhan's words.

Just like that, Su Zhan was locked outside.

He felt like his entire world was crumbling, and he didn't know what to do.

He paced around in the corridor as time trickled by. The door to the operating theatre remained closed. He was anxious, frustrated, and unsettled.

He knew those emotions were counterproductive, but he still couldn't force himself to calm down.

Qin Ya's family wasn't living in the country, and Lin Xinyan was her closest friend. *Qin Ya's current situation is bad, and if she reacts negatively to seeing me here...* Su Zhan thought about how there was no one to take care of her, so he reached into his pocket only to learn that his phone was long gone. He was thinking about how to contact Lin Xinyan when a nurse passed by. Su Zhan called out to the nurse and asked, "Can I borrow your phone?"

The nurse saw how terrible he looked, so she got her phone out of her pocket and handed it to him.

"Thank you," replied Su Zhan. He didn't call Lin Xinyan immediately, because he didn't remember her number. He only saved her number on his phone. Fortunately, he remembered Zong Jinghao's number.

Zong Jinghao was in the office and was discussing some matters with Mr. Lu. The two men had just started a business collaboration, and the scandal revolving around the Lu family had disrupted the project they were working on. Hence, Mr. Lu personally dropped by to apologize for the matter. One of the terms of their contract was that if either party caused a loss of profit, the other party could terminate the entire thing before the project completed.

Mr. Lu was worried about Zong Jinghao terminating the contract, so he hurried over to talk to the latter.

"I will settle the issue quickly. Don't worry, the negative impact won't be that big," said Mr. Lu. He looked energetic, and his old age didn't make him seem frail. However, the incident at the time wore him out a little.

Zong Jinghao calmly pointed out, "From what I have gathered, Lu Group is already suffering from this scandal."

"Yes, but please trust me. I will solve the issue soon."

Zong Jinghao's phone vibrated at that moment. He scanned the screen before informing Mr. Lu, "Excuse me, I need to take this."

After saying his piece, Zong Jinghao got his phone and walked out of the meeting room. He stood in the corridor, and the French window was right beside him when he picked the call up.

"Hello."

"It's me. Is Xinyan with you?"

"Why are you looking for her?" asked Zong Jinghao as he raised his brows suspiciously.

"Yeah, Qin Ya... at the hospital... not sure if she'll survive," said Su Zhan. His voice kept breaking up because he was speaking between sobs. He later calmed down and informed, "Her family lives overseas. I think she will feel better if she sees Xinyan when she wakes up."

"What happened?"

"It's a long story, and I lost my phone. I'm using someone else's phone right now, so I can't talk for long. I'm at the second branch of the People's Hospital."

Zong Jinghao murmured a reply and hung up before he walked out and called for Guan Jing.

Guan Jing hurried over.

"Tell Mr. Lu that something important just happened, and I have to leave. Also, inform him we can discuss the matter in the near future," ordered Zong Jinghao as he walked toward the elevator. After that, he called Lin Xinyan. Su Zhan sounded off. It seemed like an incident had happened, so Zong Jinghao was worried about Lin Xinyan going to the hospital on her own.

Lin Xinyan was at the kindergarten at the time because Lin Ruixi fought with another kid.

The reason behind that fight was hilarious. A girl kissed Lin Xichen's cheek, and Lin Ruixi caught that, so Lin Ruixi ran over to push the kid. After that, Lin Ruixi growled, "That is my big brother! How dare you kiss him?"

As far as Lin Ruixi was concerned, she was the only one allowed to kiss her brother.

Every other kid was forbidden from doing so. She felt like the other girl was there to steal her brother away, so she pushed the kid.

Lin Xichen was stumped as well. Life at the kindergarten was terribly boring. He was on the verge of breaking down because he was surrounded by a bunch of immature brats.

The fact that someone forced a kiss on his cheek during recess made him feel like that kindergarten was just too much. He had to leave, or he'd go insane.

The little girl's head knocked on the edge of a stool after Lin Ruixi pushed her. The kids in that kindergarten were all from powerful families, so the teachers contacted and asked the parents to drop by the kindergarten.

The little girl's mother was an entitled woman with a terrible attitude. "It's not like he's royalty or anything, and it's just a kiss, right? Kids play pretend all the time, so it's no big deal. Besides, if anyone's being taken advantage of, it's my daughter. Your daughter made it worse by pushing my precious girl. Look at her reddened head. How do you plan on dealing with this?"

It didn't matter what caused it. Lin Ruixi was at fault for pushing the kid, but the mother didn't have to be that rude.

Lin Xinyan hadn't even spoken up before Lin Ruixi interrupted, "Just a kiss? That is my brother, and we never gave her permission to kiss him!"

"Ruixi," warned Lin Xinyan sternly.

"I was just telling the truth," complained Lin Ruixi softly.

Lin Xichen, the boy in between all the drama, sat at the corner and acted as if it had nothing to do with him. It didn't matter if it was the kids or the teachers in school. Everyone was nice to him, and they liked to kiss his cheeks. That made him feel troubled.

Still, he was glad that something so minor had turned so crazy because that might mean that he no longer needed to go to that kindergarten.

"You are just a kid, so what do you know? Do you even know who her father is?" yelled the entitled woman.

Lin Ruixi didn't understand what the woman meant by that, so she asked, "Who's her dad?"

"The deputy mayor of B City," answered the woman arrogantly before she added, "Apologize right away, and I will forgive you. If you don't, I will tell her father about this, and things will be much worse."

Lin Xinyan frowned. She was upset about the woman's behavior because that was not a huge issue in the first place. Lin Xinyan had planned to get her daughter to apologize anyway because the kid was at fault for pushing someone else.

Lin Xichen was called over soon after.

"Mommy," greeted Lin Xichen as he stepped forward. The entitled woman finally got a good look at Lin Xichen and thought that the kid was pretty amazing. He was young, but his back was straight when he walked, and his facial features were wonderful. The entitled woman tapped on her daughter's shoulder and commended, "You have pretty good taste."

The little girl tilted her head down shyly. She liked the new student, Lin Xichen, and she didn't understand what love meant. Her mind was innocent. She simply thought he looked cute, so she kissed him.

She didn't understand the complicated world of adults.

"She kissed me without my permission, and that is disrespectful toward me, so she should apologize to me. My sister pushed her, and that is my sister's fault, so my sister will apologize as well. We can start with you apologizing to me," said Lin Xichen calmly and rationally.

The entitled woman didn't expect a kid that young to speak so rationally and maturely.

"It's your privilege that my daughter kissed you. Yet, you expect an apology for that? Not even in your dreams. You're lucky I'm not asking you to apologize to her! I've learned all about the parents who sent their kids to this kindergarten, and no one is as powerful as her dad. Stop messing around because it will not end well for any of you. Apologize right away, and I will pretend that nothing happened. If you don't..."

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"What are you going to do?" asked Lin Xinyan as she turned to the fuming lady. It was a ridiculously minor issue, but that woman insisted on making it bigger than it actually was.

"Oh, we're putting on an act, are we?" scoffed the woman.

Lin Xinyan frowned. "Your husband may be powerful, but will he really do something to us just for this?"

The entitled woman stared like Lin Xinyan was an alien. *Is this not how the world operated? There is no such thing as being fair. We may not live in the past where social rankings were clearly marked, but are those social statuses really gone?*

The woman glared discriminatorily at Lin Xinyan. The former thought that the latter was pretty, but lacked a pair of huge breasts. As such, the woman straightened her back and showed off her breasts before saying, "What corporation does your husband own? I will have my husband take good care of him."

The woman deliberately emphasized the words "take good care" when she spoke.

Anyone who could afford to send their children to a kindergarten like that had to be pretty well off, so the lady asked that question.

Lin Xinyan understood the underlying threat, and she was upset about it.

So she's abusing her power to bully us, huh?

The principal walked over at that moment. The others might not know who Lin Ruixi and Lin Xichen were, but the principal was well aware of it. Zong Qifeng had said that the kids' identities should not be exposed, so only the principal knew who the kids really were.

"I've looked into the matter. Kids hug and kiss all the time when they play together. Their form of love is more innocent and is different from our love. I have been working in this industry for over thirty years, and I have seen countless similar incidents. Most parents are okay with it, so for the sake of the children hanging out nicely in the future, I'd like to ask both sides to calm down and make up. Will that be okay?" asked the principal.

The lady sneered, "My daughter is her father's precious little girl. I don't have to make this a big deal, but the deputy mayor might not see things the same way."

It was obvious that the lady was abusing her husband's power.

"Are you really the deputy mayor's wife, though?" asked the principal. He had seen the uglier side of the world. The deputy mayor was almost sixty years old, so how could his wife and daughter be that young?

That simply didn't make sense.

The glow in the woman's eyes flickered for a while before she calmed down and insisted, "All you need to know is that she is the deputy mayor's daughter."

Lin Xichen saved the video he just made. He had been recording the woman since the principal stepped foot inside the office. At first, he only wanted to share the video online and teach that entitled woman a lesson, but after hearing the principal's words... *This isn't as simple as I assumed,* thought Lin Xichen.

It was obvious that something else was up.

Lin Xichen tugged at his baby sister's arm and instructed, "Apologize to her."

Lin Ruixi wasn't happy about that, so she argued, "But she's the one who kissed you first. You're my big brother, and only me, Mommy, and Daddy can kiss you. Who does she think she is? What gives her the right to kiss you?"

Lin Ruixi was rather possessive.

Lin Xichen winked at his sister and said, "Be good. Didn't you hear how powerful her dad is? We have no choice but to apologize."

"But…"

"Do you trust me?" interrupted Lin Xichen.

Lin Xinyan crouched down beside her daughter. That woman's attitude was terrible, but Lin Ruixi still attacked someone, and that was wrong too. "Ruixi, we're not supposed to push others when conflict arises. A gentleman uses his words, not his fist."

"But I'm not a gentleman. I'm just a pretty girl," refuted Lin Ruixi as her big, round eyes glowed innocently at her mother.

Lin Xinyan was speechless.

She was trying to come up with solutions to convince her daughter to apologize when the phone in her pocket suddenly started vibrating. She fished her phone out and accepted the call. Zong Jinghao's voice rang up soon after, "Where are you?"

Lin Xinyan shifted her gaze to her children before replying, "I'm out. What's wrong?"

Zong Jinghao didn't know the details either, so he didn't answer. He simply said, "Send me your address. I'll go pick you up." Lin Xinyan took a deep breath before replying, "I'm at the kindergarten."

Zong Jinghao frowned a little. He tilted his head down to check his watch and noted that it wasn't time to pick the kids up yet. *What is she doing in there?*

Zong Jinghao made a U-turn and drove toward the kindergarten.

He was close by, so he reached his destination quickly. Lin Xinyan had already led the children out of the office.

No one knew what Lin Xichen whispered into Lin Ruixi's ear, but Lin Ruixi later apologized to the little girl she pushed. Lin Xichen also claimed that he would not complain about being kissed without permission.

Zong Jinghao walked over and picked his daughter up immediately. Lin Xichen had convinced his sister to apologize, but Lin Ruixi was still upset because she didn't think that she was wrong.

She looked sad when she hugged Zong Jinghao's neck and hid her face in his embrace. It was obvious that his daughter wasn't happy, so Zong Jinghao turned to Lin Xinyan, then to his son. "What's wrong?"

Lin Xinyan wouldn't have come to the kindergarten at that hour if nothing were wrong, and his daughter would not be that upset.

"It's fine," replied Lin Xinyan. Everything was in the past, so Lin Xinyan didn't want to talk about it anymore.

Lin Xichen, on the other hand, already had a plan up his sleeve. He didn't need his dad to do anything because he could solve the issue all on his own.

Lin Ruixi was the only one who was motivated to tell Zong Jinghao everything. She wanted to be validated and told that she was not at fault. "Was I wrong? He is my brother, right? So how can that girl kiss him? He's not her brother! Besides, I didn't push that hard. She's the dumb one who couldn't stand still and fell to the stool. Yet, I was the one who had to apologize," shared Lin Ruixi as her eyes reddened with tears. She felt so wronged.

Zong Jinghao kissed his daughter's cheek and replied, "You are not wrong, and you don't need to apologize."

Zong Jinghao carried his daughter and walked toward the kindergarten, but Lin Xinyan stopped him. Everything was settled, so there was no point in making more noise. Lin Xinyan wasn't afraid of that entitled woman, but she didn't want to deal with idiots like the latter anymore. "She pushed the kid, and that was her fault. How is she not wrong?" said Lin Xinyan.

"She didn't do it on purpose," refuted Zong Jinghao. His heart trembled in pain when he saw his daughter wronged like that. She was his precious baby, so how could he let others bully her at school?

Zong Jinghao taught them they shouldn't abuse their family's power to bully others, but that didn't mean that they should be bullied!

"Don't worry, I've already solved the issue," claimed Lin Xichen confidently.

Lin Xinyan looked somewhat surprised when she turned to her son and asked, "What did you do?"

Lin Xichen climbed into the car after he grinned mysteriously and said, "You'll know soon enough. We should go home now."

Lin Xinyan felt conflicted as she stared at her son. She wasn't sure if she should be happy or not. "Alright, Mommy will hold you, and we'll go home now," said Lin Xinyan.

"No, I want Daddy," insisted Lin Ruixi. She held onto Zong Jinghao tightly because she didn't want Lin Xinyan to carry her away.

Zong Jinghao handed the car keys to Lin Xinyan and said, "You drive."

Lin Xinyan accepted the keys and got into the driver's seat while Zong Jinghao sat in the passenger's seat with his daughter. Lin Xichen sat in the backseat on his own. He fished his tablet out of his backpack and uploaded the video he secretly took via his watch. After that, he shared the video online and posted it on some of the most popular websites.

Videos like that could easily attract attention, and the video Lin Xichen uploaded started trending without anyone promoting it. The journey from the kindergarten to their house was short, but the video already had over a hundred comments by the time they reached home.

Lin Xichen swiped on the screen and monitored the comments left on various websites.

The car was parked at the entrance, and Zong Jinghao carried his daughter out of the car. After that, he told Lin Xinyan, "Wait here."

Lin Xinyan wanted to ask him if something was up, but she later realized that he wouldn't have gone to the kindergarten to pick her up if nothing happened. As such, she only murmured a simple reply.

Lin Xichen went into his room as soon as he got home. Zong Jinghao couldn't help grinning when he saw the kid closing the door. He caught what the kid was doing, even when they were all in the car.

Lin Xichen was smart and careful, and that was something Zong Jinghao was delighted about.

That is the son Lin Xinyan gave me.

"Why are you two home so early?" asked Cheng Yuxiu as she walked out of the study room and saw the two kids.

Zong Jinghao's smile faltered slowly, and he looked distant soon after.

Cheng Yuxiu saw the change in Zong Jinghao's expression. Naturally, she felt hurt. She shifted her gaze downward to hide her sorrow. "Ruixi is home. Come, give me a hug," said Cheng Yuxiu.

Cheng Yuxiu didn't use the word 'grandma' when Zong Jinghao was around because she was worried about upsetting him.

Lin Ruixi was wronged, so she wanted someone to cuddle with. Cheng Yuxiu tucked Lin Ruixi in at night, so the two of them were getting closer and Lin Ruixi was okay with Cheng Yuxiu's hugs. Hence, Lin Ruixi extended her tiny arms and ran to her grandmother.

Zong Jinghao needed to accompany Lin Xinyan to the hospital, so he let his daughter play with Cheng Yuxiu.

Lin Xinyan was resting her head on her hand when she saw Zong Jinghao walking over. She asked, "What's up?"

Zong Jinghao opened the door and informed, "Qin Ya is hospitalized."