

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 401

“It’s not as simple as it seems, and Wen Qing’s not talking.” Shen Peichuan could tell that Wen Qing knew the consequences of doing what he did.

He would not stop unless Zong Jinghao agreed to his terms.

After all, Wen Qing only did it to force Zong Jinghao’s submission to him.

Shen Peichuan was worried that Zong Jinghao might leave Lin Xinyan because of the incident. Even if it were only temporary, it would be enough to hurt Lin Xinyan badly.

Su Zhan and Shen Peichuan returned to the ward, where Captain Chen and his people guarded the entrance.

Seeing Captain Chen again made Su Zhan angry, but Shen Peichuan held him back. “Calm down!”

After all, Captain Chen was not the mastermind. That title would be for Wen Qing alone.

The two then entered the building, and it was quiet inside, for Lin Xinyan was still asleep. Zong Jinghao was sitting by the bed, warming Lin Xinyan’s cold hand with his own when Shen Peichuan and Su Zhan entered the room.

“What’s your plan?” whispered Shen Peichuan, who was afraid that he might disturb Lin Xinyan if he was too loud.

The light that went through the window shone on half of Zong Jinghao’s face as his thick eyelashes flapped slowly. He was stroking the back of Lin Xinyan’s hand with his thumb.

“Peichuan, do you still have men you trust?” asked Zong Jinghao in a flat tone, to which Shen Peichuan replied, “I do.”

Zong Jinghao then instructed, “Stakeout the Chen family and capture Chen Shihan the second she appears.” There was no other way for Lin Xinyan to prove her innocence besides Wen Qing’s testimony.

*Obviously, Wen Qing’s not going to cooperate since he wanted me to marry Chen Shihan. But what if kidnap her?*

*Maybe then, I can blackmail him.*

Shen Peichuan and Su Zhan looked at each other and wondered how the Chen family was involved and why Zong Jinghao wanted to kidnap Chen Shihan.

“They wanted me to marry Chen Shihan,” revealed Zong Jinghao.

“Has Wen Qing gone mad?” exclaimed Su Zhan angrily at the revelation, which earned him a look from Zong Jinghao. After being reminded that he was too loud, Su Zhan quickly covered his mouth.

“You guys should go.”

Zong Jinghao wanted some time alone with Lin Xinyan.

“I’ll go personally,” informed Shen Peichuan because he knew how important the task was to Zong Jinghao. It could very well be the turning point that Zong Jinghao needed.

“Let me know if you need anything,” offered Su Zhan, to which Shen Peichuan replied readily, “I will.”

Seemingly concerned that Zong Jinghao would take Lin Xinyan away with him, Captain Chen sat at the entrance when Shen Peichuan and Su Zhan left the building.

However, the captain's worries were for nothing. Zong Jinghao would never do that because hiding Lin Xinyan would not solve the root of the problem. On the contrary, it would only make Lin Xinyan look even guiltier if an arrest warrant were issued.

After closing the door, Zong Jinghao lay down beside Lin Xinyan and wrapped his arm around her head. Suddenly, he felt his phone vibrating.

Getting a call at such bad timing, Zong Jinghao frowned, feeling annoyed as he answered the call. On the other side of the phone was Lin Ruixi. "Daddy."

Zong Jinghao responded softly, "Yes, dear."

"Have you eaten yet?" asked the little girl concernedly.

"I have." Again, Zong Jinghao replied to his daughter softly.

Over at the Zongs', Lin Xichen and Li Zhan were standing next to Ruixi, who was on the phone. Li Zhan was mouthing at Ruixi, getting her to ask Zong Jinghao when he would come back with Lin Xinyan.

Li Zhan needed to talk to Lin Xinyan about the program because the next morning would be the twenty-fourth hour of the game. They need to open the handcuffs in public.

Besides looking after the children, the other reason he came over that day was to discuss the matter with Lin Xinyan, who was still not back.

That was why he had Lin Ruixi call Zong Jinghao over the phone.

“Daddy, when are you coming home with Mommy?” Li Zhan gave Lin Ruixi a thumbs-up for understanding what he was mouthing.

Looking at Lin Xinyan, who was still sound asleep, Zong Jinghao whispered, “Daddy and Mommy have something to do, so we’re not going back yet.”

Frowning, the little girl complained, “Are you guys going somewhere fun and leaving Lin Xichen and I behind?”

Li Zhan was dumbfounded when informed that Lin Xinyan was not coming back.

*Where am I supposed to find Lin Xinyan?*

Li Zhan then took the phone from Lin Ruixi. “Let me talk to your father.”

“Why aren’t you coming back, Jinghao? I’m still waiting for you at home.”

Zong Jinghao further lowered his voice when he heard Li Zhan on the phone. “Stay a few more days, Ji.”

He trusted Li Zhan, who had been Lin Xichen’s teacher. He was familiar with the children, so Zong Jinghao trusted him to look after them.

Baffled, Li Zhan wondered why Zong Jinghao would ask him to stay at the villa when the man had never agreed to his request to stay there before.

*Something seems off about Zong Jinghao.*

“Is something wrong, Jinghao? Do you need my help?”

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 402

“Take care of the two little ones for me.”

That was the only help Zong Jinghao needed.

Li Zhan nodded solemnly. “You can count on me!”

Probably disturbed by Zong Jinghao’s voice, Lin Xinyan suddenly groaned as she moved her body. Zong Jinghao immediately hung up the phone to embrace Lin Xinyan and rub her back. “It’s fine. Go back to sleep.”

He was unsure if Lin Xinyan was actually awake, but she stopped moving after that.

Looking down at Lin Xinyan, Zong Jinghao caressed her cold cheek softly. As if she were a cloud that could dissipate anytime, Zong Jinghao was as tender as he could with his touch.

He was head over heels for Lin Xinyan.

After a night of staying by Lin Xinyan’s side, Zong Jinghao received a text from Shen Peichuan to see the news the next morning.

The homicide case at the bar was all over the news. There were so many rumors and speculations going around that it was overwhelming.

On the internet was a one-minute video showing how Lin Xinyan had aimed a gun at He Ruize before firing.

The comments were almost entirely one-sided; most of them demanded Lin Xinyan to pay for her sin. Some of them even speculated that it was a crime of passion and that the girl in the video had shot the guy because he cheated on her.

It would only get worse if the situation were left to fester, so Zong Jinghao called Aunt Yu to take care of Lin Xinyan. He also had Guan Jing arrange for security detail at the hospital in case reporters discovered Lin Xinyan's location.

Before he could capture Chen Shihan, Zong Jinghao had to stop the news from spreading like wildfire.

Otherwise, the situation would get out of hand.

Zong Jinghao had his company's Department of Public Relations hold the person who released the video accountable for their action. The video was not official, and it only served to spread rumors, so Zong Jinghao could have the person prosecuted for spreading rumors and neglecting civil liability. It was an act of defamation against Lin Xinyan.

Everyone in the company knew who Lin Xinyan was to Zong Jinghao, so they were careful not to discuss the matter in fear of provoking the man.

Since he came to the company in the morning, Zong Jinghao had been busy giving all kinds of orders to deal with the situation.

The news was so widespread that even Li Zhan, who had been staying inside, heard about it. Afraid that Lin Xichen might see the news, Li Zhan took her phone away.

Li Zhan finally realized why Zong Jinghao did not come back the day before and even asked him to stay with the children.

While he was still figuring out how to go outside safely, Li Zhan noticed Cheng Yuxiu and Zong Qifeng on their way out. "Wait! You saw the news, right?"

Cheng Yuxiu nodded and explained that they were about to go looking for Zong Jinghao. They wanted to ask him about the situation.

“Just stay home. Look after Ruixi and Xichen. That’ll be a big help for Jinghao. I know my way around the internet, so I might be able to do something about it. I’ll go look for him instead.”

After some thought, Cheng Yuxiu agreed with Li Zhan and looked at Zong Qifeng. “You should go with him. I’ll stay and look after the children.”

Zong Qifeng nodded. “Call me if anything comes up.”

Li Zhan quickly grabbed hold of the car key. “I’ll drive.”

“What’s wrong?” asked Lin Xichen, who noticed how strange everyone seemed. Cheng Yuxiu comforted her, “Your father has some issues at work that he needs to take care of. They’re just going there to check how he’s doing. You have to believe that your father’s going to be alright.”

Cheng Yuxiu deliberately told Lin Xichen that Zong Jinghao had work-related problems. Unlike Lin Ruixi, Lin Xichen was far too smart to be convinced that nothing was wrong.

“Then, why isn’t Mommy back either?” asked Lin Ruixi while Lin Xichen sat aside, wondering why Li Zhan took away his tablet if Zong Jinghao was only having work-related problems.

After picking Lin Ruixi up, Cheng Yuxiu explained, “Well, since Daddy has problems at work, Mommy’s got to help him out too.”

“Then, how can Xichen and I help out?” The little girl innocently asked.

Caressing Lin Ruixi’s cheek, Cheng Yuxiu assured her, “As long as you stay home and don’t cause any trouble, you’re already doing them a big favor.”

Nestling in Cheng Yuxiu's arms, the little girl nodded and promised, "I won't cause Daddy and Mommy any more problems. I'll be good."

Cheng Yuxiu hugged Lin Ruixi and ran her fingers through the little girl's hair. "What a good girl you are, Ruixi!"

On the other hand, Lin Xichen did not have much to say. "I'll be in my room, Grandma."

"Xichen... Are you okay?"

"I'm fine. I'm just heading back to my room to work on *Secret Base*."

"You should let us help you, then," offered Cheng Yuxiu, who was still carrying Lin Ruixi.

"No, I'm good." Lin Xichen quickly waved his hands, "I can do it on my own."

Then, he hurried back into his room and locked the door. Lin Xichen was afraid that Cheng Yuxiu would discover that he had lied about playing with *Secret Base*.

After leaning against the door for a while, Lin Xichen ran to grab his phone by the pillow and called Lin Xinyan, whose phone was taken away for inspection at the police station. It was then returned to her and left on the table in her ward after she came out of the operation room.

Lin Xichen's call woke Lin Xinyan when her phone rang.

Afraid that it would disturb Lin Xinyan, Aunt Yu was about to put the phone away when Lin Xinyan turned to look at her. "Give me the phone."

After seeing Lin Xichen's name on display, Aunt Yu passed the phone to Lin Xinyan, who was trying hard to sit up.



Aunt Yu hurried over to help her out and put a pillow on her back. “You shouldn’t move around now.”

Without responding to Aunt Yu, Lin Xinyan answered the call.

“Mommy!” exclaimed Lin Xichen excitedly. The young boy had thought that the call was never going to go through.

Even though she was still weak, Lin Xinyan tried to regulate her breathing. “Hey, Xichen.”

“Where are you? Are you at Daddy’s office? Grandma said something came up at work. Is it true that you’re helping him out?” Lin Xichen bombarded a series of questions on Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xinyan touched the side of her bed, and it was cold, which meant that Zong Jinghao had left her side for quite a while.

“Yes, it is. You’ll have to listen to Grandma and stay home, okay?” Lin Xinyan suspected that Cheng Yuxiu was already aware of the situation since she made up something like that to appease her grandson.

“Then, when are you coming back, Mommy? I miss you.” For some reason, Lin Xichen felt that something was off and really wanted to see his mother.

As Lin Xinyan tightened her grip on the phone, her voice broke uncontrollably, “Be good, Xichen. I’ll see you soon back at home.”

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 403

“Okay, Mommy. I promise I’ll be good, but you have to promise me that you’ll tell me if anything’s wrong. I’m worried about you.”

Perhaps she got emotional because she was still weak, but Lin Xinyan choked up the second she heard those words. She feared that her son would find out the truth and that she might not be able to solve the problem.

Clenching her fist in the other hand, Lin Xinyan tried her best to sound strong. “I have work to do, Xichen. I’m going to have to hang up now.”

“Okay...”

Lin Xinyan did not wait to see if Lin Xichen had more to say before hanging up on the call.

After that, Aunt Yu brought Lin Xinyan something to eat. “You must be hungry.”

Instead of hunger, all Lin Xinyan could feel was heartache.

“I’m not. I just...” responded Lin Xinyan as she looked at Aunt Yu.

“You have to eat something. Especially now that you’re weak,” interrupted Aunt Yu before Lin Xinyan could finish. With a bowl of food in hand, the former sat down by the bed and looked intently at Lin Xinyan. “Before Young Master left, he ordered me to take good care of you, so that includes feeding you. It’s not just you now – you have to consider your baby too. This is good for the both of you.”

Aunt Yu did not know about Lin Xinyan’s health condition, only that the woman was bedridden because of the risk of miscarriage in her pregnancy.

To her, Lin Xinyan was already too thin. The baby might not have enough nutrition to absorb if the mother refused to eat anything.

“Young Master was concerned about your appetite, so he ordered light meals for you. Try this bird’s nest from Malaysia. The domestic ones are so highly processed that they have no quality whatsoever. Have some for the sake of the child,” advised Aunt Yu as she brought the bowl forward.

When Aunt Yu mentioned the bird’s nest, Lin Xinyan was reminded that the delicacy was made of swiftlets’ solidified saliva.

The thought made Lin Xinyan’s stomach churn, so she lifted the quilt, about to get out of bed. Shocked, Aunt Yu quickly put the bowl aside and stopped Lin Xinyan from moving. “You can’t get out of bed. Wait for me here while I get the bucket.”

Aunt Yu then hurried over to the bathroom and got Lin Xinyan a bucket for her vomit.

Because her stomach was empty, all Lin Xinyan could throw up was stomach acid, but it did make her feel better.

Heartbroken, Aunt Yu patted Lin Xinyan’s back to soothe her nausea. “You can’t go on like this.”

After that, the latter straightened up. “I need water.”

“Okay.” Aunt Yu was about to set the bucket down in front of Lin Xinyan but then changed her mind because it might gross the woman out. She took the bucket away before washing her hands and got Lin Xinyan a glass of water.

“I need to gargle,” informed Lin Xinyan, so Aunt Yu went to the bathroom once more to clean the bucket before bringing it to Lin Xinyan again.

After some gargling, Lin Xinyan felt much better as her nausea went away.

“How should I get you to eat something?” asked Aunt Yu worriedly.

At that moment, a doctor came into the room with nurses and assistants to do their rounds. The doctor approached Lin Xinyan and inquired about her condition, “Any abdominal pain?”

“No,” replied Lin Xinyan while the doctor flipped through her records. “Do you know your physical condition?”

Lin Xinyan nodded; she remembered the doctor telling her that she could no longer give birth after Lin Ruixi and Lin Xichen.

The pregnancy was quite a surprise to her.

“Your physique is relatively weak, and your uterus was injured from your last pregnancy. Your uterine wall is thinner now, so there’s a high risk of miscarriage. You have to be bedridden for the first three months to give the fetus some time to stabilize. We’ll plan the following treatments according to your situation,” explained the doctor.

“I understand. I want to keep the baby,” responded Lin Xinyan.

Though it was not the perfect timing, Lin Xinyan wanted to keep her child anyway.

“Good! Then you’ll stay in the hospital for observation this week. If there’s no more abdominal pain or bleeding by the end of the week, you can rest home as long as you come back for prenatal visits,” instructed the doctor before continuing, “I do see that you’re rather weak, so you should eat more. That’ll help with the pregnancy and get you stronger.”

“But she’s throwing up and losing her appetite. Do you have anything to stop the vomiting so she can eat?” asked Aunt Yu.

It was normal for pregnant women to suffer from nausea, so some would take vitamins for more serious cases. Still, the doctor did not recommend Lin Xinyan to take supplements because of her condition. “She should have more light meals with smaller portions. I’ll set up a diet plan for her. It should help reduce her vomiting.”

Then, Aunt Yu pointed at the bird’s nest on the table. “But she couldn’t even have something as light as this.”

After glancing at the bowl, the doctor informed Lin Xinyan, “You can have some of this. It’s light in taste, so your body can absorb it easily. Plus, the sialic acid in the solidified swiftlet saliva is very beneficial for the fetus’s neurodevelopment...”

At the mention of saliva, Lin Xinyan could not help but get nauseous again.

Aunt Yu hurriedly get the bucket for Lin Xinyan, but luckily the pregnant woman was just retching.

Looking at Lin Xinyan’s condition, the doctor gave in. “I’ll prescribe a nutrient injection for you.”

The retching obviously meant that Lin Xinyan was on an empty stomach.

“Yes, that’d be great,” stated Aunt Yu, who still thought that Lin Xinyan needed nutrition.

“Get more rest,” advised the doctor, to which Lin Xinyan agreed.

Not long after the doctor left, a nurse came to give Lin Xinyan an injection. She had received a prescription for a day’s injection but still relied mainly on solid food.

At the Wanyue Group building, Li Zhan and Zong Qifeng burst into Zong Jinghao’s office without knocking first, but there was no one inside. Zong Jinghao

was drafting documents for the prosecution with Su Zhan in the Department of Public Relations.

The news spread overnight, so it was obvious that Wen Qing had something to do with the deliberate act.

“There are internet trolls.” Those were netizens who posted extremely aggressive comments accusing Lin Xinyan of murdering with a gun, committing a public-order crime, etc.

It would not be enough to deal with those media only because those keyboard warriors were the root of the problem.

Zong Jinghao came up with an idea to deter people from spreading the rumor. “Hone in on the more outstanding individuals. Get their ID and prosecute them.”

“You need professionals to get the IDs.” The plan required technical personnel because it involved people’s personal privacy.

At that moment, someone suddenly opened the door, and standing there at the entrance was Li Zhan, the good-looking lad who had picked up a few tricks from his time at AC. “Leave that to me.”

After grabbing a chair, Li Zhan took a laptop from the person next to him and started working.

First, he locked onto the three most active accounts in the comment section.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 404

They each had a role to play, and everything was progressing according to plan.

“Come with me. I need to talk to you.” Zong Qifeng then walked to the reception room, where the sunlight was coming into the spacious room through the window. Zong Qifeng waited for Zong Jinghao at the window with his hands behind his back before asking, “What’s going on? Did you offend somebody?”

It was obvious to him that what had happened was not natural but deliberate.

After all, Zong Qifeng was once a formidable figure. Even though he had retired, he was still as sharp as ever.

Zong Jinghao stood beside his father at the window with his hands in the pockets, still wearing the clothes he had on the day before.

There was stillness in his eyes, and his facial features looked cold but gorgeous, giving Zong Jinghao an intimidating aura that kept people around him on their feet.

Zong Qifeng knew there was still estrangement between his son and himself, but he offered to help anyway, “Is there anything I can do?”

He decided to disregard Zong Jinghao’s indifference towards him. It was much more important to deal with the problem at hand.

“There’s none, so go home,” replied Zong Jinghao coldly.

Before Zong Jinghao could walk away, Zong Qifeng inquired, “Do you know who’s behind it?”

Zong Jinghao paused briefly after the question but did not reply, "Take good care of Xichen and Ruixi for me."

"You don't have to worry about the children, but we need to talk when this is over. Some things are not what they seem on the surface," insisted Zong Qifeng as Zong Jinghao continued to walk away from him.

Zong Jinghao had a pretty good guess of what his father wanted to talk about. It had to be about Cheng Yuxiu, the reason for the estrangement between the two.

"We'll see."

That was Zong Jinghao's final response before leaving Zong Qifeng in the quiet room. The former's phone rang when he got back to the Department of Public Relations' office. It was Shen Peichuan calling. "Chen Shihan's not coming out. We need to find a way to lure her out."

Chen Qing had told Chen Shihan not to go outside for that period of time, and she had listened and stayed home, only taking occasional walks in the neighborhood park.

Living in a secured neighborhood, Chen Shihan would be difficult to capture as long as she stayed inside.

"Why don't you ask to meet her?" suggested Shen Peichuan. Even though it was not a good time for them to meet, they needed to capture Chen Shihan to stop Chen Qing and Wen Qing from using Lin Xinyan to force Zong Jinghao to marry Chen Shihan.

"Done! The rest is up to you," informed Li Zhan, who had successfully acquired the IDs of those internet trolls before letting Su Zhan handle the next part.

Su Zhan, who specialized in law, would know how best to prosecute the trolls.



Looking at Li Zhan, Zong Jinghao realized that he could not personally draw out Chen Shihan because of Lin Xinyan's condition, but Li Zhan definitely could. After all, Li Zhan was familiar with Chen Shihan, and Wen Qing was close with Chen Qing.

"Ji, come with me to the office," Zong Jinghao ordered.

The timing could not be better for Li Zhan, who wanted to talk to Zong Jinghao about the current situation.

Li Zhan jumped to his question before they even had time to close the door behind them. "Who is framing Lin Xinyan?"

The answer to that question would only further complicate things for Li Zhan, so Zong Jinghao turned his back to Li Zhan, refusing to reply.

"I need you to do something."

"Name it. I'll do whatever I can." Li Zhan would never turn Zong Jinghao down.

"You're familiar with Chen Shihan, aren't you?" asked Zong Jinghao as he finally turned to face Li Zhan, who then nodded. The latter was unsure of how Chen Shihan was relevant to the seemingly complicated situation.

"Does this have anything to do with the Chen family?" Li Zhan could not help but ask.

"You don't need to know. You just have to draw Chen Shihan out."

If Li Zhan knew why Zong Jinghao wanted Chen Shihan, he would be able to see the big picture, but he also knew that that was not what Zong Jinghao wanted. After staring at Zong Jinghao for a few seconds, Li Zhan made him a promise before leaving, "I'll draw her out."

Li Zhan decided that he would stop asking questions. He would just get the job done if Zong Jinghao did not want him to know the whole truth.

After reaching the underground parking lot, Li Zhan's phone rang when he got inside his car. It was Fatty Long calling.

Li Zhan was supposed to go to the mall with Lin Xinyan because the game was not over yet.

"I don't have time for this now." After turning on the speakerphone and throwing it onto the passenger seat, Li Zhan drove out of the parking lot.

"But you have to come..." insisted Fatty Long because the game was bound to a contract, which stated that failure to complete it would result in penalties.

"I just told you. I don't have the time now," repeated Li Zhan before hanging up the phone, but it soon rang again.

Li Zhan answered the call and roared, "Figure it out yourself!"

After that, he turned off the phone to prevent Fatty Long from calling again.

Speedily, Li Zhan drove to the Chens' place near his house. He had gone to the same school as Chen Shihan, and she would always follow him around.

After parking by the roadside, Li Zhan knocked on their door. Only Chen Shihan and Mrs. Chen were home – Chen Qing was nowhere to be seen. Mrs. Chen was the one who opened the door, and she was glad to see Li Zhan. "When did you come back, Ji?"

"Just recently," replied Li Zhan smiling.

“Come on in,” invited Mrs. Chen as she stepped aside to let Li Zhan in. “I know you always had a bad temper, but you really should visit your father more often. After all, you’re his family.”

Given the relationship between the two families, Mrs. Chen had no reason not to be straightforward.

“Can I have some water?”

Li Zhan was already an adult who knew what he was doing, so he had no interest in discussing the matter.

Mrs. Chen patted her thighs abruptly. “Where are my manners! Let me get you something to drink first. What would you like?”

“Plain water will do.” Li Zhan sat on the sofa, glanced at the second floor, and asked tentatively, “Why don’t I see Shihan? Is she at home?” It feels like I haven’t seen her in a long time. “

“She’s upstairs. Been cooped up at home for the past two days,” answered Mrs. Chen as she poured him a glass of water.

“I see.” *As long as she’s home, I’ll find a way to get her out.*

“Here’s your water.” Mrs. Chen handed Li Zhan a glass.

“What’s she doing all day at home? Doesn’t she get bored?”

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 405

“God knows what that child is... “ Suddenly, Mrs. Chen realized Li Zhan wanted to see Chen Shihan. Mrs. Chen had always thought that the two would make a good match. After all, they were about the same age, and they had known each other since childhood.

Thinking that it was a good time to play matchmaker, Mrs. Chen changed her tone, saying, “I’ll go get her. You young people should talk more often.”

Li Zhan was more than happy to comply because that was why he had come over, after all.

Chen Shihan was going through all the news about Zong Jinghao on financial channels when Mrs. Chen opened the door to her room. “Shihan... “

Chen Shihan immediately slammed her laptop shut. “Mom! Why didn’t you knock first?”

“Sorry. I forgot.” Mrs. Chen then glanced at the laptop. “Where were you looking at?”

“Nothing,” answered Chen Shihan as she put her laptop away. “What is it?”

“Ji’s here to see you,” informed Mrs. Chen. That piece of news stunned Chen Shihan. “Wen Xiaoji’s back?”

Mrs. Chen nodded. “I heard he just got back recently, and now he’s here to see you, so... “

“Mom,” interrupted Chen Shihan with an ‘okay’ sign to stop her mother because she already knew that the woman was going to convince her how good a match she and Li Zhan would make.

Mrs. Chen had no idea that Chen Qing wanted their daughter to marry Zong Jinghao.

Chen Shihan stood up and walked to the door, but Mrs. Chen was not ready to give up just yet. “Shihan, the Wen family would make a perfect... “

“Mom,” interrupted Chen Shihan once again as she was getting annoyed. “I don’t like him, so please stop trying to get us together, okay?”

Mrs. Chen could not understand why Chen Shihan did not like a nice guy with a great family background like Li Zhan.

“Shouldn’t girls go for guys they’re familiar with? Li Zhan comes from a decent family that has a great relationship with ours. Why not consider him?”

To stop her mother from nagging, Chen Shihan informed her seriously, “Mom, there’s someone else that I like.”

“Who?” Chen Shihan had already rejected countless men because of her high standards. It was only natural for Mrs. Chen to be curious about the person who managed to caught her daughter’s attention, but Chen Shihan did not divulge her any information. “You’ll know by then.”

After that, Chen Shihan slipped into her slippers and headed downstairs. “When did you come back?”

Li Zhan lifted his head to look at Chen Shihan. She was smiling at him as she walked down the stairs. “Not too long ago.”

After joining Li Zhan on the couch, Chen Shihan grabbed an apple and started munching. “To what do I owe the honor?”

“It’s been quite a while, hasn’t it?”

Chen Shihan gave it some thought. “Almost two years, I believe. The last time I saw you was during New Year. You didn’t come back for the last two.”

“Time flies! Now you’re all grown up! Seeing anyone yet?”

Zong Jinghao’s face flashed through Chen Shihan’s mind, and somehow, the apple tasted sweeter. “I am.”

“I know how picky you are, so who’s this lucky guy?” Li Zhan once heard from Li Jing how Chen Shihan walked away from a blind date and complained about the other guy’s appearance.

Her date was actually not that ugly, and he had a decent family background, but Chen Shihan had walked away anyway like he was nothing.

Chen Shihan looked intently at Li Zhan for a few seconds. “It’s someone you know.”

“I do? Who?” Li Zhan grew curious because he did not have many friends, and even fewer were near Chen Shihan’s age.

As they talked, Mrs. Chen was all ears, trying to find out who that mysterious person was.

“I can’t tell you yet. You’ll find out eventually, and by then...” Chen Shihan trailed off.

*By then, I’ll be introduced as Zong Jinghao’s wife.*

“Trying to be mysterious, are we?” As much as he was curious about Chen Shihan’s boyfriend, Li Zhan did not forget why he came. “You up for some fun?”

Chen Shihan looked at him contemptuously. "I'm down for it, but you sure you're okay with us hanging around here? After all, you're a superstar now, and people are bound to recognize you."

In response, Li Zhan shot her a look. "Are superstars not living, breathing human beings? I'll hang out wherever I want, whether people recognize me or not."

Smiling, Chen Shihan took the bait. "Give me a second. I'm going to go change."

"I'll be here waiting," responded Li Zhan.

About ten minutes later, Chen Shihan came back downstairs in a gorgeous outfit.

"Let's go." Li Zhan stood up and was ready to leave.

"Where are we going?" asked Chen Shihan before Li Zhan looked at her with a strange look on his face. "You'll see."

"Is it a surprise for me?" asked Chen Shihan, smiling gladly.

Li Zhan then squinted at her. "Something like that."

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 406

As curious as Chen Shihan was, she did not continue questioning Li Zhan since it was supposed to be a surprise.

When the two reached outside, a jeep drove into the driveway, and Chen Qing stepped out of the car. “Ji? You’re back?”

Li Zhan responded with a polite nod. Chen Qing questioned, “You guys are going out?”

Chen Shihan nodded. “It’s been a while, so he asked me out for some fun.”

If it were any other time, Chen Qing would not stop them from going out, but not then.

Chen Qing had people spreading the news about Lin Xinyan’s alleged murder to pressure Zong Jinghao. For the same reason, Chen Qing had come home to pick up Chen Shihan before going over to the Wens’.

“You can’t go out with Ji today. I promised Uncle Wen that we’d meet him at his house later.”

“At my house?” Li Zhan started to panic because he was so close to bringing Chen Shihan out.

*This won’t do. I have to figure something out!*

“I think you guys will do fine without us. Shihan and I have our own plans.” Li Zhan then put his arm around Chen Shihan’s shoulder to have her walk with him.



Having cooped up at home for several days, Chen Shihan wanted to go out and have some fun too, so she did not resist Li Zhan.

“Shihan! Did you not hear what I said?” Chen Qing’s words stopped Chen Shihan in her tracks, and she turned back to her father. “Dad, please.”

“We haven’t seen each other for a while, Mr. Chen. We’re just going out for some fun, and I promise to send her... send her back safely afterward.” Li Zhan hesitated because he was not sure if he could live up to that promise.

*Can I actually send Chen Shihan back home safely?*

*Why does Zong Jinghao want me to draw her out?*

At that moment, Li Zhan realized that the matter at hand involved not only the Chen family. It also involved his own father.

“Since Mr. Chen doesn’t want you to go out, I should probably head home with you guys then.” Li Zhan continued to play coy, and Chen Qing agreed to it after a brief silence.

He was unsure if Li Zhan knew what was going on, but he decided to leave that to Wen Qing.

The Chen family and the Wen family lived in a small neighborhood, and a park was the only thing that separated their houses, so there was no need to drive a car.

Chen Qing walked in front while Li Zhan stayed at the back with Chen Shihan, who asked, “What are you doing?”

After Li Zhan quickly covered Chen Shihan’s mouth and shushed her, she gave him a look to gesture the same question.

Li Zhan glanced at Chen Qing to make sure he was not alerted before whispering to Chen Shihan, “Be honest with me. Are you guys planning something with my dad?”

Chen Shihan turned to look at him. “Your father didn’t tell you?”

“Tell me what?”

“Why are you two whispering?” Suddenly, Chen Qing stopped and turned to look at the two.

“No reason,” responded Li Zhan immediately.

Chen Qing knew what was going on behind him all the while, but he kept quiet anyway. Li Zhan’s question to Chen Shihan assured Chen Qing that Li Zhan knew nothing about his conspiracy with Wen Qing, who had a reason for not telling his own son. After all, Wen Qing had always mentioned to Chen Qing how close Li Zhan was to Zong Jinghao on more than one occasion.

*Wen Qing must be concerned that Li Zhan would get in our way.*

Knowing that Chen Shihan would tell Li Zhan the truth, Chen Qing had to interrupt her since it could foil their plan.

“Come here, Shihan. I need to talk to you.” Chen Qing waved at Chen Shihan, who quickly realized that her father did not want her to divulge the information. She hurried over to him.

“You’re an adult now, so you should act like one,” advised Chen Qing to her daughter, who grabbed his arm while smiling. “I just hurried over to you. How’s that not adult-like?”

Li Zhan was still around, so Chen Qing glanced at his daughter and said nothing else.

When they reached the Wens', Li Zhan went up to the front door, but nobody was in the living room. Both Wen Qing and Li Jing were in the study. "Who spread the rumor?" asked Li Jing angrily when she eventually heard the news.

She knew Wen Qing had only wanted to separate Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan, but he had made things worse. If Zong Jinghao mistook Wen Qing for the man behind the scheme, it would be disastrous.

It was obvious to Wen Qing that the perpetrator had to be either the Chen family or the He family.

Since he was close to Chen Qing, the He family was seemingly the only possible suspect.

"Don't you think you should reconsider?" Li Jing had been losing sleep for the past two days worrying.

After a long sigh, Wen Qing promised, "There's no turning back now. I won't allow this woman at odds with Jinghao to remain beside him."

*Even the strongest man falls at the feet of a seductive woman. Zong Jinghao's been seduced by Lin Xinyan the same way his father's been seduced by Cheng Yuxiu.*

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 407

Zong Qifeng had once betrayed Wen Xian, and Wen Qing would not allow Zong Jinghao to make the same mistake.

*Wen Xian's son must not get close to Cheng Yuxiu!*

Li Jing sighed. She knew what Wen Qing had in mind, and she worried about some relationships being ruined if things got out of hand.

“Maybe you should ask Old Chen if he’s the one who did it,” suggested Li Jing, who thought that they should clear things up to prevent Zong Jinghao from misunderstanding Wen Qing.

After rubbing his forehead for a while, Wen Qing finally agreed with Li Jing, “Call Old Chen and ask to meet.”

After all, the situation could do a lot of harm to Lin Xinyan. It was fortunate that Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan had gotten married in secret. Otherwise, the problem could have spiraled out of control.

Li Jing just so happened to walk over to the door to open it when Li Zhan was about to knock.

“Didn’t you say you won’t be coming home for the next few days?” asked Li Jing.

Smiling, Li Zhan replied to his mother, “I changed my mind. Oh, and Mr. Chen’s with me.”

Glancing over Li Zhan’s shoulder, Li Jing noticed both Chen Qing and Chen Shihan. This meant that it was not necessary to call Chen Qing anymore. She

grabbed her son and went outside with him before turning to Chen Qing. “Wen Qing’s waiting for you in the study. He needs to talk to you.”

Chen Qing nodded in response. Ever since he released the news, he had already prepared himself for whatever Wen Qing had to say to him.

“Mind yourself, Shihan,” reminded Chen Qing, who was concerned that his daughter would divulge Li Zhan.

Knowing what her father meant by that, Chen Shihan nodded. “I will.”

When Chen Qing entered the study, Wen Qing pulled up a chair to seat them both by the window.

“I trust that you’ve already seen the new online?” Chen Qing broke the ice with a question, to which Wen Qing nodded honestly.

“That’s why I came. I admit that I could’ve done it better,” continued Chen Qing as he looked calmly at Wen Qing, who was surprised because he had thought it was supposed to be the He family.

“I shouldn’t have involved the He family if I knew how vengeful they are. The Hes hated Lin Xinyan, and He Wenhui even talked about using He Ruize’s death to frame her. I didn’t think that he’ll actually do it,” confessed Chen Qing guiltily before quickly changing the subject. “You and I enlisted at the same time, and we’ve been friends ever since, so I’ll be honest with you. Personally, I think we should just go with the flow at this point.”

Upon seeing how frank Chen Qing was, Wen Qing could only blame the He family, “So you’re saying... “

Chen Qing nodded. “It’s time to pressure Jinghao and force his hand.”

However, Wen Qing was hesitant. *Zong Jinghao won’t be compromised that easily, especially now that Lin Xinyan’s pregnant.*

“Do you think we have a choice? I gave up my own daughter for this,” reminded Chen Qing when he noticed Wen Qing’s hesitation.

“I’ll meet him soon.” Clenching his fists, Wen Qing was once again convinced that he could not disappoint Chen Qing – there was no other way.

“Does Ji know?” Chen Qing found it strange that Li Zhan, who rarely came home after he had grown up, would suddenly return to his home along with him and Chen Shihan.

Wen Qing shook his head. “I didn’t tell him. He’s too close with Jinghao. He’s been living his own life, and Jinghao has helped him a lot. I’m afraid that my son’s even closer to him than me.”

Wen Qing was glad that he got home in time to stop Chen Shihan from going out with Li Zhan. He was not even sure if he would see Chen Shihan again if she really did leave with Li Zhan.

“Do you think Jinghao’s told Li Zhan?” asked Chen Qing.

*After all, there’s no harm in telling Li Zhan. Zong Jinghao could tell Li Zhan the truth and still have the man on his side.*

“Jinghao wouldn’t,” answered Wen Qing, who was confident that Zong Jinghao would not want to complicate things for his friend by burdening him with the truth.

Glad to hear that, Chen Qing nodded in response. The fewer who knew, the lesser problems they would have. He then stood up, ready to leave. “I’ll be going now, then.”

“I’ll walk you to the door.”

When the two walked out of the study, Li Jing was preparing fruits on the coffee table. “Why don’t you stay for lunch?”

“No, thank you. I believe ours is waiting for us at home.” Chen Qing then turned to his daughter. “Let’s go, Shihan.”

After the two left, Li Zhan decided not to hold back any longer as he openly questioned his father, “What are you guys plotting?”

He suspected that something was up when he noticed how Chen Shihan refused to tell him anything after her father had gone into the study.

“Are you giving me an attitude?” Wen Qing was not pleased with Li Zhan’s tone.

“There’s no attitude. I was just wondering what scheme you and Mr. Chen are plotting.” Li Zhan had a pretty good guess that he would rather it not be true.

*Not just anybody has what it takes to do something this serious to Lin Xinyan, not anybody who’s afraid of the Zongs and the Wens anyway. What seemed complicated to me at first is actually very simple. Jinghao wants me to draw out Lin Xinyan while Chen Qing seems to be scheming with my father. It can only mean that Jinghao needs Lin Xinyan to threaten them. What I don’t understand is why Chen Qing and my father are doing this.*

Displeased with his son’s accusation, Wen Qing scowled at Li Zhan, “I don’t see why I have to report our business to you, boy! I’m still your father, or have you forgotten that? You think you do not need manners just because you’re a superstar? You’re nothing but a clown!”

Noticing that her son was clenching his fists in anger, Li Jing quickly grabbed hold of Li Zhan. “Ji, you know your father didn’t mean what he said. That’s just his temper talking.”

Scoffing, Li Zhan pointed at Wen Qing. “When have you ever been happy with anything I do? You’re right. I’m a clown, and I’m going to be the most famous one in the country. What are you going to do about it?”

“Ji! You can’t talk to your father like that. Do you always have to fight him every time you see him? What happened to you two?” exclaimed Li Jing, whose eyes started to well up at the sight of the two hateful men. They were supposed to be father and son, but they seemed more like enemies to each other then.



# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 408

“If I’m ever given a choice, I will never choose him to be my dad!” Li Zhan shouted and flung Li Jing’s hand away before he darted out the door.

Sobbing on the couch, Li Jing complained to Wen Qing, “Our son is a grown-up now. Your words are too harsh. I would be mad as well if I put myself in his shoes. Ever since he’s born, you’ve always been busy, spending way more time in the military than at home, so he grew up like a child without a father. How could you ask him to join the military just like that?”

You even beat him when he rejected it. No wonder he refuses to obey you. Ask yourself whether you’ve been a good father. You keep saying that he’s rebellious, but you never care to find out why he always rebels against you.”

Li Jing was feeling increasingly aggrieved. She’d been taking care of the family alone all these years. Being stoic and blunt, her husband had never been gentle to her. They had only one son, but her husband fought with him every time they met one another. As a result, her family never felt warm and homey.

Tears trickled down Li Jing’s cheeks unceasingly as she cried her heart out.

“Stop crying already. It’ll be so embarrassing if anyone sees you now,” Wen Qing grumbled.

His wife stood up abruptly. “I won’t stop! I’ll go out and cry out loud in the neighborhood so everyone will see it, and you’ll be so embarrassed.”

“You’re being unreasonable!” Wen Qing turned around to walk away, rage filling him.

Li Jing screamed at him, “Wen Qing, let me warn you. If you ever fight with our son again, I’ll divorce you!”

The man was dumbstruck. The couple had been married for decades. Li Jing had always been diligent and docile, but she was now asking for a divorce.

“Are you insane?”

“Yes, I am, and it’s because of you! Despite being with you for decades, I’ve asked nothing from you. No matter what you do, I’ve always supported you unconditionally. But look at you, have you been tolerant and considerate toward me? All I want is only a loving and close-knit family.” Li Jing expressed her frustration and grief while wiping the tears off her cheeks with her hand. “How often were you with me when I was pregnant? I went to the hospital alone for every prenatal check-up. During the third trimester, my legs cramped, and I struggled to sleep at night, but you were not there to care for me.”

Wen Qing stood motionless in bewilderment. This was the first time Li Jing forgot herself and poured her heart out.

Despite being cold-hearted, he was moved by her words.

*I admit that I’ve overlooked my family when I was younger and focused on my career.*

*I know I’ve wronged her, but there’s no way I’m going to admit my fault. I can’t bring myself to apologize humbly and comfort her.*

After a while, he walked over and handed her a napkin. “That’s enough.”

However, the woman indignantly turned around and kept silent.

Wen Qing let out a helpless sigh. “You can’t expect me to coax you as if we’re still in our teenage years.”

His words made Li Jing's tears roll down her face even more uncontrollably.

*He is straightforward, as usual. I've never doubted his loyalty because I know he'll never cheat on me. However, he doesn't know how to treat me with care and gentleness.*

After years of living together, Li Jing understood her husband very well. She couldn't help but heave a sigh of frustration.

*I was only trying to scare him when I threatened to divorce him, but the indignation in my heart is unbearable.*

*Like all other women, I yearn to be loved and cherished by my husband.*

She pushed him away, turned around, and walked into the room.

Standing alone in the living room, Wen Qing didn't know whether he should go after her or just let it be.

*I've never felt so lost in my life. What should I do now?*

Taking a deep breath, he sat on the couch instead of looking for Zong Jinghao.

On the other hand, after leaving his house, Li Zhan did not go to Zong Jinghao. He looked for Su Zhan instead.

At that time, Su Zhan had just prepared a bill of indictment and was about to head to the court, but Li Zhan stopped him in his tracks.

"Su Zhan, can I talk to you for a minute?"

"No, I'm not free." Su Zhan rejected him straight away; he was too busy to entertain Li Zhan.

Nevertheless, Li Zhan brushed his rejection aside, grabbed his hand, and marched toward a secluded area. Giving him a sideways glance, Su Zhan said, "I'm busy now, so don't mess with me."

But Li Zhan kept walking. "I'm not messing with you."

Sensing his determination, Su Zhan gave in and followed him.

Stopping at a quiet spot beside the greenery, he stared intently at Su Zhan while asking, "Tell me, who is trying to harm Xinyan?"

With his brows knitted together, Su Zhan questioned him, "Don't you already know?"

*As Wen Qing's son, how can he not know what his father did?*

Li Zhan squinted his eyes, asking in a hesitant tone, "Was it... my dad?"

*God forbid that it has anything to do with my dad.*

Su Zhan's answer was like a slap in the face for him. "Why do you still ask me when you already know?"

Li Zhan was stunned for a few seconds.

*How is that possible? Why did he do that?*

"Hey, are you alright?" Su Zhan tapped his shoulder. "I have some errands to run, so I need to get going." Turning around, he was about to leave. In the next second, he seemed to have thought of something and turned back around to face Li Zhan. "If you're free, please try to convince your dad to settle the matter peacefully, or else everyone is going to get hurt."

Li Zhan snorted. "He's too puffed up to listen to anyone's advice."

Knowing that Li Zhan couldn't solve this issue, Su Zhan patted on the former's shoulder firmly. "Take care."

*He must be feeling distressed to get stuck between his dad and Zong Jinghao.*

After that, Su Zhan started to stride away.

"Su Zhan, do you know where Xinyan is now?" *I wonder how she is now. I really long to see her.*

Su Zhan parted his lips as if to say something, but he chose to bite his tongue in the end. "I don't."

*Lin Xinyan's current health condition doesn't allow her to have any visitors. If Zong Jinghao knows this, he surely won't want Li Zhan to disturb her.*

From Su Zhan's expression, Li Zhan could tell that he knew her whereabouts. "I won't let you go if you don't tell me."

Su Zhan stared at him. "Why are you behaving like a child?"

Li Zhan kept pestering Su Zhan, blocking him from leaving.

Having no other choice, Su Zhan caved in. "I can tell you, but you must not let your brother know that it was me who told you this."

Li Zhan replied, "Got it."

Finally, Su Zhan revealed which hospital Lin Xinyan was in. Then, Li Zhan let him go and headed to the hospital right away.

He parked his car and went into the hospital. When he arrived at the floor where Lin Xinyan was on, he found that the entire floor had been blockaded.

No outsider was allowed to go in.

There were police officers and Zong Jinghao's men guarding every entrance.

"I'm Ms. Lin's friend. Can you please inform her that I'm here? She'll certainly want to see me," Bai Yinning requested in his wheelchair. With much effort, he found out Lin Xinyan's whereabouts after reading the news, which had occupied every headline recently.

Meanwhile, Li Zhan saw from afar that a man was being blocked at the entrance, so he approached the man, whose face he had never seen. "Who are you?"

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 409

Bai Yinning raised his head and saw Li Zhan. Right then, he discreetly concealed all his emotions.

When he performed a background check on Wen Qing, he was surprised to find out that his son was a popular celebrity.

“I’m Ms. Lin’s friend,” Bai Yinning answered impassively.

Li Zhan gave him a nod.

*This man must have come to visit Lin Xinyan after watching the news. He seems to know her.*

“Please inform her that Li Zhan and... Wait, what’s your name?” Li Zhan paused mid-sentence and asked.

“Bai Yinning.”

However, the man guarding the entrance did not move an inch or let them in.

“What are you doing?” Li Zhan asked with a displeased face.

“I’m sorry, we can’t let anyone in.”

Li Zhan was speechless.

Initially, he had wanted to hide from Zong Jinghao that he came here to visit Lin Xinyan. However, he couldn’t get in without calling and getting Zong Jinghao’s permission.

As a result, he was caught in a dilemma.

On the other hand, Bai Yinning was certain that he wouldn't be able to get in on his own. Therefore, he had to tag along with Li Zhan. Looking up at Li Zhan, he asked, "Can't you go in?"

Li Zhan remained silent.

*It's not that I can't go in. I just don't know how to ask Jinghao. I have failed to achieve my task, and I've come here without his consent. Surely he'll be unhappy about this.*

"You should try to get in again since you're already here. Otherwise, it'll be such a waste," the man in the wheelchair urged Li Zhan to call Zong Jinghao so that he could go in.

*He's right. I should try calling Jinghao since I'm already at the hospital. I'm reluctant to leave just like that.*

Hence, he took out his phone and walked to the side to make a call.

The line was busy, so Li Zhan hung up on the call with a frown, planning to call again in a while.

But before he could do that, his phone rang with a call from Zong Jinghao, who had been on the phone with Shen Peichuan, saying that Li Zhan did not manage to lure Chen Shihan out.

The moment the call got through, Li Zhan called out, "Jinghao..."

"What's the matter?"

He parted his lips to say that he was at the hospital, but his voice was stuck in his throat.



“I was about to succeed, but Chen Qing bumped into us and brought his daughter back,” Li Zhan described briefly, without saying he already knew Wen Qing was involved in this.

Standing in front of the French window at the top floor, Zong Jinghao looked down at the bustling city.

“I’m sorry...” A sense of sorrow washed over Li Zhan. *I don’t know whether I should side Zong Jinghao against my dad or the other way round.*

*I’m unwilling to go against either one of them.*

*But my dad won’t let Jinghao off.*

*How did things end up this way? What can I do to solve this?*

This dilemma caused Li Zhan to feel utterly helpless and dismayed.

Meanwhile, Zong Jinghao’s expression hardened.

*Chen Qing is sharp-witted, so I’m not surprised that he couldn’t take Chen Shihan out. Hence, I have no bargaining chip to gain control of the situation to Lin Xinyan’s advantage.*

*I have an alternative. It’s just that...*

He gradually closed his eyes, which were filled with a mixture of emotions.

“Jinghao, I’m at the hospital now. I would like to visit Xinyan. Is that okay?” Li Zhan asked cautiously.

Instantly, Zong Jinghao’s eyes flipped open at his question. *Why is he at the hospital?*

“I won’t take too long. I only want to check on her on behalf of Xichen.” Li Zhan reacted quickly and used the young boy as an excuse. Otherwise, Zong Jinghao might get angry with him since he had done to the hospital without his permission.

“Don’t stay for too long. She’s unwell now,” Zong Jinghao reminded.

Li Zhan replied, “Sure. I’ll see her for a short while, and I’ll leave right after.”

Handing his phone to the guard, Li Zhan heard him acknowledge Zong Jinghao politely. When the guard passed the phone back to him, the call had already ended.

“Please go in,” The guard stood aside to let Li Zhan in.

Bai Yinning trailed behind Li Zhan on the way in, but the guard blocked him again.

“You’re not allowed to go in.”

Bai Yinning kept his cool. “We came together. Do you want me to call Zong Jinghao as well?”

The guard wavered when he heard Bai Yinning call Zong Jinghao by his name.

Li Zhan looked over his shoulder at Bai Yinning. “Do you really know Xinyan?”

“Yes, or else why would I come here? Besides, what can I do to her when I’m in a wheelchair?” Bai Yinning pretended to be aggrieved and irritated.

“Please allow him to come in together with me. We’ll leave in no time,” Li Zhan pleaded while looking at the guard, who hesitated for a moment before saying, “Please go in.”

Bai Yinning inwardly heaved a sigh of relief.

He quickly rolled his wheelchair to catch up with Li Zhan.

The entire floor had been block-booked, so it was quiet with no one else around. Walking through the corridor, the two found Lin Xinyan's ward at the end in no time.

Lin Xinyan was lying on the bed with an IV nutritional drip attached to her arm. Aunt Yu was keeping a close eye on her at all times; she was worried that something might happen to her.

Although Lin Xinyan had repeatedly asked her not to be overly cautious, she refused to listen and said, "You're pregnant now. Young Master appoints me to take care of you because he trusts me, so I can't let anything happen to you."

Feeling exasperated, she let Aunt Yu watch over and take care of her as if she was a toddler.

*Knock! Knock!*

Aunt Yu jolted when she heard a knock on the door. She looked at Lin Xinyan and asked, "Is Young Master here?"

Lin Xinyan felt kind of anxious. She had been in a daze last night, so she hadn't been able to see his face clearly.

*I used to wish to get pregnant again so that Jinghao can witness and experience the birth of his own child, as he has already missed out on Xichen's and Ruixi's birth.*

Under the blanket, her hands gripped the bedsheet tightly as she stared at the door.

Opening the door, Aunt Yu was about to say something. Then, her brows snapped together when she saw Li Zhan and a man in a wheelchair outside the door. *I know Li Zhan, but who is this man in a wheelchair?*

“Where’s Xinyan?” Li Zhan was the first to speak.

Aunt Yu hesitated briefly. “Who is this?”

“He’s Xinyan’s friend who wants to visit her,” Li Zhan answered.

Peeping through the gap in the door, Bai Yinning saw a brightly lit and spacious ward with a huge floor-to-ceiling window. He didn’t see Lin Xinyan, only managing to see the footboard of the bed.

“Alright.” Aunt Yu moved away to let both men in after knowing that they were friends.

Upon listening to their voices, Lin Xinyan knew that it wasn’t Zong Jinghao. She felt disappointed yet relieved at the same time because she had not figured out how she was going to face Zong Jinghao.

“Xinyan,” Li Zhan greeted her with a heavy heart.

She forced a weak smile. “Come on in. Take a seat.”

Li Zhan pulled a chair over and sat beside the bed, contemplating in silence.

“Just so you know, I’m on your side no matter what.” *I can’t allow my dad to be so reckless. Framing Xinyan for murder is a heartless act!*

*If he succeeds, this will taint her reputation for life. The public will see Xichen and Ruixi as the children of a murderer.*

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 410

Lin Xinyan froze briefly, but she quickly understood his words. *I didn't expect him to know of it so soon. I'm Zong Jinghao wouldn't tell him since Wen Qing is his dad.*

"It's not your fault, so you don't have to feel guilty about it." Lin Xinyan didn't want to force him to take sides. He could remain neutral and choose not to get involved.

*I have no complaints, even if he sides with Wen Qing. After all, the man is his dad.*

Li Zhan stood up and walked to the window. *Even Xinyan is considerate enough to think that I'm feeling guilty, but my dad never cares about my feelings.*

*My dad...*

Snapping out of his reverie, Li Zhan refused to think about his dad now. The only thing his dad ever gave him was feelings of disappointment.

"Tell Jinghao to let me know whenever he needs my help. I'll surely be there for him." With that, Lin Xinyan started walking away. Suddenly, he stopped in his track, turned around, and looked at Lin Xinyan. "How are you feeling now?"

Lin Xinyan answered with a smile, "I'm much better now, so don't worry."

"That's great. Otherwise, I won't be able to face Jinghao and Xichen." *My dad was the one who brought such sufferings upon her. Despite being on bad terms, I'm still his son.*

Lin Xinyan sighed helplessly. *Why must the younger generation get involved in the past grudges between the older generation?*

She was at a loss for words. The only thing she could do was to help him loosen up. "Maybe you should stay overseas for a while to unwind yourself."

*Then he'll be able to avoid this issue, which is putting him in much distress.*

Li Zhan smiled warmly at her. "No, I'm not going anywhere."

*This is not the right time for me to leave.*

After that, he darted a glance at Bai Yinning, who had been staring at Lin Xinyan without saying a word since he came in. He asked, "Is he your friend?"

Lin Xinyan nodded.

Li Zhan felt relieved – he didn't want to bring a stranger in to interrupt her rest.

"I'll get going now." *Is there any other way to solve this? I don't want to see my dad and Zong Jinghao become enemies.*

"Okay," Lin Xinyan responded lightly.

After Li Zhan left, Bai Yinning rolled his wheelchair closer to her.

Worry washed over him at the sight of her pale face. "Why didn't you tell me when such a severe thing happened to you?"

However, Lin Xinyan refused to talk about it with Bai Yinning, so she changed the subject. "Why are you still here?"

"Wen Qing set you up, didn't he?"

He pressed on and asked, “Lin Xinyan, is this a trivial matter to you?”

“This matter has nothing to do with you, regardless of its severity. Hence, don’t get involved and return to Baicheng. It’ll be hard for you to escape once you’re dragged into this mess,” Lin Xinyan persuaded him earnestly.

*Wen Qing wants Jinghao to marry Chen Shihan, and the Chen family must have agreed to the plan with a hidden agenda. This isn’t Baicheng or Bai Yinning’s territory, so he’s at their mercy. Why should he take the risk then?*

“Are you worried about me?” Staring at her, Bai Yinning’s gaze darkened.

Looking squarely into his eyes, Lin Xinyan said openly, “I care about you because you’ve saved me before. You’re not responsible for those things that happened in Baicheng, and you can’t help me solve my issue as well.”

A smile spread across Bai Yinning’s face. “How do you know I can’t help you?” Pausing briefly, his smile grew wider. “Don’t you think this is a golden opportunity for me to join forces with Zong Jinghao to defeat Wen Qing?”

Lin Xinyan narrowed her eyes at him. “You still refuse to let go?”

“Yes, I’ll never get over it. The ultimate purpose of my life is to avenge my adoptive father.” He slowly enunciated every word in a determined tone.

Previously, he had decided to leave because of Lin Xinyan’s advice, but the recent incident had changed his mind.

*Now that Zong Jinghao is against Wen Qing, he and I are on the same side. I can’t get rid of Wen Qing on my own, but I’ll stand a chance if Zong Jinghao joins forces with me.*

Realizing that it was impossible to convince him, Lin Xinyan said, “I’m tired.”

She was too exhausted to keep the discussion going.

Just when Bai Yinning reached out to hold her hand, the door opened. His hand froze in the air for two seconds before he withdrew it.

A nurse came over and removed the IV drip needle from Lin Xinyan's arm. "Please press the cotton ball against your arm for a while."

After taking away the IV infusion bottle, the nurse passed a recipe from the doctor to Aunt Yu. "Please prepare food according to this recipe. It helps to reduce her morning sickness."

"Sure, thank you." Aunt Yu nodded and walked the nurse out.

"You're welcome. It's our responsibility to do so." The hospital management had arranged the most experienced medical experts to look after Lin Xinyan because Zong Jinghao had personally gone looking for the hospital's Dean.

The nurse's words felt like a deafening thunder in Bai Yinning's head. *What? Morning sickness?*

*Is Lin Xinyan pregnant?*

Bai Yinning tried to say something, but his jaw felt too tense.

His voice got stuck in his throat as a wave of grief overwhelmed his senses.

*Having borne two children for Zong Jinghao, she is no doubt close to him. But it still shocks me to find out she's pregnant again. It's a bitter pill to swallow.*

In a croaky voice, Bai Yinning asked, "How long has it been?"

She answered honestly, "More than a month."



“Congratulations.” He plastered a smile on his face.

“Thank you.”

At the same time, Aunt Yu began studying the recipe. “I see. Broccoli is good for pregnancy.”

In fact, the greener the broccoli was, the higher its nutritional value.

The recipe included three main meals of the day and tea time. Most dishes had dark green, leafy vegetables that contained a higher level of folic acid. It was more easily assimilable and healthier compared to supplemental folic acid. Other than that, there was also protein-rich food like meat and shrimps in every meal.

“I can’t go back, so I’ll call and ask someone to prepare and send the food over.” Aunt Yu’s entire focus was on Lin Xinyan alone, constantly worrying about her appetite and morning sickness.

Hence, Lin Xinyan had gotten used to Aunt Yu’s care and attentiveness.

Just then, tension built up in Bai Yinning’s chest. “I’ll take my leave. Please rest well.”

“Sure. I’m sorry I can’t walk you out,” Lin Xinyan answered.

Bai Yinning chuckled. “You should take good care of yourself. Even if you don’t walk me out, I can still leave on my own.”

Afterward, he came out of the hospital in a daze, finding it hard to accept the reality.

Immediately, Gao Yuan followed after him. “Are you not going back?”

In need of some time to calm himself down, he waved his hand. After that, Gao Yuan pushed his wheelchair and ambled along the street outside the hospital, where there were restaurants, grocery stores, and florists.

Staring into the florist through the glass windows, Bai Yinning saw fresh and delicate flowers in their full bloom, giving off a lovely scent. Immediately, he asked Gao Yuan to stop. "Please buy a bouquet of roses for me..."