Sang Yu looked at Shen Peichuan before shifting her gaze towards the director sitting in front of him.

That's gotta be the guy who was interrogating Shen Peichuan!

"Is there a law that forbids university students from getting married?" she questioned him.

"N-No…"

"Is there a law that forbids those with a huge age gap from marrying each other?"

"No…"

"Is there a law that forbids a civil servant from marrying a university student?" Sang Yu pressed on.

The director cleared his throat. "No... As long as both individuals are of legal age and consent to the marriage, no one else but their parents are allowed to interfere."

Sang Yu pulled out her marriage certificate and waved it in front of him. "So, is it illegal for Shen Peichuan and I to get married? Huh?"

The director was speechless by her sudden outburst.

"Calm down, Sang Yu." Shen Peichuan walked over and tugged at her arm.

"How can I remain calm? They have no right to arrest you! You're putting your life on the line every day for your job, and this is what you get in return?" Sang Yu remembered the nasty things they said when they took him away earlier.

Sang Yu pointed at the director. "How is it a misconduct for him to marry me? Are you saying he doesn't have the right to get married?"

The director smiled. "My apologies. We only brought Deputy Chief Shen over to ask him some questions, and he has already answered them."

He then handed her Shen Peichuan's marriage certificate and said, "Here, see? We've already confirmed that you are a legally married couple, so this isn't a misconduct."

Sang Yu looked at the marriage certificate and blushed when she realized he had already explained everything.

Oh, my god! I just said all that for nothing! How embarrassing...

Shen Peichuan handed her the marriage certificate. "Here, you can hold on to mine too."

Sang Yu lowered her head in shame.

The director smiled. "I'm amazed at how you're willing to go all out for your husband!"

Shen Peichuan put his arm around her shoulder. "She's just a little frightened as this is all new to her..."

"Haha! She seems pretty brave to me!"

"I panicked because I didn't want to get him in trouble..." Sang Yu said.

"Don't forget to invite me to your wedding!" The director reached out and shook Shen Peichuan's hand.

"Will do."

The two then left the Prosecutors' Office after a brief exchange.

Sang Yu held his hand tightly. "I was so scared!"

"It's alright now," Shen Peichuan comforted her.

He knew she was worried about him, but he didn't expect her to come by so quickly.

Su Zhan snorted when he saw them being all lovey-dovey. "Hey! Are you lovebirds gonna get in or not?" He asked while getting into his car.

"Of course we are! I didn't drive here, you know?"

"Shen Peichuan, I can't believe you stole her heart without any of us realizing!" Su Zhan exclaimed.

Sang Yu giggled. "Actually, I'm the one who stole his heart."

Su Zhan pouted. "You mustn't spoil your man or you'll regret it later on!"

"I'll spoil my man all I want, and I'll deal with the consequences myself," Sang Yu said.

She simply liked Shen Peichuan too much not to spoil him.

Heh, your little sabotage attempt has failed, Su Zhan! I bet you must be feeling so jealous now that you're single while I've got myself a sweetheart!

Shen Peichuan thought to himself as he watched on.

"It's said that women turn into idiots when they're dating someone. Looks like that statement holds true, after all!" Su Zhan said while starting the car.

"I'm not dating anyone! I'm already married, remember?" Sang Yu said with a chuckle.

"Get out of my car, both of you!" Su Zhan couldn't help but sigh at how sad his love life was.

I found myself a lover before Shen Peichuan did, so how did he end up being the happier one? What did I do in my past life to deserve this?

Both Sang Yu and Shen Peichuan knew what he was thinking and burst into laughter.

"Stop laughing or I'll kick you two out right now!" Su Zhan pretended to be mad at them.

Shen Peichuan simply shot him a nonchalant glance and said, "Excessive jealousy is bad for your health, you know?"

Su Zhan snorted in response.

As if that even makes a difference for me... With how stressful my life is right now, I'd be surprised if I don't die young!

"Your stupidity is partly to blame, you know? You could just lie to your grandma and secretly adopt a child after marrying Qin Ya," Shen Peichuan said.

"Easier said than done!" Su Zhan had actually thought of that idea before. "I know my grandma very well. All she wants is grandchildren of her own, and she'd be pestering Qin Ya every day for it! You think Qin Ya would be able to put up with that?"

Shen Peichuan agreed. *Qin Ya is infertile, so Grandma Su's constant nagging would stress her out.* 

"Telling her the truth won't end well for you, though," Shen Peichuan reminded him.

"If the easy way doesn't work, I'll do it the hard way!"

"What do you mean the hard way? I doubt there's anyone harder than Grandma Su!"

"I'll threaten her with my life! That ought to soften her up!"

Shen Peichuan raised his thumb in approval. "That's my man!"

Su Zhan glared at him from the rear-view mirror. "Piss off! I don't need your sarcasm!"

"Oh, you could tell?" Shen Peichuan laughed.

"Do you take me for an idiot or something? Anyway, does Jinghao and Xinyan know about this?" Su Zhan got back on topic.

"I haven't had a chance to tell them."

He didn't want to bother Lin Xinyan, who was still in the hospital.

"My schedule is clear for today. You wanna go see them at the hospital?" Su Zhan looked back at him.

Shen Peichuan gave it some thought and replied, "Maybe later tonight. I've got some things to take care of back at the station."

"Sure, tonight it is!"

Su Zhan dropped Sang Yu off at Shen Peichuan's house before heading towards the police station.

"Thanks! Sorry to have troubled you like this!" Shen Peichuan said while getting off the car.

"Don't give me that bullsh\*t! They should lock you up in there!"

"I can lock you up if you keep that attitude with me!" Shen Peichuan chuckled.

"Oh, ha ha, very funny." Su Zhan stuck his head out the car window and gestured at him. "Get over here!"

"Why?"

"Just do it!"

This guy...

Shen Peichuan walked over reluctantly and asked, "Fine... What do you want?"

Su Zhan gave him a weird smile and winked at him, much to Shen Peichuan's confusion.

"What is it? Are you going to tell me or not? If not, I'm gonna walk away now!"

*Man, how dense is this guy?* Su Zhan cleared his throat and leaned closer to him.

"Have you two slept together?"

"F\*ck off!" Shen Peichuan shouted and walked off.

Su Zhan laughed when he saw his reaction. "You're not still a virgin, are you?"

Shen Peichuan ignored him and kept walking.

Hahaha! How the hell does a guy like Shen Peichuan even exist nowadays? Su Zhan felt his mood improve significantly at the thought of that.

"Deputy Chief Shen, are you okay? The guys from the Prosecutors' Office came by asking where you were, so we told them you went home. Nothing good ever comes out of those guys..." one of the policemen at the station asked when they saw Shen Peichuan return.

They were all very concerned about him.

"Yeah, I'm fine," Shen Peichuan said and made his way towards his office.

"Shen Peichuan?" Song Yaxin bumped into him when she came out of Captain Song's office.

She had a surprised look on her face, as if she didn't expect him to return so soon.

Shen Peichuan turned around and saw her standing behind him with a vicious expression on her face.

"You told my dad about me?" She was here at the station because Captain Song called her over.

He knew that the prosecutors came by earlier, and he had also stumbled upon pictures of Shen Peichuan and Sang Yu in his daughter's phone a few days ago.

Captain Song found out about the report from the prosecutors, and they showed him the pictures provided by the whistleblower.

That was when he fully understood what happened and called his daughter over.

He was only planning on asking her if she was the whistleblower, but she didn't know that and ended up telling him the true reason behind her divorce instead.

Captain Song was so angered by what he heard that he nearly fainted from it.

As a result, Song Yaxin thought Shen Peichuan had ratted her out to him.

Shen Peichuan shot her a disdainful look. "I've always been a man of my word, and I still am."

"You're lying! You must've told him! There's no way my dad would know about it!" Song Yaxin shouted angrily, her face twisted with rage.

Shen Peichuan stared coldly at her. "You know what you did. As for how Captain Song found out... Well, what can I say? There's no such thing as keeping a secret forever."

"You..." Song Yaxin went speechless and glared at him fiercely. If looks could kill, Shen Peichuan would've been dead a thousand times over.

Suddenly, she broke into a grin and sneered at him. "Why don't you drop the act already? You're no different from all the other men out there! I bet it must be fun doing it with a university student, huh?"

Shen Peichuan's expression grew ice-cold. "You'd better watch your tongue!"

Song Yaxin cackled. "So what if I don't, huh? What are you gonna do about it?"

The scariest kind of person is one who has nothing to lose, just like her. There's no way to reason with them at all.

Shen Peichuan thought to himself and reached for the door handle, but Song Yaxin was quicker and grabbed it first.

He immediately took a step back from the door to put some distance between them and glared at her with disdain in his eyes.

"What the hell do you think you're doing?"

"You went against your word, Shen Peichuan! If I'm going down, I'm taking you down with me! I'll make sure you..."

"You're the whistleblower."

Shen Peichuan cut her off before she could finish.

"We all have our boundaries. If you try anything funny again..."

"You'll do what, huh? Hit me?" Song Yaxin figured he wouldn't dare hit her and continued to provoke him. "Go on, do it! Hit me!"

"Yaxin!"

Captain Song was fuming when he came over.

"Get the hell out of here right now!" he ordered.

Song Yaxin was indignant as she felt that Shen Peichuan had lied to her.

"But he..."

"Are you trying to give me a stroke?" Captain Song held a hand to his chest, barely able to catch his breath.

Song Yaxin bit her lip and stomped her feet angrily before storming out of the police station.

Captain Song took a minute to calm down before saying, "Come in, Peichuan."

Shen Peichuan did as told and followed him into his office.

"Close the door," Captain Song said.

Shen Peichuan closed the door behind him and turned around, only to see Captain Song standing in front of him with his hands behind his back. He had lost a lot of weight ever since he got sick.

"Captain Song..."

"When did you find out about the reason behind her divorce?"

Captain Song's voice was a lot more hoarse than it used to be.

"I stumbled upon it by accident not long ago." Shen Peichuan kept his reply as conservative as possible.

He couldn't bring himself to tell Captain Song that Zong Jinghao was the one who looked it up.

Captain Song let out a huge sigh. "I'm such a huge failure."

I've failed to teach my daughter well, and now she has embarrassed me in front of my subordinates... There goes my dream of retiring with honor...

Shen Peichuan kept quiet as he didn't know what to say.

Song Yaxin was just like her mother, and anyone who messed with them was bound to have a hard time.

"Why didn't you tell me about it, then?" Captain Song asked.

"Because I didn't want you to worry about these things."

"Hmph..." Captain Song sat down in his chair. "Is that so?"

"Yes, sir..."

"Oh, don't give me that bullsh\*t!" Captain Song interrupted him. "Anyway, I'm old now. I'm thinking of an early retirement."

"Why?" I don't understand. Captain Song loves his job!

Captain Song gave him a very vague answer. "I'm tired, Peichuan. I want to rest. All right, you can get back to work now."

I can't bring myself to face Shen Peichuan any longer, especially after what my daughter did. I've been too busy with work while I was young and ended up neglecting my family as a result. Oh, how much I regret doing that! Had I spent more time with my wife and daughter, I would've noticed that change in her attitude and corrected her! She's turned out like this because of me...

Shen Peichuan figured he probably had his own reasons for it and decided not to ask any further. "I'll be on my way, then."

"I... I owe you one for not telling." Captain Song said as Shen Peichuan was about to leave.

He understood that Shen Peichuan had kept it from him out of respect for his dignity and pride.

"Don't mention it," Shen Peichuan said.

Even if he weren't that close with Captain Song, he still wouldn't have told anyone about it.

It was soon time to get off work, and Shen Peichuan made sure that everything had been taken care of at work before leaving his office.

By the time he got home, Sang Yu had already tidied up the table, washed his dirty clothes and hung them to dry on the balcony.

There was a half-eaten apple on the table, a book on the floor, and the television had been left on.

Sang Yu had fallen asleep on the sofa with a pillow in her arms.

Shen Peichuan treaded lightly towards her to pick up the book and turn off the television.

Sang Yu woke up when the noise from the television was suddenly gone. She slowly opened her eyes and began looking for her phone to check the time.

"When did you get back?" she asked.

Shen Peichuan sat down on the sofa. "Just now."

"It's so late..." Sang Yu said when she found her phone and saw what time it was.

She placed the phone on the coffee table and threw the half-eaten apple into the trash can.

"That man at the fruit stall told me this apple was sweet, but it wasn't sweet at all... I won't buy any fruits from that stall ever again. That liar..." she grumbled.

Shen Peichuan couldn't help but laugh at how adorable she looked when she said that.

"What are you laughing at?" Sang Yu gave him a confused look.

She thought he was laughing at her for overreacting.

Shen Peichuan shook his head. "I wasn't laughing."

"Yes, you were! Admit it!"

Shen Peichuan put on a straight face and said, "I just thought it was funny how you blamed the stall owner for a bad apple. What if that was the only bad apple at his stall, and you just happened to be the one to get it?"

His words seemed to make sense but also not at the same time.

Sang Yu sat down on his lap and wrapped her arms around his neck. "Whose side are you on? Why do I feel like you're taking that stall owner's side, huh?"

"Am I?"

"Yes, and I'm very sure of it!" Sang Yu whined coquettishly. "Tell me, are you on my side or that stall owner's?"

How could I possibly take that stall owner's side when I don't even know him?

"Of course I'm on your side." Shen Peichuan wrapped his arms around her waist.

"Prove it, then."

"How do I prove it?" Shen Peichuan asked.

"Kiss me." Sang Yu looked up at him and continued, "We're legally married, remember? People are gonna talk if they see you acting all awkward like this over a kiss."

"What are they gonna say?"

"They're gonna call you... Never mind." Sang Yu deliberately stopped herself halfway through her sentence to pique his curiosity.

"Go on."

Sang Yu shook her head. "Nope!"

"Okay, then."

At times like this, shouldn't he threaten to kiss me or tickle me into telling him the answer? Why'd he just stop there like that? I'm seriously starting to question his sexuality...

Sang Yu thought to herself and said sternly, "Don't be like this, Shen Peichuan! People will think you're abnormal!"

Shen Peichuan raised an eyebrow at her. "And how am I abnormal?"

"You're not behaving the way a normal guy would!" Sang Yu leaned closer towards him and whispered in his ear, "People might think you're not into women."

She then attempted to move away, but Shen Peichuan was quicker. With one swift motion, he grabbed her by the wrist and pulled her back into his arms.

Sang Yu rested her head against Shen Peichuan's chest. She then raised her head and placed a hand on her forehead before smiling dazedly. "I'm sorry."

No man could accept it when a woman said that a man was not a man.

It hurt a man's dignity and pride.

Shen Peichuan's expression became tense and he queried, "Sorry about what?"

Sang Yu clasped her hands together with her head bowed low and muttered, "I shouldn't have said that you were a man."

Shen Peichuan was flabbergasted.

Sang Yu noticed that something was off as well and hurriedly corrected herself, "I shouldn't have said that you were not a man!"

Shen Peichuan was lost for words. Why does this still sound like an insult?

"Well then, how do you intend to make up for it?" Shen Peichuan demanded sternly, but he had already forgiven her.

Sang Yu leaned against his body and replied softly, "I'll do whatever you want me to do, until you forgive me."

Shen Peichuan was unsure how to react to that.

He cleared his throat. "For starters, you should stay the night."

Sang Yu could not believe her ears. *Did Shen Peichuan just invite me to stay the night on his own accord? Are my ears deceiving me? Was it a slip of the tongue?* 

"Wh-What did you just say?" Sang Yu asked excitedly. She was a little nervous as well — even though she acted liberally in front of Shen Peichuan, it was her first time after all.

However, her excitement easily eclipsed her tension.

Shen Peichuan thought that she was having cold feet and blinked. "I-I meant..."

"You told me to stay the night," Sang Yu repeated, worried that he would change his mind.

Shen Peichuan added, "It's fine if you aren't mentally prepared."

"I am," Sang Yu hurriedly replied.

She then rested against his body once again. "If I wasn't prepared, I wouldn't have gotten married with you."

She then peered into Shen Peichuan's eyes with her clear black eyes and declared solemnly, "I always felt guilty about being with you."

Shen Peichuan furrowed his brows. "Why?"

Sang Yu pouted. "I always feel like I'm bringing you trouble."

He only got reported because of me.

Shen Peichuan patted her on the back and assured her, "This has nothing to do with you. It's my business."

Sang Yu knew that he was comforting her and kissed his chin. She asked coquettishly, "What will we be eating for dinner?"

"Su Zhan will be coming over and we'll go to the hospital together," Shen Peichuan replied.

Sang Yu finally recalled that they were supposed to visit Lin Xinyan at the hospital that day. She hurriedly got up and suggested, "We should buy something if we're visiting."

"Even if they don't need anything, it's basic courtesy," Sang Yu added as she tugged Shen Peichuan's sleeve.

Shen Peichuan got up and followed her.

Sang Yu joked, "Of course, you're paying. I need to save my own money."

Shen Peichuan smiled. "Sure."

Sang Yu headed to the toilet to tie up her messy hair, wash her face, and left with Shen Peichuan.

When they were about to leave, Su Zhan just arrived in his car. He rolled down the window and queried, "Where are you guys going?"

Sang Yu wrapped her arms around Shen Peichuan's arm and replied, "We'll be heading to the supermarket to buy a few things. Come join us! We can go to the hospital together after that."

Su Zhan teased, "Are you trying to show off to me?"

Sang Yu shook her head. "Not at all? Do you want to go or not?"

Su Zhan mulled over it and decided, "Sure, but you guys are paying."

"Dream on!" Sang Yu dragged Shen Peichuan off.

Su Zhan spat, "Quit being intimate in broad daylight."

Sang Yu teased, "You're just jealous."

After a long silence, Su Zhan grumbled, "How annoying."

Hey, you didn't have to point it out like that, right? Think about my feelings!

The three of them headed to the supermarket happily.

When they reached the supermarket, Su Zhan inquired, "What can we buy? Zong Jinghao is rich and doesn't need anything from us!"

Sang Yu dragged Shen Peichuan towards the pastries section and disagreed, "This is courtesy. It's got nothing to do with how rich you are!"

Su Zhan suddenly felt like a fool for following them and becoming a victim of their public displays of affection. *Why did I even choose to come with them? I literally asked for this display!* 

The pastries there were freshly made, so they caught a whiff of the freshly baked goods the moment they entered.

Although Sang Yu had not been pregnant herself, she had a lot of experience in society. She heard many people say that towards the late stages of pregnancy, the mother would often feel hungry. This was because the baby had absorbed a lot of nutrients.

The small and intricate pastries she bought could fill Lin Xinyan's stomach and were nutritious as well.

Sang Yu picked a few pastries that looked appealing and they tasted good.

After that, they stopped by a florist to buy a bouquet of fresh flowers.

Shen Peichuan drove off as he did not want to wait for Su Zhan to send him there.

They arrived at the hospital together.

In a big hospital like this, there was a queue for patients seeking treatment in the day. It was much less crowded in the evening, so after they parked their cars, they entered through the main building and took the elevator there.

Su Zhan made sure to stand on the opposite corner of the elevator.

Shen Peichuan snapped, "Why are you staying so far away from us? Is there a pandemic going on?"

Su Zhan sneered, "There isn't a pandemic around. The only people who are sick, or rather sickening, are the two of you."

Sang Yu had been clinging onto Shen Peichuan's arm ever since they were at the supermarket and even now, when they were in the elevator.

That damn couple!

He could only watch helplessly as he envied their happiness.

Sang Yu chuckled.

Su Zhan glared at her. "What are you laughing at?"

Sang Yu retorted, "It's not a crime, is it?"

Su Zhan was speechless. This girl has a way with words.

With a *ding*, the door to the elevator opened and Su Zhan strode out immediately.

Shen Peichuan muttered, "Childish."

Su Zhan glared at him as well. If Sang Yu weren't here, I'd have started cussing long ago. They didn't look at me at all and started flaunting their affection in front of me! They're out to anger me, aren't they?

In the ward, Lin Xinyan pleaded, "Just this once. Please, just let me have it."

Zong Jinghao refused adamantly, "No way. It's bad for your health."

Lin Xinyan kicked him and grumbled, "Get out of my sight!"

Zong Jinghao grabbed her ankle and soothed her, "Be good now. Let's eat something else instead. I'll buy it for you."

"I don't care! I want to eat spicy hotpot!" She knew that it was unhealthy, but she craved it anyway.

Lin Xinyan was rarely willful, but when she was, there was nothing Zong Jinghao could do about it.

"I'll get Aunt Yu to make you some, alright?" Zong Jinghao attempted to compromise.

Lin Xinyan shook her head, "The flavor is different when Aunt Yu makes it."

Zong Jinghao was lost for words.

*Knock knock.* Zong Jinghao pulled the blanket over her legs. She was wearing a skirt and a large portion of it was furled upwards, revealing her thighs.

"I'll get the door," Zong Jinghao said.

Lin Xinyan stopped acting spoiled and became quiet.

She knew how to maintain a ladylike appearance in front of others, no matter how she acted in front of Zong Jinghao.

"We're here to visit Xinyan," Su Zhan stated their purpose of visit.

He opened the door to let them in.

"Do you know what Shen Peichuan has been doing behind our backs?" Su Zhan grumbled the moment he entered.

Shen Peichuan rolled his eyes. "I told you that I wasn't able to find a good chance to tell you, didn't I?"

Su Zhan had had enough of their flirting and snapped, "What do you mean you didn't have a chance? We live in a digital era. I have a phone, and Zong Jinghao hasn't left the world! You could easily have contacted us!"

Upon receiving a sharp glare from Zong Jinghao, Su Zhan changed his tune, "Alright, I was the one who left the world."

Sang Yu grinned and found Su Zhan funny. He loved to poke fun at others, but he wilted like a flower the moment he received a glare from Zong Jinghao. She took her present and queried, "May I come in?"

Zong Jinghao glanced at the present she brought and nodded.

Sang Yu skipped into the ward merrily, which made Lin Xinyan beam. "You're here!"

She heard her voice the moment they entered.

Sang Yu nodded and asked gently, "Were we disturbing your rest?"

Lin Xinyan shook her head. "Not at all! I'm glad you came. It was so boring in the ward."

Sang Yu chuckled and placed the food on the table. "I got this for you on the way here. I have no idea what you liked, so I just randomly picked a few."

Lin Xinyan beamed, "I've been getting hungry a lot lately."

"I heard that this is because the baby is growing and requires a lot of nutrients."

Lin Xinyan laughed, "You know a lot, considering you're just a girl."

Sang Yu laughed as well and invited her to eat.

Lin Xinyan agreed.

Sang Yu opened the box and took the cakes out. She passed one to Lin Xinyan before pouring her a glass of water and placing it on the table.

The cakes were packaged nicely and came with their own utensils. Lin Xinyan took a small bite. It was not very sweet and had a strong lemon flavor.

Sang Yu sat by her bedside and spoke after some deliberation, "Shen Peichuan and I have registered our marriage."

Lin Xinyan paused in midair and turned towards her slowly in surprise.

Sang Yu joked, "Was it unexpected?"

Lin Xinyan shook her head. "No."

She was simply surprised that Shen Peichuan would act so quickly.

"He was worried that this would affect me negatively, so we decided to get our marriage registered first. It's rather fortunate, really, or I'd have brought him even more trouble," Sang Yu recounted.

"Did something happen?" Lin Xinyan queried.

She had no idea what happened as she was cooped in the ward all day.

Sang Yu gave a brief explanation about how someone called the police on Shen Peichuan.

Lin Xinyan found this strange. Why would something like this happen?

"Don't worry, it's all over," Sang Yu assured her with a tinge of regret. *I shouldn't have told Lin Xinyan about this.* 

"Xinyan," Su Zhan called out from the gate. "Did you know that Shen Peichuan and Sang Yu have gotten their marriage registered?"

Lin Xinyan nodded.

"I think they owe us a meal," Su Zhan whined.

Lin Xinyan replied dejectedly, "Well, I won't be able to join you for that. Have fun on your own!"

Given her current condition, her doctor did not allow her to leave the bed. Even if Shen Peichuan were willing to burn a hole in his pocket and treat her to delicacies, she would not be able to take a bite.

"That's simple," Su Zhan replied. "We just need to get someone to bring you the food and you can eat it."