Zong Yanxi frowned——a sign that she was angry. "President Jiang, why do you keep comparing me to a dead person? Are you cursing me?"

"She's not dead." Jiang Mohan stared at her affectionately.

Zong Yanxi could feel her heart tighten when he said that. "Y-Your wife is alive?"

"Yes. She'll forever live in my heart," Jiang Mohan said and walked into the kitchen.

The lady stared at him as he walked away. She could tell something didn't feel right. His attitude kept giving her the feeling that he knew something.

Did I spill something?

It was then that Zong Yanxi recalled her visit to the study room. Before she left, she had forgotten to delete the footage that captured her entering and exiting the premises because the truth she learned that day had broken her heart and overwhelmed her.

Did he see the footage? Now that she was reminded of it, her heart began to race.

Zong Yanxi stood up and walked to the kitchen. As the familiar figure worked up and down in the kitchen, she suddenly called out, "Jiang Mohan."

Jiang Mohan froze for a second, completely taken by surprise. He slowly turned around to look at the woman, "Ms. Lin, seeing that you're addressing me by my full name, can I assume you've taken a liking to me?"

Zong Yanxi was speechless by his reaction. "I have a boyfriend..."

Hm, his expression doesn't seem like he knows... Am I overthinking it?

"From what I can tell, your boyfriend is too young for you. He's not your type," Jiang Mohan analyzed.

"Age-gap is so nineteenth century," Zong Yanxi scoffed. "Can you please hurry up? I have something to do in the afternoon."

"Sure thing."

Seeing how flustered she was, the man couldn't help but smile. Even after changing her face, he still recognized her instantly. The personality and air that she carried had remained the same.

Half an hour had passed and Jiang Mohan finally finished cooking. He set the food on the dining table and they sat down.

Zong Yanxi glanced across the table and realized they were all foods that she loved. Sitting across the man made her think of their past, in which they would have lunch just like they were now.

Jiang Mohan had always been a good cook. Perhaps because of his upbringing, he had mastered many skills that would enable him to take care of himself.

Foods that Zong Yanxi loved were now his signature dishes. He had spent a lot of time perfecting them just so he could win her heart over.

Later on, he would cook quite frequently. It was driven by his subconscious effort and done without him realizing his reason for doing so.

Jiang Mohan would understand his actions if he knew his own feelings well enough. All he wanted was to make her happy, but he never realized it.

"Have a taste." Jiang Mohan passed her a serving.

Yet, Zong Yanxi didn't even touch her food. "These are all things that I don't like to eat. I don't need to taste them to know I won't like them."

Instead of getting angry, the man smiled. "Ms. Lin, just think of it as you showing me your gratitude for signing the contract. You are appreciative, right?"

"Are you questioning me?" asked Zong Yanxi as she glanced at the food on her plate.

"Not at all. I just want to have a simple meal with you, that's all. Didn't you say you have things to do later? We'd better hurry up so I can take you back."

His comment left her speechless. Never had she thought she would sit across him at the same table a year later.

She wasn't as flustered by now. Why should I care now that I've decided to forget about him?

Zong Yanxi took a bite of the food and found the nostalgic flavor shrouding her taste buds. The meat was braised until it was soft and tender, and she could tell that the adequate amount of seasoning had penetrated it deeply. His food was as tasty as how she remembered it.

"How does it taste?"

"You should braise the meat longer. Also, you should add more salt; it's a bit bland," Zong Yanxi commented.

The man raised an eyebrow and took a bite of his own. "Yup. This is the flavor that my ex-wife likes."

"Seriously? Does your ex-wife have no taste bud?"

"Ms. Lin, haven't you heard of a certain saying?"

"What saying?"

"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder," Jiang Mohan said as he passed her another serving of food. "When you love a person, you will think of her shortcomings as strengths. Even though you don't think highly of the food I made, it's what she likes. You know, I think you'll find it tasty after having a little bit more."

"Like hell I will. There's no way I will like this even if you feed it to me a hundred times."

"How about we make a bet?"

"What bet?"

"That you'll like my food after eating it a hundred times."

"There's no need to bet on that. I am a hundred percent sure I won't."

"Don't jump to the conclusion just yet, Ms. Lin. Could it be that you're afraid you'll lose?"

"Do you think that'll work on me?"

"Who knows?" Jiang Mohan took a sip from his glass. "But if you keep refusing, it'll just make me think that you're afraid of me."

Zong Yanxi suddenly stood up and said coldly, "Aren't you thinking too highly of yourself? I don't want to make a bet with you because I don't like you. Why should I be afraid of you? You're no man-eating monster. Also, I'm not interested in listening to your love story. Could you please refrain from telling me about your ex-wife? It's annoying. Seriously, this is probably the worst meal I've had in a while."

The lady then turned around and walked towards the door, leaving Jiang Mohan behind as his eyes followed her footsteps.

Is she angry? Did I pressure her too much? Jiang Mohan tightened his fists. Maybe I should take another approach...

When Zong Yanxi walked out of the villa, she immediately made a call.

The proposal was the first step to the acquisition. With that taken care of, the next step was to prepare a large sum of money to swing the target company's stock price.

Jiang Mohan was clear that he could never get the money back even if he could acquire the company in the future, as it would be a shell corporation. Yet, he still invested in the proposal, knowing full well he would lose everything.

One day, Gu Xian suddenly told Zong Yanxi that he was going home. To him, Country Z was just a place he worked at. His home was the country in which he grew up with his mother.

As his friend, Zong Yanxi took him to the airport without even asking for the reason for his sudden trip.

Even if she'd asked, Gu Xian would not have the answer because even he himself had no idea why his mother wanted him to return on such short notice. Since he was raised by his mother, her orders were absolute to him.

After seeing Gu Xian off, Zong Yanxi went back to her car where Tian Qifeng was waiting for her.

After getting into the car, Tian Qifeng said, "I've looked into the matter you've requested. Looks like Nan Cheng is investigating a car accident that happened in the past."

After Zong Yanxi left Jiang Mohan's villa, she had a feeling that the man had somehow guessed her real identity, which was why she had Tian Qifeng and Tian Qilang follow Nan Cheng. She wanted to figure out what her ex-husband's most trusted subordinate was up to.

Just as she had expected, Nan Feng was looking into what happened in the past, which meant that Jiang Mohan was highly certain that she was his wife.

As the car passed through the city, Zong Yanxi looked out the window expressionlessly. How did he even find out? I don't think I did anything that aroused his suspicion...

Tian Qifeng noticed her puzzled look through the rearview mirror and said, "Mr. Guan once intentionally showed up at Xinhai Investment."

"What did you say?"

"I think Mr. Guan did it on purpose to attract Jiang Mohan's attention."

Hearing that, Zong Yanxi quickly took her phone out but stopped her movement when she was about to hit the "call" button.

She finally realized that things would never go as she had planned because the elders would always try to "help" her out. Zong Yanxi sighed and smiled bitterly.

"I believe all Mr. Guan wants is to test if Jiang Mohan still has feelings for you," Tian Qifeng explained.

Guan Jing did what he did because he wanted to know if Jiang Mohan regretted his action, and to see whether the young man would fall for such a blatant trap.

Being a seasoned veteran, Guan Jing couldn't have made such a careless mistake. It was clear that he did so on purpose. The man had held Jiang Mohan in high regard, believing that the latter could take good care of Zong Yanxi, but he was proven wrong.

Zong Yanxi was amused. How can a man driven purely by hatred feel anything else? Even if he regrets his past actions, I will never love him ever again.

Seeing how things had turned out, she had no choice but to go with the flow. She could tell that Jiang Mohan had agreed to her proposal with the knowledge that it was a trap she'd set for him.

I see. If that's how you want to play it, I'll end this quickly.

Zong Yanxi immediately increased the monetary value of the contract and brought it to Jiang Mohan again.

The man didn't even ask why she had changed the amount of money required for the acquisition. Like before, he signed it without even reading the terms and conditions.

It wasn't until the due date of the second instalment of funds when Jiang Mohan received a call from his finance department.

Since a large amount of money was involved, his staff did not dare to make the transfer hastily, even when Jiang Mohan's signature was already on the transfer request form. They were calling to make sure it was indeed his intention to utilize the money.

The president of the company stood by the window and turned to look outside. This is what I owe her...

"That's correct; there's no mistake," Jiang Mohan asserted.

Since their president was firm on his decision, the finance department did not question him any further.

Back at the hotel, Zong Yanxi immediately received a notification when the fund transfer was made.

Soon. It'll all end soon.

She had decided that once everything was over, she would head overseas to undergo another round of plastic surgery to regain her original face before returning to her parents.

There were also other people she yearned for dearly, such as Zhuang Jiawen and Aunt Qin Ya.

One year... It's neither long nor short...

Ding dong!

The doorbell suddenly rang and she quickly answered the door, only to find Jiang Mohan standing outside.

She wasn't surprised to see him and smiled calmly. "President Jiang, what brings you here?"

They were now in an awkward situation: Jiang Mohan had no idea that Zong Yanxi knew he had learned of her real identity.

"Let's just say I want to see you. Aren't you going to invite me in?" Jiang Mohan pretended to be calm, but deep down his heart was racing because he had no idea how to regain her trust.

It was clear that he made her angry the last time they met, which was why he was reluctant to use the same approach this time.

"It's pretty messy inside," replied Zong Yanxi.

"I don't mind."

"Is that so? Then, please, come in."

Jiang Mohan walked into the room and scanned his surroundings before making a suggestion. "Why don't I rent a place for you? Isn't it troublesome to live in a hotel?"

"No, thanks. I won't be staying here for long." Zong Yanxi closed the door behind her.

"Are you leaving?"

"This is not my home from the beginning. I'll be leaving once the work is done." Zong Yanxi sat down on the couch and signaled her guest to take a seat as well.

Jiang Mohan became anxious. He was regretting his decision to sign the contract without thinking twice. Had he not done so, he could have used it as a reason to make her stay.

The man was out of options now.

"Ms. Lin..."

"Here, have some mango cake." Zong Yanxi cut his sentence short by offering him a dessert.

She used to love mango, but she stopped eating it because Jiang Mohan was allergic to the fruit. She never brought one when she lived with him because she was worried that he might fall sick.

She had no idea why she bought the mango cake that day. Perhaps she simply missed its taste. Or perhaps she was looking for her past subconsciously.

Jiang Mohan took a glance at the mango cake before turning back to Zong Yanxi. "Thank you for treating me."

"It's natural to treat one's business partner."

"I haven't taken a bite of it yet," Zong Yanxi said intentionally. "Are you worried that I might poison you?"

"Of course not. There's no reason for me to say no." Jiang Mohan pulled the cake towards him.

They both knew each other's secrets, but neither one exposed the other. They were both testing the waters, with one trying to mend a broken relationship and the other plotting revenge.

"Here, use this." Zong Yanxi offered him a spoon. "Since I'm being so thoughtful, you had better finish the cake."

"If I finish, will you be my girlfriend?"

"I'm sorry, you're not my type," she refused instantly.

"What kind of men do you like then?"

"Like my boyfriend. Someone who's young and gentle. Oh, he has to have the right height as well. You're too tall for me," Zong Yanxi described her ideal man according to Gu Xian's appearance. "Also, I don't like married men. I have mysophobia."

Jiang Mohan had no idea how to respond to that. "Ms. Lin... I know you are..."

"President Jiang." Zong Yanxi quickly cut him off as she didn't want to change the relationship between them. If she were to face him as her past self, she would not be able to keep her cool and would interrogate him in a very emotional manner.

That wasn't the outcome she wanted, not because she still had feelings for him, but because she's tired of being angry with him.

"Please finish the cake," she smiled.

Jiang Mohan pursed his lips, unable to understand why he had become so passive when he was in control of the situation moments earlier.

On the other hand, if this were her punishment for him, he would gladly accept it.

With Zong Yanxi staring at him, he finished the whole cake. Halfway through the dessert, he could feel his body reacting to the mango. His arms began to itch and his heart began to race.

"Are you feeling unwell?" Zong Yanxi deliberately asked. Even though Jiang Mohan did his best to hide his allergic reaction, he could not conceal his expression. "Why don't I book you a room?"

Zong Yanxi stood up right after that and walked out of the room. Jiang Mohan wanted to refuse, but he quickly changed his mind when he thought she was being kind to him.

Jiang Mohan was feeling an extreme itch, as if millions of ants were crawling all over his body. No matter how hard he scratched, the itch remained. It was a torturous feeling.

Zong Yanxi soon returned and helped him up. "Come on. Let's get you to your room."

Instead of going with her, he suddenly grabbed her hand, "I'll stay here."

"It's too messy here. I got you the room just next to mine," Zong Yanxi smiled.

Jiang Mohan did not realize Zong Yanxi had a devious plan. He was simply happy because he thought she was actually concerned for him.

It took them no time to arrive at the room adjacent to hers. She put him down on the bed and said, "I see you're uncomfortable. Let me call for someone to help ease that."

"I'm okay..."

"You don't look like you're okay. I've already called for help anyway."

The man stared at the woman's vicious smile and felt a chill ran down his spine. His spider-sense was tingling, and just as he was pondering what would happen next, two sexy women walked in through the door.

Jiang Mohan's face darkened immediately. "What are you doing?"

"They're going to entertain you."

At first, she only planned to make him feel uncomfortable. When she saw him so itchy that he was about to take his clothes off, however, she thought of another way to punish him.

The man was completely stunned, not expecting such an outcome.

"Get lost!" he roared at the two women.

Instead of complying, they turned to look at Zong Yanxi.

"A hundred thousand each, just as we agreed. All you two have to do is entertain him. Oh, just a heads-up, he's the president of Hengkang Group, and he's still single. If either one of you managed to win his heart, who knows, you might just become his wife," Zong Yanxi said and turned to the man who was glaring at her. "I picked them for you. I hope you like my present."

"Get them out of here—now!" Jiang Mohan's tone did not match his temper as he was suffering from his allergic reaction.

Zong Yanxi ignored him and signaled the two ladies, "What are you two still standing there for? Can't you see he's hot? Go and help him cool down."

She then turned and walked out the door.

"Zong Yanxi! Do you know what you're doing?"

Zong Yanxi could hear his roar from behind. She was stunned for a second, and then closed the door behind her.

The two ladies thought of what Zong Yanxi said and grinned. They were motivated to do a good job because they might just become the wife of a billionaire. The relief was that even if

they didn't end up becoming Mrs. Jiang, they would still be paid a handsome hundred thousand for the job.

They began to climb onto the bed while looking at the man affectionately. "Let us serve you."

Jiang Mohan stared in rage at the woman who was reaching for his shirt button.

"M-Mr. Jiang... W-We'll be gentle..."

"Get lost!" the man yelled.

The two women turned to look at each other. Even without speaking a word, they understood each other's thoughts. If they were to leave, not only would they lose the chance to become Mrs. Jiang, but they might also not get their hefty pay.

They decided not to leave the room and were prepared to force their way with him if necessary.

Outside the room, Zong Yanxi leaned lazily on the wall. "Notify the media. Tell them it's about the president of Hengkang Group. That'll get them interested. I remember there was this news concerning a business owner having fun with a prostitute, only to see his company's stock price plummeting the next day."

Tian Qifeng did not do as he was told right away. "Are you sure you want to do this? You were..." ...once married to him, after all.

Zong Yanxi raised her head and glared at her bodyguard.

"I'll handle it right away!"

An hour later, a group of reporters gathered outside the hotel after receiving a tip that the president of Hengkang Group was having fun with some women in a room.

Jiang Mohan had been a public figure in B City ever since he established his company, but he was also known to be cold and rarely socialized with others, which was why he seldom appeared on the news.

There was no way the reporters would miss this golden opportunity.

Zong Yanxi stood at the end of the corridor as she watched the event unfold.

"Are you sure this is what you want?" Tian Qifeng couldn't help but ask again.

"Of course. Why would I even care? I've died once anyway. I don't have the heart to feel anymore."

Seeing how determined she was, her bodyguard closed his eyes and sighed quietly.

Inside the room, Jiang Mohan was still struggling with his allergic reaction.

No matter how the two sexy ladies tried to seduce him, he didn't show any reaction.

One of the ladies tried to get closer to him but was immediately kicked by him. The kick was so hard that she had to gasp for air in pain.

"Are you feeling unwell?" another woman asked cautiously as she stood by the bed. "Should I get you a doctor?"

The man was forcing himself to not scratch his body by grasping his fists tightly. Rashes had already formed on his neck, a sign that the allergic reaction had worsened. "Get the f\*\*k out now or you'll regret it!"

The woman was afraid but did not leave. Glancing at the clock, she realized that it had been two hours since she entered the room. She was beginning to worry that she might not get her money.

As for Jiang Mohan, the itch all over his body wasn't the only thing that was torturing him. He also felt angry and hurt from Zong Yanxi's actions.

He closed his eyes and forced himself to calm down, but failed to do so. He picked up a glass on the table and threw it at one woman, hitting her on the head.

The lady yelled in pain while the other struggled to get up from the floor and said to her counterpart, "Let's go. This man is crazy!"

The one who got hit didn't want to forfeit her big payout, but she quickly changed her mind when she was met with Jiang Mohan's scary gaze.

Thinking that they still didn't want to leave, the man yelled again, "Do you two have a death wish?"

The women grabbed their clothes and ran to the door. Yet, the moment they opened the door, they were met with camera flashes.

"W-What's going on here?"

When the reporters saw the state the ladies were in, they couldn't help but wonder if the president of Hengkang Group was into sadism.

Looks like we'll have our headline tomorrow. All the reporters thought the same thing.

Just the photos of the ladies weren't enough to satisfy their curiosity. They were more intrigued at the state Jiang Mohan was in.

They wondered what the aloof businessman would look like in bed after having sex, and that curiosity compelled them to go into the room with their cameras.

Jiang Mohan quickly covered himself up and stood up with all his might. He glanced out the door and noticed the woman standing behind the crowd.

I guess she's the one who called these reporters here.

Jiang Mohan was angry at the situation he was put in, but what made him most furious was that it was caused by the woman he cared about.

With his mind made up, he walked towards her. Even though he could barely lift his legs, he still pretended he was completely normal.

The reporters all followed him, wanting to get a scoop of the scandal. In fact, just the photos of the two half-naked women were enough to shock the public.

Since Zong Yanxi had no intention to talk to Jiang Mohan, she quickly turned to leave. Before she could even walk away, however, Jiang Mohan grabbed her from behind and smiled. "The women you got me aren't enough to satisfy me. You taste better."

Her expression changed immediately as she glared angrily at him. "You..."

"I've already made a fool of myself in front of the reporters anyway. I'll just go all the way then," Jiang Mohan scoffed.

Before Zong Yanxi could even react, the man pulled her into his arms and kissed her.

"Mmph!" Zong Yanxi struggled, shocked by the fact that Jiang Mohan still had the strength to force her.

No matter how much she moved around, she couldn't get away from him.

Shutters echoed throughout the hallway as the reporters were surprised by the turn of events.

Tian Qifeng reacted right away and stood in front of the cameras. "No photos allowed!"

"Why not?" Jiang Mohan asked after moving his lips away from Zong Yanxi's. "Everyone, this is my girlfriend... You know what, I have an announcement to make. Ms. Lin Ruixi, this gorgeous lady in my arms, is my girlfriend."

"I'm not!" Zong Yanxi roared, "There's no way I'd fall for a player like you!"

"A player? But the only woman I ever slept with was you. How am I a player?" Jiang Mohan pointed at the two ladies Zong Yanxi brought. "Aren't you the one who invited them here so that they could have fun?"

At first, the reporters thought they would be getting a slice of the juicy scandal involving Jiang Mohan, but now it seemed more like a couple's quarrel to them.

It was, in fact, just Jiang Mohan revealing his partner's identity.

Tian Qifeng quickly shoved Zong Yanxi back into the room while he dealt with the reporters.

Jiang Mohan wanted to go inside with her as well, but she refused. The man calmly looked at her and threatened, "Aren't you afraid of what I'm going to tell them if you don't let me in?"

"Are you threatening me?"

"You are the one who forced this on me."

Zong Yanxi glanced at the reporters standing outside and decided to let him in. As soon as the door closed, Jiang Mohan collapsed. He had physically suffered way past his limit.

Zong Yanxi did not know how to react for few seconds; she then got down to check if he was still breathing. After confirming that he was only unconscious, she called Tian Qifeng and asked him to get rid of the reports outside the room.

She then searched for Jiang Mohan's phone and took it out. It was locked with a passcode. She was instantly reminded of a passcode she had set up for him before——her birth date.

"You and I are the only people who can know about the passcode," she once said to him.

She immediately keyed in the code and realized that after all this time, he never changed it.

Zong Yanxi was a little surprised but quickly calmed down and called Nan Cheng.

"Sir?" Nan Cheng answered the call right away.

"He's unconscious. Get here ASAP!" Zong Yanxi said.

Nan Cheng was stunned as he could recognize the voice. "Are you..."

"Hurry up and get here!" Zong Yanxi cut him off. After telling the assistant the address, she hung up.

When Nan Cheng arrived at the hotel, the reporters were already gone.

"What happened to him?" Nan Cheng frowned as he saw his employer lying unconsciously on the floor. Did something happen?

"I think it's best if you take him to the hospital right away," said Zong Yanxi.

"What..."

"Qifeng, help him."

Nan Cheng noticed that the woman wasn't keen on explaining and decided not to question her any further. Rather, he was more worried about Jiang Mohan because his boss rarely fell sick.

Half an hour had passed before Tian Qifeng returned. "He's at the hospital now."

Zong Yanxi replied with a simple nod. Now that he had exposed her identity, she didn't have to hide her hatred towards him anymore, nor did she have to keep that fake smile on her face.

"Are you sure you don't want to check up on him?" Tian Qifeng asked. "His life could be in danger, you know?"

"What does that have to do with me?" Zong Yanxi rolled her eyes back. "Also, did you make sure that the reporters won't mention me? I have no interest in standing in the spotlight."

"Don't worry. Your name will never come up on the news."

Guan Jing had arranged for the brothers to be by Zong Yanxi's in order to protect and help her.

Thus, taking care of such a matter was a simple task for Tian Qifeng.

"Seriously, I have no interest in being a part of his scandal..."

"But aren't you the one responsible for the said scandal?"

Zong Yanxi quickly glared at her bodyguard. "Are you helping him or me?"

"I'm helping you, of course." Tian Qifeng immediately swore. "He deserves to die for what he did to you."

Zong Yanxi could help but chuckle at how fast Tian Qifeng changed his attitude.

Tian Qifeng laughed along as well. Heck, never offend a woman or you'll die a humiliating death!

Jiang Mohan didn't wake up until noon the next day in the hospital.

Nan Cheng had been by his side the whole time and was glad to see him regain consciousness.

Yet, the first thing Jiang Mohan did was to scan the room. Unable to spot Zong Yanxi, his heart sank a little. "Did she not come?"

Nan Cheng was taken surprise by the question, but he immediately understood who his employer was talking about.

"No. she didn't."

Jiang Mohan sat up on the bed and turned to look outside the window. "Get me discharged."

Nan Cheng pondered for a second before handing the man his phone. "Before that, I think you should look at the news."

Jiang Mohan could guess what the news was going to say. Just as he expected, it was about the incident at the hotel.

The article was titled: President of Hengkang Enjoying His Night With Two Ladies. The article came with a photo of two half-naked ladies leaving his hotel room.

The headline and the photo were enough to suggest what had happened in the room before the photo was taken.

Most of the readers who commented on the article spoke of not judging a book by its cover, as everyone always viewed Jiang Mohan as a serious man who was out of reach for most people.

This scandal dragged him down from the pedestal the public had previously bestowed upon him.

Aside from his own reputational damage, the news also affected his company's stock price, which was in decline.

Jiang Mohan showed no reaction to the news. This must be her goal.

"I got a call from Ms. Lin today. She said we still need to make the last fund transfer for the acquisition," reported Nan Cheng, "We will suffer a huge loss this time."

The man on the bed showed no sign of anger nor worry towards his financial loss. "It's what I owe her..."

Nan Zhang opened his mouth wanting to say something but decided not to. He had no idea how to persuade his boss.

"What about the matter I asked you to investigate?" Jiang Mohan asked as he continued to stare outside the window aimlessly.

Nan Cheng didn't reply instantly. Even though he had a major breakthrough, he was pondering if he should relay the information. It wasn't easy to investigate something that had happened years ago, but Guan Jing had been guiding him in the dark by dropping hints here and there.

Guan Jing did this because he wanted Jiang Mohan to learn of the truth behind the event: he didn't want the young man to hate the wrong person.

Jiang Mohan always thought that the incident was caused by the Zong family and that the money he received was to shut him up. The truth was that the money was mere compensation, and everyone involved in the incident was innocent.

Guan Jing didn't want the young man to hate the people who survived the incident, nor should he yearn for revenge.

That was Guan Jing's goal——for Jiang Mohan to see the truth.

That was also the reason why Nan Cheng did not experience many obstacles in his investigation.

Yet, the assistant had no idea how to relay the news, which was why he lied, "I still need more time. The accident happened quite a long time ago."

Jiang Mohan didn't even suspect Nan Cheng because his explanation was plausible. "Get me out of the hospital. Bring me a clean set of clothes as well."

"Of course," replied Nan Cheng before he left.

After Jiang Mohan was discharged, instead of focusing on the work that he had neglected for the past few days, he went to look for Zong Yanxi.

Now that the secret was out, he wanted to have a talk with her. By the time he arrived at the hotel, however, she was already gone.

Since her phone was also turned off, Jiang Mohan had no choice but to return to his office.

After a few days, Tian Qifeng requested to meet with Jiang Mohan at Hengkang Group.

Since he was Zong Yanxi's bodyguard, Jiang Mohan immediately agreed to meet.

"I'm here on behalf of Ms. Lin," explained Tian Qifeng as he sat down.

"Where is she?"

"Ms. Lin has returned to the head office. I'll be handling the contract on her behalf from now on."

Jiang Mohan leaned back on his chair as he glared at the man in front of him. "The contract is between me and her. Changing the representative now is very disrespectful towards me."

"It's not that serious, is it?" Tian Qifeng smiled.

"This happened without my consent, so I won't be investing a single dime from now on. Your company will also have to cover all the losses."

"But the contract has been signed. You have no reason to..." The bodyguard thought that Jiang Mohan was simply angry at Zong Yanxi.

"Switching the representative suddenly without the approval from both sides is a breach of contract. I'm dead serious here."

"Admit it, all you want is to meet with Ms. Lin, right?" Tian Qifeng had already seen through Jiang Mohan's intention. Jiang Mohan did not deny that.

He did not like how Zong Yanxi went into hiding as soon as her identity was exposed.

He knew he had made mistakes in the past, and all he wanted was a chance to explain himself. That was why he could not accept the fact that she was hiding from him.

"Do you know how much trouble she'd caused me with that scandal? You must've seen it as well, haven't you?"

Of course Tian Qifeng knew, because he had been reporting everything that had happened after the incident to Zong Yanxi.

The scandal had caused the shares of Hengkang Group to plummet, resulting in a huge financial loss.

"I believe I owe you an explanation for the change. The reason Ms. Lin requested me to take her place was that she was feeling unwell and had to leave..."

"What happened to her?" Jiang Mohan cut the bodyguard's words short.

What Tian Qifeng said was a lie. Zong Yanxi was perfectly fine. Instead of being sick, she was actually in the process of getting her original face back since there was no need for her to disguise herself now that Jiang Mohan had learned of her identity. Her plan was to go under the knife again and then return to Thailand to see her parents.

Tian Qifeng decided to not tell Jiang Mohan about that. "She's not fully healed from the fire yet. Ms. Lin isn't hiding from you; she's just getting treated now. She'll be back once it's all over. She won't run away because there are still matters to settle with you."

Jiang Mohan's heart tightened when he learned that she was hurt in the fire. "Which hospital is she in?"

Tian Qifeng raised an eyebrow at the question. Is he planning on meeting her?

The bodyguard had to prevent that from happening at all costs, given he had promised Zong Yanxi to keep Jiang Mohan away from her.

"President Jiang, you don't have to worry. She'll be back in a month."

"Where is she?" Jiang Mohan demanded.

"President Jiang, please understand that Ms. Lin doesn't want to be disturbed." Tian Qifeng quickly thought of an excuse. "It's best if you wait until she's recovered so that both of you could talk your problems out. I'm here as her representative, which is why if you really feel sorry to her, please don't make things any harder and transfer the fund we need."

"You said it yourself that this is our problem. What does this have to do with you?"

Jiang Mohan had no intention of continuing the conversation with Tian Qifeng. The only thing he had in his mind was to meet with Zong Yanxi to see if she was doing alright.

"You'll just be a nuisance to her now. You want her to recover soon, too, don't you?"

Jiang Mohan gripped his fists tightly as he was worried about her. "How long do I have to wait?" Tian Qifeng's words made him realized that being by her side would only make her recovery even harder.

He was reluctant to do anything that would bring more harm to her.

"One month."

That was the amount of time Zong Yanxi told Tian Qifeng it would take for her to return.