

The Apple 37

Chapter 37

Qiao Mu came back to her senses when Chi Xia nudged her arm.

Chi Xia glared at her, "What are you thinking? What did you do when you headed out today? Did you even attempt to think of a solution about the money?"

Qiao Mu shook her head, "I've already tried my best. Let's forget about it, I'm not going to make things difficult for myself any longer."

Chi Xia looked at her and said nothing.

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The next morning.

Qiao Mu was just about to go to work when Chi Xia passed a bank card to Qiao Mu. Qiao Mu was puzzled when she asked, "Xia Xia, what's this for?"

"There's eighty thousand RMB in this card. Gu Cheng asked me to pass this to you. He's also tight in his fundings because he's still tied up with his investment overseas, but he can manage a couple dozen thousand RMB for you. Just take the money to handle your emergency." Chi Xia smiled.

Qiao Mu widened her eyes in shock, "You asked for money from Gu Cheng because of me? No, I can't take this money. Quickly return the money to him!"

Chi Xia placed the card into Qiao Mu's palm, "Just take it. I borrowed this from him, it's not like I'm not paying him back. Besides, I'm his future wife. He won't fight me over this small amount. Alright, I know you feel bad if you don't care about that person. Quickly hand this money to her then."

Qiao Mu felt a huge lump in her throat as she hugged Chi Xia, “Xia Xia, you’re really the best. You’re so selfless that I almost think that I’m your true love instead of him.”

Chi Xia fiercely rolled her eyes at Qiao Mu and pushed her aside, “What selfless act? This loan comes with an interest. Even if you have to prostitute yourself, you’ll still have to pay me back in the future!”

Qiao Mu gripped the card in her palm, feeling upset. Chi Xia had already given her fifty thousand RMB last time. She could never fully repay this friend in her lifetime.

Qiao Mu placed the card into her bag and unintentionally saw the shopping card she had gotten from Li Yan. Her eyes were bright as she stared at Chi Xia, “Xia Xia, let me pay you the interest in advance!”

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That morning, Qiao Mu went to the bank to transfer the money to Zhoue Jieru. One notification later, Zhou Jieru replied that the amount was rather lacking, but the money could still last her for a while.

After that, Qiao Mu and Chi Xia had lunch outside campus before dropping by a shopping mall that sold luxury goods.

The shopping mall was infamous for a reason. Any item sold here cost at least five figures. Any random fabric that could be called clothing could cost a few dozen thousand RMB, and it was very normal for a jacket to be priced a couple hundred thousand RMB.

Chi Xia stared at that shopping card and could not believe her eyes, “Mu Mu, say it again. Where did you get this card from?”

Qiao Mu replied, “My uncle gave this to me.”

“Uncle? Your stepmother’s younger brother? Why did he want to give you such an expensive shopping card? Don’t tell me that old man is into you?”

Ahem...

Old man?

Was Li Yan old? Although he was older than her by ten years, he could still be considered young, right?

Qiao Mu said helplessly, "You're thinking too much. Anyway, just choose a gift! I'm paying the interest in advance!"

Interest? Chi Xia was left speechless. Any single item around here could already clear Qiao Mu's debt.

"Mu Mu, since your uncle is so rich, wouldn't your troubles be solved in no time if he simply gave you some money?"

"My uncle's not a generous person. This card was given to him by someone else. It's free, that's why he gave it to me."

Chi Xia also stopped asking her questions. It was a rare opportunity for her to shop in a large shopping mall. The two of them strolled on all floors until finally Chi Xia found herself drawn to a backpack.

The price was forty-nine thousand RMB. Chi Xia glanced at Qiao Mu in uncertainty, "Is this really just the interest? If I want this bag, you won't use this as an excuse to not return the money to me, right?"

"Can you be more dignified? Where's the generosity you had when you lent me the money?"

Chi Xia clenched her teeth and made her decision, "Alright, I want it!"

After that, Qiao Mu swiped the card to pay the bill.

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At the same time, Li Yan's cell phone vibrated as he was resting with his eyes closed in the car.

He pulled out his cell phone and saw a transactional text message.

His cold eyes narrowed as he said, "Go to the luxury mall."

Did that little thing believe that her audacity would go unpunished after her dramatic exit?

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Qiao Mu and Chi Xia were chatting as they walked out of the mall when Qiao Mu caught sight of a woman carrying many shopping bags. Qiao Mu froze in her tracks.

Chi Xia was puzzled when she followed Qiao Mu gaze and saw a middle-aged woman who was holding multiple shopping bags, each filled with luxury goods. She was walking out of the mall with a smug look on her face.

The woman wore delicate makeup but her clothes seemed outdated. However, her amazing figure despite her age produced a rather impressive presence.

Chi Xia was stunned. She had seen this woman before because Zhou Jieru had once went to university to look for Qiao Mu.

That was right, this woman was Zhou Jieru!

Qiao Mu's face gradually turned pale when she saw Zhou Jieru, and she was shocked when she saw the shopping bags in Zhou Jieru's hands. The anger in her eyes slowly broke loose, and before the other person could notice her, she rushed forward and grabbed the woman's wrist.

“Mother, why are you here?!”

Zhou Jieru was lowering her head to admire the results of her shopping when Qiao Mu suddenly appeared before her. Her expression froze while she hid the shopping bags behind her and smiled, “Mu Mu, what a coincidence.”

Qiao Mu hauled the shopping bags over and questioned her, “What are these? Where did you get the money to buy these?”

“Be gentle! Don’t pull my bags apart!” Zhou Jieru immediately protected her shopping bags and glared at Qiao Mu, “What’s your attitude after seeing your mother after a long time? You’re becoming more and more rude!”

Qiao Mu’s face was cold, “I’m asking you, where did you get the money to buy these?!”

Zhou Jieru smiled dismissively, “Didn’t you transfer some money to me today?”

“So you’re saying that the gambling debts are all lies?”

“I’m truly in debt, but recently my luck at gambling is good, so I earn back some money. I’m not in a rush to pay back the rest of my debt. I just want to use the eighty thousand RMB that my daughter gave me to enjoy my life. Life is good when you’re rich!” Zhou Jieru was feeling pleased with herself. She did not show any hint of guilt when she faced Qiao Mu.

Qiao Mu was completely appalled!

She had done everything she could possibly do, and she even threw away her dignity before Li Yan for money. For all that trouble, this truth was her only reward.

She never even suspected Zhou Jieru was lying to her!

Qiao Mu snatched the shopping bags from Zhou Jieru, "Return all of these!"

"Return these? I've already bought it! Are you crazy? Qiao Mu, you can't stand the thought of your mother having a good life, right? You can come to the shopping mall and shop but I can't, right? Didn't I just use a little of your money? You really have no conscience!"

Qiao Mu felt as if she was suffocated. She took a deep breath but she still could not suppress the sorrow she felt within her.

Chi Xia took a step forward and said angrily, "Aunty, do you think what you said is reasonable? Qiao Mu's your daughter, not your ATM!"

"It's because she's my daughter, that's why it's right for me to spend her money!"

"You..."

Chi Xia gritted her teeth in anger. How could there be such a mother in this world?! Just as she was about to say something, she noticed a tall figure walking toward them.

"It's quite lively here." The cold voice said.

Qiao Mu raised her head abruptly, and her complexion turned paler when she saw the newcomer.