

Work Hard 701

Chapter 701: There's Bound To Be A Flaw

Long Jie shrugged her shoulders; she too did not understand the rules of this new industry.

To speed up the process of finding the truth, Mo Ting instructed Lu Che to contact the owner of the web novel site and asked them to provide them with proof. Although the other party wasn't a big empire like Hai Rui, they still had their legal documents in order and quickly pulled out their files from 3 years ago. The officially stamped contract for 'The Tracker' proved that the novel did exist 3 years ago. This was solid evidence.

"President, all signs point to obvious plagiarism and the other party have already provided us with proof. Elder Wu's script is undoubtedly plagiarized."

Mo Ting looked at the slightly yellowed contract and read through the contents in detail before he threw it aside.

"Keep investigating."

"You still want to investigate?" Lu Che asked. As Mo Ting lifted his head, Lu Che touched his head nervously, "What I mean is, shouldn't we think of a way to remedy the situation instead?"

"If I try to remedy the situation before I've determined the truth, I may attract other problems. Hai Rui will only end up slapping themselves in the face."

Mo Ting lead Hai Rui, but he never allowed anyone to use cheap tricks just to achieve certain motives even though good and bad often crossed paths in the entertainment industry.

"What if the result of our investigation is still the same?"

"There's bound to be a flaw."

Why was he so confident? Because he personally picked this script from a pile of other scripts. When he took the script to Tangning, he had already done his research; Hai Rui never allowed plagiarism. So, where did 'The Tracker' come from? And how did it actually have a contract as proof. Mo Ting found it extremely odd.

What an interesting situation.

However, time didn't seem to allow for slow progression. After the plagiarism scandal escalated, the author of the web novel finally stepped out to speak. He had hired a lawyer and was ready to put through a copyright claim.

He even described Hai Rui as a big shark that could swallow a small fish like him alive. So, he had to quickly clarify the situation to avoid future troubles. This was the only way he could recruit the masses to monitor Hai Rui and keep them under check.

He actually called Hai Rui a big shark!

Furthermore, he demanded that Hai Rui act accordingly and stop protecting the screenwriter. Not only did he ask for compensation and an apology, he also told them to ban the screening of 'The Lost Relative' in all theaters, claiming that this was the only proper way to deal with the situation.

As he was a victim, his every word sounded reasonable.

All of a sudden, he seemed to have spoken the thoughts of every single author in the nation. All the authors quickly gathered to boycott 'The Lost Relative' and demanded that Elder Wu provide a public apology.

At that moment, every single piece of evidence pointed towards Elder Wu being a plagiarist. All of a sudden, it felt like no one could prove his innocence.

Elder Wu felt angry and wronged. Faced with the public's inability to differentiate between right and wrong, he ended up falling ill.

"Hurry out here and apologize! Stop being a chicken!"

"This screenwriter had many good scripts in the past, I never thought he'd make a mistake like this. Has he perhaps exhausted his talents?"

"Regardless, I think all plagiarists should self-destruct on the spot."

Seeing the comments online, Elder Wu's family did not dare to notify him of it. All they could do was sigh amongst themselves.

Meanwhile, Tangning hurried over to visit the old man after she heard he had fallen ill.

"Miss Tang, you didn't need to come here. This was not your fault. Plus, you're about to give birth. This is very dangerous for you," Elder Wu's wife exclaimed. "My old man has been honest his entire life. I can't believe someone has decided to frame him. I will never believe that he plagiarized anyone. On the other hand..."

"...my grandson actually called his grandfather shameless during dinner yesterday! If it was someone else, I wouldn't have minded as much. But, tell me, at his age, how is the old man supposed to handle all this?"

After hearing this, Tangning could only try her best to comfort the old woman, "I trust in Elder Wu, so I have not given up on clearing his name. I feel honored to have acted out his script."

"Miss Tang, thank you."

Tangning shook her head. In reality, she felt quite guilty inside, because she had a feeling that the entire incident was targeted towards her and Elder Wu was just a convenient chess piece.

Tangning did not question who the culprit behind the entire mess was. Apart from Song Xin, who else could it be?

Firstly, Song Xin was the only one with such a deep grudge towards her, and secondly, Song Xin was an author; she naturally understood how web novels worked.

However, Tangning still needed solid evidence.

So, that day, after visiting Elder Wu, Tangning returned home and locked herself up in the study room to read the entire 540,000 characters from the start...

But...Tangning did not anticipate the seriousness of the matter. Under the harsh pressures of the internet and the distrust and misunderstanding from family – on the third day of the incident – Elder Wu wrote out a will and overdosed on medicine to attempt suicide. Although his family discovered him on time, the excessive amount of medicine resulted in brain damage and threw him into a coma which he had yet to wake up from. Meanwhile, the doctors warned that even if he was to wake up, the damage was serious and may result in dementia.

But, even at this point, the internet still claimed that he deserved it and that it was right for him to attempt suicide due to guilt. They even wondered why he hadn't just died and ended things cleanly.

"Ridiculous! The internet these days is frightening. The old man has already been pushed to this extent, yet they are still speaking nonsense. I feel bad for Elder Wu..."

After hearing Long Jie's opinion, Tangning slammed her hands loudly on the table. Long Jie quickly covered her chest in fright; this was the first time she had seen Tangning throw her anger. Tangning's emotions were never written on her face.

"Tangning..."

"Let me have some peace..."

Long Jie understood that Tangning was in a bad mood, so she nodded her head and quietly retreated out of the study room. Just as she was about to turn around and leave, she discovered Mo Ting's tall figure standing in the doorway.

The savior had arrived!

"Boss...Tangning's angry."

"I heard," Mo Ting replied calmly. "You can leave, I'll take care of her."

"OK," with Mo Ting around, Long Jie felt a lot more assured. Now that things had gotten to this point, no one wanted to see the current result.

A moment later, Mo Ting pushed open the door. As soon as he saw Tangning sitting at the computer desk at a loss, he strode over and swept her into his arms, "You are almost a mother, don't you know how to analyze the situation and react accordingly?"

"Ting...I can't seem to find an answer this time. I really can't find it..."

"You're just flustered. It's not that you can't find it," Mo Ting comforted as he held her in his arms. "This is the state that your enemy wants to see you in. The more you blame yourself, the happier she will be."

"But..."

Chapter 702: If Elder Wu Hasn't Plagiarized, Where's The Evidence ?

“There are no buts. Nothing is too difficult for the Tangning I know. Even when she had never studied acting before, one word from me was enough to make her start from scratch. Right now, you are no different. You’re just a little flustered...” Mo Ting comforted. “I’ve read through Elder Wu’s script. A person’s writing style remains consistent. So, our only hope is within these 540,000 words.”

After listening to Mo Ting, Tangning calmed down and finally nodded her head, “OK, I’ll listen to you. You are never wrong.”

“You must be tired, go get some rest...”

Tangning looked at Mo Ting, checking to see if there was any chance of avoiding his orders. But, Mo Ting’s expression was firm, so she had no choice but to nod her head, “OK, I’ll get some rest. But, I need to stay by your side to be at ease.”

She couldn’t be too impatient in finding her answers. What she needed to do now was regain her composure.

Afterwards, Tangning lay in Mo Ting’s arms and slowly fell asleep.

It seemed, she was truly tired...

Seeing this, Mo Ting opened his laptop and selected the novel, ‘The Tracker’. Reading one word at a time, Mo Ting ended up spending an entire night running his eyes through the whole thing. Of course, he gained a lot from doing this...

The next morning, Tangning woke up in Mo Ting’s arms. Seeing his focus locked on the novel, Tangning’s heart ached, “Have you been reading all night?”

“Don’t mind that for now. Come and have a look at this.”

Mo Ting showed Tangning a screenshot, “See what you can find.”

Tangning leaned on the computer desk as she sat between Mo Ting’s arms looking carefully at the laptop screen. Soon, she spotted the problem, “The writing style is different; the vocabulary is different; it doesn’t feel like it’s from the same person.”

“The differences are found around the 200,000 words mark, 250,000 words mark, 400,000 words mark and the 450,000 words mark.”

“Are you trying to say that this novel was completed by a few different people?” Tangning asked in an unsure manner.

“Yes, and it was done in a short period of time,” Mo Ting replied. “I asked Lu Che to do some research into people in the web novel field and discovered that the fastest record amongst the most famous writers is 50,000-80,000 words in 3-4 days. If a few people took on a few ten thousand words each, a book could be completed within 10 days.”

“But, the contract existed long ago...” Tangning remembered the contract.

“The contract is real, but who could guarantee that this was the original content?”

Tangning was awoken by this simple query, "In other words, the other party deliberately lied to us. Let's go look at the contract and question them about the content."

"I've already asked Lu Che to look into it. Web novels are different to tangible books. It's possible to edit a web novel after it's been published. The reason why we couldn't find any information about this book online is proof of one thing: it has either been tampered...or it has never had so many words to begin with and someone added to it."

After listening to Mo Ting's analysis, Tangning had to admit that she was impressed by this man.

Of course, she was also impressed by Song Xin's evilness.

"So, if we find these writers and records of the web novel being edited, can we prove Elder Wu's innocence?"

"I don't need to make a move myself," Mo Ting brushed his hand across Tangning's cheek lovingly before he rested his chin on her shoulder, "All we need to do is release our findings to the public. I've realized, the best writer amongst the group has begun to clean and edit the chapters. This must mean that they are afraid of being discovered."

"Since someone's actually editing it, let's approach it from another angle and accuse the web novel platform owner of being a part of it."

"Actually, I trust in the judgment of the netizens more," Tangning said after calming down. "The only reason why they are so angry is because they support the original writer and dislike plagiarism. But, Elder Wu..."

"Everything will pass."

After hearing Mo Ting's words of comfort, Tangning nodded her head.

"I feel like my brain doesn't work anymore."

"Baby brain lasts three years, I won't blame you," Mo Ting kissed Tangning gently on the forehead.

Of course, the netizens requests for Hai Rui to apologize and to ban their film was as loud as ever. At the same time, their scolding towards Elder Wu did not cease. As his family couldn't handle it anymore, Elder Wu's wife decided to accept an interview with the media to show them his manuscripts, records of character design, places he had visited and people he had interviewed.

"My Old Wu has dedicated his life to his art. For the sake of film, he has done everything possible. I never expected that he'd be insulted like this in the end."

"I don't know what the culprit's motive is, but they shouldn't dream of getting anything from us."

"What goes around comes around. This evil person will definitely get their retribution."

Because of Madam Wu's willingness to speak up, all those that Elder Wu had interviewed began to step out and vouch for him.

"Elder Wu always does a lot of real-life research when he designs his characters so he can understand their emotions. This isn't something that a plagiarist does."

But...there were still more people that were against Elder Wu.

“Plagiarism is plagiarism, end of story.”

“If Elder Wu hasn’t plagiarized, where’s the evidence?”

There was no evidence!

If he had evidence, would he attempt suicide?

At this time, the author of ‘The Tracker’ couldn’t stand being slandered, so his attitude became even more arrogant, “If he didn’t plagiarize me, I’ll break my hands!”

Both parties appeared like victims, but evidence was only favorable towards the author of ‘The Tracker’...

However, during this frustrating time, Hai Rui finally spoke up and released a PR statement titled, ‘Remember what you’ve said’.

The main purpose of the statement was to tell everyone that Hai Rui would begin to release evidence of Elder Wu’s innocence that night at 7pm; if Hai Rui managed to prove Elder Wu’s innocence, the author of ‘The Tracker’ better remember his promise.

He said he’d break his arms!

The author did not think it was possible for Hai Rui to find anything, so he replied confidently, “If I promise something, I’ll do it!”

As a result, the incident escalated to a new high. This time, a pair of hands were involved!

“What kind of evidence can Hai Rui show us? I’m curious how they plan to turn the tables.”

“Their not going to use lame excuses and perverted logic to manipulate the public, are they?”

“Hai Rui has never done anything like that. They’ve always been straightforward and honest, so I’m really anticipating tonight.”

“Can they still turn the tables? Isn’t the evidence already clear? I don’t want to hear any excuses!”

“If Hai Rui plan to make excuses for the plagiarizing dog, I will hate them for life! Even if I like a celebrity from Hai Rui, I will not accept them.”

Chapter 703: More And More Confusing

“Evidence?” Song Xin sipped her coffee casually at home, “I would like to see what evidence Hai Rui can produce.”

She assumed that her plan was perfect. At least, for those outside the industry, she did not expect them to see any flaws.

Unfortunately, the people she was up against were Mo Ting and Tangning.

The author of 'The Tracker' felt a little guilty, so he called Song Xin for help. But, Song Xin told the man calmly, "Don't worry, Hai Rui won't be able to produce any evidence. As long as you stick to your guns, Hai Rui can't do anything to us."

"But...this matter involves my hands..."

"There are no buts."

Song Xin assumed that the other party didn't know she was the mastermind behind the entire incident. Otherwise, why were they so anxious? This was where Song Xin was smart; she knew how to stay out of the main focus of the battle. Even if the truth was to be exposed, she knew she'd walk away unscathed without anyone drawing any relation back to her.

Plus, she was confident that everything was just a part of Hai Rui's PR scheme. After all, didn't Hai Rui always handle matters in this way?

However, the author was a lot more anxious than Song Xin. He had bet his own two hands on this matter. If Hai Rui actually produced evidence, what was he to do?

The public paid close attention to the progression of the incident; they especially wanted to know if Hai Rui could produce evidence. Wasn't the contract for 'The Tracker' already conclusive evidence? Did they actually have something that was more conclusive?

What a joke!

It was impossible!

Everyone waited for the arrival of 7pm, especially the screenwriters and authors that teamed up to boycott 'The Lost Relative'. They were filled with righteous indignation and were ready to swallow Elder Wu alive. But, if Hai Rui actually produced evidence...

...what was to happen to their pride?

...

Time passed, one second at a time. It felt extremely slow, but the time everyone was waiting for eventually arrived.

During this period of time, no other news was more attractive than Hai Rui's announcement that they'd be presenting evidence.

"Stop going in circles Hai Rui! Hurry and show us what you've got!"

"Hai Rui, stop playing with our emotions. It's already one minute past 7pm."

"Where's the evidence? Was it all a lie?"

Not long after, Hai Rui's official website released a PR statement filled with their findings; it composed of 9 whole pages of solid evidence.

Within the PR statement, Hai Rui quoted all the sections within 'The Tracker' that were inconsistent and explained, "An author's writing style should remain the same. The terms, the phrases, the punctuations

and tone used, should be consistent. But, please look at this 540,000 word novel. Within 'The Tracker', there exists a few different writing styles. Perhaps, the author is schizophrenic?"

"I'm sure fans of reading novels can immediately spot the differences. If the author isn't schizophrenic, how did he produce this result?"

At this point, Hai Rui used the remaining 8 pages to point out inconsistencies and other flaws within the novel.

Hai Rui was letting everyone look at the findings first, so they could interpret it in their own way. They wanted them to trust that Hai Rui were presenting them with real evidence and that they weren't just making random accusations.

Didn't they ask for evidence?

Hai Rui was giving it to them!

Because Hai Rui did not give a definitive answer, those that paid attention to the incident, quickly went online to look at the evidence.

Before they looked at it, they did not have any doubts. But, as soon as they looked at it, they questioned why the same novel would have 5-6 different styles of expression.

Oh God!

"I originally thought Hai Rui were trying to play tricks. But, I never expected them to be so detailed as to actually show us screenshots as evidence."

"The author can't deny this. Hai Rui took screenshots directly from the web novel site and the web address and date are clearly shown. It can't be faked."

"Woah, what a shocking turn of events! The author is crazy, this is obviously written by 5-6 different people."

"Is the author mentally ill?"

"Before the author claims that others are plagiarizing him, he should first step out and explain why his novel was written by 5-6 different people."

"It seems Hai Rui has been very serious in looking for evidence. They even discovered something as detailed as this."

"This evidence from Hai Rui is awesome! It seems, they've paved the path for a faceslap!"

This was Hai Rui's intelligence. They did not immediately reveal their trump card. Instead, they created an illusion that Hai Rui could produce any evidence possible and that they were merely leaving the author and supporters of the author with a bit pride.

"8pm. We will answer everyone's questions and explain why there were 5-6 different writers," Hai Rui left everyone hanging.

The truth felt close. And because of this, opinions began to sway.

Those that were certain that Elder Wu had plagiarized, those that angrily scolded him and practically pushed him to end his life, were no longer as certain as before. If there was nothing wrong with the author, he wouldn't have gotten 5-6 different writers to help him write his novel.

Plus, no one had even heard of this novel before. Was there a need to find so many other writers?

All this information indicated that there were more unknown secrets yet to be revealed.

"This whole thing is becoming more and more confusing!"

"The author's evidence doesn't seem fake, but Hai Rui's evidence is also real. I went to read 'The Tracker' and found that the novel was exactly as it appeared in Hai Rui's screenshots; there are parts that are extremely incoherent. It's obvious that it was written by multiple people."

"I really want to know the truth. What is this all about?!"

Faced with the reactions from the public, the author went from feeling panic to guilt.

He knew, not only would this incident put him to shame, he was also going to lose his hands because of it!

But, there were still a few people that stubbornly supported him.

"Even if there is a problem with the author, it doesn't mean that Elder Wu did not plagiarize."

"That's right. At most, this will simply prove that the author isn't an honest person either. Every industry has its injustices; it's a normal occurrence!"

"Hold your horses, Hai Rui said that they'd reveal everything at 8pm. Everyone needs a bit of time to look through the evidence. Do you think you're a God and that everything you assume is right?"

All of a sudden, the internet was filled with conflicting opinions. But, it was clear that Hai Rui's first step was a success. Even so, Tangning's motive was not to simply punish the author – she also wanted to tear apart the mastermind behind the entire incident.

However, Song Xin did not make an appearance from beginning to end. How were they to prove her involvement?

Tangning wasn't going to let Song Xin remain so lucky.

She was definitely going to find a chance to catch her out!

Chapter 704: Tangning Fights Back

8pm. Another difficult amount of waiting.

The author paced back and forth at home in honest fear. He realized Hai Rui wasn't easy to deal with and that he shouldn't have agreed to Song Xin's suggestion from the start because of greed. He had actually believed Song Xin's words and thought that Hai Rui would never discover the truth. Who would have thought...

...Hai Rui was Hai Rui for a reason. A person like him should have never underestimated them!

“What should I do? What should I do?” Due to guilt, the author once again gave Song Xin a phone call. However, Song Xin did not answer his call.

Even though she doubted that Hai Rui would be able to find any more information, she was sneaky enough to avoid the author’s phone calls to reduce her risk of being discovered.

In reality, the fact that Hai Rui got screenshots and discovered the novel was written by multiple people, was already beyond her expectations. She never imagined that they had even more.

Soon, 8pm arrived.

As nosy observers, the netizens were ready to welcome new revelations. They were curious if Hai Rui had anything else to show them.

However, they never expected to witness a spectacular catfight. But wait, this was no ordinary catfight, it had become a suspenseful mystery.

The time was right and Hai Rui’s website had a new update. And this newest update contained a video.

Appearing on the video was a famous editor of an online literary website and beside her sat a laptop that was logged into a website management system. Of course, all that she wanted to show the public were a few things that those within the industry already knew about.

Within the video, she made an edit to a chapter of a novel that had been published a few years ago and replaced the old chapter with completely new content. This demonstrated the flexibility of the industry in this regard.

It had nothing to do with its contract; the content could be easily changed at a later date!

After watching the video, the public quickly understood what Hai Rui was trying to demonstrate.

Why did everyone focus on the date of the contract and not consider that ‘The Tracker’ may have been completely replaced with new content at a later date? This explained why there were multiple writers.

Because, if multiple people worked on it, it was possible to produce an entire novel in a short period of time.

Oh God!

So, this was the truth! The culprit had merely used an illusion to almost get away with a huge crime.

Observers of the incident were shocked. They originally thought that it was a simple case of plagiarism, but they never imagined that it involved so many schemes and secrets.

After the truth was revealed, everyone fell silent!

It didn’t take long before Fang Yu accepted an interview with the media and provided a conclusion for the entire incident.

“Hai Rui believes that everyone can already determine the truth. Regarding the plagiarism between ‘The Tracker’ and ‘The Lost Relative’, I’m sure everyone has come to a reasonable conclusion.”

“Hai Rui promised that they’d prove Elder Wu’s innocence, so Hai Rui has achieved that. What about the author of ‘The Tracker’? If I remember correctly, you confidently accused Elder Wu of plagiarizing your work and if he didn’t, you’d break your hands. I hope you remember your promise. I will be waiting to see the results.”

“Then, there are the aggressive netizens. Of course, Hai Rui is already accustomed to it. After all, the majority of people in the world are heartless and brainless. We can’t blame those that can’t think for themselves. If medicine had deemed them as mentally retarded, we can’t do anything about that.”

“Oh, by the way, I need to give a special mention to the ‘righteous’ people that slandered ‘The Lost Relative’. We really can’t underestimate the power of this army of ‘original’ authors. Unfortunately, all you’ve done is acted as an accessory to someone else’s crime! In the end, you are all intelligent, educated people. But, because of your constant pressuring, Elder Wu almost responded by killing himself! What a bunch of trash!”

“If you still have a bit of conscience, you should dig a hole and hide yourself inside!”

Fang Yu’s words were bone-piercingly direct, without restraint!

After all, there were some things posted online that really stirred up one’s anger. Because, a sentence that appeared harmless, was actually capable of destroying a person’s future or even their life.

As a human, couldn’t they keep their mouths shut? Couldn’t they analyze a situation properly before they gave their opinion?

“Hai Rui will not follow up on this matter from this point forward. But, regarding the reason why the author created such a scheme and whether anyone instigated them to do this, Hai Rui will not let them off the hook. As for those that tried to stop ‘The Lost Relative’ from screening, don’t worry, it will be officially released tomorrow. Everyone is welcome to go watch it and show their support.”

After Fang Yu’s interview, the internet overflowed with sounds of apologies.

As the population became more and more educated, most people knew how to self-reflect.

“Sorry, Elder Wu! We are truly sorry!”

“We never thought that Elder Wu was innocent. We are so sorry.”

“Although it’s a bit awkward, we should all go to the theater and show our support. This is the best form of apology!”

“You’re right. We will go to the theater tomorrow. I will also like to point out that the author of ‘The Tracker’ is shameless.”

Perhaps to protect his hands, the author went into hiding and did not respond. He completely dismissed his previous arrogance. A little while later, a netizen named ‘Small Dagger’ admitted online that she was one of the writers of ‘The Tracker’, but she had no idea that such a big conspiracy was involved and that she’d be used in such a way.

She explained that she did what she did because she had no choice and needed to survive. But, after seeing Elder Wu attempt suicide, she felt so guilty that she couldn’t eat or sleep.

In addition, she presented everyone with evidence of her involvement, which included the portion she worked on and the drafts.

With this, the truth was obvious.

Everything was clear as ice.

“Elder Wu is innocent. I would like to give my sincerest apologies!”

Even though the truth had been revealed, another question still existed: why did the author plan such a thing? Was it simply to get a cut of the profits?

But, ‘The Lost Relative’ had nothing to do with him, how did he think of creating a scheme against it?

This was the question that Hai Rui left the public with.

Of course, when Hai Rui said that they’d investigate into a matter, they would definitely investigate it!

“Everything has been clarified. Elder Wu’s innocence has been proven.”

“It’s not enough,” hearing Long Jie’s complaint, Tangning’s expression did not lighten. “Don’t forget, even if Elder Wu wakes up, he will still be affected by dementia. I will definitely expose the mastermind behind this entire incident no matter how she tries to hide.”

“Do you have a follow-up plan?” Long Jie asked in surprise.

Chapter 705: Imminent Disaster

“She’s managed to resolve the problem. What a hopeless bunch of trash.” Song Xin was at home reading through the news. When she saw what had happened, she threw the glass of red wine in her hand onto the floor. This was her way of releasing her anger. But, as she watched the red liquid spread, it only made her even more annoyed.

Her original intention was to stop Tangning’s film from screening. But, to her surprise, not only did she not succeed, she helped her with a crazy round of free publicity.

Now, how great was ‘The Lost Relative’ going to perform in theaters tomorrow?

Song Xin simply thought that her scheme had failed, but she had no idea that Tangning had already set her as a target. This time, Tangning was going to reverse the roles and play a little game with her.

...

Meanwhile, the author of ‘The Tracker’ went completely missing. It seemed, not only was he afraid that Hai Rui would come looking for him, he was also worried that they’d force him to break his hands. So, he hid away and did not dare to make an appearance.

But, tracking down a person wasn’t a hard task for Hai Rui. Especially with the help of the online community which consisted of people from all walks of life. So, it didn’t take long before Hai Rui found the author.

Tangning couldn't be bothered meeting with the scum. Instead, after finding the man, she spoke to Fang Yu on the phone for over half an hour. The content of their phone call was confidential; apart from Fang Yu, Mo Ting and herself, no fourth person would ever know what they discussed.

Soon, the author was invited to the meeting room in Hai Rui. Although the author had already prepared himself for what was to come, he still couldn't help but shudder as he arrived at the building.

Fang Yu put aside a little bit of time to see the shameless scum; mainly because he and Tangning would not be rest assured if they left the responsibility to someone else.

"I am the Vice President of Hai Rui, Fang Yu," Fang Yu said as he entered the meeting room. However, he did not stretch out his hand for a handshake; he obviously did not hold any regard for the man.

"I...I know what to do." The man was 24 to 25-years-old with a skinny build and a buzz cut. He simply looked like a college student, but no one expected that this man was the person that caused a huge commotion in Beijing's entertainment industry.

"It's good that you know. I won't ask you about other things since Hai Rui is running its own investigation, I simply want you to tell me who instigated this incident and who taught you what to do," Fang Yu asked as he sat on the corner of the coffee table and leaned forward. "I'm sure you know what the consequences are for lying. It's extremely easy for Hai Rui to make you suffer."

The man was obviously scared speechless; his hands remained behind his body the entire time, afraid that Hai Rui would remember his promise.

"A...a woman contacted me online and gave me a sum of money to do it. I simply followed her orders. I honestly never knew things would end up like this. I beg you not to break my hands."

"Break your hands?" Fang Yu laughed as he shook his head, "We are civilized people; we don't resort to such violence. But, weren't you the one who suggested it from the start?"

"I was just joking...It was a simple joke."

"Then, let's make other jokes from now on." After speaking, Fang Yu gave the man a piece of information. He still remembered the grudge he had with Huo Jingjing deeply.

After meeting with the author, Fang Yu was about to take the information he received to the CEO's office. But, the stylish sunglass-clad Song Xin ended up looking for him first.

"How long are Hai Rui planning to disregard me for?" Song Xin asked as she entered Fang Yu's office and removed her sunglasses. "My manager is still in the hospital. Has Hai Rui completely forgotten about me?"

"As you are aware, your manager is a thief, so the public are bound to tie you two together. The reason why Hai Rui has done what they've done is because they're hoping for the situation to die down as soon as possible. You don't want your fans to look at you with prejudice, do you?" Fang Yu asked as he raised an eyebrow.

"I knew you would say that. That's why I want to cancel my contract with Hai Rui," Song Xin said as she tapped on Fang Yu's desk. "I will pay the compensation."

“I’ve already spoken to President Mo about this. He said that he wants to wait until your fate with Hai Rui comes to an end. But, that time has definitely not come yet.” After giving his response, Fang Yu asked, “I’m going to the CEO’s office, what about you?”

“Does Hai Rui plan to continue treating me like this?”

“Don’t worry, President Mo has already said that he’d hire a new manager and schedule new jobs for you. Just go home and wait for notification.”

Song Xin glared at Fang Yu and gave a loud snort before she put on her sunglasses and left the office.

Fang Yu’s expression turned icy cold as he watched Song Xin leave. She was a talented person, but she was vicious and held no regard for other people’s lives. It was hard to tell what her heart was made of.

Was she waiting for more jobs?

She should be waiting for her retribution because that would definitely arrive faster!

...

Of course, today was also the first day of screening for ‘The Lost Relative’. According to real-time statistics from the box office, the box office had already surpassed \$100 million in ticket sales by 4 pm. This was the fastest crime film to ever break the \$100 million mark in Beijing. Of course, this was all thanks to the publicity created by Song Xin.

“Only after watching the film did I realize that Elder Wu couldn’t have possibly plagiarized. The film is completely in the ‘Wu Style’.”

“We really need to apologize to Elder Wu and Tangning. Elder Wu honestly put his heart into writing the script and Tangning acted out her character seriously. Both of them deserve to be respected.”

“I am once again stunned by Tangning; three movies, three characters, and she fit every single role perfectly without showing any traces of acting. What a shock!”

“It was so exciting to watch. My God, I’ve got goosebumps! Tangning has amazing explosive power! Even though her character ran into her husband a good few times in the film without recognizing him, the fight scenes were much too enjoyable.”

“It’s extremely rare to see such a serious actress. I would love to see all my favorite novels being portrayed by Tangning. I’m sure she would live up to expectations.”

“The film deserves praise and is worthy of watching twice!”

“I’m going to watch it again with my boyfriend tonight!”

Because the film got off to a great start, ‘The Lost Relative’ no longer needed to spend money on publicity. With the additional guilty conscience of the public, the box office continued to soar, leaving other films in the dust...

Tangning proved her abilities and her status.

“Are there any characters that Tangning can’t play?”

During this time, the author of 'The Tracker' couldn't withstand the pressures anymore, so he decided to reveal the ins and outs of the entire plagiarism incident to the public. While he was getting ready, Song Xin was completely unaware of the imminent disaster that was headed her way...

Chapter 706: Win Or Lose

For his own safety, the author accepted an interview from a famous reporter and did not meet with too many other people.

During the interview, he had his head down, but he managed to explain the entire incident in detail, including the moment when he first received a phone call from the instigator.

"I was indeed instructed by someone, but I never saw who she was, nor was I told of her identity. All I know is, she is also an author and she is part of the entertainment industry."

"She is young; roughly 22 to 23-years-old and she is very cautious about what she says."

"Her final motive was to prevent Tangning's film from screening."

"I investigated her phone number and IP address, but all I discovered was that she is located somewhere near the national university. I couldn't find anything else."

The instigator was an author from the entertainment industry; she was 22 to 23-years-old with a deep grudge towards Tangning; and most importantly, she lived near the national university. With so much information, finding this person wasn't going to be hard. And with the amazing research abilities of netizens, they quickly produced a list of candidates which matched some of the given criteria. But, in the end, only one person ticked all the boxes: Song Xin!

Song Xin did not expect to be locked on as a suspect so easily. In fact, she wasn't even given any time to react before the internet began its scolding.

"Is this the Song Xin that has a thief for a manager?"

"Isn't she the artist that was very famous in Beijing just a few days ago? But, because of her manager, she began to lose fans. I never imagined her to be so evil."

"I can't believe it. They are both in completely different fields. Why would she treat Tangning in this way? She even caused Elder Wu to attempt suicide."

"Haha, this woman has always been arrogant. I assume she couldn't stand that Tangning was more famous than her and that she had access to more resources than her. It's not that strange at all."

"If it's really Song Xin, I hope she dies!"

"What a bitch and a piece of trash! She's too evil!"

"I used to think the songs written by her were good, but from now on, I will have to wave goodbye to her. There are plenty of people in this world that write good songs; I will leave my support for the ones with a kind heart."

“Could Hai Rui please ban her from taking any more jobs, so this crazy woman can stop harming others.”

The internet was filled with scolding and, of course, Song Xin was notified of this. As soon as she realized what was going on, she was shocked.

She never expected that she'd be discovered and exposed. How was this possible?

So, a minute later, Song Xin gave Fang Yu a phone call and asked in a stern voice, “What's with the scolding from the public? How did I suddenly get slandered? Why hasn't Hai Rui done any PR? What are you planning to do about this?”

“Hai Rui is in the process of uncovering the truth.”

“The truth? The truth is, you should first protect the reputation of your artist. Unless this is how Hai Rui treats their artists? I've seen that Tangning's reputation has been well-maintained. Is she perhaps being treated differently?”

“Even when something happens to Tangning, Hai Rui won't do anything PR related until they've uncovered the truth. If you're innocent, why should you be afraid of being investigated?” Fang Yu asked calmly.

“Great, that's great! From what I see, the entire Hai Rui has been opened for the sake of Tangning.” After speaking, Song Xin hung up the phone and called Xiao Yuhe, “I'm being slandered, it's terrible.”

Xiao Yuhe had already found out about everything online. Even though Song Xin was a suspect, there wasn't conclusive evidence, so he didn't think that she deserved to be attacked.

“Song Xin, tell me honestly, did you do this?”

Song Xin was caught out by Xiao Yuhe's question. Although she didn't know what Xiao Yuhe had planned, she ended up denying everything after a short pause, “What are you talking about? What has something like this got to do with me?”

“Even with me, you can't be honest? I can only protect you if you are honest.”

“I really didn't do it,” Song Xin continued to deny, “Trust me...”

“Fine. I hope you remember everything I've done for you,” Xiao Yuhe said before he hung up the phone.

Song Xin was a little stunned. After hanging up the phone, she reached for her chest and felt her heart racing. Why did she feel so guilty?

She didn't know how Xiao Yuhe planned to help her draw away the public's attention, all she knew was, he was now her only hope...

Of course, Tangning knew that Song Xin wasn't going to admit defeat so easily. Especially when there wasn't any solid evidence. But, faced with a sly woman like Song Xin, she had her own tricks.

...

Inside the peaceful hospital, night had hit...

Duan Jinghong never expected that Tangning would come looking for her. She didn't notice when Tangning had walked into her room, all she knew was when she awoke from her sleep, Tangning was already sitting on the sofa near her bed. Of course, if she was to find out that Mo Ting was just outside the room door, she would be even more surprised.

"You..."

"You've already paid back for what you did to Huo Jingjing. But, what about what you did to me?" Tangning asked as she raised an eyebrow.

Duan Jinghong looked deeply into Tangning's eyes and realized Tangning practically saw right through her and knew everything she was thinking.

"You...you are referring to..."

"I'm talking about how you provoked Hua Wenfeng into placing Quinidine in my chicken soup," Tangning blinked and continued before Duan Jinghong could refute, "Although you had a disguise on at the time, Hua Wenfeng still identified you through some surveillance footage we showed her. Are you still going to deny it?"

As soon as Duan Jinghong heard this, her palms became sweaty.

"You don't need to be afraid. The person I'm looking for is the initial instigator," Tangning comforted. "You know better than anyone how difficult Song Xin is to deal with. She's sneaky, cunning and good at defending herself. I'm sure you must also hate her, right?"

Duan Jinghong bit her bottom lip and did not say a word.

"As for the incident with Elder Wu..."

"She did it..." Duan Jinghong blurted. "But I can't help you testify against her. Or else, I'll be testifying against myself."

"So, you're waiting for me to uncover it? Won't Song Xin bite back and blame it all on you instead? Huh?" Tangning asked with a slight smile. "If you make a move first, I'm sure you won't be implicated. In fact, you may receive sympathy from everyone."

"Think about it. Are you more willing to trust Song Xin or me?"

When comparing the two, she obviously trusted Tangning more. There was no doubt about it.

"Song Xin will definitely find a chance to defend herself. If we don't find someone close to her to testify against her first, I'm certain she will bite back at you to protect herself from being betrayed. What do you think? If she can't find a way to retreat, she will definitely throw the blame on you. If you plan to wait until that time to fight back, what do you think are your chances of success?"

Chapter 707: Are You Actually Disappointed By Me ?

Even though Tangning had made things extremely clear for her, Duan Jinghong couldn't help but consider her friendship with Song Xin when asked to testify against her. Even though she didn't want to

be so emotional; even though she almost lost her legs; she still didn't want to do it. Sometimes, people just didn't know what was good for them.

Yet, there were times when she would happily skin Song Xin alive and pull out every tendon in her body.

Tangning glanced at Song Xin. After seeing the complex look in her eyes, she let out a sigh, "It seems, you still need time to think it over. But, I must warn you, everything that Song Xin has done will definitely be exposed sooner or later." After speaking, Tangning stood up from the sofa to leave. But, before she reached the door, Duan Jinghong suddenly asked, "How much do you hate Song Xin?"

"I'll show you with my actions," Tangning answered without looking back before she left the room.

Duan Jinghong slowly relaxed. At this moment, she finally realized how afraid of Tangning she was and how panic-stricken she was around her...

On the way home, Mo Ting wrapped his arm around Tangning and protectively guarded her stomach; afraid that she may suffer any slight bump.

"Your chat with Duan Jinghong didn't go well?"

"Yes, it's obvious that Duan Jinghong hasn't lost all faith in Song Xin," Tangning replied. "Either way, it's good that she still has a conscience."

"Duan Jinghong has a conscience, but Song Xin may not!"

If Song Xin had a conscience, she wouldn't have planned out so many inhumane schemes. Worst of all, she didn't even show mercy towards children or the elderly.

"Duan Jinghong will definitely testify against Song Xin sooner or later." Tangning was certain of this, even though her conversation with Duan Jinghong did not go smoothly. She knew that Duan Jinghong was merely remaining silent because she had not been hurt deep enough. So, Tangning was going to let them continue fighting amongst themselves. No, to be exact, she was going to let Song Xin continue to scheme against Duan Jinghong.

...

Ever since staying the night in the resort village bed and breakfast owned by An Zihao's friend, Chen Xingyan 'went home' after work a lot more often. Under normal circumstances, An Zihao would deliberately remain on set to check the progress of filming. Firstly, he needed to keep an eye on Ling Long in case she played any tricks, but more importantly, it made it more convenient for him to take Chen Xingyan straight to the resort village after filming was done. Whether handling business matters, cooking a meal together or simply staring into space, as long as they got to spend time together, they were satisfied. After all, it was Chen Xingyan's first relationship; if she could, she would spend 24 hours stuck to him. Because of her affection, An Zihao felt like he had gotten a lot younger...

Meanwhile, after Ling Long tricked Chen Xingyan, the crew pretended like nothing had happened. However, they found every opportunity to help Chen Xingyan create trouble for Ling Long.

As a result, Ling Long also experienced the desperation of being left on the mountain by herself. To enhance Ling Long's pitiful situation, the crew even made sure that it was a rainy day before they implemented their plan to trick her.

Ling Long came crying back to the director that night to complain. But, she was told that the director was having dinner with people from Hai Rui.

Hai Rui...

Needless to say, Mo Ting was definitely here to get justice for his sister.

“Our President Mo only has one sister. If she gets bullied by a ‘nobody’ like this, what would happen to his pride?”

“We will naturally handle it,” the director replied apologetically. “We will take good care of Xingyan. Tell President Mo not to worry.”

“In that case, I’ll leave Chen Xingyan with you...”

At that time, Ling Long was eavesdropping from the door. After finding out that the director had spoken to Hai Rui, she no longer had the courage to pick on Chen Xingyan. Although the public was rumoring that Chen Xingyan was Mo Ting’s sister, Mo Ting had never admitted to it, so Chen Xingyan continued to try her luck. But, now...

...even if someone gave her ten lifetimes of courage, she would be too afraid to oppose Chen Xingyan again.

Chen Xingyan wasn’t aware that Mo Ting had sent someone to help her. Ever since being in a relationship, apart from placing her focus on filming, the rest of her time was spent on An Zihao. No matter what time of day, all she thought about was how to take advantage of him and steal some kisses.

That night, the couple were once again resting at the bed and breakfast. An Zihao was helping Chen Xingyan study her script, but the little brat’s mind was elsewhere.

“Are you listening?” An Zihao lifted his head and noticed that Chen Xingyan was staring at him, so his voice became a little angered.

“If you give me a kiss, I will memorize this entire scene.”

An Zihao took a deep breath. As he looked at Chen Xingyan and noticed that her mind was elsewhere, he had no choice but to give up, “I’ve spent so much effort to support you, why can’t you be more serious? Do you know how many people would dream of having your luck?”

“As I’ve said before, my dream has always been to be a stunt double. Of course, that is now in the past because you are now my only interest...” Chen Xingyan responded.

“That’s because you are still young and your mind is not yet fully mature. I’m starting to wonder if being with you so soon was a good thing or bad thing.”

After hearing this, Chen Xingyan’s expression suddenly changed, like she had been unexpectedly stung by something.

“When you’re with me, can’t you refrain from talking about work? It’s not like I haven’t done what you’ve asked me to do...”

An Zihao understood Chen Xingyan's temper, so he did not argue back. He simply nodded his head, "I won't talk about work anymore. Let's go to sleep."

"Are you going to sleep with me?"

"Chen Xingyan, are you aware of your age?" An Zihao asked.

Chen Xingyan took the opportunity to lie on An Zihao's body and steal a kiss before quickly moving away. An Zihao was helpless against her. So, after coaxing her to sleep, he went to fetch a blanket to sleep on the sofa. But, after turning off the lights, Chen Xingyan suddenly asked, "Are you going to sign another artist? For example, someone like Annie?"

"I'm not sure," An Zihao replied.

"If you have a superstar in your hands, will you give up the idea of signing someone else?"

"Perhaps."

"An Zihao, are you actually disappointed by me?"

This time, An Zihao did not respond; he had already fallen asleep. But, Chen Xingyan continued to lay in bed, unable to sleep. For some reason, she felt a little disappointed by herself. However, she was born without restraint. If love arrived at her doorstep, she wasn't going to think too much...

Meanwhile, An Zihao actually had his own pressures. After all, Chen Xingyan wasn't anyone else, she was Mo Ting's sister.

And what type of person was Mo Ting? An Zihao knew better than anyone that Mo Ting's sister wasn't someone that anyone could be with. Especially since his sister wasn't even 20-years-old yet.

He really wanted to present some results to Mo Ting, so he could at least prove that he was worthy of being with his sister. But, the little brat in bed wasn't very cooperative...

Chapter 708: Always Hold Back A Little, In Case We Meet Again!

Tangning's expectations were right. Song Xin visited Duan Jinghong at the hospital early the next morning. Although Duan Jinghong knew why Song Xin was here, she did not hate her as much as she thought when she actually saw her again – even though she abandoned her on the first day of the incident to protect herself.

"Jinghong, I need your help..." Xiao Yuhe had already prepared a PR tactic, but Song Xin was afraid that things would go wrong when it came to Duan Jinghong. So, she still pretended to be hated by the public and that she had no one to rely on.

"In my current state, how can I help you?" Duan Jinghong asked with self-ridicule.

"In order to bring me down, Tangning will definitely come to look for you. But, my career has already fallen into a slump. I can't afford to lose my chance at making a comeback as well. So, can you leave Beijing and not let anyone find you? I swear, as long as I return to my former glory, I will take you back and treat you well."

Duan Jinghong wasn't charmed by Song Xin's words as her expression remained calm and even a little indifferent, "Has President Xiao prepared something for you to fall back on?"

Song Xin froze for a moment. Slowly a fake smile appeared on her face, "Why would you think that?"

"Tangning's already spoken to me," Duan Jinghong revealed calmly. "She hoped that I would testify against you, but I did not agree, because I thought about our past. We've fought side by side since our university days. Even though you've turned evil, I will never have the heart to treat you ruthlessly."

"Tangning's already spoken to you?" Song Xin completely ignored Duan Jinghong's kind gesture and simply latched onto the fact that Duan Jinghong had already met with Tangning.

So, she naturally didn't trust Duan Jinghong...

She didn't trust her at all.

"Yes, she came to see me last night."

"Tangning's offer must have been very attractive," Song Xin suddenly fell into a panic. Was she going to make a move on someone that she had worked with for many years?

"At this moment, you must be thinking of a way to deal with me, right?" Duan Jinghong understood Song Xin well as she directly exposed her. "I wonder if you feel even the slightest bit of uneasiness."

Song Xin's gaze darkened as she noticed an unusual sense of danger in Duan Jinghong's eyes.

"I promise you, I'll leave." In the end, Duan Jinghong surrendered and came to a compromise, "I'll leave immediately."

At this moment, in Song Xin's eyes, she assumed that everything that Duan Jinghong did was a part of Tangning's plan. So, even though Duan Jinghong said she'd leave, Song Xin was still not at ease.

"No, don't leave. Come live with me instead."

Hearing Song Xin's suggestion, Duan Jinghong laughed in ridicule but did not say a word. Tangning probably foresaw this moment.

"You won't be able to take me with you," Duan Jinghong explained calmly. "Tangning has arranged for 4 bodyguards to guard the door."

Song Xin looked at her in surprise.

"Guys, come in," Duan Jinghong yelled towards the door. This was a sign that Song Xin was about to lose her chance to ever see Duan Jinghong again.

"You betrayed me in the end and became a follower of Tangning's."

After hearing this, Duan Jinghong was quite amused, "You're the one that's always prioritized your own interests. Song Xin, don't compete with Tangning. As a friend, this is my last warning. Also, I would like to remind you that Tangning knows that you tried to kill her child. I assume she will exhaust all means to make you pay back. Good luck on your own!"

Song Xin glared at Duan Jinghong. In the end, she could only brush her off and leave.

Song Xin was powerful because she was vicious and knew how to use her background as the granddaughter of an official to do whatever she wanted.

But, Tangning was powerful because she knew how to play with people's minds.

...

Xiao Yuhe promised Song Xin that he'd help her divert the public's attention, so he decided to find someone to take the blame. But, Tangning did not give him the chance. Even if she didn't use Duan Jinghong, she still had other ways to strip Song Xin of her chance to make a comeback.

"Come have a look at the latest entertainment news. It's regarding the follow-up to the plagiarism claim against 'The Lost Relative'. Everyone knows that a certain chain of theaters refused to screen 'The Lost Relative' even before it's original release date. This theater chain is the rising star in the industry, Kaihuang. An insider revealed that the heir of Kaihuang is currently pursuing Song Xin. To please her, he has thrown away quite a lot of money. After all, everyone knows that 'The Lost Relative' has made over \$400 million since its release. I wonder if the shareholders of Kaihuang have fainted in anger."

"The battle between Song Xin and Tangning has been left to intensify on its own. Although Tangning has never given a response, it's clear to see that President Mo has zero tolerance for stuff like this as her manager. Judging by the level of importance that Hai Rui has placed on this issue, I think it's clear what's going on."

"An insider also revealed that the heir apparently plans to spend some money to divert the public's attention. Although I don't know if it's true or not, it seems he is truly in love with her."

Xiao Yuhe was planning to spend money...

...to help Song Xin divert the public's attention!

With this pre-warning, Tangning was going to see how Xiao Yuhe planned to make a move.

Even if he made a move, would the public be swayed by him?

Hai Rui did not deal with Song Xin yet. Firstly, they didn't have evidence, and secondly, they had not finished playing with her!

Regardless of whether Song Xin knew what she had done was wrong or not, Tangning was going to make her pay.

After losing the last chance she had, Song Xin looked at the scolding words online and finally broke down. She enjoyed scheming against others; in fact, it was very satisfying for her. But, when she was put in the receiving end, she was suddenly helpless. This indirectly proved that being relentless and having a high EQ were two very different things. Just because someone was relentless, it didn't mean that they were intelligent. But, those that had a high EQ, could also be relentless, and Tangning was one of them.

Of course, Song Xin did have a bit of intelligence.

Xiao Yuhe witnessed Song Xin breaking down, but there was nothing he could do. So, he naturally felt angry. In response, after Song Xin fell asleep, he gave his secretary a phone call and told her to contact Hai Rui and pass on a message to Mo Ting: "Always hold back a little, in case we meet again!"

Hai Rui's secretary passed the message on to Lu Che. But, when Lu Che heard it, even he had to snort in contempt. Why didn't Song Xin hold back a little when she schemed against others?

There were plenty of hypocrites in this world that couldn't be stopped.

Of course, Lu Che passed the message to Mo Ting, word for word. But, Mo Ting's response was, "Let Xiao Yuhe know that this matter has not ended yet. The amount that Song Xin has lost isn't even 1/1000th of what others have experience!"

Chapter 709: The Baby Kicked Me

Before her debut, Song Xin had once vowed to her grandfather that if she didn't make a name for herself in the entertainment industry, she would not admit defeat.

But, the Song Family had a reputation to uphold. Although Elder Song tried his best to make her enter politics instead, he couldn't compete against her passion for music and creativity.

With the added fact that Song Xin had been stubborn since she was a child, Elder Song had no choice but to let go and allow her to explore her possibilities. He knew that his arrogant granddaughter would need to hit a dead end before she'd be truly willing to return to his side.

Even though he expected his granddaughter to experience all forms of underhandedness in the entertainment industry, he never imagined that she'd hit a dead end by completely destroying her reputation.

So, after the entertainment news was released, Elder Song immediately gave Song Xin a phone call, "Xiao Xin, come home, grandfather will help you resolve this matter. But, promise me, from now on, you will stay by my side and learn from me. Also, never get involved with any messy situations in the entertainment industry again and distance yourself from that disgusting place."

Song Xin had no choice but to return home and kneel in front of her grandfather, "Grandfather, I can't hold on anymore."

"Stand up, stand up..." Elder Song felt his heart shatter into tiny pieces. He knew how prideful this granddaughter of his was. Yet, someone managed to hurt her so badly. "Quick, tell me who did this. Who bullied my granddaughter?"

Song Xin couldn't contain her emotions as she pounced onto the old man and burst into tears, "It was Tangning and Mo Ting. Grandfather, I've really suffered. You need to get justice for me!"

"Whoever dares to bully my granddaughter will need to pay." The old man held onto his granddaughter; it was the first time he had seen her in such a defeated state. "Xin Xin, don't cry. Seeing you like this makes grandfather feel bad."

The old man had spent a lifetime in politics and had experience dealing with various political opponents. So, his heart was firm and tough. However, at home, his children were no longer around; all he had was this one granddaughter. As a result, he naturally treasured her and didn't allow anyone to do anything to her. Yet, she was crying so badly in front him. Who could handle it?

But, what about everything that Song Xin had done to others? He never considered it. As long as Song Xin was happy and satisfied, that was all that mattered.

After Song Xin fell asleep, Elder Song paced back and forth in his room, trying to decide on something. Afterwards, he pulled out his phone and put on his reading glasses to find a phone number.

“Hello, Official Yang...there’s a favor I would like to ask of you. Do you have time to share a dinner?”

...

Faced with the pressures from Song Xin, Tangning obviously considered the background that Song Xin had. So, she expected that Song Xin would ask her family for help after she ran out of options.

This was the reason why she did not use Duan Jinghong yet.

Even though the Tang Family were a big perfume empire, the poor could never beat the rich and the rich could never beat those with power. If the Song Family actually decided to protect Song Xin, that would be when Duan Jinghong would come of use.

However, she never expected that the Song Family would make a move so quickly!

“According to film fans, ‘The Lost Relative’ consists of a large number of bloody and violent scenes, but they haven’t warned minors not to watch it. As a result, four days after their release, they’ve been officially ordered to stop screening and make corrections by a particular government department.”

As soon as this news was released, it immediately created a commotion. After all, the film was originally allowed to screen because it had already passed the rating system. Since it was allowed to screen before, why was it suddenly pulled down?

No one understood the situation. But, the film was indeed pulled down and asked to change.

Since they had received an official notification, all those related to the film had no choice but to obey.

Afterwards, Director Chen Feng received another vague notice to ban Tangning from the industry. Of course, everyone knew the unspeakable truth: Tangning had offended someone; not an average someone, but someone with a strong backing.

Meanwhile, after reading through the official notification, Mo Ting simply threw the documents to the side. Since it was an order from the officials, Hai Rui had no choice but to obey. After all, the entertainment industry and the department of culture were two completely separate entities.

“President...no names were mentioned, but it’s obvious that this incident is targeted at the Madam. If this is the case, who would dare to work with her from now on?”

“It seems Elder Song has put in a lot of effort,” Mo Ting said calmly. “If they want us to change the film, then change it. It’s not like we aren’t allowed to screen it at all.”

Mo Ting no longer reacted emotionally to incidences like this. After all, he and Tangning had already predicted something like this to happen.

“Does this mean that the Madam can’t be an actress anymore?”

“According to who?” Mo Ting asked back. “Who said she can’t be an actress anymore? She already has a few well-received films up her sleeves. Does it matter if she gets invited to partake in any other films or not? Don’t forget. It’s not that the industry doesn’t want her. She’s never needed to appear in other people’s productions. From now on, she will be exclusive to Hai Rui. No matter who invites her, we will reject them.”

Apart from filming, Tangning barely appeared in front of the public anyway. So, why did it matter if the entire world turned its back on her? Hai Rui was ready to support the world on their shoulders for her.

Of course, after hearing the news, Long Jie was filled with anxiety. As she paced back and forth in front of Tangning, Tangning simply held onto her stomach and laughed, “Why are you walking around like that?”

“Aren’t you anxious? You’ve been thrown into a difficult situation like this...”

“What kind of difficult situation do you see me in?” Tangning asked.

“You won’t be able to act from now on!”

“Who says?” Tangning looked at Long Jie indifferently. “I can still act in Hai Rui’s films.”

“You’re saying...”

“What I’m saying is, now that I’ve gotten three films under my belt, I’m no longer in a rush to prove myself. After the baby is born, I will place most of my energy on my family. One film a year will be enough for me. If I feature in Hai Rui’s films, what can people say about that?”

“But, a particular government department will be strict towards you...”

“What rules have I broken? Why would the officials be strict towards me? Their only making things difficult for me temporarily. On the other hand, the Song Family have made much too big of a sacrifice...”

“Much too big.” However, she did not feel any pity for the Song Family.

The Song Family was certainly aware of the real Song Xin, right? Which meant, they knew about Song Xin’s malicious schemes and agreed to them. Since the Song Family failed to distinguish right from wrong, why should Tangning pity them?

“Are you planning to use Duan Jinghong?”

“Ahhh...” Before Tangning could reply, she suddenly held onto her stomach and let out a painful cry.

Long Jie immediately responded, “What is it? What is it? Are you ready to give birth? Don’t scare me...”

Tangning shook her head and quickly regained her composure, “The baby kicked me. It won’t be long...”

Chapter 710: Who In The Industry Would Still Dare To Work With You?

“Boss has been looking very anxious lately. Can’t you just stay at home and prepare for labor?” Long Jie rolled her eyes.

"I know my body better than anyone," Tangning appeared as calm as ever.

"Have you asked the doctor about the gender of your child? Don't you care at all?" Long Jie appeared more anxious than Tangning as she stared at her protruding belly and envisioned the little human that was about to come out.

"Why should I ask? We will naturally know after I give birth," Tangning wanted to leave it as a surprise for Mo Ting and herself. Whether it was a boy or a girl, it would be equally precious to them.

"My little godchild, hurry out into the world...We are all waiting for you," Long Jie said as she kneeled in front of Tangning and leaned towards her stomach. The child seemed to have heard as it threw a kick. Feeling the movement, Long Jie was rendered speechless in surprise.

As soon as Tangning saw this, a happy smile slowly appeared on her face...

...

Under Elder Song's protection, Song Xin quickly retreated from the public eye while all the cursing and scolding directed towards her was overshadowed by fresh news. For example, everyone was wondering who Tangning had offended to have caused her film to be pulled out of theaters.

In reality, Tangning's situation was far worse than what the public imagined. After all, the help that the Song Family found indeed had the ability to make the entire entertainment industry tremble at their knees. Tangning was restricted from appearing in front of the public, not only via film, but also via past commercials as well as future ones. It seemed, for someone at the government level, the entire entertainment industry was playing out of the palm of their hands and they could suppress an artist with the blink of an eye...

Even if Hai Rui wanted to help her...

...they would have to consider the consequences!

Song Xin found out about Tangning's situation through Elder Song. As expected, it was useful to be in a position of power. Wasn't Mo Ting meant to be a capable man? Wasn't Hai Rui supposedly good at PR? Yet, there was currently nothing they could do as they watched Tangning being suppressed.

However, there was still one thing that bugged Song Xin: Duan Jinghong, who had been taken away by Tangning.

Thinking of this, Song Xin once again visited Elder Song's study room and whined, "Grandfather, do you remember my good girlfriend, Duan Jinghong?"

"The one that's always following by your side?" Elder Song tried to remember as he put down the pen in his hand.

"That's right. She is currently in Tangning's hands. Can you think of a way to rescue her?" Song Xin asked. "I know it was already tough for you to beg others for help. Yet, now I'm asking you to get involved in something else. It must be difficult..."

"Don't you just want a person? Do you think Tangning can resist?" Elder Song asked. "Wait for the good news. Just don't forget the promise you made to me."

“Yes, grandfather,” Song Xin nodded furiously.

When Elder Song made a promise, he always followed through. So, after Song Xin left the room, he once again pulled out his reading glasses and made a phone call.

...

The next morning, the police arrived at Hyatt Regency and knocked on Tangning’s door. As soon as they saw Tangning, they showed their badges and explained, “We received a report that a woman named Duan Jinghong has been missing for a few days. According to our investigation, the people that escorted her out of the hospital were your people. So, we have come to get an understanding of the situation...”

As soon as Tangning heard this, she knew Song Xin was here to retrieve her woman, so she smiled at the officers and replied, “Officers, Duan Jinghong is a living, breathing person, how could she be taken away by me so easily? Have you tried to contact her?”

The officers did not respond.

Seeing this, Tangning pulled out her phone and gave Duan Jinghong a phone call right in front of them, “Jinghong, where are you? The police have come all the way to my place to look for you. Supposedly, your family reported you missing. Has your family contacted you?”

Tangning turned on the loudspeaker so the officers could hear Duan Jinghong’s response. But, her response was, “I’m at home sitting beside my mother and father. Who made a report? It must be a mistake...”

A slight awkwardness appeared on the officers’ faces.

“Officers, if you still need to clarify things, you can go to the Duan family home and speak to them personally.”

The officers didn’t know what to say, so they could only apologize, “Sorry to have wasted your time!”

“I understand. You were simply following orders.” Of course, Tangning’s words contained a double meaning.

The officers gave Tangning a long hard stare before they left the villa.

A few moments later, Duan Jinghong returned Tangning’s phone call, “Is ‘that person’ looking for me?”

“What do you think?” Tangning asked back.

“Don’t worry, I won’t turn back.”

“I’m not Song Xin, I don’t threaten people. If you want to leave, then leave. I won’t stop you.”

Duan Jinghong did not respond straight away as shuffling noises could be heard through the phone. After quite some time, Duan Jinghong finally replied, “I have self-respect too. I don’t just come and go as she pleases.”

Another reason why Duan Jinghong responded this way was because Tangning was protecting her family.

Duan Jinghong had never expected that her and Song Xin would end up like this. But, she understood Song Xin's temper well. Since she was a threat, she knew Song Xin had an unlimited amount of ways to deal with her.

By following Tangning, she still had faith that a future existed for her. If she followed Song Xin, she knew she would be used in every way possible and have a tragic ending. So, Duan Jinghong knew that following Tangning was the only way to save herself. She wasn't going to step into Song Xin's trap again. She wasn't stupid; she knew how to change for the better.

"Even so, you shouldn't be so tough. You know that Song Xin reacts the worst to that..." Tangning was warning Duan Jinghong to watch out for herself.

"What about you? Now that Song Xin is suppressing you, who in the industry would still dare to work with you?"

Hearing this, Tangning paused for a few moments, before she replied, "If I get suppressed so easily by someone like Song Xin, I wouldn't be Tangning. I don't mind that every enemy of mine thinks that their sinister plan has succeeded. They can be satisfied with themselves all they want. That way, they will quickly expose their weaknesses..."

Duan Jinghong didn't understand what Tangning meant, nor did she force herself to understand. As long as Tangning was more capable than she expected, she was already satisfied.

"In that case, stay safe," this was the only thing that Duan Jinghong could do for Tangning.

Tangning smiled casually, "When it comes to this point, my husband cares about my safety more than anyone."

After speaking, Tangning hung up the phone.

Afterwards, Duan Jinghong stared at her phone in a daze; she was certain that Song Xin was going to call her very soon...