

## As Agreed 241

### Chapter 241: Bitten By A Dog?

Secretary Zhang wanted to slap himself after he said that. Ah, he should have kept his mouth shut because he wasn't an eloquent person who knew how to comfort others.

Who hurt the former Mrs. Gu? It was Mr. Gu. When he said that, he was telling Mr. Gu that he deserved what he got for hurting her; how could it be so easy to woo her back now?

However, he didn't dare to say more because Mr. Gu's face was as dark as the bottom of a burned pot.

But he suddenly had an idea and added, "She didn't reject you, which means that you still mean something to her. There is hope yet. Women are more independent now, which is a good thing. They are not clingy. Mrs. Gu is a good example of that." He didn't dare to add the word "former" before Mrs. Gu. He was afraid that Mr. Gu would send him to Africa to develop the market there. He was in full self-preservation mode now.

"Do you have the right to comment if she's good or not?" Gu Shaoting glanced at Secretary Zhang coldly.

Secretary Zhang felt as if he had been plunged into ice-cold water. It was his fault for not checking his horoscope before he left the house today, which was why Mr. Gu disliked him.

"Mr. Gu, I'll leave these documents here for your perusal and approval." He then slipped out quickly.

When Shu Pan took the elevator back to her office, she bumped into MO Lan. She wanted to walk out but decided against it.

Shu Pan knew that given such a good opportunity, MO Lan would mock her.

As expected, after MO Lan walked in, she leaned against the elevator wall and glanced at Shu Pan before she looked at the elevator doors and said with her nose in the air, "Some people really have no sense of shame. Spending time alone with the CEO in his office. Goodness knows what they've done."

Shu Pan treated MO Lan's words like a dog bite while she thought about whether she should bite the dog back...

She didn't have the energy to bother with a troublemaker like MO Lan.

Shu Pan's indifferent attitude annoyed MO Lan. She turned her head and glared at Shu Pan before she said, "What? Are you tacitly admitting that something happened by keeping quiet?"

Shu Pan couldn't take it anymore.

She felt that MO Lan's personality was completely twisted. She had been working diligently since she joined the company and never gossiped about anyone. So, why was MO Lan constantly picking on her?

Shu Pan had always minded her own business. As she saw her colleagues day in and day out, she silently tolerated many things. But she realized now that her tolerance had led to even more aggressive behaviors.

"Please don't judge others using your own standards. You know better than anyone else the kind of person you are. Don't assume that your vixen aura has disappeared just because time has passed." Shu Pan's words almost made MO Lan jump. She knew that Tang Wei had told Shu Pan about what happened, or Shu Pan would never have known.

"What do you mean by that?" MO Lan feigned innocence.

"Just what it means literally. I hope you'll watch yourself because I'm not someone to be trifled with." Shu Pan was really annoyed with MO Lan. Just as Tang Wei said, one must fight fire with fire with a person like Tang Wei just to shut her up.

One must show one's claws to keep the wolves at bay.

Finally, they arrived at their floor. The elevator doors opened, and Shu Pan walked out first. MO Lan stared at Shu Pan's back as if she wanted to bore a hole through her.

Tang Wei winked at her, and Shu Pan replied unhappily, “I was bitten by a dog..”

## Chapter 242: A Very Sticky Plaster

“Why would there be a dog in the office? Do you need a Tetanus shot?” Tang Wei asked in all seriousness, defeating Shu Pan completely.

“Nah. I’ll recover given time.” Shu Pan said casually.

MO Lan walked in subsequently, stomping her feet. She thought with gritted teeth that she couldn’t do anything to Shu Pan now, but she would catch Shu Pan one day and stop her arrogance.

She used to think that Shu Pan was a pushover, but her eyes had been opened today. Shu Pan had been hiding her true self.

Tang Wei saw MO Lan’s sulky face and gave Shu Pan a look that asked her what was going on.

Shu Pan shrugged her shoulders and went back to work.

Tang Wei didn’t get any inside scoop and went back to work too.

When it was almost knock-off time, Gu Shooting called Shu Pan. Shu Pan saw the caller ID and was worried that someone would see it, so she secretly picked up the call.

“Can you leave now? I’ll wait for you at the intersection across the street. If you’re not down in 10 minutes, I’ll go up and look for you.” Gu Shaoting hung up before Shu Pan could speak.

Shu Pan was furious. When would this person ever learn to respect others? He was always so domineering.

Shu Pan had no choice. She was more afraid that he would run up to find her if she didn’t show up. Therefore, she left the moment knock-off time came and rushed to the intersection across the street as quickly as she could.

Shu Pan didn’t act like a thief this time. She quickly opened the car door and got in.

Gu Shaoting smiled in satisfaction at her speed. Sure enough, threats worked better.

Shu Pan said that she needed to go to the supermarket to get groceries after they picked Joy up and it wasn’t convenient to go shopping with Joy in tow.

Hearing this, Gu Shaoting immediately said, “I’ll go too. I can help carry things.”

“It’s just groceries. Nothing too heavy.” Shu Pan replied.

“Let’s go and see what our little beauty Joy wants to eat.” Gu Shaoting ignored Shu Pan’s reply, picked Joy up and walked forward.

If anyone who knew him saw this scene, they would be shocked. It was because he was the CEO of Gu Group who was always ruthless and decisive in the business world.

But now? He was like a very sticky plaster in front of the mother and daughter, the kind that couldn’t be removed even if one tried.

Shu Pan couldn’t figure out his intentions and couldn’t believe the change in his behavior. Perhaps he would turn cold again after he recovered his memories...

Her scars from the past hadn't healed yet and still hurt occasionally.

But lately, Gu Shaoting had been looking at her more passionately and his behavior in front of her had changed a lot. She even wondered sometimes if he was still the same person.

"What's on your mind? Why are you so engrossed?" Gu Shaoting saw that she was in a daze and interrupted her train of thought.

"Nothing much. I'm just thinking about what to cook tonight." Shu Pan said perfunctorily.

"I would like to have sweet and sour pork ribs, green pepper beef, boiled Chinese cabbage, and chestnut chicken soup." Gu Shaoting rattled off a few dishes in one breath.

"Joy, what would you like to eat?" Shu Pan didn't respond to Gu Shaoting but asked Joy.

"I would like to have the same dishes as Uncle Gu." Joy said proudly.

Joy's favorite person now was her mother, followed by Uncle Gu. Because Uncle Gu picked her up from school early every day in his car and her classmates all thought that Uncle Gu was her father and were very envious.

Because Uncle Gu was super handsome. A few children in her class even said that they would like to switch fathers.

But this was her secret, one that she wouldn't tell anyone.

Every time Uncle Gu came, he would buy her a toy or a Barbie doll. She really wished that he was her father.

She would ask her mother one day if Uncle Gu could be her father..

## Chapter 243: Not Picky

Shu Pan was frustrated. She ignored the two of them and picked her own dishes.

Light music played in the supermarket; it was very relaxing.

Gu Shaoting was pushing the shopping cart with Joy inside it and Shu Pan was bending over to pick groceries.

They looked like a happy family to anyone. Gu Shaoting left his suit jacket in the car and wore his shirt with the sleeves rolled up. He looked very handsome.

Shu Pan looked gentle and lovely in a ruffle top with a pair of cropped jeans. She looked fresh and elegant.

Gu Shaoting looked over and saw Shu Pan picking broccoli.

He frowned as he didn't like broccoli.

But then, Shu Pan put a head of broccoli into the cart.

"Mommy, I don't like this vegetable. It stinks." When Joy saw the broccoli, she pouted and made a disgusted expression.

Gu Shaoting couldn't help but secretly feel happy. Joy was indeed his daughter to hate broccoli like he did.

“Joy, don’t be picky. If you are picky about your food, you won’t grow tall.” Shu Pan coaxed. “This vegetable is very nutritious. Look, Uncle Gu likes it too.” “Uncle Gu, do you like this vegetable?” Joy asked in her childish voice.

Under Shu Pan’s gaze, Gu Shaoting forced himself to say, “Uncle isn’t picky. You see, Uncle is so tall all because he likes to eat vegetables like this.”

Was it really okay for CEO Gu to lie to a child like that to woo his wife back?

If Secretary Zhang was present, he would probably complain too.

If their CEO Gu wasn’t picky about food, probably no one in the world was.

“Alright then, Mommy, get one more. I’ll eat with Uncle Gu. I want to be as tall as Uncle Gu.” Joy said bravely.

Gu Shaoting smiled bitterly in his heart. He really shot himself in the foot for having a daughter who sabotaged her own father.

“Okay, then Mommy will make you both stir-fried broccoli with shrimps.” Shu Pan actually knew that Gu Shaoting hated broccoli.

In their few years of marriage, she knew his food preferences like the back of her hand, but she didn’t want to let him have his way. Moreover, she realized that Joy didn’t like broccoli too, which was not a good habit.

Gu Shaoting’s heart was filled with sweetness when he heard that. Shu Pan was going to make the dish for him and his daughter. He would probably eat it even if it was poisonous.

Gu Shaoting acted as if the things in the supermarket cost nothing. He bought a cartful of groceries. Shu Pan didn’t want to say anything more. After paying, he carried a few big bags with both hands.

Shu Pan held Joy's hand and walked in front. Gu Shaoting followed behind, feeling very contented as he watched the mother and daughter.

When they got home, Shu Pan started cooking. Gu Shaoting wanted to help in the kitchen but Shu Pan chased him out. He would probably mess up if he helped.

Gu Shaoting watched Shu Pan, who had a flowery apron around her waist as she nimbly toss the wok of stir-fried vegetables. Her long black hair was casually tied up, revealing her fair neck.

It wasn't difficult to tell from her appearance and actions that she was a straightforward and decisive person.

Gu Shaoting felt gratitude blossom in his heart as he watched the scene. The ideal picture of a happy and harmonious family was exactly like this in his mind.

Shu Pan made three dishes and a soup: stir-fried broccoli with shrimps, vinegar ribs, steamed fish, and chestnut chicken soup. It was a sumptuous meal. The dishes were still steaming hot when they were served, emitting waves of fragrance.

Joy washed her hands and sat at the table, ready to eat.

Shu Pan prepared a small bowl for her and patiently cut the vegetables and meat into smaller pieces so she could eat on her own. Gratitude washed over Gu Shaoting again..

Chapter 244: I Don't Want Your Bank Card

After dinner, Gu Shaoting offered to do the dishes. Shu Pan didn't say anything and pulled Joy into the shower and started preparing her for bed.



After Joy fell asleep, Shu Pan went back to the living room and found that Gu Shaoting was still there. He was sitting on the sofa, thinking about something.

When he saw her come out, he patted the seat beside him, asking her to sit. Shu Pan sat down across from him. "It's getting late. Why are you still here?" Gu Shaoting pursed his lips before he said, "I have something to tell you." "What is it?" Shu Pan looked at his hesitant expression.

Gu Shaoting didn't say anything. Instead, he took out a card from his wallet and handed it to Shu Pan.

Shu Pan saw that it was a bank card. She asked in confusion, "Why are you giving me this?"

"Take it. Consider it emergency funds. You can use it however you want. Don't

be too hard on yourself and Joy."

Gu Shaoting's trip to the supermarket with them tonight made him realize that the mother and daughter weren't living an easy life.

Shu Pan's salary alone wasn't enough to support the family.

Only then did he realize how cruel he had been. He vowed to never let them live a hard life.

"I don't need it. I have hands and feet. I can earn my own money. Moreover, I'm nobody to you now. Why should I spend your money?"

Shu Pan was adamant. It wasn't just now. She also never thought of spending his money before they divorced. It was only later when she was forced into a corner because of debt problems that she started talking about money when they divorced. That was the only time she begged unabashedly.

She had gritted her teeth and survived for such a long time, so she didn't need anyone's help or charity now.

Gu Shaoting had expected her to say that. He had been a real jerk back then.

“You see, I often come to your place to freeload. Just treat it as food expenses.” Gu Shaoting had no choice but to find an excuse.

Shu Pan still refused to accept it and Gu Shaoting was very frustrated.

The next day at work, Gu Shaoting sat in his office. He was restless early in the morning and in low spirits.

He just couldn't understand why Shu Pan wouldn't accept his bank card. If it were any other woman, they would have been so grateful.

He was so engrossed in his thoughts that he did not even notice Secretary Zhang walk in.

Secretary Zhang saw the worry between his brows and swallowed the “CEO Gu” that was about to come out of his mouth.

The sound of the door closing startled him.

“What's the matter?” Gu Shaoting snapped out of his daze and asked Secretary Zhang, who was not far away.

Secretary Zhang immediately handed some documents over respectfully.

“These are the documents to be reviewed today. And these are to be signed...”

Secretary Zhang then gave him a series of work updates. Gu Shaoting listened but didn't remember a single word.

“CEO Gu, that’s the schedule for today. If there’s nothing else, I’ll go back to my desk.” Secretary Zhang said after his updates.

Gu Shaoting was too lazy to talk, so he waved his hand to dismiss Secretary Zhang.

Just as Secretary Zhang was about to open the door, Gu Shaoting called him back.

He then looked up at Secretary Zhang and asked, “Do you have a girlfriend?”

Secretary Zhang was flattered. Did his busy boss care if he had a girlfriend?

But he still answered frankly, “Yes.”

“Does she spend your money?” Gu Shaoting asked.

“She wished she could hold on to my wallet. How could she not spend my money? She even complains that I don’t have enough money in my wallet sometimes!” Secretary Zhang complained bitterly despite being a willing party.

Gu Shaoting was also a willing party..

Chapter 245: Does She Love Me Or Not?

“Then what do you think is the reason why a woman refuses to spend a single cent from a man?” Gu Shaoting asked dejectedly.

Secretary Zhang’s little brain made a 360-degree turn at high speed. Why would CEO Gu ask him such a question? Was there a woman who refused to spend his money? Who was that stupid? If there really was...

Secretary Zhang finally thought of a neutral answer and said carefully, "Generally, there are two reasons why a woman refuses to spend a man's money. Either she loves him very much or she doesn't love him at all."

"If she loves him very much, she doesn't spend his money because she's afraid that others would misunderstand her as a vain woman who's only with the man because of his money. Of course, it's also possible that the woman has decided to spend her life with the man and can't bear to spend his money because she wanted to help him save money."

"If she doesn't love him, refusing to spend his money is equivalent to treating him as an outsider in case there's any trouble in the future. After all, favors involving money are hard to settle. She doesn't want to owe him anything to avoid trouble."

Secretary Zhang couldn't help but secretly cheer for himself. Such a remarkable answer wouldn't offend anyone.

He didn't dare to guess what CEO Gu meant, so he gave him two answers.

He looked at Gu Shaoting, who didn't seem to have any follow-up questions. He didn't stay any longer and quickly left, closing the door behind him.

Having such a boss was mentally exhausting. He didn't just need to be a secretary. He also needed to be a relationship expert.

Secretary Zhang considered buying a few books about relationships after work today so he could enlighten his boss from time to time.

Gu Shaoting felt Secretary Zhang's words were reasonable.

So, Shu Pan didn't want to spend his money because she didn't love him?

Because she had already said that she was nobody to him. Why would she spend his money?

With the answer, Gu Shaoting became even more irritable, like a porcupine in a balloon factory.

As a result, he was muddleheaded and distracted in everything he did the whole day.

Even during the senior management meeting in the afternoon, he only said two words from the moment he entered the conference room until the meeting ended. "Let's begin."

The meeting lasted for more than two hours. He sat there motionless, seemingly very focused on listening to the managers' updates when, in fact, he was daydreaming.

When the meeting ended, he was still sitting in his seat without a word. The entire conference room fell silent. No one dared to get up until he spoke.

It was not until Secretary Zhang could not take it anymore and called out, "CEO

Gu," that he came back to his senses. He then looked at everyone and said, "Meeting adjourned."

Everyone trickled out of the conference room when they heard that.

"What's wrong with CEO Gu? Was he daydreaming throughout the meeting?" One of the senior managers whispered.

"It can't be because the company is in trouble, right?" Another person chimed in.

"Nonsense. The company is doing so well now. How can we be in trouble? I think he was thinking about private matters."

Everyone speculated.

Gu Shaoting only stood up when he saw that everyone had left. He picked up his meeting materials from the table and left the conference room.

When he was back at his office, it was almost 5:30 p.m. Based on his recent habits, that was when he would leave office to pick Joy up.

He was very happy doing this recently-

He wasn't in the mood to work anyway, so he decided to leave earlier.

His relationship with Joy had improved by leaps and bounds lately.

When he arrived at the parking garage, he called Shu Pan. His call was picked up after a long time. 'What's wrong?'

"I'm going to pick Joy up. Are you able to leave now?" Gu Shaoting felt that he was a failure that his subordinate wouldn't listen to him, the CEO.

"Not yet. Wait downstairs after you pick her up. I'll be home soon." Shu Pan hung up the phone after giving her instructions..

Chapter 246: Shameful

"No. Don't go home. I'll pick you up after I picked Joy up. My friend invited me to his restaurant opening today. I didn't want to go, but since Joy will be with me, I'd like to bring her along to join in the fun."

Gu Shaoting was in a bad mood the whole day that he almost forgot about his friend's invitation.

Shu Pan was about to reject him, but after thinking about it, she figured that he would still do as he pleased.

“Alright then.” Shu Pan hung up and buried herself in work again.

Because Shu Pan’s director had made two very apt comments on her proposal in the afternoon, she had to make a lot of changes.

After a lot of adjustments, Shu Pan was finally happy with the changes. When she looked at the time, it was already 6:30 p.m.

Gu Shaoting and Joy were getting impatient and had already called twice to urge her.

She saved the file and turned off her computer.

But the moment she looked up, she saw a tall figure standing at the entrance to her office, holding a little beauty’s hand.

Gu Shaoting’s cold eyes were fixed on her.

Out of instinct, Shu Pan quickly looked around, worried that someone would see them.

Fortunately, it was late, and everyone had left the office.

“Why are you guys up here?” Shu Pan asked.

He had called her a few more times, but she didn’t pick up. He thought something had happened, so he brought Joy upstairs to look for her.

“Mommy, you’re so busy. Uncle Gu and I have been waiting for you for so long. Are you a turtle?” Joy’s childish words amused them.

“Mommy is not a turtle. I was busy with work.” Shu Pan explained.

The only thought Gu Shaoting had now was to fire her tomorrow.

They had waited for her for so long, but she had been so busy with work that she didn’t even realize that they were there. When she found out after she finished work, she looked like she had seen a ghost.

Seeing how she was looking around nervously, it was as if they were so shameful...

Bosses liked diligent employees, but Gu Shaoting didn’t want Shu Pan to work so hard.

He cleared his throat to express his displeasure.

“You must be hungry. Let’s go. It’ll be my treat tonight.” Shu Pan said generously to alleviate the guilt she felt.

Gu Shaoting didn’t say anything. He pulled Joy with one hand and Shu Pan with the other to the elevator.

Although there was no one there, they were still in the office. Moreover, there were surveillance cameras everywhere. It would be bad if someone saw them like this. Shu Pan wanted to break free from him, but she was pulled even tighter by him.

He brought them into the CEO’s private elevator and went straight to the underground parking garage. They then got into his Mercedes-Benz.

Shu Pan sat with Joy obediently in the back seat. She turned her head to look at Gu Shaoting and saw that his face was cold.

“Uncle, where are we going?” Joy asked when she noticed that they weren’t on their way home.



Joy knew the way home because they had been picking her mother up after work recently.

“Tov. what a smart girl von are! Uncle’s friend’s restaurant is opening today- We

are going there to support him.” Gu Shaoting said to Joy with a smile.

“Mommy, what is support?” Joy was an inquisitive child. “It’s to help him celebrate.” Shu Pan explained.

“Oh, oh.” Joy seemed to understand.

They arrived at the restaurant after driving for about 20 minutes. It was a big restaurant and because it was newly opened, they were giving discounts and many guests turned up. Reporters had also been invited to try the food and experience here so they could write reviews and promote the restaurant.

When the restaurant owner saw Gu Shaoting and Shu Pan, he quickly walked up to them. “Brother Ting, you’re finally here. I thought you were going to stand me up! This must be Mrs. Gu and Miss Gu, right?”

The restaurant owner was a shrewd person but on second thought, when did Gu Shaoting get married and have a daughter?

Chapter 247: Holding Hands

However, the restaurant owner did not dare to ask his questions out loud.

But things were different with the reporters present. They all recognized Gu Shaoting. Even though this was the opening night of a new restaurant, they would never let go of such explosive news.

Moreover, they had also heard from the boss that Tong Fei had been invited to the event, which was why they flocked there.

They already found tomorrow's headline.

They pointed their cameras at the three of them and took a few photos.

Then, they waited for Tong Fei to appear.

People were coming and going in the restaurant.

Shu Pan held Joy's hand tightly, worried that she would get lost in the crowded restaurant.

Gu Shaoting saw that and picked Joy up without a word.

He had wanted to carry her just now, but the little girl said that her teacher told them to walk on their own, that they were too old to be carried around by adults.

The little girl was full of such amusing reasons.

Gu Shaoting held Joy with one arm and held Shu Pan's hand with his other hand without hesitation. Shu Pan was stunned. She instinctively wanted to shake off his hand but Gu Shaoting held it even tighter.

"It's crowded in here. Follow closely. Be careful not to be knocked into." Gu Shaoting explained like he had sensed her intention.

Shu Pan had no choice but to let him hold her hand.

Shu Pan's couldn't help but feel strange with her hand wrapped in his warm palm.

His hand was really warm, or perhaps Shu Pan's hands were really cold especially when she was having her period. Her hands and feet were even colder during those special days in the month.

Gu Shaoting couldn't help but frown when he touched Shu Pan's hand. He made a mental note to help her regulate her health.

As he held her hand, Shu Pan realized that she missed the feeling of holding hands.

She secretly looked at him and realized that he was trying to clear a path for them, so she stopped overthinking the situation.

'Mr. and Mrs., this way please.' A waitress greeted them politely. She had obviously misunderstood their relationship.

However, no one could be blamed for this. Anyone who saw them would assume that they were a family.

Gu Shaoting actually cracked a satisfied smile when he heard the waitress.

The owner of the restaurant had reserved a great spot for them to enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Gu Shaoting led the mother and daughter to their seats.

Then, they started to order. Because it was the restaurant's opening night, Gu Shaoting ordered all their signature dishes.

"That's enough. It's wasteful if we can't finish the food." Shu Pan restrained him. There were only three of them.

"That'll be all." Gu Shaoting finally stopped ordering and handed the menu back to the waiter.

Just as they were waiting for their food, a commotion broke out at the entrance of the restaurant. Someone from the next table shouted, "There's a celebrity here."

Only then did Shu Pan look curiously at the entrance.

Wasn't that Tong Fei? Sigh, fate would always make the enemies meet.

Even though she was seated quite far away from the entrance, Shu Pan recognized Tong Fei immediately.

After all, Tong Fei was tall and elegant. She always stood out from the crowd and was difficult to miss.

"Ms. Tong, do you know that Mr. Gu Shaoting is also here?" One of the reporters asked. Because he was very loud, everyone in the room heard him and kept quiet. They wanted to hear her answer. After all, these two had been in the headlines lately.

Tong Fei was slightly stunned, but she quickly realized that it was expected that he was here. After all, they both knew the restaurant owner, so it wasn't strange for Gu Shaoting to come and support him on his opening night.

"Everyone, please let me through. It's the opening night of my friend's restaurant and I will not be answering any questions unrelated to the restaurant. Your understanding is much appreciated." Tong Fei gave a very formal answer..

Chapter 248: Unbelievable

The reporters weren't that easy to dismiss. They were obviously not satisfied with Tong Fei's answer.

They kept pressing her.

Fortunately, the restaurant owner saw the commotion and rushed over. He then said apologetically, 'Ms. Tong is my VIP today. Please don't disturb her.

Please give me some face and enjoy the dishes we've prepared for you over there. Thank you."

The restaurant owner's words were reasonable. Since it was his opening night, it would be rude to say anything, so the reporters moved away.

Only then did the restaurant owner say with a guilty look on his face, "Tong

Fei, sorry for the trouble."

Tong Fei smiled. "Old Zhang, you're being too polite."

"Hmm... Shaoting is here too, uh... With his friends." The restaurant owner said vaguely.

Tong Fei was ecstatic. She knew that Old Zhang and Gu Shaoting were close and Old Zhang would definitely invite him, so she agreed to come and try her Plus, there were reporters here today... As she expected.

She suppressed her elation and didn't show it on her face as she replied casually, "Oh? He's here too. I'll go and say hi later."

"Um... There's no hurry..." Tong Fei was a little confused at Old Zhang's stutter.

"Is it inconvenient?" She could not help but ask.

"He's having dinner with his friends." Old Zhang made an inviting gesture and Tong Fei walked into the private room that Old Zhang had prepared for her. A few of her friends were already inside.

They ate and drank for a while, and then Tong Fei went to the bathroom. On her way back, she asked a waiter and found out where Gu Shaoting and his friends were. She followed the waiter's instructions and headed in his direction.

She suddenly stopped in her tracks as she approached their table, her eyes fixed on the scene before her.

It was a scene of a happy family having dinner. The mother was picking up food for the child while the father smiled knowingly as he watched. Then, the father scooped a bowl of soup for the mother and asked the mother to drink it quickly while he fed the child.

They looked like a happy family to anyone. Tong Fei actually lost the courage to approach them.

The scene really messed up her head because the Gu Shaoting she knew was never so family-oriented and gentle.

He always had a cold look on his face, so she couldn't believe her eyes.

It turned out that he could be gentle, just not with her.

She then looked at Shu Pan with a vicious gaze. It was all because of her that Shaoting did not want to be with her. He used to be so good to her that she would occasionally reminisced about their good times together.

Tong Fei noticed that the reporters had been looking at her. She pretended not to see them and turned to go back to her private room.

She gave up on the idea of saying hi to Gu Shaoting.

After getting back to her private room, Tong Fei quickly collected herself and chatted and laughed with the dinner companions.

Gu Shaoting had been taking care of Joy, and the little girl was getting attached to him.

Shu Pan would be lying if she said she wasn't moved by Gu Shaoting's eager attempts to please her and Joy.

However, could her already scarred heart still love someone?

She still couldn't let go of the hurt that Gu Shaoting had caused her, so she couldn't respond to him.

But she was grateful for his involvement in Joy's life. After all, he had lost his memory yet he could treat Joy as his own.

She looked at the man and child, who looked alike, and their question-and-answer conversation. She fell into deep thought.

"Eat more. Why are you in a daze?" Gu Shaoting couldn't help but asked when he saw that she wasn't eating.

"Will do." Shu Pan slowly picked up her chopsticks and started eating..

Chapter 249: A News Interview

After dinner, Gu Shaoting carried Joy, who had fallen asleep, out. Shu Pan walked a few steps behind. They were about to leave the restaurant when they

suaaemy saw a rew reporters at tne restaurant entrance snappmg pncos 01 them.

Gu Shaoting covered Joy's face so that they couldn't take a picture of her face.

Shu Pan was stunned. She was not mentally prepared at all.

She tugged at Gu Shaoting's sleeve and said anxiously, "Why are there reporters taking photos of us? We're not public figures."

Gu Shaoting knew that it was because of Tong Fei, so he comforted her apologetically, "It's okay. We have nothing to hide. Let them write whatever they want."

Shu Pan raised her eyebrows. She felt that the person who should be worried wasn't her but Gu Shaoting. After all, she was just a passerby who wasn't newsworthy.

Whereas he was the CEO of Gu Group and often appeared in the news. He should be more concerned.

But why couldn't she see any worry or fear on his face? Was he not afraid of being exposed?

However, Shu Pan neglected one thing. Although she was a passerby, she was not an ordinary passerby when she was with Gu Shaoting.

If this matter was exposed, it would definitely cause a huge uproar.

"Gu Shaoting dumped his model ex-fiancée because he found a new lover." "About Gu Shaoting's secret marriage and his daughter who is a few years old..."

Although Shu Pan didn't gossip, she knew how reporters would distort the truth to create sensational news. She didn't want to be the female lead of gossip.

The more Shu Pan thought about it, the more uncomfortable she felt. Unfortunately, she could only watch the reporters press the shutter buttons on their cameras repeatedly.

"Don't worry, they won't dare to write nonsense." Gu Shaoting comforted her again.



Shu Pan felt like a puppet being pulled along by Gu Shaoting. She couldn't help but cover her face with her bag.

Gu Shaoting chuckled as it was totally unnecessary.

Seeing that they didn't mind having their photos taken, the reporters surrounded them.

"Mr. Gu, Ms. Tong Fei also came here just now. Did you meet her?"

"No, please let us through." Gu Shaoting was getting annoyed. Most importantly, he was afraid of hurting Joy.

"Mr. Gu, what's happening between you and Ms. Tong Fei now?" The reporters were relentless.

A male reporter suddenly turned to Shu Pan. "Miss, what's your relationship with Mr. Gu? How long have you been together? Whose child is this?"

Shu Pan turned her face away and ignored him but the reporter pressed on,

"Miss, do you know that Ms. Tong Fei is Mr. Guts fiancée?"

The reporter was insinuating that she was the third party who intervened in their relationship.

Just as Shu Pan was getting annoyed, a strong and powerful hand yanked her out of the restaurant. Shu Pan was shocked.

She followed Gu Shaoting out of the crowd of reporters, escaped to the parking lot and then drove away.

He let Joy lie down with her head on Shu Pan's lap in the back seat.

Shu Pan, who finally had a chance to catch her breath, heaved a sigh of relief.

She couldn't help but grumble, "You're really popular. I hope nothing happens." Gu Shaoting pretended not to hear her and focused on driving.

As for the reporters, he was eager for them to report his relationship with Shu Pan. He would accept it as long as the writing wasn't too unbearable.

However, he would never allow them to write about Joy's background.

Shu Pan gave up since Gu Shaoting didn't make a sound. She just sat upright in the back seat and look at Gu Shaoting's flawless profile from time to time and sighed "what a disaster" in her heart..

#### Chapter 250: Headline News

The headline on the entertainment news the following day was "Cinderella snagged the CEO of Gu Group and banished Tong Fei."

The headline attracted everyone's attention the moment it was published.

The report mentioned that Gu Shaoting had an illegitimate daughter who was already a few years old. She had never appeared in the public eye before because the child's mother had given birth to her in secret without informing Gu Shaoting. Now that she was no longer a baby and reunited with Gu Shaoting, her mother could finally live a good life because of her.

Hence, Cinderella had successfully risen to power using her daughter, won back her lost love and conquered the tycoon.

It was expected that Tong Fei would be banished because for most men, their children were their Achilles' heel. Gu Shaoting was one of them.

Shu Pan's eyes widened as she read the article. It was unbelievable. The reporters were really good at making things up.

Fortunately, the photo in the news article was a shot of Shu Pan's profile. Even people who knew her might not recognize that it was her.

Shu Pan was in deep regret now. She knew that nothing good would come out of having Gu Shaoting back in her life.

Just look at this news article. Even television scriptwriters couldn't make up such a story.

How resourceful were these reporters?

Shu Pan felt her anger boiling over. She picked up her phone and called Gu Shaoting.

"Did you read today's entertainment news?" Shu Pan could not suppress her frustration.

"I'm not interested in those things." Gu Shaoting replied plainly.

"You must read today's entertainment news because you are the main character. Please settle your own love debt and not drag me into it. The reporters are on to you. Please stay away from us for the time being."

Shu Pan was furious. What kind of nonsense did these reporters make up?

Although she had secretly given birth to her daughter, she did not use Joy to elevate her social status.

In the article, she was portrayed as a scheming b\*tch who plotted against men.

The person on the other end of the phone was silent for a while before he said, "It's enough that I know you're not the kind of person they make you out to be."

"Why care about what others say?"

"I don't even know how to face people anymore." Shu Pan felt that she wasn't as Zen as Gu Shaoting made her out to be. She couldn't imagine a life in which she'd be gossiped about all the time.

Gu Shaoting didn't say more but changed the subject, "I won't let you suffer." Gu Shaoting meant what he said.

After he hung up, he immediately called Tong Fei. As soon as the call connected, he went straight to the point.

"Tong Fei, you have two options now. Either you clarify the misinformation, or

I will."

Tong Fei was very happy to get a call from Gu Shaoting but she didn't expect him to call her about this.

Tong Fei immediately forced out a few drops of tears. "Shaoting, why are you treating me like this? If you like children, I can give you children too."

Tong Fei was still trying to salvage their relationship, unwilling to give him up. Who gave Shu Pan the right to tie Gu Shaoting up with a child?

She was regretting now why she didn't secretly get pregnant with Gu Shaoting's child.

But such regrets were useless now. Things had already come to this and worse of all, Gu Shaoting's attitude toward her.

She was heartbroken.

“Tong Fei, you know that it’s never because of children. I like Joy, but that’s not the reason why I broke up with you.”

Gu Shaoting didn’t want to be too blunt. The real reason was that he didn’t love her.

“I’m sorry for the hurt I’ve caused you. If you need any help, just ask. I’ll say it again. I’ll do anything within my ability to help you, but I don’t want another news article like this to appear.”

Gu Shaoting used both the carrot and the stick. He believed that Tong Fei was a smart person and would make the right choice..