

## **As Agreed 311**

### Chapter 311: Meeting the Parents

The next day, Xiaomeng woke up early because she had important things to attend to. At that moment, she stood in front of her wardrobe, feeling perplexed.

Women always feel like they have one less outfit in their wardrobe. Xiaomeng gazed at the closet full of clothes but couldn't decide which one to wear.

Holding a dress in her hand, she hesitated as it seemed a bit snug, accentuating her figure more than she wanted. Another outfit looked formal, but Xiaomeng felt it was too professional for meeting parents, not clients.

It was a dilemma.

He Ming walked over, "Darling, what's wrong? It shouldn't take so long to pick an outfit."

"I don't know which one to wear," Ye Xiaomeng asked for He Ming's opinion.

"Whichever you choose will look good," He Ming indulgently smiled. "Women are such trouble", he thought. "With a closet full of clothes, she still doesn't know what to wear."

Seeing her so earnestly selecting clothes proved how much she cared about meeting his parents. He Ming felt delighted in his heart.

Ye Xiaomeng rolled her eyes at him, asking was futile anyway.

She knew he would respond this way and didn't expect any good advice from him.

Ye Xiaomeng continued searching and finally spotted a white dress, knee-length with a modest neckline, giving off an innocent and dignified vibe when worn.

This was it. The decision was made with joy.

Xiaomeng swiftly changed into the dress, applied light makeup, looking lively and well, except for a hint of nervousness.

Meeting the parents was a significant event; anyone would feel a bit uneasy.

After leaving the house, Xiaomeng had He Ming take her to the mall where she bought a gift for the parents.

She chose a branded silk scarf for He Ming's mother and an inkstone for his father, as He Ming had mentioned his father loved calligraphy. They also bought some health supplements and fruits.

With their hands full, they headed to the He family home.

Just a moment ago, He Ming had secretly called his mother, informing her that he would be bringing his girlfriend home.

At first, Mother He didn't believe him, but his sincere phone call convinced her it was true.

Then ensued a flurry of activity as she changed into a different outfit, coincidentally finding Father He at home. Together, they brainstormed on what dishes to prepare for their future daughter-in-law.

When He Ming and Ye Xiaomeng arrived, seeing the house in front of her, Xiaomeng felt nervous to the point of her throat tightening.

He Ming rang the doorbell, and Mother He came to open the door.

Xiaomeng saw a kindly woman with an air of elegance.

At the same time, Mother He was also appraising Ye Xiaomeng. “Not bad. Ming’s got good taste; this girl looks clean and gives off a fresh vibe, not tacky at all.”

He Ming introduced them to each other, and after exchanging greetings, Mother He pulled Xiaomeng inside, leaving He Ming behind.

“Auntie, this is a little token of appreciation. I hope you and Uncle like it,” Ye Xiaomeng handed over the gift.

“I’m happy that you’re here; why spend so much?” Mother He said, though her heart was delighted. It wasn’t about the value of the gift; what mattered was that the girl knew etiquette.

Father He also joined them, and Xiaomeng quickly greeted him.

Father He chuckled, telling her to treat the place as her own and not to be nervous.

Seeing everyone so friendly during dinner, Mother He was warm, continuously putting food into Xiaomeng’s bowl.

Looking at the heaping bowl, Xiaomeng didn’t want to offend the elderly’s kindness and could only eat with her head down..

Chapter 312: This Shirt Looks a Little Familiar

Mother He was pleased; this girl was genuine and unpretentious.

When Shanshan came to the house before, she would pick at her food with chopsticks, claiming to be full after just a few bites, citing a desire to lose weight.

It was unappetizing to see such a spread of dishes go uneaten, leaving Mother He feeling unfulfilled.

Now, seeing Xiaomeng, Mother He felt happy. A girl should have some meat on her, good for future childbirth.

The more Mother He thought about it, the happier she became, anticipating the days of being a grandmother.

Unaware of Mother He's thoughts, Xiaomeng was earnestly enjoying her meal.

He Ming continuously served her soup. This time, she finally spoke up, asking if he thought she was a pig, eating so much.

After dinner, He Ming took Xiaomeng to his room.

He Ming's room had its own style—simple and elegant, with deep blue striped sheets.

Seeing his bed, Xiaomeng suddenly thought of the intimate moments they had shared, and her face flushed.

He Ming pulled Xiaomeng to sit on the bed, then opened the wardrobe to grab some fresh clothes for her.

He had successfully conquered the territory, and Xiaomeng agreed to live with him.

He casually took clothes from the wardrobe, and Xiaomeng followed, organizing the clothes.

Suddenly, Xiaomeng froze. She couldn't believe her eyes because this shirt was the same as the one from a few days ago, the one from DV, and even the color was identical.

"He Ming, when did you buy this shirt?" Ye Xiaomeng casually asked.

He Ming glanced at the shirt in her hand, noticing that the tag was still intact.

"No idea," He Ming didn't pay much attention to these things.

In his memory, most of his shirts were like this.

"What's wrong with this shirt?" He Ming asked in confusion, noticing that Xiaomeng seemed uneasy after seeing it.

"This is a limited edition DV shirt. Each shirt in different colors has only one size. At that time, I wanted to buy this shirt for you, but it was snatched by another girl who paid first," Ye Xiaomeng spoke through gritted teeth as she recounted the incident.

Ye Xiaomeng spoke about this matter through gritted teeth.

"I don't remember buying this shirt at any time," He Ming was genuinely puzzled when he heard her say that.

He racked his brain but couldn't recall ever purchasing such a shirt.

Could it be his mom who bought it?

But his mom hadn't bought him clothes since he could remember.

Xiaomeng, seeing his perplexed expression, didn't press the matter further since he didn't seem to be lying.

As He Ming came out with the paper bag, coincidentally, Mother He appeared.

“Mom, did you buy me clothes? How come there’s a new shirt in my wardrobe?” He Ming casually asked his mother.

“I didn’t buy it. Oh, I remember now. On your birthday, Shanshan gave you a shirt, and I hung it in your wardrobe,” Mother He explained, then suddenly froze, feeling like slapping herself.

Xiaomeng was there too, and why did she bring up Shanshan?

It was like stirring up trouble unnecessarily.

He Ming’s current mood could be described as, “Not afraid of god-like opponents, afraid of pig-like teammates.”

“Xiaomeng, Shanshan is the daughter of one of He Ming’s aunts,” Mother He explained specifically, worried that Xiaomeng might misunderstand.

Initially, she thought He Ming didn’t have a girlfriend, so she tried to match him with Shanshan. However, now that he had a girlfriend, it wasn’t appropriate.

Now Xiaomeng finally understood. The girl she saw at DV that day was Hu Shanshan.

The name sounded familiar, and now she knew it was a girl who was definitely not on good terms..

Chapter 313: I Have a Girlfriend

“Auntie, it’s okay. I understand,” Ye Xiaomeng saw Mother He continually explaining and knew she was worried about misunderstanding, so she quickly reassured her.

“That’s good,” Mother He sighed in relief.

She suddenly thought that she should tell Shanshan about He Ming having a girlfriend. First, He Ming was genuinely uninterested, and second, it wasn’t necessary to delay the girl’s youth.

“Mom, we’re going back. I have something to attend to,” He Ming bid farewell to his mother.

“Okay, be careful. Xiaomeng, come over more often. If Ming bullies you, let me know,” Mother He held Xiaomeng’s hand and advised her.

“Sure, thank you, Auntie,” Ye Xiaomeng smiled.

After He Ming and Xiaomeng left, Mother He looked at the time and found herself bored. So, she decided to call Xu Fang, Shanshan’s mother, and play mahjong.

Coincidentally, their usual mahjong friends were all available, so they arranged to meet.

“Of course, it’s great. Our Ming has a girlfriend now. I can finally put my worries to rest,” Mother He happily shared. She had initially tried to match Shanshan with He Ming, and now that he had a girlfriend, she wanted to inform Shanshan to avoid any hurt feelings.

Shanshan was a good kid, but He Ming didn’t like her, and there was nothing she could do. Telling her in advance would prevent any harm, as they hadn’t officially dated. Opening up now would be better for everyone, avoiding any strained relationships.

“What? He Ming has a girlfriend?” Shanshan’s mother asked in surprise, as just earlier, Mother He had said he didn’t.

She liked He Ming a lot. He was excellent, and his family background was good. She had even met his mother. Everything seemed perfect.

She could tell that Shanshan also had feelings for He Ming. Rarely did she show interest in someone, and before, thinking He Ming was busy, she didn't expect him to suddenly have a girlfriend.

"Yeah, she looks pretty good and has manners and etiquette," Mother He praised.

"Nowadays, most girls have vanity. Don't be surprised if she's only interested in He Ming's wealth. You should pay attention," Shanshan's mother said with a sour tone.

"No, I won't be wrong about people. She is relatively simple." Mother He felt a bit upset hearing Shanshan's mother's comments.

How disappointing. She hadn't even met the person, how could she make such careless remarks?

Seeing Mother He's displeasure, Shanshan's mother dared not say more.

Back at home, Shanshan's mother tossed her bag onto the sofa and sat down. Coincidentally, Shanshan was also at home.

"Shanshan, Mom has something to tell you," Shanshan's mother motioned for her to come over.

"Mom, what's the matter?" Shanshan felt a bit anxious seeing her mother's serious expression.

"Shanshan, from now on, go to Auntie He's house less. Your big brother He Ming already has a girlfriend," Shanshan's mother advised her.

"Girlfriend? How do you know, Mom?" Shanshan found it hard to believe. How could this happen so quickly, and they've already met the parents?

"Today while playing cards, Auntie He mentioned it. He Ming brought his girlfriend home for lunch, and they say she's not bad." Shanshan's mother felt a bit sorry for her daughter, but since there was no fate, there was no need to force it.



But Shanshan didn't think like that. As long as He Ming wasn't married, she believed there was still a chance.

"Does Auntie He like her a lot?" Shanshan wanted to gauge Auntie He's attitude.

"Of course, didn't you see her showing off? She wanted the whole world to know," Shanshan's mother exaggerated her tone, not wanting to give Shanshan false hope..

#### Chapter 314: Angry

Upon hearing her mother's words, Shanshan felt a bit disappointed.

She thought Auntie He liked her and wanted her to be He Ming's girlfriend, considering her excellence in various aspects.

As it turned out, Auntie He only cared about He Ming having a girlfriend, regardless of who the woman was.

"Mom, don't worry, I'm fine," Shanshan forced a smile, not wanting to let her mother worry.

However, she wasn't one to give up easily, and she definitely wanted to see what kind of person He Ming liked.

Seeing her daughter taking it so well, Shanshan's mother felt relieved.

He Ming and Ye Xiaomeng returned to their residence. Along the way, Xiaomeng didn't speak much and seemed preoccupied.

He Ming glanced at her and then asked, "Mengmeng, what's wrong? Are you still upset about the shirt incident?"

At his home, when Auntie He mentioned that the shirt was a gift from Shanshan, Xiaomeng's expression changed instantly.

But she recovered quickly, so Auntie He didn't notice.

"No, I'm just thinking, can I trust you? You promised multiple times not to have any contact with her, but on your birthday, she still gave you such an intimate gift?" Xiaomeng's tone was calm.

He Ming became extremely nervous upon hearing this. He would prefer

Xiaomeng yelling at him rather than seeing her in such a dejected state.

"Mengmeng, my mom called me to go home for birthday noodles. She somehow found out about it, so I went. But I just put the gift she gave me aside without even looking at it. If you hadn't mentioned this shirt today, I really wouldn't have known about it."

He Ming felt like fate was playing a joke on him. Why did everything related to Shanshan happen so coincidentally?

Ever since he met her, it seemed like she was causing trouble for him all the time.

In the future, no matter what, he would keep his distance from Shanshan.

"Do you really have no other feelings for her? Many relationships start from childhood friends," Xiaomeng asked. She hoped he would be honest with her about any past hurts. She didn't want to experience it again.

"I swear I have absolutely no feelings for her. I'll keep my distance from her in the future, and I'll discard the gift she gave me," He Ming asserted sincerely.

“Considering your sincerity, I’ll let it go this time, but there really can’t be a repeat,” Ye Xiaomeng emphasized.

“Alright, I understand. I’m sorry, Mengmeng,” He Ming said and casually pulled Xiaomeng into his arms.

The warmth of the man’s embrace surrounded her, bringing a slight sense of reassurance to her heart.

Because of He Ming, Xiaomeng tried to minimize her business trips. Developing markets outside was indeed challenging.

He Ming felt sorry for her and had suggested more than once that she quit her job. If she didn’t want to work, he could support her, and she could find a less demanding job if she felt bored.

However, Xiaomeng hadn’t considered resigning yet. She politely declined his suggestion but assured him that she wouldn’t travel frequently.

Xiaomeng deeply understood the significance of having a job in her life. Initially, meeting his parents made her hesitant, considering their relatively short relationship and her own complicated past. She struggled with her own internal conflicts.

But it was He Ming’s love and persistence that encouraged her to take that step. Despite being cherished, she believed in maintaining her own space and independence, not wanting to rely entirely on a man..

## Chapter 315: Breaking News

Shu Pan had been extremely busy lately as the final stages of the project proposals wrapped up. In the competitive corporate environment, it was soon revealed who emerged victorious.

After all, Su Corporation was now a major conglomerate, and Shu Pan was well aware of how things should be handled.

Despite the hectic schedule, where there were many people, there was always plenty of gossip.

Just after the morning meeting, Tang Wei approached Shu Pan with an air of mystery.

“Hey, Shu Pan, let me tell you some news,” Tang Wei said, knowing she had discovered another sensational piece of information.

“What’s going on?” Shu Pan asked, intrigued.

“Colleagues who attended the meeting at the headquarters today said that our President Gu had a daughter. She looked a lot like him and was even brought to the company,” Tang Wei shared the explosive news she had gathered.

This matter had already caused a stir within the Gu Group. Previously, there were speculative reports in the newspapers, but it all fizzled out due to a lack of concrete evidence.

However, this time, Gu Shaoting brought his daughter to the company, creating quite a sensation.

If Shu Pan had water in her mouth at that moment, she would have surely sprayed Tang Wei’s face.

“What?” Shu Pan thought she must have misheard. How could bringing Joy to the company once have such a significant impact?

Indeed, letting him bring Joy was a mistake.

“Shu Pan, you heard it right. The CEO had a daughter. However, we don’t know who the child’s mother is yet. Last time, the newspaper only caught a glimpse of her side profile,” Tang Wei regretfully added.

"But, you know what, I genuinely admired this woman. Giving birth to Mr. Gu's daughter was an extraordinary feat. She was like my idol," Tang Wei exclaimed with admiration.

Shu Pan's body stiffened, and an inexplicable sense of guilt washed over her.

"Maybe she's just a relative's child? You might be overthinking this."

"I haven't heard of Mr. Gu having any siblings, and the child looks exactly like him," Tang Wei dismissed the possibility, showing disbelief.

Perhaps the monotony of their daily work routine led everyone to indulge in gossip about the company owner's personal affairs.

"Well, it's Mr. Gu's private matter. If you keep discussing it, you might end up getting fired without knowing why," Shu Pan warned with a hint of threat.

"I grew up eating rice, not by being scared. Everyone is talking about it. What's the big deal? It's not like we're discussing it in front of the boss," Tang Wei shrugged off the warning.

But you were discussing it in front of one of the involved parties, Shu Pan thought, but refrained from saying it aloud.

She knew Tang Wei meant no harm; she was just casually chatting.

"However, you don't know that everyone is really curious about the woman behind Mr. Gu. After all, it's so mysterious," Tang Wei sighed.

Shu Pan once again felt relieved that Gu Shaoting hadn't been discovered coming to pick her up so many times. It was better to have him come less often. She didn't want her peaceful life to turn into a chaotic mess.

"Stop thinking about it and focus on your work," Shu Pan advised.

"I don't daydream, but someone does. Do you know MO Lan? When she heard about this, she even said it's worth becoming Mr. Guts daughter's stepmother," Tang Wei mimicked MO Lan's tone with a perfect imitation.

Shu Pan was speechless. Well, it really was too boring.

"That's just wishful thinking, especially from her," Tang Wei expressed disdain. After all, she never liked MO Lan..

## Chapter 316: Auction

"Alright, don't be angry. Let's get back to our positions and work, my Miss Tang," Shu Pan said. Life needed some balance, and afterward, everyone returned to their normal routines.

"I know," Tang Wei reluctantly left.

In the afternoon, the director approached Shu Pan. "Shu Pan, prepare the documents. We're going to Su Corporation tomorrow."

"Sure, um... Director, can you find someone else to go?" Shu Pan asked.

"What's wrong? Is there something?" The director frowned, a bit puzzled.

"Nothing... it's nothing," Shu Pan intended to say that she would prepare the documents and then ask other colleagues to go. The scenes from the day she encountered Su Yuan at Su Corporation were still vivid in her memory. She didn't want a similar situation to happen again.

"That's good. Tomorrow, you and I will go, and bring Tang Wei and Xiao Chen along," the director instructed and left.

“Okay,” Shu Pan nodded.

She sighed softly.

Hopefully, nothing unexpected would happen.

The next day, the four of them set off for Su Corporation. In the car, Tang Wei and Shu Pan sat in the back. Shu Pan felt a bit nervous, while Tang Wei seemed as excited as if she had taken a stimulant, chatting non-stop.

“Why is the director being so nice to me this time? Finally, he let me come out and see the world,” Tang Wei found a topic since Shu Pan kept staring out of the window.

“When has the director ever treated you badly? Coming out is not exactly a great job. Why are you so happy?” Shu Pan looked puzzled.

“Let me tell you, you won’t understand. Do you think we’ll get to see Mr. Su later?” Tang Wei asked, her face filled with anticipation, looking somewhat infatuated.

“After all, this project is quite important, so we might meet him,” Shu Pan murmured. However, she wasn’t particularly hoping for it.

“That’s great; my trip won’t be in vain then,” Tang Wei happily said.

Shu Pan couldn’t help but shake her head, smiling. Joking and laughing with Tang Wei seemed to ease the tension.

Arriving at Su Corporation, as they entered the lobby, Tang Wei marveled like a country bumpkin entering a grand garden, continuously praising.

“Maintain your manner, Miss Tang,” Shu Pan joked.

“I know, I’m just a bit surprised,” Tang Wei pouted.

When the four entered the conference room, the representatives from the other two companies were already there, but Su Corporation’s top executives had yet to arrive.

Representatives from the three companies glanced at each other, silently sizing each other up.

The representatives from the other two companies looked elite, the men composed and calm, the women impeccably groomed, efficient, and professional.

After a few greetings, they delved into the main topic, instructing the representatives from each company to prepare. The meeting would officially start when their CEOs arrived.

Under everyone’s gaze, Su Yuan walked in with agile steps, clad in a silver-gray suit, exceptionally handsome. He immediately attracted everyone’s attention, especially the ladies present—except for Shu Pan.

She just felt a slight headache because Tang Wei, who was currently excitedly gripping Shu Pan’s hand, was eyeing Su Yuan.

“Shu Pan, what should I do? I feel like I’m going to be dazzled,” Tang Wei whispered.

Shu Pan found it amusing; Tang Wei indeed had a talent for entertaining people.

“Sit down quickly; the meeting is about to start. If we don’t win the bid today, we’ll probably be eating our words,” Shu Pan interrupted her daydream.

After Su Yuan took his seat, he nodded at Director Lu, indicating that they could begin.

Since Shu Pan and her team were the second to present, they had some time to prepare..



## Chapter 317: A Two-Day Tour

As Su Yuan entered, the first person he noticed was Shu Pan. She wore a white silk blouse with a floral brooch, giving her a delicate yet poised appearance.

She was focused on the documents in her hands, not making eye contact like the others.

Su Yuan felt a bit disappointed, but then he realized that he liked her independent personality.

As the meeting began, everyone quickly immersed themselves in their work...

It took approximately 10 days from Su Corporation's bidding to the final decision. Sunrise triumphed with an absolute advantage in obtaining the bidding project from Su Corporation.

To reward everyone, Secretary Zhang from the CEO's office sent an email announcing that this weekend, the company would organize a two-day trip to the Lotus Town resort under the group's umbrella.

Upon hearing this news, the entire company erupted with excitement. Lotus Town Resort was developed by Gu Group, including guest room areas, a golf course, a natural hot spring area, and various leisure facilities.

It was said that the room rates for a single night were beyond the imagination of ordinary people. Except for Gu Group employees, no one from any other company had ever enjoyed such a luxurious treatment.

Shu Pan was thrilled at the mention of Lotus Town, such a familiar name.

This way, she could take Joy back to show Daddy and Auntie Lu, and then attend the company event.

Joy also missed Grandpa and Grandma. Luckily, Gu Shaoting finally made a wise decision.

If Gu Shaoting knew Shu Pan's thoughts, he might be infuriated to the point of spitting blood.

Normally, no matter how hard he tried to please her, Shu Pan never showed the slightest bit of appreciation. Now, with just this small decision, she was overflowing with gratitude.

While everyone was happy, they didn't forget about the CEO. After all, such opportunities were rare, and it seemed like the CEO had never attended a company gathering before.

For a moment, whether the CEO would join the outing became the focal point of everyone's attention.

Colleagues were buzzing about this question, and Shu Pan was also pondering. He probably wouldn't go; although there might not be much on his agenda during the weekend, he likely preferred to take a break.

Going with a group of colleagues might make him feel uncomfortable, and it could dampen the enthusiasm of the employees. Why bother?

However, on second thought, this was the first large-scale collective event after the acquisition of the company. He might want to attend to boost the morale of the employees and encourage them.

At this point, some people divided into two groups and started betting on whether the CEO would go or not.

"Director, you are the company's representative; ask the CEO whether he will go or not," someone suggested.

"Alright, I'll ask Secretary Zhang later. Everyone has worked hard during this period, and we should continue to work hard in the future," the director said, offering words of encouragement.

Later, the director called Secretary Zhang, but the result was that the CEO hadn't decided whether to go or not.

As a result, someone in the company's activity group initiated a betting pool on whether the CEO would attend. Each participant had to contribute 200 yuan, and the person who guessed wrong would treat others to a meal.

With a relatively small sum and added entertainment value, many people participated. Both those who believed the CEO would go and those who believed he wouldn't have a roughly equal number of participants.

Shu Pan and Tang Wei also joined the betting, betting that the CEO would go.

Shu Pan analyzed the situation; usually, Gu Shaoting didn't have anything important on weekends. Most of the time, he stayed at her house and played with Joy. But if both Joy and Shu Pan weren't at home, he would probably be bored and might as well go out.

Although he had a reserved personality, for such a large-scale outing, it would seem a bit unjustifiable if he didn't go.

If she saw him in the next two days, she would ask him again..

#### Chapter 318: You Want Me to Go?

As the end of the workday approached, Shu Pan received a call from Gu Shaoting, saying he had picked up Joy. Shu Pan told him not to come and pick her up; she needed to make a trip to the supermarket.

After hanging up the phone, Shu Pan took a car to the supermarket. She bought ingredients, daily necessities for the upcoming outing, and some snacks.

Upon returning home, Gu Shaoting and Joy were already waiting. After putting away the groceries, Shu Pan began preparing dinner.

While Gu Shaoting played with Joy, Shu Pan found it strange. When they were not divorced, she often saw him socializing. Now, with the corporation developing even better, he seemed to have more free time.

In fact, Shu Pan didn't know that Gu Shaoting deliberately avoided social events to spend more time with them.

During dinner, Gu Shaoting occasionally took care of Joy and then continued to eat. He had always been leisurely, with elegant movements.

Gu Shaoting raised an eyebrow, glanced at her, remained silent, and continued eating.

What did his silence mean? Go or not?

Seeing him not speaking, Shu Pan didn't want to push it. She lowered her head and continued eating.

After a while, Gu Shaoting finished his meal, wiped his mouth with a tissue from the table, and casually said, "I'm not interested in this kind of activity. If I go with a large group, wouldn't they feel less entertained? I'd rather spend time with Joy."

Gu Shaoting made it clear that he wasn't going.

"Oh," Shu Pan murmured softly, disappointment evident in her voice.

Gu Shaoting, of course, noticed Shu Pan's disappointment and couldn't help but feel a little pleased. "Do you want me to go?" he teased.

Shu Pan heard the smugness in his voice. "Do you even have the time to go?"

"Who cares if you go or not? I care about that 200 yuan." Shu Pan sighed inwardly.

"If you want me to go, I think I can spare some time," Gu Shaoting pondered for a moment and said.

"Then bring Joy along," Gu Shaoting suddenly thought of this and felt it would be nice to take Joy out for a while.

"No, I'll take her to my dad and Auntie Lu. She hasn't seen them for a while, and they were asking about her a few days ago," Shu Pan sensibly declined.

Last time, bringing Joy to their company caused quite a sensation. If she did it again, who knows what new rumors would circulate.

"If you want me to go, I think I can spare some time," Gu Shaoting pondered for a moment and said.

"Then bring Joy along," Gu Shaoting suddenly thought of this and felt it would be nice to take Joy out for a while.

"No, I'll take her to my dad and Auntie Lu. She hasn't seen them for a while, and they were asking about her a few days ago," Shu Pan sensibly declined.

Last time, bringing Joy to their company caused quite a sensation. If she did it again, who knows what new rumors would circulate.

"Are you driving with me, or taking the company bus?" Gu Shaoting asked, not daring to make decisions for her now.

"I'll take the bus. You can bring Joy. When we get to Lotus Town, I'll take her home," Shu Pan suggested. She didn't want to stand out, avoiding becoming the subject of gossip.

This way, she wouldn't have to specially send Joy home. The little girl would probably be happy about it; Uncle Gu was like a godlike figure in her eyes now, full of admiration.

"Alright, I'll follow your lead," Gu Shaoting nodded.

"And about the outing, pretend you don't know me," Shu Pan reminded him again.

Gu Shaoting didn't respond and went to the living room, holding Joy.

Early Saturday morning, Shu Pan got up, arranged Joy, and Gu Shaoting arrived. Today, he was dressed in a clean white casual outfit. The morning sun gently poured through the car window, adding a touch of warmth to his appearance.

One couldn't help but marvel at the favor bestowed upon him by the heavens. At times, one had to admit that he indeed looked good.

Shu Pan stared at him early in the morning, making him feel a bit unusual. If another woman looked at him like that, he might feel repulsed, but Shu Pan's

gaze didn't bother him..

Chapter 319: Going Out for a Tour

On Saturday morning at 8:30, everyone gathered at the company. The company had rented two buses to take everyone to the resort.

The manager counted the number of people, and when everyone was present, all eyes were wandering, eager to see if the CEO would show up.

Tang Wei, holding Shu Pan's hand, made a gesture of farewell. "May the heavens bless us. CEO, please come. Otherwise, my 200 yuan... sigh."

Shu Pan suddenly blurted out, "He won't come. No need to wait."

Everyone was stunned by her words, and Tang Wei was the first to react. She couldn't help asking, "How do you know the CEO won't come?"

Shu Pan realized she had let the cat out of the bag and quickly added, "Just think about it. Even if the CEO comes, he would have his own car. Why would he share a ride with us?"

"Shu Pan makes sense. Let me ask Secretary Zhang. If the CEO isn't coming, we'll depart," the director finally made a decision.

The director made a call and was told not to wait.

Tang Wei sighed in disappointment, as did the other female colleagues. They thought they had a chance to see the CEO up close. It was a rare opportunity, and if the CEO had come, they could have been close to him.

It was a pity to lose such a good chance.

Little did they know that the female colleagues' bags were filled with beautiful clothes, all ready to attract the CEO's attention.

Moran was particularly angry and wanted to stomp her feet. No one knew she had spent a lot, preparing a new outfit. She had dressed up carefully today, thinking she could sit next to the CEO.

She boarded the bus, glaring fiercely at Shu Pan and Tang Wei, who were chatting happily.

They arrived at the destination around 11:30.

After everyone completed the check-in process, it was already past noon, and everyone was hungry. They had lunch in the hotel restaurant, and the afternoon was free time.

“In the afternoon, enjoy yourselves. Mr. Gu will come in the evening,” Secretary Zhang came over and conveyed the CEO’s message.

“Shu Pan, am I hearing correctly? The CEO is coming, so we’ve won! We get to see the CEO again, and who knows, maybe we’ll even have dinner together? It’s really too wonderful!” Tang Wei exclaimed excitedly.

Shu Pan and Tang Wei shared a room. After dinner, Tang Wei suggested going for a stroll, but Shu Pan was thinking about taking Joy home first.

Finding an excuse, Shu Pan evaded Tang Wei, then called Gu Shaoting, asking him to take Joy to a specified location.

By the time she arrived, they were already there. Shu Pan dropped off Joy and returned to the hotel.

“Shu Pan, I also want to visit Uncle and Auntie. Why didn’t you let me come along just now?” Gu Shaoting pretended to ask.

“Next time, perhaps,” Shu Pan replied casually. Making him meet Dad would undoubtedly give Daddy a heart attack.

Gu Shaoting also understood the implied meaning and couldn’t help feeling a bit disheartened.

In the world, debts were always repaid. If he wanted to win Shu Pan, he must also navigate through the Shu family, a hurdle he hadn’t paid much attention to before, but one he now needed to tackle head-on.

He silently memorized the route Shu Pan had taken just now.

Not far from the hotel, Shu Pan requested to get off. She didn’t want to be drowned in the gossip of those women.



Back at the hotel, some were playing cards, others were soaking in the hot springs, and some were playing golf.

Everyone was having a great time, unaware that Shu Pan had left.

Shu Pan quickly blended in with everyone and joined in the fun.

However, everyone was probably still looking forward to tonight's dinner because around 5:30, they all spontaneously gathered at the hotel's restaurant.

Their company had reserved a banquet hall..

Chapter 320: The CEO Is Here

No one knew who said, "Mr. Gu is here."

Mr. Gil!

Suddenly, everyone's gaze turned towards the entrance of the banquet hall.

Gu Shaoting, like a major celebrity on the red carpet, strolled in wearing a custom-made silver-gray suit. Every step he took quickened the heartbeat of the female colleagues present. Gu Shaoting spotted Shu Pan not far away, engrossed in a lively conversation with her colleagues, her radiant smile not intended for him. Nevertheless, he felt pleased.

Approaching everyone, he said, "Make yourselves at home, don't be reserved. You've all worked hard during this period. Enjoy yourselves, eat to your heart's content, and all expenses will be covered by the company."

As soon as he finished speaking, thunderous applause erupted, and they cheered, “Long live the CEO!”

Casually, he took a seat next to Shu Pan.

Shu Pan glanced at him, thinking what a wealthy man he was.

During the meal, the female colleagues in attendance suddenly became more refined, delicately savoring their food.

“Tang Wei, is the food not good? Weren’t you just saying how hungry you were and wanted to devour a plate?” Shu Pan noticed Tang Wei acting unnaturally. Earlier, she had claimed to be ravenous, ready to wolf down her meal, but now she was delicately picking at her food.

“Shu Pan, shut up,” Tang Wei gritted her teeth. She had finally hoped to leave a good impression in front of the CEO, only to have Shu Pan ruin it.

Shu Pan surveyed the other female colleagues around her, each behaving as if they’d transformed into refined ladies. She suddenly understood.

Looking at the culprit next to her, elegantly peeling a shrimp, Shu Pan buried her head in her meal.

Suddenly, there was an extra shrimp in her bowl, peeled by Gu Shaoting. Shu Pan saw her other colleagues looking astonished.

The CEO was actually peeling shrimp for Shu Pan?

Everyone’s eyes were about to pop out.

“Seems like no one else wants to eat much, so just you eat more,” Gu Shaoting explained, seemingly justifying why he was helping Shu Pan peel shrimp.

Regret welled up within her. Now, the others had dropped their pretenses, and everyone started eating heartily.

Tang Wei couldn't hold back any longer. Seeing that the CEO preferred this type, she also started eating openly.

Everyone present probably envied Shu Pan because the CEO spoke to her so gently. Moreover, the CEO's voice was deep and sexy, and his handsome appearance left nothing to be desired.

Gu Shaoting continued to help Shu Pan with her food, even after she glared at him, pretending not to notice. Shu Pan subtly touched him under the table, signaling him to stop, and everyone was watching.

Gu Shaoting shamelessly tightened his grip on her hand and lightly traced her palm with his fingers. Was he out of his mind? Shu Pan's face instantly turned red in such a situation.

She decisively pulled her hand back, but the warmth lingered on her face.

Tang Wei was puzzled, seeing Shu Pan's flushed face, thinking maybe she had eaten something spicy.

But someone saw everything clearly—Mo Lan. When she bent down to pick something up just now, she saw Shu Pan actively using her hand to touch the CEO's hand.

It was shameless, seducing the CEO in public like this.

MO Lan knew Shu Pan had a restless nature deep down, even though she usually pretended to be as pure as the Virgin Mary. Who would have thought she'd be like this behind closed doors?

MO Lan sat up with a calm expression but was already contemplating how to have a coincidental encounter with the CEO tonight. She couldn't let Shu Pan steal the march..