

## As Agreed 521

### Chapter 521: Frustrated

"Sorry," Shu Pan murmured with a hint of regret.

"You, did Gu Shaoting send you here?" Ye Xiaomeng suddenly remembered to ask.

"Yeah," Shu Pan glanced outside, sighed, thinking it would be like a scene from a TV drama where they could hug goodbye, but who knew it would end up like this? Chaotic and messy.

They hurried onto the plane and settled into first class. Shu Pan immediately took out her phone, finding a message from Gu Shaoting, "Send me a text when you arrive in Singapore."

"Okay," Shu Pan quickly replied. Looking at the message, she smiled sweetly, although his face just now was grim, he still cared about her deeply.

What to do? She seemed to be missing him a bit. If Xiaomeng knew her thoughts, she would surely tease her for being sentimental.

Sure enough, Xiaomeng noticed her, "Look at you, smiling like a fool."

Shu Pan chuckled, "It's my first time traveling far, and a man who isn't my dad sent me a text to check on me. Can't I be happy about it?"

Xiaomeng shook her head with a smile, "I know you're lovey-dovey, don't tease me."

"Don't you and He Ming love showing affection more?" Shu Pan remembered how they often made her feel like a third wheel.

Xiaomeng suddenly smiled with complexity, in fact, they had a fight yesterday.

Yesterday, Xiaomeng told him that she and Shu Pan were going on a trip, which surprised He Ming because she hadn't mentioned it before. It wasn't a big deal, going out to relax was fine, but Xiaomeng said she needed to calm down and think carefully about whether their relationship should continue.

This sentence irritated He Ming. Xiaomeng had such a negative attitude towards their relationship all along.

Wasn't he trying hard enough?

He angrily pounded the wall with his hand, making it bleed.

Xiaomeng was a bit scared at that moment and hurriedly helped him bandage it.

He Ming hugged her, solemnly swearing, "I won't marry anyone else in this lifetime but Ye Xiaomeng."

At that moment, Ye Xiaomeng was touched to the point of tears mingling with her smile.

But deep down, she felt a bitter pang because she knew there were too many objective reasons standing between them, issues that couldn't be solved just by their efforts.

After that, Ye Xiaomeng dared not provoke him further. They settled into silence, and today, He Ming insisted on driving her to the airport. She remained silent throughout the journey.

Her mind was in turmoil, unsure of what to do, hoping that her trip would bring some clarity.

"Xiaomeng, what's wrong?" Shu Pan noticed her lack of response and nudged her with her hand.

"Nothing, I'm just happy for you. Gu Shaoting really cares about you now, he loves you," Ye Xiaomeng replied.

Shu Pan smiled as she leaned her head on Xiaomeng's shoulder.

Truly, seeing Shu Pan at this moment made Ye Xiaomeng's inexplicable melancholy disappear.

Perhaps this world was just like that, filled with trials and happiness, and what was meant for you would eventually come.

"Oh right, did you exchange for the new currency?" Ye Xiaomeng asked Shu Pan.

Shu Pan blinked, shaking her head, completely surprised by the question.

"I knew it. It's okay, I exchanged some. I'll give you a few when the time comes." With that, Ye Xiaomeng took out a few notes from her wallet and handed them to her.

Shu Pan took them, glanced at them, and then planned to put them back into her own wallet.

"Huh, when did my wallet get so bulging?" Shu Pan asked, puzzled.

Furrowing her brow, she opened her wallet and suddenly widened her eyes. Inside were various notes of Singapore dollars. Shu Pan was truly taken aback.

Then she noticed there was a small note inside.

Chapter 522: Envy

Shu Pan picked up the note and read the line written inside, "My dear, surprised? I was worried you might refuse it face-to-face. Have fun and don't hold back. PS, there's also a black credit card in the wallet. Feel free to spend as you like, don't worry about saving for me."

"Wow, didn't you already exchange a lot?" Ye Xiaomeng snatched her own new bills back from Shu Pan's hand, exasperated.

Too much, and here she was claiming she wasn't prepared.

It was so unfair. Shu Pan had no idea Gu Shaoting would do something like this. She hadn't been mentally prepared at all, and today's surprise was truly overwhelming.

"I didn't exchange any. I had no clue about this," Shu Pan attempted to explain further, but Ye Xiaomeng had already seen the note in her hand and took it to read.

"Girl, you hit the jackpot! You've married a super rich guy, and Gu Shaoting is so generous," Ye Xiaomeng said enviously. "He did this for you."

Shu Pan blinked, realizing perhaps only Gu Shaoting would do something like this.

He had always been the one to help her with her luggage and carry her bags at the airport when she was too busy to handle them herself.

Oh no, her heart was practically bursting out of her chest.

Suddenly, Shu Pan didn't feel like going to Singapore anymore. She wanted to go back now and find Gu Shaoting, give him a warm embrace.

She was truly touched. Usually, he was so quiet and reserved, not one for sweet words. But when it mattered most, he showed how amazing he could be.

He always loved surprising her. Didn't he know that surprises were the way to a woman's heart? Especially a woman as easily moved as she was.

Watching Shu Pan's delighted expression, Ye Xiaomeng let out a long sigh. "I envy you. I was worried you wouldn't have enough money to spend because you said you didn't want to use Gu Shaoting's money,

afraid of what people might say. But now, look at this. He's willingly handed it to you, along with a credit card with no spending limit. My heart can barely handle it."

Shu Pan nodded in agreement.

"And he's so thoughtful, exchanging various denominations. With all these new bills, considering your personality, you probably won't be able to spend them all," Ye Xiaomeng said, feeling both happy and a bit disappointed. Although He Ming hadn't done something like this, she usually managed his money, so she couldn't help but feel a bit envious.

"Yeah, I didn't expect it either. I thought he was just providing money for your flight and hotel," Shu Pan's heart was filled with an indescribable sweetness. Truly, she was overwhelmed with gratitude.

"Alright, let's not dwell on that. Anyway, this time I'm going to let loose and have a great time," Shu Pan said. Seeing her in this state was much to Ye Xiaomeng's amusement.

As soon as they arrived at the airport in Singapore, Shu Pan immediately sent a text to Gu Shaoting, "Hubby, I've arrived in Singapore. Don't worry, were the new bills from you?"

Gu Shaoting, who was just about to finish work, couldn't help but smile at the word "Hubby." The little silly finally saw it. He thought it would take her a long time.

"Have fun and stay safe," Gu Shaoting quickly replied.

After receiving his message, Shu Pan's lips curled up high. Since he wasn't around, she mischievously replied, "You're the most generous hubby in the world." Followed by a string of flying kisses, kissing emojis...

Shu Pan didn't care about the amount of money. She wasn't a shopaholic and wasn't very keen on shopping, but what mattered was his thoughtfulness.

Chapter 523: Painful for the Spending

Gu Shaoting smiled satisfactorily as he read her message. "Thank you's can wait until you come back. Just think about how you're going to thank me..."

Shu Pan blushed involuntarily upon seeing his response.

At 7 p.m., the two checked into the hotel.

The hotel porter escorted them upstairs, and upon seeing the super luxurious suite they had booked, Shu Pan was slightly taken aback. "This... this is too... too extravagant. How much is it per night?"

Ye Xiaomeng smiled but didn't say anything until the porter left. "Gu Shaoting gave me a lot of money, so I booked something nicer."

Shu Pan was curious. "How much did he give you? And how much is this suite per night? I'm worried it's too expensive, and I won't be able to sleep."

"Not much. I told him Singapore is relatively expensive, so it must be around ten or twenty thousand a day. Oh, and I also booked a seaside villa for us tomorrow. We can have a blast," Ye Xiaomeng said cheerfully, turning to open her suitcase.

Shu Pan was stunned. Ye Xiaomeng, the spendthrift, ten or twenty thousand a day? Goodness, how many months' salary was that for her?

"Did he say anything to you?" Shu Pan asked, puzzled.

"Nope," Ye Xiaomeng thought for a moment before continuing, "Oh, but he did tell me to take good care of you since you haven't traveled far before. If we run out of money, we'll let him know. He wants us to have a good time."

Once again, Shu Pan was taken aback. So he had done so much behind the scenes.

"In fact, I'm also testing him for you. It's not about how much money a man has, but whether he's generous enough to his wife. Obviously, Gu Shaoting is generous and outstanding. He even paid for my portion. Someone's covering our expenses, so let's plan more trips in the future," Ye Xiaomeng explained confidently.

Shu Pan felt a pang of guilt. "But isn't this burning money?"

"Can you stop worrying? Your hubby's got so much money you can't even spend it all. Why are you fussing over this?" Ye Xiaomeng looked at her somewhat disdainfully.

"Hmph," Shu Pan pouted.

After resting for a while, the two went to the hotel restaurant for dinner.

When they returned to the room, Shu Pan's phone rang. She grabbed it and hurried to the balcony.

"Have you reached the hotel?" Gu Shaoting's deep and sensitive voice came through the phone.

"Yeah, just got back from dinner. Have you eaten?" Shu Pan asked in return.

"I don't have much of an appetite when you're not home," Gu Shaoting complained.

"Don't talk nonsense," Shu Pan scolded him shyly upon hearing his words.

"Really, have fun and stay safe. Come back soon," Gu Shaoting said pitifully.

"Okay."

"I'll go visit Dad and Joy the day after tomorrow. Don't worry," Gu Shaoting felt truly lonely without his wife and daughter by his side.

"Okay, take care of yourself, eat more, don't stay up late. Love you." Without waiting for Gu Shaoting's response, Shu Pan hurriedly hung up the phone. She had become bolder now.

Gu Shaoting looked at the disconnected phone and knew she was feeling shy. For someone as reserved as her to say "love you" over the phone took a lot of courage.

"Finished exchanging sweet nothings with your beloved?" Ye Xiaomeng teased.

"You just finished talking to He Ming, didn't you?" Shu Pan retorted with a smile.

"You said your greetings and hung up, unlike you guys still in the midst of confessing love," Ye Xiaomeng remarked, indicating she had heard Shu Pan's last sentence. Shu Pan really wished she could find a hole to hide in.

"Ugh, annoying," Shu Pan teased back with a glare at Ye Xiaomeng, then opened her suitcase, intending to take out clothes for change.

But as she opened the suitcase, she was shocked. Was this her suitcase? Why were the clothes arranged differently from how she had packed them originally?

## Chapter 524: Jealousy

She opened the suitcase again and looked at it, confirming that it was indeed her own suitcase. No doubt about it.

Upon closer inspection, the clothes inside were ones she usually wore, but they weren't the ones she had packed. What on earth could be going on?



She vividly remembered that she had packed mostly light clothing at the time.

But these clothes now were definitely not what she had packed. Clothes didn't just walk away on their own, and besides her and Gu Shaoting, there was no one else at home. So, if it wasn't him, then who could it be?

Why would he swap her clothes?

Did he not like them? But it wasn't like he was the one wearing them.

Could it be... could he think they were too revealing? So he didn't want her to wear them?

The more Shu Pan thought about it, the more she felt that was the case.

Suddenly, she remembered that day when he came out later, with a smile on his face, looking quite happy.

So, he had done this.

Such an immature man.

But thinking that he cared about her enough to make such a gesture, she felt relieved all at once.

However, she still needed to warn him. It was too disrespectful.

Shu Pan picked up her pajamas helplessly and walked into the bathroom.

The next day, Shu Pan and Ye Xiaomeng woke up early, ready to start their sightseeing trip. They didn't want to waste time sleeping.

So, they got up early to prepare. Shu Pan searched through her clothes for a long time but couldn't find a suitable outfit for shopping.

According to Ye Xiaomeng's plan, they would first go shopping to see if they could find any cheap clothes.

Finally, she found one that was relatively acceptable.

But as soon as she put it on, Ye Xiaomeng criticized it.

"Girl, seriously? We're here to have fun, not to work. Why are you dressed so formally?" Ye Xiaomeng was dumbfounded by Shu Pan's attire. It looked like she was going to the office.

"Check out my suitcase." Shu Pan sighed and pointed to her luggage.

Ye Xiaomeng was puzzled, but she looked into the suitcase as Shu Pan indicated. She was speechless when she saw the clothes inside.

"This..." Ye Xiaomeng didn't know what to say.

"It's Gu Shaoting's handiwork. He took out all the cooler clothes I planned to bring and replaced them with these." Shu Pan said helplessly.

"What? I didn't think he'd do something like this. Well, no worries, we have money. Let's go buy some new ones." Ye Xiaomeng said with a smile.

So, they went straight to the largest mall since they had a purpose now.

Indeed, it was a shopper's paradise. Shu Pan and Ye Xiaomeng were both stunned.

Especially Ye Xiaomeng, she wanted to buy everything.

Soon, Ye Xiaomeng helped Shu Pan pick out a few items.

On the spot, Ye Xiaomeng asked Shu Pan to change into a floral skirt, very cool and refreshing.

Shu Pan seemed to have a different demeanor, very innocent.

Ye Xiaomeng randomly picked up Shu Pan's phone, took a photo of her, and sent it to Gu Shaoting.

She really wanted to see his reaction.

After that, they continued shopping. In the afternoon, when they returned to the hotel and had just sat down, Gu Shaoting called.

Later than expected, probably because he was busy.

"Honey, where did you go today?" Gu Shaoting asked with concern.

"I went shopping with Xiaomeng, just got back. Tired but happy. The clothes here aren't expensive, so I bought a few." Shu Pan had just finished speaking when she suddenly remembered Gu Shaoting's childish behavior.

"You're the one who swapped my clothes, aren't you?" Shu Pan said with certainty.

"Yeah, those clothes didn't look good. You can wear them at home from now on." Gu Shaoting didn't deny it, admitting it openly and with good reason.

Shu Pan couldn't help rolling her eyes. Since when did he start managing her wardrobe?

“It’s a waste to buy clothes and not wear them.”

“No problem.” Gu Shaoting wanted to mention that the skirt she was wearing today was too short, but considering he had just been caught swapping clothes, he didn’t dare to bring it up.

## Chapter 525: Complaining

After hanging up with Shu Pan, Gu Shaoting checked the time and realized it was still early. He remembered he hadn’t contacted Song Can in a long time, so he picked up the phone and dialed her number.

“What? Do you still remember I’m your mother?” Song Can’s voice carried a hint of sarcasm.

“Mom, why do you always say such hurtful things?” Gu Shaoting replied gently.

“What do you care about me for? Just focus on your wife and child.” Song Can’s voice softened slightly upon hearing Gu Shaoting’s tone.

“I’ll come back to spend time with you when I have the chance.” Gu Shaoting sighed. Changing Song Can’s mindset would probably be difficult.

“I wouldn’t dare to trouble you.” Song Can said, feeling a bit resentful.

“Alright, mom, take care of yourself.” Gu Shaoting felt frustrated with his mother’s attitude and realized there was no point in continuing the conversation.

As soon as he hung up, He Ming walked in.

“Brother Ting, since you’re going home to an empty house, why don’t we go out for a drink?” He Ming suggested, feeling a bit bored and wanting someone to chat with.

“Sure.” Gu Shaoting grabbed his jacket and left with He Ming.

They decided to have hot pot, mainly because it allowed them to eat slowly without worrying about the food getting cold.

“Shu Pan has only been gone for a day, and you’re already like this, Ting. I kinda miss the old you.” He Ming noticed Gu Shaoting’s distracted demeanor.

“I’m just not used to it.” Gu Shaoting nodded.

He Ming remained silent, pouring himself a glass of beer.

“What about you? When are you planning to get married?” Gu Shaoting asked, concerned. He had been preoccupied with his own affairs with Shu Pan lately and felt he had neglected his friend.

“Married? Haha, that’s still a distant dream. My mom hasn’t given her blessing yet, and Xiaomeng feels pressured since she’s not pregnant.” He Ming replied, feeling frustrated.

Xiaomeng was out traveling, and when he called her today, she said she was shopping and didn’t have time. She had been acting hot and cold towards him lately, and he didn’t understand why.

“It’s tough. My mom has objections too, but I can’t yield this time. I’ve already lost once, and I can’t afford another mishap.” Gu Shaoting shook his head, knowing the age-old problem of mother-in-law and daughter-in-law issues.

“I want to register with Xiaomeng first, but she refuses. She wants to register after getting pregnant, but pregnancy isn’t something you can plan for. Who knows when that’ll happen?” He Ming lamented, feeling overwhelmed by his situation.

"Sometimes we need to take a stand and not always listen to women." Gu Shaoting shared his experience.

"Yeah, I need to stand firm," He Ming agreed.

They clinked their glasses in agreement.

Meanwhile, Shu Pan and Ye Xiaomeng, who were traveling, were also having a great time.

Ye Xiaomeng indeed rented a luxurious villa, fully equipped with everything they needed, even allowing them to cook for themselves.

"Xiaomeng, come and eat," Shu Pan called out.

"We're not home, but men can have fun too. He Ming just sent a picture of him and Gu Shaoting drinking," Ye Xiaomeng walked over and handed her phone to Shu Pan.

Seeing Gu Shaoting in the picture made Shu Pan miss him even more.

"It's okay to relax occasionally," Shu Pan said nonchalantly, realizing they must be out drinking, explaining the lack of phone calls.

"Come on, let's have a drink too," she said, opening the fridge and taking out two bottles of beer.

"Yeah, cheers!" Shu Pan exclaimed happily.

The sisters indulged themselves in eating and drinking.

Chapter 526: Why Are You In My House?

The next day, Gu Shaoting thought for a moment and realized that there wasn't anything urgent to attend to. Recalling the sarcastic remarks from his mother, Song Can, during their phone call yesterday, he figured her mood might not be good. So, Gu Shaoting decided to go and visit her today.

It was Saturday, and he had initially planned to visit his daughter, Joy, but he decided against it. He would go see his precious daughter tomorrow instead.

Leaving around 11 in the morning, Gu Shaoting drove back to the Gu family mansion.

As he parked the car and walked into the courtyard, he suddenly heard laughter coming from inside the house, and it sounded somewhat familiar.

Furrowing his brows, he quickened his pace and opened the front door.

Upon entering, the two people in the room seemed taken aback and stopped talking abruptly, both staring straight at him.

Gu Shaoting looked up and his brows furrowed even more.

"What are you doing in my house?"

"Big Brother Gu, what are you doing here?"

Two voices spoke almost simultaneously, and Gu Shaoting was stunned to see Charlene in his house. How did she find her way here?

He had politely declined her visit when he mentioned visiting his mother. How did she still manage to come? What was her intention? It was truly perplexing.

“Do you two know each other?” Song Can asked, looking puzzled.

“I’m currently interning at Big Brother Gu’s company,” Charlene chuckled lightly, then explained.

“Oh, I see. This is my son,” Song Can introduced.

“It’s such a small world. I bumped into Auntie while shopping, and then I found out Auntie is Big Brother Gu’s mother. Fate works in mysterious ways, doesn’t it?” Charlene remarked as if she had just discovered their mother-son relationship.

Truly, Charlene’s expression revealed no flaws whatsoever. If she were an actress, she would surely win an award.

Gu Shaoting furrowed his brows, remained silent, and then sat down.

“You’re such a busy person, why did you come back?” Song Can said, sounding irritated. With an outsider present, she didn’t want to be embarrassed.

“I came back to see you. I’ve been quite busy lately,” Gu Shaoting replied nonchalantly, disregarding her tone.

“Auntie, Big Brother Gu is indeed very busy. There are many matters in the corporation, and he’s the CEO, so he has a lot on his plate,” Charlene interjected, eager to explain.

“Sigh, he’s my son. Do I not know what he’s like?” Song Can glared at Gu Shaoting. Fortunately, he hadn’t brought that woman home to make trouble for her.

Charlene smiled shyly, feeling she may have overstepped.

She stole a glance at Gu Shaoting, who remained expressionless.



Feeling uneasy, she wondered if Gu Shaoting thought she was meddling too much or had some ulterior motive.

Song Can seemed to sense Charlene's discomfort and reassured her, "Charlene, don't be so tense. You're at Auntie's home now, not at the company. You don't have to be so nervous."

Song Can thought Charlene was uncomfortable because she saw her superior, so she tried to reassure her.

"Okay, thank you, Auntie," Charlene said softly, smiling gently.

What a considerate girl. Looking back, who could compare to Shu Pan?

Seeing Gu Shaoting's demeanor, Song Can couldn't help but feel he was bewitched.

"Dinner's ready," Song Can invited Charlene to eat.

Charlene had mentioned her parents weren't around, and she hadn't had home-cooked meals in a long time, so she invited her over.

"Okay, Big Brother Gu, let's eat," Charlene reminded when Song Can didn't call him.

"Ignore him, just sit down," Song Can decided to treat Gu Shaoting as if he were invisible.

Gu Shaoting didn't mind and casually sat down, picking up his chopsticks.

At the dinner table, Song Can and Charlene chatted and laughed, while Gu Shaoting ate without paying much attention.

Chapter 527: Shocking News

After finishing dinner and seeing that Song Can's mood seemed alright, Gu Shaoting decided it was time to leave.

He mainly wanted to check on Song Can, and seeing her chatting and laughing put his mind at ease.

"Mom, you two keep talking, I have things to attend to. I'll head back now," Gu Shaoting said. But as soon as he finished speaking, Song Can stood up and couldn't help but scold him, "You've barely been back for two minutes. If you really don't want to come back, then don't step foot in this house again. Just stay with your precious wife and daughter."

"Auntie, don't be angry. Let's talk things out calmly. Don't let anger affect your health," Charlene quickly interjected, trying to mediate.

"Sigh, so troublesome," Song Can grumbled as she sat on the sofa.

Nowadays, whenever the mother and son met, it was like a collision between Mars and Earth, creating a heated atmosphere.

"Mom, take care of yourself. I'll come back to see you when I have time," Gu Shaoting said worriedly. He knew that if he stayed any longer, Song Can would start venting her anger again. Now, as long as he intended to marry Shu Pan, his mother would disapprove.

Sigh, he wondered how he could eliminate her deep-seated resentment.

After Gu Shaoting left, Song Can still felt somewhat resentful.

"Charlene, you don't understand. Shaoting is an adult now and has his own ideas. As long as he thinks it's right, I don't need to be this angry. Just let him be," Song Can explained, pretending to be calm. She hoped that the more they argued, the more likely Gu Shaoting would compromise and break up with that woman.

“Charlene, you don’t know. I don’t like her, really. She’s so petty and immature. I don’t know what Shaoting sees in her,” Song Can expressed her deeply ingrained belief, which was difficult to change.

“Maybe you’ll slowly learn to accept her and be pleasantly surprised,” Charlene suggested.

“Accept her? Forget it. It’s not like I haven’t accepted her before. Weren’t they like that before they got divorced?” What? Divorced? Were they together again after divorce?

Charlene was truly shocked by this news.

How come what she heard before wasn’t like this? It’s impossible. The company is so big, with so many people, how could no one know?

“Auntie, did Gu Shaoting get divorced?” Charlene asked uncertainly.

“Yes, but now they’ve reconciled. Since they loved each other in the beginning, why did they divorce? Only to get back together later. What’s going on? I’ve always thought it was Shu Pan clinging to Shaoting, and my foolish son was blinded by her,” Song Can said, getting angrier as she spoke.

“Oh, you can’t say for sure. Many women nowadays are shallow,” Charlene chimed in.

“Exactly,” Song Can said, feeling understood.

“Then let Gu Shaoting slowly discover her true colors.”

“It’s difficult. He’s already in too deep, unable to see the beauty around him,” Song Can sighed, feeling the weight of keeping family matters private, but she couldn’t hold it in anymore; she was so frustrated.

Charlene held Song Can’s hand and gently patted it, offering comfort.

Seeing her upset, Charlene recounted many cultural insights and anecdotes from her previous travels, as Song Can had also been traveling to many countries recently. They found common ground and chatted animatedly, and Song Can finally let go of her frustration with Gu Shaoting's situation.

But Charlene's heart was far from calm. She hadn't expected to learn such explosive news today. It was truly unexpected.

But at least Gu Shaoting was already divorced, he wasn't a married man. In that case, she wouldn't be seen as a home-wrecker. And if that woman was shallow, then it would be easier to handle. Money could solve such problems, which didn't seem like a big issue.

#### Chapter 528: Be More Confident

Gu Shaoting left home and, seeing that it was still early, drove straight to Lotus Town to see Joy.

Oh, how lonely and pitiful a man can be without his wife and daughter by his side.

Joy was overjoyed to see her daddy, which somewhat comforted Gu Shaoting's saddened soul.

"Daddy, did Mommy go on a trip? Why didn't you go with her?" Joy asked, puzzled.

"Because Mommy went with your godmother, and boys aren't allowed," Gu Shaoting feigned helplessness.

"Poor Daddy," Joy said sympathetically.

"Are you having fun at Grandpa's house?" Gu Shaoting asked.

“Yes, I can play with the kids next door. Can I invite her to our house in the future?” Joy’s innocent voice chimed in.

“Of course, you can invite your good friends to play,” Gu Shaoting said, patting her head. She was such a lovely child.

In Singapore, after dinner at the hotel, Ye Xiaomeng decided to go swimming in the rooftop pool.

They had only stayed at the villa for a day because it was too expensive, and both of them felt bad about it. So, they found another hotel with a garden outside.

The highlight of this hotel was the rooftop pool, which offered a panoramic view of Singapore.

Ye Xiaomeng dragged Shu Pan up to the rooftop.

Shu Pan had also changed into the swimsuit bought together with Gu Shaoting. However, as expected, Ye Xiaomeng didn’t hold back her criticism of the swimsuit, deeming it worthless.

“Girl, you’re here to travel and broaden your horizons. Why did you buy such a swimsuit that looks like it’s meant for elementary school kids? My goodness, it’s a one-piece with a little skirt!” Ye Xiaomeng didn’t need to think twice to know that it was Gu Shaoting who had picked it out.

It was just too much. There were so many restrictions on his wife’s attire. What freedom did she have in life?

Ye Xiaomeng pondered for a moment, then pulled out a pink bikini set from her bag. Originally meant for herself, she had brought three sets just in case, and now she could conveniently lend one to Shu Pan.

Shu Pan was taken aback when she saw Ye Xiaomeng offering her the two pieces of fabric. “I already have a swimsuit,” she said.

"If you wear that here, I won't even want to stand next to you," Ye Xiaomeng said disdainfully. "We're out here, no one will recognize us. We can have fun to our heart's content. Loosen up a bit; your man won't even know."

Seeing Shu Pan's reaction, Ye Xiaomeng thought she was concerned about Gu Shaoting. But upon further reflection, she realized she sounded like she was encouraging her to do something wrong.

"It's just that I've never worn a bikini before. It might feel weird," Shu Pan said, feeling a bit awkward.

"If you've never worn one, all the more reason to wear it. Women need to show their elegance. If not now, then when? When you're old and gray?" Ye Xiaomeng looked at her friend, who seemed hesitant.

"Okay then," Shu Pan took the swimsuit and went into the changing room.

Ye Xiaomeng nodded in satisfaction.

When Shu Pan emerged, she looked a bit embarrassed, wrapping herself tightly in a towel. "Girl, I feel like I've been defeated by you," Ye Xiaomeng rubbed her forehead, feeling a slight headache coming on.

"I'm not used to it. It feels a bit... uncomfortable. The straps don't feel very secure," Shu Pan said softly.

Ye Xiaomeng stared at Shu Pan until she slowly unwrapped the towel.

Ye Xiaomeng's eyes widened. "Girl, do you know what you're missing out on? Confidence. You look so good in it. Why worry? It's such a waste."

"Really?" Shu Pan asked, unsure.

"Definitely," Ye Xiaomeng replied. "Give me your phone. Let me take a picture for you to see."

Chapter 529: Can't Sit Still

Shu Pan hesitantly handed her phone to Ye Xiaomeng. Ye Xiaomeng adjusted the lighting and found a good angle, then snapped a photo.

Then, when Shu Pan wasn't paying attention, she sent the photo to Gu Shaoting.

"Look, isn't she beautiful?" Ye Xiaomeng said.

In truth, Shu Pan had a well-proportioned figure with no excess fat, and her skin was fair. Wearing the pink bikini, she looked really good. What she lacked was confidence.

She had always felt insecure about her body, which is why she never had the courage to try.

"Well, since we're out here anyway," Shu Pan said, taking Ye Xiaomeng's words to heart. She confidently settled into a lounge chair.

"What are you doing? Get up and let's swim," Ye Xiaomeng pulled her.

"I'm not very good at swimming," Shu Pan said, feeling a bit afraid of the water.

"I'll teach you," Ye Xiaomeng volunteered. "Okay," she said, willing to try anything.

The two of them got into the water, and Shu Pan found that swimming wasn't as difficult as she had imagined.

After playing around for a while, they got out of the water.

The two of them were having a great time, but someone couldn't sit still.

Of course, that someone was Mr. Gu.

Ever since he received the message from Ye Xiaomeng, he had been feeling uneasy.

Didn't she buy a swimsuit? Why wasn't she wearing it? It seemed like she would be influenced by Ye Xiaomeng after all.

Gu Shaoting stared at the photo, feeling like he was going to bore a hole into it.

He paced around the room, then suddenly made a decision.

"I'm going to Singapore tomorrow," Gu Shaoting called He Ming.

"Why so suddenly? Is something wrong?" He Ming thought for a moment but couldn't recall anything significant happening recently.

"I need to clear my head," Gu Shaoting felt a bit embarrassed to admit it outright.

"Clear your head? You're not going to find Shu Pan, are you?" He Ming couldn't believe he was being so clingy.

"Yeah," Gu Shaoting didn't mind admitting it at this point.

"Let's go together. Two days away won't hurt," the two brothers decided happily.

Gu Shaoting discreetly called Shu Pan and found out where they would be staying tomorrow.

Shu Pan and Ye Xiaomeng spent their days exploring nearby attractions and enjoying food and drinks in the evenings, sleeping in until they naturally woke up each day.



On the third day at noon, Shu Pan was still half asleep, mainly because they stayed up late the night before, when a knocking sound came from outside.

“Who is it? Room service?” Ye Xiaomeng asked from the bed next to hers, then buried her head under the covers.

“I don’t know.” Seeing Ye Xiaomeng had no intention of getting up, and the knocking was getting louder, Shu Pan reluctantly got up, threw on a coat, and sleepily made her way to the door.

Opening the door without looking outside, Shu Pan said, “We don’t need room service.”

She was about to close the door when suddenly, it was forcefully pushed open.

“Honey, is this how you treat me?” Gu Shaoting’s voice sounded mournful.

Hearing Gu Shaoting’s voice, Shu Pan thought she was still dreaming.

This time, she was fully awake.

She looked closely and saw that despite Gu Shaoting’s disheveled appearance from rushing over, it didn’t diminish his handsomeness at all. And standing next to him was He Ming.

“Why are you here? Are you here on business?” Shu Pan asked, only able to think of this.

“Where’s Xiaomeng? Can we come in?” He Ming asked.

“Just a moment.” Shu Pan closed the door and woke up Ye Xiaomeng.

The two quickly freshened up, got dressed, and then opened the door.

“Why are you here?” Ye Xiaomeng also looked puzzled.

“We’re starving. Let’s put our luggage away and then find a place to eat first,” He Ming hugged Xiaomeng and said.

“Alright,” everyone agreed.

Chapter 530: Are You Here on Business?

The four of them found a restaurant and sat down, with Shu Pan and Gu Shaoting on one side, and Ye Xiaomeng and He Ming on the other.

He Ming eagerly ordered food, his stomach growling loudly from missing breakfast due to catching their flight.

After they ordered, the waiter took the menu, and Shu Pan asked, “Are you two here on a business trip?”

He Ming looked at Gu Shaoting, who remained silent. Since it was his idea to come, He Ming decided to let him answer.

Gu Shaoting glanced at him, then cleared his throat and said, “Not really busy lately, so just thought we’d take a break and learn from you guys.”

“Ah, I see. That’s great, it’s nice to have company,” Shu Pan said happily without overthinking it.

But Ye Xiaomeng’s mind was sharp as a mirror. She knew Gu Shaoting must have seen the photo she sent. Otherwise, why would he come at this exact time? However, she didn’t mention it, silently

listening to their conversation. His actions showed how much he cared about Shu Pan, and that was enough for her.

When the food arrived, Gu Shaoting didn't eat himself, but instead began serving Shu Pan, filling her bowl to the brim.

"That's enough, I can't eat all of this," Shu Pan protested.

"It's okay, I'll eat what's left," Gu Shaoting said calmly.

Shu Pan blushed instantly. This man didn't seem to care about speaking so intimately in front of others.

After the meal, Shu Pan and Ye Xiaomeng went to the front desk to check out.

Then they moved to a seaside villa in Sentosa.

The villa was spacious, with two floors, and they had no worries about disturbing each other. Gu Shaoting and Shu Pan stayed in a room on the second floor facing the sea.

As soon as they entered, Gu Shaoting locked the door and then swept Shu Pan into his arms.

"Honey, I missed you so much," Gu Shaoting said pitifully.

"Mmm, I know, I missed you too," Shu Pan replied, her words cut off as their lips met.

The two of them were like newlyweds, sweet and affectionate.

However, Gu Shaoting hadn't forgotten about what needed to be addressed.

"Honey, did you go swimming?" Gu Shaoting asked, sitting on the sofa, unconsciously tapping the table.

"I did. I learned how to swim, but I'm so tired," Shu Pan replied, puzzled by his question.

"I remember we went shopping for swimsuits together. Why didn't you wear the one we bought?" Gu Shaoting asked directly, not beating around the bush.

"How did you know I didn't wear the one we bought?" Shu Pan widened her eyes, finding it unbelievable.

Did he have some sort of clairvoyance? Or did he install a surveillance device on her?

There was no way anyone else could have told him. Only Xiaomeng knew she wore a bikini, but it couldn't have been Xiaomeng who told him. They were always together, and Xiaomeng encouraged her to wear it.

"I guessed," Gu Shaoting said mysteriously.

Shu Pan pursed her lips, realizing she had fallen into her own trap.

"I was going to wear it, but Xiaomeng said not to be restrained when we go out and to be confident," confirming his guess.

Gu Shaoting pursed his lips and said, "Disobedience comes with consequences."

His gaze bore into her, intense and burning.

Shu Pan's face immediately flushed.

She understood what he meant by his words.

"It doesn't matter. Everyone dresses like this," Shu Pan thought to herself, finding him petty and narrow-minded.

"I don't care about others. But you can't dress like that in the future," Gu Shaoting's tone was firm.

"Dictator," Shu Pan stamped her foot and then went back to her room.