

FMH Marriage 861

Chapter 861: A Familiar Vibe

Lu Tingxiao did not show any expression on the surface, so no one knew what he was thinking about at the moment.

“Do you want to check the security cameras?” Ning Xi asked.

Lu Tingxiao tapped on his phone screen, then he opened the security camera footages. After looking through for a few times, they realized that the bouquet of flowers had appeared out of nowhere.

Ning Xi frowned. “One part of the footage was removed!”

It was impossible for the flowers to appear out of thin air. It was obvious the footage had been altered in some way.

Lu Jingli said, “Petty tricks, how dare he do this against my brother!?”

Lu Tingxiao tapped a few times on the screen again. It seemed like he was downloading some software. A few minutes later, he reopened the footage, and they now saw a silhouette...

In the footage, there was a man closing in slowly. He wore black shirt and black pants, and almost merged with the night. He had a bouquet of black flowers with him as he walked towards the entrance slowly...

He bent over and left the flowers there, then he stood back up and looked around. The light was dim and he was wearing a black face mask, hiding his face, so only a blurry shadow was seen. He stood there silently for quite some time.

Suddenly, the man looked up and walked towards the security camera. To them, it felt like the man was staring at them through the camera, provoking them arrogantly...

Soon, the man turned away and left, a few black petals falling off him, then he disappeared into the night.

“Bro, I checked it and it’s just flowers, nothing dangerous inside. It’s probably just a prank...” Lu Jingli said.

Lu Jingli picked up the flowers and looked at it. He then passed it to Lu Jingli and said, “Throw it away.”

“Okay...” Lu Jingli nodded. “It’d be bad if the old man saw this!”

Ning Xi subconsciously looked into the dark as she followed Lu Tingxiao. “Who might this be, giving these flowers on a day like this?”

“Pay him no mind, just some bored people.” Lu Tingxiao patted her head and seemed not to care about the strange incident at all.

Suddenly, there was a panting voice behind them, there was a maid calling out, “First Master, you’re here! Master and Madam are waiting for you!”

“Alright,” Lu Tingxiao replied, then he reminded Ning Xi, “Wait for me, don’t go anywhere.”

“Mmm okay, go quickly!”

Ning Xi spaced out for a little on her own after Lu Tingxiao left. The flowers might not be a big deal for Lu Tingxiao, but the guy from the security footage...gave her a familiar vibe...

...

In the study room.

“Come here, have a seat.”

Lu Chongshan went straight to the point. “Tingxiao, Little Treasure seems to have improved greatly in terms of his wrist strength, the way he walks and his structure have changed as well. Overall, he looks much better than before. Did he go through some sort of training recently?”

“Mmm, we hired a master for him,” Lu Tingxiao replied.

“Little Treasure was willing to learn?”

“He’s learning well up to this point.”

“I see...okay...” Lu Chongshan nodded in satisfaction.

Chapter 862: Your Grandchild’s Future Mother

“Right, Tingxiao, are you staying with Xiao Xi right now?” Yan Ruyi tried to ask casually.

“Nope,” Lu Tingxiao replied.

Yan Ruyi was expecting that answer. She knew that with her son’s personality, they would not progress very quickly. With the way her son was, even if they were in a relationship now, it might take a very long time to really be together with the girl...

Yan Ruyi then suggested, “Are you afraid that you might be seen by the journalists? Why don’t you get her a bungalow? Then, you and Little Treasure can stay there as well!”

Lu Tingxiao looked at his mother.

Yan Ruyi realized she had shifted her attitude a little too quickly, so she tried to cover up, “Well, I mean...the both of you are really busy, especially her, she must be leaving early and returning late at night, so who’s usually taking care of Little Treasure? It would be easier for you guys to stay together! Then, I could also arrange for a few servants for you! Isn’t it a good idea?”

Lu Chongshan seemed to agree with her, he went along, “Put the bungalow under her name, she deserves it for taking care of Little Treasure this long.”

Both of them finally acknowledged the influence Ning Xi had over Little Treasure and they hoped that she could spend more time educating Little Treasure, but they were not fully trusting of her yet, so they suggested getting a few servants for them to act as surveillance as well.

“It’s alright, we’re good right now,” Lu Tingxiao realized what were they plotting and rejected the offer.

Lu Chongshan frowned. “What’s good now? Little Treasure might not see you guys for few days if both of you are so busy. You guys even need to be all sneaky when meeting up! That’s why I said her career is problematic...why doesn’t she just quit?”

“That’s right, isn’t it better if she resigns and invests all her effort into taking care of Little Treasure? We would never treat her badly!”

Lu Tingxiao stayed silent while looking at the two elders, and after a while he spoke up, “So, you’re saying that she can become a full-time housewife after resigning?”

Lu Chongshan and Yan Ruyi were stunned.

“Full...full-time housewife?”

What was that!? They meant to have that woman as Little Treasure’s private tutor!

This brat knew it and tried to rephrase it that way...

“If you guys mean this, I can consider it,” Lu Tingxiao said.

Yan Ruyi looked helpless. “Tingxiao, there are so many beautiful and outstanding girls, why must it be her?”

She used to think that her son did not like women, but since she was now sure that he actually did, why could it not be other more outstanding girls, someone more worthy of him?

“Which part of Ziyao isn’t better than her?” Lu Chongshan was unhappy.

Lu Tingxiao stood up and adjusted his sleeves and was preparing to leave, but before he stepped out, he stopped to say in a serious tone, “She is the only girl that can give me a hard-on.”

Lu Chongshan and Yan Ruyi were speechless.

As they stayed silent, Lu Tingxiao turned around and added, “If you want more grandchildren in the future, please treat your grandchild’s future mother better.”

He then walked away, leaving the shocked old couple behind...

Chapter 863: That’s Right, Real Child

After a while, the old couple came back to their senses.

“That...that brat! Did he really just talk to his parents like that?” Yan Ruyi was very annoyed, then she nervously glanced at Lu Chongshan. “Chongshan...do you think Tingxiao was serious?”

“How would I know!?” Lu Chongshan was speechless.

“I think that it’s really possible...if not why would your son be this loyal to that woman...?”

Lu Chongshan’s expression darkened and he remained silent. If it was Lu Jingli who had said that, he would have slapped him, but this came from his eldest son and judging from what happened this recent year, it might be true...

Five years ago, they were too worried and even resorted to some extreme methods, which made things worse. He ended up avoiding women and there might really have been some severe effects...

Yan Ruyi suddenly thought of something excitedly and paced around the room. “Ah, a grandchild... it’d be nice to have a granddaughter! That girl looks quite pretty...her daughter would be really pretty as well...then, Little Treasure wouldn’t be alone anymore...”

Lu Chongshan grumbled as he heard Yan Ruyi mumbling to herself, “What are you thinking about?”

Although he sounded angry about the proposition of Ning Xi becoming his grandkids’ mother, he was looking forward to it himself as well. He did not have a daughter and his sons were all worrisome, so if he could have a cute granddaughter...

No way! Stop it! He was not going to fall into that brat’s trap!

Nevertheless, Lu Tingxiao’s tactic was effective. The seed of the image of the granddaughter was already planted in their minds...

Ah, a cute granddaughter...

...

At Platinum Palace, Ning Xi carefully put the fast asleep Little Treasure on the bed and covered him with the sheets.

Ning Xi stayed beside the bed and stared at the little bun’s fluffy white face. “Lu Tingxiao, don’t you think our Little Treasure was really cool tonight?”

“Yeap, just like me,” Lu Tingxiao replied.

Looking at Lu Tingxiao’s solemn face, Ning Xi laughed. “Mmm, that’s right, just like you.”

“Speaking of which, it was all thanks to you for saving the night. I almost couldn’t hold myself back when Guan Zhichen yelled at Little Treasure but then you gave me a signal...but what if Little Treasure didn’t speak up at that moment?” Ning Xi asked.

“I’ll recheck our DNA again,” Lu Tingxiao replied.

“Ugh...” Ning Xi was speechless. He was really confident in his genes. Was he trying to imply that Lu Tingxiao’s son would not be that useless?

“It’s alright now, Little Treasure’s really your child. Like father, like son! Haha!”

“Ning Xi.” Lu Tingxiao was suddenly staring at her.

“Mmm, what’s up?”

Lu Tingxiao looked hesitant. “Do...do you mind?”

“Mind what?” Ning Xi looked confused.

“That Little Treasure is not your real child.” Lu Tingxiao looked slightly nervous when asking.

Ning Xi blinked and replied almost instantly, “Why would I mind?! I wouldn’t mind even if Little Treasure’s not your real child!”

Chapter 864: You’re My Only One

She liked Little Treasure because he was Little Treasure. It had nothing to do with whose child he was. She was not sure why, but she just felt a strong affinity with him. Ever since the first time she met him, she would feel immensely happy every time she saw him.

Ning Xi’s reply made Lu Tingxiao smile.

Fine, it was better than not asking.

“Right, Lu Tingxiao...what did your parents talk to you about just now?” Ning Xi was almost sure that they had talked about her, so she was curious.

Lu Tingxiao looked at her and replied, “We talked about our daughter.”

“Huh? Since when did we have a daughter? Did you lie to them that I’m pregnant? How can I find a child for them by then?” Ning Xi was nervous all of a sudden.

“I didn’t,” Lu Tingxiao replied.

Ning Xi then quietly waited for him to continue.

“I just said that I can only get a hard-on for you, so if they want Little Treasure to have a sister, they have to rely on you, and therefore, they have to treat you better.”

Ning Xi was stunned. “What...this is even worse than lying!”

Lying about her being pregnant was much better!

Lu Tingxiao looked her in the eye. “I didn’t lie.”

Ning Xi squinted her eyes. “Really? Have you tried it with other women before?”

“I don’t have to,” Lu Tingxiao replied.

“Then how’d you know...you can only...for me...Moreover, if you can’t get a hard-on with another woman, how did Little Treasure come about?” Ning Xi thought of this key question.

Lu Tingxiao’s expression darkened as if his secret was exposed.

Ning Xi knew he was quite sensitive about this issue so she had never asked him about it before, yet today she had accidentally...

“Well...I’m just asking, you don’t have to answer me if you don’t want to,” Ning Xi quickly added.

Everyone had something they did not want to talk about. Furthermore, she did not really mind about Lu Tingxiao’s past.

Lu Tingxiao pinched the space between his eyebrows and stayed silent for a little while. After a while, he looked at her and sighed, “I have never touched any woman before. My parents were worried and even thought that I’m gay, but after I proved to them that I don’t even like men, they were even more worried...Five years ago, they cooperated with Jingli and drugged me, then put me together with a woman. I don’t have any memory of what happened, but I’ve only done that that one time, so Little Treasure should be a result of what happened that time.”

Ning Xi’s eyes almost fell out of their sockets. She did not expect Lu Tingxiao’s first time to be that miserable...

“That’s way too much!”

No wonder Lu Tingxiao did not want to talk about it. It was surely a hard topic for a man...

And from Lu Tingxiao’s tone, he seemed to have been drugged heavily...

So, he might have been...raped...

No...the devil being dominated? No more thinking about it...

“After that, drugs don’t even work on me anymore,” Lu Tingxiao said.

Ning Xi did not know what to say.

The psychological trauma he had suffered was too harsh...

How miserable...

“Actually, I’ve always thought that I was asexual before I met you,” Lu Tingxiao said.

Ning Xi raised her brows. “Asexual?”

Lu Tingxiao nodded then hugged her. “So, there’s no doubt, you’re my only one.”

Chapter 865: Problem With Being Too Good-Looking

Throughout the period when Ning Xi was working on the new film with Chen Mian, Ling Zhizhi assigned her to a magazine shoot and a few opening ceremonies of famous brands. Other than that, she spent most of her time in the studio.

She had invested all her money in her studio and now that the business was getting better, she finally got some money back. Besides, the studio had stopped losing money and started making profits. Ning Xi was glad that the money in her bank was growing little by little every day; she felt satisfied and motivated.

After an event in the morning, she quickly swung by her studio to work. As she was focused on her work, a particular troublemaker came by.

“Jiang Muye, I’m really busy today! Don’t you see I’m preparing proposals? I have to meet an important client tomorrow morning...”

Jiang Muye had actually gone to her studio for her. She was speechless...

“Hey, can you be more professional and responsible? You’re not even going to your own movie premiere! Always working on your part-time job!” Jiang Muye huffed angrily.

Ning Xi was annoyed. “Nonsense, I only acted in that one scene and it was for just a few minutes, okay?”

Jiang Muye was talking about the movie that she had acted in as his first lover. The movie had just aired recently. His enthusiasm surprised her as he was never this motivated before. Ning Xi had to remind him to go to the premiere of “The World” but this time, he had to drag Ning Xi along!

In the end, Ning Xi was forced to attend the premiere.

The movie was titled “Our 18-Year-Old Youth” which revolved around the recently popular theme of teenage years in school. With such a renowned director and a troupe of cute actors, plus sufficient funds, they held extravagant promotions. It was certain that they would surely attract many spectators even though the production period was less than a month.

As expected, with Jiang Muye’s extraordinary influence, every single cinema was almost a full house.

Jiang Muye was satisfied. “Can you feel my popularity now?”

Ning Xi lowered her voice and glanced at him. “Blondie, as a friend I have to remind you that you should actually you change your style already. Or are you trying to remain an idol your whole life?”

Jiang Muye looked back at her. “What else could I do? Look at my face that screams ‘idol!’, if I were to change my style to a full-fledged actor, do you think people would believe in my abilities? No matter how much I try, people will just say that I get by because of my looks!”

Ning Xi was about to comfort him but then he continued, “This is the problem with looking too handsome!”

Ning Xi kept quiet.

The film started soon enough...

Chen Mian's first film "Star, Moon, Sun" was one of the classics and his "Love in the Future" was exceptional as well, so Ning Xi was sort of looking forward to this film...

However, towards the end of the film, she had almost fallen asleep.

Although she realized Chen Mian's films were getting more and more commercialized, they still had their own specialty. However, this film was created just for the sake of it. To make the plot more impactful, weird twists like love triangles, abortion, and cheating were added, so there was nothing new. There was also no sign of positive messages sent to the younger generation.

Chapter 866: A Beauty Out Of This World

This was not a youth drama, it was a soap drama and she could not stand it.

The spectators were not stupid as well. Some even left the cinema halfway. Most of them who left were complaining.

"What is this...? Must a youth drama involve all these cliches and have nothing else substantial? I can't believe that this was directed by Chen Mian!"

"And then there's Jiang Muye. Was he possessed by Ma Jingtao? How could he act this badly!? I felt that he actually improved a lot after watching 'The World', so I was actually really looking forward to this..."

"I have no idea what the movie was trying to say. The guy was being a jerk just because he couldn't forget about his first love, then he made the girl go through an abortion and he wasn't even regretful that she almost died from the surgery!"

"I'm really disappointed! Why would Jiang Muye take this up? Even if I'm just here for Jiang Muye, I really can't stand it anymore!"

...

Jiang Muye stayed silent amongst all the complaints, looking really terrible now. Ning Xi did not say anything, she just patted him on the shoulder.

As the movie was about to end, the spectators' rage reached their peak as well.

"Trash! Give me back my money! I thought Su Yimo's 'Star Ocean' was bad enough with her cold, expressionless face, but this one has broken a new record!"

"I think the script has a problem. Nothing made sense! The male protagonist was just being a jerk the whole time. The movie will probably have a sad ending..."

"One-star rating, that's it!"

...

In the movie, the female protagonist had just given up and left. The male lead was drunk and he stumbled on a grave.

As clichè as it went, everyone knew that the rain was coming...

As expected, rain started to fall from the grey sky as the male lead knelt before the grave and the scene changed into a flashback.

Ning Xi sat up straight. After waiting for so long, she could finally see the few pathetic minutes that she was on screen...

In the hospital room, the male lead's first love was beyond help. The girl had a white dress on and she was leaning into the male lead's chest, her long black hair draping her pale, little face, yet she had a bright smile. Her eyes were so clear as if an angel had graced Earth. An extreme beauty within an extremely weak body, forming a strong contrast between goodness and cruelty.

When the screen shifted to the girl's face, everyone's breath was taken away by the sudden beauty...

The male lead's first love had been mentioned in conversations and not seen throughout the movie, so his character's melancholy was not exactly relatable. It was only until this scene played that people started to understand why the male lead was unable to move forward after so many years.

No matter who it was, no man would probably be able to fall in love again after meeting a woman like this.

In the end, as the girl closed her eyes for the last time, all that was left on her face was a smile and her immeasurable love for the guy; she was indeed a beauty that was out of this world.

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Chapter 868: Do You Have Honey On Your Mouth?

Ning Xi was surprised to see him. She threw her bags aside and went straight to him.

"Boss, you're back!"

Lu Tingxiao put his laptop on the table and carefully pulled her onto his lap. "I brought you some gifts."

"I don't need any, you're my best gift!"

Lu Tingxiao smiled. "Do you have honey on your mouth?"

"Want to have a taste?"

Lu Tingxiao's eyes looked away. "I remember...your leg is not completely healed..."

Ning Xi was suddenly nervous. "N...no! There's still a scar! Look!"

Lu Tingxiao squinted at her. "Did you use the ointment I gave you before?"

"I've been using it everyday! My body usually doesn't scar for too long, don't worry!"

"Did you go for a movie?" Lu Tingxiao asked.

"Wow! How did you know?" Ning Xi was surprised again.

Lu Tingxiao glanced over at one of her bags she had tossed aside. It was a small gift from the premiere with the name of the movie printed on it.

"Ah, yes..."

"With who?"

"Uhh...Jiang Muye..." Ning Xi felt that it was best not to lie to the devil.

"..."

“It was totally for working purposes. I played a small role in his film.”

“What character?”

Why did the devil always ask such key questions?

Ning Xi hesitated. “His first love...”

Before Lu Tingxiao could say anything, Ning Xi quickly continued, “I was only on screen for a few minutes. Our ending lasted only a few minutes in this movie and it was absolutely terrible!”

Although Ning Xi felt her explanation was childish, it was useful. Lu Tingxiao’s expression softened.

“Oh, have you visited Little Treasure?” Ning Xi asked.

“I came over right after I landed.”

“Are you really his father?” Ning Xi clarified, “Ah, Little Treasure didn’t say anything after that incident at the dinner that day...”

Lu Tingxiao looked at her solemnly. “Powerful skills usually need cool down time.”

Ning Xi laughed. “Boss, you even know about this! Do you play games as well?”

This analogy was too fitting!

“A little.” Actually to establish a common language with her, he had been learning about technical gaming terms that were frequently used online.

...

The next morning, Ning Xi woke up early and checked all the documents she had prepared before she changed into a smart outfit. Then, she went to the main branch of SF Company, one of her biggest potential clients.

SF was a retailer that focused on high-class luxury items and it was a very well-known brand. In fact, many designers had become popular through SF.

Ning Xi had scheduled a meeting with them half a month ago. During this few weeks, she researched and studied negotiation-related skills and she even spent a few sleepless nights on her proposal.

“Hello, I’m the person behind Spirit Studio, Ning Xi. I’ve scheduled a meeting with CEO Wang today.”

Chapter 869: Was That Not A Military Compound?

“Spirit Studio? Did you make a booking?” The secretary frowned at Ning Xi.

“Yes.”

“Wait, let me check...” The secretary flipped through the schedule, running her fingernail down the page. “Oh, there’s a note down here, but CEO Wang is not here at the moment. He’s gone outstation.”

“What? Outstation?” Ning Xi’s expression changed.

Could he not have at least notified her even if it was an emergency? She had even declined an event invitation from Ling Zhizhi for this...

The secretary showed no sign of apology and continued to work on her own stuff. “Please come again next time.”

“Then...when will be the next available time? When will CEO Wang be back?” Ning Xi asked again.

“I’m not sure, just wait for a notice.”

Despite such a long period of preparation, she had to make another appointment again. She did not expect it to go smoothly, but the fact that she could not even meet up made her feel defeated...

Oh well, she could only wait.

As Ning Xi sat by the seaside watching the waves, she felt slightly better. Just when she was prepared to go back, she saw an old man standing by the railing. He had a walking stick and white hair, but his pose looked firmly grounded. The old man was looking at the sea and seemed to be worrying about something.

Ning Xi felt a somewhat special aura coming from him, then she continued walking.

Suddenly, an old-school ringtone rang. The old man picked up the phone and his expression changed. He looked like he was in pain, then he collapsed on the floor...

Ning Xi immediately reacted by rushing up to him and holding him. “Sir! Sir! What’s wrong?”

The old man was clasping his chest and his face was turning purple. Clearly, he was having difficulty breathing. It seemed like he was having a heart attack!

As Ning Xi was about to ask him if he brought any medication with him, she saw a white little bottle rolling away from the old man’s shaky hand and falling into the water...

Before her brain could process it, Ning Xi jumped into the water and grabbed it before it could sink deeper.

Ning Xi quickly opened the bottle after she got onto land. “How many?”

Fortunately, the old man was still conscious and he mouthed, “Three”.

Ning Xi fed him the medicine and did some emergency relief procedure on him. After a while, the old man recovered to breathe regularly.

Ning Xi was wet from the sea and her sweat. She sighed in relief as the old man recovered. “Sir, I’ll get you to the hospital!”

“N...no...” The old man was stuttering but he was firm. “Young lady, please...send me...to 7...Chang An Street!”

“You really don’t want to go to the hospital? But...”

“It’s okay, I know...what’s happening with my body...young lady...please...quickly...”

Ning Xi realized the old man was really determined about his decision, and it seemed like an urgent request, so she got her car and sped him to the address he had mentioned.

As they were about to reach the destination, Ning Xi was confused.

Chang An Street...

Was that not a military compound?

Chapter 870: Damn It! Who Tripped Me!?

As expected, Ning Xi was stopped by a soldier when she reached the entrance. “Please show your permit pass.”

Ning Xu turned around to the old man. “Sir...”

The old man slowly opened his mouth to croak, “Let her in.”

The soldier seemed to be shocked when he realized who was at the back, then he replied in a clear and loud “Yes, Sir!” before opening the gate.

Ning Xi was not familiar with the place, so she followed the old man’s shaky finger directions to an ancient-looking house. Upon arriving, she helped the old man to get down.

She could feel that the old man was still very weak and he probably could not even stand without her help. Something had probably happened at home and he insisted to come back...

As she was helping him up the stairs, there was a terrifying gunshot sound coming from inside the house.

Ning Xi was shocked and her face became ashen, but she was more worried about the old man. She was afraid that his heart condition might worsen...

The old man quickened his steps and opened the door. The next moment, Ning Xi saw a teenage boy who was about 18 years old shivering on the floor in the living room with a girl holding him in her arms and shrieking, “Father! Are you crazy?”

Just a few steps away, there was a middle-aged man with a gun in his hand and he was furiously looking at the young man in the girl’s arms. With his angry expression, he might really kill the teenager!

Ning Xi took a double reel when she saw them.

Zhuang Keer...?Zhuang Liaoyuan...?

Then, this old man was...?

Ning Xi turned towards the elder, who yelled out loudly, “Bastard! Put the gun down!”

“Grandfather...Grandfather, save me! My father’s going to kill me!” The teenager crawled over and clung to the elder’s foot.

Ning Xi thought he was going to protect his grandson, but then the elder kicked the teenager hard. “Trash! What did you promise me the last time? It was just a month ago that you promised me, and now you have attacked someone and put him in the ICU all because of a woman! Our Zhuang family name is all ruined by you!”

“It’s not my fault! That bastard was trying to steal my girl, I was just trying to reason...”

“Shut up! Always about women!” The elder hit the teenager’s back with his walking stick. “Get me the punishment tool!”

The teenager crawled back to Zhuang Keer. “Sis! Save me! I know it’s my fault! I really get it now! I’m really hurt...my legs are broken...why do all of you always scold me...?”

Zhuang Keer was really nervous as she pleaded, “Grandfather, Rongguang is really weak, he almost died from your whipping last time! You can’t hit him anymore!”

“Bullets or whipping? Pick one!” Zhuang Liaoyuan’s eyes blazed like the king of hell as he demanded expressionlessly.

Zhuang Rongguang looked at his grandfather then at his father. He clenched his teeth and tried to scurry away. Zhuang Liaoyuan could not react soon enough and yelled at him...

The next moment, Zhuang Rongguang fell.

“Damn it! Who tripped me!?”

Ning Xi withdrew her drenched leg and wrung out her pants apologetically. “Sorry, my legs are a little too long.”