

Full-Level 741

Chapter 741: An Ominous Premonition

Upon hearing Ye Xiyuan's words, Ye Leng'an wasn't the least bit angry. Instead, she chuckled. "My affairs are none of your concern. You should focus on yourself! Just because you've managed to rope in an illegitimate child of the Nangong family, do you really think highly of yourself?"

"Ye Leng'an, let go of me." Ye Xiyuan struggled to free herself from her grasp. "I'm telling you, I won't let this go. If you dare to lay a hand on me, I'll make sure you pay for it."

"Suit yourself!" Ye Leng'an nonchalantly replied. "But I think you should remember, we're in a school! For the safety of the students, there are cameras all over the place."

While speaking, she lifted her head, glancing at a nearby camera with a blinking red light.

Ye Leng'an's words darkened Ye Xiyuan's expression even more. In her anger, she had forgotten about this detail.

Observing the disheartened Ye Xiyuan, Ye Leng'an smirked. "Ye Xiyuan, do you keep provoking me repeatedly because you think I'm an easy target?"

"Ye Leng'an, this is a public place. If you dare to harm me, you won't escape the consequences." Fear crept into Ye Xiyuan's heart as she struggled to suppress the panic. She continued, "And if you lay a finger on me, Nangong Riming won't spare you. Even the head of the Huangfu family won't be able to protect you."

"Hehe, Ye Xiyuan, I'm different from you." Ye Leng'an smirked confidently. "You'll always depend on others for protection, but I have the ability to protect myself. I'm not afraid, not even of the entire Nangong family, let alone Nangong Riming."

With confidence radiating from her, Ye Leng'an spoke. Witnessing this, Ye Xiyuan felt an intensifying mix of jealousy and resentment. She detested the self-assured manner Ye Leng'an portrayed as if she had everything under control, an unattainable level of confidence she had never possessed. Throughout her life, she had been cautious, fearing that one wrong move would lead to losing everyone's attention.

But what about Ye Leng'an? She never sought approval, yet she thrived more than her. Just like in her past life, Ye Leng'an was the same – never competing for anything, yet ultimately taking away everything that belonged to her

Remembering her past, Ye Xiyuan's eyes reddened, and she seemed to descend into madness. "Ye Leng'an, don't make it sound so righteous. The only reason you dare to boast here is because you seduced the head of the Huangfu family. Without his protection, do you truly believe you can contend with me? Don't be too pleased with yourself, Ye Leng'an. Your luck won't last forever. When Master Huangfu grows tired of you, what pride will you have then?"

Unaffected by Ye Xiyuan's words, Ye Leng'an retorted, "Say whatever you want. But since you know Huangfu Ruiling stands behind me, why provoke me so recklessly? Tell me, what lesson should I teach you this time?"

Exerting all her strength, Ye Xiyuan finally broke free from Ye Leng'an's restraint.

After freeing herself, Ye Xiyuan took several steps back. Feeling within what she considered a safe zone, she continued, "Ye Leng'an, I'll remember the slap you gave me today. You won't get away with this."

"I'll be waiting." Ye Leng'an smiled faintly. "However, since you chose to provoke me today, it's better to settle scores one by one."

"What do you mean?" Ye Xiyuan, with an increasingly ominous feeling, questioned, especially seeing Ye Leng'an's composed expression. "I'm telling you, if you dare to harm me and ruin my engagement with Nangong Riming, my fiancé won't spare you. Then, let's see who can protect you."

"Fiancé, huh?" Ye Leng'an nodded, adding, "Say it a few more times! Because how long this fiancé can last is still unknown!"

"Ye Leng'an, what are you planning?" Ye Xiyuan grew more frantic. "If you ruin my engagement with Nangong Riming, I'll kill you. I promise I'll kill you."

For her, the most crucial matter now was her engagement with Nangong Riming. It was her sole opportunity to connect with the Nangong family and the cornerstone for her survival in the Ye family.

Without the engagement, she would have nothing left. She didn't even know what kind of life awaited her.

"Didn't you already guess what I want to do?" Ye Leng'an remained calm compared to Ye Xiyuan's outbursts. "As for wanting to kill me, haven't you thought about it long ago? Even if I do nothing, I'll still be a thorn in your side. So why not take some action? It's more cost-effective, isn't it?"

Ye Leng'an's words heightened Ye Xiyuan's anxiety. She didn't know if Ye Leng'an truly intended to ruin her engagement with Nangong Riming or if she was just making threats.

"You're just trying to scare me. You can't do it." Ye Xiyuan forced herself to sound composed, uncertain if she was trying to convince Ye Leng'an or reassure herself. "Even with Master Huangfu backing you, you can't meddle in the internal affairs of the Nangong family."

"Then wait and see!" Ye Leng'an grinned. "However, don't forget, you brought this upon yourself."

If Ye Xiyuan hadn't been persistently irritating her, she would have almost forgotten about this person.

Unfortunately, Ye Xiyuan was resilient. She would come to her periodically to assert her presence. In that case, Ye Leng'an would make sure she remembered this lesson well.

After saying this, Ye Leng'an turned around and left, not bothering to look at Ye Xiyuan again.

Left standing alone, Ye Xiyuan felt an unprecedented sense of panic. She tried to reassure herself that Ye Leng'an was only trying to frighten her, that she couldn't actually do anything. However, even so, she couldn't shake off her unease.

After some thought, she promptly decided to seek out Nangong Riming. Regardless of the situation, as long as she held Nangong Riming's affection, she wouldn't have to worry about Ye Leng'an's schemes.

Chapter 742: Sun Wan'er

After Ye Leng'an obtained her graduation certificate, she didn't return to the villa but went straight to Huangye Group.

"You received your graduation certificate?" Huangfu Ruiling raised an eyebrow. "Do you know when the admission letter will arrive?"

Ye Leng'an had already filled out her application, and now she was just awaiting the admission letter.

"Yes, and the admission letter should be on its way soon!" Ye Leng'an walked to the sofa, placing the certificate down. Seating herself, she said slowly, "However, I promised the principal that I would give a speech in school to encourage the juniors."

Huangfu Ruiling raised an eyebrow, a hint of surprise in his tone. "Is your principal sure about this?"

"Yes, he is," Ye Leng'an replied, understanding Huangfu Ruiling's implication. She smiled, "But he doesn't want me to share any experiences; he just wants me to encourage. It's a small matter, and I believe I can handle it."

Huangfu Ruiling nodded and informed, "The engagement date is set on the 20th of this month, just before you report to university."

Ye Leng'an nodded without objection. "That's quite soon. Will there be enough time to arrange everything?"

"Of course," Huangfu Ruiling affirmed. "Li San is already handling the arrangements."

Ye Leng'an chuckled. "Li San is truly an all-purpose assistant! He can manage anything properly."

Thinking of another person, she asked, "By the way, Ling, what about Li Yi? Didn't we arrange for him to take care of Li Yiran?"

If she remembered correctly, Huangfu Ruiling had assigned Li Yi to look after Li Yiran. No, at that time, it should have been Zhongyu Yiran. Later on, even if it was Li Yiran, Li Yi hadn't returned. It seemed that Li Yi had become a peripheral figure now.

“He’s still with Li Yiran,” Huangfu Ruiling explained calmly. “He probably can’t let go of Li Yiran and will likely stay by her side in the future.”

Ye Leng’an pursed her lips. “That’s really a love-struck mind! Without Li Yiran, he could have had a promising future!”

In the past, Li Yi had served Huangfu Ruiling. From the name, it was evident that Li Yi should have been the top person in the Li generation back then. Unfortunately, for the sake of Li Yiran, he had given up his future and was now on the periphery of the Huangfu family. He wouldn’t have any more opportunities for significant responsibilities in the future.

“Everyone has to take responsibility for their choices,” Huangfu Ruiling remarked calmly. “If he chose Li Yiran, it means he’s willing to give up everything. It’s not anyone else’s concern.”

Ye Leng’an smiled and didn’t dwell on the topic, shifting the conversation. Suddenly, she asked, “Oh, Ling, can you help me check Nangong Xuyao’s aunt’s phone number?”

“Nangong Xuyao’s aunt?” Huangfu Ruiling was surprised. “Why are you suddenly asking about this? Did something happen to Nangong Riming, or... Ye Xiyuan?”

In an instant, he correctly guessed the twists and turns.

“That’s right.” Ye Leng’an nodded. “Ye Xiyuan is now Nangong Riming’s fiancée. Wasn’t the reason Nangong Riming could openly enter the Nangong family because his aunt couldn’t bear a son? If she gives birth to a son, do you think Nangong Riming still has a connection there?”

Huangfu Ruiling understood and promptly called Li San outside.

In less than five minutes, Li San had already replied.

Ye Leng’an didn’t beat around the bush. She picked up her phone and made the call.

When the call was answered, she asked directly, “Hello, is this Second Madam Nangong?”

On the other end, Sun Wan’er found the voice unfamiliar. She frowned, a hint of impatience in her tone. “Who is that?”

Thinking someone was trying to connect with her for personal gain, she was about to hang up.

Ye Leng’an remained patient. “Hello, you might not know me, but I’m Ye Leng’an.”

“Ye Leng’an? Who’s that? I don’t know you!”

Sun Wan’er spoke bluntly and was about to end the call when the name sounded somewhat familiar. After careful thought, she tentatively asked, “Ye Leng’an, you’re Master Huangfu’s...”

For a moment, she didn’t know how to address her, especially considering the recent rumors of Master Huangfu holding an engagement ceremony with Ye Leng’an.

However, all of this was hearsay and not confirmed.

“That’s right, it’s me,” Ye Leng’an didn’t wait for the other party to finish and immediately said. “I’m sorry for calling you today.”

“Miss Ye is too polite.” Sun Wan’er’s tone lost its impatience and gained a touch of politeness and familiarity. “It’s my honor to receive Miss Ye’s call. But may I ask what are you calling me for?”

Although she didn’t know the reason, being on good terms with her was more than welcome. Especially since Ye Leng’an was the girlfriend of the Huangfu family head, and news of their engagement had spread.

If Ye Leng’an really married Huangfu Ruiling in the future, she would be the matriarch of the Huangfu family. Befriending the Huangfu family’s matriarch would be advantageous.

Even if Ye Leng’an and Huangfu Ruiling broke up in the future... that wouldn’t be a loss for her.

Ye Leng’an didn’t expect the twists and turns in Sun Wan’er’s thoughts. She directly stated her purpose. “Second Madam Nangong, I just want to ask you one thing. Do you want to give birth to a boy?”

As soon as she said that, the other party fell silent. Then, rapid panting was heard, as if someone was suppressing anger.

Ye Leng’an wasn’t in a hurry. She quietly waited for the person on the other end to respond.

After a while, Sun Wan’er’s voice came again. “Miss Ye, what do you mean by this? Did you call just to mock me?”

Chapter 743: The Agreement to Meet

While Sun Wan’er desired to establish a rapport with Ye Leng’an, she wouldn’t endure perpetual self-sacrifice or swallow her pride. As the Second Madam of the Nangong family, she couldn’t afford to compromise herself when the other party harbored ill intentions

Over the years, the inability to bear children had subjected her to countless covert ridicules. Although people refrained from expressing these sentiments in her presence, behind her back, they persistently mocked her as an infertile woman. Due to her inability to conceive, she had even allowed her husband’s illegitimate son to be accepted into the family.

Now, Ye Leng’an’s words were undoubtedly pouring salt on her wounds.

“Second Madam Nangong, I believe there’s a misunderstanding.” Facing Sun Wan’er’s anger, Ye Leng’an’s expression remained unchanged, not a single furrowed brow.

“What I meant is, if you wish to birth a son, I have a way to assist you. I presume you don’t want everything you’ve worked for with your husband to end up with an illegitimate child unrelated to you!”

Although the Sun family Sun Wan’er came from wasn’t comparable to the four major families in the capital, it still held a significant status. Otherwise, she wouldn’t have maintained her position as

the Second Madam of the Nangong family for years without bearing a son. If she could truly give birth to a son, she would sever ties with Nangong Riming in the future.

Upon hearing Ye Leng'an's words, Sun Wan'er fell silent once again. This time, however, she wasn't enraged but rather contemplating the meaning behind Ye Leng'an's words.

The matter of having a child had driven her to numerous doctors and medications, all in vain. With her age now a factor, the prospect of having a child seemed even more challenging. Yet, Ye Leng'an claimed she could help. She found it hard to believe.

"Madam Nangong, I understand you might doubt my words," Ye Leng'an slowly spoke again. "But the worst-case scenario is just that; why not give it another try? Regardless of success, you won't suffer any loss, right?"

Sun Wan'er, after hearing Ye Leng'an's words, delved into deep contemplation.

After a considerable pause, her gaze grew resolute, as if she had made a firm decision. "Miss Ye, is what you're saying true? Can you genuinely help me fulfill my wish and give birth to a child?"

"Not only can I help you fulfill your wish to have a child, but..." After a pause, Ye Leng'an continued, "I can also guarantee that the child you give birth to will undoubtedly be a boy."

Sun Wan'er's breath caught for a moment, then she promptly asked, "What should I do?"

Although she felt somewhat irrational trusting an unexpected phone call, especially when she wasn't even sure if the caller was truly Ye Leng'an, she couldn't disregard the glimmer of hope to have a child.

"Just come to my villa tomorrow; we'll discuss it thoroughly" Ye Leng'an provided a specific address, adding, "If you feel uneasy, feel free to bring your bodyguards along."

"No need, I'll go alone," Sun Wan'er responded without hesitation. "Miss Ye, I trust you."

Despite her words, she intended to dispatch someone to investigate the phone number and the given address. Better safe than sorry.

Ye Leng'an raised an eyebrow and said no more.

She was indifferent to whether the other party genuinely believed her. Her willingness to assist was solely due to Ye Xiyuan. This, of course, amounted to mutual benefit.

Sun Wan'er and Ye Leng'an being unfamiliar with each other, they promptly ended the call after discussing their business.

"Have you set a time?" Huangfu Ruiling looked at Ye Leng'an and suggested, "I'll accompany you tomorrow!"

“No need,” Ye Leng’an rejected outright. “I can handle such a trivial matter alone. Besides, I believe Sun Wan’er, if not foolish, would know to treat me with respect. Even if I can’t cure her, she won’t dare to make trouble.”

Moreover, she was confident she could cure Sun Wan’er. Regardless of the reason behind her inability to conceive, she could remedy it. This confidence stemmed from her identity as an alchemist.

Seeing Ye Leng’an’s firmness, Huangfu Ruiling didn’t persist and simply nodded. “Alright, be careful.”

Ye Leng’an nodded and shifted the conversation. “Let’s drop the subject. Your parents should have stopped bothering you by now, right?”

“They haven’t called since our last discussion when went back.”

Speaking of his parents, Huangfu Ruiling’s tone remained nonchalant, devoid of extra emotions. “Probably realizing their place, they’ve chosen to behave.”

Ye Leng’an nodded and continued, “They will attend our engagement ceremony, won’t they?”

“Yes, they will,” Huangfu Ruiling affirmed. “As long as they’re not foolish, they’ll undoubtedly attend.”

This was an opportunity for them to display themselves in front of others and be remembered as the biological parents of the Huangfu family head. They wouldn’t let such a chance slip away.

Ye Leng’an couldn’t help but chuckle. “True. However, Huangfu Ruixiang should be back by then! They shouldn’t cause any trouble during the engagement ceremony, right?”

“They won’t,” Huangfu Ruiling asserted confidently. “They understand the sentiments I hold for them. If they continue causing trouble, it won’t only ruin them, but also their cherished son, Huangfu Ruixiang. Therefore, they won’t act recklessly.”

Ye Leng’an understood. “So, you have a hostage! No wonder you’re so confident. Still, I don’t think they would jeopardize their son, Huangfu Ruixiang.”

Chapter 744: There’s No Free Lunch

As Ye Leng’an had a prearranged meeting with Sun Wan’er, she didn’t go out the next day, staying in the villa and waiting.

However, to her surprise, Sun Wan’er arrived at eight in the morning.

When Sister Li woke her up, informing her of the visitor, Ye Leng’an was momentarily stunned. Then, she remembered Sun Wan’er was coming over that day. Glancing at the time, she felt a bit speechless; although they agreed Sun Wan’er would come that day, they hadn’t specified a time. Unexpectedly, Sun Wan’er arrived at eight o’clock, indicating her keen interest in the matter. That was a good thing since caring provided motivation.

Ye Leng’an instructed Sister Li to greet the guest first and went to freshen up herself.

After finishing her morning routine and descending the stairs, Ye Leng'an saw Sun Wan'er waiting on the sofa.

Sun Wan'er, in a suit dress, sat there with makeup, yet her haggard appearance still showed. It was evident she wasn't faring well.

Not surprising, though. Despite being from a big family and marrying into another prominent one like the Nangong family, there was still an issue. Living a privileged life but unable to conceive, she also had to endure her husband bringing an illegitimate child into the household.

Sun Wan'er noticed Ye Leng'an almost as soon as she came downstairs. Dressed in simple home attire without makeup, Ye Leng'an's beauty couldn't be ignored. Just standing there, she exuded charm.

Seeing Ye Leng'an like this, Sun Wan'er finally understood why Huangfu Ruiling, who had not shown interest in women before, fell for this girl. He was even willing to publicly acknowledge her status and was on the brink of engagement.

Ye Leng'an strolled to the sofa, sat down, leaned against it, raised an eyebrow, and casually asked, "Madam Nangong, am I good-looking?"

There was a hint of mockery in her tone.

Sun Wan'er, awakened by the crisp voice, showed no embarrassment but admiration. "Miss Ye, you indeed possess exceptional beauty. No wonder the head of the Huangfu family is enamored with you."

Her approving tone made it clear it was a sincere compliment, not sarcasm.

"Thank you for the compliment." Ye Leng'an graciously accepted the praise. "Second Madam Nangong is also a great beauty!"

This was a fact. Despite Sun Wan'er being of mature age, her meticulous care and exquisite features maintained her beauty. With passing years, she even acquired a serene charm.

After hearing Ye Leng'an's words, Sun Wan'er chuckled, not taking it to heart. She thought Ye Leng'an was just being polite. After all, facing such a stunning beauty, any woman would feel inadequate.

"Miss Ye, you can call me Ms. Sun." Sun Wan'er picked up the teacup and took a sip.

Then, she froze.

Being the Sun family's daughter and the Nangong family's Second Madam, she naturally enjoyed the best. However, none of the tea leaves she experienced could compare to the tea in her hand.

The faint fragrance of the tea lingered in her mouth for a long time. Most importantly, when the tea went down her stomach, she felt a warm sensation in her lower abdomen. It was the first time in years she experienced this.

The primary reason for her inability to conceive was a miscarriage in her youth that damaged her uterus.

Over the years, she had consulted countless doctors and taken various medications – Chinese and Western – all with no improvement.

A simple sip of tea made her feel unusually comfortable, boosting her confidence in Ye Leng'an.

Ye Leng'an naturally observed Sun Wan'er's change. Her lips curled into a faint smile as she said, "Ms. Sun, I've already explained the details over the phone. I can help you conceive within a month, and it will undoubtedly be a son."

Hearing this, a hint of ecstasy flashed in Sun Wan'er's eyes. However, she suppressed her excitement. After a moment of hesitation, she asked, "Miss Ye, may I ask why you're helping me? Or rather, what do you want from me?"

There was no such thing as a free lunch. She didn't believe Ye Leng'an would help her just out of kindness. So, she was sure Ye Leng'an had her own motives.

Yet, Ye Leng'an was Huangfu Ruiling's girlfriend, on the verge of engagement. If she wanted something, Huangfu Ruiling could undoubtedly help her get it.

In other words, if she could do it, Huangfu Ruiling could do it too. Conversely, she might not be able to do what Huangfu Ruiling could.

So, she was genuinely puzzled about Ye Leng'an's intentions.

"Indeed," replied Ye Leng'an, facing Sun Wan'er's doubts without finding them strange. "I helped you for my own reasons."

Sun Wan'er retaining her position as the Nangong family's Second Madam despite not having children was not only due to her family's support but also her own capabilities. After all, being raised by a prominent family, she had some tricks up her sleeve.

Upon receiving Ye Leng'an's answer, Sun Wan'er felt relieved instead of uncomfortable. "Then, may I ask if it's convenient for you to tell me?"

Having a purpose was good. If Ye Leng'an had said she simply wanted to help, Sun Wan'er might have hesitated.

"Of course," said Ye Leng'an without hesitation. "Ms. Sun, you should know Ye Xiyuan, right?"

Sun Wan'er was surprised to hear this name. After a moment of thought, she nodded. "You mean Nangong Riming's fiancée, right?"

A while ago, Nangong Riming insisted on marrying a woman from a lesser-known family, facing strong opposition from her husband. She didn't care at all, and the woman's name seemed to be Ye Xiyuan.

Chapter 745: Something Extremely Cold

"That's right." Ye Leng'an nodded. "Ms. Sun, you probably aren't aware. I share a certain history with Ye Xiyuan. However, what exists between us is a karmic fate."

"You two..." Sun Wan'er appeared puzzled.

She had never known of any connection between Ye Leng'an and Ye Xiyuan. Even before, when she investigated Ye Xiyuan, there was no trace of Ye Leng'an. Therefore, hearing about a feud between them now surprised her.

However, she remained indifferent to the engagement of Nangong Riming and Ye Xiyuan. Ye Xiyuan was just a woman from a minor family, unlikely to provide any assistance to Nangong Riming. She couldn't fathom why Nangong Riming would choose such an unhelpful wife. Thus, she had assisted in persuading her husband to agree to the engagement.

Now, it seemed that Ye Xiyuan wasn't someone to be underestimated. Otherwise, why would there be such an ambiguous feud between her and Ye Leng'an?

"It doesn't matter if you know about the feud between Ye Xiyuan and me, right?" Ye Leng'an smiled and said, "You just need to know that as long as Ye Xiyuan doesn't fare well, I will be content. That's all."

Observing Ye Leng'an had no intention to elaborate, Sun Wan'er showed understanding and refrained from further questioning.

After discussing some inconsequential matters, Ye Leng'an adjusted her expression and turned to Sun Wan'er. "Ms. Sun, let me take your pulse first!"

Thanks to the earlier cup of tea, Sun Wan'er now held complete confidence in Ye Leng'an. Hence, she was prepared to follow her instructions without hesitation.

Although ostensibly just examining her pulse, Ye Leng'an simultaneously used her spiritual power to conduct a detailed examination of Sun Wan'er's body. This examination far surpassed the precision of those conducted in hospitals.

After having an understanding of Sun Wan'er's physical condition, a contemplative gleam flickered in Ye Leng'an's eyes.

Observing Ye Leng'an's silence, Sun Wan'er grew impatient. "Miss Ye, my body..."

Realizing that Ye Leng'an had yet to speak, she started forming unfavorable conjectures. Although she had mentally prepared herself for possible disappointment before coming, the recent cup of tea from Ye Leng'an had sparked unprecedented hope. Therefore, she dreaded Ye Leng'an suddenly revealing that her body was incurable, and she would never become a mother.

Sensing Sun Wan'er's anxiety, Ye Leng'an's lips curled into a smile. She then spoke, "Ms. Sun, I can indeed cure your body. Just as I promised earlier, within a month, you will undoubtedly conceive. But..."

Upon hearing Ye Leng'an's words, Sun Wan'er radiated with enthusiasm. However, as the sentence unfolded, she couldn't help but grow anxious. "But what?"

"Ms. Sun, do you know why you've been unable to conceive all this time?" Ye Leng'an asked directly.

"Of course, I do." Though not entirely understanding Ye Leng'an's intent, Sun Wan'er honestly replied, "I once experienced a miscarriage, which harmed my body!"

“Not exactly.” Ye Leng’an shook her head. “Your uterus wasn’t damaged due to the previous miscarriage but rather because someone used a substance on you. That’s when the issue arose.”

“What?” Sun Wan’er immediately jumped up from the sofa, her face filled with shock and disbelief. “Are you saying that my infertility is a result of someone plotting against me?”

Throughout her numerous medical examinations, all the doctors had attributed her infertility to the prior miscarriage. Yet, Ye Leng’an was now asserting that someone had intentionally harmed her.

“Yes.” Ye Leng’an nodded, concealing nothing. She continued straightforwardly, “Your uterus likely suffered damage from something extremely cold, causing severe injury.”

Sun Wan’er’s complexion turned unpleasant. Her breathing even became noticeably heavier, emanating an invisible aura of anger.

Observing Sun Wan’er’s expression, Ye Leng’an didn’t attempt to persuade her but patiently waited for her to calm down.

After some time, Sun Wan’er managed to suppress her internal turmoil. Taking several deep breaths, she slowly sat down, looking at Ye Leng’an. Though she seemed to have regained composure, her trembling hands betrayed the lingering unrest within.

“Miss Ye, could you please provide a detailed explanation? Because, thus far, whenever I visited major hospitals for examinations, the doctors all asserted that the damage was due to the previous miscarriage.”

“In fact, the person who harmed you chose the opportune moment,” Ye Leng’an explained slowly. “That person likely administered this extremely cold substance shortly after your miscarriage. If I’m not mistaken, you probably experienced significant bleeding following the miscarriage, right?”

Upon hearing Ye Leng’an’s words, Sun Wan’er’s heart skipped a beat, and her face turned pale.

Though Ye Leng’an didn’t receive confirmation from Sun Wan’er, her expression revealed the truth.

She continued, “Actually, that person intended to kill you outright. However, they didn’t anticipate you being rescued later. Nevertheless, due to that incident, your uterus sustained significant damage, rendering you unable to conceive. Because the administration of that extremely cold substance and the miscarriage were in close succession, coupled with the subsequent major bleeding, those doctors concluded that the damage to your uterus was a result of the miscarriage.”

Sun Wan’er sat on the sofa, her hands clenched into fists on her knees. Her slightly trembling hands and the faint traces of blood on her fingernails all conveyed her emotions at the moment.

Ye Leng’an said nothing more, merely watching Sun Wan’er quietly, waiting for her to regain composure.

After all, learning such a fact suddenly would be unsettling for anyone. Especially when discovering that she had been unable to become a mother for so many years due to someone's machinations.

Chapter 746: The Mastermind Behind the Scenes

After a considerable amount of time, Sun Wan'er gradually regained her composure. She looked up at Ye Leng'an and spoke, "Miss Ye, thank you for informing me of this today. However, I have an earnest request."

Before Sun Wan'er could finish her sentence, Ye Leng'an already understood the situation. She nodded and said, "I know; I won't divulge this matter to anyone."

Without needing clarification, she knew what the other party wanted to discuss. However, it wasn't surprising; such prominent families naturally wished to keep such matters confidential. Moreover, revealing the information prematurely would jeopardize the chances of apprehending the mastermind.

Sun Wan'er glanced at Ye Leng'an with gratitude. "Miss Ye, I truly appreciate your help."

Ye Leng'an nodded and proceeded to produce a small bottle, handing it to Sun Wan'er. "This medicine will help restore your body. Just take it."

She then presented another bottle. "The medicine in this one is for your husband to take after your recovery. This will increase your chances of having a son. Make sure he consumes it before your intimate moments."

Looking at the two small bottles before her, Sun Wan'er felt a sense of uncertainty. Ye Leng'an had only checked her pulse and provided the diagnosis without further inquiry. She even gave her these two bottles without much explanation.

Regardless of how she looked at it, it seemed somewhat unreliable.

However, recalling the herbal tea she had consumed earlier and how Ye Leng'an accurately assessed her condition through pulse diagnosis, Sun Wan'er acknowledged the genuine capability of the other party.

With these thoughts, she reached for one of the bottles. Upon opening it, a refreshing medicinal fragrance immediately filled the air. Taking a deep breath, she sensed a warm flow in her lower abdomen, making her feel significantly more comfortable.

Lowering her head, she was astonished at the contents of the bottle. "These are... medicinal pills."

As the Second Madam of the Nangong family, she lacked a natural aptitude for cultivation. However, she was familiar with the Hidden World. With just a glance, she identified the pill inside the bottle.

Without hesitation, Sun Wan'er poured the pills out and swallowed them directly.

Initially, she had intended to drink water along with it, but to her surprise, the pills melted in her mouth. Upon entering, they transformed into a warm stream, smoothly sliding down her throat.

Subsequently, she felt a warming sensation in her lower abdomen. Though it was warm, there was no pain – only a comforting feeling. It was akin to a warm current flowing in during the chill of winter.

In a brief moment, she experienced a distinct sensation. Though she had undergone no medical examinations, she felt her body had recovered.

Raising her head in disbelief, she looked at Ye Leng'an. "Miss Ye, is this..."

Despite deeming it unlikely for her body to fully recover with just some pills, she couldn't deny the feeling.

Ye Leng'an was somewhat surprised by Sun Wan'er's immediate consumption of the pills. She had assumed Sun Wan'er would take it back for examination before use.

However, appreciating Sun Wan'er's trust, Ye Leng'an nodded and continued, "Your uterus has completely healed. If you desire a son, ensure your husband takes the other ones."

Though mentally prepared, Sun Wan'er couldn't help but shed tears upon hearing Ye Leng'an's words. She harbored no doubts about Ye Leng'an's words – there was no reason for the latter to deceive her.

She had never imagined having the opportunity to become a mother.

Contemplating this, Sun Wan'er stood up and bowed deeply to Ye Leng'an. "Miss Ye, I will forever remember your great kindness. When I become pregnant, I will properly express my gratitude."

"No need for that." Ye Leng'an shook her head. "I assisted you solely to retaliate against Ye Xiyuan. Nangong Riming is merely incidental, so there's no need for gratitude. It's a mutually beneficial arrangement."

Sun Wan'er shook her head. "Miss Ye, whatever grudges you have with Ye Xiyuan are your own. You healed me, making you my benefactor. As long as I can help in the future when needed, I'll gladly do so."

In contrast to Sun Wan'er's excitement, Ye Leng'an remained composed. She nodded to indicate her understanding.

A while later, Sun Wan'er took the other bottle and left the villa contentedly.

Once Sun Wan'er departed, a faint smile appeared on Ye Leng'an's lips.

Wasn't Nangong Riming Ye Xiyuan's primary leverage? With Sun Wan'er having a child, the Sun family's influence would likely render Nangong Riming insignificant in the Nangong family's second branch.

She wondered how Ye Xiyuan would react upon discovering that the supposedly wealthy husband she had struggled to obtain was on the verge of losing his power!

As for Sun Wan'er's investigation into the mastermind, it wasn't Ye Leng'an's concern. If Sun Wan'er failed to identify the mastermind, even having a child wouldn't secure her position.

However, Ye Leng'an believed in Sun Wan'er's capabilities; she was confident that Sun Wan'er would promptly resolve the issue of the mastermind.

Days passed, and Ye Leng'an found herself with ample free time. Huangfu Ruiling handled the engagement ceremony, leaving Ye Leng'an with no concerns. Thus, in her spare time, she dedicated herself almost entirely to the alchemy room, earning a bit of disapproval from Huangfu Ruiling.

Of course, she accepted the principal's invitation and returned to the school to deliver a speech.

While the graduating students were already aware that this year's top scorer was their junior from the first year, witnessing her in person prompted admiration. She was remarkably young! Not only had she participated in the college entrance examination at such a young age, but she also became the top scorer, a feat unparalleled in many years.

Initially, they assumed a young top scorer like her might be a bookworm. However, to their surprise, she turned out to be such a beautiful girl.

Indeed, this was God's most perfect creation. In every aspect, it was absolutely flawless.

Chapter 747: The Engagement Ceremony

Time passed swiftly, and Ye Leng'an had already received the admission letter from the Capital University. Along with it came the engagement ceremony with Huangfu Ruiling.

Similar to the previous one in the Hidden World, yet somehow different.

When Ye Leng'an, adorned in her best attire, arrived at the venue holding hands with Huangfu Ruiling, she saw Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying standing at the entrance to greet the guests.

They had smiles on their faces, seemingly delighted about Huangfu Ruiling's engagement. At a glance, they appeared to be exemplary parents with a good relationship with their children.

However, those privy to the truth knew that the relationship between this couple and Huangfu Ruiling was far from good. If their relationship was indeed positive, how could Huangfu Jingzhang, at such a young age, willingly step down from the position of family head?

Observing Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying's demeanor, Ye Leng'an approached Huangfu Ruiling and remarked with a subtle smile, "Look, your parents seem genuinely happy!"

"Their acting is indeed commendable," Huangfu Ruiling replied casually. "They are smart enough to know what's best for both sides."

Ye Leng'an nodded, smiling. "It's a shame that anyone aware of your relationship wouldn't perceive it as good."

"Let them do as they please," Huangfu Ruiling said, a faint smile on his lips. "On a day like today, as long as there are no mistakes, that would be ideal."

He had already given strict instructions to ensure no mishaps on this significant day. If Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying caused any trouble, they were to be promptly escorted away.

Today marked a joyous occasion for him and Ye Leng'an. Although they had already celebrated an engagement ceremony in the Hidden World, this ceremony in the mortal world held significant importance.

“Alright, let’s go inside!”

Ye Leng’an straightened her posture, holding Huangfu Ruiling’s hand as they walked into the banquet hall.

Seeing Huangfu Ruiling, Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying momentarily froze, but quickly recovered. One couldn’t help but suspect that the subtle change was a mere illusion.

Approaching them, Zhongyu Liuying smiled and said, “Hurry inside! Your father and I will greet the guests here.”

Her demeanor resembled that of any ordinary mother delighted about her child’s engagement. Then, glancing inside, she continued with a smile, “Perfect timing, Ruixiang and Yating are back and inside! It’s been a while since you brothers met, a good opportunity to catch up.”

Aware that repairing their relationship with Huangfu Ruiling was nearly impossible, Zhongyu Liuying and Huangfu Jingzhang could only create chances for Huangfu Ruixiang to befriend Huangfu Ruiling and mend their brotherly bond.

Huangfu Ruiling, noticing Zhongyu Liuying’s thoughts, nodded and walked into the banquet hall with Ye Leng’an.

Huangfu Ruixiang, accompanied by Zhong Yating, abandoned his previous conversation upon seeing Huangfu Ruiling and hurried toward them.

Left behind, Zhong Yating displayed a hint of awkwardness before following after Huangfu Ruixiang.

Seeing Huangfu Ruiling and Ye Leng’an, she finally understood why Huangfu Ruixiang had lost his composure.

Huangfu Ruiling had no intention of acknowledging Huangfu Ruixiang, but he couldn’t resist when Huangfu Ruixiang took the initiative.

“Brother, Sister-in-law, you’re here!” Huangfu Ruixiang greeted them with a smile.
“Congratulations on your big day!”

Huangfu Ruiling glanced at Huangfu Ruixiang indifferently and replied, “Thank you.”

And that was the end of it.

Faced with such a cold response, Huangfu Ruixiang felt his face redden, standing there at a loss for words.

In the past, unaware of Huangfu Ruiling’s position in the Hidden World’s Huangfu family, he could maintain composure and even feel a subtle sense of superiority. In the eyes of their parents, Huangfu Ruiling was the one abandoned, and moreover, he was seated in a wheelchair. Despite being the head of the Huangfu family, he was still perceived as disabled.

However, now that he knew the truth, facing Huangfu Ruiling made him nervous.

“Brother, Sister-in-law.” Zhong Yating had joined Huangfu Ruixiang at this point. Holding Huangfu Ruixiang’s hand, she continued with a smile, “You two are truly a perfect match. We’re genuinely happy to attend your engagement ceremony today!”

Observing Zhong Yating and Huangfu Ruixiang, Ye Leng'an's eyes revealed a hint of surprise.

Despite their engagement, she could sense some resistance from Huangfu Ruixiang towards Zhong Yating. However, seeing Zhong Yating holding onto Huangfu Ruixiang's arm without any rejection or resistance was truly odd. Their relationship had become subtly complex in a short period.

"Sister-in-law, why are you staring at me?" Zhong Yating, sensing Ye Leng'an's gaze, smiled and asked, "Is there something on my face?"

"Nothing. I just feel that, after some time apart, your relationship seems to have improved a lot!" Ye Leng'an looked at Huangfu Ruixiang and Zhong Yating, smiling. "Looks like you'll soon get married!"

Previously, when Zhong Yating had mentioned marriage, Huangfu Ruixiang had no intention of getting married.

Chapter 748: A Subtle Change

"Yes!" Zhong Yating smiled shyly and replied, "So, Sister-in-law has already figured it out! Ruixiang and I are indeed planning to get married during this period."

Huangfu Ruixiang, hearing Zhong Yating's words, displayed a hint of reluctance on his face. However, in the end, he didn't utter a word, seemingly acknowledging Zhong Yating's statement.

Ye Leng'an's eyes revealed a trace of surprise. The reaction of Huangfu Ruixiang was indeed quite subtle!

It was evident that Huangfu Ruixiang wasn't keen on marrying Zhong Yating. Yet, with Zhong Yating suddenly raising this matter, he didn't voice any objection. Clearly, this was a consensus they had already reached. Zhong Yating's methods were indeed quite clever!

"That's truly a joyous occasion!" Completely oblivious to any underlying dynamics, she joyously exclaimed, "It seems we'll soon be toasting at your wedding."

"We plan to marry soon," Zhong Yating continued with a shy smile. She leaned on Huangfu Ruixiang and added, "We'll need your help, Brother and Sister-in-law."

After speaking, she looked up at Huangfu Ruixiang, smiling as she said, "Ruixiang, don't you think so?"

Suppressing his internal impatience, Huangfu Ruixiang forced a smile. "Yes."

Then, he continued, "Alright, let's not dwell on these matters. Today is the engagement ceremony of my brother and sister-in-law; we shouldn't overshadow their celebration."

"True." Zhong Yating brightly smiled. "Let's not talk about it today. Anyway, we plan to stay in the mortal world for a while, so we'll have plenty of time to chat!"

"You're planning to stay?" Ye Leng'an expressed surprise. "Don't you need to return for cultivation?"

She had assumed Huangfu Ruixiang's return was merely for their engagement ceremony, but it seemed there was more to it. The situation was getting interesting. What had Zhong Yating done to gain such unquestioning compliance from Huangfu Ruixiang?

"Yes." Zhong Yating nodded confidently. "This time, we've returned to the mortal world to deal with a major life event. Of course, we've also come to attend your engagement ceremony. Both are significant events."

"Alright, let's not discuss this further." Huangfu Ruixiang's eyes hinted at displeasure, but his face remained pleasant. "Today is your special day. We can talk about our matters later!"

Zhong Yating obediently nodded, refraining from further comments.

Soon, Huangfu Ruiling and Ye Leng'an departed, leaving Huangfu Ruixiang and Zhong Yating behind.

As they weren't fond of crowds, they quickly found a secluded corner to chat.

After scanning the surroundings, Ye Leng'an's lips curved into a faint smile. "Ling, don't you think we're being a bit picky? This seat should be the best in the entire venue! With just a glance, you can see the entire banquet hall."

Observing Ye Leng'an's enthusiastic expression, Huangfu Ruiling couldn't help but laugh. "What's there to see?"

"Just taking a look!" Ye Leng'an chuckled. "But if I must say what's worth seeing, it seems the relationship between your younger brother, Huangfu Ruixiang, and Zhong Yating has become a bit delicate!"

Speaking, she turned her gaze towards Huangfu Ruixiang and Zhong Yating.

Zhong Yating seemed unaware of the conversation, her face adorned with a constant smile. Huangfu Ruixiang, listening to Zhong Yating, displayed impatience on his face and in his eyes. Still, he refrained from interrupting Zhong Yating, seemingly enduring it

Hearing Ye Leng'an's description, Huangfu Ruiling raised an eyebrow. "That's their affair. It doesn't concern us."

"I'm just a bit curious." Ye Leng'an playfully stuck out her tongue. "I'm really curious about what happened during this time to make Huangfu Ruixiang change so much. Now it seems the two of them are on the verge of marriage."

"If you really want to know, I'll have someone investigate." Huangfu Ruiling looked at Ye Leng'an, his tone tinged with a hint of jealousy. "You should focus on me now, not random people."

Hearing Huangfu Ruiling's slightly jealous words, Ye Leng'an grinned. "Ling, why are you so cute!"

As she spoke, she couldn't resist reaching out and pinching Huangfu Ruiling's face, treating him as if he were a child.

Huangfu Ruiling made no resistance, allowing Ye Leng'an to playfully touch his face.

Seeing Huangfu Ruiling's cheek turn red from the pinch, Ye Leng'an felt a bit guilty. She quickly withdrew her hand and chuckled awkwardly.

Huangfu Ruiling, however, didn't show any displeasure. Instead, he enjoyed Ye Leng'an's close actions.

To cover her own embarrassment, Ye Leng'an quickly said, "Then send someone to investigate! Anyway, I'm quite curious."

"Okay!" Huangfu Ruiling looked at Ye Leng'an's rolling eyes with slowly growing affection.

Ye Leng'an coughed lightly, seeming to recall something. Suddenly, she asked, "Zhong Yating and Huangfu Ruixiang are getting married soon. What about Li Yiran and that child?"

Speaking of Li Yiran, she hadn't attended the banquet today. However, in the past, when Huangfu Ruixiang didn't have a fiancée, bringing Li Yiran along wasn't a big deal. Now that Zhong Yating was officially his fiancée, it was only fitting for her to attend.

"If Zhong Yating can truly make Huangfu Ruixiang willingly marry her, her status will be quite high. In the future, Li Yiran might not even have a place beside Huangfu Ruixiang."

"What happened before will happen again," Huangfu Ruiling replied calmly. "The Huangfu family won't mistreat them. Moreover, that's Huangfu Ruixiang's child. My parents won't turn a blind eye."

Currently, Li Yiran had moved out of the Huangfu family's ancestral home and returned to her previous apartment. With the child born, even if Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying were ruthless, they wouldn't harm the baby. Moreover, it was their grandson.

Chapter 749: Impromptu Performance

The time for the engagement banquet had arrived, and the emcee promptly took the stage, delivering a few introductory words. The subsequent proceedings closely mirrored those in the Hidden World. However, after the exchange of engagement rings, there was an additional segment – inviting Huangfu Ruiling's parents to speak on stage.

Upon hearing this, Huangfu Ruiling, on the stage, furrowed his brow. His gaze immediately fell upon Li San below the stage, a hint of sharpness in his eyes.

Li San, caught off guard, began to sweat nervously. He bowed to Huangfu Ruiling and made his way out.

He had orchestrated the entire engagement ceremony. Following the exchange of engagement rings by his master and Miss Ye, the announcement of the completed engagement should have been the

next step. However, for some unknown reason, there was an unexpected addition of a parental speech segment. Regardless of the reason, this lapse was his responsibility.

His immediate task was to investigate thoroughly to understand what had happened.

The audience below the stage didn't find it unusual, as such additional segments were deemed normal. Many engagement ceremonies included parents expressing wishes for their children.

Ye Leng'an glanced at Huangfu Jingzhang, who was eloquently expressing his sentiments, then moved closer to Huangfu Ruiling and asked softly, "I thought, given your temperament, you wouldn't allow them to speak."

"In the previous program, there was no such thing." Huangfu Ruiling's eyes revealed a trace of coldness. "This is probably their impromptu performance!"

As he spoke, a chill emanated from him. Clearly, he didn't appreciate the impromptu performance by Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying.

Ye Leng'an's eyes showed a hint of surprise. "So, they are quite quirky! How did they think of speaking at this moment? I recall that during Huangfu Ruixiang's engagement, there was no such segment!"

Weren't Huangfu Ruixiang their favored son? Why did they have nothing to say at their favorite son's engagement, but had so much to say at the engagement of Huangfu Ruiling, the son they had neglected since childhood?

"Probably because..." Huangfu Ruiling's eyes grew colder. "They want those below to believe that the so-called parents have a good relationship with me, their son. So, when they see my engagement, they get overly excited and have numerous expectations to express."

Ye Leng'an raised her eyebrows but refrained from further comments.

While Huangfu Jingzhang was speaking on stage, turmoil engulfed his thoughts. As Huangfu Ruiling suspected, he wanted outsiders to perceive a close relationship between him and Huangfu Ruiling. That was why he approached the emcee before the ceremony and added this segment.

Yet, he worried that Huangfu Ruiling might react strongly.

He had never understood his son, Huangfu Ruiling, well. Hence, he wasn't sure how Huangfu Ruiling would respond. But he took a gamble, betting that Huangfu Ruiling's affection for Ye Leng'an would prevent any rash actions during the engagement ceremony.

As Huangfu Jingzhang finished speaking, it was Zhongyu Liuying's turn.

In contrast to Huangfu Jingzhang, Zhongyu Liuying spoke more emotionally. She repeatedly emphasized the hope that the two brothers would support each other. Her intentions were apparent.

"Zhongyu Liuying seems to be thinking about Huangfu Ruixiang all the time!" Ye Leng'an smirked. "On a day like today, she keeps reminding you of your younger brother. Is she trying to make you yield?"

Huangfu Ruiling's coldness intensified.

At this moment, Li San returned. He came to Huangfu Ruiling, whispered a few words, and then left.

“What’s going on?” Ye Leng’an looked at Huangfu Ruiling with a hint of doubt.

“It’s nothing.” Huangfu Ruiling shook his head. “Li San went to inquire and found out that before the engagement ceremony, Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying went to the emcee to add this segment. The emcee initially disagreed, but Huangfu Jingzhang used his father’s identity to pressure him, even promising him a job in Huangye Group. So, he was tempted and agreed.”

“As expected, incentives sway people!” Ye Leng’an’s eyes flashed. “Isn’t the emcee afraid of your anger?”

“He probably thinks that I have a good relationship with Huangfu Jingzhang,” Huangfu Ruiling said lightly. “So, even if I’m dissatisfied, in the end, there’s Huangfu Jingzhang and others to suppress it. They won’t let anything happen!”

“Oh, really?” Ye Leng’an raised her head, blinked, and smiled. “What do you plan to do?”

“Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying probably live too comfortably, so they want to torment themselves like this!” Huangfu Ruiling’s tone lacked any extra emotion. He simply stated a fact. “Starting tomorrow, their monthly allowances will be halved. As for that emcee, his career has come to an end today!”

Ye Leng’an nodded and continued to ask, “What should we do now? Judging by her demeanor, I’m afraid she won’t finish speaking anytime soon!”

Huangfu Ruiling didn’t say anything more. He simply held onto Ye Leng’an’s arm and walked directly towards Zhongyu Liuying.

Their actions sparked animated discussions among the guests below the stage.

Zhongyu Liuying was still speaking passionately, but she noticed that the expressions of the people below were strange. Some even started whispering.

An ominous feeling rose in her heart, but before she could react, the microphone in her hand was taken away by a large hand.

Such a rude act displeased her. She turned her head, ready to scold, but all her words were stuck in her throat. Her angry expression hadn’t completely disappeared, but it was now mixed with embarrassment and helplessness.

The person who took the microphone was none other than Huangfu Ruiling.

Her heart skipped a beat. She felt that things had taken a bad turn. She hadn’t expected that Huangfu Ruiling would actually prevent her from speaking.

Huangfu Ruiling didn’t even glance at the bewildered Zhongyu Liuying. Instead, he announced directly, “Let the banquet begin!”

Chapter 750: Behaving Better

As Huangfu Ruiling's voice faded, the music promptly filled the air. Those inclined to dance gracefully made their way to the dance floor. Meanwhile, others commenced their socializing.

After concluding his speech, Huangfu Ruiling descended the stage alongside Ye Leng'an, not sparing a glance towards Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying. They might as well have been strangers, receiving not even an extra glance.

However, Huangfu Ruiling did cast a glance at the emcee, devoid of any emotion, only emanating icy indifference.

From the moment Huangfu Ruiling seized Zhongyu Liuying's microphone, the emcee's heart hung in the balance. He faintly sensed that his recent decision might have been profoundly wrong.

Now, under the weight of Huangfu Ruiling's chilling gaze, he felt his legs betraying him. Were it not for sheer willpower, he might have crumpled to the ground already. In this moment, he realized he was doomed. Not only was his chance of entering the Huangye Group jeopardized, but he also questioned the preservation of his current occupation.

Today was meant to be the pinnacle of his career, officiating the engagement of Master Huangfu. Yet, his recent decision had tarnished it all.

With this realization, he couldn't help but close his eyes.

Meanwhile, Zhongyu Liuying, left alone on the stage, fared no better. She was profoundly embarrassed. If a crevice appeared in the ground now, she'd willingly slip into it.

Why did this happen during her speech? Huangfu Ruiling remained still during her husband's speech, but the situation changed when it was her turn.

She could almost envision the gossip that would circulate among the capital's elite tomorrow.

"Alright, let's make our way down." Huangfu Jingzhang approached Zhongyu Liuying, whispering, "Staying here will only add fuel to the fire of gossip."

Zhongyu Liuying opened her mouth, wanting to retort, but she was at a loss for words.

After a while, she managed to steady her emotions, forcing a smile as she took Huangfu Jingzhang's hand and descended the stage.

Her demeanor was as if nothing had occurred.

She kept reminding herself that she was Huangfu Ruiling's mother, an unchangeable fact. No matter how embarrassed she felt tonight, those people dared only to gossip behind her back. They wouldn't dare utter a word in her presence.

The banquet proceeded smoothly thereafter. Perhaps influenced by Zhongyu Liuying's example, no further incidents occurred.

After the engagement ceremony, Huangfu Ruiling seemed to cling even closer to Ye Leng'an. With Ye Leng'an's imminent departure for university, they wouldn't have as much time together.

Inside the CEO's office of the Huangye Group, Ye Leng'an was reading an ancient Chinese medicine book while Huangfu Ruiling handled affairs at his desk. Though engrossed in their tasks, they shared harmonious glances and occasional smiles.

However, their tranquil moment was shattered by a jarring ringtone.

Huangfu Ruiling furrowed his brow, answering the phone and promptly hanging up after a brief exchange.

"Who was that?" Ye Leng'an asked, curious.

It clearly wasn't a work-related call; otherwise, Huangfu Ruiling's response wouldn't have been so curt.

"It was Li San," Huangfu Ruiling replied, his expression neutral. "Zhongyu Liuying called him, saying that Huangfu Ruixiang is getting married and asked me to return to discuss the matter."

"Zhongyu Liuying called Li San?" Ye Leng'an was momentarily surprised, setting down her book with a faint smile. "It seems she's grown quite sensible!"

Previously, Zhongyu Liuying would've called Huangfu Ruiling directly. Who would've thought they'd resort to indirect means now?

"Perhaps she's learned her lesson," Huangfu Ruiling remarked lightly. "After the engagement party, their living expenses are halved, and they've been behaving better since then."

It seemed this strategy was quite effective.

Ye Leng'an nodded in understanding. "No wonder she doesn't dare to disturb you anymore. Are you going back?"

"Yes." Huangfu Ruiling agreed. "To prevent any trouble arising from Huangfu Ruixiang's wedding."

"But that seems unlikely." Ye Leng'an chuckled. "You've already halved their living expenses. Aren't they afraid you'll reduce it further if they cause trouble?"

A penny could confound even the bravest soul, let alone Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying, who were born into wealth. Losing half of their living expenses, on top of their decreased quality of life, surely made things more challenging.

Despite still being better off than many, their accustomed lifestyle made it hard to accept.

Huangfu Ruiling's eyes gleamed with mockery. "Who knows what they're thinking?"

In truth, he never cared.

Just as when he returned to the Huangfu family, he didn't force Huangfu Jingzhang to relinquish the family head position, not out of familial sentiment, but simply because he didn't care for it.

However, Huangfu Jingzhang crossed the line, prompting him to take away what mattered most to him.

“Let’s not dwell on this,” Ye Leng’an suggested, standing up with a smile. “You mentioned discussing the marriage. Shall we? I’m curious to see what Zhong Yating did to make Huangfu Ruixiang compromise.”

At Ye Leng’an’s words, Huangfu Ruiling recalled something, snorting dismissively. “Just a life-saving favor! Only an imbecile like Huangfu Ruixiang would fall for it.”

Li San had discovered this before but had forgotten to mention it. With Ye Leng’an bringing it up, Huangfu Ruiling took the chance to address it.