

His Beloved 1051

Chapter 1051: Love enlightenment mentor is Chen Ge_5

Feng Fanghua spoke as if those memories were still vivid in her mind.

Listening to her, Qin Mu felt somewhat like an outsider.

"Bring it back and share some, it's good to eat,"

Mu Zihao thought quietly, feeling that the cabbage from his own garden had to be shared to taste its best.

"That would be great, but I wonder who would still care for a cabbage that's just a few cents per pound nowadays."

"Rest assured, I promise to help you finish them,"

Mu Zihao looked up at Feng Fanghua, his gaze full of commitment to her.

Feng Fanghua was rendered speechless by his look.

Qin Mu, sitting diagonally opposite them, watched and felt that Feng Fanghua's gaze towards Mu Zihao was filled with love and trust.

Later, Mu Yichen was holding his phone while reviewing documents, and Qin Mu occasionally turned her head to look at him, her gaze also full of love.

"Old man of Jing Family, I've heard he's still reluctant to come back?"

Mu Zihao mentioned again.

"Why is the old man of Jing Family unwilling to return? This city is too noisy, while the countryside may seem simple, it's actually peaceful and comfortable."

Feng Fanghua remarked with emotion.

"But the city is more convenient,"

Qin Mu honestly shared her feelings.

"That's because you grew up here, so you find it good, just like your grandfather, who used to live in the countryside. Even after moving to the city, he still thought the countryside was the best. It's not the place itself, but the memories and feelings it brings,"

Feng Fanghua explained.

Qin Mu nodded, acknowledging this.

Yet, Qin Mu cherished these seven years here...

Qin Mu eventually loved this place probably because the person she loved was here.

Qin Mu looked at Mu Yichen, who, amidst his busyness, glanced at her. She blinked at him, and Mu Yichen instantly seemed puzzled, raising his eyebrows. Only the two understood the subtle intimacy.

Feng Fanghua and Mu Zihao, sitting diagonally opposite, watched and sighed helplessly, proposing, "How about we go to the United Kingdom together for Christmas this year?"

"You go ahead! As for us, we'd rather not!"

Mu Yichen responded, looking at his phone.

Qin Mu looked at him in confusion, thinking how nice it would be for the family to travel together?

"Why would you rather not? Do you feel uncomfortable with us?"

Feng Fanghua questioned, a bit upset that her son always prioritized his wife over his mother.

"Isn't the company holding an event for Christmas? Would it be appropriate for us to leave?"

Mu Yichen glanced up, looking quite serious.

This statement made Feng Fanghua quiet, while Mu Zihao smiled, understanding his son's thoughts.

It's also good to give the young couple some space to be alone. Nowadays, Mu Zihao has passed the phase of only wanting to be with Feng Fanghua. Instead, he wishes to take his old father out for a walk, as time waits for no one. The lost family affection now has time to be regained.

So today, Mu Zihao was quite insistent. After a half-hour call with the old man, he finally agreed to come back within a few days.

In fact, it's already very cold.

Late at night, Feng Fanghua and Mu Zihao retired to their room to rest, while Qin Mu was carried to the bedroom by Mu Yichen.

Qin Mu was sore from being carried on his shoulder, and Mu Yichen lowered her onto the bed, then leaned over her, pressing her with his gaze: "Why were you staring at me downstairs just now?"

Qin Mu...

"Was I?"

Qin Mu's dark eyes shifted slightly, somewhat woodenly asked back.

"Wasn't you?"

Mu Yichen's hand slid up from under her sweatshirt, gazing at her with an invasive look.

"I was looking, but how could you know I was looking at you if you didn't see me?"

Qin Mu tightened up and couldn't resist retorting.

Mu Yichen's eye corner lifted in a grin, and the next moment, he pinched her beautiful chin: "Has anyone ever told you, Mrs. Mu, that your debating skill is rather poor? And it seriously irritates your husband?"

Qin Mu...

Between a husband and wife, reason doesn't always prevail!

Just like this moment, when Mr. Mu couldn't argue, he still could easily silence Mrs. Mu.

Qin Mu looked into his eyes gently and smiled mischievously instead of getting angry: "Where is my man dissatisfied?"

Her hand moved from his shoulder to his chest, gently tapping, inching towards his dissatisfaction.

Mu Yichen's dark eyes narrowed, and the next moment he directly unbuckled his belt: "No need to be so subtle."

Qin Mu's hand froze at the warm touch.

In terms of brazenness, she certainly wasn't Mr. Mu's match, at least most of the time, she wasn't.

Rolling and tussling until deep into the night, Mu Yichen remained with his forehead pressed against hers, not rising from her body.

It seemed that the temperature of her slender body was just right, very suitable for his posture.

Exhausted, Qin Mu panted softly, eyes lightly closed, feeling Mu Yichen's breath intertwining with hers, her hands weak, sliding from his muscular waist onto the bed sheet.

"Yielded?"

Mu Yichen asked after feeling her weakness.

"Mm!"

Qin Mu had no choice but to yield, her throat dry and parched.

"Shall I get you some water?"

"Mm!"

"Any reward?"

Qin Mu smiled tiredly, thinking what reward could she give him? Whether she offers it or not, he would certainly get what he wants, right?

Mu Yichen also smiled, and after satisfaction, his gaze softened extraordinarily: "What are you laughing about, Mrs. Mu?"

"My throat hurts!"

Qin Mu laughed as she explained to him.

"Wait for me,"

He pecked her soft lips lightly, then moved his agile body off hers and put on the robe that had fallen on the floor to fetch her water.

Qin Mu squinted and turned over, lying by his pillow and looked at the tall figure walking towards the door, feeling fatigued yet her heart, so warm and fulfilled.

Mu Yichen, this man, could always infuse her with strength.

Qin Mu's phone beeped, it was a message from an unfamiliar number: "Mrs. Mu, what does Mr. Mu mean by this? Is he planning to snatch any land my husband wants to buy?"

Qin Mu read it for a while, sighed lightly as she guessed who it was.

What could she reply?

Perhaps pretend she saw nothing?

Both seemed wrong.

Liu Jingyuan's wife must be a very intelligent woman, always appearing well-mannered whenever they've met. For her to send such questioning message, she must be genuinely upset with Mu Yichen, or maybe those negative scandals troubled the usually gentle Mrs. Liu?

Qin Mu wasn't sure which reason, perhaps both.

But what should she say? Without even asking Mu Yichen, she knew why. Asking would only upset both of them. Yet, how should she respond to this woman?

When Mu Yichen came upstairs with water, Qin Mu reflexively hid her phone under the pillow, then smiled at him: "Why did it take you so long?"

Chapter 1052: We are very good

Mu Yichen's dark eyes glanced at her, a faint smile playing on his lips, but he said nothing.

No matter how quickly Qin Mu moved, Mu Yichen's sharp gaze still caught her action of hiding the phone under the pillow. If there weren't something unsuitable for him to know, she wouldn't be so secretive. Mu Yichen understood this but said nothing.

He simply waited until she fell asleep to secretly take a look.

Because he came up suddenly, she didn't have time to delete the messages. Mu Yichen, finding nothing inappropriate in her WeChat, discovered a message from an unfamiliar number in her normal messages, and that tone of questioning made him very uncomfortable.

After reading it, Mu Yichen memorized the unfamiliar number and then put the phone back under her pillow, slowly leaving her side, tucking her in, and then left the room with his own phone.

— —

That morning, a light rain was falling. Qin Mu watched the third round of the design competition broadcast on TV at the studio. Both Bian Jingwen and Qiu Xiang advanced effortlessly. Qiu Xiang had made great progress, but Bian Jingwen was still at ease and confident.

Colleagues didn't seem to care much about Bian Jingwen's presence, only applauding and celebrating for Qiu Xiang's victory.

Jian Yan stood at the staircase entrance, watching the excited crowd downstairs, expressionless. Apparently, Bian Jingwen's design was superior. Although Qiu Xiang had improved significantly, compared to Bian Jingwen, she was still slightly inferior.

Qin Mu also noticed this issue, so she couldn't bring herself to smile. Just as she turned to go upstairs, she saw her mentor standing at the stairway entrance and walked forward.

Jian Yan glanced at her, then turned and walked ahead of her.

The mentor and student had this tacit understanding for a long time. Once they reached upstairs and closed the door, they started discussing.

"Bian Jingwen's design is indeed superior. Among the remaining ten designers, each has some unique ideas, and we cannot afford to be careless."

After sitting down on the office sofa, Jian Yan began to talk to Qin Mu.

Qin Mu stood by his desk, leaning with her arms casually crossed: "For the next round, I want to change models."

Jian Yan raised his eyes after hearing this: "You also think it's a model issue?"

"Mm!"

Jian Yan nodded: "Then it's up to you. In this aspect, I indeed have confidence in you."

Qin Mu was very happy to hear her mentor express confidence in her, and a smile immediately appeared on her face.

"How has Mu Yichen been lately?"

Jian Yan suddenly asked a non-work-related question, almost catching Qin Mu off guard.

"Oh! We're doing well!"

Qin Mu reflexively replied, mainly because she didn't want Jian Yan to worry.

However, Jian Yan suddenly fell silent, his eyes slightly downcast.

"Jian Yan, has Mu Yichen ever done a lot of excessive things to you as well?"

Qin Mu almost asked such a question, but after thinking about it, she held back. They were mentor and student, and if she asked such a casual question that led to an uncontrollable outcome, she decided to bury her thoughts deeply once again.

"Never mind! Your business is not for me to interfere with. Bring over the drawings you've done recently for me to see."

Jian Yan suddenly said, opening the cigarette box on the table, taking out a cigarette, and lighting it with a lighter.

Qin Mu wanted to stop him, but impulse lost to reason.

"Alright!"

Qin Mu agreed and got up to fetch her design sketches.

All day, except for meals and bathroom breaks, Qin Mu and Jian Yan stayed in the office, later joined by Qiu Xiang and Xiaomei when they returned from the competition site.

That evening, when Qin Mu returned home, the old man was already there.

Hearing the old man's laughter, Qin Mu couldn't help but happily carry the gift she prepared for the old man and walked in briskly: "Grandpa!"

The old man looked up and saw her, even more delighted: "Is it my granddaughter-in-law? How come after not seeing you for a while, you're even more beautiful? Come sit next to grandpa."

Feeling shy, Qin Mu lowered her head, but still brought the gift over to grandpa's side.

"I brought you a small teapot."

Sitting beside him, Qin Mu took out the exquisite teapot from the box, layer by layer, and presented it in front of the old man.

Not only did the old man like it, but Mu Zihao, sitting nearby, also liked it very much.

"It's still my granddaughter-in-law who thinks of me, preparing such a good gift for me. Well then, grandpa will accept it without any reservation?"

The old man said happily to Qin Mu.

"Yes! You must accept it."

Qin Mu nodded in agreement.

Feng Fanghua sat silently beside them, and Mu Zihao just watched. The daughter-in-law who could make the old man in the family happy made everyone happy along with him.

Chapter 1053: We are very good_2

"Mr. Qin, young master!"

Mu Yichen returned from outside with Qin Haiming, and the butler greeted them quietly at the door.

Only then did Qin Mu realize that Qin Haiming was also invited over. When she saw him, she greeted him less formally than before, like greeting a family member she hadn't seen in a long time: "Why have you come too?"

"I called your father, under your grandfather's orders."

Mu Zihao spoke up slowly at this point.

After Qin Mu heard, it was not suitable for her to ask more questions, and she was quite happy to see Qin Haiming at home.

"Alright, actually I wanted to say that it's nice to have dinner together."

Qin Mu had to explain as she saw everyone being so tense.

Qin Haiming didn't think much of it. As he sat down, he remarked, "Looks like your status in the Mu Family is higher now, everyone in this big family is afraid of displeasing you."

The Mu Family didn't dare say anything; Qin Mu awkwardly smiled, "It's because Mom, Dad, and Grandpa all spoil me."

"What about me?"

Mu Yichen sat nearby, already unhappy that he couldn't sit next to her. Now, among the people who spoiled her, he, the closest person, wasn't included. Mu Yichen unhappily asked.

Qin Mu instinctively looked at him, using her gaze to ask him: Are you going to compete for this too?

Mu Yichen also used his gaze to respond to her: "Yes!"

Qin Mu was utterly helpless, until Huanhuan finished washing her hands in the bathroom and saw the newcomers at home. Instead of running into someone else's arms, she went straight to Qin Haiming's side and sweetly called: "Grandpa!"

"Why is our Huanhuan so pretty today? Missed Grandpa?"

Qin Haiming affectionately cradled Huanhuan's little face, drawing close to her.

"Yes!"

Huanhuan immediately answered like responding to a teacher, the single word so melodious and perfect, full of emotion and resonance.

Qin Haiming laughed even more, "Grandpa brought you a gift, it's in the car, why don't you let the butler take you to find grandpa Li for it?"

"Okay!"

Huanhuan was gleefully content, and the butler waited by her side until she approached, extending his hand to lead her outside to find Uncle Wang for the gift.

"Haven't seen you for a while, you seem to be doing well."

Qin Haiming looked up, greeting the old man.

"I'm doing well! The air in the countryside is better than here, and it's not so crowded, living there makes everything taste delicious, and the body feels strong!"

The old man had just returned, already starting to miss the air and breeze of the countryside.

"That's true! But it's also nice in Rongcheng, this big family couldn't do without you."

Qin Haiming politely continued.

"Hmph! If they hadn't begged me, I wouldn't have come back. By the way, remember to take a few cabbages I planted with Old Jing in the countryside when you head back."

"Of course! Of course!"

Qin Haiming didn't dare to refuse, only smiled and accepted.

Feng Fanghua lowered her head, holding back her laughter; Qin Mu also had to suppress it, the old man treated those few cabbages like treasures.

Nowadays in the city people eat vegetables grown by others. Although now everywhere claims organic produce, some people always feel their own grown vegetables are better, almost like their own is a priceless treasure.

"Old Jing also hesitated to come back from the countryside, always saying he feels oppressed in the city. Recently we lived together, and I didn't spare him from scolding. Let my two treasures suffer so much before; he listened without daring to refute. In Rongcheng, only I can criticize him like this, don't you agree?"

The Mu family's old man spoke with pride on this matter.

But indeed, he had the right to be proud.

Everyone cooperated with him, no one dared to say otherwise.

"Tonight he returns to the Jing Family for dinner, tomorrow both families should gather, at AM, Yichen, you kid, arrange the menu."

The old man instructed while looking at his grandson.

"Alright!"

Mu Yichen didn't dare to oppose, obeyed the order.

After dinner, the old man specifically asked Qin Mu to play chess with him, while the rest watched, even Huanhuan staying close with the new toy just bought by Grandpa.

Everyone drank, so they lingered a bit late. Qin Mu personally went out to see Qin Haiming off, still reminding him, "I heard your blood pressure has been a bit high recently, don't smoke when you get back."

"It's just mild hypertension, the recent social engagements have been excessive, I will pay attention."

Outside the chilly wind blew, Qin Mu seeing him in his overcoat felt he looked cold, instinctively said, "Tomorrow morning I'll have someone send over a few scarves to your home before work, it's quite chilly now, don't catch a cold."

"Sending them over is fine, but no need for the morning; young folks nowadays love to sleep in, right?"

Chapter 1054: We are very good_3

Qin Haiming knew that Qin Mu definitely wouldn't make it in time, so he had an employee deliver it instead.

"You can sleep in anytime. If you catch a cold from the wind, I'm going to be upset."

Qin Mu stubbornly told him, instinctively raising her hand to button up his coat.

Mu Yichen stood by the door watching, not daring to get angry, but he sighed, thinking, the person you didn't even want to see when you first returned, now you're so close that it makes your husband jealous.

Qin Haiming looked down, feeling very content.

"Okay! Hurry and get in the car!"

Qin Mu said.

Uncle Wang came out from inside to help him open the car door, and Qin Haiming reluctantly got in the car.

"Mumu, don't worry, your father has been in good spirits and health lately."

Uncle Wang greeted her and didn't forget to report.

"You too, take good care of yourself."

Qin Mu smiled, very grateful to Uncle Wang.

"Alright! We're leaving now. It's getting cold; you should go inside soon!"

"Okay!"

"Your husband is waiting for you!"

Uncle Wang reminded Qin Mu as he got in the car.

Qin Mu listened, turned to look at the door, unable to see his face clearly, but his tall figure was indeed standing there.

On the road, Qin Haiming said to Uncle Wang, "Old Wang, do you know what I was thinking about when Mumu was buttoning my coat?"

"You must have been very moved, right?"

Uncle Wang looked in the rearview mirror, asking cheerfully.

"I was very moved, but what I was thinking was not about being moved. Rather, if she had been by my side since childhood, I wonder how many times she's done such a thing for me, how many times she would have called me dad each day, how many times she would have reminded me to put on more clothes. Old Wang, what exactly have I done for her?"

Qin Haiming couldn't help but furrow his brow, feeling a sting in his eyes, fearing he might shed tears.

"Don't think about those things anymore. Now that the young lady has let it go and has genuinely reconciled with you, why not just enjoy the benefits of being a father?"

Uncle Wang said.

"I do enjoy it, but I also feel guilty. I owe her too much."

Qin Haiming shook his head, having to admit that fact.

"The young lady is kind and hasn't held a grudge for a long time. Seeing how she treats you now, she truly cares. Last time she even helped with Miss Mingzhu's matter, she probably considers herself part of the family."

Uncle Wang continued to remind him.

"I was really surprised when Mumu helped with Mingzhu's issue. This child's generosity is wider than I imagined. Old Wang, you know, I discovered that my daughter is much more magnanimous than her mother and me. It's a pity that I always doubted her before. Sigh!"

Qin Haiming smiled sadly, looking at the darkness outside, yet there were flickers of candlelight in his heart.

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At the door, Qin Mu was held by Mu Yichen, pinned against the door frame: "What was that just now?"

Qin Mu looked at him, puzzled, and after recalling her actions with Qin Haiming, lowered her head: "Didn't do anything!"

"Didn't do anything? Have you ever worried about me being cold? Even helped button a coat."

Qin Mu smiled helplessly, glanced outside, and turned back: "It's cold outside, let's go in quickly!"

In this winter, amidst the cold wind, she felt the warmth of his palm.

— —

In the morning, Qin Mu was out walking with Huanhuan and the old man outside the house. Huanhuan ran ahead, while the old man and Qin Mu followed her, chatting and watching her.

"This little one has changed so much in a year, no wonder they say girls transform at eighteen."

The old man's eyes held a serene look after seeing the vicissitudes of life.

"Yes! Nowadays, she's much smarter than before, not careful, you might get outsmarted by her."

"That's just like her dad. Yichen, that boy, has always been meticulous since he was young."

The old man was quite proud.

"I heard your studio is participating in a design competition recently? Don't stress too much, as the saying goes, friendship first!"

Grandpa joked to relax her.

"But Grandpa, during a competition, there's no such thing as friendship."

Qin Mu lightly rested her hand on the old man's arm, walking uphill and softly explaining to him.

Moreover, in today's society, no matter the competition, people may say 'friendship first,' but in their hearts, everyone wants to outdo each other.

There are those who hypocritically say it would be nice to win.

And some who candidly have the determination and slogan to win no matter what.

Chapter 1055: We are very good_4

Which type of person do you like?

The leaves on the roadside trees were almost all withered, as if unwilling to fall to the ground but on the verge of doing so, clinging to the branches, not wanting to part from them after living together for several months.

But when the wind blew, some leaves unwillingly fell.

The stronger branches abandoned the leaves.

Huanhuan walked ahead with her little legs, occasionally turning back to see her mom and great-grandfather walking slowly together. Her eyes appeared worried for them, growing more anxious as she saw them leisurely chatting.

"Mom, hurry up and catch up with me!"

Huanhuan stood on higher ground, waving vigorously at them.

Qin Mu and the old man looked up at her, then sped up a bit. The old man said, "This little girl is quite strong, she might just be a good seedling."

An image flashed in Qin Mu's mind immediately.

When they returned, Mu Yichen was already waiting for them at the gate for a long while, dressed casually as he watched his daughter on Qin Mu's back, while the old man followed slowly behind.

Seeing the sharp-eyed man standing at the gate, Huanhuan whispered into her mom's ear, "Mom, let me down, Dad saw us!"

It seemed even the little animals at home knew how much Mr. Mu cherished his wife, so how could little princess Huanhuan not know too?

Qin Mu looked up slightly and then whispered, "It's okay, Mom likes carrying Huanhuan."

"No, Dad will get angry."

Huanhuan refused immediately, though she too enjoyed being carried by her mom.

Qin Mu had no choice but to squat down slowly and let Huanhuan down, who then ran ahead on her own.

"Mu Chenghuan, slow down, be careful not to fall."

Qin Mu worriedly watched her little legs run quickly down the hill.

But she also had to wait for the old man to walk together.

Mu Yichen sensed something was off too, so he quickly straightened up and walked forward, but within a few steps, Huanhuan had fallen in front.

She was wearing thick clothes at the time, so it was mostly fine, except her little nose started bleeding, and her palms were scraped.

Even the old man started running, and Qin Mu's heart ached, almost bringing tears to her eyes as she rushed forward.

Mu Yichen strode over and helped Huanhuan up from the ground, and blood began to drip from her nose immediately.

Huanhuan wiped her uncomfortable nose with a hand, then burst into tears out of fear.

Mu Yichen frowned anxiously, whispering to comfort her by her ear, then carried her and ran back.

Indeed, he ran back, while Qin Mu quickly took out a pack of tissues from her pocket, wiping Huanhuan's nosebleed and telling the lagging old man, "Grandpa, take your time, it's okay!"

The old man, too exhausted to speak, gestured for them to go ahead, pausing to catch his breath, leaning on his knees.

Qin Mu followed the father-daughter pair inside.

As soon as they returned, Feng Fanghua was the one who got angry after the nosebleed stopped. The little nose was cleaned, but it continued to bleed slightly, making Feng Fanghua hug Huanhuan tightly and complain, "You all, how could you let her run down the slope? When your dad and I take her out, we always hold her hand, afraid she'll fall. But you didn't."

"It wasn't intentional, please don't worry."

Qin Mu sat off to the side, not daring to speak, as Mu Yichen uttered a line.

Feng Fanghua noticed Qin Mu's tearful eyes, deciding not to say more. She, too, was moved to tears, seeing her little granddaughter hurt, as they had never allowed Huanhuan to fall since she entered the house.

"Grandma, I'm okay!"

Huanhuan lifted her hand to try and touch her grandma's face, sympathetically trying to cheer her up. But when her hand felt the warmth, it hurt again.

Feng Fanghua gently held Huanhuan's little hand, "Does it hurt a lot? Grandma will blow on it to make it better."

Feng Fanghua softly spoke to Huanhuan, then blew on her hand.

Huanhuan snuggled softly in her grandma's arms, feeling very touched, her watery eyes no longer filled with grievance.

"Earlier, Qin Mu was worried I would fall and didn't mind Huanhuan. But as for you, Mu Yichen, why were you just standing at the door? Why didn't you hurry over to catch our Huanhuan?"

The old man, seated nearby, couldn't help but speak up for his granddaughter-in-law.

Mu Yichen felt somewhat regretful after hearing that.

"Alright, alright, kids who fall grow up faster. Let's not make a fuss. Our Huanhuan is so resilient, she's totally fine now, right, Huanhuan?"

Mu Zihao came over with freshly squeezed juice for Huanhuan, who looked up and upon seeing the juice, beamed and nodded at her grandpa.

Mu Zihao smiled, "Our Huanhuan is the best!"

"Grandpa is the best too!"

Huanhuan didn't wag her tail at the compliment but instead restrained her excited mood to praise her dear grandpa.

Qin Mu couldn't help but smile, thinking how sweet this little girl was with her words.

Feng Fanghua also smiled, gently caressing Huanhuan's hair.

The small morning accident finally had a 'good ending'; Feng Fanghua called the school to let Huanhuan take a day off, unwilling to let her go to school today, planning to take her later with Mu Zihao.

The old man would go bird-watching with friends, while Mu Yichen took Qin Mu to her studio for work.

As their car arrived at the studio doors, Jian Yan also happened to arrive, noticing Qin Mu exiting Mu Yichen's car when he heard it arrive.

Mu Yichen glanced at Jian Yan through the passenger window, smiled slightly, and then left.

Jian Yan stood there watching Mu Yichen's car leave, thinking to himself how this kid no longer put up his guard around him. Before, he would always come out, standing, and jab at him a few times before leaving.

Qin Mu stood alongside Jian Yan, curiously asking as she saw where he was looking, "What are you looking at?"

"Let's head inside!"

It was cold, and as he was lightly dressed, he headed in first.

Qin Mu stood there for a few more seconds, wondering what was so intriguing about Mu Yichen's car.

"Qiu Xiang, come to my office later."

As Qin Mu entered, she called out to the girl at the desk, engrossed in thinking up new designs.

Qiu Xiang blinked, thinking she had hallucinated, then responded with an "okay" after realizing.

As Qin Mu ascended, she got a call from Luo Li, inviting her to dinner in the evening. But Qin Mu politely declined, explaining, "I have a family dinner tonight. If there's anything, feel free to say it directly, Sister Luo."

Qin Mu guessed she had something on her mind.

"In that case, never mind if you're busy. I just wanted to tell you, recently Bian Jingwen has been bringing someone to the office. The foreign guy she brought is quite unfamiliar to me."

"Really? It could be her boyfriend?"

Qin Mu thought of AD's nephew.

"Probably not. I've seen AD's nephew in photos, and this guy is taller."

Luo Li explained, glancing outside the office window. At that moment, Bian Jingwen was arriving at work with that handsome guy, chatting and laughing.

"I could secretly take a picture and send it to you, maybe you can figure it out."

Luo Li suggested after some thought.

"No need! If Bian Jingwen has ulterior motives, I will still win this game."

Qin Mu replied confidently and calmly, after a moment of contemplation.

"Since you're that confident, I won't go overboard. Let's have a meal together when you have time."

"Sure!"

After hanging up, Qin Mu entered the office.

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Evening, AM, a dinner between the Jing Family and the Mu Family.

Qin Mu headed to the hotel alone, meeting the tall foreign guy Luo Li mentioned at the entrance.

Chapter 1056: Two old acquaintances?

On Christmas Eve when I was twenty, that same classmate proposed to her in the square.

Now, he is a close friend of Bian Jingwen.

Qin Mu stood there, looking at that male classmate with surprise, until Bian Jingwen suddenly appeared.

He stood by Qin Mu's male classmate's side and politely asked, "Do you two know each other?"

Qin Mu never would have thought that these two people, who should have had nothing to do with each other, would actually be together, and it seemed their relationship was quite good.

"Talk privately?"

Qin Mu directly spoke to Rui Sen in French, while Bian Jingwen next to them looked utterly confused as she watched them converse.

Rui Sen greeted Bian Jingwen and walked ahead with Qin Mu, leaving Bian Jingwen no choice but to stand on the side waiting, feeling quite unhappy.

In fact, it was Qin Mu who was the most unsettled, but when she figured out the whole story, she became even angrier.

Bian Jingwen watched from the sidelines as the two whispered from afar, unable to stop herself from grinding her teeth, and instinctively took out her phone from her bag and took a photo.

Posting on her tiny social media account the photo of the two chatting intimately, she added: An actress with the last name X falls for a foreign hottie!

Mu Yichen, Jing Feng, and Helian Hao arrived in their cars one after the other outside the door and then saw Bian Jingwen standing on the side, unconsciously casting curious glances at her.

Bian Jingwen sensed someone looking at her, so she turned her head toward them, and immediately smiled, greeting them politely.

Helian Hao didn't have a good impression of her, and Jing Feng didn't want to associate with such a character at all, so he didn't even look, while Mu Yichen was focused on the spot Bian Jingwen had been staring at, recalling that familiar figure vividly.

Even after all these years, still a scumbag.

Qin Mu, with her hands in her coat pockets, couldn't help but ponder as she listened to Rui Sen's words, feeling a bit anxious, reflexively turning her head. She saw Mu Yichen and the others and suddenly recalled something, her face turning pale.

Mu Yichen's gloomy eyes glanced at her and walked over.

Qin Mu instinctively pulled her hands out of her pockets, standing nervously like a good student waiting for him to approach.

As for Rui Sen, he curiously asked, "Who is he?"

"My husband!"

Qin Mu communicated with him in French.

Rui Sen had been shocked enough hearing about her having a daughter out of wedlock in Paris earlier, but hearing her personally say the words "my husband" felt like a bolt from the blue to him.

"Yichen!"

Qin Mu smiled as he got closer.

Helian Hao and Jing Feng, watching from behind, couldn't help but snicker, thinking what made this girl so guilty, Yichen?

People who knew them well would know that Qin Mu never called Mu Yichen by his first name, always addressing him formally as Mr. Mu.

Mu Yichen glanced at her with lowered eyes, knowing she was feeling guilty, then looked over at the man beside her, "Aren't you going to introduce us?"

Qin Mu...

Thought: Do I really need to introduce you? Didn't you already see everything back then?

Yet on the surface, she dared not contradict him even a bit.

"This is my college classmate, Rui Sen! He's now working on something with Bian Jingwen."

As Qin Mu spoke the latter part, she leaned closer to whisper in his ear, her beautiful eyes lingering on his chiseled features.

Mu Yichen's eyes slightly shifted, "Hello!"

If Qin Mu's French was decent, naturally Mr. Mu's was as well.

Though Rui Sen was quite startled by Qin Mu's husband's intimidating aura, as a Frenchman, he maintained his gentlemanly demeanor and extended his hand politely.

"Hello! Nice to meet you!"

After saying this, Rui Sen looked at Qin Mu with a sense of regret, causing her to slightly awkwardly twitch her lips, then lower her head, holding onto Mu Yichen's arm without daring to let go.

Bian Jingwen felt it was about time and approached, "You two seem to be old acquaintances?"

"We were college classmates!"

Rui Sen navigated between English and French with ease.

Bian Jingwen slightly lifted her chin to show understanding, then smiled again, "I didn't expect we have so many connections."

"All bad karma!"

Qin Mu lowered her head, unwilling to acknowledge any connection she had with Bian Jingwen, mockingly saying those four words.

Bian Jingwen's face showed a flicker of embarrassment, but she quickly smiled and turned to Rui Sen, "Shall we go eat?"

"Then we'll be off!"

Rui Sen looked at Qin Mu with eyes full of sentiment.

Qin Mu slightly nodded, while Mu Yichen utterly ignored them, his dark eyes sharply watching his wife, as if ready to catch any inappropriate expression she might inadvertently make, and hold her accountable.

Chapter 1057: Two old acquaintances?_2

Anyway, as soon as they left side by side, Helian Hao and Jing Feng walked over: "Ladies, can you tell your best friends what kind of drama just happened?"

Helian Hao curiously opened her mouth and asked first.

"Ask your good friend!"

Mu Yichen's voice was clear, indifferent, cold, and distant.

Helian Hao raised her eyes, a bit bewildered, not understanding why Mu had such a big reaction.

After that, Mu Yichen and Jing Feng swaggered ahead, Helian Hao covered half of her mouth with her hand and whispered to the woman beside her: "Was that man your ex-boyfriend?"

Qin Mu was startled and turned to look at her, not knowing how Helian Hao had associated him with an ex-boyfriend.

"Really? I heard that someone proposed to you in Paris when you were twenty."

Seeing her so surprised, Helian Hao explained.

"But he wasn't my ex-boyfriend! We never dated!"

Qin Mu didn't explain the proposal story, because that was true, but she clarified the ex-boyfriend misunderstanding.

"No wonder Mu Yichen was so upset!"

Helian Hao let out a light laugh.

"You can still laugh? Do you know how nervous I was just now?"

Qin Mu whispered to Helian Hao, recalling how Mu Yichen had asked her last time if she still contacted Rui Sen, and she had claimed she'd forgotten who Rui Sen was. Yet today, she ran into Rui Sen and chatted with him for several minutes.

"You were nervous, and that Bian Miss was also tense, but the guy she was with was your classmate. Do you think she already knew about this, intentionally bringing this man to disgust you and ruin your relationship with Mu Yichen, or was she unaware of your history with Rui Sen and ended up disgusting herself?"

"I'd rather it be the latter."

Qin Mu and Helian Hao whispered all the way to the elevator.

Once inside, because of Mu Yichen's glances, Qin Mu didn't dare say another word, she even breathed cautiously.

Helian Hao and Jing Feng just watched the show from the side, as people watching a drama never think the event is too grand.

As the elevator ascended slowly, Qin Mu's heart was tightly wound, she wanted to look at Mu but dared not, wanted to placate him but feared accidentally stepping on a tiger's tail, so she was very cautious.

The elevator dinged open, and Qin Mu's face still looked a bit unnatural.

Mu Yichen walked out first with his hands in his pockets, Jing Feng followed, Helian Hao bumped Qin Mu on the shoulder: "Let's go!"

Qin Mu quickly followed out, taking small steps to catch up with Helian Hao: "Help me see if Mu's expression is calm?"

Helian Hao, almost instinctively, tilted her head to glance at Mu Yichen's face, then slowed down her steps and whispered to the woman beside her: "Very normal."

Hearing this, Qin Mu immediately breathed a sigh of relief, feeling like she almost collapsed.

But what Helian Hao meant by very normal was really Mu's version of normal, not someone else's usual mild and agreeable demeanor, but cold as wind.

Fortunately, this gathering of the two families had elders present, so Mu didn't embarrass her at the dining table and even helped her with dishes.

Qin Mu looked at the food, a bit afraid to eat, quickly serving him too.

Helian Hao, sitting on her other side, looked at her and leaned over in resignation to softly mutter by her ear: "Miss, please don't be so nervous, the whole world thinks you two are having a cold war."

Listening to that slight reminder, Qin Mu involuntarily lifted her eyes, then couldn't help but feel deeply embarrassed by the elders' pretense of not understanding them.

"We weren't fighting!"

After speaking those few words, she realized something was wrong, as if they came from her throat contrary to her intentions.

The elders glanced slightly, looking at her in difficulty.

Qin Mu instantly closed her mouth tight, wishing she could find a hole to crawl into.

"We'd be surprised if you two weren't fighting." Mu Zihao quipped.

"Just like this, no one can break you up, perhaps this is what they call destined rivals?"

After Mu Zihao finished speaking, Jing Xianzong also chimed in.

Unexpectedly, the opening of this dinner party revolved around their relationship, Qin Mu later found herself unable to speak much and just quietly became invisible.

In fact, most of the younger generation was invisible as the elders kept on talking.

The elder Jing and the elder Mu took turns bashing Jing Xianzong and Mu Zihao, reminiscing from their childhood, as if they hadn't been good kids back then.

Feng Fanghua couldn't help but tease: "I'm really curious about what Dad and Uncle Jing were like as kids, like Dad and Uncle Jing, they must've been leaders among the kids back in the day, right?"

The two stubborn old men looked at each other, then cleared their throats forcefully, as if reminding Feng Fanghua to watch her words.

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Feng Fanghua was not as reserved as Jing Xianzong's wife, so she pretended not to notice the elders' dissatisfaction. She just felt someone was talking about her husband, and she needed to stand up for him.

Mu Zihao didn't speak, only smiled with pursed lips while helping Feng Fanghua with her food.

Even though the two were quite old, sometimes their little habits and gestures were so intimate, like when they were passionately in love.

Perhaps even many young people's romances couldn't be as fervent as theirs.

Jing Xianzong's wife sat across from them, watching their loving interaction, couldn't help but feel envious. Jing Xianzong was rather taciturn and usually appeared quite serious, so their relationship seldom seemed so close.

If Mu Zihao and Feng Fanghua were the gentle demon and the proud young lady combo, then Jing Xianzong and his wife were the typical match of the domineering CEO and the conventional cultured lady.

The younger generations watched the interactions among the elders, each harboring their thoughts. However, the younger ones clearly had better emotional lives.

The old master of the Jing Family cleared his throat, looking at Qin Mu, who had remained silent diagonally across from him, and asked: "Qin Family girl, aren't you going to toast this old man on your own? You haven't properly toasted me since you returned."

Everyone immediately looked at the serious old master of the Jing Family, and Qin Mu looked up, full of fear.

"Mumu, your grandfather's right. By rank, you should properly toast the old man."

Mu Zihao, as Qin Mu's father-in-law, kindly reminded his daughter-in-law.

Qin Mu calmed down, raised her wine glass with both hands and stood up: "Then, I shall first punish myself with a drink! It's my lack of manners!"

Qin Mu said this and drank a glass herself. Everyone watched quietly, keeping in their hearts the things that happened over the years, only letting them disperse slowly from their minds.

The old master of the Jing Family held his glass but did not raise it, merely looking thoughtfully at Qin Mu.

Mu Yichen sat beside Qin Mu and did not speak. He had expected this kind of scene during the family meal. Still, since the families hadn't severed ties, these two glasses of wine seemed harmless.

Qin Mu poured herself another glass, then smiled softly, saying: "This glass is to wish Grandpa Jing longevity and happiness every day."

Qin Mu held the glass with both hands, then raised her head and took another drink.

The old master of the Mu Family was pleased with his granddaughter-in-law's sensibility, his eyes unintentionally showing satisfaction.

The old master of the Jing Family did not drink but signaled with his eyes for her to sit down.

Qin Mu sat down after drinking, not daring to say much more.

"The grievances among our three families stem from the emotional issues of you young ones, so I asked Qin Mu to toast this glass, hoping you won't be dissatisfied. However, over the years, I've come to understand why Yichen insisted on marrying Qin Mu, so I didn't say anything when Xiaoqing returned home and was whisked away by you all the same night. Just one point, you two better behave properly; if any scandal comes out, don't blame this ill-tempered old man for turning against you."

The old master of the Jing Family wasn't indifferent to his granddaughter's feelings, merely feeling powerless about certain matters. Moreover, he saw clearly who loved whom and who was superfluous among the three. That's why he chose to speak these words tonight.

Mu Yichen slightly lifted his eyes, only to look at his wine glass.

Regarding sending Jing Qing away quietly last time, Mu Yichen felt rather calm. He admitted indeed pressing his brothers to send Jing Qing on the plane, just like his mother once arranged for someone to ensure Qin Mu boarded the plane to Paris.

"We'll be fine together!"

Qin Mu immediately declared.

Mu Yichen then turned to look at her, seeing her sincerity. He remained silent once more, merely sitting beside her as if nothing was amiss.

"Mu Yichen, you brat, you should also make a statement!"

The old master of the Jing Family addressed Mu Yichen.

Only then did Mu Yichen raise his gaze towards the old master, instantly softening his sharp eyes. Under everyone's watch, he smiled lightly and said in a bland voice: "Can't say about scandals, but definitely won't have anyone else in this lifetime."

Qin Mu turned to look at him, quite upset.

What does he mean by can't say about scandals?

Helian Hao pursed her lips, almost bursting into laughter. She truly admired Mu Yichen's temperament profoundly, unable to achieve Jing Feng's calm demeanor at all times.

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"Hmph! Just keep being arrogant! But if Mumu suffers again, I'll be the first one to not forgive you."

The old man of the Mu Family listened for a while and snorted to remind Mu Yichen.

Qin Mu couldn't help but chuckle, and the atmosphere suddenly became somewhat lively.

Mu Yichen was at a loss with these two old men. If it were a battle, he could come up with some ideas, but at a family dinner table, he really had no words to say and had to remain silent.

"This girl's temper is no better. I'm just thankful if my son doesn't suffer. Xiaohao, you're close to Mumu, you know her bad temper, right?"

Feng Fanghua rarely spoke up for her son, which hadn't happened in a long time.

Both Mu Yichen and Qin Mu looked at her in surprise.

Helian Hao was a bit nervous, not knowing why she was suddenly mentioned, then smiled and said, "Yes, Mumu's temper is indeed terrible."

Qin Mu: "..."

"Ever since this girl came to Rongcheng, hasn't she stirred up our Mu Family like crazy? But now, since we're all one family, we won't say anything about you."

Feng Fanghua continued speaking, her gaze turning affectionate.

Qin Mu knew that Feng Fanghua just wanted to create a sense of balance in front of the elders of both families, so she didn't argue back.

"Actually, Mumu has a good personality; she's very lively, also very steady, and her career is doing well."

It was Helian Hao's mother-in-law who suddenly tenderly praised Qin Mu.

She always looked at Qin Mu with a hint of guilt in her eyes. Qin Mu, of course, knew the reason, but she really hoped this look wouldn't continue.

Later, Qin Mu and Helian Hao went to the restroom together and ran into Rui Sen who was washing his hands. Rui Sen instinctively turned around when he heard their voices, then saw the two women laughing so happily, one of whom was the one he thought about day and night.

"Qinqin!"

Hearing that unfamiliar voice calling her Qinqin, Qin Mu couldn't help but lift her eyes, and when she saw Rui Sen, she was startled: "Rui Sen, —my friend Helian Hao."

A bit awkward, but she introduced them anyway.

Helian Hao gently shook his hand, then said in fluent English, "You better not get too close to 'Qinqin,' her husband is known for being a jealous man in Rongcheng."

Qin Mu was still smiling, but it had become a bit stiff. She kicked Helian Hao lightly with her foot, and Helian Hao dodged effortlessly.

Rui Sen couldn't help but laugh, then asked, "Is your husband the man who kept visiting you during college?"

Rui Sen remembered Mu Yichen, although the memory was already fuzzy.

Qin Mu nodded: "Yes!"

Rui Sen lowered his head, slightly embarrassed: "Am I not supposed to be here?"

He remembered how awful that man's reputation was at their school, but basically, Mu Yichen was very cold and hard to get along with.

"No!"

Qin Mu had to answer like this, what else could she say?

"That's good! I'll leave soon! But I still hope we can have a meal together sometime, and you can bring friends!"

Rui Sen said, glancing at Helian Hao.

"Sure! I'd love to!"

Helian Hao found Rui Sen to be a nice person, so she agreed.

Qin Mu grinned, wanting to smile, but it was really forced.

In fact, meeting old classmates and having a meal to show hospitality is quite normal, but Qin Mu felt their family's situation was special, yet somehow Dr. Hao accepted so readily for her.

Qin Mu was thinking about how she should explain to Mu Yichen at that time? Or how to explain to Mu Yichen?

When leaving, Helian Hao shook hands with him again, but it happened to be seen by Jing Feng. As soon as Helian Hao walked out of the restroom, she saw Jing Feng staring at her with dark eyes, as if thinking about what crime she had committed.

But Helian Hao was particularly calm as she walked past him, even asking, "Why that expression? Shouldn't a friend's friend be treated well?"

Jing Feng said nothing, just frowned and lowered his head.

"You and Mu Yichen really want to embarrass the men of Rongcheng? Can't you be as gentlemanly as those men from Paris just once?"

Jing Feng...

Even Mu Yichen, who was outside smoking, heard those words and couldn't help but furrow his brow. When did he become the example of the opposite for Rongcheng men?

The corridor was dim, but it couldn't compare to the depth of the man's eyes.

Qin Mu kept her head down, pretending not to see Mu Yichen's displeased look, and followed Helian Hao back to hear the grandfathers talk about the past. They loved hearing the grandfathers talk about their youthful exploits, or anything they liked to mention. Even Feng Fanghua and Mrs. Jing, who had heard them hundreds of times, listened quietly all the way through.

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Mu Zihao and Jing Xianzong occasionally whispered a few words to each other, leisurely sipping their drinks.

That night everyone returned home late. After Qin Mu got home, she first went to the children's room to check on them. Huanhuan had a scab on her nose, which looked a bit awkward, making Qin Mu feel super heartbroken.

When she returned to her own room, she turned her head and suddenly saw Mu's figure appear. Those sharp, unemotional features seemed to imprint deeply on her heart like a stamp.

"Didn't you forget? Hm?"

"I remembered again!"

"Remembered again? What is he here for? Don't tell me he's here to help Bian Jingwen design fashion, otherwise, why would he be flirting with you?"

Qin Mu looked at him sadly, her chin pinched slightly painfully by him: "Mu Yichen, he really is here to help Bian Jingwen. He's hiking buddies with Bian Jingwen's boyfriend."

"He genuinely didn't know I came to Rongcheng for work before, I guarantee."

Qin Mu looked at his tightly furrowed brow and immediately added another explanation.

"Are you still confident about winning? That competition?"

"Yes! It's been many years since I competed, a little sparring wouldn't hurt."

Qin Mu agreed.

Mu Yichen saw her confidence and was only displeased. Regardless of winning or losing, that man definitely wouldn't be upset, but he wouldn't be like that, he would be very angry.

"Stay away from him."

Mu Yichen ordered quietly.

Qin Mu, frightened, felt a tightness in her chest: "Okay!"

"Xiaohao agreed to have lunch with Rui Sen tomorrow noon, the three of us together."

Her voice was particularly small, and as she spoke, she looked cautiously at Mu Yichen.

"No way!"

Two cold words, and he wouldn't let her say another word to him.

——

The next morning she checked Weibo, and then saw a post about herself on Weibo.

A boy with the Weibo handle Guagua posted a Weibo where she and Rui Sen were talking in a hotel. This Weibo was bumped up only this morning. Qin Mu glanced at the comments below and saw they had reached over ten thousand, scaring her into taking a sharp intake of breath.

No wonder it went viral on Weibo; apparently, there was no use of Mrs. Mu or Qin Mu's name, but instead, X surname female celebrity.

Qin Mu didn't look at the comments, she just casually put down her phone, turned over, and lay on her back on the bed, staring at the ceiling lamp with eyes just awakened from sleep.

This boy called Guagua should know her situation very well; otherwise, he wouldn't have been able to take such precise photos.

Qin Mu didn't know who spread this, because she's never heard of so many paparazzi names. Was she being followed by paparazzi?

But it seemed impossible. She was Mrs. Mu, Mu Yichen had already given the media a heads-up, prohibiting them from posting unauthorized news.

So, could this Guagua be someone else?

Qin Mu turned her head, found her phone, and opened it. Looking at Guagua's profile, the displayed information was pitifully sparse.

Suddenly, she felt completely puzzled.

At half-past eleven in the morning, she got ready, dressed appropriately, and with her long hair down, left the house driving towards AM.

At the hotel, she drove straight to the parking lot, then walked in from a different door.

Unexpectedly, she still ran into Bian Jingwen. Bian Jingwen was very pleased to see her: "Rui Sen invited me to have lunch together. I heard you were bringing Miss Helian? But it seems you came alone."

"Why think so much? If you have time, better think more about how to beat me."

Qin Mu said, then walked ahead.

In the elevator, Qin Mu stood inside, Bian Jingwen stood in front of her. When her phone rang, Bian Jingwen looked down and took her phone out of her bag but immediately rejected the call after one glance.

Qin Mu only subconsciously looked with downturned eyes.

In the silent elevator, a phone rang again, of course, it was still Bian Jingwen's phone.

And it was from the same number, Bian Jingwen had no choice but to take out her phone, but she didn't answer.

Qin Mu stood behind her, feeling her back trembling.

Who could be calling?

Why would they make the consistently composed, pretentious Bian Jingwen tremble?

Later, Bian Jingwen directly turned off her phone, because it kept ringing and rang to the point that she wanted to throw it away.

After the elevator opened, Qin Mu bowed her head and walked out from her side first. Bian Jingwen clutched her phone tightly as she watched Qin Mu's back. After exiting the elevator, instead of following Qin Mu, she walked in another direction with her phone.