

His Beloved 1091

Chapter 1091: At that time, there was already someone else in their heart.

Qin Mu came out and saw Mu Yichen sitting on the sofa, looking at her phone, very much at ease.

"Mr. Mu, you're snooping on my phone again!"

Qin Mu noticed his expression was slightly serious and shifted her gaze away from his face. When she looked at her phone screen, he was just reading her chat history with Rui Sen on WeChat.

Actually, Qin Mu had nothing to hide since she hadn't done anything unspeakable.

Moreover, she saw a picture of his aloof side profile; why would he be upset?

"You're just looking at this? Why are you unhappy?"

Qin Mu looked at him, her curious eyes shifting slightly, but she didn't dare to joke with him.

Mu Yichen looked at her: "Just now Rui Sen sent you a message asking why you didn't agree to him back then. How do you plan to respond?"

"Um..."

It was Qin Mu, who couldn't help furrowing her brows.

For a moment, she didn't know how to answer Mu Yichen.

"Difficult to answer?"

Mu Yichen's deep voice asked her slowly.

Qin Mu suddenly felt her throat tighten. Mr. Mu was angry because of Rui Sen's message.

"I'll just tell him I have no feelings for him!"

Qin Mu thought for a bit and quickly said this before he got angry.

"Really?"

Mu Yichen's expression was ambiguous, his deep gaze unfathomable, making Qin Mu uneasy.

"Yes! I never did!"

Qin Mu nodded slightly, her brows still furrowed, because Mu Yichen's expression showed that he wasn't satisfied with this answer.

What does he want then?

"Good that you don't!"

Mu Yichen suddenly said.

Qin Mu didn't feel a trace of security.

"Mu Yichen, what are you thinking again?"

Qin Mu couldn't help but ask him, staring at him with unwavering eyes.

The white light was blocked by him, and when Qin Mu looked into his dark eyes, his candor made him angry.

"I'm thinking, how could Mrs. Mu be so foolish?"

Mu Yichen asked her quietly.

Foolish?

"Mu Yichen, we've been together for so many years, and you still have no trust in me?"

Qin Mu was a bit angry!

"Of course I have!"

Mu Yichen confidently and deeply responded to her.

Qin Mu felt as if the air in the room had frozen, making her shoulders feel a little sore from the cold.

"Then why are you acting like this? As if I've done something unspeakable!"

"Is my expression saying you've done something unspeakable?"

Mu Yichen couldn't help but ask curiously.

Qin Mu...

Finally, he spoke with some tone in his voice.

"Think whatever you want then!"

Qin Mu turned her head, unwilling to confront him.

Mu Yichen raised his hand to pinch her chin, forcing her to face him.

Qin Mu felt tears almost come out from the pain, looking at him while holding back her anger.

"Getting so easily upset now?"

Mu Yichen asked.

"I wouldn't dare get angry with Mr. Mu!"

Qin Mu stubbornly told him as she angrily clawed at his hand, but she couldn't move it away, so her nails dug into the flesh on the back of his hand.

Mu Yichen remained still, not saying a word, but his brow was full of annoyance.

Qin Mu sensed his anger, and then she became angry too.

So the two of them were in a stalemate for quite a while.

Later, Qin Mu heard the sound of him slamming the door as he left.

How long had it been since he last did that?

Everything had been fine all day today, but then suddenly...

Qin Mu struggled to sit up from the bed, her delicate hands running through her soft hair, hugging herself.

Feng Fanghua had just finished applying a face mask and was about to make a cup of honey water. She stood at the top of the stairs and saw her son going out, frowning involuntarily, then looked towards their room.

Thinking that the couple had been sweet like honey today and their life was back on the right track, she refrained from letting herself think they were quarrelling. She just assumed that Mu Yichen went out so late to buy something for Qin Mu.

She hadn't expected that they were indeed fighting.

Feng Fanghua returned to the room with the honey water and said to Mu Zihao, who was already preparing to sleep: "Yichen just went out!"

"Oh? Went to drink with his buddies, maybe? But he hasn't gone out this late alone for a long time."

Mu Zihao seemed a bit doubtful.

Feng Fanghua sat by the bed with the cup in her hands, her brows furrowing.

"Why do I feel like they were arguing, but they were fine all day."

Feng Fanghua spoke to Mu Zihao, but it was as if she was talking to herself.

"They must not have been arguing. Maybe he was called out for a drink. It has been a series of happy events for those kids lately, or maybe he went out to buy something for Mumu."

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"Yeah! It should be!"

Feng Fanghua thought and thought again, as if comforting herself, she responded.

"Let's sleep! It's so late! We can't compare to the young ones!"

Mu Zihao said to Feng Fanghua, then turned over towards her and closed his eyes.

Feng Fanghua turned to look at him and couldn't help muttering, "You really have a big heart!"

Mu Zihao just chuckled without answering her.

Feng Fanghua drank some water and was ready to sleep too.

Later, near midnight, Mu Yichen still hadn't come back, and his phone wasn't with him. Qin Mu was a bit worried.

After a while, remembering that Mu Yichen said Rui Sen sent her a WeChat message, she got off the bed to fetch her phone from the sofa.

She didn't return to bed, but leaned against the sofa's armrest, hugging her knees, and then looked at the WeChat messages and replied to Rui Sen: "Rui Sen! At that time, my heart already belonged to someone else!"

After thinking for a moment, she sent another message to Rui Sen: "Rui Sen, unless something unexpected happens, let's not contact each other anymore! Good luck!"

The sky looked gloomy as Qin Mu sat there on the sofa hugging herself, looking at the window, it felt so cold and desolate outside, and she didn't know where he had gone.

She had this impulse to call someone from AM, thinking he might have gone there to drink with Jiang Zhiyuan and the others, or maybe he returned to the apartment.

But this temper was just too big.

Between them, she thought there were no issues left.

Even when she and Rui Sen had been on Weibo together, he hadn't gotten mad at her, and now suddenly...

But just when she was puzzled, he returned.

Qin Mu was about to go to bed, then saw him come back carrying a bag.

She actually smelled the aroma of roasted sweet potatoes, and it suddenly made her feel hungry.

But she was full of pride, so she decided not to eat.

"Really not going to eat!"

Mu Yichen stood beside her, making her so angry that she turned her head away to face him.

Mu Yichen then picked up a spoon and started eating: "Weren't you supposed to tell him you've already fallen in love with me?"

Then, like casually chatting, he reminded her.

Qin Mu was so angry she almost exploded, such a small matter, couldn't he just say it outright? And wasn't he the one who had used her phone to send WeChat messages to other men before, doing unpleasant things? And now he was playing the deep thinker here.

Infuriating!

"If you don't eat, I'll finish it! I went out for a walk to avoid arguing with you, and specially bought the roasted sweet potato you like to eat."

"You bought this for me to eat?"

That little woman's temper tantrum made her particularly endearing.

Mu Yichen couldn't help but laugh: "I bought two!"

Later she tucked her legs up on the sofa and ate the roasted sweet potato. As she watched him sit down, she looked up and ordered fiercely, "Go pour me a cup of water!"

Mu Yichen glanced at her, knowing it wasn't the time to upset her, so he obediently went to get her some water, leaving the half-eaten roasted sweet potato on the coffee table before leaving.

Qin Mu pouted, feeling like she'd laugh if she didn't act tough.

Bullying Mr. Mu, it was truly one of life's greatest joys for her!

But it seemed that bullying her was also one of Mr. Mu's greatest joys in life!

When Mu Yichen returned, his roasted sweet potato had been eaten.

Qin Mu had only two bites left, then she ate slowly, utterly satisfied.

Mu Yichen stood next to her, watching her, and chuckled: "Is it tasty?"

"Eh, it's okay!"

Qin Mu didn't really want to give him any face.

"Yeah! That's why you finished mine too! If it was really good, you'd probably even eat the sweet potato skins, right?"

Qin Mu...

Mu Yichen's dark eyes were full of patience for her, even though his tone was always teasing her.

Mu Yichen stood beside her, somewhat unwilling as he handed her the water.

Qin Mu huffed, "You have the guts not to come home tonight!"

But if he really didn't come home, Qin Mu decided she wouldn't talk to him for at least a week.

So he, in a fit of anger, drove around aimlessly outside until he met an old man selling roasted sweet potatoes. He slowly parked the car, calming down from his anger, and started reflecting instead.

The old man praised him as he was weighing the sweet potatoes: "Young man, coming so late in a luxury car to buy roasted sweet potatoes for your wife, she must really love you! Good job!"

For the first time, Mu Yichen felt a bit embarrassed by the praise, and after taking out a hundred yuan from his wallet, he told the old man, "Keep the change!"

"A fair deal is a fair deal. If you're giving me more because I'm old and it's late, or because of what I just said, I'll be upset. I earn my living on skill! If you think my sweet potatoes are good, just come back and buy next time!"

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Mu Yichen couldn't help but laugh and said to him, "Actually, I just had a fight with my wife!"

The old man was taken aback, but quickly said to him, "Then hurry home! She ate my roasted sweet potato, even the biggest temper can be cooled!"

Mu Yichen believed him, so he brought the roasted sweet potato home.

Now, he had only one thought, since she enjoyed the roasted sweet potato so much, he should just buy it for her again in the future.

"Did you reply to that guy's WeChat?"

"No!"

Qin Mu thought, why should I tell you? You were already angry and stormed out of the house. Do I still need to tell you what I replied to someone on WeChat?

——

The next morning, Feng Fanghua woke up first, and as soon as Qin Mu came downstairs, Feng Fanghua called her into the sofa: "Did you two argue again late last night?"

"No, no!"

Qin Mu got nervous and stuttered a bit.

"No? Then why are you so nervous?"

"No, my throat is a bit hoarse!"

Qin Mu lowered her head, speaking as she raised her hand to rub her throat.

"So if you didn't fight, where did he go last night?"

Qin Mu had no choice but to answer truthfully.

"Roasted sweet potato? Did he go out in the middle of the night to buy you roasted sweet potato? In the cold winter?"

"Yes!"

"How did it taste?"

Qin Mu couldn't resist raising her eyes and gently looked at her mother-in-law.

"If it tasted good, let's have him go buy some more tonight, and we'll all eat together!"

Qin Mu...

"Okay!"

It tasted good! It's fine to go buy more tonight!

So, today Mr. Mu has a new task, which is to help everyone buy roasted sweet potatoes. But he's a grown man and he has to go buy roasted sweet potatoes after work.

— —

After arriving at work in the morning, Qiao Yi went to Mu Yichen's office: "Give my wife maternity leave!"

Mu Yichen lifted his eyes, saw him standing there seriously, as if not granting the maternity leave would be unacceptable.

"Doesn't the company have clear regulations on maternity leave? It will be granted naturally when the time comes!"

Mu Yichen said casually, leaning back in his chair, playing with a pen Qin Mu had given him.

"Mu Yichen, we're brothers, a brother's wife is obviously different from others, let her have it now!"

"You know Xi Meng's pregnancy was originally unexpected, if she suddenly resigns or requests maternity leave, it will affect my upcoming work."

"Isn't there someone else? If you're not assured, I'll replace her."

Qiao Yi said, looking at Xi Meng who has been feeling pretty sick these days, and couldn't help but feel worried.

"Then suit yourself!"

Mu Yichen is quite lenient toward pregnant women. After all, someone in his own family has been pregnant.

"Thanks a lot! A true good brother!"

Qiao Yi immediately smiled excitedly.

"I didn't plan to start my maternity leave now!"

Xi Meng suddenly pushed the door open, carrying documents to Mu Yichen's desk and placed them down, then very formally said to Mu Yichen, "I decided to follow the company's rules for maternity leave, please boss, do not arbitrarily approve maternity leave."

Mu Yichen glanced at Xi Meng, then slightly tilted his head to look at the man behind Xi Meng.

"What are you up to? You're feeling unwell all the time now and still want to work? Our family doesn't lack that little money, you..."

"This has nothing to do with money, it's just that if I don't work, what do I do at home except for gaining weight."

Xi Meng raised her eyes to confront the man who was holding her.

Qiao Yi...

Mu Yichen slightly lowered his gaze, he had long guessed Xi Meng wouldn't agree to start her leave so early, what kind of person is Xi Meng? Qiao Yi, as her husband, still doesn't know well enough.

"But you're uncomfortable now, the doctor said you'd better rest at home."

"I'm not exhausted here! Since the other day, the boss has shared most of my work with the assistant, now I just sit there and look at documents."

Xi Meng had to explain to him.

"Really?" Qiao Yi turned his eyes toward Mu Yichen.

Mu Yichen smiled lightly without speaking, thinking you brats really don't trust your brother enough, it seems I've been too kind.

"Otherwise, should I arrange some work for Secretary Xi? Actually, pregnant women sitting all day is really bad for the fetus."

As someone experienced, Mr. Mu once again showcased his specialty.

"I think it's possible!"

"No way!"

As Xi Meng agreed, Qiao Yi had already refused.

Mu Yichen slightly raised an eyebrow: "Alright! There's a meeting later, if you two have no more issues with this matter, hurry up and get back to work, okay?"

"Alright!"

Xi Meng immediately walked out.

However, Qiao Yi didn't leave, he looked at Xi Meng walking away then ran to the front of his desk, placed his hands on the edge of his desk, suddenly smiled: "Yichen, take good care of her, we're all family!"

"Yes! We're all family, so you'd better do a good job for me!"

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"No problem, you take good care of Xi Meng, I definitely won't let you down."

Qiao Yi used to be such a proud guy, and now he's so easy-going.

After Qiao Yi left, Mu Yichen resumed working seriously, but he was still surprised by Qiao Yi's transformation.

The brothers probably never imagined there'd be a day like this, where Qiao Yi would change so much and genuinely learn to care for someone.

Before noon, Qiao Yi bought some sour plums for Xi Meng and placed them in the drawer. Xi Meng watched him arrange the sour plums, casually took a bag, opened it, pulled out a small packet, and then put one in her mouth, feeling it was quite nice.

But seeing him arrange them so neatly, she was somehow at a loss for words.

She'd been to his apartment once, and though it wasn't unpresentable, it really wasn't all that good-looking either.

But now...

"If you feel unwell, just eat one, and if you're hungry, call me immediately. I'll have AM's kitchen keep snacks ready for you at all times. Just tell me whatever you want to eat."

After Qiao Yi finished, he closed the drawer, stood up, and looked at her with a very serious expression.

Xi Meng slowly chewed the sour plum. It had a pit, but she couldn't spit it out right now, so she just nodded.

"Also! Mom and Dad called again urging us to go stay at their place. Honey, why don't we go stay with them?"

Qiao Yi was a bit worried about not taking good care of her, gripping her hands, asking her very gently.

Xi Meng just stared at him blankly, unable to say a word.

The little assistant next to them was already shocked, she'd never seen this side of Qiao Tezhu.

There was no other girl in Qiao Yi's eyes now, he only looked at Xi Meng, and since the moment they got the marriage license, there's been no one else for him.

Yet, he hadn't realized this himself.

Xi Meng just looked at him awkwardly, and after a moment, helplessly nodded her head.

"Really? You're the best!"

The little assistant was dumbstruck, and Xi Meng was also stunned.

"It's a bit sour! I have some things to take care of first; we'll go to my parent's place tonight. They know better how to take care of a pregnant woman than I do."

Qiao Yi left, reluctant to part.

After he left, Xi Meng was in a daze for two seconds, and once he entered the elevator, she quickly took out a tissue to spit out the plum pit.

"Sister Xi Meng, that was our Qiao Tezhu, right? I didn't see wrong, did I?"

"I think so!"

Xi Meng glanced at her, then looked towards the elevator, thinking she wasn't entirely sure herself, this side of Qiao Tezhu was truly startling.

In the afternoon, Xi Meng and Qiao Yi's luggage were moved from Xi Meng's apartment to the Qiao Family's place.

After returning home, Xi Meng glanced around the empty house, blinking unconsciously, and Qiao Yi asked: "What's wrong?"

"Did our house get robbed?"

Xi Meng turned her head slowly to look at him.

Qiao Yi lifted his gaze to look inside, then called his parents.

"It was my mom and dad who had someone come over."

"But, how did they know our house password?"

Xi Meng was incredulous, unable to come to terms for a long time.

"Well... I think I might have said it once accidentally."

Qiao Yi lowered his eyebrows, thought for a moment, and told her.

Xi Meng...

——

After work, Mu Yichen went to find Qin Mu, and then...

Jian Yan had arranged to have dinner with friends at AM in the evening, so Qin Mu also accompanied him.

Mu Yichen then called home: "I'm eating out!"

"Your mom reminded you two not to forget to get her baked sweet potatoes!"

Mu Zihao responded simply.

"Got it!"

Mu Yichen actually felt a bit down; his beloved Mrs. Feng was only thinking about baked sweet potatoes.

"You know these two!"

Jian Yan introduced two designers to Qin Mu in the private room but didn't introduce the other two.

"Yes! We worked together in Paris!"

Qin Mu smiled, nodded and greeted, "Long time no see!"

The two enthusiastically greeted Qin Mu back, just when they were chatting and laughing, someone knocked on the door from outside.

A handsome guy went to open the door, thinking it was a waiter delivering dishes, but upon seeing President Mu in a suit, he wasn't too happy: "You are?"

"Qin Miss's husband!"

Hearing the voice speaking Chinese, Qin Mu had to stand up and walk over: "What brings you here?"

"Just happened to have business here and heard you guys were dining here, so I thought I'd join for a meal! Hope I'm not interrupting?"

Mu Yichen glanced inside as he said the last part, looking at Jian Yan.

Since AD was also there, Mu Yichen felt better.

"Not at all! Qin Mu, please let President Mu in!"

Jian Yan said calmly, thinking it was just right to have someone to pick up the tab.

AD keenly noticed the flash of bitterness in Jian Yan's eyes but couldn't help grinning.

In this world, who has love spared, and who has walked away unscathed?

Mu Yichen didn't stand on ceremony, coming in to sit down, sitting between Qin Mu and him.

Qin Mu glanced at Mu Yichen, wondering what he was up to, but found herself unable to suppress a smile.

Mu Yichen looked down at her: "Smiling so happily now."

Mu Yichen then ignored her, turning to greet AD.

Qin Mu felt somewhat played, but with so many designers around, she couldn't bicker with him, so she whispered to those she was familiar with: "My husband is here to pay the bill for us."

Upon hearing this, everyone immediately brightened up. Though Jian Yan was hosting, they felt a bit guilty asking him to foot the bill, and none of them wanted to shell out on their own. Mu Yichen's timely appearance made everyone happy.

Mu Yichen heard Qin Mu scheming against him: "Mrs. Mu, look back!"

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"Huh? What's the matter, Mr. Mu?"

Qin Mu looked at him with a cheerful smile, fully cooperating.

Mu Yichen's exquisitely defined features showed a smile, but in those deep eyes, Qin Mu felt a chill.

"Why didn't you call me when you came for dinner?"

"Because I forgot my phone at the studio!"

Mu Yichen ignored what those so-called designers might think, only giving a faint smile that didn't reach his eyes, and asked her softly.

Qin Mu lowered her gaze nervously, and after listening, she answered him quite honestly.

Mu Yichen slowly moved away from her, and the darkness in his lowered eyes finally faded.

Qin Mu looked up at him: "Everything I said is true, otherwise you can call!"

Mu Yichen didn't need to make a call because he believed her!

A woman who is very serious at work can be somewhat inept in life.

Like she still can't make a decent meal even now.

AD whispered something to Jian Yan, whose composed demeanor flashed a hint of disappointment, but then he smiled lightly and turned to AD saying: "I'm fine!"

Actually, AD wasn't intentionally trying to belittle him, just couldn't tolerate his willing acceptance of the couple's teasing.

"Sorry! I have something to attend to, I'll leave first!"

Soon AD picked up her bag, bidding farewell in perfect English.

Due to her status, the other designers all stood to see her off, but she smiled and told them not to be so formal, then raised her head and walked away briskly.

Mu Yichen and Qin Mu both turned to look at Jian Yan, naturally, their expressions were one of genuine concern, the other feigned.

"Let me propose a toast! Thank you all for coming here to dine with me! Tonight's bill is on me!"

Mu Yichen later became generous, although whether he liked it or not, Qin Mu and Jian Yan had already planned to pin this on him.

"In the future, when working together, please bear with my wife's temper; she's not the most patient!"

Mu Yichen added, so composed, so understanding and thoughtful.

However, Qin Mu felt a bit embarrassed: "My husband is just joking!"

"If we're talking about temper, Mr. Mu can claim second; who dares claim first?"

Jian Yan couldn't help but stand up for his protégé.

Everyone gasped in surprise, but Mu Yichen just chuckled: "Not entirely untrue! That's why your protégé was trained so well by me!"

Mu Yichen said and turned to look at Qin Mu, smiling warmly.

"Can we just enjoy our meal? Aren't you here for a free dinner?"

Qin Mu said, placing a large shrimp onto Mu Yichen's plate: "Hurry up and peel it and eat!"

"Mrs. Mu is so considerate, giving me the best shrimp to eat!"

Mu Yichen smiled, removing his hand from her hair, still composed, though he surely noticed the sharp vexation in Qin Mu's eyes.

"Hurry and eat!"

Qin Mu smiled, her expression full of love for him.

"Mrs. Mu and Qin Qin really get along well!"

Designer A smiled and said, their eyes full of admiration for the couple.

"Yes! Actually, we've also heard about the two of you in Paris and we're quite envious!"

Designer B chimed in.

"Aren't you all a bit jealous?"

Jian Yan couldn't bear it any longer.

Mu Yichen chuckled, then tilted his head, looking at his wife.

However, Qin Mu ignored him completely: "Our relationship isn't that good, I'm just after his money."

Mr. Mu laughed even more heartily upon hearing this.

A few designers felt a bit awkward, not sure what to say.

"But Mr. Mu doesn't care why I'm with him, right Mr. Mu?"

Mu Yichen was already earnestly peeling the shrimp, realizing he had angered Mrs. Mu.

"What?"

Mu Yichen glanced back at her briefly.

"Nothing! I said you love me very much!"

Qin Mu smiled slightly.

"Indeed!"

Mu Yichen placed the peeled shrimp into Qin Mu's bowl, speaking two very sincere words.

Qin Mu was irritated with him; when she mentioned it earlier, he seemed not to hear, but now he had perfect hearing.

After the meal, everyone went upstairs to rest; Qin Mu turned to look at Jian Yan: "You should rest early!"

"Hmm! You two be careful on your way back!"

Jian Yan nodded.

"Alright!"

"Who said we were leaving?"

Mu Yichen said cheerfully to Jian Yan, clearly asserting dominance.

Jian Yan glanced at him, then smiled: "Alright, let's go upstairs together then!"

Qin Mu watched Jian Yan walk towards the elevator, raised her hand to push Mu Yichen's shoulder firmly, but he didn't budge.

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There were only three people in the elevator, Mu Yichen stood behind Jian Yan with a childish demeanor alongside Qin Mu.

Jian Yan originally looked ahead, but upon seeing the reflection of the two behind him on the elevator wall, he lowered his gaze.

He wanted to go upstairs to sleep, but Qin Mu didn't let him have his way. When the elevator opened, Mu Yichen got out while Qin Mu stood inside motionless and pressed the close door button forcefully.

Mu Yichen turned around, noticing her big unyielding eyes glaring at him.

Mu Yichen's dark eyes were as cold as an iceberg, looking as if saying: Woman, you've gone too far!

Qin Mu arrived at the parking lot, walked briskly to her car, and immediately started the car upon getting in, leaving.

Thinking of Jian Yan, she sighed helplessly.

When she drove to the front of the house, she slowed down, but just as she returned home, Mu Yichen's car arrived back as well, and he entered the yard even faster than she did.

As if venting inner dissatisfaction.

After Qin Mu parked the car, Mu Yichen had already gotten out, slammed the car door forcefully, standing there waiting for her to approach.

Qin Mu parked but didn't want to get close to him, walking around him.

Mu Yichen with hands in pockets watched her walk inside, then looked down at his shiny black shoes: "Mrs. Mu, going in like that, the consequences will be severe."

Qin Mu thought how severe could it be; his means were nothing but in bed! Oh! Also possible in many places!

Qin Mu didn't take it seriously, thinking I'll go in and lock the door.

Then...

She hurried upstairs, locked the door, and after locking it, exhaled forcefully, thinking you might as well spend the night out there, calm down, reflect.

Mu Yichen went upstairs but didn't go to the bedroom, instead went directly to the study, opened the drawer of the desk where lay a brand-new key.

Mu Yichen's beautiful hand took the key out, raised an eyebrow, then went out carrying it.

The bedroom door was indeed locked as he expected, he casually inserted the key into the keyhole, then turned it.

Well! Door opened!

Mu Yichen pushed the door open and found no sign of her in the bedroom.

Mu Yichen raised his hand to tug forcefully at his tie.

Qin Mu was in good spirits playing soothing music.

Thinking at this late hour, even if he returns and finds the door locked, he wouldn't dare make a fuss, unless he intends to wake the elders and the children.

But she knew, Mu Yichen absolutely wouldn't do that.

What she didn't expect was, Mu Yichen had stored a spare key in the study.

But this was actually her fault, he's played the trick of using a key to open the door more than once or twice. She had once collected all the keys.

Ha ha! She was the one who put them back!

Mu Yichen only saw the key in the drawer once when he was retrieving something from the study, back then he was quite amused, shouldn't she have it hidden really well?

But afterwards, neither of them engaged in this childish game, so he didn't bother.

Who knew it would come in handy tonight!

— —

The next day, Helian Hao was at home resting, and invited Qin Mu over for lunch to have pasta, so Qin Mu went.

Helian Hao dished up the pasta onto plates, then opened the lid of the pot to check the soup inside.

"Hmm! Why did he say that?"

Helian Hao first laid mats on the dining table, then went inside to bring out the soup pot.

Qin Mu finally straightened up, helping.

"Jian Yan seemed to have said something stingy about him, then he started speaking perversely."

"I just knew there had to be a reason! He always sees Jian Yan as a love rival, how could he lose face in front of so many people."

"Only he is so obsessed with saving face!"

Qin Mu muttered.

But seeing the pasta on the table made her feel a bit better, it had been a while since she last had it, felt good.

"Ah! Anyway, both of you are stubborn enough, the most pitiful person should be Jian Yan, obviously having feelings for you but has to pretend he doesn't care, last night must have been quite tormenting for him; he originally has a stomach ailment."

Helian Hao took two small bowls, each for them, served the soup, then sat down and spoke to Qin Mu.

Thinking about Jian Yan's stomach ailment again made Qin Mu worried, silencing her suddenly.

"I was even thinking, why not introduce a girlfriend to Jian Yan, maybe he would feel better? There happened to be a good sister, nice personality too, but later I thought, what if it's not someone Jian Yan needs? If it brings trouble, it wouldn't be good, so I didn't mention it to you."

Qin Mu heard Helian Hao talking about introducing a sister to Jian Yan, sighed: "I've also thought of this, my mother-in-law mentioned it too, but I always felt he doesn't like me meddling in his love matters, Xiaomei liked him before, cared for him devotedly when he was ill, but he didn't even give her a second glance, Xiaomei's character and appearance are both good."

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"But if he likes your type, how could he possibly like a silly sweet girl like Xiaomei?"

Helian Hao asked her.

Silly sweet? Xiaomei?

"Then what type am I? A manipulative woman?"

Qin Mu's eyes twitched, feeling very dissatisfied with her good friend.

Helian Hao chuckled, "Manipulative? You're so naive and always get schemed against by others, yet you're called manipulative? You don't even qualify for that title."

Qin Mu...

Is this a compliment or an insult?

Why can't she tell the difference anymore?

"And your relationship with Jian Yan, is it just like this? Jian Yan will probably hold you in his heart for a lifetime; do you want him to or not?"

Qin Mu:...

"That's none of your business!"

Qin Mu:...

"And your relationship with Mu Yichen, is it also just like this? Do you want him to keep you in his heart forever? Anyway, he can't get you out of his heart by himself."

Qin Mu:...

Helian Hao's serious self-questioning and answering made Qin Mu feel a little uneasy. According to Helian Hao, she was a beneficiary in any case.

"Mumu, do you have any feelings for Jian Yan beyond the mentor-student relationship?"

Qin Mu:...

"Without Mu Yichen, I actually think Jian Yan is more suitable for you. Although he's a bit older, it's obvious he has a more tolerant heart and shares your interests. Like many famous people, there are quite a few mentor-student marriages. Honestly, if it weren't for seeing Mu Yichen clinging to you so pitifully for all these years, I'd want to pair you with Jian Yan!"

Helian Hao said leisurely while stirring the pasta on her plate with a fork.

Qin Mu was shocked by Helian Hao's words, looking at her in disbelief. How was she supposed to respond?

If Mu ever heard...

It might cause them to be separated forever.

"What? You've never thought about it? Being with Jian Yan?"

Helian Hao, seeing Qin Mu's expression, grew more curious about her thoughts.

Qin Mu couldn't help but smile slightly and shook her head lightly.

"How to think about it? From the beginning, when he was willing to teach me, I respected him like a father."

Qin Mu shrugged and explained.

Helian Hao:...

"You must have heard the saying 'Teacher for a day, father for life'?"

Qin Mu asked, seeing her stunned expression.

"But if every mentor-student thought like you, then how could there be so many mentor-student romances in the world?"

Helian Hao asked her.

"I don't know about that; I never thought about it!"

Qin Mu replied.

Even when people later told her Jian Yan had feelings for her beyond the mentor-student relationship, she never thought about it that way. How could it be possible between mentor and student?

A mentor is supposed to be more tolerant of their student, which is different from a romantic relationship.

"Maybe Mu Yi cast a spell on you long ago, making it impossible for you to love anyone else but him!"

Seeing Qin Mu like that, Helian Hao stopped doubting her words.

Qin Mu, although she didn't want to admit it, had to nod, "It's possible!"

From childhood to adulthood, handsome boys in front of her never moved her heart.

It seemed all those good boys never had her Yichen's face, so she always felt those boys weren't the ones she needed in her heart.

But Yichen...

At that time, he was right there by her side yet so out of reach.

Now, she's finally caught him, but still, he torments her to no end!

Sigh! That big jar of jealousy!

"If Mu Yichen saw you pining for him, unable to let go of any handsome guys, he'd probably get so excited he'd lose sleep again."

"Better not! Insomnia isn't good for your health!"

Qin Mu chuckled, feeling a bit excited and smug.

Helian Hao's gaze became a little annoyed with her, "Mumu, has anyone ever told you that when you talk about Mu Yichen, your emotions become very intense?"

"Really?"

Qin Mu thought about it, feeling a bit unsure.

But when Helian Hao said that, she thought carefully and realized it might be true.

Xiaomei always said she had a blank expression at work, and she didn't deny it! But when it came to talking about Mu, she wasn't like that at all.

"The most impregnable thing Mu Yichen has done in his life probably isn't his vast business empire, but you, this little woman."

The bad mood she came with became better after Helian Hao's random chatter.

It seemed quarrels were nothing; the most important thing was that deeply rooted emotions were unbreakable by anyone.

Chapter 1098: My husband is joking!

It was a fortress of bronze walls and iron barriers; no matter how cruel one was, there was no chance of knocking it down.

"How are things with Jing Feng? Suddenly moving to the apartment, weren't the elders in their family angry?"

Later, Qin Mu asked her.

"Strangely enough, this time when we came to live here, not a single person in the family opposed it. Although everyone was silent, nobody stopped us. Even the old man nodded and asked us to come home often for meals."

Qin Mu felt incredible upon hearing this.

The elder of the Jing Family used to be such a dominating person.

But now, he was surprisingly easy to talk to.

Maybe it was time!

Or perhaps he didn't truly want to be so domineering?

Qin Mu couldn't quite figure it out, but she always felt that such an elder was adorable.

Overly domineering people always make it difficult for others to approach and cause fear.

"This family is finally not as cold as before, Mumu, maybe you have contributed to this!"

Helian Hao suddenly looked at her with some flattery.

Qin Mu was startled and chuckled, "Don't flatter me, I wouldn't dare to take the credit."

"Truly! Actually, the family knows that you already know Jing Qing isn't dead, but you never made things difficult for her again. And compared to Jing Qing, the Jing Family used to treat you quite excessively, so maybe they feel ashamed, and thus changed how they interact."

Helian Hao said.

"That probably has to do with you as well. Despite Jing Qing treating you that way, you still gave the Jing Family such a cute little darling and tolerated the elders in many ways."

Qin Mu truly didn't dare to bow.

"Alright then! Maybe also!"

Helian Hao lowered her eyes, acknowledging, then drank the soup and said to Qin Mu, "Hmm! Quickly try this soup, it won't taste good when it gets cold!"

"Alright!"

Qin Mu nodded and drank the soup!

"I have to say, your cooking skills are indeed impressive!"

Qin Mu praised sincerely after having a sip.

"Can't compare with others, but with Mrs. Mu, I truly dare to admit my cooking is excellent."

Helian Hao said without modesty.

"Just you and Mu Yichen always love to mock my cooking being bad."

Qin Mu couldn't help but complain, though she understood that in Rongcheng, these two were the most special to her.

In the afternoon, Qin Mu returned to the studio and met Jian Yan, calling seriously, "Good afternoon, Master!"

Jian Yan was walking upstairs, and upon hearing her greeting, glanced back at her, but Qin Mu only smiled at him and followed behind.

Jian Yan didn't quite accept this sudden 'Master' and didn't ask why she suddenly called him that again.

He just stopped in his tracks upon opening the office door and seeing a large bouquet of lilies on the desk.

Jian Yan curiously glanced at it and involuntarily frowned, "What's wrong with Mu Yichen lately?"

Qin Mu...

What else could it be? He was just upset that Jian Yan had been around too long and annoyed about her having meals with other men!

"One might say he's already thirty, yet with no change from back then."

Jian Yan muttered with a hint of disappointment, walking toward his office.

Qin Mu...

Stood at the doorway, watching his silhouette as he entered the office, involuntarily pondering; concerning Mu's unchanging temperament over the decades, she was indeed frustrated, perhaps the entire Mu Family felt the same frustration, yet nobody could do anything about him.

But she didn't want to lose him because of it.

Suddenly couldn't help but lower her head and smile, then raised it, her sharp eyes fixed on the flowers on the desk.

Qin Mu walked in, looked at the card among the flowers, reached out to pick it up and view it— it wasn't Mu Yichen.

It's Li Yu, Li Yu is back! Returning and immediately sending her flowers, wanting to invite her for dinner.

Qin Mu thought about it, sighed, then took out her phone and sent Li Yu a WeChat message: "Busy tonight, decline dinner!"

Li Yu was still in his studio office, and after receiving Qin Mu's message, merely chuckled lightly, thinking she would refuse him, but he believed she should at least make a call; unexpectedly, just a WeChat message brushed him off.

"Pretty lady, at least make a call; isn't that more respectful?"

Li Yu sent her a voice message.

Upon hearing it, Qin Mu replied with, "The man at home is watching closely!"

Chapter 1099: Mu's Family Motto

Li Yu was so furious at her brief explanation that he almost spat blood.

"I just wanted to thank them for sponsoring the clothes."

Li Yu sent her a message this time, not using voice.

Qin Mu thought, I still don't know why you? It's just that no matter why, she couldn't go. Her body couldn't take it anymore. As for Mr. Mu getting mad whenever she meets with other men, her legs and waist still hurt.

"Then it's even less necessary! Our brand still relies on the handsome Li and beautiful Wen! When there's time, Mr. Mu and I should invite both of you for dinner!"

After seeing her WeChat message, Li Yu had no more excuses to ask her out, but that was fine, such matters were quite exhausting.

As soon as Li Yu lightly placed his phone on the office desk, the door was pushed open from the outside: "Going to AM for dinner tonight?"

"No! Meeting with some brothers at a food stall!"

Li Yu glanced up, showing complete indifference to Li Man's invitation.

Li Man had expected to be rejected, so it didn't matter. She just shrugged: "Then I'll ask someone else!"

Li Yu said nothing. Seeing his eyes so displeased with her, Li Man left again.

Actually, no one knew Li Man better than Li Yu, but a sister is a sister; he could never have other thoughts about her. Even if he could tolerate her terrible temper, and even if she held her own among those artists, the two were destined to only be siblings.

But whom did she want to ask out?

Li Yu suddenly thought of Qin Mu.

Qin Mu rejected his invitation; would she accept Li Man's?

Li Yu raised his hand, the sexy fingers gently caressing his lips, his brow slightly furrowed, seriously contemplating.

But in fact, Li Man didn't invite Qin Mu but went alone to the bar to get drunk.

Sometimes, she just wanted to drink alone and see these people living in a state of drunken stupor in the night.

Li Yu's eyes, to Li Man, were like a blade.

Even if Li Yu casually smiled at her, she'd be happy for a long time. However, such an expression from him was rare. Most of the time, Li Yu wore a cold face, and his eyes toward her were emotionless. Sometimes she even felt he was particularly averse to her being around.

It's just that she didn't know why, the more she looked, her head went blank, and then tears flowed uncontrollably.

Later Li Man hid in the bathroom to cry for a while, then stepped out and started smoking. Jiang Zhiyuan happened to come over with friends, and then he saw her.

In fact, they weren't familiar, they only knew each other because of Qin Mu.

Jiang Zhiyuan instinctively glanced at her, then went upstairs with friends; they had reserved a spot long ago.

"Miss! Can you lend me a light?"

Suddenly, a thirty-something Playboy in a floral shirt walked over and sat beside her, not caring who was around, only looking at the drunk Li Man and striking up a conversation.

Li Man glanced up at the slightly greasy man and said coldly: "Don't have one!"

She took a forceful drag of her cigarette, her red eyes betraying that she had just cried.

The Playboy wasn't discouraged, only smiled, saying: "No worries!"

once he'd started a conversation, what did it matter if he couldn't borrow a light?

The Playboy tapped the bar counter twice, and the bartender took out a lighter for him. After lighting his own cigarette, he ordered a drink.

"Miss, what's your surname?"

"Surname Your Mom!"

Li Man, already in a bad mood, was even more irritated by the sleazy man trying to chat her up and coldly threw out a reply.

The man's face immediately changed, turning sideways towards her, his angry glare uncontrollably directed at her, and then...

"Surname My Mom? You have quite the sex drive!"

The Playboy lowered his head, then looked up, his eyes contemptuously glaring at her, his voice sharp.

Li Man turned to look at him, and facing his provocation, she suddenly smiled slightly: "Sir, if you're looking to pick up a girl to sleep with, you've found the wrong person!"

The Playboy's face turned completely cold, gritting his teeth: "Don't be ungrateful!"

"Am I supposed to be grateful for you? Your greasy face doesn't interest me! Don't think just because you're wearing luxury brands means you're high class, okay? Not all women like you oil-slicked trust-fund babies."

"You motherfucker..."

"Isn't this Young Master Yan?"

Jiang Zhiyuan suddenly walked leisurely over from behind him, standing next to Li Man, just before the Playboy with the drink could make a move.

Chapter 1100: Mu's Family Motto_2

The playboy frowned, looking at him with a suspicious gaze: "Jiang Zhiyuan!"

Li Man was startled by the playboy's gesture of raising his glass, and as soon as Jiang Zhiyuan arrived, she immediately stood up and hid behind him.

"Friend! Give me some face!"

Jiang Zhiyuan gave a slight smile, lit a cigarette, took a puff, and casually said to the playboy.

The playboy frowned again: "Such a fierce woman, I wouldn't be interested even if she were given to me. But I've heard that Young Master Jiang is dating some talented woman; surely, it's not her?"

"Of course not! She's Mu Yichen's wife's friend, Mu Yichen's wife, you must know her, right?"

Jiang Zhiyuan smiled, explaining to him.

The playboy glanced at Li Man again, still unhappy about the humiliation, but he could only swallow his pride for now: "Then tonight, on account of Yichen and your face, I'll let her off!"

"Thanks! Let's arrange for Yichen to come out one day, and we'll have a few drinks together!"

Jiang Zhiyuan maintained his trademark smile.

"That would be nice! I have some other matters to attend to, so I'll take my leave!"

The playboy still unhappily glanced at Li Man before reluctantly turning to leave.

After seeing him off, Jiang Zhiyuan turned his gaze to Li Man: "You dare provoke him; better not come here alone in the future."

"Is he very powerful?"

"I don't know if he's powerful, but he's certainly overestimating his capabilities! Do you understand what I mean?"

Jiang Zhiyuan asked her.

Li Man didn't understand, so her big eyes looked at Jiang Zhiyuan, waiting for his explanation.

"It means when he gets hot-headed, he'll do things you can't control. Like just now, if I hadn't happened to appear, you'd be done by him tonight!"

Jiang Zhiyuan spoke somewhat bluntly.

Li Man stiffened with fear, her neck tensed and her waist froze.

"Why are you here drinking alone, even crying?"

Jiang Zhiyuan, seeing her reddened eyes, suddenly had a bad feeling.

"Thank you, Young Master Jiang, I'm feeling unwell, I'll head back first!"

"Wait!"

Jiang Zhiyuan tightened his grip, then grabbed her.

"Does Young Master Jiang have something else?"

"Let me be the good guy until the end!"

Jiang Zhiyuan drove her home, and while leaving the night club, he glanced around and saw a few gangsters standing outside.

"Look back!"

Jiang Zhiyuan instructed the woman beside him.

Li Man glanced outside, and her body stiffened even more as she saw the people behind. Actually, she noticed them as soon as she exited.

"It's best if you never come to this place again, even if you're with a man. Yan Shaoqing holds grudges and has a two-faced nature."

Li Man dared not slack off, nodding her head: "I understand! Thank you, Young Master Jiang!"

"No need to be so polite with me, just don't curse my mom!"

Jiang Zhiyuan only wanted to lighten the mood, but his skill fell short.

Li Man, sitting beside him, looked down at her palms and couldn't help but laugh: "It's my own fault..."

Before she finished speaking, Jiang Zhiyuan's phone rang. Looking at it, he saw it was An Nan, and suddenly remembered he invited An Nan for drinks tonight, regretting his meddling.

"Hello? An Nan! I'll be back soon, can you wait a few minutes?"

"Who are you with now?"

An Nan asked, standing where he just left.

"A slight incident occurred, I'm taking a friend home, I'll..."

"It's a girlfriend, right?"

An Nan cut him off, not giving him a chance to explain.

The atmosphere in the car turned sour. Li Man glanced at Jiang Zhiyuan, noticing the embarrassment on his face. But she didn't dare to speak, fearing further misunderstanding.

"Actually, it's not my friend, it's Qin Mu's friend, if you don't believe... hello? Hello? An Nan? Damn it!"

Jiang Zhiyuan wanted to explain more, but the call had been disconnected.

An Nan, upon driving to the entrance, heard staff members say Young Master Jiang just escorted a girl away. Now, he claims he's taking a friend home this late?

An Nan drove away immediately.

And Jiang Zhiyuan could only complete the good deed and send Li Man home.

After parking, Li Man couldn't help but speak: "If necessary, should I personally explain to your girlfriend?"

"Would it help? If she trusts you!"

Jiang Zhiyuan shook his head.

"Why wouldn't she trust me? We're not in a boyfriend-girlfriend relationship!"

Li Man questioned him, somewhat persistently.

"You wouldn't understand. Now get out. I need to find her!"