

## His Beloved 251

Chapter 251: wants to hold grandson\_5

"Perhaps."

He said faintly.

Qin Mu, noticing the weakness in his voice, couldn't help but lift her gaze to him, "After finishing the meal, let Xiaomei accompany you to the hospital."

"Does Xiaomei have nothing to do today?"

He asked in a low voice, looking at the breakfast with little appetite.

"She can be free, but if you want her to be busy, then she will be."

After helping him sit down, Xiaomei stood by his side, knowing he might disdain her, her tone a bit stubborn and sad.

Qin Mu couldn't help but give a low chuckle, "You're free today, I know."

Xiaomei looked at her gratefully, almost trembling with her smile.

Jian Yan didn't speak, knowing Qin Mu wanted to set him up with Xiaomei, but this kind of thing...

"I don't need anyone here, by the way, how is your drawing coming along?"

He asked, taking a sip of the porridge.

"I finished it last night before leaving work. I originally wanted to have you check it today, but you fell ill."

Qin Mu sat down opposite him, subconsciously pushing the small pickles and steamed buns closer to him.

"Hmm, I won't go there today, both of you should head back early and get busy."

"Can you manage by yourself? Don't you need to go see a doctor?" Qin Mu asked him, worried.

Jian Yan looked at her intently for a few seconds before speaking again, "Might just be a cold from the sudden drop in temperature. I'll be fine with some sleep."

Hearing that, Qin Mu didn't insist anymore. Xiaomei, however, sat by, looking at him grievously, "You have no idea how to take care of your own health."

"How am I not taking care of myself? If I weren't, would I stay home and rest today?"

Jian Yan defended himself, his voice weary but patient.

Xiaomei didn't say anything more. In argument, she always lost to this master-disciple duo, unless they chose not to argue with her. So wisely, she just sat quietly.

Later, when the two of them left his home, Xiaomei was still downcast. Qin Mu, opening the car door and getting in, looked at her, "Otherwise, you could go back and say I ordered you to stay and take care of him."

"Forget it, no one but you will he accept."

Xiaomei snorted with a laugh, knowing she didn't stand a chance.

Qin Mu, feeling helpless, tried to console Xiaomei on the way, but as they neared the studio, Xiaomei suddenly asked her, "Qinqin, can you really not feel it?"

Qin Mu looked at her curiously.

"Can't you feel that the master's gaze towards you is different? Can't you see that he's never been kind to anyone other than you?"

Qin Mu...

"Those gossip news might be just that, but is there really nothing to them, don't you feel anything at all?"

The car slowly pulled to a stop by the road. Qin Mu turned to look at her very seriously, "What exactly are you trying to say?"

"He likes you—no, maybe I should say he loves you."

"Who? The master? How is that possible? His look towards me is at best paternal love, understand?"

Paternal love...

Xiaomei looked at her, disappointed, realizing that Qin Mu's mind was truly occupied by only one 'normal' man, Mu Yichen.

Why hadn't Jian Yan dated anyone in the past few years if he wasn't too old to move? Why?

Xiaomei said nothing more, just let out a disinterested "Oh."

Later, the car slowly got back on the road. Qin Mu, however, was thinking, what exactly did the two of them talk about last night? One was in high spirits, the other, the total opposite. It clearly looked like the aftermath of a battle.

But as soon as the two returned to the studio, their colleagues informed them that their designer had once again made the hot search news, accused of plagiarizing someone else's design.

"I'll make a phone call."

After Qin Mu and her colleagues finished reading the hot search in the middle of the first floor, she said that and went upstairs alone.

"Who exactly wants to ruin us this time?" Xiaomei couldn't help but ask angrily.

After Qin Mu went upstairs, she directly called President Mu. Mu Yichen was in a meeting, but upon seeing the phone display "Wife," he immediately picked up.

"Calling at this hour—are you asking me out for dinner?"

Everyone around the conference table fell silent, the unexpected tenderness and humor in President Mu's voice leaving them all with darkened expressions.

"Do me a favor, someone has bought a Weibo hot search today claiming our studio's designer plagiarized. This is completely unfounded, so I need you to find the management of this media company and get to the bottom of this."

"Got it, I'll take care of it right away."

Mu Yichen's brow was already furrowed as he listened, and after putting down the phone, he immediately instructed the secretary taking notes beside him, "Call Mr. Gao from XK right now and inquire about my wife's issue."

Secretary Xi hadn't grasped the situation yet, but after hearing a few keywords, she immediately nodded, put down her work, stood up, and went to make the call.

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Mu Yichen snapped back to reality and glanced ahead to find everyone bowing their heads, seemingly lost in thought, but it appeared to be related to him. He unconsciously let out a soft chuckle, stretched out his hand on the table, and with a domineering look, gazed upon the pen in his hand, "Continue."

The crowd...

Qin Mu made another call to the lawyer. If nobody cared about the situation, it wouldn't have mattered, but since it was already trending online, she had to pursue legal responsibility.

She soon heard the sound of a commotion in French downstairs. Qin Mu, holding her phone, walked out only to see everyone whispering and guessing - or was it about avoiding suspicion?

"Can everyone please keep quiet?"

Qin Mu had to speak in a soothing tone from upstairs to calm them down.

When everyone stopped arguing and looked up, Qin Mu could only smile helplessly, spread her hands, and tire was apparent in her almond eyes, "We've been working together for over three years. Don't we have this much trust in each other? I've never doubted anyone, and I hope you all won't suspect any of us either. We didn't come here from Paris to have internal disputes. I will investigate and clarify everything; before that, everyone just needs to concentrate on doing their job well, okay?"

Her French was never before so gentle and heartfelt.

It was after her words that everyone calmed down, each returning reluctantly to their workstations, whether with a shake of the head or a sigh. Xiaomei relaxed a bit; her previous shouting had been ineffective, but Qin Mu managed to resolve the situation with just a few sentences.

Soon, Mu Yichen called her again, "I can't pinpoint any one person for you right now. The Weibo account is a secondary one, but today, several complaints about your studio were filed with the website."

Complaining about the studio?

Calling the website to complain?

That was clearly causing trouble!

If she didn't make a statement, then it would definitely affect the reputation of their studio significantly.

But if others could use fake accounts to frame them, why couldn't their studio have an account? Now, since it was already second on the trending list, they might as well open an account for some publicity.

Thinking of this, Qin Mu slapped the table and then called Xiaomei over to the door. Xiaomei ran up to her, "What's up?"

"Open an account. Find pictures of the designs our studio has made over the years for celebrities or influential figures. Remember, they don't have to be front-facing, but they must be stunning," she instructed.

"Got it, I'm on it — oh, what's the name going to be?"

"Just call it JY Studio, note it's domestic."

"Alright!"

Xiaomei actually admired Qin Mu, yet secretly, she wished Qin Mu would start her own business, which might then change Jian Yan's attitude.

After finishing his work in the afternoon, Mu Yichen headed to the studio to find her. As she was drawing, Mu Yichen lay on the couch looking at his phone. Occasionally, Qin Mu would glance at his good figure and feel the urge to lean on him, but with a second thought, she continued drawing diligently.

"Xiaohao called at noon to say the maple leaves at East Mountain have turned red. He asked if we want to go see them together this weekend. He and Jing Feng are going," he said.

"If you'd like, we could go too!"

Qin Mu, reminded of this, set her work aside and looked up to ask him. Mu Yichen felt either way was fine.

Qin Mu looked at him, "Then let's go together this Saturday, shall we?"

"Yeah! You decide, I'll go with your plan!"

When he said he would go with her plan, his eyes met hers, deep and dark.

Qin Mu unconsciously cleared her throat softly and lowered her head to continue drawing.

In the evening, Qin Mu sent a message to Helian Hao, who was dining at the Jing Family residence with Jing Feng. Jing Feng, seeing her happiness, asked, "Whose message is that?"

"Mumu's. I've asked her to join us for a hike this weekend," Helian Hao replied cheerfully, completely ignoring the displeased members of the Jing Family.

"Hmm!"

Jing Feng, knowing his family disliked the mention of Qin Mu's name, said no more. However, Jing Qing, who had been sitting quietly dining, heard and asked, "Will Yichen be going? If you all are, he would surely go, right?"

Helian Hao, without answering, pretended not to hear and continued eating.

The Jing family patriarch tapped his chopsticks, signaling everyone to stop, and Helian Hao, puzzled, set down his chopsticks as everyone else did.

"Xiaohao, why aren't you answering Xiaoqing?"

"Grandfather, please don't worry about the younger generation's matters." Helian Hao, though annoyed, replied respectfully to the old man.

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"What heart am I getting all worked up about? I'm just a bit anxious because you and your sister-in-law don't seem to get along too well. As an older sister-in-law, shouldn't you be more accommodating to your younger sister-in-law?"

Helian Hao thought to himself, having no clue which kid had spilled the beans about their marriage certificate. Now, before even having the wedding, she's got to endure the elder Mr. Jing's control.

"Got it!" Helian Hao whispered back.

Jing Qing found joy in seeing Helian Hao unable to assert herself in front of the elder, and although she didn't show much pleasure on her face, she said to the old man with a smile, "Grandpa, let's eat. It'll be bad for your stomach if it gets cold."

"Hmm!"

Only after the elder picked up his chopsticks did the others dare to follow suit and continue eating.

After leaving the Jing Family's place, Helian Hao said to Jing Feng, "I don't care, but your sister can't come along."

"How could she possibly come along?"



Jing Feng replied while driving, but how could he have imagined that indeed, Jing Qing would show up that weekend, and even dressed in a particularly girlish sporty outfit.

"Brother, Yichen!"

By the time the four of them got to the foot of the mountain and had just parked the car, they heard someone calling them. Turning around, they saw a woman wearing sunglasses and wrapped in a scarf so red it covered her face.

Well, if it weren't for the sportswear, she really looked like a big star fresh off a red carpet event.

"You don't mind a few more people, do you?"

Jing Qing said, then turned to call out to the girls in the car, and three girls got out together.

"These are sisters who've grown up together, we haven't been hiking together in a long time, and it just so happens that we're free today."

"Hi!"

The group of girls came out and greeted everyone cheerfully.

The four men exchanged glances, and after a while, they all smiled without saying a word.

Jiang Zhiyuan soon drove over with a few boys, and this time it was Jing Qing who was taken aback.

It turned out Helian Hao had been alerted early on that the situation might change by Qin Mu, who'd mentioned something to Mu Yichen, and who knew that Mu Yichen would stage such a scene.

"Let's go, the ones in the back, take good care of your sisters."

Before leaving, Yichen wrapped his arm around Qin Mu's shoulder, instructed those who got out of the car behind him to follow Qin Mu and march on, and Jing Feng and Helian Hao followed suit. Jing Qing was just about to step forward when she was stopped by Zhao Huai: "Miss Jing, watch your step."

Jing Qing's face turned cold: "Zhao Huai, are you getting bolder by the day?"

"How would I dare block Miss Jing? This is all Yichen's idea, he said he wanted to enjoy the maple leaves with Miss Qin and insisted on no interruptions. We just saw you and your old friends coming, and we immediately came to protect you, didn't we?"

Zhao Huai explained with a smile, deliberately presenting himself humbly, elevating her status further, and pushing all the blame for stopping her onto Yichen.

"Hmph!"

Jing Qing glanced at him, thinking that she wouldn't believe men could outsmart women, and led the three girls to follow at the back.

The maple leaves on this mountain were indeed red, and since frost had fallen the night before, the fallen leaves underfoot made walking feel difficult.

Helian Hao later walked in front with Qin Mu, stepping on more and more maple leaves, and sighed with pity, looking down: "Don't they look pitiful?"

"They'll sprout new leaves next year!"

Qin Mu reminded her with a smile.

"Right!"

The two women, both dressed in long light-colored coats, walked ahead, occasionally looking back at the men a few meters behind them. Beyond them were Jing Qing and her group, who indeed looked like they were out for fun.

Occasionally, water droplets from the leaves fell on their heads. Qin Mu looked up. The maple leaves were stunningly beautiful. She reached out to pick one, deciding to press it in a book when she got back.

The few girls walking close behind whispered to Jing Qing: "Can we still go ahead with our plan? We can't even get close right now."

"Don't rush, we'll see how things are when we get to the top."

Jing Qing, looking at the four people ahead, felt increasingly stifled.

"That's the only thing we can do now. I didn't expect Yichen to be so dismissive of you. He used to accompany you to events all the time. We all thought for sure you'd win him over, but who knew a Cheng Yaojin would appear out of nowhere."

Hearing those words and thinking of their marriage, Jing Qing felt a painful hatred in her heart.

She had to make them divorce soon, for she realized if she waited for Mu Yichen to tire of the relationship, she might end up past her prime. She couldn't just wait around doing nothing.

The last time she had drugged Liu Jingyuan and Qin Mu, she had hoped that Mu Yichen, given his temperament, would definitely break things off with Qin Mu. But not only did they not split up, they quickly...

Mu Yichen's trust in Qin Mu far exceeded her expectations. After climbing a bit more, she whispered to the two girls beside her, "Proceed with the plan."

"Okay!"

The three girls looked at each other, knowing it was time to act, then glanced at the boys walking nearby, and suddenly took off running: "Hey, we sisters are going to talk secrets, you men are not allowed to follow."

The leader said.

Zhao Huai and Jiang Zhiyuan saw the girls running and immediately wanted to chase after them, but Jing Qing turned with a stern look: "Let's see which of you dares to follow?"

"Miss Jing, you're making this difficult for us!"

"Yeah, Jing Qing, the young couple came out to see the maple leaves, why should we disturb them?"

One of the young masters who grew up with her said.

"Who said they're going to disturb those two couples? They just want to take a look at the scenery ahead, that's all."

Jing Qing said, then gave Zhao Huai a cold look, indicating that he, of all people, was most likely to act on Mu Yichen's behalf, so she needed to keep a close eye on him.

#### Chapter 254: Reverse\_1

Three girls ran past two men, shouting two names, "Xiaohao, wait for Mumu and us, will you?"

Helian Hao and Qin Mu turned their heads to see them rushing over, displaying warmth that was completely absent under normal circumstances, even linking arms with them.

Helian Hao frowned subconsciously, but due to her nature, she didn't make any inappropriate moves, simply raising her eyes to look at Qin Mu.

Qin Mu, however, had never liked to feign closeness with strangers, instinctively shaking off the hand of the girl who was holding her.

The girl who had been holding her arm immediately looked at her with shock, then quickly frowned and reproached, "Hey, Qin Mu, what are you doing? You haven't come back for so many years, and today, when we just arrived in the city and heard you were here, we came to find you. Why are you keeping people at arm's length? No wonder people say girls who come back from abroad are especially clueless about the ways of the world, 'only knowing how to cling to men.'"

The last sentence was spoken in a very low voice, but since the distance between the girls was not far, naturally, they all could hear it, and Qin Mu's frown deepened.

"Sorry, I'm not accustomed to being so intimate with strangers."

Her voice was icy clear, she was genuinely sorry but also truly wished to keep a greater distance from them, so she wanted to leave.

"Hey, we mean well, after all, we played together as kids."

Another girl blocked her path as she attempted to leave.

Jing Feng and Mu Yichen were standing a distance away, feeling that the situation was not good, they were about to go over when suddenly Jing Qing ran up: "Yichen, I have something to tell you, and you too, brother!"

Mu Yichen gave her a cold glance and then turned his gaze towards Jing Feng before turning and going to look for Qin Mu.

"Yichen, don't you really want to know? These past few days, Qin Mu has been going to Jian Yan's apartment in the morning and not leaving until after lunch."

Mu Yichen instinctively turned his head again, his icy gaze shooting towards her.

"Jing Qing, what are you trying to do now?"

Jing Feng frowned, looking at his sister's manner, he knew for sure nothing good was coming.

"Brother, I just want Yichen to know what kind of woman he is with."

Jing Qing was serious and insistent, after speaking, she persistently looked at Mu Yichen.

"We'll talk about those things later."

Mu Yichen said coldly, then turned and walked towards the others.

"You really think you're worthy of Young Master Yichen? Don't forget what your status is!"

"Exactly, your mom is long gone, you don't even have a home."

"If you're smart, you'll leave him early, and save us the agitation of having to look at you."

"Hey! What are you three saying?"

Helian Hao could no longer care about the face of an old acquaintance and stepped forward to intervene.

The girl immediately flared up: "Helian Hao, don't think just because Jing Feng is protecting you that I won't dare to touch you, okay? If it weren't for you, Jing Feng and I would've been engaged a long time ago."

"Ha, you and Jing Feng getting engaged? You're not even worthy to carry his shoes."

Helian Hao couldn't help but laugh as she spoke.

"You're the one who isn't worthy!"

The girl, angered by the response, swung her bag aiming for Helian Hao's face. Qin Mu, seeing what was happening, naturally couldn't just stand by; she pushed aside the two other girls to pull Helian Hao away, but as she turned her head, the girl's bag, adorned with shiny fragments, hit her in the face. Immediately, a red gash appeared on Qin Mu's face, and blood slowly began oozing from the broken skin.

The pain from the injury on her face intensified as the cool mountain wind blew over it, making her gaze seem all the more frightening. The girls recoiled when they saw her injury, and the one who had hit her swallowed nervously, stuttering, "You, you... I was just talking to Helian Hao, why did you step forward?"

The wind on the mountain was cool, and the feeling of it on the fresh wound was unique.

"I don't know what result you want, but if you're here to climb, then climb properly, or don't blame me if I'm not polite next time you cause trouble."

Qin Mu said coldly, her long hair unable to hide the wound on her face, nor conceal the murderous aura it bore.

Helian Hao was pulled aside without injury but looked at the bleeding on Qin Mu's face with alarm: "Mumu, your face..."

"I'm fine!" Qin Mu whispered to her, then turned her gaze back to the girl who had just swung her bag.

This was not part of their plan for the day, but now they did not dare to take any further action.

"Let me see!"

Mu Yichen walked over, saw her half-red face, immediately approached, and lowered his head. His hand held her chin to reveal the injured side of her face. In just a half second, his icy gaze swept over the three women beside her.

## Chapter 255: Reverse\_2

"Who did this?"

Mu Yichen asked coldly.

"It, it was Xiaofei!"

A girl with little courage immediately ratted out Liu Fei.

Liu Fei immediately turned her head, angrily glanced at the girl, then turned back to explain to Mu Yichen, "Young Master Yichen, I was originally arguing with Helian Hao when, unexpectedly, she stepped forward—I didn't do it on purpose."

"Not on purpose?"

"Why were you arguing with Xiaohao?"

One after another, two men interrogated her. Jing Feng stepped forward to grasp Helian Hao's hand, looked her up and down, then cast a cold gaze towards Liu Fei.

"I, I..."

"She was cursing at Mumu pretty badly, so I spoke up. It's still your fault. Weren't you the one who wanted to get engaged to her at the time? I said one sentence about how she wasn't worthy, and she just wanted to hit me."

Helian Hao suddenly freed her hand from Jing Feng, glared at him fiercely, then walked towards Qin Mu.

Qin Mu felt it was not worth it to see her argue with Jing Feng, as it was just making others happy. Looking at the scheming revealed in those three girls' eyes, she felt a surge of anger and instinctively pushed away Mu Yichen's hand, stepping forward.



"There's no need for you to apologize for the nasty things you said just now, but you just hurt my face. I can't let this grudge go, can I?"

"What do you want to do?"

Liu Fei looked at her nervously. In fact, Liu Fei was two years older than her, but at that moment displayed none of that maturity, just petty schemes.

"Girls take their faces very seriously, it's more important than their lives. Of course, I'm only going to return the favor slightly!"

"You can't..."

Liu Fei was just about to shout those words at her when Qin Mu raised her hand and slapped her across the face.

"Qin Mu, what are you doing? She didn't do it on purpose!"

Jing Qing immediately went over to stand before Liu Fei, just as she had earlier stood in front of Helian Hao.

Liu Fei then covered her face, which she hadn't managed to protect in time from the slap, and began sobbing pitifully.

The two other girls nearby didn't dare say much, and the men were also unwilling to step in and meddle.

"Whether it was on purpose or not, you should know best, shouldn't you?"

Qin Mu looked at her coldly, quite certain that Jing Qing had planned today's incident well in advance. There was probably even more drama arranged to follow.

"Don't slander me! We all came out to have fun. Why must you stir up trouble so nobody can have peace?"

Jing Qing looked at her, then around at the people they had grown up with, and turned to push all the blame onto Qin Mu.

Qin Mu chuckled lightly, "Miss Jing is truly an actress. But don't forget, you and your friends weren't even supposed to be here. You forced your way in. And I don't need to elaborate on the reasons, do I?"

Jing Qing's eyes, which were trying to contain her rage, were nearly failing to hide her fury.

"Enough, everyone stop talking. Yichen, you take Qin Mu down the mountain to get her wound treated. It's getting late and might not be good."

Jing Feng, seeing that further probing might worsen the situation, cut Qin Mu off before she could continue and turned to alert Mu Yichen.

Mu Yichen grabbed Qin Mu's hand, whispering soothingly, "Let's get that wound treated first. We'll repay everything they did to you, twice over."

Mu Yichen's voice was gentle as he spoke to her, but it made the women nearby weak in the knees. Were they going to retaliate against them immediately?

"Let's go!"

Mu Yichen had intended to lead her away by hand, but instead, he scooped her up in his arms.

Qin Mu's eyes, slightly turbulent, looked at him; although she didn't ask a word, she felt puzzled inside.

"Idiots, do you even know what you're doing today?"

Jing Feng coldly questioned them after Mu Yichen carried Qin Mu away.

"Brother Jing Feng, we were just standing up for Xiaoqing," they said.

"And so?" he retorted. "Do you think Mu Yichen will overlook this just because you grew up in the same courtyard and not hold a grudge against you?"

The three girls looked back at the tall figure of the man carrying the agile woman down the mountain, suddenly feeling a twinge of panic.

"And you, go home and reflect on your actions properly. Don't force your way into events you're not invited to in the future, or don't blame me if I turn against you," Jing Feng said, turning to chastise his sister.

Jing Qing huffed coldly and then turned to head down the mountain herself.

They hadn't reached the summit yet, but could proceed no further.

Helian Hao, watching Jing Qing leave, was still seething with anger. She couldn't understand why Jing Qing would do such a thing.

The others didn't dare say much in front of these young masters and the young mistress.

Just as Mu Yichen was setting Qin Mu down at the foot of the mountain, Jing Qing caught up to them, "I apologize!"

Chapter 256: Reverse\_3

Both of them looked at her with puzzled expressions. Apologies?

"I shouldn't have brought the three of them to disturb you, but there's no need to be so ruthless, is there? If there's a misunderstanding, just clear it up. Yichen, is it really okay for you to threaten them for her?"

"Threaten? Who said I'm threatening?"

Mu Yichen opened the car door and helped Qin Mu into the vehicle, then coldly turned to the girl opposite and asked.

Jing Qing was at a loss for words, her mouth opening and closing several times as she tried to speak, but nothing came out.

After watching their car drive away, Jing Qing still didn't know what to say; her mind was a blank in that moment.

Was Mu Yichen willing to offend the whole world for her?

Was he crazy?

Upon reflection, Jing Qing immediately got into her car.

Feng Fanghua had been accompanying her aunt in giving Huanhuan an early education lesson. After receiving a call from Jing Qing, she had to put aside what she was doing, tell her aunt to take good care of Huanhuan, and then waited for Jing Qing in a nearby coffee shop.

When Jing Qing returned to the city, she went straight to the coffee shop and described the day's events in her own way.

"Aunt, you tell me, Qin Mu has already slapped them back, and she threw harsh words too; whatever happens between her and those people, we can ignore, but what about Yichen? We all grew up in the same compound; if Yichen insists on escalating the issue and offends the Liu Family, the Zhang Family, and the Chen Family, then..."

"How could it be so serious?" Feng Fanghua frowned and asked after hearing this.

"I see it now, Yichen is truly bewitched by Qin Mu. He's willing to offend the entire world for Qin Mu. He may be influential in Rongcheng now, but what about the future? Once he has alienated everyone, what future will there be?"

Jing Qing believed she was kindly hinting to Feng Fanghua, who seemed pleased with her concern for Mu Yichen, although for the rest...

"I'll have a good talk with him when I get back. Xiaoqing, it's hard on you to still stand by Yichen's side," Feng Fanghua said courteously.

"Aunt, I've said it long ago; I will never give up on him no matter what. Today's incident is also my fault. Initially, I wanted to go by myself, but I feared it would be too awkward, so I called the three of them. Who knew it would turn out like this."

"What's done is done, don't blame yourself anymore," Feng Fanghua said softly and then slowly lifted her coffee to sip it.

Jing Qing was impressed by her own actions at the moment; she was glad that Feng Fanghua understood she had Mu Yichen's best interests at heart. She was the only one in the world who truly cared for Mu Yichen, wholeheartedly and genuinely thinking of him.

After Qin Mu and Mu Yichen returned home, she first went to treat her wound, worried that improper treatment on her face might leave scars, so Mu Yichen still took her to the hospital.

Qin Mu couldn't help but laugh after leaving with a band-aid on her wound. She felt utterly embarrassed; the medical staff were shocked when they saw her injury and were about to ask why she was at the hospital before Mu Yichen's stern face stopped them.

"Are you going to leave me if I get a scar?" Qin Mu asked him as they exited, looking up at him.

"I just know how much you love your beauty," he replied with a laugh, then wrapped his arm around her shoulder.

Qin Mu suddenly remembered feeling somewhat scared; fighting in that place wasn't a wise choice. If anything had gone wrong, say if someone had fallen off, it would really be a mix of joy and sorrow for different people.

"Let's stay further away when we watch the maple leaves next time," she said childishly before getting into the car.

"That's a good idea!"

Mu Yichen, who hated being disturbed, fully agreed with his wife's opinion.

However, after getting into the car, he unwittingly glanced at his wife again, recalling some of the words Jing Qing had said earlier.

Qin Mu also glanced casually and saw his piercing gaze as if he was trying to scrutinize every little corner of her heart with those eyes.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" she asked, startled.

"It's nothing!" he replied, retracting his gaze. After a moment of thought, he shook his head and started the car to leave.

Qin Mu...

If he said there was something, there definitely was; and if he said there wasn't, there definitely was something, especially this time.

Qin Mu suddenly remembered the time he had been with Jing Qing. Had that woman laid traps for her again?

But on closer thought, she really hadn't done anything to wrong him recently, not even a flicker in her heart.

At noon, the two of them went straight home, not wanting to waste a beautiful weekend. Mu Yichen personally took charge of the cooking. Qin Mu initially wanted to sit on the sofa, watch some TV, and snack on some food, but Mu Yichen dragged her to the kitchen instead: "Wait here."

Qin Mu...

The aunts outside the kitchen couldn't help but laugh upon seeing this. When Qin Mu looked out, they slipped away with practiced ease. Qin Mu laughed helplessly, her face twinged with pain, and she then put on a serious face: "Why do I have to wait here? How long are you going to take?"

Chapter 257: Reverse\_4

"No matter how long I'm at it, you have to keep an eye on me."

He turned and looked at her, his voice both low and deep.

Qin Mu couldn't help being curious as she sized him up; why was he acting so strange today?

"Haven't you always been the one who dotes on me the most, afraid that I'll get sore feet from standing too long?"

Although the hike wasn't finished, they had at least made some progress. Freezing like a dog up there, he managed to cook after changing his clothes once they got back. He seemed reliable, and she still felt a bit chilly.

"Sore feet? Did you ever complain about your feet hurting when you went to Jian Yan's apartment every day?"

He asked in a quiet voice, his deep gaze once again falling on her.

Qin Mu's heart skipped a beat. Visiting Jian Yan?

"Master is sick, and as his only disciple, shouldn't I go see him?"

Qin Mu finally understood his sudden change, so she stepped forward to argue with him.

"He's sick? What illness?"

"He said it's a cold, but he's had a fever for several days and looks very haggard."

"Really?"

Mu Yichen suddenly grew serious, remembering that when he saw him a few days ago Jian Yan was thinner than before, but still seemed fine. Could he have fallen ill so suddenly?

"Yes, why else would I go there every day?"

Qin Mu replied and then watched him with a suppressed laugh, pitifully asking, "So, big brother Yichen, may this little lady go watch TV on the sofa now? I see there are snacks on the table."

"Those are for Huanhuan!"

Qin Mu...

"Eat less!"

Mu Yichen said in a low voice. Qin Mu nodded and immediately turned to leave, but after a few steps, she spun back and fiercely kissed his face before departing.



Mu Yichen...

Brother Yichen felt all his authority evaporated when it came to her.

This woman simply didn't know the meaning of fear; did she think it was all over?

He'll deal with her when he has the time.

After making sure the kitchen was empty, he took out his phone and called Zhao Huai: "Everyone gone?"

"Yeah, after you left, those three young ladies left too, but Jing Feng and Helian Hao still went up the mountain."

"Good, contact Secretary Xi today and sell off all the lots we have that these three families are bidding on."

"Are you sure we should do this?" Zhao Huai expressed his concern.

"Otherwise, there will inevitably be a second time."

Mu Yichen thought about the future for his woman; she couldn't be humiliated by these people anymore.

"Understood!"

Zhao Huai thought he had been overly compassionate just now. Those people had long since given up on them in their eagerness to please the Jing Family.

Lunch at home was the first chance Mu Yichen had to ask her, "Have you been taking care of him recently?"

"It's not exactly taking care, just bringing breakfast and having a chat."

"A chat?"

Qin Mu nodded without any shame.

"About what?"

"About development. Speaking of which, he's been acting a bit strange lately. He suddenly told me that in the future, all his wealth would be mine. And that woman who came looking for me was actually his first love. Despite being married to a high official, she used making clothes as an excuse just to see him, but he pushed her off onto me instead."

"You suspect something?"

Mu Yichen frowned slightly, glanced at the dishes on her plate, and served her some.

"I don't suspect anything. But you don't think he's got some serious illness, do you? Or maybe he's just talking nonsense and he's actually fine?"

Mu Yichen...

Like a child, Qin Mu repeatedly sought his confirmation, as if she needed to hear the answer she wanted.

"Let's eat first!"

Mu Yichen reminded her in a low voice, placing the food into her bowl.

"Of course, it's all just my wild imagination, something out of a TV drama. So what's really wrong with him?" Qin Mu couldn't help but ask, as though questioning herself as well.

She suddenly remembered all the irregularities in Jian Yan's behavior these past days, and it felt like she was being sucked into the matter.

"Mrs. Mu, could you please show some respect for your husband? At the very least, let me eat this meal in peace. Or at least stop making me listen to you caring about another man?"

President Mu expressed his helplessness but had to continue speaking to her patiently.

"Ha, he's my master, you know. Not only do I have to respect and care for him, but you do too. Got it?"

"Why should I?"

"Because you're the husband of his disciple."

Because of this single comment, Mu Yichen's intention to brush her off vanished. His previously frivolous gaze became serious as he stared intently at her.

It seemed as if the fact that he was her husband had sunk deeply into her bones. She seemed to have mentioned it several times recently.

He felt an urge to laugh, but thinking that he couldn't let her find out that she had indeed taken a place in his heart, he continued to pretend to be serious and stern: "Eat your meal quickly."

Chapter 258: Reverse\_5

"Okay, I'll listen to you."

You?

Mu Yichen shook his head, looking at her hopelessly and no longer wanting to save her.

Let's fall into the demon's path together!

Mu Yichen suddenly had such a thought, as if being together meant that even becoming a demon was a joyous affair.

In this life, he feared most to achieve everything only to remain alone.

What was the point if nobody truly cared?

After the meal, the two of them cleaned up together, then stood by the window and chatted for a while before heading back to the room for an afternoon nap.

In the afternoon, Feng Fanghua returned home with Huanhuan and saw the wound on Qin Mu's face, unintentionally frowning: "This Liu Fei really... no matter how old she is, she still resorts to violence, with no restraint in her hands."

"Actually, it's just a small cut on the skin, nothing serious."

"Who's saying that? Your skin is already fragile. If it leaves a scar, I will never forgive her in this lifetime."

Mu Yichen sat alone on the sofa to the side, his voice deep and cold, his gaze dark and brooding.

Qin Mu turned to look at him and suddenly found himself at a loss for words.

Feng Fanghua, however, sighed as she looked at his indifferent demeanor and asked, "So what are you planning to do? The Liu Family may not have much power anymore, but don't you still have a lot of connections to go through them for your real estate dealings?"

"Rongcheng is only so big, there's only so much business I can do through them. Now, I'm already developing projects outside of the city. This little place in Rongcheng doesn't really matter."

"Go say that to your dad!"

"I'd say the same even if Grandpa were here."

Mu Yichen was stubborn, and when he dug in his heels, not even nine oxen could pull him back.

"Qin Mu, talk some sense into him, will you? Always creating trouble for others, can't you just speak and act nicely?"

Feng Fanghua immediately shifted her stance.

"You only know part of the story, so please stay out of this." Mu Yichen did not want Qin Mu to be uncomfortable, and besides, he had long wanted to break ties with several families in the city. They all fawned over the Jing Family, but sooner or later, the Jing Family would have to beg him to come back to develop the market. After all, the name Mu Yichen wasn't just for show.

"You... There's nothing wrong with Qin Mu, why create such a big fuss? I get it, our family business is thriving under your lead, but Rongcheng is your foundation after all."

"My foundation isn't so grand."

Feng Fanghua...

Qin Mu...

Today, Qin Mu had really seen it all. She had never expected this man could be so...

This was his mother, for heaven's sake. What on earth was he saying?

"Daddy!"

Huanhuan suddenly walked over to Mu Yichen's side.

Mu Yichen looked up at her. He had just settled in to scoop her into his arms when he heard her milky voice ask, "Daddy, what is a root?"

Root...

Mu Yichen's hand suddenly went limp and he failed to lift her.

Qin Mu thought, I'll tolerate it!

Feng Fanghua was even more restless: "I'll go check if the bird's nest soup is ready in the kitchen."

"Me too!"

For the first time, Qin Mu eagerly followed Feng Fanghua's footsteps, and then both mother and daughter heard Mu Yichen earnestly telling his daughter the story of the root.

He actually told it quite well, but was that really what he meant just now?

He clearly stretched his leg out.

But it no longer mattered; when Qin Mu brought over some fruit and, after setting it down, sat beside Huanhuan, she called to her, "Come to mommy."

"Mommy, daddy said this place is my root."

"If he said it is, then it is!"

"Yeah! I want to eat an apple, mommy. I really love apples."

Looking at the fruit plate Qin Mu had brought over, Huanhuan rubbed her hands slowly, her eyes filled with longing, but she didn't dare to touch it herself because she had just played with her toys and her hands were dirty.

"Have a bite first, then mommy will take you to wash your hands before we come back and eat."

"Okay!"

Qin Mu took a fruit pick, fed her a piece of fruit, and then the mother and daughter went to the washroom together.

"Daddy, no sneaking some!"

Halfway there, Huanhuan suddenly turned back and looked at the back of Mu Yichen's head, giving him a stern warning.

Mu Yichen...

Could only raise his hand and make an OK gesture.

But once he saw his daughter and wife enter the washroom, he quickly leaned over the table and grabbed a piece of fruit to put in his mouth.

Feng Fanghua happened to walk by, and seeing his actions, she couldn't help but chuckle. "How old are you?"

"You said no matter how old, I'm still a child to you, right?"

Feng Fanghua sat down and looked at her son. Sometimes he really made her stomach hurt with frustration—did he ever grow up?

Later, Qin Mu and Huanhuan came back, and they all ate fruit together.

"Is daddy coming home tonight?"

Qin Mu asked as she ate.

"He said he wouldn't come back for dinner, will be back later."

Feng Fanghua replied.

Mu Zihao had already handed over authority to his son, but still, from time to time, he invited his father to socialize, which left Mu Yichen somewhat helpless.

#### Chapter 259: Reverse\_6

There are always some people who refuse to give the younger ones face.

Feng Fanghua still ended up discussing the matter of those three families with Qin Mu, hoping she could persuade Mu Yichen to smooth things over. Qin Mu spoke to Mu Yichen about it that evening, but Mu Yichen really just gave it a listen.

The next day, those three families went to the Jing Family patriarch, who didn't give a damn: Humph! His son really thinks he's got stiff wings now, probably doesn't give a hoot about you old things at this point.

"What should we do then? If he leaves Rongcheng, it won't be good for the development of our city."



"Yeah, and now with Qin Haiming as his father-in-law, if we keep showing him a cold face, could it be disadvantageous to us in the future?"

"How could it be disadvantageous? Don't I still exist?"

The Jing Family patriarch looked up at the three juniors sitting on his sofa, his brow tightly furrowed.

They didn't dare say more, but after they left, the Jing Family patriarch immediately called Jing Xianzong back, and after being briefed, Jing Xianzong went to Mu Yichen's office.

This was also the first time Jing Xianzong had a formal conversation with him since Mu Yichen got married.

After finishing a meeting and returning to his office, Mu Yichen gave Jing Xianzong a perfunctory nod and gestured for him to sit down first before seating himself. Then Jing Xianzong explained his purpose for coming.

"Uncle, you know I'm not a heartless and ungrateful person, and you're aware of my relationship with Jing Feng, like brothers. But I have no choice, I'm a businessman, and for a businessman, profits come first."

Jing Xianzong, a man of his age, was calm and restrained. Having worked in certain fields for many years, he had a powerful presence. Yet, looking at Mu Yichen's unique personality, he couldn't help but sigh, lean back against the sofa, and look composedly at the stubborn Mr. Mu.

"Yichen, I know Xiaoqing did some things that made you unhappy. She has accepted your marriage, it's just that she can't cope with it emotionally yet. Could you give her some more time, please?"

Jing Xianzong finished the pleasantries before he seriously brought up the actual reason for the visit.

Mu Yichen, too, was quite open. Jing Xianzong wasn't too bad of a person, he didn't usually scheme against others, but in the end, he was a member of the Jing Family.

"I understand what you mean. I admit Jing Qing has been quite bothersome lately, but Rongcheng is only so big, and in the real estate market, there is Liu Jingyuan, followed by many other enterprises working in it. I shouldn't offend all these businessmen just for this little matter, should I?"

"Doing this, has Mayor Qin expressed any opinions?"

Jing Xianzong thought, Qin Haiming couldn't possibly let Mu Yichen slip away like that. After all, as a mayor of the city, he must contribute to the city's development. If Mu Yichen were to shift his focus out of Rong City, it would be a significant blow to these so-called city leaders. If they were not careful, they might even lose their positions due to their inability to retain wealth.

"That I wouldn't know!"

Mu Yichen answered with a slight smile.

Jing Xianzong realized he didn't care about others' feelings and knew he was standing up for that woman, so he couldn't help but nod. What if I send Xiaoqing abroad?

Mu Yichen looked at him. This turn of events was too swift; he was momentarily unable to adjust.

"I'm afraid you can't make decisions for her."

"Then I'll come to you after I've made the decision."

"Uncle, what I want is not for Jing Qing to leave Rongcheng. As long as she stops that habit of stalking my wife, as long as she stops undermining my family."

Mu Yichen stood up after Jing Xianzong did, this time having a very earnest conversation with Jing Xianzong.

Jing Xianzong looked at him and nodded after hearing him out.

The Jing Family's house seemed a bit troubled that evening. Jing Qing couldn't believe it and laughed incredulously when her father suggested she go abroad: Dad, what are you talking about?

"Haven't you done enough recently?"

"So what? Do nothing? Just let others bully me?"

The old master was unhappy with his son's words.

Jing Xianzong immediately felt a headache coming on. The old man was too doting on his granddaughter.

As they were having a family dinner meeting, Jing Feng and Helian Hao were also present. Helian Hao felt that the conversation among their family was too amiable. Although they apparently valued peace, inwardly, he was eager for them to come to blows.

It was true the old master doted on his granddaughter, but Jing Xianzong was also too indulgent with his father. Although being filial was admirable, it's also true that some elders' bad temperaments are spoiled into them.

When Jing Qing heard the old master defending her, she kept quiet, but just as she was about to eat, she heard Jing Xianzong say: You could stay if you want, but find someone to get engaged to then.

Chapter 260: Reverse\_7

As those words were spoken, everyone's eyes lit up.

Jing Qing was especially terrified as she stared at him, "What did you say?"

"I said you should get engaged. Stop focusing all your attention on Mu Yichen. He's already married and has children. What more do you want?"

Jing Xianzong asked with furrowed brows, partly because he was afraid the elder would argue again, and partly because he truly hoped to resolve this matter quickly.

"What more do I want? He was originally mine."

"Mu Yichen went abroad with Qin Mu when he was thirteen. How could he be yours?"

Helian Hao couldn't stand Jing Qing's egocentricity any longer and couldn't help but blurt out a question.

Hearing the woman across from her speak, Jing Qing let out a cold sneer: "So what if he went abroad with her at the age of twelve? When he came back, he was always with me. If it weren't for her sudden return..."

"Huanhuan is already three years old. If he truly loved you, would he have had Huanhuan with Qin Mu? Why does he go to Paris to see Qin Mu every so often? He only played along with you because your brother begged him to help you establish a foothold in the entertainment industry. Now that his task is done, why won't you let go?"

As Jing Qing listened to those words, although she had heard them before, she couldn't help but tremble with rage, stubbornly and resentfully staring at Helian Hao, unable to accept her blunt truths.

"My affairs are none of your business. I haven't even settled the score with you for secretly getting a marriage certificate with my brother. What right do you have to dictate my life?"

"By that logic, I have no right to sit at the Jing Family's dinner table, or to take part in this meeting. In that case, I'll take my leave."

After listening, Helian Hao gently set down her chopsticks and stood up, nodded to her in-laws, then turned to leave.

Jing Feng sighed helplessly after she left, "Did you have to bring this up during dinner? And in the future, can we discuss Xiaoqing's matters separately with me?"

With a headache, Jing Feng also put down his chopsticks and got up to leave.

Suddenly, only four people remained in the vast dining room. Jing Qing, close to tears, angrily threw down her chopsticks and ran outside, while the patriarch slammed down his own bowl: "Let's not bother with this meal."

Jing Xianzong and his wife watched the elder leave without saying another word.

However, they had to consider the bigger picture. Currently, with the situation as it was, the elder could afford to be willful, the daughter could be petulant, but they couldn't afford to disregard others.

The sudden release of all the real estate business in Rong City by Mu Yichen—what kind of impact would that have on Rong City?

"Jing Big Brother, your phone is ringing."

The housekeeper suddenly came in, holding his phone.

Jing Xianzong, guessing who was on the call by the housekeeper's cautious demeanor, immediately stood up, took the phone, and answered, "Hello, Mayor of Qin City."

Jing Xianzong's wife got up resignedly, thinking of her daughter and husband's future, and decided to go talk to her daughter personally.

Meanwhile, Jing Qing was in her grandfather's room, weakly shedding tears and listening to his comforting words.

The Mu Family's home was newly adorned with lilies, bud-laden and arranged in vases around the living room, lending extra warmth to the house as the weather turned cold.

After dinner, the family sat down together to watch television. Huanhuan lay quietly on Qin Mu's lap, listening to the occasional conversation of her grandparents, parents, and sometimes asking unexpected questions, which amused everyone.

Qin Mu looked at her affectionately, until Feng Fanghua asked Huanhuan, "Baby, tell Mommy, do you want a little brother?"

"Huanhuan wants a little sister."

Qin Mu had not yet digested Feng Fanghua's words when she was startled by her daughter's declaration, realizing that the little girl wished for another sister.

"Didn't you agree with Grandma that you wanted a little brother? How come it's a sister now?"

"Huanhuan likes sisters."

Huanhuan lay on her mother's body, well-behaved and particularly stubborn.

Feng Fanghua looked at her helplessly, raised her hand, and sighed.

Mu Yichen couldn't help looking at his daughter and then turning his gaze to Qin Mu. He hadn't expected Feng Fanghua to suddenly bring up this topic but now, watching Qin Mu and their daughter, he truly longed to add another member to the family.

Mu Zihao said, "A brother or a sister is fine. After all, your parents are still young. They can have a few more for you to play with in the future, right?"

"Yes!"

Huanhuan agreed and then looked up at her mother.

Qin Mu suddenly felt her daughter's gaze held a deeper meaning, but she just smiled and stroked her daughter's head.

Having children wasn't as simple as wanting them, was it?

Though, the last time she was unexpectedly pregnant with Huanhuan right away.

There were a few occasions they were not careful, but she didn't get pregnant, and the thought of having many more made her fear her limits.

Mu Yichen could only gaze at his wife admiringly until Huanhuan climbed out of Qin Mu's lap to fetch a Barbie doll nearby and called out, "Why isn't Grandpa coming?"

"Hmm?"

Qin Mu looked at her daughter curiously, not understanding, and asked.

"The Barbie that Grandpa is giving to Huanhuan!"

Huanhuan's large, dark eyes looked at her mother, shaking the Barbie princess in her hand.