

His Beloved 581

Chapter 581: Ao Jiao Like a Queen_1

"That would be for the best! The lesson from last time must have been profound for you two, and with such a good example here, Yichen, don't say I, your father-in-law, look down on you, but truly, don't disappoint me, alright?"

"Understood!"

Mu Yichen agreed.

Qin Haiming nodded, then turned to Qin Mu and said, "Come over to the house tomorrow, I have something else I need to discuss with you alone."

Qin Haiming wasn't trying to disrespect the Mu Family, but he was genuinely concerned for his daughter.

"Alright!"

Qin Mu obediently agreed.

After the dinner party, Qin Haiming returned home, only to slump tiredly on the sofa.

He had frequently been dreaming of the scene where Qin Mu's mother died in a car accident, and he was truly worried that Qin Mu would follow in her mother's footsteps.

Or was it because once Qin Mu mentioned she had thought about suicide, and since then, he'd been having such dreams?

Qin Haiming couldn't figure it out, but at this moment, the silence of the large but empty house made his heart panic.

All those good and bad things were replaying in his mind over and over.

It was almost as if he had lived this life for nothing!

Only today did he realize what is most important to him!

—

Qin Mu and Mu Yichen returned to the old house with the elders. After arriving, Qin Mu went to Huanhuan's room, but soon her parents called her into her grandfather's room.

Mu Yichen, seeing the seriousness of the situation, frowned and said, "It's getting late! Shouldn't everyone be resting?"

"What exactly is going on with Su Zhen?"

Feng Fanghua asked first, standing by the wall with a stern look.

"I swear, I have nothing to do with that woman, it was strictly for work."

He could only tell the truth.

"There are no outsiders here, just tell your grandfather the truth. Do you really have nothing to do with this woman?"

"I swear!"

Mu Yichen, upon hearing his grandfather's words, couldn't help but solemnly reiterate, suddenly feeling that the family had called him over on such serious business just to accuse him.

But whom were they asking this for, that he had offended?

"If you make that girl sad again, it's not just her father who won't let you off, I, as her grandfather, won't forgive you either. Got it?" the old man instructed.

"Got it!" Mu Yichen nodded, suppressing a laugh.

"If you stir up any more trouble, you're really going to disgrace your parents... You must have heard what the Mayor of Qin City said tonight, he was really angry about the sudden mention of Su Zhen. How long is this woman going to stay at your hotel?"

"That, I can't say!"

Mu Yichen furrowed his brows, how would he know how long that woman intended to stay?

However, his subordinates had already given her a warning, so if she dared to cause trouble in the future, then he would have the freedom to deal with her as he saw fit.

When he returned to his room, he saw that Qin Mu had already tucked Huanhuan into bed and was lying between them.

Mu Yichen's dark eyes looked at Qin Mu, who was holding back laughter; she seemed completely unaffected by Su Zhen, as if her entire heart and eyes were filled only with him, only this family.

He sat down beside her, lying next to her and their daughter, and asked in a low voice, "Why are you laughing like a sly fox?"

"Hehe! No, no! I just wanted to say, let's let Huanhuan sleep with us tonight!"

"If it's just occasionally, I'll accept!"

Mu Yichen said.

Qin Mu looked at him in surprise; Mr. Mu was really easy-going tonight.

"I'm going to take a bath, and then head to bed if I get sleepy."

He stretched out his hand, caressing her hair over their daughter.

"Okay!"

Qin Mu agreed, watching him get out of bed, go to the wardrobe to grab his pajamas, and then head to the bathroom.

She quietly lay beside her daughter, enjoying the bliss of her daughter's sleep, and admiring his tall figure from behind.

Wow! Every time he took off his clothes like that, she thought he looked incredibly cool.

But she didn't expect that, within just ten minutes, she would actually fall asleep.

Mu Yichen, dressed in his pajamas, came out and saw that the mother and daughter were asleep on the bed. He couldn't help but have a slightly twitching brow and a rich expression in his eyes.

He seemed to be helplessly amused that she fell asleep so quickly, yet he was also moved that she and their daughter were right there by his side.

Mu Yichen lay beside his wife and daughter, thinking about what Qin Haiming had said to him at the hotel earlier that day, and he knew he couldn't let Qin Mu be exposed to any more danger.

Thinking back on how they, as a couple, had been calculated against but had been lucky, he knew that nobody could guarantee that luck would follow them for a lifetime. Hence, being prepared, striking first to gain an advantage, was often the best way to protect oneself.

Chapter 582: Ao Jiao Like a Queen_2

Qin Mu went with Mu Yichen to take their wedding photos that day, not far from Qin Mu's studio, by that beautiful lakeside.

Xiaomei was the bridesmaid, and Zhao Huai was the best man, so both of them tagged along.

Of course, Qiao Yi and Jiang Zhiyuan also followed; for such a big event, who wouldn't want to join in the fun and maybe see a joke or two?

In truth, it was jealousy, dissatisfaction, and the desire to mock.

Jing Feng and Helian Hao arrived a bit later, Qin Mu and Mu Yichen had already started posing for pictures.

The two got out of the SUV and walked toward the couple being photographed in their wedding attire, all the while observing them.

Dressed in a pristine wedding gown, Qin Mu leaned on Mu Yichen's shoulder as they were taking pictures, when suddenly she saw Helian Hao standing not far off and waved at her.

Helian Hao, hands in pockets, stood beside Jing Feng watching, unable to restrain the happiness she felt for her good friend.

Mu Yichen, in his white suit, stood next to Qin Mu, who was wearing flat shoes, looking like the type of man who gives a strong sense of security.

Especially that spoilt, delicate look on Qin Mu's face, at first glance it gave off the impression that she was utterly pampered.

Mu Yichen gently wrapped his arms around her waist, striking various awkward poses at the photographer's request, but each time he couldn't help gazing at Qin Mu with deep affection.

"Ah, this is torture for us singletons!"

Jiang Zhiyuan sat on the hood of his car, watching the scene unfold as though he had been force-fed poison.

But it seemed that the others didn't share his agony.

Qiao Yi seemingly imagined himself in a suit on his own wedding day, yet he just couldn't figure out who the woman beside him would be.

Could it be Secretary Xi?

Secretary Xi?

Startled by the thought, Qiao Yi immediately slapped his own face.

The man sitting on the hood heard the noise and turned to look at him in confusion, "What the hell, what's wrong with you?"

Qiao Yi looked at him, "Nothing!"

"Nothing?" Jiang Zhiyuan expressed his skepticism.

It wasn't until they saw Helian Hao and Jing Feng arriving that Jiang Zhiyuan was about to say here come two more single dogs, but then he bitterly exclaimed, "I have to take multiple wives, I'll make all you monogamous mortals envious."

Upon hearing this, Helian Hao and Jing Feng turned their eyes to him.

"We live in a society governed by law, if you get in trouble, I can't help you."

Jing Jian immediately cautioned.

"I was just speaking hypothetically."

Jiang Zhiyuan was startled and quickly assured him seriously.

Helian Hao couldn't help but laugh, "Say, Young Master Jiang, what about that girl who was with you the other day? Don't you have her WeChat? Haven't you contacted her again?"

"We're not close, why would I contact her for no reason? She might think I'm interested in her, how would that look?"

Jiang Zhiyuan frowned and grumbled.

"Don't mind him."

Jing Feng told Helian Hao.

"Xiaohao, come here!"

Qin Mu, with her arm around the groom's, was calling Helian Hao.

"She's calling me, I'll go over!"

Helian Hao said as she left Jing Feng behind and walked forward.

Jing Feng, watching Helian Hao leave him heartlessly, sighed helplessly and leaned against Jiang Zhiyuan's car, "Got a cigarette?"

"Got it!"

So, the three men leaned against the car, disgruntled, smoking.

Meanwhile, Xiaomei and Helian Hao took turns taking photos with Mu Yichen, and the three sisters happily took pictures together.

That day, they changed into many wedding dresses; Helian Hao and Xiaomei both put on wedding dresses, not bridesmaid dresses, but one of the ones Qin Mu had just worn.

The three women stood beautifully by the lake for pictures.

Qin Mu whispered to Helian Hao, "Should I ask Jing Feng to take a picture with you?"

Helian Hao was startled, but Xiaomei overheard and shouted, "Jing, they're calling you for a photo!"

The man smoking froze as he was about to raise the cigarette to his lips, as if he couldn't believe his ears.

"Hah! I will take multiple wives if it kills me."

Jiang Zhiyuan couldn't take the torture anymore.

But Jing Feng stubbed out his cigarette and headed over to them.

He walked straight to Helian Hao, though she wouldn't look at him. To his left was Helian Hao, to his right was Xiaomei.

Xiaomei was definitely crashing the party, so she ended up being pulled away by Zhao Huai, "Xiaomei, you're mine!"

Xiaomei's eyes widened in disbelief as she looked at Zhao Huai.

But Jing Feng was already nervously hooking his arm around Helian Hao's shoulder.

The wedding photo shoot today was supposed to be Mu Yichen's show, but he eventually realized his wife's elaborate intentions.

Qin Mu could unreservedly switch wedding gowns with Helian Hao, and naturally, Mu Yichen only had to switch suits with Jing Feng.

They then went to a few famous scenic spots in the city, where Qiao Yi and Jiang Zhiyuan occasionally joined in and took a few photos, as good brothers would.

Chapter 583: Ao Jiao Like a Queen_3

But the two of us were still tormented all the way through by the three couples in formal attire taking pictures, especially since Zhao Huai and Xiaomei even ended up as a pair, wearing a wedding dress and a suit to take those kinds of photos.

At dinner, everyone went out to a private restaurant, and Jiang Zhiyuan asked, "Why don't we go to AM?"

"That's a question for our boss Mu!"

Helian Hao said, casting a sharp glance towards Mu Yichen.

Mu Yichen let out a slight smile, "So who's paying for today's wedding photos?"

Suddenly, silence fell around us.

We were led to an elegant private room, took our respective seats, and then, smartly, Helian Hao shut his mouth.

"Definitely not me, I'm just a poor worker, and really poor at that!"

Xiaomei fiddled with her teacup while talking, her round black eyes looking at Qin Mu.

"Nor me, I'm just a poor driver, and also a groomsman," Zhao Huai also said, dead serious.

"Xiaohao and I don't make much," Jing Jian added severely.

Helian Hao poured himself a cup of tea, sealing his own lips even tighter.

"Qiao Yi and I only took a couple of shots, and as two single dogs, would you really have the nerve to ask us for money?" Jiang Zhiyuan commented, with Qiao Yi nodding along.

"Looks like I'm footing the bill then. Shouldn't you guys be more considerate and not ask me for depressing stuff?"

Mu boss poured tea for his wife, opting for a herbal tea that was safe for pregnant women, which he had specifically requested from the staff.

Qin Mu laughed, "I'll take care of the bill tonight, feel free to criticize away!"

Upon hearing this, several men blushed, especially Jiang Zhiyuan and Qiao Yi.

Zhao Huai continued shamelessly pretending to be poor, and Xiaomei joyously freeloaded food and drinks as well.

"When Mumu and I first met Su Zhen, we thought she must be an actress or a model, what a figure she has," Helian Hao chimed in again.

"Yeah! It was quite nice!" Mu Yichen remarked before sipping his tea, then winced as he felt pain in his thigh, still holding his coffee but unable to resist giving Qin Mu a bad grin.

Qin Mu pinched his thigh and glared at him.

"Haven't I already told you everything I think?"

Qin Mu, recalling how she had pledged her loyalty just the night before, instantly felt a surge of joy and began to sip her water in small, delicate gulps.

Qin Mu was supposed to meet with Qin Haiming these past two days, but since Qin Haiming suddenly went on a business trip, she was relieved of that burden for the time being.

After dinner, everyone headed home. Before Helian Hao and Jing Feng left, Qin Mu, as Helian Hao's close friend, warned Jing Feng: "Take good care of our Xiaohao or you'll have to answer to me."

Mu Yichen stood on the side, remembering how not long ago Helian Hao had issued him the same warning; the two women were indeed close sisters.

Then Qin Mu got into the car, and Mu Yichen followed suit.

Jing Feng stood beside his own car but suddenly walked towards hers, opening the car door for her.

Helian Hao curiously glanced at him, "No need for that."

"I'm afraid Qin Mu will ask Mu Yichen to beat me up. You know he's quite skilled, and I might not win every time," Jing Feng said, a man not usually given to jokes.

Yet, for some reason, Helian Hao felt moved by those few words and got into the car without looking up.

Jing Feng closed the door for her, reminded her to buckle up, then made his way to the driver's side, started the car, and drove off.

The whole ride home was quiet, but inside, both were actually very excited.

Even though they had come to watch others take wedding photos, they ended up taking some themselves, albeit not many.

They had done this before, but this time, it felt...

Completely different.

When they arrived home, Helian Hao went to take a shower, while Jing Feng cut some fruit for her in the kitchen, but then he received a call from home.

It was his mother.

"Xiaofeng, I heard Xiaohao is pregnant. Is it true?"

His mother's voice was still soft, and Jing Feng's eyebrows twitched slightly before he responded with a heavy "Hmm."

"Really? Then I'm going to be a grandmother?" His mother's voice, tinged with excitement, came through the phone.

In the dark night, this voice sounded somewhat fragile.

"Mom! Can we talk about this tomorrow? It's very late," Jing Feng didn't quite know what else to say at the moment but wanted to let Helian Hao know that his family was aware of her pregnancy.

"Oh, alright! Please take good care of Xiaohao. If there's anything we can do, just let us know. She shouldn't overexert herself now that she's pregnant. Rest is what a pregnant woman needs the most."

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"Okay!"

After Jing Feng hung up the phone, he continued to place the fruit he had prepared on a plate and carried it over.

Later, when Helian Hao came out after taking a shower, she looked at him and said, "Do you think my hair is too long? I've been feeling a bit tired lately. How about I go cut it?"

Jing Feng put down the fruit plate, looked at her with her back to him as she held up a handful of her hair, and agreed, "Okay!"

Upon hearing his response, Helian Hao let her hair down again, sat on the sofa while drying it, and suddenly, her appetite returned as she eyed the fruit on the table.

"Go take a shower, I've already drawn the bathwater for you."

Some things had become habit.

"Mm!" Jing Feng replied, but after a few steps, he turned back again.

Helian Hao wrapped her hair in a towel and was about to bend down to pick up the fruit plate when she saw him return and looked up at him curiously, "Why did you come back?"

"The family knows about your pregnancy!"

He still told her.

Helian Hao looked at Jing Feng's tired face and then suddenly smiled slightly, "Oh! So they know. Let it be!"

Jing Feng looked at her, not understanding.

"Go take your shower, and we'll talk later!"

She still picked up the fruit plate.

Jing Feng, seeing that she was in the mood to eat, felt that things might not be as bad as he had anticipated and went to the bathroom to shower.

Helian Hao thought that it was probably because they had taken wedding photos today, that sudden intimacy had calmed her heart considerably.

Truth be told, Jing Feng was still the same Jing Feng; he was always caught between work and family, a very focused man, but a single glance from him weighed heavily on her heart.

Suddenly, she realized he had never told her that he was tired; he was always trying to give for everyone without asking for anything in return.

For the Jing Family, he likely endured too much exhaustion.

During this brief period, she should be there for him!

And then today, Qin Mu suddenly suggested they take wedding photos together, Helian Hao picked up another grape and put it in her mouth, finding the cool sourness especially delicious.

The grapes had been cut in half, and the seeds were already removed, which made her all the more touched.

Her phone then rang; when she saw it was her mother calling, she guessed her mother-in-law must have told her mother about the pregnancy and decided to answer, "Mom!"

"Xiaohao, why didn't you tell us about something as big as a pregnancy?"

"I just found out! I didn't have time yet!"

"This is great news; everyone is happy for you. Can you come home tomorrow? Mom has some things to tell you."

"Okay!"

After Helian Hao hung up the phone, Jing Feng came out of the bathroom, the usually stoic man always seemed to have a sense of distance, but that wasn't the case in front of her.

Jing Feng walked over to her, half-sat on the armrest of the sofa beside her, grabbed a piece of fruit to eat, and asked, "Was that a call from Mom?"

"Mm! She wants me to come home for dinner tomorrow night."

Helian Hao reported truthfully.

"Do you want me to come with you?"

"No need!"

Helian Hao said softly.

Jing Feng just looked down at her, and he suddenly realized the distance between them lately had truly been extraordinary.

So he swung his legs aside, leaned back from the armrest, and lay down on her legs.

Helian Hao instinctively leaned back, her hands awkwardly spread out as she looked down at him sprawled on her legs, gazing up at her.

"What are you doing? Go lie on the bed!"

"Just stay like this for a while!"

He said.

His voice was so soft, it made her heart ache.

Helian Hao gently cradled his face, her eyes suddenly turning red with a touch of sadness, "Jing Feng, you've been working hard lately, haven't you? Why haven't you told me?"

"I'm a man!"

"But you're still my husband!"

She murmured softly, tears nearly spilling out.

"I don't want you to be so tired either! Xiaohao, just being Mrs. Jing simply is enough."

Helian Hao held back and held back, finally keeping the words at the tip of her tongue unsaid, just tenderly cradling his face.

Qin Mu received a message from Helian Hao before going to sleep.

"Mumu, I suddenly feel like I'm so selfish."

Qin Mu lay in bed, puzzled by her message, unconsciously frowning.

Xiaohao, selfish?

It seemed to her that there was no one better than Xiaohao in this world.

Mu Yichen finished his shower and lay down next to her, wrapped his arms around her and asked, "Whose message?"

"Xiaohao!"

Qin Mu lifted the phone a bit and then replied to Helian Hao, "I think you are the best person in the world."

"But Jing Feng has taken on so much alone, and as his wife, I haven't done anything for him."

Helian Hao sent back to her, with a teary smiling emoji leading the message.

"Who says? You married him because he loves you, and you are having a child for him. Having given so much, how can you say you haven't done anything for him?"

Helian Hao...

Mu Yi, watching Qin Mu's message, couldn't help but laugh, "I must say, Mrs. Mu, or maybe they're feeling down right now, do you have to make it so funny?"

"Funny?"

Qin Mu asked him curiously, her big round eyes unblinkingly staring at him.

Mu Yichen...

"Say I'm serious!"

Qin Mu suddenly straddled him, pinning him down with the haughty air of a queen, her mischievous hand gripping his chin as she commanded.

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But she was completely unaware that a pair of hands had already quietly slipped under her nightgown.

It wasn't until she felt her waist being hooked and suddenly lost her balance, falling forward onto his chest, that Qin Mu snapped back to reality, "You..."

"My queen, whatever you say is right!"

His voice was low as he kissed along her ear, whispering to her.

Qin Mu suddenly felt a tickling in her heart, and her chest also began to feel uncomfortable, "Mu Yichen, don't you..."

"Hmm?"

"Don't do this!"

"I want you!"

Having gone without for two nights straight, President Mu had reached his limit.

Especially since she had moved onto him herself, even if it wasn't to seduce him.

But that unintentional movement made it even more unbearable, as if to almost cause a nosebleed.

Mu Yichen only knew the fire within him needed to be released, or he wouldn't be able to hold back much longer.

Qin Mu felt his body burning hot, so... she nervously reminded him to be gentle, and then the unspeakable happened.

— —

When the two woke up in the morning, Qin Mu turned over and nestled into his arms, feeling the warmth and couldn't help but rub against him again and again.

President Mu hadn't even opened his eyes yet, but couldn't help but warn her, "Stop rubbing, I've been suffering from holding back recently, and last night was not satisfying."

"Where are you uncomfortable?"

Qin Mu's voice was a bit hoarse, her soft fingers on his waist.

"You little temptress, do you have a death wish?"

"I'm just soothing!"

Mu Yichen was nearly driven mad with frustration, but could only offer a helpless, wry smile.

"Mrs. Mu, are you trying to kill your husband?"

"Not at all! I'm just sincerely inquiring."

"Then do you understand?"

He lowered his head, hooked her chin, and kissed her lips lightly.

Qin Mu almost instantly got it, so...

When they finally climbed out of bed it was almost eight o'clock, Mu Yichen had already prepared breakfast for her, and walked towards her in a suit jacket, kneeling at the edge of the bed he hugged her tousled hair and planted a heavy kiss on her forehead.

"I've prepared breakfast for you, hurry up and eat, I have a meeting this morning and won't be there to join you, you rest at home. If you're too tired, don't go to work, I'll come home after the meeting to be with you."

"Yeah!"

Qin Mu nodded weakly, looked up into his dark, worried eyes, then flashed him a smile. Mu Yichen sighed helplessly before bending over to ruffle her hair and left.

After Mu Yichen's car drove away, Qin Mu finally got up with some effort, her drowsiness deepening. She visited the bathroom then collapsed back into bed, wrapped up in a blanket, and continued sleeping.

When she woke up again, it was past ten in the morning. Qin Mu went downstairs to eat breakfast. The porridge was still hot, and she served herself a bowl to eat leisurely alone in the dining room.

Later, she lounged on the sofa, opened her phone, and casually browsed, then upon opening her social circle of friends, she saw Mu Yichen's photo, and instantly her drowsiness vanished, her attention fully on the text and the source of the post.

From Su Zhen.

"First meeting after starting the job! Isn't the boss handsome?"

The boss was indeed handsome, but...

It bothered her how openly her husband's photo was posted, Qin Mu frowned.

Just as she was getting angry, Helian Hao called to ask her, "What's with that Su Zhen? Daring to take photos of your husband during a meeting and post them in her circle of friends, is she provoking you?"

"I just saw it myself and I'm angry too!"

Qin Mu lowered her head, playing with her fingers, her long hair almost covering her entire face.

"Does Mu Yichen know? That Su Zhen took his picture and posted it on her social media? Su Zhen's friends even think that she snagged herself a wealthy husband upon arriving in Rongcheng. You must take this seriously, understand?"

"Mmm-hmm!"

The anger stewing inside her had dissipated mostly after hearing Helian Hao's stern words. Now feeling a bit relieved, she lay back on the sofa looking at the ceiling, pinching her phone in one hand while stroking her long hair back with the other, and asked Helian Hao, "I didn't go to work today, do you want to come to the apartment?"

"I have a surgery to do later, I just saw this post and wanted to give you a heads up. Besides, this woman seems dignified, but her actions are utterly shameless, even having the audacity to ask us for our phone number and adding us on WeChat. The key point is, having the gall to post Mu Yichen's photo after adding WeChat. If you don't nip this in the bud, you won't have a moment's peace for months."

In the photo, Mu Yichen's expression appeared grim, clearly upset.

After hanging up the phone, Qin Mu held her phone up in the air with both hands, thinking and looking over and over again.

Qin Mu immediately took a screenshot of the social media post and sent it to Mu Yichen.

"Waiting for you to come back for lunch, your husband who got posted in another woman's circle of friends."

Chapter 586: You are my queen_2

Mu Yichen heard his phone chime and picked it up for a glance. He frowned slightly upon seeing the photo his wife sent him, and subconsciously lifted his eyes to look at Su Zhen, who was diagonally across from him, several people away.

Su Zhen had already been watching him, and when she saw him looking her way, irrespective of how much disgust was in his eyes, she smiled and nodded at him.

Mu Yichen continued to listen to the report with a frown of annoyance, and then set his phone aside.

When the meeting ended, Mu Yichen tapped his hand gently on the edge of the table and then lifted his gaze to look at those seated around him.

"Let's set a little rule, from now on, during meetings, no one is to bring their phones into the office, especially those who love to post on social media! This is the place where you serve, not where you show off and take pictures! Dismissed!"

After finishing his statement, Mu Yichen was the first to get up and leave, his presence as chilly as air conditioning, making people reluctant to approach him even in the heat of summer.

Su Zhen sat there dumbfounded without moving, while everyone else left one after another, seemingly still discussing who had been so bored as to take pictures during the meeting.

Su Zhen, who had added quite a few people on social media, suddenly thought of how everyone would soon know about her post, and immediately reopened her phone in anger, found her social media post, and deleted it.

As she looked at Mu Yichen's side profile on the screen, Su Zhen felt as if her heart was pricked, and she gripped her phone tightly in her hand.

However, the upper echelons still found out, as everyone had seen her taking pictures with her phone aimed at Mu Yichen before the meeting started. Even the media wouldn't dare to expose Mu Yichen without consent, and to everyone's view, this woman was far too overconfident.

When Mu Yichen returned home at noon, he brought Huanhuan back as well, carrying many things in his hands.

Qin Mu, lying on the sofa and lifting her head, saw the two returnees, especially when she spotted the little one, and immediately crawled up from the sofa: "Huanhuan!"

"Mummy!"

Huanhuan ran towards Qin Mu on her little legs, and Qin Mu scooped her up from the couch in one swift move, startling Mu Yichen, who hurried over: "Now you know why Ms. Feng has been reluctant to let you take Huanhuan lately."

"Why?"

Qin Mu asked, curious.

Mu Yichen settled Huanhuan onto the couch and also sat her down, pressing her into the sofa: "No more rough handling like that, do you think you're still on your own?"

He planted his hands on either side of her, on the back of the sofa, cornering Qin Mu against the backrest.

Huanhuan, unable to resist watching her parents being so close, covered her small mouth and giggled.

Mu Yichen turned his head and saw his daughter's squinted eyes, so he had no choice but to let Qin Mu go: "I'll go cook!"

Huanhuan couldn't help but laugh, intentionally covering her mouth with her hand.

Qin Mu turned to look at her daughter and then, with one arm, pulled her onto her lap, pressing the little girl down: "You dare mock your mom, huh?"

"Hehe, Mummy's shy!"

Huanhuan cupped Qin Mu's lowering cheeks in her hands and squeezed hard.

Qin Mu...

Is this what they mean by a mischievous child, describing her Huanhuan?

Turning her head towards the dining area and thinking about Mu Yi preparing lunch, and the social media incident on her phone, she then let go of Huanhuan and headed to the kitchen.

"Mu Yi?"

A pair of slender hands clung to the doorway, and a beautiful face appeared, visible to the man in the kitchen.

"What's the instruction? Mrs. Mu!"

Mu Yi was busy cooking earnestly; he glanced at Mrs. Mu when she appeared, then continued with his task.

Qin Mu approached and, with round eyes, looked at her favorite vegetable simmering in the pot: "Su Zhen has deleted your photo from her social media."

Her voice wasn't loud, but it was enough for him to hear.

"Hmm!"

Mu Yichen still seemed disinterested, and Qin Mu looked up at him, unable to curb her curiosity.

Hadn't he said something to Su Zhen, she probably wouldn't have deleted the social media post so quickly, would she?

Now playing mysterious with her?

"Did you talk to her?"

Qin Mu asked again, curious and batting her eyes pleasingly.

"I just set a rule after the meeting that no phones are allowed during meetings, that's all."

Mu Yichen continued seriously.

"Oh!"

Qin Mu felt genuinely shocked; she could almost imagine Su Zhen's expression and internal world when she heard those words – it must have been quite a spectacle.

"Then you cook well, I'll go play with our daughter for a while."

After speaking, Qin Mu slipped away, and Mu Yichen slightly raised his eyebrows, struggling to contain the urge to laugh at the sight of her trying to please him, finding satisfaction in her gestures.

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After lunch, the family of three settled in the living room. Mu Yichen was responsible for reading to the mother and daughter, who cuddled together and eventually fell asleep while listening.

When Mu Yichen put down the book, he turned to see Huanhuan asleep in Qin Mu's arms, and as he lifted his gaze, he saw the tender image of the woman also sleeping, reflected in his soft eyes.

At that moment, he couldn't help but smile, feeling incredibly warm.

He got up, first carried Huanhuan away from Qin Mu's embrace, and after putting Huanhuan back in her room, he went downstairs to carry Qin Mu, who murmured in a hoarse voice, "Do you still have to go to work later?"

"Not going!"

Mu Yichen replied, and looking down at her with her eyes still closed, he didn't say anything more.

Afterward, the three of them fell asleep together in bed, and then father and son went out to play, leaving Qin Mu to continue sleeping at home by herself.

Her current state was what people call 'the more you sleep, the sleepier you get,' and so, her day was pretty much wasted.

When Qin Mu woke up again, it was already evening, and one look in the mirror scared her with the image of a woman with disheveled hair looking like a ghost.

Was this still her, Qin Mu?

She gripped her hair tightly with her hands and then patted her heart forcefully before hurrying to take a shower.

— —

In the evening, at Qin Haiming's request, she went to the Qin Family home alone.

After Qin Haiming came downstairs, he saw Qin Mu sipping bird's nest soup in the living room and unconsciously curled his lips into a smile, then went to sit on a separate sofa diagonally across from her.

"Yichen knows you're here, right?"

"Mhm!"

Qin Mu put down the bowl and spoke to him in a low voice.

"Today, I wanted to talk to you about your dowry. If you have any special requests, you can put them forward," Qin Haiming suggested, watching her.

"There's no need to trouble yourself with the dowry, Mu Yichen said we don't need any of that pomp," Qin Mu relayed to Qin Haiming what Mu Yichen had told her beforehand.

"Hmm, he may not care about my things, but that's his business. As your family, how can we not prepare a dowry for you? Since you don't have any requests, then I'll just get something ready. I don't have many good things here, but there are still a few," Qin Haiming said, smiling as he spoke.

Seeing his insistence, Qin Mu didn't say anything more. After the incident last time, Qin Mu was mostly silent towards Qin Haiming, not knowing how to interact with this father of hers—there was still a river separating them.

"What do you think of Su Zhen's intention?" Qin Haiming decided to bring it up after some thought.

"She can't change the status quo between Mu Yichen and me. Of course, she is indeed a troublemaker," Qin Mu replied.

"Let me take care of this issue for you," Qin Haiming offered.

Qin Mu looked up at him, and Qin Haiming smiled gently, "I've dealt quite a bit with her father over the years."

Qin Mu lowered her gaze, "Then I'll trouble you with that!"

He smiled slightly; she still didn't call him 'dad'. Every time she would say 'I'll trouble you with that', a formal politeness that pained his heart, but he just laughed it off.

"There's no trouble between us, father and daughter!"

He declared.

Qin Mu nodded.

"Finish the bird's nest soup; we don't keep these things at home normally, it was all prepared for you," Qin Haiming added.

"Okay!"

Qin Mu then picked up the bowl of unfinished bird's nest soup and continued to drink it.

The housekeeper came out with a platter of cut fruit, "Miss, this was also bought for you today on the mayor's orders. Are these all your favorites?"

Qin Mu smiled at the housekeeper after a glance.

The housekeeper understood her meaning, knowing that there was a rift between the father and daughter, she didn't say more and left.

After Qin Mu left, Qin Haiming picked up the home phone and made a call to D City.

"Old Su, I hear your precious pearl has come to work in Rong City?"

Su Zhen's father, on the other end, chuckled at the topic, "Yes, indeed! The girl studied hotel management, and you know, even the best hotels in our city don't have much clout. Recently, Mu has been working on a cooperation project with our city, so I asked him to let the girl go over and learn a thing or two. Why? Has she caused any trouble over at your place?"

"So that's the situation. There's a decent hotel in Beijing, and I happen to know the president there. If you don't mind, why not consider my suggestion? I assure you, the opportunities there will not be any worse than here in our city," Qin Haiming pondered, each word carefully weighed.

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"Oh? Must that girl have caused some trouble over there? Otherwise, why would you suddenly make this call? We have been friends for years now—you can speak frankly."

So, later on, Qin Haiming slowly started talking about Qin Mu's situation: "Old Su, I owe my daughter too much, so you should understand my feelings."

"Don't worry, I'll contact Su Zhen right away and have her resign from there immediately."

"I still have some influence over things in Beijing," Qin Haiming added just before hanging up the phone.

"Great! I definitely won't stand on ceremony if I need something."

After the two of them hung up the phone, Qin Haiming finally breathed a sigh of relief. He really feared that Su Zhen's father wouldn't give him this face. But just as he was about to get up, he heard a shout from inside: "It's not good, Mayor—Brother Wang has fainted!"

"What? Quick, call an ambulance!"

During all this, Qin Haiming was running towards Uncle Wang's room while giving orders.

The next day, Qin Mu learned of Uncle Wang's hospitalization from Helian Hao. Qin Mu and Helian Hao bought fruit baskets and flowers and went to visit him. Uncle Wang looked worse than the last time they had seen him.

"The Mayor had some urgent matters this morning, so he left early, but he will come back tonight."

The aunt taking care of him explained to Qin Mu.

Qin Mu nodded, unable to help asking as she looked at Uncle Wang's gaunt appearance: "The last time I saw you in the hospital, you should have told me—treat an illness early to avoid such suffering, right?"

"I'm fine! Really fine!"

Uncle Wang said with a bit of an embarrassed smile, also afraid of worrying her.

Qin Mu and Helian Hao exchanged glances, "Xiaohao is a doctor here, you know that, right? If there's an emergency, just call someone to fetch her."

Uncle Wang nodded, "Of course, I know Miss Helian."

"Not to mention! If you said you didn't know me, I would have to revert back to my childhood and let you watch me grow up all over again."

Helian Hao joked.

"You two girls—unexpected that after so many years, you could still reunite. It's also your fate. Seeing you together like this makes Uncle Wang happy for you."

Uncle Wang reflected, remembering the days when the two girls used to carry their schoolbags and go to school together.

"You two are also quite busy, so don't come over again. I'll contact you if I need anything, and besides, everything is taken care of by your father. He treats me like his own brother, so don't worry."

Uncle Wang later said to Qin Mu.

Qin Mu nodded and walked out of his ward with Helian Hao.

Helian Hao said, "Uncle Wang really hasn't followed your father for nothing these years."

"Yes!"

Qin Mu walked with her head down, murmuring her agreement.

Helian Hao, seeing her preoccupied, curiously asked, "What's wrong? Are you troubled?"

"Qin Hai said he is going to prepare my dowry."

Qin Mu leaned against the wall and spoke to Helian Hao in a low voice.

"Isn't that a good thing? He's finally willing to take on a father's responsibility,"

Helian Hao asked her.

"He also said he would help get Su Zhen away from AM but—I know he's being good to me, but I just can't quite accept it."

Qin Mu said, lowering her head again.

Helian Hao also lowered her head, then lifted a hand to Qin Mu's shoulder, consoling, "Just let your relationship with your father take its own course, okay?"

After visiting Uncle Wang, Qin Mu returned to the studio. Xiaomei saw her car come back and ran out. Qin Mu gave her a curious look: "What's up?"

Looking at the blue convertible aside, she asked again, "We have a visitor?"

"She said her name is Su Zhen and she has come to see you!"

Xiaomei looked at Qin Mu with a hint of wariness in her eyes. She was being vigilant on behalf of Qin Mu.

Upon hearing Su Zhen's name, Qin Mu became curious too. Then, thinking of what Qin Hai had told her the night before, she nodded and walked in.

Su Zhen was sitting in the reception area, looking through their promotional brochures. Hearing footsteps, she looked up: "You're back!"

"Yes! Ms. Su, what brings you here? Do you want to have some clothes made?"

"Not really! Just came to have a chat with you!"

Su Zhen said with a smile.

Qin Mu was slightly taken aback by this straightforward reply but nodded and gestured, "Please, have a seat."

Su Zhen then sat back down.

"I've only just learned that Miss Qin is actually the treasure in the palm of Secretary Qin's hand. I had never before heard that Secretary Qin had a daughter who is a designer and is his treasure."

Su Zhen spoke, her words polite and tactful.

"I grew up in Paris, so it's normal that you don't know about me."

Qin Mu finished speaking but couldn't help recalling that when she had first arrived, Qin Hai had already introduced her to his political friends. If Qin Hai really had a good relationship with Mayor Su, how could Mayor Su not know about her?

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"Can we go somewhere more private to talk?"

Su Zhen glanced around and then suggested to her.

"Then let's go to my office!"

Qin Mu was taken aback but quickly agreed, leading her to the office.

After Su Zhen arrived at Qin Mu's office, she couldn't help but exclaim, "It looks really professional!"

"Do you think I'm just for show?"

Qin Mu asked jokingly.

But when Su Zhen turned to look at her, she noticed the sharpness in her eyes and immediately laughed, "I would never dare! I'm just not familiar with your line of work, that's all."

"Sit down, let's talk!"

Qin Mu made room for her and then sat behind the large desk.

Su Zhen took a seat on the sofa and couldn't resist picking up a pebble from the coffee table and fondling it, "It feels so good in the hand."

"That's something my daughter picked up from the beach."

Qin Mu looked up and told her.

"Right, you have a daughter too, I heard she's over three years old, isn't she?"

Su Zhen started the conversation again.

Qin Mu felt this was clearly an awkward chat, and it was really pointless for two strangers to talk about this.

"Yes!"

"You're really blessed to have given Mr. Mu two babies."

Su Zhen gently placed the pebble back in its place and clasped her hands together as she spoke to her.

"It's my blessing, just as much as it is Mr. Mu's!"

Qin Mu corrected.

"There must be no shortage of women who want to have children with Mr. Mu, right?"

"Miss Su, what would you like to discuss? Let's get straight to the point!"

Qin Mu put her hands together, gave a slight smile, and then became serious about business, her piercing eyes drilling into the depths of Su Zhen's gaze.

"Last night my father called and asked me to resign. He said that your father had called him, asking me not to disrupt your marriage. I don't know where you got the idea that I intended to disrupt your marriage, and have you actually registered your marriage?"

Su Zhen asked confidently, questioning her.

Qin Mu stood up from her chair and walked out, standing in front of her desk facing Su Zhen, her sharp eyes fixed on Su Zhen's, and she smiled faintly.

"Mu Yichen and I have indeed registered our marriage, two years ago."

Qin Mu said, then lowered her eyes slightly and lightly pinched a small thread on her loose clothing.

"Now, about how I knew you intended to disrupt our marriage?"

Qin Mu raised her eyebrows slightly and looked at her, her fondness for Su Zhen dropping to negative.

"If your attitude when choosing clothes at the store during our first meeting wasn't clear enough, if your behavior at that evening's gathering wasn't indicative enough, then the fact that you posted Mu Yichen's photo on your social circle should explain it all."

Qin Mu engaged in an argument with her. She had originally thought they didn't need to spell things out so clearly, after all, they weren't close.

Su Zhen's face finally lost all its smile.

"You know, I'm actually not good at communication, but I really feel your way of interacting with others is too presumptuous. Besides, you really don't have the right to come here and question me about these things."

Qin Mu looked down upon the woman sitting on the sofa whose expression had collapsed, her words meant to make Su Zhen look bad.

Feeling as though she had been belittled by Qin Mu, Su Zhen stood up from the sofa and still managed a smile, "What if I told you that I do like him, but I don't want to leave? And, with so many women liking Mr. Mu, do you think you can drive them all away?"

"Honestly, although there are many women who admire Mu Yichen, there are indeed not many who are as shameless as Miss Su, so luckily, I can drive them all away!"

Qin Mu held her arms and spoke these words with a bit of a teasing tone.

Su Zhen's heart pounded violently as if someone had smashed it with a garlic press.

"You..."

Su Zhen's face flushed with humiliation, turning from red to white.

"Actually, if the hotel just got a pretty female executive, I'd think that was quite nice. But if this woman came to seduce my man, I believe, as a woman, I need to defend my rights."

Qin Mu continued to speak.

"Was it you who suddenly blocked me on Mu's WeChat that night? And was it also you who made Mu embarrass me in front of so many people during the meeting that morning by sending him the photo I posted to my Moments?"

Su Zhen thought for a moment and then irritably questioned her.

"No!"

Qin Mu thought about it and shook her head, realizing that this woman had been humiliated and even blocked?

Wow, Mr. Mu from their family is really quite impressive!

"Not you? Then who else could make him embarrass me in front of so many people?"

Su Zhen asked again, frowning deeply.

"Of course, it was him. In Rongcheng, no one but himself can control him."

Qin Mu answered honestly, yet it made Su Zhen's face even less able to hold up.

"I didn't even know he had you on WeChat, how would I know about him blocking you? As for — actually, I don't need to explain so much to you. I still have some work to do, so Miss Su, if there's nothing else, you can leave now."

Having said that, Qin Mu went back behind her desk and sat down.

Yet Su Zhen suddenly laughed, looking somewhat dispirited.

"The battle hasn't even started, and I have already lost? Qin Mu, I must stay. If I go back now, I will become the laughingstock of others."

"That's your problem!"

Qin Mu thought that an adult should be able to handle their own issues.

"I will continue to stay here, but I won't deliberately approach Mu Yichen anymore. Are you satisfied with this promise?"

You really take the road less traveled, Miss Su!

Qin Mu looked up at her curiously, "I don't understand?"

"I am not so desperate as to gamble with my reputation, nor am I like Jing Qing, willing to stake my life for the love of a man. So, from now until the end of the year, I will stay at AM and work my hardest to achieve some results."

Later, Su Zhen talked a lot more, and then she left.

In the following days, Su Zhen indeed didn't bother their life anymore. Of course, Mu Yichen was also not visiting AM so frequently now.

That night, after coaxing Huanhuan to sleep, Qin Mu returned to the bedroom with Mu Yichen and lay on the bed. Mu Yichen was massaging Qin Mu's feet. Qin Mu, while pressing on her temples, looked at Mu Yichen and eventually decided to tell him about Qin Haiming calling Su Zhen's father. After hearing this, Mu Yichen just looked up at her and didn't offer any opinion.

Qin Mu nudged his hand with her foot and then asked him, "Tell me what you're thinking!"

"What should I think? You call the shots on all my affairs."

Mu Yichen held her foot and pressed firmly, confessing to her.

"I call the shots on everything? Really?"

Qin Mu actually knew that Mu Yichen was telling the truth, but she just couldn't resist teasing him.

Mu Yichen was really frustrated recently because of her pregnancy, and he couldn't handle her flirting with him all the time.

"Mrs. Mu, if you keep on like this, your husband will be gone before the baby is even born."

Qin Mu...

"What do you mean by that?"

Qin Mu was so frightened that she stammered.

"Where do I start? From the root!"

Mr. Mu frowned childishly as a reminder.

Chapter 590: has a visual now_1

Qin Mu's big, black, shiny eyes were cooperating fully as they looked deeply at the root!

Uh-huh! It's indeed important to take good care of their roots!

The weather was getting hotter, and Qin Mu wore particularly thin pajamas in bed, so Mu Yichen took two cold showers that night.

— —

The next day, President Mu had a majestic fever!

When he got up in the morning, he was staggering. Qin Mu followed him to the restroom to brush their teeth and noticed his complexion was a bit dark, so she immediately grabbed his arm and made him face her, then reached out to touch his forehead.

Thirty-eight point eight degrees!

"What an auspicious number!"

After checking the thermometer, Qin Mu said to him, and Mu Yichen couldn't help but chuckle, "I'm fine, I'll go get breakfast ready for you."

"No need, I'll go downstairs and make some porridge. We'll have a light breakfast, and then send Huanhuan to Mom and Dad's place. I'm worried you might pass it on to her."

Mu Yichen lay on the bed while Qin Mu held him down, and then they heard their door gently pushed open from the outside.

Huanhuan had just pushed the door open, then slowly backed out and closed it.

Both of them curiously looked at the door, only to hear a very soft knock from outside.

"Daddy, Mommy, may I come in?"

Qin Mu...

Mu Yichen...

"No, you may not!"

Qin Mu playfully refused.

However, the door was slowly pushed open from the outside again.

The little girl saw both of them looking at her from the side of the bed, then she giggled and ran inside.

"Daddy, Mommy, are you playing the kissing game again?"

Huanhuan hugged Qin Mu's legs and shyly buried her face in them.

Qin Mu smiled helplessly, looking at Mu Yichen: It's all your fault!

"How is it my fault? You were on top just now!"

President Mu felt profoundly wronged.

Just as Qin Mu's hand was about to smack him, he caught it and pressed it against his chest.

Huanhuan raised her little face that had been buried in her small hands to look at her dad lying on the bed: "What's wrong with Daddy?"

"Your daddy has a fever!"

Qin Mu whispered to her.

"Daddy has a fever?"

Huanhuan asked, then walked forward, her tender little hands touching her dad's head and then seriously touching her own: "It's really hot!"

She nodded with earnest seriousness.

"How about going downstairs with Mommy to cook breakfast? Let Daddy rest here by himself, okay?"

Qin Mu asked.

"Yeah! Okay!"

Huanhuan agreed, leading her mommy by the hand like a little grown-up.

"I really can do it!"

"I said no means no, just lie down. Wait until I call you for breakfast."

Truth be told, President Mu was really worried about his kitchen being messed up.

But how could he tell Mrs. Mu about his concern?

Qin Mu went to the kitchen to cook, and Huanhuan stood there for a while, feeling like she couldn't help, so she turned around and left.

After breakfast, Qin Mu initially wanted to take Huanhuan to Feng Fanghua's place, but thinking there were no early education classes that day, she ended up driving to her studio. She gave a helpless smile, then picked up Huanhuan from the car: "It seems you'll have to spend the day here with mommy."

"I want to go play with Aunt Xiaomei!"

Huanhuan looked up and said, her soft hair cascading over her shoulders as she looked up, since she had just a single braid on top and the rest of her hair loose, it was particularly heartwarming.

Qin Mu nodded, "Alright! And ask Aunt Xiaomei to tie up the rest of your hair too."

At home, she thought it looked pretty, but now Qin Mu found it a bit hot, so she carried Huanhuan to the studio.

Xiaomei immediately came over to take Huanhuan from her arms: "Oh, my little ancestor, if your granny saw how I'm holding you, she'd have my hide."

"Isn't that a bit exaggerated?"

Qin Mu asked, then went to the small kitchen to make herself a drink.

Huanhuan whispered in Xiaomei's ear, causing Xiaomei to laugh and cry: "It's all being saved for you!"

But she looked worriedly toward the small kitchen; Feng Fanghua had been calling every day to check on Qin Mu's condition.

That afternoon, Feng Fanghua brought a meal to the studio with an aide, seeing Huanhuan with her, she asked, "Where's Mu Yichen? Didn't he say he would take her?"

"Oh! Today he..."

"Daddy has a fever!"

Before Qin Mu could finish, Huanhuan spoke up.

Qin Mu wanted to laugh but seeing Feng Fanghua's expression, she quickly became cautious.

"He's taken some medicine and is resting at home. I just took Huanhuan with me."

"Don't go back these few days, let him stay at his apartment alone!"