

His Beloved 701

Chapter 701: Indulgence (5) Childbirth_1

"He's sensible, all right! But—"

"Don't go assuming everyone's like your daughter-in-law, now scram!"

The old man couldn't be bothered with him and waved a hand behind him to shoo Mu Zihao away.

"What are you two talking about?"

Feng Fanghua had just come downstairs, initially thinking the two had a quarrel, only to find them...

They feigned calmness, each looking away—some at the window, others at the sofa.

Feng Fanghua walked over and unconsciously chuckled upon seeing outside the window, unable to help but murmur, "They're starting this early in the morning? That girl is really something."

"I hear she also exercises every morning at home and now she's keeping it up even after moving out; truly a role model for the younger generation."

The old man reflected on his old comrade's words and gave a high appraisal.

Feng Fanghua glanced at Mu Zihao, who also seemed somewhat helpless.

Mu Yichen went to work after getting up this morning, not even eating breakfast.

Zhuo Wen found him in the restaurant where he was having lunch with Qiao Yi, tapping gently on his table.

When Mu Yichen and Qiao Yi looked up and saw her, Qiao Yi's eyes were drawn to the delicate face before him, and the next moment he looked at Mu Yichen.

There was no extra expression on Mu Yichen's face, he simply asked, "What are you doing here?"

"That's exactly what I wanted to ask you. Why are you here? I have an appointment to meet a client here."

She sat down next to them and cast a glance at Qiao Yi with her exquisite face, "This is Mr. Qiao, isn't it?"

Qiao Yi often hung out with Mu Yichen, so she had seen him a few times before, but didn't remember clearly.

"Indeed! And who might this beautiful lady be?"

Qiao Yi's memory was even worse, which made things awkward.

"Zhuo Wen! My grandfather's old comrade's granddaughter, don't you remember?"

Mu Yichen gave Qiao Yi a look, as if saying, 'Stop putting on an act.'

"Oh, Miss Zhuo! Women truly change as they grow. I didn't recognize you."

Qiao Yi immediately played along, striking a certain pose.

"Ha! Mind sticking around later? I have something I'd like to talk to you about."

Zhuo Wen didn't linger with Qiao Yi for too long, instead turning to Mu Yichen with a particularly serious tone and saying in a low voice.

Mu Yichen didn't respond, just looking at her.

"Gotta go! My client is waiting upstairs!"

Zhuo Wen stood up, said her farewells, and strode off.

Qiao Yi, leaning against the sofa, watched Zhuo Wen leave, and only when she was far enough did he turn to Mu Yichen, "What's going on?"

"What's going on?"

Mu Yichen asked back, curiously.

"This is so ambiguous! What's the situation?"

Qiao Yi looked at him seriously.

"Ambiguous?"

Mu Yichen inadvertently frowned.

"Yeah! The way she looked at you, it's not just a simple relationship."

"So a relationship that's not simple must be ambiguous?"

Mu Yichen disagreed.

"What else could it be?"

Qiao Yi couldn't figure it out.

"A person who can't even understand his own feelings is trying to guess those of others?"

Mu Yichen looked at him, sparing no mercy in his criticism.

Qiao Yi...

"You believe I won't rat you out to Qin Mu?"

Qiao Yi thought, if you dare mock me like this, I must put you in your place.

Mu Yichen looked up at him and sighed helplessly, "She's now staying at the Mu Family home."

Qiao Yi...

"Let's eat!"

Mu Yichen crossed his legs and casually reminded Qiao Yi to start eating as he picked up his chopsticks.

Qiao Yi couldn't focus on his food, his eyes lingering on Mu Yichen.

"A thruple, perhaps?"

After a while, he posed another question.

Mu Yichen finally lost his appetite, his cold gaze shooting sharply towards him.

"Eat your food!"

Qiao Yi had no choice but to bow his head and pretend to eat.

After finishing their meal, they both headed towards the parking lot. Qiao Yi asked in confusion, "Didn't she ask you to wait for her? Just like that, you're leaving?"

Mu Yichen thought to himself, could he really wait?

But when the two arrived at the parking lot and looked up, there was the exquisite woman, leaning against Mu Yichen's luxury car.

She stood with her arms folded, as if she'd been waiting for a long time.

Qiao Yi got into his car; they had come in separate vehicles.

Outside, Zhuo Wen stared straight at the man before her, radiating a sense of superiority yet appearing approachable.

She couldn't help but chuckle first, and Mu Yichen, hands on his hips, looked elsewhere before finally looking at her, "What's so funny?"

"Coward!"

Zhuo Wen said softly, the word not heavy, but striking a nerve with the man standing beside her.

Mu Yichen also laughed, "What do you know?"

Chapter 702: Indulgence (5) Childbirth_2

"Are you that afraid of upsetting her? Is it because of her that you don't even dare to make a single female friend?"

Zhuo Wen still had her arms crossed, her voice not exactly loud, but every word carried a seriousness.

"Yes!"

Mu Yichen lifted his head but had to admit that it was the truth.

Zhuo Wen opened her mouth in disbelief and finally let out a mocking laugh, "So from now on, you won't even talk to me at home? Mu Yichen, this is so not like you! Our relationship isn't something that needs to be hidden, why can't we even talk? There was nothing to it, but you're making it seem shady."

Zhuo Wen began muttering, growing angrier as she spoke.

"Just bear with it! For Grandpa, and for yourself."

"I refuse to!"

After saying that, Zhuo Wen walked past him and then opened his car.

Qiao Yi, who was going to drive, sat up front. He hadn't expected Zhuo Wen to come in and asked with a submissive air, "Miss Zhuo, where would you like to go?"

"Back to the Mu Family!"

Zhuo Wen said, then lowered her head to flick through her phone.

Mu Yichen had no choice but to knock on the door, "You take her back."

Qiao Yi thought to himself, this man really knows how to cause trouble.

"Okay!"

He nodded nonetheless, and then the car window was rolled up.

Zhuo Wen, who sat in the back, still heard their conversation and let out a bitter laugh involuntarily. As Qiao Yi started the car, she pushed open the door, slung her bag over her shoulder, and got out.

Qiao Yi...

Mu Yichen turned to look at her getting out of the car and asked, "Weren't you going to let him take you home?"

"I won't cause you trouble, if we are friends, we should consider each other's feelings."

Zhuo Wen said, then walked ahead briskly.

Mu Yichen stared at her departing figure, not looking away until she turned around.

"Hey! Mu Yichen, you really think too highly of yourself, do you? Do you think all the women in the world revolve around you? And your wife, she's put you on too high a pedestal, don't you think?"

After saying that, Zhuo Wen walked off and went straight to the front to hail a taxi.

Mu Yichen let out a helpless chuckle and then got in the car.

—

That night, when the two of them returned home, neither of them spoke to the other. However, Zhuo Wen seemed to continue chatting congenially with others, even with Qin Mu.

"This is a photo from my trip to the Aegean Sea last year. My future husband, he's handsome, isn't he?"

Zhuo Wen was sitting on the sofa chatting with Qin Mu, showing her the photos on her phone and bringing him up in their conversation.

Impressed, Qin Mu nodded unwittingly, "Indeed, he's handsome!"

The man looked like some actor, not inferior to their Mu Family head in any way.

"So you can rest assured? I absolutely do not like Mu Yichen's type."

Zhuo Wen whispered in her ear, barely stifling a laugh.

Qin Mu turned to look at her, awkwardly smiling, "I admit, I was being petty."

"Good that you admit it! You should know that there are plenty of good men in the world. The same goes for you, you've been so focused on this one man since you were young, which is why you think he's the best in the world. But I'm different. I've seen my share of good men, and there are actually lots of them. I knew Mu Yichen a long time ago, and with my intelligence and wit, if I had any romantic interest in him, would it have taken till today? My fiancé is the result of careful selection."

She spoke as though she made perfect sense.

Qin Mu couldn't help but admire Zhuo Wen's eloquence and quietly lowered her gaze.

Mu Yichen, to avoid causing Qin Mu any more worry by interacting too much with Zhuo Wen, spent his time in the study with his father and grandfather playing chess.

Feng Fanghua went to coax Huanhuan to sleep before coming back downstairs, relieved to see them chatting happily: "What are you two talking about?"

"Just chit-chat! Auntie, I feel you look even younger than when I saw you last time, your skin is getting better and better."

Zhuo Wen complimented the woman who had just taken a seat on the sofa.

"Oh my! You really know how to flatter! Old is old, how much better can one's skin get?"

Feng Fanghua said bashfully, touching her cheek.

"That's not true! You must have a habit of applying a facial mask before bed every night, right?"

Zhuo Wen's eyes twinkled with mischief as she spoke, while Qin Mu silently listened and nonchalantly reached for the desserts Auntie had prepared earlier, focusing on eating while they talked.

Engaging in conversation wasn't her forte, after all.

"That's actually true! It may not always be at night, but I do make sure to apply a facial mask every day."

Feng Fanghua felt excited at being able to keep up with the younger generation.

But Qin Mu, nibbling on her snack, felt a bit disheartened because she wasn't someone who stuck to a daily mask routine; sometimes she wouldn't even do it for ten days to a half-month.

Chapter 703: Indulgence (5) Childbirth_3

Sigh!

Qin Mu heaved a deep sigh within her heart.

— —

Two days later, Qin Mu's wedding dress arrived, but it was sent directly to the workshop.

Qin Mu and Xiaomei, along with a few others, gathered around, barely daring to breathe heavily as they opened the box.

It had been a long time since they had seen a work by JY, and they were all eager.

"Wow! It's so exquisite!"

Xiaomei couldn't help but reach out to touch it.

"Don't touch it carelessly!"

Qin Mu immediately slapped her hand away, thinking to herself that this was the first official gift from her master, which she had to cherish and keep safe.

"You're so stingy!"

Xiaomei couldn't help but mumble.

Qin Mu took the wedding dress out of the box with her own hands, and then everyone helped to unfold it.

It was simply too beautiful for words.

But at this moment, she...

Qin Mu took a serious look at her belly and then turned to Xiaomei, saying, "Come with me to try it on!"

It was said that Jian Yan had specifically consulted with the doctor for her to wear a wedding dress on Christmas, regarding the dimensions of her lower abdomen and such.

"Aren't you calling Mu Yichen? Don't you want him to be present for the first fitting?"

"I'll surprise him at the right time!"

Qin Mu thought to herself that a woman with a big pregnant belly, no matter how she dressed, could hardly surprise a man?

So she never thought to let Mu Yichen come to see it.

But her colleagues in the workshop got to witness its splendor.

— —

Their wedding was imminent, and Zhuo Wen had already stayed at the Mu Family home for a week, showing no signs of leaving.

One afternoon when Qin Mu was resting at home, Zhuo Wen came back from outside and went to her happily, saying, "I might have to stay here longer. Mrs. Mu, you wouldn't mind, would you?"

"Has something happened?"

Qin Mu asked curiously.

"Yes! The client wasn't satisfied, so we have to start over. But I'm used to this by now; it's just that I'm troubling you..."

Zhuo Wen finished speaking, went around to sit beside her, and looked at her with all sincerity.

Qin Mu just smiled at her; until today, Qin Mu was still subconsciously on guard against her.

"It seems that I will have to leave after your wedding."

Zhuo Wen smiled again, as if looking forward to this.

"By the way, I heard that your master has already sent you your wedding dress. Can I see it? It's a work by JY! I really want to have a preview."

Zhuo Wen said, and then gently massaged Qin Mu's shoulders.

Qin Mu instinctively dodged: "The wedding dress is at the workshop; I didn't bring it back. I'll show you when I do."

Zhuo Wen was startled, somewhat surprised by Qin Mu's sudden avoidance.

"Alright!"

Qin Mu still smiled: "Sorry, I'm not too comfortable with people touching me."

"Oh! I won't touch you in the future then!"

Zhuo Wen said as she took her hands off Qin Mu's shoulders, smiling awkwardly.

That night, Qin Mu tossed and turned, unable to fall asleep, feeling as though she was about to run out of breath.

Mu Yichen was not in the room; she glanced at the empty other side and then struggled to get up.

When the door was opened from the outside, Mu Yichen's sharp gaze caught sight of her struggling to get out of bed, and he immediately rushed over: "What's wrong?"

"Water! Cold water."

Qin Mu said in a low voice.

"Wait here!"

Mu Yichen said and then went to help her pour water from the sofa.

At one in the morning, the pregnant woman fainted and was rushed to the hospital.

— —

The wedding was postponed.

Due to her indisposition, on Christmas Eve night, as snow fell, Mumu gave birth to a boy weighing 6 jin and 2 liang (approximately 3.1 kilograms), named Mu Chengyang.

The baby was taken to the incubator immediately after birth, leaving only her and Mu Yichen alone in the room.

Qin Mu remained unconscious, Mu Yichen stayed by her side the entire time.

When the door was gently pushed open from the outside, Mu Yichen didn't notice until a coat was quietly draped over his shoulders.

Mu Yichen's hand had been holding Qin Mu's the whole time without daring to let go, his head bowed until that coat was placed on his shoulders.

"Do you want to rest for a bit? I'll stay here with her for you."

Zhuo Wen bent down and whispered to him from beside him.

"No need!"

Mu Yichen refused in a low voice.

Qin Mu wouldn't want to wake up and find him absent. Besides, he had missed being there once before; he couldn't possibly miss it again.

"But you're so tired right now. If you break down, who's going to take care of her tomorrow?"

Zhuo Wen continued to explain softly, hoping she could stay.

"I'm not that fragile!"

Mu Yichen's mouth moved slightly, he looked up at the woman on the bed covered in sweat, then turned to get a tissue from a cabinet to wipe her forehead.

"Let me!"

Chapter 704: Indulgence (5) Childbirth_4

Zhuo Wen saw him being so careful and also raised her hand to pull out two tissues, wanting to help.

"No need! I'll do it myself! You go out first!"

Mu Yichen grabbed her wrist, dismissively refused, and then slowly wiped the sweat off her forehead by himself.

Zhuo Wen watched him with a bit of heartache, he seemed not to allow anyone near the woman lying on the hospital bed.

Yet the woman lying on the bed now had no idea what he was doing.

"Fool!"

Zhuo Wen had no choice but to leave. In fact, when he took her hand away, Zhuo Wen felt a sense of humiliation, but after a second thought, she quietly left the room.

When Qin Mu woke up in the morning, Qin Haiming and Uncle Wang had already come over and were standing by her bedside.

Qin Haiming clearly showed great excitement when he saw her awaken, his eyes welling up with warmth.

Uncle Wang also hurriedly called out, "Miss, you are awake."

"Uncle Wang!"

Qin Mu's voice moved slightly, barely managing to utter that sound.

She clearly first saw Qin Haiming, she also wanted to call him, but in the end, she still didn't say it out loud.

But how could Qin Haiming blame her?

Despite the disappointment, he was just grateful that his daughter was alive and well.

Mu Yichen, sitting on her other side, felt his hand being held and then quickly looked at him, "You sure slept a long time."

"It's all right now!"

Qin Mu murmured, her eyes also full of joy as she looked at him.

Mu Chengyang was born almost a month early, but it didn't disrupt their lives.

The wedding was postponed to their anniversary, the day before New Year's.

Feng Fanghua and Mu Zihao walked in from outside, seeing everyone there and also very excited, "The baby is in the incubator and is very healthy, is Mumu awake?"

"She's awake!"

Qin Haiming stepped aside slightly to let the couple in.

"Our family's big hero has woken up! You made everyone worry so much last night!"

Feng Fanghua sat beside her, gently patting Qin Mu's slightly bruised hand where the needle had been.

"Mom and Dad have had it hard too!"

Qin Mu thought, the unexpected situation last night must have alarmed everyone and made them busy at a moment's notice.

That little guy, he's really something.

"What hard times have we had? You're the one who suffered so much. If there's anything you want, just tell me, I'll satisfy your every need,"

Feng Fanghua gently coaxed her.

Qin Haiming and Uncle Wang exchanged looks, naturally understanding that all this was thanks to the little boy Qin Mu had just given birth to.

"I feel like I'm not lacking anything."

Qin Mu thought for a moment, then added, "Who does the baby resemble?"

"Just like his father when he was born, exactly the same,"

Feng Fanghua said proudly.

Mu Yichen, sitting across from her, couldn't help but laugh after hearing that, "Aren't all newborns alike? How can you tell?"

"How can I not recognize my own child?"

Feng Fanghua retorted to her son.

"Indeed, he's just like you were as a child, the spitting image!"

Mu Zihao also spoke in support of his wife, and he too felt that the resemblance was uncanny.

"Didn't you say I was eight pounds and two ounces when I was born? That little guy is just over six pounds, how can he compare to me?"

Mu Yichen retorted, getting angry at the memory of how that little guy had put his wife through so much suffering.

In the past month, Qin Mu's health suddenly declined, he'd seen firsthand how much she suffered, so to this day, he hadn't gone to see that little guy yet.

The ward was so crowded at the moment that there wasn't much space to stand.

"Since the child is all right, then I'll go back first, if anything happens, call me!"

Qin Haiming felt that he couldn't contribute to the conversation, so after saying his piece, he left.

Before leaving, he looked at his child with a bit of concern but only said, "You rest well."

Qin Mu didn't speak, just silently watched him leave.

Uncle Wang accompanied him to wait for the elevator, and as the doors opened, a girl in beautiful clothes walked out, holding a thermos in her hand.

Zhuo Wen didn't recognize them, so she just lowered her head and passed by them.

When Qin Haiming entered the elevator, he suddenly turned to look at the figure, then asked Uncle Wang in a low voice, "This floor seems to be booked by Mu Yichen, right?"

"Yes!"

Uncle Wang responded!

"Do you recognize that girl?"

"No!"

Uncle Wang was also puzzled, seeing that the girl's dress didn't seem like that of a commoner's child; she only carried a thermos as if delivering something.

After knocking on the door, Zhuo Wen still had a bright smile on her face.

"Is our big hero awake?"

"She is! Why did you come so early?"

Feng Fanghua got up to take the thermos from her.

"I'm worried about our family's big hero too! Plus, Grandpa is also extremely worried, said he's coming over to check in a bit."

Zhuo Wen said, placing the thermos on the table.

"The kitchen says Mumu cannot eat solid food yet, so I only brought some tasteless broth."

"She can't have broth right now. You are our guest, don't worry about that. We haven't been able to attend to you much recently, don't go back and complain to your grandpa."

Feng Fanghua told her.

"What are you talking about? We're all family here, there's no such thing as whether we can attend to someone or not. It's me who hasn't been much help. Last night I wanted to come and keep Yichen company for a while, but he, oh he loves his wife so much, he wouldn't let me get close."

Zhuo Wen said and glanced towards the bed.

Mu Yichen didn't speak because he was in eye contact with Qin Mu.

Qin Mu only looked at Mu Yichen after hearing Zhuo Wen mention what happened last night, and Mu Yichen looked back at her frankly.

Chapter 705: Pampering (6) Cherishing one's own child_1

"I still have to discuss business with clients today, so I can't stay long. Qin Mu, rest well!"

Zhuo Wen said his goodbyes and immediately left.

Feng Fanghua went to see Zhuo Wen off, after which the room suddenly became quiet again.

Qin Mu smiled as she looked at the man standing beside her; Mu Yichen was also looking at her.

At this moment, it seemed as if their eyes conveyed different thoughts.

So quiet, yet so profound.

Mu Zihao glanced at his son, then whispered, "I'm going to check on the child."

Once Mu Zihao had left, the room was completely devoid of any other sound.

The breathing of the two people seemed to become the heaviest sound in the room.

"Did Zhuo Wen come to you last night?"

"Yes!"

Mu Yichen didn't deny it.

The air around them quieted down.

Despite Zhuo Wen's great performance, Qin Mu couldn't give her full marks in this act.

Because if it were full marks, then at the very least, Zhuo Wen shouldn't have made her feel uncomfortable, at least not before the final confrontation.

A woman stays in another place for so long; wouldn't her fiancé be anxious?

Zhuo Wen didn't even go back to Australia for Christmas; what exactly was she planning?

—

While there was no one else in her ward, Helian Hao took the opportunity to chat with her. Seeing her uncomfortable appearance, he asked, "Is it because of that woman?"

"It should be!"

Qin Mu lay in bed, looking at the ceiling; she felt that maybe she wouldn't be able to hold on much longer.

"Does Mu Yichen know?"

Helian Hao leaned against the cabinet, crossed his arms, and asked again.

"He probably knows."

Qin Mu thought, Zhuo Wen had talked to Mu Yichen on her first night there; how could Mu Yichen not understand her feelings?

"Why do you keep saying 'should'?"

Helian Hao frowned. Qin Mu's state seemed more dejected than he had ever seen.

Even when Qin Mu and Mu Yichen's relationship was unstable, and Qin Mu felt insecure, she wasn't as dejected as she was now.

"Ask Jing Feng to help me investigate something," Qin Mu said after some thought to Helian Hao.

"Sure, tell me!"

Helian Hao agreed readily. Qin Mu told her the matter, and after thinking for a while, Helian Hao added, "Any woman who stays in a married man's house for a long time, and insists on living there, wouldn't be believed as having pure intentions by anyone."

No need to investigate; she already knew the reason.

But Helian Hao later sought out Jing Feng to help with the investigation.

Qin Mu couldn't help but laugh.

"But now nobody at home dares to say anything to her. Grandfather values the camaraderie with his old comrades very much and likes Zhuo Wen a lot."

Qin Mu's voice was soft and weak, but her mind remained very clear.

Qin Mu knew that if she didn't do something soon, she would continue to feel this confusion.

"Sigh! Elders are always like this, arranging all kinds of troubles without the younger generation knowing."

Thinking of her own issues, Helian Hao also felt it was tedious.

"By the time you're discharged, I'll probably have to take a leave of absence!"

Helian Hao thought to herself, she was using Qin Mu's hospitalization as an excuse, but she couldn't delay for much longer. Many doctors worked during their pregnancy, but she had to take an extended leave due to her special family circumstances.

"You don't want to take a leave? You can come visit me often after your leave, or we can chat in the studio every day?"

Qin Mu offered her a suggestion.

"Cut it out! I won't bother you at work; I'm not going there."

Helian Hao teased her back.

"I'm not planning to work during this time."

Qin Mu said.

"Do you think I believe you? You'll probably itch to chop off your hand if you don't draw for three days?"

"Is it that extreme?"

Qin Mu couldn't help but laugh, the first time she had been amused since being hospitalized.

"What are you exaggerating about now?"

Mu Yichen had returned with a bunch of lilies, and hearing Qin Mu sounding cheerful, his expression unconsciously brightened a lot.

What he feared most was her unhappiness.

Helian Hao glanced at the lilies in Mu Yichen's hand, "Did you buy them from the florist at the entrance of our hospital?"

"Yes!"

Mu Yichen glanced at the flowers and was puzzled to see Helian Hao's disdain, wondering if there was something wrong with them.

"Alright then, I won't disturb the two of you in your world. I'm off to guard my last shift."

Helian Hao dropped her arms and left.

Mu Yichen came out with a vase full of water, and Qin Mu, leaning on the headboard, couldn't help but ask curiously as he brought over the flowers, "Why did you suddenly decide to buy flowers?"

"Just, felt like it!"

Mu Yichen thought for a moment and unexpectedly found himself at a loss to say it was because he wanted to make her happy.

Qin Mu couldn't help but mockingly laugh at him, reaching out to gently touch the lily petals; the cool, moist feeling was surprisingly pleasant.

Chapter 706: Pampering (6) Cherishing one's own child_2

Mu Yichen finally smiled as he let out a sigh of relief, sitting beside her and gently catching her hand that she was about to lower, "Do you feel better now? Does it still hurt?"

Qin Mu was startled when her hand was caught, and almost pulled away, but with a shiver, she simply said to him faintly, "Oh, it still hurts a bit! But it will be fine soon."

Mu Yichen then held her hand tightly, "You can eat something now, is there anything you particularly want?"

"I want to eat you!"

Qin Mu looked at him, her voice casual yet incredibly tender.

At least the man opposite her was hooked.

"You're so haggard yet you still have the energy to think about those things?"

Mu Yichen asked her, his gaze focused and affectionate.

Qin Mu's earnest dark eyes looked at him, and when he said she looked haggard, she felt that he also looked much more worn out.

"Come here! Can I lean on you, please?"

Qin Mu asked him.

"Not really!"

Mu Yichen frowned slightly, his eyes downcast, but the next moment he had already moved to sit beside her.

Qin Mu leaned against his shoulder, feeling the hand he was holding, "Did I disappoint you again? About the wedding."

"No!"

Mu Yichen responded.

In fact, he had long thought that this accident might happen, especially in the past few days, seeing how tired Qin Mu was, he had already given up.

"How about the twenty-eighth before the new year? It's our marriage certificate anniversary!"

Qin Mu discussed with him.

"That's not bad!"

Mu Yichen thought for a moment, and a smile unconsciously appeared on his face, as if honey had been spread across his lips.

No! It was like honey had been spread in his heart.

He looked down at the woman in his arms and then hugged her a bit tighter, "Qin Mu!"

"Hmm?"

She turned to look at him because it was rare for him to call her by her full name.

"Let's stay like this, always!"

He wrapped his arms around her and lowered her forehead to rest under his chin.

Qin Mu suddenly felt something was off with his voice, but she didn't dare to look up at him and just gently agreed.

Zhuo Wen didn't come over until the next afternoon, still impeccably dressed, but today she wore especially striking large earrings.

"How are you feeling today? Our hero?"

She was as polite and warm as ever.

Mu Yichen was washing a towel in the bathroom so he didn't know what was going on outside.

"Much better!"

Qin Mu habitually answered without wanting to offend anyone.

Zhuo Wen sat on the bed edge and looked at Qin Mu leaning against the headboard, "You rest well, I can't stay long. My man has called countless times, I must go back."

Zhuo Wen finished speaking and couldn't help but sigh, couldn't help saying, "Men these days really clingy, right?"

Qin Mu was surprised but only smiled and said, "Safe travels."

It was a calm farewell, just those few words of blessing.

Zhuo Wen smiled awkwardly yet politely, "Are you worried I'll stay here and steal Mu Yichen away, so you've been looking forward to me leaving?"

"Yeah!"

Qin Mu candidly admitted, even though she looked haggard without makeup, she was neither sloppy nor pitiful.

Zhuo Wen held her breath for a few seconds, surprised by Qin Mu's honesty.

Even though Qin Mu was so weak, every word she said was so, making her feel awkward.

When Mu Yichen came out from the inside and saw Zhuo Wen, he curiously asked, "When did you come?"

"Just now!"

Zhuo Wen stood up from the bed edge, smiling at him, "I'm heading back to Australia, so I specially came to say goodbye to you both."

Mu Yichen's eyes moved slightly, only nodding, "Bon voyage!"

"Wow! You guys really are a couple, even your tone is the same!"

Zhuo Wen expressed her surprise.

The room once again fell silent, as the awkward atmosphere slowly spread.

Later, Zhuo Wen, with her bag slung and hands tucked coolly into her pockets, looked at Mu Yichen, "How about seeing me off?"

After she spoke, she also glanced at Qin Mu, who could only smile, "Hurry back!"

Mu Yichen went to escort her, the two of them walking towards the elevator together. Zhuo Wen finally didn't look so pleasant, just maintaining a polite smile.

"Isn't there anything else you want to say to me?"

"I can't go to see you off."

Mu Yichen could only say that.

When the elevator opened, Zhuo Wen got in, but as she turned around, she noticed that Mu Yichen had no intention of going in and had to say to him as the elevator doors were closing, "We are friends now, don't be so cold to me in the future!"

The doors were closing gradually, she tilted her head, about to lose sight of him, and eventually lost sight of him completely.

Chapter 707: Pampering (6) Cherishing one's own child_3

Mu Yichen couldn't help but give a pensive hum, tiredly pinching the bridge of his nose.

Friends?

When Mu Yichen got back, Qin Mu asked him, "Back so soon, huh?"

"If I'm late, I'm afraid Mrs. Mu will start worrying unnecessarily," he said as he walked over.

"Why does it always feel so surreal?" Qin Mu asked, her long lashes fluttering.

"Do you wish she had stayed?" Mu Yichen asked her, his dark, eagle-like eyes staring intensely at her.

"Am I that foolish?" she retorted sharply, her eyes piercing as she looked back at him.

Mu Yichen reached out to touch her hair, but Qin Mu immediately held his hand in her arms: "Don't mess with my hair again."

"Then whose hair are you preparing to let touch?" Mu Yichen asked, his gaze drifting from her neck downward, to the place where his palm rested.

Qin Mu quickly let go of his hand: "Hey! Be serious!"

Mu Yichen let out an unconscious sigh: "Finally got through this ordeal! But you owe me a wedding, are you ready to prepare for it?"

"Mm! But we have to get Jian Yan to help fix the wedding dress!" Qin Mu raised her eyebrows, thinking it over before reluctantly admitting the fact.

That evening, as they lay together on a hospital bed, Mu Yichen couldn't help but laugh.

In the pitch-black space, his gentle voice was particularly infectious.

"Finally, no more competing with that kid!" he murmured, kissing her warm forehead.

"If Mu Chengyang knew his dad hated him this much... hey, didn't you go to see him with me just yesterday?" Qin Mu suddenly sat up, turning on the lamp beside her, staring straight at the man in front of her.

Light suddenly flooded the room, and their voices weren't very loud under the dim lighting.

"So what if I did? He made you suffer so much; do you still expect me to see him?" Mu Yichen questioned.

"Hey! You feel sorry for me, but how can you truly not love your son? I'm getting angry!" Qin Mu huffed, her hands restlessly pinching at him.

"How could I not be angry?" Mu Yichen gritted his teeth as he asked.

"Think about it, I love him so much, how could you not love him?" Qin Mu looked up at him, continuing to be upset.

"I swear! Let's not have any more children in the future," Mu Yichen declared, cupping her face, looking fragile in the dim light.

He had been so worried these past few days; he put all company matters aside, stayed by her side, wanting only to watch her slowly get better.

Before having their son, she had weighed a hundred jin, but in just the few days after giving birth, her weight had already dropped to eighty-five, given her height...

Mu Yichen had not expected her to be so strong, or so magnificent.

Pregnancy, turned out, could make a woman go through so much hardship.

He couldn't help but recall the days when she was carrying Mu Chengyang, when Chengyang would squirm around in her belly every day, sometimes kicking her till she cried, but even then, she would scold through tears without ever complaining about the pain.

The moon quietly appeared after midnight.

Two days later, Qin Mu was discharged from the hospital.

Helian Hao had to go to the operating room and didn't see her off; he just called her: Jing Feng said that Zhuo Wen's work here had finished a month ago.

Feng Fanghua and Mu Zihao had taken their little one onto the Mu Family's car and left early.

Qin Mu and Mu Yichen were behind, just stepping out of the hospital when they received such a call from Helian Hao.

Qin Mu suddenly stopped walking, her mind going blank.

Mu Yichen had one arm around her, the other hand pressing down on the hat on her head, afraid that she'd catch a cold.

"But it doesn't matter now, she's gone!" Qin Mu said after a moment of thought, continuing to walk forward with Mu Yichen.

"Who's gone?" Helian Hao asked.

"Zhuo Wen!" Qin Mu replied as she and Mu Yichen got into the car, mentioning it to her in passing.

"Didn't she move to a hotel from the Mu house? Our department had dinner at AM last night, and I ran into her. Didn't she move out because her fiancé came over?" Helian Hao emerged from the restroom to his office, asking Qin Mu with confusion.

Qin Mu...

Zhuo Wen hadn't left?

"Did she tell you she had left?" Qin Mu...

"I understand! Let's talk when I'm free!" Qin Mu hung up the phone, then slowly fastened her seat belt.

Mu Yichen turned to look at her, asking before he started the car: "What's wrong?"

"Nothing!" Qin Mu turned to look at him, giving him a faint smile.

Mu Yichen knew she simply didn't want to talk about it, so he started the car to head home, not pressing the matter further.

Yet, on the way home, Qin Mu kept thinking about what Helian Hao had said.

It seemed like the bright moon had come out last night after all.

Chapter 708: Pampering (6) Cherishing one's own child_4

But now, it was gloomy again.

There was still some snow accumulated in the roadside grass, from the snow on Christmas Eve; it just hadn't melted yet. Now, it seemed like it might snow again.

"Qiao Yi and the others were supposed to come over tonight, but they figured it would be too crowded so they declined. How about we invite them out after you're able to go outside?"

"Yes! That would be nice!"

Qin Mu nodded in agreement.

Mu Yichen glanced at her and couldn't help but raise his hand to touch the back of her head.

Qin Mu then leaned gently on his shoulder, looking outside.

"It's winter already, yet so many dead leaves are still hanging on the trees!"

Qin Mu couldn't help but mutter.

"Yes, after a bit more cold, they'll all fall off."

Mu Yichen said, also glancing at the trees by the roadside.

Qin Mu gave a soft laugh.

At the traffic lights, Mu Yichen stopped the car and turned his head to embrace her, then tenderly kissed her forehead again.

Qin Mu had been unhappy lately, but there were some things that were uncertain, and actually, neither of them wanted to talk too much about it, so things had continued like this until now.

Fortunately, Zhuo Wen had left, and truth be told, Mu Yichen was also relieved.

Finally stepping through the front door of their home, Qin Mu couldn't help but exhale deeply, "Finally home!"

Mu Yichen heard that and pressed down on her head more firmly. Her woolly hat was on, so when he pushed it down, it got deformed on her head. Qin Mu looked up at him with a silly expression.

"How can you be so silly?"

Mu Yichen couldn't help but ask her as he embraced her and walked inside.

"Grandpa! We're back!"

Qin Mu happily greeted the old man coming out to meet them, and also gave him a big hug.

"Oh my, these past few days grandpa has been so worried, but your parents wouldn't let me come see you. Have you lost weight? Indeed, you've lost quite a lot!" the old man said, looking at Qin Mu's face.

"Not at all!"

Qin Mu said cheerfully, not really fond of the phrase "great hero."

"Not yet! But there's a nutritious soup stewing for you in the kitchen, I believe it won't take long before you become the plump little girl you used to be."

The old man said to her again.

"I don't want to be a plump little girl."

Qin Mu wrapped her arm around the old man and walked toward the sofa.

Feng Fanghua and Mu Zihao had arrived home a bit earlier and were already sitting on the sofa, holding the little one, with Huanhuan also gathered around grandma, looking at her little brother.

Seeing how Huanhuan was looking at Mu Chengyang, Qin Mu felt like Huanhuan didn't dislike her brother that much anymore; she actually seemed quite fond of him.

"Mommy!"

Huanhuan immediately ran to her when she saw her come back and hugged her tightly.

Realizing how much smaller mommy's tummy had gotten, she became even more delighted.

That look seemed to say: My mommy is back!

"Our family has another member now; oh my, in my lifetime, I, this old man, am truly content."

After grandpa sat down, he seemed different from usual, propping his hands on the arms of the sofa, looking particularly distinguished.

"Wait till Cheng Yang can call you great-grandfather before saying that."

Feng Fanghua commented.

"It wouldn't be too late even if grandpa waited until Huanhuan and Cheng Yang are married to say that!"

Qin Mu laughed as she said it too.

"Let's go upstairs!"

Mu Yichen, standing aside and watching her sitting on the sofa without intending to go upstairs, finally couldn't help but urge.

Everyone curiously looked towards Mu Yichen, who simply said, "She needs to lie down and rest now."

"Right, right, right! We weren't thoughtful enough, quickly go lie down with your husband and rest."

Feng Fanghua said, trying to hold back her laughter as she hurried Qin Mu.

Qin Mu looked up at Mu Yichen, thinking to herself, Mr. Mu, couldn't you have been a bit more tactful?

However, just a few steps after Qin Mu began to follow him, he scooped her from the ground and carried her straight upstairs.

Huanhuan covered her mouth and giggled again, while the elders shook their heads with a resigned sigh.

"Can that boy's brazen behavior ever change?"

The old man said, feeling happy inside but pretending to ask seriously.

"Probably not for the rest of his life."

Feng Fanghua said intentionally.

The two people climbing the stairs, well, Qin Mu alone, buried her head in his chest, embarrassed, and lightly punched his shoulder, "So embarrassing!"

Mu Yichen didn't care if she felt embarrassed; he just quickly carried her back to the room and laid her on the bed.

"After being away for so long, don't you miss your bed?"

He then sat beside her, gently touching her forehead and asked her.

"I do miss it a bit."

Chapter 709: Pampering (6) Cherishing one's own child_5

Qin Mu whispered softly.

"Is your belly still cold? Let me warm it up for you!"

"Mommy, I'm here!"

Just as Mu Yichen was planning to have a moment of warmth in bed with the two of them, Huanhuan slowly opened the door from outside.

But like she usually did when she saw this scene, she closed the door again and then gently knocked, "Mommy, I'm coming in, okay?"

Mu Yichen helplessly took his hand out, tugged at her clothes, sighed, then buried himself in her shoulder, "What should I do with her?"

Qin Mu soothed him by gently stroking his hair, then told the person at the door, "Come in!"

Huanhuan gently opened the door, and Mu Yichen sat up, "Mu Cheng Huan, don't we need to set some rules?"

"Huanhuan missed Daddy and Mommy!"

Huanhuan stood by their bedside and said.

Mu Yichen immediately choked on his words and leaned over to pick up Huanhuan, helped her take off her shoes, and let her sit beside Qin Mu.

"Mommy, you finally came back! Huanhuan missed you so much!"

As she spoke, Huanhuan lifted the quilt and then looked at Qin Mu's stomach.

"Mommy, your tummy is smaller! Is it because the baby brother came out?"

Huanhuan blinked, full of curiosity.

"Yes! Because the baby brother came out, Mommy is back to how I was before, are you happy, Huanhuan?"

Qin Mu asked, touching her little head.

"Happy!"

Huanhuan leaned over to touch Mommy's small belly and found that there really was no baby inside. She then sighed deeply as if imitating an adult and seemed relieved.

"So does Huanhuan like your baby brother now?"

"I like him! He's so cute!"

Huanhuan nodded, then looked up at Daddy, "Daddy, let me go back now, I want to play with the baby brother again."

So...

Did this little girl come just to disturb them?

Or to confirm Qin Mu's belly?

Qin Mu couldn't help but smile as she watched her daughter direct Mu Yichen so smoothly.

Mu Yichen had no choice but to put her down, then asked, "Are you sure you won't come back again?"

Huanhuan looked up at her daddy and couldn't resist tiptoeing to touch his cheek, "Daddy, shy shy!"

Mu Yichen...

After Huanhuan left, Mu Yichen turned to Qin Mu, "What did she say? What is 'shy shy'?"

Qin Mu was pressed against by his head and had to lie down, but she couldn't help laughing so hard that her stomach hurt.

That evening, Qin Haiming brought a pile of things. After setting them down, Mu Zihao politely invited him to sit, but Qin Haiming smiled and said, "I have some things to do tonight, so I can't stay. I'll go upstairs to see the kids first."

Mu Zihao thought about it and immediately nodded, then accompanied him upstairs.

They say a parent's love is boundless, but sitting on the sofa, Feng Fanghua thought it was very surprising that one day Qin Haiming would care so much for Qin Mu again.

She couldn't help but think, if he hadn't let Qin Mu leave back then, maybe the relationship between father and daughter wouldn't have deteriorated so badly.

But, there's no turning back.

Qin Mu, who had just woken up, washed her face in the bathroom and came out. Hearing a knock at the door, she went to open it and saw Mu Zihao and Qin Haiming standing there.

"Dad!"

Qin Mu instinctively called out to Mu Zihao, causing Qin Haiming to freeze.

"Oh! Your dad came to see you. You two catch up; I'll head downstairs."

Mu Zihao just greeted them briefly.

Qin Mu had no choice but to invite him in.

After Qin Haiming entered, he retreated to the side, "Are you feeling better? Get back to bed quickly!"

"I'm already much better, please take a seat!"

Qin Mu gestured for him to sit on the sofa.

The housekeeper immediately brought tea and then retreated.

Qin Mu sat at the foot of the bed and, after enduring for a while, finally spoke, "You don't have to worry about me, I'm doing well here."

Qin Haiming nodded, without looking up at her.

"You must be busy too, with the end of the year approaching!"

Qin Mu asked again.

"It's alright! Not too busy!"

He answered, his hands resting on his knees, gripping and then releasing, repeating the motion.

Qin Mu noticed his fidgeting and knew he was also uneasy, not knowing what to say herself, she too lowered her head.

"That girl, I heard she stayed at your house for quite a while?"

Qin Haiming asked.

"Oh! Yes, the granddaughter of Grandfather's wartime comrade. How did you know?"

Qin Mu asked, curious.

"That day I went to the hospital to see you, I met her when I was leaving. Later I asked your grandfather-in-law a couple of questions. She's gone now, right?"

Qin Haiming asked her again, since he hadn't seen the girl at the house when he came.

"She has already moved out!"

Qin Mu answered him.

"It's good that she has moved out!"

Qin Haiming said softly and then stood up.

He hadn't touched the tea.

Qin Mu stood up with him.

"No need to see me out. I still have some documents to review later. I was passing by and thought I'd come to see you. Get some rest, I'll see myself out."

His hand, constantly fidgeting, just as his words were carefully measured.

Qin Mu slightly raised her eyes but couldn't manage to look at him sincerely before her gaze fell again.

Too many years.

So she had long become unaccustomed to his concern.

Seeing how uncomfortable he was around her tonight, Qin Mu suddenly felt a pang of distress.

So as soon as he closed the door behind him and left, she found herself unable to hold back, and tears began to flow.

She raised her hand to vigorously wipe the tears from her face, but the tears had already reached her chin.

She wiped the tears from her chin with force, only to realize that below her eyes everything was blurred with tears.

How she longed for her parents' casual concern, how she longed...

But there was no going back!

Unable to help herself, she covered her mouth and slowly retreated to sit on the edge of the bed, the tears unstoppable as she tried to restrain herself from crying out loud.

Downstairs, Mu Zihao went to see him out, "Rest assured, we definitely won't let her suffer any grievances at home."

"Mmm! I do trust you on that. But Zihao, in the future try not to let other girls stay at your place. Mumu might not say anything, but she is quite sensitive about it. Although it's all my fault, I still hope that you don't put too much pressure on her in regards to those issues."

After much thought, Qin Haiming couldn't resist saying these words to Mu Zihao.

If he didn't speak for his own child, he feared no one else would truly stand up for her.

Chapter 710: Pampering (7)_1

Mu Zihao knew very well that it wasn't ideal to have a girl living at their home, especially since they as a young couple were living there now, but it was all because of the old man.

No one really dared to directly refuse whatever the family's old Taishan wanted to do.

— —

After Qin Haiming left, Qin Mu wiped away her tears and stood by the window for a while, her mind full of contradictions that nearly exploded.

She didn't know if her mother, if she were still alive, would forgive that man now.

She didn't know what she should do.

In the past, she thought going with the flow was fine, but now, whenever she saw Qin Haiming's restrained tenderness towards her, she would feel anxious. She could go with the flow, but what about Qin Haiming?

Could she merely assume everything Qin Hai was now deprived of was retribution for what he had done in the past?

As the younger generation! She seemed not as heartless as she had thought she was.

These past few days, people had been bringing gifts, and Mu Yichen had begun to reciprocate by treating guests.

By the time he returned home at night, it was nearly ten o'clock, but he wasn't heavily intoxicated.

Before sleeping, Qin Mu, lying in his arms, asked him, "Did you ask Qiao Yi to help you avoid drinking too much?"

"Mhm! And Jiang Zhiyuan too!"

Mu Yichen laughed, those two were experts at intercepting drinks.

Without thinking, Qin Mu's hand reached into his pajamas; Mu Yichen looked down, and in the dim room, asked her in a low voice, "Do you want me to take it all off?"

"Mhm!"

Qin Mu's voice was a bit hoarse.

For some reason, she suddenly didn't like the excess fabric on his body.

Mu Yichen immediately took off his clothes, even though he couldn't see anything clearly.

But in this winter, when the two of them clung together, it was especially warm.

"Do you want to take yours off too?"

Mu Yichen pondered for a moment and then asked again.

"If I take it off, it will leak out!"

Qin Mu's face turned red with shame.

Mu Yichen let out a helpless chuckle.

No one could clearly see each other's faces, but they could kiss each other's lips just right.

The feeling was very subtle, very good.

The biggest nuisance after having the baby was the issue of breast milk.

It didn't seem like much when it was needed, but after the child fell asleep, it would increase.

Especially at night, Qin Mu would sometimes have trouble sleeping because of it.

In the darkness, Mu Yichen held her tightly to his chest and said in a teasing tone, "I think, I'm finally about to get through this, huh?"

Unable to help herself, Qin Mu laughed: "There's still a month to go!"

In the darkness, Mu Yichen whispered: "This has been for months already, am I missing just one more month?"

A blushing Qin Mu just pressed closer to his chest and held him tighter without speaking further.

It felt somewhat like two newlyweds, diligently exercising restraint, waiting.

The anticipation was filled with joy.

After daylight, heavy snow covered the yard and the several cars parked outside.

Qin Mu looked out the window at the thick layer of snow covering everything and felt her mood brighten unconsciously.

Huanhuan was already playing in the snow with grandma, rolling up snowballs and throwing them at Feng Fanghua.

Feng Fanghua, not wanting to hit her hard, made small snowballs and threw them back at Huanhuan without much force.

After being hit, Huanhuan couldn't stop laughing with joy. Seeing the people shoveling snow, she immediately called out to Feng Fanghua, pointing at the brooms.

"Grandma! No!"

Worried, Huanhuan shouted, afraid that all the snow would be swept away.

"Only clear out a small path."

Feng Fanghua immediately led Huanhuan to give the order.

Everyone seeing Huanhuan so astonished by the snow laughed along; the entire family cosseted her for her happiness, of course they wouldn't clear all the snow away.

They only cleared the sidewalk and the path for the cars to drive out.

After Mu Yichen got up, he put on a robe and went to find Qin Mu, embracing her from behind and also looking out the window.

"Mu Chenghuan sure loves to play, doesn't she!"

He commented, his chin on Qin Mu's shoulder.

Qin Mu, however, smiled: "Isn't it great? I loved playing with snow when I was young."

"Hmm! You especially loved to throw it at others."

Mu Yichen remembered when Qin Mu was Huanhuan's age.

"Is that so?"

Qin Mu didn't have many memories of that; her memories were mainly from her time in Paris.

"Of course, you can ask Jing Feng, he knows best, you at that time, huh!"

Mu Yichen sighed.

However, Qin Mu couldn't help but wonder, would she have dared to hit him? Her impression was that he had always been quite stern and cool as a child. How could she, being so timid, dare to offend him?

In reality...

With Helian Hao's holiday starting, Jing Feng joined her at the window to watch the snow and casually talked about the snowball fights they played as children.