

His Beloved 751

Chapter 751: After the Wedding (2)_4

He was not being thrown at by a woman for the first time, but it indeed was the first time he felt so disgusted.

He now desperately missed Qin Mu, wanting to hold her soft body, to comfort her, and to comfort himself.

How could he have been so foolish?

No wonder she was angry.

Wang Yin said that when she entered, she saw Zhuo Wen sprawled on the bed and thought Zhuo Wen was dead.

Wang Yin said that when she went inside, she saw a golf club thrown on the ground.

Could they go play golf together in the future?

No! He didn't dare!

He just wanted to be with her in bed, just wanted to hold her tight in his arms.

No! She seemed not to like him being so domineering.

He would make her willingly stay in his arms.

Yes, willingly, not forced. That's how it should be, right?

He carefully recalled their time together since childhood, and he indeed was as she had described, too overbearing, too bossy, too authoritarian.

But he thought that as long as he could be by her side, none of that mattered.

He didn't dare to express too much, he was even more afraid of scaring her away.

She didn't know how much he feared her getting hurt since childhood, how much he feared that she wouldn't like him.

Mu Yichen held onto the pillow tighter because he felt his heart also tightening, aching.

After so many things that had happened between them, it wasn't that he didn't trust her, it's just that the opponent acted too well.

He had been eavesdropping on the two of them for the past few days, but nothing unusual had cropped up.

It was only after today, when Zhuo Wen was hospitalized and he had someone fetch the eavesdropping device, that he managed to hear what he wanted from today's recording.

Zhuo Wen and her fiancé had actually been on guard the whole time until this morning when they finally let down their guard.

But they had no idea that such an incident would happen just as they planned to return to Australia for the New Year.

He sent Mu Qingxin a text message, "Is your sister-in-law asleep?"

Mu Qingxin was asleep next to Qin Mu, but Qin Mu was still awake. She heard a sound from the phone beside Mu Qingxin's head. Initially intent on moving it to the bedside table so as not to disturb Mu Qingxin's sleep, Qin Mu accidentally touched the screen and saw the message he had sent.

Mu Qingxin's contact name for Mu Yichen now was "My dear beloved big brother."

Qin Mu thought for a moment that if she didn't reply, he might send another message or call directly, now that her son was also asleep.

"Mhm!"

She gently pressed a single character and sent it over.

Upon seeing that character, Mu Yichen felt relieved but didn't forget to remind her, "She might not sleep well, go check on her later."

Qin Mu, sitting in bed and licking her lips, couldn't help but feel both amused and pained as she looked at the message, her eyes quietly starting to ache.

Qin Mu didn't reply again, simply turning her phone to silent mode before lying down again.

If he really cared that much, why didn't he listen to her in the first place?

Tears still fell, two streams that wet the pillow.

But she quickly wiped them away and went to sleep.

Maybe it was because of the overly forceful swing of the golf club earlier that made her tired in the evening?

Latter, she actually slept very well.

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After breakfast, Feng Fanghua said, "Call your brother and ask him what time he'll be back. We're going to the cemetery today, right? Let's not be too late."

"Oh!"

Mu Qingxin agreed while glancing at Qin Mu.

"Maybe you should let your sister-in-law make the call! Qingxin seems to be a bit sulky and has a bit of a beef with your brother," Jiang Yan suddenly suggested, glancing at the woman who kept her head down and continued eating her breakfast.

Qin Mu looked up, "Huh?"

She had been zoning out and hadn't heard their conversation at all.

"Then do as you please!"

Feng Fanghua picked Huanhuan up from the chair. Grandpa and Mu Zihao had finished eating and gone to play chess, while Feng Fanghua also took Huanhuan along with them.

"Qin Mu, you call your brother. You two are husband and wife after all; the quarrel at the head of the bed is settled at the foot," Mu Qingxin said in a tone slightly softer than usual, seemingly coaxing Qin Mu.

"Why should I call him? I'm quite busy today. After I'm done feeding Chengcheng, I need to prepare for the visit to my mother's grave," Qin Mu said coldly, then casually finished the porridge in her bowl.

"I've finished eating, you two continue," Qin Mu said, ignoring their dazed looks, and walked away.

Qin Haiming had called her that morning to suggest they visit her mother's grave together. Although she refused to go with Qin Haiming, she was still planning to take the children there herself.

Mu Qingxin then called Mu Yichen, but he said he was busy.

After hanging up, Mu Qingxin whispered to the man sitting beside her, "My brother said he's busy, he told us to go ahead first."

Jiang Yan didn't speak anymore, simply gazing at the already clean tabletop.

So, they took the Mu Family's extended nanny van to the cemetery.

Aside from the elderly patriarch, everyone from the Mu Family accompanied Qin Mu to her mother's grave. Feng Fanghua even said, "Don't worry, I'll take care of this daughter of yours from now on. Even though you just left everything behind like that, if you are heartless, we cannot be unrighteous."

"Mom!"

Mu Qingxin called softly to Feng Fanghua, tugging at the sleeve of her clothing.

But Feng Fanghua walked away only after finishing those words.

Qin Mu probably understood, as they had been so close back then; her mother's sudden departure must have deeply saddened her older sister.

Chapter 752: After the Wedding (3)_1

"Mom! Today, Grandma's family came with me to visit you. We're all doing well, and now we have Little Chengcheng. His full name is Mu Chengyang, which was chosen by Grandpa. He looks so much like his cold and distant dad."

"Mom! Happy New Year!"

Later, Qin Mu, holding Chengcheng in her arms and followed by Huanhuan, descended the mountain again to visit the Mu Family's graveyard.

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"Call Mumu's dad over too; let's celebrate the New Year together as a family."

Before nightfall, the old man spoke to his son.

Mu Zihao nodded and stood up, "I'll go and bring him personally."

As Mu Zihao finished speaking and was about to leave, he coincidentally ran into Mu Yichen returning home, which gave him quite a start.

Mu Yichen's face was somewhat dark, whether from the evening sky or something else, Mu Zihao stared at him for three seconds, "Where were you last night?"

"There was some business at the company."

Mu Yichen answered, then asked in return, "Where are you going?"

"Your grandpa said to invite Mumu's dad over for the New Year, so I'm planning to go fetch him myself."

"I'll go with you."

He just didn't know how to face Qin Mu, so he decided to turn around and follow Mu Zihao.

Mu Zihao actually agreed, wanting to find out what had happened between his son and daughter-in-law.

Feng Fanghua stood at the window, "Isn't that Mu Yichen? Why did he come only to leave again so soon?"

"My brother is back?"

Mu Qingxin also ran over and then saw the father and son get into a car together.

On the way, Mu Zihao, sitting in the backseat, asked his son who was driving, "You fought with your wife again? It's the New Year, and you two just had your wedding, how come you're still fighting to the point of not coming home at night?"

Mu Zihao's voice was very calm; he was heartbroken for his son and reluctant to let him suffer.

"It can only be this way for now; it's good enough that I can stay for the night."

Mu Yichen didn't avoid the question and instead responded with a hint of sarcasm.

"What kind of thing is that to say?"

Mu Zihao frowned, not understanding.

"Your son made a huge mistake!"

Mu Yichen stated.

After hearing this, Mu Zihao fell silent, suddenly realizing. It wasn't that his son wanted to stay out overnight; it was that his daughter-in-law couldn't tolerate his son anymore.

Qin Haiming and Uncle Wang were originally having a good New Year's at home, but after the father and son came to pick them up and they couldn't decline after two attempts, they followed them.

That evening, everyone got together and made a lot of dumplings, but Qin Mu's skills were still dreadful, and where others made ten, she managed only one and a half. Ultimately, it was because she was too meticulous, even getting troubled over a few wrinkles.

Mu Qingxin couldn't stand to watch and grumbled, "Are you making dumplings or embroidering flowers?"

"It's the same principle, whatever you do, you have to do it well."

Qin Mu said calmly, after placing the dumplings on the plate.

Mu Qingxin pouted, then looked at the ones her husband made and couldn't help but complain, "Mr. Jiang, why don't you go out for a cup of tea? Are you making dumplings or what kind of monstrosity?"

Jiang Yan, who had just managed to finish one, let out a heavy sigh of exhaustion, but he didn't expect such a brutal critique from his wife.

Seeing Mu Qingxin's dumplings, Qin Mu remarked, "Do you think yours turned out any better?"

Mu Qingxin...

Jiang Yan couldn't help but laugh, raising his hand to drape it over Mu Qingxin's shoulder, "Yes, wife, do you think yours turned out that well? All things considered, it's actually big sister's dumplings that look the best."

"I'm going to hit you!"

Mu Qingxin lifted her flour-dusted hand as if to strike, scaring Jiang Yan into making a swift exit.

Feng Fanghua, who was rolling out dough, sighed, "How old are you guys? Always acting like children, it's so childish."

"Mom! How can you dislike me?"

"I don't just dislike you! I dislike all of you."

Feng Fanghua also glanced at Qin Mu, who, feeling someone's eyes on her, quickly looked up, "Why dislike? I think they're wrapped quite well."

"At the rate you're going, we won't have dumplings to eat next year either," Feng Fanghua told her.

The aunt came out of the kitchen, bringing a bowl of chive filling, which smelled particularly appetizing during the New Year and whet the appetite.

"Madam and the second young mistress, as well as the son-in-law, should go to the living room and watch TV. We'll take care of things here," the aunt suggested.

This year, two maids and a chef were kept at home to help, so the younger generation wasn't needed in the dining area.

Before Qin Mu left, she said, "Mom, don't you think it's much better than last year?"

Qin Mu said to Feng Fanghua, looking at her own dumplings.

Feng Fanghua smiled helplessly.

"Let's go, my dear big sister."

Mu Qingxin, who had already gone out with Jiang Yan, quickly turned back to pull Qin Mu who seemed reluctant to leave.

Chapter 753: After the Wedding (3)_2

The three of them came out of the restaurant chattering and laughing when they saw the three men returning from outside.

As Mu Yichen was heading to the parking lot, he was the last to reach the living room and caught sight of the image of his wife...

Qin Mu wore a simple pair of jeans and a sweater, all in light colors.

Her long hair was braided on one side.

Mu Yichen suddenly felt this look of Qin Mu's was so endearing.

"Uncle Qin!"

When Mu Qingxin saw Qin Haiming, she let go of Qin Mu's shoulder and respectfully bowed to greet him.

"Qingxin, you've grown even prettier this year!"

Qin Haiming praised kindly.

"Thank you for the compliment, Uncle Qin. Oh, this is my husband, Jiang Yan! Jiang Yan, this is my sister-in-law's father, Uncle Qin!"

"Hello!"

Jiang Yan had heard of this man, and now that he was celebrating the New Year at his wife's family home, he followed local customs and nodded his head in greeting.

Qin Haiming also nodded in return, then the old man hurried him along to join the others for tea and chat.

So Qin Mu looked at the sofa, where there didn't seem to be any comfortable spots left for the younger ones to sit, and thought about going back to the dining room to help out.

"Where are you going? Mom and Auntie think we're more of a hindrance than a help. Look at how wrinkled my brother's clothes are; hurry and take him upstairs to change into a new set. It is the New Year's Eve tonight, after all."

Mu Qingxin looked pityingly at her poor brother and, pushing down on Qin Mu, steered her towards Mu Yichen's side.

Qin Mu's shoulder inadvertently brushed against Mu Yichen's, and the hand in his pants pocket stiffened before she subconsciously tightened her shoulder and leaned slightly to the side.

Mu Yichen's gaze reluctantly shifted from her face and unhappily turned to his sister.

"Brother, why are your clothes so wrinkled? Have Qin Mu pick out a new one for you, it's New Year's Eve tonight."

"Where are they wrinkled?"

Mu Yichen inquired with furrowed brows, looking down at his clothes but feeling that there was nothing amiss.

"We're not children."

Qin Mu muttered under her breath, then returned to the dining room.

She didn't dare stay even for a moment, her heart seeming ready to leap out at any time.

Mu Yichen surely understood Mu Qingxin's intentions, but couldn't cooperate because how could he be unaware of his own wife's feelings?

So, as he watched Qin Mu turn her back to him again, he could only watch her leave helplessly.

"Bro! What's wrong with you?"

Mu Qingxin grabbed her brother's sleeve and scolded him in agitation.

"Don't help 'till it's too much. Go help Dad and the others pour some tea."

Mu Yichen told her quietly and then strode up the stairs with long steps.

Mu Qingxin and Jiang Yan stood together, looking after the tall figure with some sympathy. "Why do I feel like beating up Qin Mu?"

Jiang Yan looked at his wife and wrapped an arm around her shoulders, "Let's just watch without meddling in things we don't fully understand."

Upon hearing this, Mu Qingxin sighed helplessly, wondering if Mu Yichen had gone back to his room?

In fact, Mu Yichen had gone to his son's nursery.

His son was sound asleep in the crib.

He seemed to have changed so much just in one day.

While sleeping, the little one's mouth still moved, and Mu Yichen suddenly wondered if Huanhuan at this age was the same, suckling in his sleep?

His expression was no longer filled with fatigue but was now tinged with tenderness.

No matter what happened between him and his wife, their home would always remain constant.

He used to get really annoyed with this little guy, but now he found him quite pleasant to look at.

"You little rascal, do you know how annoying your mom can be?"

Mu Yichen picked him up from the crib and walked over to a cartoon-themed couch where he sat down.

Huanhuan also ran up from downstairs, "Daddy!"

She climbed onto the couch, peering over her dad's shoulder at her little brother in his arms, smiling joyfully without making any other sound.

During the dinner, the whole family gathered around, as if it was their first time celebrating such a lively New Year. Everyone was very happy.

"Haiming, don't be shy, eat up."

The patriarch encouraged Qin Haiming and Uncle Wang. Not just them, but all the household staff who stayed were also invited to join the table. That evening was an unforgettable New Year's Eve dinner for many.

"Happy New Year!"

Everyone at the table raised their glasses to toast, including Little Huanhuan amid the festivities.

The two little ones were already asleep, but she was still full of energy, eating and drinking along with the adults.

The men started talking about work, a common topic, while Feng Fanghua busied herself with feeding her granddaughter.

Chapter 754: After the Wedding (3)_3

Mu Qingxin and Qin Mu whispered to each other, which was a bit taxing for Jiang Yan and Mu Yichen.

"But, bro, are you and your wife separated?"

Jiang Yan couldn't help but ask.

Mu Yichen glanced at him sidelong, his look seemingly saying, "Brat, what are you blabbering about?"

But afterward, when Mu Yichen looked at the woman whispering with Mu Qingxin, he said, "Probably!"

He was actually unable to refute it.

He'd moved back to the apartment while she and the kids stayed here.

But that was probably for the best, seeing that she didn't lack care at home.

After dinner, the elders joined Grandfather for a game of chess; Uncle Wang played a round and even won, making Grandfather flush red: "Uncle Wang, your chess skills are too formidable! When do you have the time to play, always driving around?"

"When the mayor is busy, I play chess on my mobile phone in the car."

Uncle Wang said with a candid smile.

"Ah, I underestimated you, underestimated indeed."

Grandfather slapped his thigh, sighing in distress.

Late into the evening, when Uncle Wang and Qin Haiming were about to leave, everyone went to see them out, but Qin Haiming immediately said with a smile, "Let Mumu escort us; everyone else, please stay, thank you so much for tonight."

Qin Haiming had paid attention to his daughter and son-in-law all night, noticing they not only sat apart but didn't communicate at all. Seeing something seemingly unresolved in his daughter's eyes, he was deeply concerned, so he asked Qin Mu to come along.

"I'll go then."

Qin Mu said and walked forward.

Mu Yichen immediately looked toward the maid and quietly said, "Quick, get the young madam's coat."

"Yes!"

The maid hurried inside to fetch Qin Mu's coat, and just as Qin Mu reached the door, the maid rushed over to give it to her.

"Thank you!"

Qin Mu thanked her gratefully; it was only by the door that she felt the cold, something Qin Haiming, preoccupied with his own concerns, had forgotten.

The three of them walked out together, Qin Haiming not treating Uncle Wang as an outsider, so he directly asked her, "Haven't you and Yichen reconciled since the last fight?"

"Hmm!"

She pondered for a long time, feeling that any explanation she wanted to give seemed inappropriate, and indeed, they were genuinely at odds now.

So, in the end, she could only nod in agreement.

"Is it still because of Zhuo Wen? Have you told Yichen what you're thinking?"

Qin Haiming frowned slightly with concern, but his eyes were full of warmth for his daughter.

"This time it's a bit serious, but I think we should be able to get past it."

Qin Mu thought for a moment and replied with her head bowed.

Actually, she didn't want to worry Qin Haiming; since he learned the truth about the past, he had been wholeheartedly concerned about her.

Qin Haiming nodded, "That's good to hear; if it gets too much for you, come home and stay for a few days. Your room will always be there, alright?"

"Okay!"

Qin Mu nodded.

Even though she hadn't called him "Dad" again, at that moment, she had no grievances against this father.

"The young lady is very prudent, and I'm sure she and the young master will get along just fine."

Uncle Wang chimed in from the side.

"Let's hope for your auspicious words! You've only recently recovered, so take care of your diet and drink less."

Qin Mu remembered Uncle Wang had indulged in a few too many drinks, so she reminded him with a smile.

Qin Haiming also looked back at Uncle Wang, "You should drink some medicine when you get home tonight."

"Yes, yes, yes!"

Uncle Wang immediately nodded in agreement, head bowed.

"How about walking us two old men to the door?"

They were still a bit far from the door; Qin Mu looked ahead and then continued walking with him.

Compared to going back inside, she preferred walking out.

The cold wind blew, invigorating her, and being outside, not having to face that man, was somehow more comfortable for her now.

"Miss, do come home when you have the time, otherwise it really is too quiet there."

Uncle Wang glanced at the car where Qin Haiming had already gotten in and was sitting in the back.

"Okay!"

Qin Mu agreed, her gaze skirting the car's interior, not daring to look directly.

Only after they had gone did she walk forward a few steps and then stood from afar, watching.

Being able to get along as they were now felt incredible to her.

Inside the car, the two aging men were discussing, "You know, you are luckier than even me, her father."

"Where's that coming from?"

Uncle Wang chuckled.

"Hmpf! Where from? When has she ever spoken a caring word to me? Yet every time she sees you, she has to remind you of this and that."

Qin Haiming looked outside the window, where it was pitch dark, but in the reflection on the window, he could still see the glimmer in his own eyes.

Chapter 755: After the Wedding (3)_4

"Miss is thinking about you in her heart, it's just that she can't say it out loud," Uncle Wang said reassuringly.

He quickly tried to comfort him.

"Yes! It's all my own fault!"

Qin Haiming's eyes had already moistened as he uttered those words.

Uncle Wang said nothing more, only thinking that what the car needed most right now was quiet.

Uncle Wang and the driver sat in the front, and the Mu Family's driver did not interject, but he also felt very emotional.

"That young couple, why do I feel like they argue a lot?"

Qin Haiming couldn't help but think about his daughter and son-in-law.

"It's normal for young people to bicker," Uncle Wang said, slightly turning his body.

"The Mayor can rest assured, our Young Master and Young Mistress get along well," the driver finally couldn't help but say, sounding very happy and proud.

Upon hearing this, Qin Haiming looked up front: "Oh? You know?"

"Everyone in the house knows, the Young Master and Young Mistress, fighting is intimacy and scolding is affection. They are spirited and like to bicker, but once it's over, they're close again."

The driver continued, thinking of how many times he had seen the Young Mistress and the Young Master argue.

"I hope so!"

Qin Haiming suddenly felt much more relieved.

At the entrance of the Mu family home, Qin Mu was still standing outside, reluctant to go in.

Her hands were tucked in the pockets of her down jacket, then she looked down at her high heels.

With just a slight movement of her eyes, she saw the snowflakes. She raised her eyes, almost in disbelief, and through her pure almond-colored pupils, she saw the white snowflakes falling down, one by one.

Beautiful, like a painting.

She couldn't help but hold her breath, her facial expression turning gentle.

It was snowing.

The snow on New Year's Eve and the first day of the New Year was an auspicious sign, and Qin Mu felt that the new year was definitely going to be good.

Her warm little hand in her down jacket emerged, just to have a snowflake fall upon her finger, only to quickly melt.

Leaving behind only a drop of water.

Qin Mu's heart jolted, and then, watching the snowflakes fall into the palm of her hand, unable to stay.

Sadness came unbidden to her clear eyes.

But she thought it must be because of the warm weather. A little later, she would definitely be able to keep a bit of white.

And besides, her palm was so warm it wasn't meant to hold snow.

She quickly recovered from her sadness and turned to walk inside.

Her hands were back in the pockets of her down jacket, but her mood had already improved.

She hoped the snow would keep falling all night, continuing into tomorrow.

Such a New Year's Day would definitely be beautiful.

She entered the house and then tried to close the door, but a pair of hands held onto the edge of the door and wouldn't budge no matter how hard she tried.

She became a bit anxious and tried harder.

In the darkness of night, the snowflakes fell thickly from the sky.

She looked up foolishly at the heavy snowfall, wearing her light grey loose-fitting down jacket.

Then the door suddenly moved in her hand.

She let go in fright, and the door closed slowly on its own.

Qin Mu turned around reflexively. He wasn't wearing a coat, just a shirt with a cashmere sweater over it, standing tall a few meters away from her.

Divided by a stretch of snow, divided by a chasm.

Neither of them showed any intention of getting closer, but they just looked at each other from afar.

In Qin Mu's eyes, the warmth slowly declined.

But Mu Yichen's gaze never wavered, just hands in his pockets, staring straight into her eyes.

Qin Mu looked down first, feeling a warmth in her eyes.

Seeing the snow fall to the ground and then slowly melt, her heart also seemed to be getting wet.

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Inside the house, Huanhuan and her auntie were pressing their faces against the glass, looking outside, though they couldn't really see anything.

"Why aren't they coming back yet?" Mu Qingxin asked anxiously.

"You might as well go out and check for yourself, you're nearly pressing through the window," Feng Fanghua said as she stood up from the sofa, and then called Huanhuan, "Sweetie, go wash up and sleep with grandma, will you?"

Huanhuan, too, was tired so she went upstairs to bathe and go to bed with her grandmother.

Mu Qingxin continued to stand there worryingly: "What if the two of them start fighting outside?"

"Usually in such situations, they would start fighting," Jiang Yan replied seriously from behind her.

Mu Qingxin turned her head to look at him: "Really?"

"Yes! But not the kind of fighting between people of the same sex, it's the kind that happens between us often," Jiang Yan said, leaning close to her ear.

Mu Qingxin's ears suddenly turned red, then she turned around and raised her hand to hit him on the chest: "Stop talking nonsense, I said stop that."

"Cough, cough!"

The old master couldn't help but clear his throat; his beloved granddaughter was really spoiled.

But Mu Zihao felt it was just a small matter between the couple.

Mu Qingxin immediately restrained herself because of the old master clearing his throat, yet she pulled Jiang Yan to join her by the window and watch.

The TV was still broadcasting the Spring Festival gala, and the old master couldn't help but sigh after a while: "I didn't expect a whole year to pass so quickly."

"You can't be thinking of going back to the countryside again, we can't be without you here," Mu Zihao said.

"I wouldn't go back even if you asked me, but I do miss my old friends in the countryside," the old master mused.

"That can be easily arranged. We'll make a trip back after the new year, visit everyone," Mu Zihao suggested.

"Hmm! Not a bad idea, let's let the young couple accompany me back for a few days," the old master thought of his grandson and granddaughter-in-law's recent situation.

"We'll do that before they go back to work, but they can't stay too long," Mu Zihao proposed.

The old master nodded in agreement.

"They're back, they're back!"

Suddenly, Mu Qingxin, focused on the scene outside, excitedly shouted out, her excitement lifting her on her toes as she tapped on Jiang Yan's shoulder.

Chapter 756: After the Wedding (4)_1

The snow outside grows heavier, but the thinly-dressed CEO Mu Yichen follows slowly behind the heavily-coated Qin Mu.

The two are separated by a distance of nearly ten meters, like a lengthy spiritual practice.

Qin Mu walks with her head down, feeling his presence behind her. Even though his steps are light, they still imprint on her heart, leaving her breathless under the numerous footprints he has tread on it.

"Isn't he the kind of domineering CEO who goes crazy at the start? Why is he being so subtle this time?"

Mu Qingxin feels awkward, anxiously watching their unhurried figures.

Jiang Yan glances outside beside her, then turns to Mu Qingxin, "Sometimes, I don't dare to get too close to you either."

"Really?"

Mu Qingxin looks up at him incredulously and nudges him with her shoulder gently, "Annoying!"

"What do you like about me? A bit more domineering? A bit more arrogant?"

Jiang Yan, seeing that the elders are occupied with the TV, whispers into her ear.

"You wouldn't dare!"

Mu Qingxin glares at him, her expression warning that he's in for it if he misbehaves, but Jiang Yan isn't intimidated and even laughs.

Qin Mu enters the living room first, then sits down on the sofa next to grandfather, "Grandpa, shall I play a game of chess with you?"

"Sure!"

The old man lights up at the mention of chess, tossing back the sunflower seeds in his hand, thinking of the several games he's just lost and is determined to win back.

Mu Yichen takes a while to follow in, and Mu Qingxin, ignoring Qin Mu, runs to the door, "Brother, what's going on with you two? Why torture yourself like this?"

Mu Yichen frowns, unable to recall when he ever mistreated himself.

"What's going on between you and Qin Mu? You two just had your wedding."

Mu Qingxin winks at him, feeling a bit embarrassed about her own words, especially when Mu Yichen gives her an expressionless stare, making it difficult for her to continue.

Mu Yichen walks further inside, and upon seeing Qin Mu playing chess with grandpa, he feels increasingly irate inside.

Is Mu Qingxin the only one who notices they are fighting?

Everyone knows there's a problem between the two, yet no one creates an opportunity for them to be alone together.

He still remembers last year at this time, it was just him and Qin Mu keeping vigil in the living room.

But this year...

Qin Mu plays chess with grandfather until after midnight and then chats with him until the song "Unforgettable Tonight" ends, and only then does grandfather stand up, "I'm tired too, off to sleep."

Feng Fanghua, already dozing off, goes to cuddle with her grandson to sleep. Mu Zihao glances at the four young people beside him, who though sleepy, show no intention of leaving for their rooms, so he too puts away his snacks back onto the plate on the table, "I should go to sleep as well."

Qin Mu stands up, thinking that since the others have left, she might as well go to sleep too.

But then she wonders what if Mu Yichen follows her there?

So she sits back down on the sofa.

"Qin Mu, you two should go to bed as well, let me and Ayan have our own little world, okay?"

Mu Qingxin yawns while making her suggestion to Qin Mu.

Qin Mu turns to look at her, "Last year, it was your brother and I keeping the night vigil here, why change that this year?"

The stubbornness in her words actually gives relief to one who has been in low spirits for hours because of the mention of someone.

"Then should we go to our rooms? Let's not disturb brother and sister-in-law's world in the living room."

Jiang Yan says, looking down at his near-sleeping wife.

"Then, brother, sister-in-law, we're heading to our room!"

Qin Mu watches them with a minimal lift of her eyes, not wanting to speak to them.

Clearly, there's a cold war going on, and those two are blatantly displaying their affection in front of them.

"Get lost."

Mu Yichen looks at their insufferably smug demeanor and utters a single word.

Jiang Yan immediately carries off his wife, for he too actually wants to return to their room now.

Afterward, only the two of them are left in the living room. Qin Mu crosses her arms, waits a while, grabs the remote, and rewinds to the program they were watching, prompting Mu Yichen to frown.

The song "Unforgettable Tonight" is indeed the one he loathes most, no exception.

By itself, the title isn't too bad, but the singing style is beyond his tolerance.

Qin Mu, however, is fine with it because of his dislike; the lyrics are too good, the artist sings so sincerely, and those artists bowing on stage give her the sense that, yes, a new year has arrived.

Each on their own sofas, Qin Mu starts to doze off after a while.

The remote control sits beside her. Mu Yichen's dark eyes fixate on the black remote, then lift to look at her again.

Chapter 757: After the Wedding (4)_2

She seemed to have fallen asleep?

Her sleeping posture was rather graceful.

He didn't know if she had stayed here all along because she wanted to keep watch with him through the night like last year, but if that was the case, it was certainly good; if not...

He walked quietly over to her, turned the volume of the television down to its lowest, and then leaned back slowly.

Qin Mu, in a daze, toppled toward the side, her arms hugging herself, her head already resting on the armrest of the sofa.

The position looked super uncomfortable, but that was just the way she was.

Mu Yichen turned his head, his brow furrowed as he watched her, suddenly feeling displeased.

Was she asleep or not?

Shouldn't she be leaning on his shoulder instead?

Almost half an hour passed, and he sat there the entire time.

The television switched to another channel, talking about finance and economics.

Mu Yichen found it quite rare that on such a holiday, there were still other programs to watch. It wasn't easy, so he put down the remote control.

Later, she might have really fallen asleep, extremely uncomfortably, so she leaned toward him.

Mu Yichen didn't dare to breathe too heavily, afraid of disturbing her search for a better position.

Mu Yichen sighed helplessly.

Qin Mu was sleeping fine until she turned to one side and her neck got a bit stiff, then she turned her body, facing toward the inside of the sofa.

Mu Yichen saw her frowning in discomfort, took a throw pillow from the side, and lifted her head up.

Qin Mu reflexively rested her head on the arm he extended.

Mu Yichen...

He actually just wanted to give her a pillow, but with things turning out this way...

Mu Yichen didn't speak, just lied down gently.

It was actually quite uncomfortable because he was afraid she would fall off, so he tried to take up as little space as possible.

And the night became more and more beautiful.

The snow continued to fall outside; Mu Yichen lifted his head slightly and could see the snow still fluttering down outside the window.

Then he glanced at the single sofa in front of him where her down jacket lay, he finally hooked the down jacket within reach, and they both covered themselves with it, gradually falling asleep.

Qin Mu woke up in the morning feeling like she was about to collapse; as soon as she opened her eyes, she saw herself in a gray chest, then she immediately lifted her head.

On instinct, she tried to flee, and then as she moved back, her entire body fell onto the carpet.

"Ah!"

Her head accidentally knocked against something.

But the young couple already sitting on the stairway had been watching for a while. Mu Qingxin said helplessly, "To sleep like this all night, might she not have a stiff neck?"

"I'm more worried that my brother's arm might go numb," Jiang Yan said.

It seemed the woman was considering her own feelings, and the man his.

Mu Qingxin sighed helplessly, "These two really are..."

"Let's not be like that; if we like each other, let's stay together forever," Jiang Yan turned his head and said to Mu Qingxin.

Mu Qingxin noticed a little girl sitting just two steps up from them.

Mu Qingxin and Jiang Yan turned their heads simultaneously, "When did you get here?"

Both asked at the same time.

"A long while ago!"

Huanhuan still rested her chin on her hands, seemingly in no hurry to do anything.

Qin Mu, having managed to get up from the ground, looked at the man who had turned over and continued sleeping on the sofa and without a word, huffily turned away.

"Hey, Mu Qingxin, don't spoil my daughter," she said as she went upstairs.

"My dear sister-in-law, it was your precious daughter who sat behind us and eavesdropped, okay?" Mu Qingxin immediately retorted with cheeks puffed out.

"Not at all! I just called you, not sneaky, you just didn't hear it," Huanhuan lowered her eyes, feeling defiant about her aunt's words, thinking to herself, you've been sitting here watching my mom and dad and I didn't say anything about you.

Qin Mu walked over to them, reached out to Huanhuan, "Get up, go wash up with mom."

Huanhuan gave her hand to her mom.

After mother and daughter returned to their room, Mu Yichen still had not gotten up.

Mu Qingxin whispered to Jiang Yan, "When do you think my brother is going to stop pretending to be asleep?"

"Not sure, but it should be almost time," Jiang Yan thought, Qin Mu had gone back to her room, and sleeping on the sofa was uncomfortable, it was about time for Mu Yichen to get up.

"Sigh! My brother is really pitiful, so many women out there want to climb into his bed, yet he would rather sleep on the sofa with Qin Mu."

"I'd be willing to sleep with you in a snowy field."

Jiang Yan confessed to her.

Mu Qingxin laughed helplessly, "That's enough, my brother is already pathetic enough."

Jiang Yan immediately fell silent, then got up and stretched.

Mu Yichen finally sat up, rubbing his brow, unable to see the two people on the stairs clearly from his position, but just listening to their nonsense talk was enough to torture him.

Chapter 758: After the Wedding (4)_3

Last night was really exhausting!

But it was enough to warm his heart.

Because even sleeping together like this, the coming days would probably not be easy.

The New Year's Eve had passed, and whether he could stay here tonight was a question.

Mu Yichen thought about it and then stood up, by the time he went upstairs, those two had already run away.

When he opened the door to his own bedroom, it felt as if he hadn't entered for a year.

Just as he opened the wardrobe to look for clothes, he heard his daughter's voice from the bathroom, "Mom, why did you and dad sleep on the sofa?"

"We just fell asleep accidentally,"

Qin Mu explained to Huanhuan after brushing her teeth.

"Oh! Auntie and uncle said you guys had a fight, did you really have a fight?"

Huanhuan couldn't help but ask again, looking up with her big eyes staring straight at her beloved mother.

Qin Mu turned on the water to wash her face, and when she heard this, she felt rather helpless, but ultimately she could only say to her daughter before applying the facial cleanser, "We did have a fight, but we will make up."

"Hmm! Grandpa and grandma said the same thing."

Huanhuan suddenly smiled, as if relieved.

Once Huanhuan was reassured, she left the bathroom, only to see her dad there the moment she stepped out. Her big, black, glistening eyes looked at her dear old dad, and she almost cried out in surprise.

Mu Yichen quickly made a gesture to her to keep quiet.

Huanhuan obediently covered her mouth with her hand, then went to the wardrobe.

Her dad had changed into new clothes and looked particularly handsome.

After changing his shirt, Mu Yichen carried her and quietly walked out.

Qin Mu came out of the bathroom to find Huanhuan already gone and wondered for a moment, thinking an elder took her away.

Qin Mu then began to change clothes, but just as she was about to put on new clothes, she heard the doorbell ring and instinctively looked towards the door.

Mu Yichen happened to come in, and upon seeing her changing, he immediately closed the door. His dark hawk-like eyes gazed at her for a moment, "I'm going to wash up."

After going to the bathroom, Mu Yichen took a deep breath, thinking to himself, she did that on purpose, right?

The morning of the first day of the New Year still had two plates of dumplings on the table, of course, freshly cooked that morning.

The rest was pretty much the same as usual.

After breakfast, everyone was idle at home, but Qiao Yi and Jiang Zhiyuan requested to play a couple of rounds. Mu Yichen glanced at the woman who was always with the elders on the sofa, and then at the little girl also flocking around her, "Huanhuan!"

Mu Yichen called his daughter from the center of the living room.

Huanhuan turned her head to look at him. Not just Huanhuan, except for Qin Mu and the old man, everyone else looked at him too.

"Come here!"

Mu Yichen commanded again.

Huanhuan was somewhat reluctant, but she still went to her dad.

"How about dad takes you out to play?"

"Yes, yes!"

Huanhuan became truly happy at the prospect of going out.

"Bro, where are you going? Can you take me and Ayan too?"

As soon as Mu Qingxin heard about going out to play, she was hooked. Jiang Yan sighed inwardly upon seeing his wife looking so foolishly eager.

"Jiang Yan, if you're free, come with me."

Mu Yichen said, but he didn't ask for his sister.

Mu Qingxin was deeply hurt, but she couldn't say much about it, so the two men took Huanhuan and left.

"But why take her?"

After getting in the car with Mu Yichen, Jiang Yan asked, looking at the little girl sitting in the car seat behind them.

Mu Yichen didn't respond, thinking, if I bring her, I can come back tonight.

The two went to AM, as it was too much trouble to prepare food elsewhere. At this place, all they needed to do was to open their mouths and ask.

They found a private room, and several men gathered together, with cards and drinks already prepared.

Qin Mu spent the morning at home with Mu Qingxin, accompanying the elders in chatting and watching dramas, and in the afternoon, one of her colleagues called her out, because as she was having her wedding, the colleagues at the studio didn't go back to their homes either, so they decided to have lunch together.

Everyone was there, except for Xiaomei.

They agreed to return after the New Year since they don't celebrate it over there.

Qin Mu didn't mind. After introducing Mu Qingxin to everyone again with great fanfare, she started to order the food.

In an extra-large private room of the Chinese restaurant, the manager personally placed their orders.

Mu Qingxin, sitting at the side, looked at the manager and suddenly asked, "Could my brother and my husband be here too?"

Qin Mu thought to herself that couldn't be possible. They were probably out exercising.

"Yes, Young Master Yichen and Young Master Jiang are in the clubhouse upstairs."

Mu Qingxin, hearing this, immediately became enthusiastic, "Let's go find them after we eat. What are they doing?"

"The young masters are playing cards together."

The manager said, and after ordering the dishes, he handed everything over to the nearby waiter: "Take good care of them."

"Yes!"

The waiter hurriedly agreed.

The manager greeted Qin Mu before leaving, and Mu Qingxin whispered in Qin Mu's ear: "How about we go to the clubhouse together later? Playing cards is such an easy game, you should know how to play, right?"

Qin Mu blinked, "They are gambling over there, what are we gonna do there? I don't have the money to squander with them."

The implication was, she didn't want to go.

"Ah, you're such a bore, just come along. Besides, Huanhuan is there too, don't you worry about her being bored?"

Mu Qingxin continued to mutter in her ear, and Qin Mu, thinking of Huanhuan, then said to Mu Qingxin, "How about you go get Huanhuan for me?"

"What?"

"A limited edition LV handbag."

"You have one?"

"Your brother bought it for me a few days ago, but I've never worn it. I haven't even opened the packaging."

"Deal!"

Mu Qingxin banged on the table and then immediately went to find the child.

Qin Mu breathed a sigh of relief and then started chatting with everyone in French, instantly livening up the atmosphere.

"For the new year, I wish each one of us good things to come, and I wish our JY to become more and more popular."

Later, when the dishes were all served, the most handsome man from their studio, a face-carrying designer, stood up. Although he was a Frenchman, his Chinese was now more proficient than many Chinese people.

Everyone happily toasted together, wishing each other good luck in the new year.

Mu Qingxin also joined in, and for a few seconds, she was completely captivated by that handsome designer.

She didn't know their studio's business attracted clients in part because of the handsome male designer.

After all, people are always such superficial animals; attractive people or things decide whether one will stop by your place or not.

Huanhuan, with one hand on the table and the other holding a glass, looked perfectly like one of the group as she toasted with everyone.

But in less than half an hour, she began to doze off in Qin Mu's arms.

Qin Mu then asked the waiter standing nearby, "Is the CEO's office door open?"

"I'll check for you."

The waiter agreed and quickly went out to inquire.

Coming back after a while, "It's open!"

"I'll take Huanhuan up to sleep and then come back down. You guys keep drinking."

After saying that, Qin Mu left with Huanhuan in her arms.

Qin Mu cradled Huanhuan's head, letting her rest comfortably on her shoulder as she carried her upstairs. Reaching the CEO's office, she freed one hand to open the door.

"What are you doing here?"

Qin Mu went in, closed the door, and turned around.

Chapter 759: After the Wedding (5)_1

"Is Huanhuan asleep?"

He had just finished a phone call and came over to take his daughter from Qin Mu's arms.

"Mm!"

Qin Mu nodded, handing over her daughter; she seemed somewhat reluctant to move forward.

"Open the door to the lounge for me."

Mu Yichen instructed.

Only then did Qin Mu lift her gaze before heading to the lounge.

After opening the door, she naturally went to the bed to help move the pillow aside and pull back the blanket.

Mu Yichen carefully placed his daughter on the bed, then tucked her in.

Qin Mu glanced up, "Weren't you playing cards?"

"They're still there, I just came up for a bit because of something."

Mu Yichen said.

Qin Mu nodded but then suddenly remembered that waiter. It couldn't be that he was looking for him, could it?

But she didn't ask further, simply looking at her daughter who had already fallen asleep before planning to leave.

"Then, I..."

"About Zhuo Wen."

"Don't talk to me about her."

Qin Mu, upon hearing the name Zhuo Wen, showed a lack of interest. Honestly, after she hit Zhuo Wen, she really didn't hold any grudges against her anymore.

It was him she was angry at; his carelessness, his disregard.

She heard that he had actually been investigating Zhuo Wen for a while, but hadn't found anything, so he didn't take any action. After thinking it over, Qin Mu decided to speak less and turned to leave.

Mu Yichen's dark pupils watched her, following her out.

"My colleagues are gathering. I'll go down first."

Qin Mu spoke softly and then left.

"I'll take Huanhuan tonight."

"No need, I'll take care of her after she wakes up."

Qin Mu refused.

Mu Yichen actually wanted to pounce on her, to hold her from behind and press her down on the couch and have his way.

But reason, surprisingly, prevailed over impulse.

Mu Yichen watched helplessly as she left, then went back to the lounge.

He had planned to use their daughter to stay at the Mu Mansion tonight.

It seems that's not going to happen.

Mu Yichen lay beside his daughter, watching her sleep so soundly, gently touching her forehead, sweeping her bangs aside.

He thought to himself: Huanhuan, when can you ask your mother to invite daddy back to the Mu Family's home? I'll grant you a wish, okay?

He figured his daughter must have a big wish waiting for his help to fulfill.

Suddenly, he thought of Qin Mu. If she got along well with Qin Haiming, would he now be getting a beating from his father-in-law?

Luckily she was a woman of few words, which probably saved him from that fate, right?

Outside, snowflakes had started to float down again, as if blown by the wind.

Now, the entire Rongcheng was covered in white.

Every gust of wind would whip up a layer of those chilly snowflakes.

Huanhuan cuddled closer to him, her beautiful, long eyelashes fluttered slightly against her rosy skin, creating a beautiful contrast.

Mu Yichen couldn't help but reach out to touch her, the little one's skin was truly amazing.

But his wife's skin was also soft and tender. Thinking of this, he couldn't help but sigh, "Why is your mom so stubborn?"

Huanhuan didn't answer, but the door to the lounge suddenly opened.

"Have you seen my phone?"

Qin Mu realized she had lost her phone from her pocket on her way.

Mu Yichen, hearing the sound from behind, stiffened. When had she stood there? Did she hear his soliloquy?

Mu Yichen turned his head, then immediately sat up, "Your phone? Did you lose it?"

Qin Mu, initially moved by seeing him accompany their daughter, now found his foolishness a bit disappointing, so she went in to search for herself, and then saw a pink phone on the blanket at the foot of the bed.

"You two keep sleeping."

Qin Mu said as she picked up her phone and left.

Mu Yichen: "Qin Mu, can you please look at me properly?"

Qin Mu didn't understand his sudden irritation, but did she even need to look at him? With her eyes closed, she could still imagine what he looked like.

"So now, not only do I have to leave home, but you won't even look at me directly?"

"How do you know I didn't look?"

Qin Mu asked and then walked away.

Mu Yichen...

He felt like he was going to fall apart, yeah, how did he know she hadn't looked?

In an instant, he saw that the little girl lying on the bed had wide, black eyes open, looking at him, and that look seemed to say: my poor daddy!

In the afternoon, Qin Mu took Huanhuan and Mu Qingxin back home. As they drove past a park, the car slowed: "Shall we go in for a walk?"

Mu Qingxin looked at the thick layer of snow on the trees inside and then at the little girl beside her, "Huanhuan, do you want to play in the snow?"

Chapter 760: After the Wedding (5)_2

Huanhuan nodded vigorously, really wanting to.

So, Qin Mu parked the car in the parking lot, with Huanhuan running ahead and the two of them following behind.

"That little girl is really lively. She's definitely here for some snow fun,"

Mu Qingxin couldn't help but mutter, her eyes fixed on Huanhuan's figure.

"Yeah! Last time it snowed, she played snowball fight with Mom at home."

Qin Mu said softly.

"Really? Our mom knows how to play snowball fights? I always thought Mrs. Feng's back was perpetually straight."

It turns out, kids have magic powers that can make even the usually very serious adults let down their guard.

"I want to play too!"

Mu Qingxin said, taking her hands out of her pockets and then calling out to the little girl in front, "Mu Chenghuan, I'm going to hit you now!"

As soon as Huanhuan heard the voice, she immediately turned around, her little hands red with cold, holding a large cluster of snow—not a snowball, as she wasn't strong enough.

Mu Qingxin had already bent down to scoop up a large handful of snow, which she turned into a snowball.

It was while she was making the snowball that Huanhuan ran behind her and, with a "pah", the loose cluster of snow hit Mu Qingxin on the back.

Mu Qingxin was startled at first, then immediately turned around, "You're rebelling against me, huh! Take this."

Huanhuan immediately ran forward, laughing "hahaha".

"Hey! Mu Qingxin, don't go too far, watch out or our mother and daughter will gang up on you."

Qin Mu saw that Mu Qingxin had solidly hit Huanhuan on the shoulder with a snowball and immediately bent down, made a snowball, and threw it at her.

"Ah! Qin Mu, you sneak attacker!"

Mu Qingxin grabbed a handful of snow and threw it back at Qin Mu. Qin Mu dodged quickly, but when she turned her head, the aunt and niece duo left her behind and went off to play.

Qin Mu couldn't help but laugh a little. Was it because she ran too fast that they didn't play with her?

Then she walked on alone, bored, following the sound of their laughter.

Mr. Mu's patience, ah!

Qin Mu actually didn't know how long he could endure, but she knew she would keep enduring.

No outbursts, no arguments, just silently getting through this period of time.

That silence was due to disappointment!

When she thought he would understand.

She couldn't bear to resent, yet she was deeply disappointed.

By the time they returned, it was already past five in the afternoon, and the sky was gradually darkening.

The forest was still a vast expanse of white. On the way home, the lawn was still covered with a thick layer, but there was no trace of the snowflakes on the road.

The Qin City mayor had ordered that not a single drop of snow be allowed on the roads, also for the safety of pedestrians.

Huanhuan kept peering out the window the whole time, as if she had a special fondness for the snow.

Who doesn't, really?

It seems nobody can resist a snowfall, and very few people say they dislike snow.

Even Qin Mu, hadn't she slowly grown to like it over the past two years?

She had never really disliked it.

It was just that she had seen her mother in the snow that year.

So for many years, she was actually afraid to face it.

Or maybe she really had grown up, and after starting an adult's life, it seemed like her ability to withstand pressure had suddenly increased hundreds of times.

It's just—

That night Mu Yichen didn't return home again, and after dinner, Feng Fanghua asked Mu Qingxin to call her brother to ask when he would be back and whether he needed food kept for him.

Mr. Mu's reply was that it wasn't necessary.

Just after nine o'clock, Qin Mu went upstairs to bathe her son, then put him to sleep.

The Mu Family's house suddenly became quiet, with the old master having stayed up too late the night before, he requested to go to bed after dinner.

The old couple also retired early to their room, but remained talking.

"I heard Zhuo Wen got hurt and is hospitalized at our family hotel. Could the couple's tensions these past few days be because of her?"

Mu Zihao, who was halfway through reading his newspaper, then took off his glasses, placed the paper on the cabinet, and asked with a puzzled look.

"Zhuo Wen is in the hospital? Sick?"

"It's said that she was injured, apparently rather seriously,"

Mu Zihao replied, recalling what a friend from the hospital told him during lunch.

Feng Fanghua became somewhat anxious, she threw the covers off: "I'll go and ask them now."

"Don't, it's already so late!"

Mu Zihao immediately called her back.

"As if that girl Qin Mu could sleep,"

Feng Fanghua muttered, looking very serious as she left the room.

Mu Zihao sighed helplessly, then he lay down first.

Feng Fanghua went to Qin Mu's room, gently closing the door behind her.

Qin Mu was sitting cross-legged on the bed, with professional blueprints spread out on a piece of cardboard, just beginning to draw.

"I knew you wouldn't be asleep."