

Loving 1181

Chapter 1181. Battered, But Not Ashamed! (2)

“Qi Lei, you’re treating me differently! You’ve changed...completely!”

Gu Lingsha took a deep breath as she looked at Qi Lei’s clenched fist dripping with fresh blood.

“Qi Lei, I never thought of hurting you, really. I’ve always treated you as a good friend. I admit that I might have used you in the past, or wronged you for Ah Feng, but I’ve always protected you whether you believe me or not.”

“You wouldn’t have known how sad I felt when you talked about how we won’t be able to turn back time anymore. I never knew what happiness was. I thought that marrying Qi Feng, having a daughter, and taking my revenge...all of those could bring happiness...but now, the more I go on, the more afraid I feel...”

Gu Lingsha was speaking from her heart. Ever since she knew that Qi Feng received flowers from Xi Xiaye, she investigated the matter and found out that Qi Feng had been in contact with her. He seemed to have a different attitude towards Xi Xiaye.

1Although she tried to ask Qi Feng about it, every time she brought this up, Qi Feng would not look pleased, and of course, she dared not ask too much after that.

She just hoped that he was only doing that because he had some sort of plan.

Doris’s words were still ringing in her ears. She could not help but be worried.

She was afraid!

So afraid...

If that were true, then Gu Lingsha was merely Qi Feng’s stepping stone. After he was done, she would be kicked aside, and when the time came, what would Gu Lingsha do?

What could she do?

When Lingtian had still been around, she could turn to Lingtian or Qi Lei if there was anything, but now that things were the way they are, what else could she hope for?

Gu Lingsha did not understand. Why was it that the more she tried to hold onto some things, the more she lost her grip on them...

"Even if you need to fight for your own happiness, you shouldn't build it upon other people's pain. If you can never understand that, then you'll never be able to enjoy it with a clear conscience. I won't leave City Z. No matter who talks to me, I'll only have the same answer."

"Qi Lei!" Gu Lingsha softly called out

Qi Lei clenched his fists and could not care less about the sharp pain felt in his palms as he said with a lowered tone, "Go back while I can still hold my anger. Otherwise, you know that I wasn't raised that well and I can't guarantee that I wouldn't hit you."

Gu Lingsha was stunned for a moment. Finally, she took a deep breath in and stooped weakly to peer down at Qi Lei.

"Qi Lei, no matter what happens, all these years, we've cried together, laughed together, been hurt together, and been happy together. Our relationship is lost to time and other people, but I still hope that we'll all do well. If you decide to stay and abandon us, I won't say anything more. Meanwhile, I can only..."

"Let's just leave it to fate." Qi Lei smiled coldly.

When Gu Lingsha heard his reply, her beautiful eyes could not help but feel hot. Finally, she looked up with a deep breath and then nodded. As she turned around, she said with a raspy voice, "Alright, we can only leave it at that then!"

When she finished, she had already opened the door and was about to rush out, yet she bumped into someone standing at the door. She quickly stopped and subconsciously looked up to find Xi Xiaye standing at the door.

“Xi Xiaye!” Gu Lingsha practically cried out instantly!

Xi Xiaye nonchalantly lowered her gaze and looked at Gu Lingsha calmly. Obviously, she heard most of the conversation from earlier.

“Hope you’re doing well, Missus Qi.” Xi Xiaye’s unfriendly voice was heard while her calm gaze contained a chill as though it came from the moon in the night sky.

“Why are you here?” Gu Lingsha was obviously quite shocked to see Xi Xiaye who had suddenly appeared. She knew that she must have heard most of the conversation from earlier.

“Why can’t I be here? This is my turf, isn’t it?” Xi Xiaye smiled calmly. “You came all the way here to be this imposing? I really don’t know where you find the sense of superiority to do so.”

“It’s none of your business. Move aside—”

Gu Lingsha had only brought one bodyguard along. She saw that Xi Xiaye had blocked her way at the door and there were a few black-clothed men behind her who seemed tough, so she naturally dared not go overboard.

Xi Xiaye did not move and stood where she was while she looked indifferently at Gu Lingsha. Her cold gaze made Gu Lingsha feel uneasy.

“Miss Gu, I actually quite admire a certain quality of yours. Do you want to know what it is?” Xi Xiaye examined her and then said softly.

“What?” Gu Lingsha could not hold back her curiosity as she answered.

“You have a very great sense of ego. You have such a huge contrast of harshness and tolerance within you. You truly understand the meaning of cherishing, and I can’t help but admire you.”

When Xi Xiaye said this, Gu Lingsha’s expression turned rigid. She recognized the sarcasm in Xi Xiaye’s words, so she only laughed coldly. “I don’t see how important you are. No matter what I do, at least, I still know the meaning of honor and a woman’s principles. Don’t think I don’t know about you sending flowers to Qi Feng, Xi Xiaye. Qi Feng’s not such a casual person. Don’t you know the meaning of saving your face?”

As Gu Lingsha remembered how Qi Feng had received those flowers, she could not hold back her anger anymore.

Upon hearing that, Xi Xiaye’s mind flashed to when Mu Yuchen had sent Qi Feng a bouquet of white chrysanthemums with her name. She looked at Gu Lingsha who was clearly angered, pondered for a moment, then laughed. “Miss Gu, don’t misunderstand my relationship with Master Qi. Otherwise, other people might misunderstand as well. Since you’re so certain that your Master Qi’s an honest person, I’m sure I don’t need to say those things to you, do I?”

“Xi Xiaye, don’t be so smug now. You’ll suffer for this.”

Gu Lingsha barely caught her own breath, she said softly through gritted teeth by Xi Xiaye’s ear.

“It looks like you’re the one who’s about to cry. Miss Gu, you’re really not that important. Instead of worrying about other men here, you should worry about yourself first. I heard that tonight, right here in Imperial Sky Hotel, Master Qi and CEO Lin are having dinner together with the Lin family heiress who’s also a Caucasian. Most importantly, she’s very young and beautiful. Miss Gu, as Master Qi’s wife, you came over to accompany him, didn’t you?” Xi Xiaye mocked calmly while she looked forward to Gu Lingsha’s reaction.

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Indeed, just as Xi Xiaye said that, Gu Lingsha’s expression froze and she tightened her grip on her bag while lowering her gaze...

Her lowered gaze concealed the shifting light in her eyes—

When they finished work, she had asked Qi Feng if he wanted to go home together, but he told her that he might need to finish looking through some documents at the office, so he told her to go home first. She did hear about the unhappy incident between Qi Lei and Qi Qiming from the latter.

After she thought about it, she decided to go over to advise Qi Lei, and at the same time, explain her reasons for doing what she did.

Unexpectedly, things turned out this way and Qi Feng...

Gu Lingsha obviously would not be that much of a fool to immediately flip out. Usually, she was someone who could practice self-restraint.

Xi Xiaye looked at her calmly, then turned to hint at the bodyguards who retreated. Then, Xi Xiaye's frail figure walked past her...

When she was about to walk past Gu Lingsha, Gu Lingsha could not help but clench her fists tightly as if she was possessed...

"Ah—"

A shriek of pain pierced through the silent corridor.

Gu Lingsha did not have time to react when she felt a sharp pain from the joint of her leg. She was about to pull her leg back when it seemed to be pinned down by something, and a piercing pain made her cry out loud.

She quickly looked down at her leg and realized that Xi Xiaye had stepped on the leg that she had stuck out.

Xi Xiaye did not even glance down and her exquisite face did not even show a hint of expression. She was as calm as water just like she had been earlier whilst her frail figure was perfectly upright without even a hint of a slant.

With the sound of Gu Lingsha's painful shrieks, the bodyguards and Xiao Mei looked over!

Clearly, they all caught Gu Lingsha mid-action!

Gu Lingsha was already depressed, so she thought of tripping Xi Xiaye, but she did not expect Xi Xiaye to have anticipated it and step hard on her leg that was stuck out instead.

After a while, Xi Xiaye lowered her head and looked at Gu Lingsha's foot that she was stepping on. A curve flashed across her cold face as she silently turned to look at Gu Lingsha who was in pain. Suddenly, she chuckled.

"Miss Gu, even though I'm not the kind of person who likes to be petty with other people, you can't possibly be trying to harm me so brazenly, can you? At least, it's just our people here. If a certain someone took a picture of this, then that wouldn't be good. You are the wife of Qi Kai's heir now, the elegant and dignified Missus Qi. You should at least protect that much of Master Qi's reputation. Don't you agree, Mr. Qi?" Xi Xiaye said in a relaxed voice. She did not even need to turn to know who had appeared in the corridor.

When Xi Xiaye said that, Gu Lingsha's face that was green from the pain instantly turned pale. She could not care less about the pain from her leg as she quickly spun around to look at the dim corridor behind her.

Indeed, in the shadowy corridor, Morrison was wheeling Qi Feng, and they stopped not too far away!

On the wheelchair, Qi Feng's eyes that were shrouded underneath the dim lighting revealed a chill as he looked over calmly. He had witnessed everything that transpired between Gu Lingsha and Xi Xiaye!

Right now, Gu Lingsha's pupils instantly shrunk and anxiety flashed in her beautiful blue eyes. She wanted to quickly push Xi Xiaye away, but Xi Xiaye was quicker as her hands gripped her shoulder and pulled her back. Gu Lingsha cried out in pain, then Xi Xiaye tossed her out of the private room.

"Argh!"

Although she shrieked out miserably, Gu Lingsha's bodyguard could not react in time as Gu Lingsha was smacked hard against the wall, and fell to the ground because of her unsteady footing.

"Ah Feng!" Gu Lingsha cried out in pain and fell in front of Qi Feng. She disregarded the agony from her leg and called out to Qi Feng in distress.

As he watched her fall before him in a battered manner with every shred of her reputation discarded, Qi Feng instantly frowned and his eyes narrowed. He glimpsed at Gu Lingsha for a moment, then looked at the bodyguards behind him. Immediately, the two bodyguards then quickly helped Gu Lingsha who was in pain up.

"Miss Xi, I trust that you have been well, but haven't you gone overboard tonight?" Qi Feng's soft, raspy voice was heard, but you could not hear any hint of questioning in his voice. He seemed very calm as if this was no big deal.

Xi Xiaye then suddenly turned to peer down at him, her gaze as clear as the wind while she said smoothly, "Is that so? Well then, I'm very sorry. I'm used to walking without looking at the ground. Is she very badly hurt? Poor Missus Qi! Since she's in such distress, it's best to rush to the hospital for a checkup. Xiao Mei, you follow them too. I'll just pay for the medical fees, but I hope that Miss Gu can walk more normally the next time. It's not every time that someone like me would advise you so nicely. The next person you meet might just accidentally break your leg."

Upon hearing that, a hint of amusement flashed in Qi Feng's eyes. "Since you're so sincere, Miss Xi, we are both naturally beyond grateful."

Gu Lingsha was enduring the piercing pain, and upon hearing this, she could not help but curse, "Xi Xiaye, you witch! You did it on purpose! Don't be such an intolerable bully!"

Xi Xiaye smiled and shrugged, not bothering to cover it up. "You're right. I did do it on purpose. After all, it's not news that I don't like you. I've been patient with you for a long time now. Thanks for giving me the chance to vent it out. Xiao Mei, since their mobility is inconvenienced, please make sure you send them off properly on my behalf."

Then, her frail figure vanished through the door, leaving the bodyguards who stood guard vigilantly at the door as they looked to Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha with hostility.

Qi Feng looked on quite apathetically as Xi Xiaye vanished. There were mixed emotions in his eyes, but a chill dominated his aura. Even Gu Lingsha, who watched him from the side, could not catch any expressions from his face.

“Let’s go to the hospital,” Qi Feng said indifferently when he looked back sharply and saw Gu Lingsha’s swelling leg. Then, he maneuvered his own wheelchair and moved forward...

When Gu Lingsha saw Qi Feng’s aloof manner, trepidation instantly showed up on her exquisite face. She could not help but call out in a raspy voice to Qi Feng sadly, “Ah Feng!”

“Your recent performance has been disappointing, Shasha,” Qi Feng said without slowing down, Gu Lingsha could hear a hint of unhappiness from his voice!

Chapter 1183. Battered, But Not Ashamed! (4)

The light in the private room was quite bright. When Xi Xiaye went in, she saw Qi Lei sitting in the corner of the sofa and staring at the mess before him while deep in thought.

The floor in front was already wet. One could already smell the dense alcohol mixed with his blood. The mottled traces of it was a ghastly sight.

Upon realizing that Xi Xiaye was walking over, Qi Lei silently lifted his head. When she appeared before him, his gloomy eyes flashed with a faint radiance. His handsome face could not help but force a smile. He asked in a low and raspy voice, “Why are you here?”

Xi Xiaye examined him quietly, then her eyes stopped at his clenched fist. “I was nearby, so I came over to talk a look. Get up. Let’s go to the hospital...”

Upon hearing that, Qi Lei started to smile bleakly while his eyes seemed a little sad. “Did Yang Sheng call you again? How busybody...Did you hear everything? You shouldn’t have come. Even I’m not used to seeing myself this miserable.”

Xi Xiaye only laughed at his reply. “Alright, even though you do look quite battered, you’re not ashamed, I suddenly feel like this is more like you, Qi Lei. Your hand’s hurt and it can get infected easily in this weather, so it’s best to get it checked at the hospital. Right now, you should cherish yourself even more,

Qi Lei. Don't be too silly. You should learn from my own sad past. We're both too silly. We're too kind to others but so harsh on ourselves. Sometimes, we might do better if we were a little more selfish...Maybe we wouldn't suffer as much."

Towards the end, Xi Xiaye's tone turned dismal.

Qi Lei sighed melancholically as he blinked his slightly dry eyes sadly and his voice was filled with defeat. "I used to not know what was so annoying about me. Every time I struggled, I would reflect on myself. I thought that if I didn't care so much and knew how to be content, everyone would do better. Later on, I understood that these things actually aren't up to me. Even if I didn't fight for it, it didn't mean that my life would get any easier."

Without caring about his bloody hand, he took another empty glass, poured himself a drink, and then finished it in a few gulps. He frowned and continued, "Did you know that in my younger days when I was studying, I would always hand in empty sheets for my exams. My results would always render me as the last in the ranks. That way, after every exam, the teacher would call my parents to the school, and it was only then that I would feel like I had parents. It was alright for the first few times, but afterward, they became annoyed and numb. I wondered if I studied really hard and got good results, would they take notice? So, I began to work really hard..."

"But it was still useless. No matter how hard I tried to make up for certain gaps, it was useless. I was a son for someone else's interests. In the end, I couldn't force them to be like those loving couples who would treat each other kindly, be concerned about their son, and care about their family. Xiaye, were you like me? Did you feel extremely helpless? I didn't even want to go home. I was afraid that every time I went home, I would be met with apathy or mockery..."

Qi Lei was the kind of person who never willingly bring up the past with anyone. However, today he had suffered quite a bit, so he finally blurted it all out.

"I did feel quite helpless, but as long as we did our best, it's good enough. Qi Lei, you have to believe that the reason we lost some things was so we could create space for other things. Once we've experienced loss and pain, we understand how to cherish it even more. Don't be sad. We won't be abandoned by fate," Xi Xiaye said as she slowly bent down to pick up his blazer that had been tossed aside, then she looked down at him.

"Don't cower. Get up. I'll go to the hospital with you."

“Wouldn’t Mu Yuchen be worried that it’s late and you aren’t home yet? Go home. I’ll be fine myself,” Qi Lei lowered his gaze and said softly.

“He’s gone away for work. Before he left, he told me to watch out for you. He knows that you’ve not been doing too well recently. Also, Qi Lei, thank you for trusting me and Mr. Mu. Don’t worry. We won’t let you be taken advantage of. To us, kinship is more important than anything else. All those mere worldly possessions...even if we lose them, we can still get them back, but if we lose kinship, then...”

Xi Xiaye did not continue. When Qi Lei looked up, his gaze met her clear and sincere eyes. When he could see the concern in them, his heart suddenly felt sad and his throat could not help but taste bitter.

He always heard that those who walked alone were actually quite cold-hearted as they usually maintained an indifference to keep people miles away, but once they felt the kind of warmth and concern that they missed, they found it rather hard to accept.

While, he, Qi Lei—

Was just that kind of person...

Qi Lei lowered his eyes and fell silent for a moment. Then, his fists clenched and relaxed twice before he finally stood up without a word and walked out with Xi Xiaye...

Xi Xiaye drove him straight to the nearest hospital, where the doctor professionally disinfected and bandaged his hand for him. She told Yang Sheng and the accompanying bodyguards to get the medication. By the time they left the hospital, it was already close to 2 a.m.

Xi Xiaye drove straight back to Maple Residence since it was along the same way as Qi Lei’s Grand Lake Villa area. Qi Lei sat in her car and behind them were Yang Sheng and the bodyguards.

When the car was speeding along, Xi Xiaye steadily controlled the steering wheel and asked Qi Lei, “What are you planning to do next?”

“What else can I do? This time, I must fight to stay. I can’t guarantee whether the old man will give in or not, but I’ve already made my plans. If it really doesn’t work out, we’ll just have to have this fallout in advance. Once I lay my cards on the table, I’m sure many people will want to follow me. In fact, Gu Qiwu’s got huge trouble on his end. It’s not like the other people will support Qi Feng either,” Qi Feng analyzed.

Upon hearing that, Xi Xiaye nodded as well. “Mr. Mu and I were thinking that too. As long as Gu Qiwu and Doris have a fallout, we don’t see how things can be peaceful on Qi Feng’s end. In fact, Mr. Mu is thinking of...”

“He wants to get Hui Gu, doesn’t he? For Mu Lingshi?”

Having known Mu Yuchen for quite a while now, Qi Lei knew the reason he wanted to do that. In fact, his methods were decisive and did not contain any hesitation. Given his protectiveness over his family, there was no need to guess his intentions.

Chapter 1184. Crack (1)

Xi Xiaye did not deny and just responded calmly, “He just worries too much, but I understand.”

When she spoke about Mu Yuchen, Xi Xiaye felt a little uneasy. She was not sure how things were on the other end...

“You just think of him as Superman holding up the sky for us.” Qi Lei smiled helplessly and looked down at his hand that was bandaged tightly. “Even if I don’t leave City Z this time, the days to come won’t be easy. Once the year passes, I’ll be getting ready for some registration matters.”

“Is it for the new company? Have you thought of what to call it?”

Even though Xi Xiaye rarely asked about the plans between these two men, she more or less knew a little about them.

“I haven’t thought of anything for now, but soon, once things on this end have smoothened over, the Chenye Movies and Television brand will be taken down, then it can take on a new lease of life. How about you give it a name?” Qi Lei smiled and said.

“Don’t ask me. You can ask Mr. Mu yourself.”

“Alright, for the South River Project, Qi Feng might want to take over and look after it. The reason that old man Qi and those shareholders gave was to let him learn how to take over some things. After all, for South River Project No. 2, that was the first battle the old man Qi gave him. I’ll probably show my face less often after this, Glory World should be more careful with handling him, also, I know that the materials are mainly managed by Fuhua, so you can’t avoid contact. With Qi Feng...be more careful, especially when Mu Yuchen isn’t around. If there’s anything, just give me a call. I guarantee I’ll be there whenever you call me!” Qi Lei could not help but remind worriedly when the car was parked on the side.

Xi Xiaye nodded solemnly too. “I got it. Be careful when you get back. Love yourself more.”

“I got it! I’m getting down!” Qi Lei answered, then pushed open the door to get down.

After an entire night, he felt much better. He was grateful for her. He understood that tomorrow would come no matter what, and being weak was useless, so he would not be afraid of what was to come, even if it was a storm...

...

Late at night, in a certain hospital ward in New York.

Mu Yuchen had just gotten off his flight and had not gotten any rest when he rushed to the hospital. By the time he reached, it was already late at night.

When Zhou Zimo’s personal assistant, Xu Yayan, received the call, he was already waiting downstairs. The second he saw the car stopping ahead, he calmed down and quickly went up to Mu Yuchen in a panic.

Mu Yuchen’s indifferent figure disembarked from the car.

“Master Mu! You’re here!” Xu Yayan went up to him.

Li Si and the accompanying bodyguards swiftly got down from the car too.

Mu Yuchen's expression was as chilly as frost. He did not even stop walking as he took huge strides into the hospital, and you could hear the worry in his voice as he asked, "How's Zimo doing?"

"He's still in a coma. The doctor says it might be a while before he wakes up. He's severely injured. His left hand's fractured and he had a knife to the abdomen. Furthermore, his head suffered from a hit and he had a concussion. I think it wasn't a simple dispute. Those people didn't seem like they were there for a simple dispute. It seemed like they were targetting Master Mo because they attacked him right away," Xu Yayan quickly kept up with Mu Yuchen's steps as he explained.

"Where's Ah Bo?" Mu Yuchen swiftly entered the elevator.

"Ah Bo's still investigating the incident, but the company found a huge amount of stock. Master Mu must've been drugged as they found it in his bloodstream. Thankfully, Ah Bo handled it in time and no one destroyed the glass. It's been sent to the lab. Hopefully, this can clear Master Mo of any suspicions."

"Tomorrow, report to me what enemies Zimo has here, what conflicts he's had, who he's been meeting, and all the new company's employee details," Mu Yuchen ordered.

"Yes, Master Mu!"

Zhou Zimo's ward was on the 25th floor. When Mu Yuchen went over, he could see two policemen standing guard at the door.

Because Zhou Zimo was a suspect at the moment, he was being monitored.

Nonetheless, when Mu Yuchen went over, the two policemen did not stop him. They briefly asked some questions, and then let him in.

Inside the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) ward, Zhou Zimo was still in a coma. He looked very weak, pale, and frail. There was also a bandage on his forehead. All in all, he did not look like the Zhou Zimo he knew and Mu Yuchen almost could not recognize him like this.

Mu Yuchen's heart sank and his eyes immediately darkened. There was viciousness in his gaze as he stood by his bed and looked at Zhou Zimo for a long time, before walking over.

Beep beep—

The ward was very quiet, so only the sound of the machine could be heard.

After a while, Mu Yuchen leaned down and said softly by Zhou Zimo's ear, "Rest well and recover soon. I'll make whoever did this pay for it."

Besides being unconscious, Zhou Zimo was severely hurt this time. Even Xu Yayan thought he was done for this time, so he panicked, but thankfully Ah Bo was there. He immediately called Mu Yuchen who immediately came, so everyone felt more at ease.

...

Mu Yuchen was travel-worn and extremely tired, but he could not care less about rest. He began to get Xu Yayan and the rest to explain the whole incident.

"Don't tell the Zhou family for now. Zimo hasn't made it past the critical stage yet."

"Yes, Master Mu!"

"When Ah Bo gets back, tell him to meet me at the hotel. Li Si, arrange for another two people to guard this place and report to me immediately if anything comes up."

"Yes, Master!"

When he left the hospital, Mu Yuchen's expression was solemn. After he ordered a list of things to be done, he made his way to the hotel.

By the time he took a shower and washed away his fatigue, he remembered that he had not called his woman back home yet. He mulled over it for a moment, then called Xi Xiaye.

When she picked Mu Yuchen's call up, Xi Xiaye was on her way to the airport. Shen Yue and Shen Wenna, and the rest were about to land.

The call got through, but even before Mu Yuchen could answer, Xi Xiaye was already frowning as she asked, "Isn't it very early in the morning over there? Why aren't you resting?"

"I just got back from the hospital and wanted to call you. Where's our son?" Mu Yuchen propped up his head, poured himself a glass of water, and then walked to the sofa as he responded.

"At home. I'm on my way to the airport to pick Grandpa, my parents, and Xiao Rui up."

"I almost forgot that Grandpa was coming home today."

"School's reopening soon. He should be home. This morning, Uncle Su called to ask when my parents would be back. He was worried that they wouldn't make it in time for the university to reopen."

Chapter 1185. Crack (2)

Xi Xiaye thought about it for a moment, and before he could say anything, she continued, "Right, something's happened on Qi Lei's end. Qi Feng and the rest want to chase Qi Lei out of City Z. Qi Lei's had a fall out with Qi Qiming over this. Right now, I don't know what the situation is, but I heard that Qi Qiming's compromised."

"Fall out? Well, that's a good thing too. If Qi Qiming gives in, he won't need to leave. Even if that happens, Qi Feng won't let this go so easily." Mu Yuchen did not seem surprised by what Qi Feng had done at all.

"Mmm, I'll watch out for him. Don't worry. What's happened on your end? Are you at the hospital? Did something happen to you?"

"I'm fine, but something's happened to Zimo. Keep it to yourself. I might not be able to return so soon since there are a lot of things to handle over here. Take good care of yourself and remember what I told you."

"I know. Don't worry. I'm not a child. Go rest soon. I can hear that you're quite tired. Just do your things when you wake up."

"Okay, remember to get our son to call for his father every day," he said.

"Got it. You're so long-winded. I'm driving now. Bye."

Xi Xiaye then hung up, but there was a smile on her face. This man would always use a roundabout way to remind her to miss him. Before they had a son, he did not have an excuse, but now that they had their son, he would always bring this up.

Xi Xiaye could see through Mu Yuchen's thoughts, but not as well as he could see through her. He could always immediately tell what was on her mind.

When she reached the airport, she was right on time. Xi Xiaye had just walked over when she saw Shen Wenna holding Shen Yue and walking out. Shen Yue was dressed in a gray casual outfit with Mu Zirui in hand. Meanwhile, Xi Mushan stood on Shen Yue's other side, and behind them was a bodyguard in black handling the luggage.

Shen Wenna wore a brown dress, a sun hat, and large sunglasses. She seemed very fashionable. Standing beside Xi Mushan who wore a black leisure outfit, they looked very matching.

Mu Zirui wore a fresh pair of shorts and a shirt, appearing more tanned than before although he looked very healthy. A rare smile hung across Shen Yue's aged face too. You could tell that they all had a lot of fun.

"Mother! Mother! Right here! Mother! We're here!"

From afar, Mu Zirui saw Xi Xiaye who stood at the departure gate, so he wriggled free of Shen Yue excitedly and ran towards Xi Xiaye.

His little figure flew through the crowd and soon reached Xi Xiaye as he spread his arms open.

Xi Xiaye smiled gladly and swiftly squatted down to embrace Mu Zirui's little body. She struggled a little to pick him up as she smiled and said, "You're back! Mmm...you're much heavier now!"

"We ate well and slept well, and we had so much fun every day. Everyone is a little chubbier, but, Mother, don't worry. Xiao Rui will definitely watch my weight! Mother, I miss you so much, mmm? Where's Father? And little brother? Mother, put me down. I'm a grown man. I don't need you to carry me!"

Mu Zirui then looked a little shyly at Xi Xiaye as he struggled to get down.

Xi Xiaye lifted a hand to knock his little head as she laughed. "You little brat, you know how to be shy now, huh? Grown man and all...Your father's gone abroad for work and your brother's at home. Your hair's so long already, hmm? Tomorrow, I'll bring you out for a cut, and at the same time get you some new clothes. School's going to reopen soon. Are you done with all your holiday homework?"

"I finished a long time ago. I'll let you check it tonight, Mother! Great-grandpa, Grandfather, and Grandmother supervise my homework every day."

"Mmm, it's good to have fun, but you can't slack on homework. Otherwise, humans will become stupid!"

...

Shen Yue, Shen Wenna, and Xi Mushan quickly came up to them.

"Grandpa, Father, Mother! You're finally back! Dinner's ready at the Shen Residence. It'll be just in time for us to go back now. Rest well in the coming two days to get over the jetlag."

When she saw that they all seemed like they were in a pretty good state, Xi Xiaye felt at ease.

“Mmm, let’s go home first. You look like you’ve become thin though!” Shen Yue looked at Xi Xiaye and began to worry.

Along the way, he had actually been thinking about Wang Hui. He never expected that optimistic and warmhearted old lady to be gone just like that, so it was a little hard to accept. When he found out about the news, Shen Yue was shocked on the spot. He was stupefied, then he felt gloomy for a few days. After that, they went around for a bit before he recovered.

Xi Xiaye nodded and did not say too much.

“Mmm, the car’s outside. Let’s go home!”

The row of them then left the airport in a grandiose manner, making their way to the Shen residence.

They had dinner at the Shen residence. While they were eating, Xi Xiaye briefly told them about Wang Hui and Mu Lingshi, and all the things that had happened recently. After they listened, they all felt a little gloomy, but they mostly felt deep sorrow.

Not long after dinner, Xi Xiaye helped Shen Yue upstairs to wash up and lie down to rest. When she came out, she saw Xi Mushan and Shen Wenna on the living room sofa, watching television as they discussed the new semester at the university.

Xi Xiaye thought about it for a moment and planned to talk to them, so she walked over and sat down on the sofa.

“Is your grandpa asleep?” Shen Wenna’s tone was gentle as she asked.

After she reconciled with Xi Mushan, Shen Wenna seemed more elegant and gentle now. As she observed this, Xi Xiaye sometimes suspected that she was not as young as her mother.

Xi Xiaye nodded silently as she poured two glasses of water for them, then replied, "Mmm, he's asleep. He was probably a little tired from the flight."

"Your grandfather's old. This time, when we went around, he clearly couldn't quite keep up physically, so we need to let him walk around more from now on," Shen Wenna responded as she took the glass of water from Xi Xiaye.

"Father, a while back, I bumped into Xi Xinyi who said that Yue Lingsi's not doing too well. Before this, Ah Chen talked about it to you and Mother. At this point, it's time to settle it once and for all. Whether willing or not, perhaps that's no longer important right now."

Xi Xiaye was not pitying Xi Xinyi or Yue Lingsi. She just felt that this whole matter should have an end to it. Since Yue Lingsi and Xi Xinyi only asked after so long, they must have taken a long time to think this through.

Chapter 1186. Crack (3)

As for Xi Xinyi, Xi Xiaye did not feel much about her anymore. She was content just maintaining the current peace.

When Xi Xiaye said that, Xi Mushan's steadfast face froze as he subconsciously turned to look at Shen Wenna who sat beside him. Meanwhile, Shen Wenna just looked on with an indifferent expression. She stopped what she was doing, thought about it for a moment, then sighed.

"I've thought about this too. Yue Lingsi has been wanting to meet me too. She previously called me with the help of someone at the sanatorium, but I didn't respond to her because I didn't think there was a need to meet up, but now that you've brought it up, what else can I say?"

At this, Shen Wenna lowered her gaze, took a sip, and sighed. "I can't forgive her. Because of her, our family wasted more than 20 years, and now that we're together again, you're all grown up. There aren't many 20 years in a lifetime."

"Alright, Xiaye, I know what you're saying. I already wanted to talk to your father about this, I planned to visit her when we got back. Now's a good time too, let's go visit her tomorrow, you don't have to worry about this," Shen Wenna said.

Xi Xiaye was glad. "Mmm, I don't have much time to worry too much about this either."

"Are Lingshi and Gu Lingsha really siblings? How did that happen?" Shen Wenna asked, concerned.

"Mmm, there's no doubt about that. Ah Chen did a DNA test for Gu Qiwu and Lingshi. In fact, their divorce is about to go to court soon. I think it will be quite exciting."

Xi Xiaye put her glass of water down and got up slowly. "Alright, Father, Mother, I'll let you see us out then. Even though it's going to be quite busy once university starts again, don't forget to come home often to visit. Xiao Rui's going back to school soon again. I'm worried that Grandpa will be bored alone at home. It's not early anymore, so I'll go home now with Xiao Rui."

Then, she gently reached out to carry Zirui who was sound asleep on the sofa. Xi Mushan went over to help while Xi Xiaye then carried Mu Zirui on her back, and with one hand holding his schoolbag, she went out.

"I kept some of the dishes from earlier for you. Take them along. We also brought back some local specialties from Europe for you to take home. The day after tomorrow, your father and I will visit Xiao Cheng. Don't wear yourself out too much. I can see that you've grown thinner. Oh, right, I tailor-made two mid-length sleeves qipao

before this. They should be about done now, so I'll bring them over for you..."

Shen Wenna got up and began moving around as she held various sizes of bags and followed Xi Xiaye out. They were all things for Xi Xiaye to bring home.

"Mother—"

Mu Zirui was sleeping in a daze on Xi Xiaye's back.

"Hmm? Sleep, we're going home."

"Mother, if Father's not around, can I sleep with you and little brother?" Mu Zirui rubbed his sleepy eyes with his little hands as he asked.

Xi Xiaye laughed gently. "Of course! Your little brother's not that little anymore. You'll be able to sleep with little brother more often from now on. Also, you're the older brother. You have to take good care of your little brother. You two brothers need to be united. That way, you won't get bullied, got it?"

Mu Zirui nodded, half-understanding. "Mmm! Mother, don't worry. Xiao Rui will definitely eat properly and grow to be strong like Father to protect you and little brother...Oh, right, Mother, why does Xiao Rui only have a brother and no little sister? Can you and Father get me a little sister?"

"Have another one? Well, that depends on whether your father's willing..."

...

Mu Zirui was very sensible and obedient too, thus Xi Xiaye did not have to worry about him.

Compared to Xi Xiaye, Gu Lingsha, who was also a mother to a child, did not seem to have it as easy as Xi Xiaye.

On the same night with glorious lights, inside the large and luxurious Qi residence, a pale Gu Lingsha endured the pain from her leg as she carefully inched towards the sofa.

Xi Xiaye's leg made her suffer. Thankfully, it was not a fracture. Otherwise, she could not guarantee that she would not rush to see Xi Xiaye immediately.

At this moment, Qi Weier was also sitting on the sofa without moving. Her eyes were fixated on the television screen and she did not care that Gu Lingsha had sat beside her.

"Weiwei, come, let Mother help you do your revision. School's starting soon, but you've barely done any of the holiday homework."

Gu Lingsha bent down with difficulty and picked up Qi Weier's holiday homework from beneath the coffee table as she held the young girl.

However, Gu Lingsha had just touched Qi Weier's hand when the young girl subconsciously shrieked. She stood up and looked vigilantly at Gu Lingsha with a gaze...

Gu Lingsha could not help but feel hurt!

Qi Weier had been receiving treatment from a psychologist, so she had been speaking more and she seemed more cheerful, but for some reason, she was still on guard against Gu Lingsha. Instead, she was less afraid of Qi Qiming and the butler.

Gu Lingsha felt defeated and very sad. When it came to Qi Weier, she had put in a lot of thought, and the reason she chose to study psychology was largely because of Qi Weier's illness.

"Weiwei! Don't be afraid of Mother. I won't hurt you. Be good..."

Qi Weier shrunk as she shook her head and refused to go over.

"Mother wasn't trying to be harsh earlier. The aunty who gave you the umbrella isn't a good person, so the next time you see her, ignore her. She will hurt you when Father and Mother aren't around. Do you understand?" Gu Lingsha did not give up as she advised again. She did not know why Qi Weier seemed to really like Xi Xiaye, and was very much against her own mother instead.

Qi Weier did not say anything. She only widened her dull eyes as she looked at Gu Lingsha with a gaze that was filled with timidity and vigilance.

"Weiwei! Do you hear what Mother's saying? She's not a good person. The person who hurt Mother's leg like this was her. She will hurt you too! Listen to Mother. Ignore her the next time, understand?"

Qi Weier widened her eyes and stared at Gu Lingsha. She hugged her Barbie doll tightly and trembled slightly as she accused her, "Bad person! You're a bad person!"

When Qi Weier said that, Gu Lingsha felt hurt once again and her expression sank. "Weiwei, I'm not a bad person. I'm your mother! I won't hurt you. Come, come to Mother."

Qi Weier shook her head hard. She was on guard as she looked at Gu Lingsha warily.

Gu Lingsha felt like her patience had run out, so she could not help but raise her voice, "Come here!"

Chapter 1187. Crack (4)

Qi Weier shuddered when Gu Lingsha shouted. She looked at Gu Lingsha with fear, subconsciously cowering backward uneasily.

Upon seeing that, Gu Lingsha could not help but feel the fury in her rising.

She was Qi Weier's biological mother, but her daughter was calling Xi Xiaye mother?

Moreover, this had happened quite a few times!

She kept hugging that umbrella and calling Xi Xiaye mother!

1Gu Lingsha had gone through so much hardship. Through all those difficulties to give birth to her with her broken body, she had suffered so much and did not hesitate to break relations with her own mother, making Qi Weier her favorite. However, right now she was calling someone else her mother. How was Gu Lingsha supposed to accept this in stride?

When she thought about everything that Xi Xiaye had made her go through, Gu Lingsha could not help but feel angry!

Even Qi Feng seemed to be taking less notice of her, much less Qi Lei, Wang Qin and the rest.

Now, her own daughter was calling her a bad woman?

What did this all mean?

Gu Lingsha watched as Qi Weier continued to move backward. Unable to stand this, she quickly moved and pulled Qi Weier over.

“Weiwei, come here, I’m talking to you. Don’t you remember? I’m your mother! I’m not a bad woman. I wouldn’t hurt you. Do you understand? Do you?”

Gu Lingsha held Qi Weier’s shoulders as she shook her. Her pale face seemed gloomy as she was upset. Even if she did not want to be angry, she could not hold her fury back. She needed an outlet to vent!

Otherwise, Gu Lingsha felt that if she continued like this, she would have a breakdown and go crazy!

However, Gu Lingsha’s actions clearly surprised Qi Weier instantly. Fear grew in her eyes quickly, then there were the soft sounds of her cries...

“What are you doing? Why are you letting your anger out on Weiwei? She’s just a child!”

At this moment, a raspy voice filled with disapproval came from behind her!

Upon hearing this, Qi Weier wriggled free of Gu Lingsha’s grasp right away and rushed out in terror.

Gu Lingsha subconsciously turned and saw that Qi Feng was coming out of the room in his wheelchair. His handsome face was dark as he looked at Gu Lingsha unhappily. When he saw Qi Weier rushing over, he reached out to embrace her.

“Ah Feng!” Gu Lingsha then called out softly.

“Alright, don’t cry now. Father’s here. Don’t be scared.”

Qi Lei shot Gu Lingsha a cold look as he bent down to console Qi Weier and lovingly reached out to wipe away her tears.

Qi Weier then slowly stopped crying.

“Mary, bring the little miss to wash up downstairs. Let her rest early.”

After a while, Qi Feng got Mary to bring Qi Weier out. Meanwhile, Mary knew that Qi Feng had something to say to Gu Lingsha, so she carefully closed the door behind her.

Bam—

The door closed, and Gu Lingsha felt like something was weighing on her chest. The air felt thin, and she found it hard to breathe.

Gu Lingsha looked at Qi Feng who had a stormy expression, then she called out softly again, “Ah Feng!” Her pale face could not help but be colored with an indescribable sorrow and helplessness.

“You shouldn’t vent your anger from your conflict with someone else onto your daughter. What could she possibly understand? Your one act of unhappiness will make all your hard work from before backfire, don’t you get it? What’s the use of being angry at her?” Qi Feng’s low and raspy voice reprimanded her.

“What do you want me to do then? Xi Xiaye hurt me like this, but my own daughter’s protecting her, calling her mother, and saying that I’m a bad woman! Also, you’ve seen how she treated me last night, but did you say anything? The two of you had quite the chemistry instead! Qi Feng, I’m your wife, your woman, your daughter’s mother. Shouldn’t you have protected me then, and stood up for me? What did you do instead?”

When she recalled the incident last night, Gu Lingsha felt angry and upset.

The husband, whom she had always thought she could rely on, merely looked at her in a reprimanding manner, making her feel embarrassed.

“What did you think I should’ve done instead? Go up to Xi Xiaye and beat her up? You tried to trip her and it backfired instead. Did you think it was a good time to praise and express my feelings for you then?”

Qi Feng was not angry. There was only a faint sneer at the corner of his lips. His eyes met Gu Lingsha’s petulant and upset gaze as he smiled and said, “Shasha, where did your smart decisiveness go? Why do you always lose all rationality whenever you’re met with Xi Xiaye? Don’t you know that the more you’re in such a situation, the more you should be calm? How could you do something with such low standards on that occasion?”

When Gu Lingsha heard Qi Feng, she was even more angered, so she could not help but say furiously, “Low standards? I’d like to do one or two things that are of standards, but what can I do? You tell me! If you’re capable, do one or two things of standards and show me! You know that Xi Xiaye and I are against each other, but you keep exchanging flirtatious glances with her! I asked you to stand up for me. Did you do that? Haven’t you been doing it half-heartedly? Tell me, are you interested in Xi Xiaye?”

The second she said that, Qi Feng’s expression turned cold and hostility flashed in his dark eyes. “I told you there’s nothing between Xi Xiaye and me. I’ll pretend I never heard you say these things, but next time watch what you’re saying!”

“Watch what I’m saying? Are you protecting yourself or her right now? Are you covering up for her?” Gu Lingsha could barely believe what Qi Feng had said.

“How unreasonable of you!” Qi Feng shouted coldly.

“Yes, just say that I’m unreasonable! Otherwise, I won’t believe you unless you stand up for me! You know that witch Xi Xiaye’s always been arrogant! I can’t stand it anymore!” Gu Lingsha stared into Qi Feng’s eyes. “Didn’t you say that you’ve got nothing going on with that Xi Xiaye? Prove it to me then! Fulfil your promise! Didn’t you say you were going to take revenge for me? Is it too much that I want you to do what you promised a long time ago?”

Then, her fists by her side sank into the sofa as her voice was filled with dense hatred and rage!

Qi Feng's expression darkened and he fell silent for a moment. Then, he sneered and said, "Alright, since you're so determined, I will satisfy you! Next time, keep those embarrassing tricks of yours away! I don't want to see the same thing tonight happen. Otherwise, we'll need to talk!"

Chapter 1188. Unhappy (1)

Gu Lingsha's eyes turned cold at Qi Feng's words. She could not release the pent-up anger in her chest. As she looked at Qi Feng's darkened and unhappy expression, she suddenly felt a piercing ache in her heart.

She did not know why Qi Feng was like this recently. He was apathetic and hard to see through, no longer like before. At least, he did not use to talk to her like this. Even though he did not usually say much, he would never use such a tone with her.

What was happening?

Gu Lingsha's beautiful eyes widened slightly and she looked at Qi Feng silently. For a long time, she kept quiet. There was only weakness and sadness in her eyes. After that, she could only take a deep breath in, cover her face, and blink. She took the temporary crutch from the side and turned to walk towards the bedroom without another glimpse at Qi Feng...

Qi Feng did not go after her. His eyes were only obscure and unclear as he calmed down.

When Morrison came over, it was already late at night.

He looked at Qi Feng whose leg was being massaged by the masseuse as he reported softly, "Master, CEO Qi has agreed to let Xi Xinyi be Second Master's assistant."

"Mmm, how did Yue Hai react?" Qi Feng asked nonchalantly, his eyes remaining fixed on the magazine before him.

"We don't know for now, but I think he'll probably just wait and see."

Qi Feng then closed the magazine in hand and waved the masseuse away. The masseuse swiftly packed up his things and left.

“He’s a sly fox too. Don’t you see how he almost always remains neutral at meetings? Father’s attitude is a little vague. Right now, he’s probably having some thoughts, especially after this whole ordeal. I can no longer guess what my father’s thinking about Qi Lei.”

When Morrison saw Qi Feng’s expression darkened, he said softly, “It’s not necessarily a great thing for things to happen right in front of our eyes too.”

Qi Feng tossed aside the magazine in his hand and massaged the fatigue between his brows. “Qi Lei staying here is equal to a pair of Mu Yuchen’s eyes. He’s a very strong chess piece. Qi Lei even went against my father for him. I don’t quite understand what he’s up to. From what I can see, Qi Lei might not be after Qi Kai, but because of that, he shouldn’t be so harsh against my father. Could Mu Yuchen have promised him some benefits?”

Obviously, someone like Qi Feng would never believe in anything such as pure friendship. His belief was that—

1There were no forever relationships and friends, only benefits.

Those that put relationships above all else were only doing so because the other person did not have a large enough bargaining chip.

“Master, what you’re saying is...”

“Mu Yuchen must’ve promised him something good. Otherwise, why would Qi Lei be so strong against his own family? It’s not like he doesn’t know what the consequences will be if he truly angers my father? Do you remember what happened years ago when Wang Qin sent him abroad?”

When Qi Feng said this, his dark eyes squinted slightly and were filled with amusement.

Upon hearing this, Morrison paused. He breathed in after a long while and nodded. “Got it, Master, I’ll get people to investigate Second Master and Mu Yuchen right away. Oh, right, Mu Yuchen seems to be...”

Morrison wanted to continue, but Qi Feng suddenly lifted a hand to stop him.

Qi Feng did not continue the earlier topic and asked instead, “How are things on Doris’s end?”

“We’ve informed her and are waiting on her reply.”

“Mmm, got it. Go home then.”

Qi Feng then moved his wheelchair with waning interest. Morrison nodded before silently leaving the room.

When Qi Feng returned to the bedroom, it was pitch black. He felt around for a bit before he found the switch and turned the lights on.

The bright lights instantly filled the whole room, and he subconsciously looked to the bed—

Gu Lingsha was already asleep with the blanket tightly tucked around her, but Qi Feng had a keen eye and he could see that the person under the blanket was clearly trembling.

He fell silent for a long while. Then, he moved closer with his wheelchair. When he reached her bedside, he heard her sniffing, so he could not help but turn to look at Gu Lingsha with a mixed expression. After he pulled the blanket away, he saw her tearful face hidden under the blanket.

Gu Lingsha was not willing to look at him though. She turned away with her back facing him as she could not help but sniffle.

Qi Feng thought about it, then his soft, raspy voice was heard. “Let’s talk, Shasha.”

Gu Lingsha sniffed, her voice choking on her tears. “Qi Feng, do you remember what you promised me back then?”

When Qi Feng heard that, his gaze froze, then he nodded before answering very calmly, "Of course, I remember. I said that the only person who can stand by my side and be my wife is you, Gu Lingsha."

Gu Lingsha's eyes could not help but well up with hot tears. Soon, her cheeks were streaked with tears. She lifted a hand to wipe them away as she spoke with difficulty, "Ah Feng, you know very well how I've treated you all these years. I've lost too many things. I don't want to lose you and my daughter too. If that's how it's going to be, then I don't want to live anymore."

"What are you saying? Aren't Weiwei and I right here?" Qi Feng sighed and calmed down before he responded.

"Right here? Qi Lei said that he would always be right here too, but now? He's become our enemy. Do you know what I'm most afraid of? My mother told me to be more vigilant because, in front of you, I've lost all the upper hand. I can no longer give birth to children for you while Weiwei's like this...I said that I trust you. I trusted that you wouldn't let me down. I gambled everything on you, that you would protect me and love me for life, but right now, I want to ask you, Qi Feng, will you let me down?"

As Gu Lingsha said this, she suddenly turned her head, and with teary, reddened eyes, she fixed her gaze on Qi Feng's deep eyes.

Qi Feng fell silent, suddenly lowering his gaze. "Shasha, we shouldn't let these external things affect the trust between us."

"Trust? I do trust you, but right now with the things you're doing, and the way you've been treating me, what would you think if you were me? You know that I've always been a realistic person. I hope you'll show me your..."

"Enough, Shasha."

Before Gu Lingsha could finish, Qi Feng already cut her off. "You'll see it if you ask for it."

Chapter 1189. Unhappy (2)

Qi Feng turned around in his wheelchair and went out.

“Where are you going?”

Gu Lingsha could not care less about the tears on her face. She suddenly propped herself up and saw him leaving.

“Sleep first. I’ve still got some documents to handle. Shasha, I hope that you can calm down too. Think about it. What we need right now is to be calm and have faith,” Qi Feng said, then his figure slowly vanished out of the doorway.

Gu Lingsha was stunned. After a while, she sobbed...

...

The afternoon sun was dazzling. The calm breeze rustled through the bamboo forest. When it brushed one’s face, it felt very refreshing.

When Mu Lingshi walked into Bamboo Teahouse, she could see Gu Qiwu sitting in a corner by the window from afar.

It seemed like he had been waiting for quite a while. He was steeping some tea, and there were delicious pastries on the table too.

“Have a seat.”

Gu Qiwu quickly noticed Mu Lingshi too. When he looked up at her, his usually stern face looked quite at ease.

Mu Lingshi stood there looking at him for quite a while. She could see an indescribable bleakness in his gaze. A faint smile flashed on her lips, then she sat down.

He knew that Mu Lingshi was pregnant and could not drink tea, so Gu Qiwu ordered some flower tea instead. He took a cup and poured her some tea. "Earlier when I sat down, I was guessing whether you would come or not."

Mu Lingshi was not courteous as she picked the teacup up and took a nonchalant sip. She did not bother hiding the indifference and irony she felt. "I really didn't want to, but I don't want to be Mother Teresa either."

Upon hearing that, Gu Qiwu looked up to watch Mu Lingshi silently. She still had her sunglasses on, so he could not see her gaze underneath them, but when he saw the scar faintly showing, his eyes darkened.

As if he was thinking about something, Gu Qiwu's eyes were dazed for a moment, then he said softly, "I was betting on you to come. You're stronger and tougher than your mother."

"My mother's Zhuang Shurong. To me, she's a perfect woman."

Mu Lingshi did not want to admit it, but she actually did not have much feelings for Mu Zi. After all, she ended her life soon after giving birth to her. From then on, the person who had raised her and taught her life, was Zhuang Shurong and the rest.

While Gu Qiwu lowered his gaze and looked at the teacup before him, the steam blurred his sight. He fell silent for a while, then smiled and said, "You shouldn't be so against your mother. She loved you and your brother. I'm the one who let you down. It's not like I never thought of bringing the both of you back to the Gu family."

"Mr. Gu, you're funny, I will always be part of the Mu family."

"No, you know very well yourself that you, Lingtian, are indeed the child of Zixi and I. We're your biological parents. Although this is hard to accept, it's the truth. On Doris's side, she's long had our DNA report," Gu Qiwu said. His dark eyes suddenly glowed with a cold light, then it turned into sorrow. Lastly, it became the calm after the bleakness.

Upon hearing that, Mu Lingshi suddenly grinned and said in disdain, "So? What are you planning on having me do? Do you want to get rid of us just like how Mu Zi sacrificed herself to let you all be happy? I'm telling you to dream on! I'm not Mu Zi. I wish that you and your wife will be done for. That way, I'll feel freer from worry."

"The thing between Doris and me, and also your mother, isn't something that can be easily explained. Your mother's a good woman, but..."

"But you don't love her. The woman you love is Doris, so for Doris's sake, you can let any woman down. It used to be Mu Zi, and now it's me? Tell me what do you want? I already detest that your blood runs through me. If I could sever all ties with you, I would be happy to co-operate."

Mu Lingshi was tired too. All the news about Mu Zi and Gu Qiwu was endless. Even she and the Mu family were implicated. Naturally, she did not want to see such chaos.

"Lingshi, you're mistaken. I'm sure you know about Doris and me. We're going to court soon. I'm asking you out because I hope you'd forgive me and come home to the Gu residence with me," Gu Qiwu said in a low voice as his gaze was fixed on Mu Lingshi.

Nevertheless, when Mu Lingshi heard this, she laughed gently, then took a deep breath before she lowered her head and continued to have another sip of tea. She sneered, "Mr. Gu, I'm not interested in the Gu family at all."

"Even if you're not interested in the Gu family, aren't you interested in the Hui Gu Corporation? If you aren't, then what did you do all of that from before for? Don't tell me that you don't even know Mu Yuchen's intentions yourself." Gu Qiwu's calm voice came through. In that smooth voice, you could not hear any emotions.

"Does that mean you're blaming us for Doris cheating on you? Haha, Mr. Gu, I don't know how much you love Doris that you could even accept this. Do you want to protect her so much? No wonder you don't want to divorce her."

The more Gu Qiwu showed that he cared about Doris, the more Mu Lingshi felt sad and pitiful for Mu Zi!

"If you can be so considerate and loyal, why don't you think about Mu Zi who's passed away? Do you know that hearing all these make me wish I could just kill you!" Mu Lingshi was white from anger while her hands were clenched into fists, and the resentment in her eyes could not be concealed.

"Lingshi, calm down. Let me finish."

There were mixed emotions in Gu Qiwu's eyes. He thought about it, then decided to explain to Mu Lingshi, "I couldn't avoid going to court for the divorce with Doris because the things she wants to take away is enough to waver the Gu family's family property. She and I only had your sister, Lingsha. Initially, I thought we'd still have your brother, Lingtian, but..."

"Do you want Doris to leave with nothing?" Mu Lingshi ridiculed.

"Yes, she betrayed me. I want her to know that she can't just do whatever she wants." When Gu Qiwu said this, a sinister chill flashed in his eyes.

Mu Lingshi seemed to be able to feel the love and hatred that Gu Qiwu felt towards Doris.

"In fact, I've been wanting to make it up to you." Gu Qiwu paused, then poured Mu Lingshi more tea. "Apart from Lingsha, I have you too..."

Chapter 1190. Admit Defeat (1)

The evening sky was rather mesmerizing as the sunset glow colored half the sky and the cool breeze was faint.

When Mu Lingshi left Bamboo Teahouse, she was met with the sunset.

She did not ask Ah Mo to come with her today. She only brought her bodyguard, Ah Quan, and of course, the chauffeur. Things seem to be quite busy at the company, and Ah Mo had rushed over quite early in the morning.

"Miss Lingshi..."

When he saw Mu Lingshi walking over, Ah Quan who had been waiting outside went up to her.

“Let’s talk a walk. I want some quiet time,” Mu Lingshi said and then walked ahead.

Ah Quan gave the chauffeur a word before following her. After that, the chauffeur drove slowly and followed them from behind.

“Miss Lingshi, it’s not that early anymore. How about we get home earlier? Otherwise, Bro Mo will be worried,” Ah Quan advised, “Earlier, he called.”

“It’s fine. It’s still early. You don’t have to tell Grandfather about me coming over today. I don’t want him to worry.”

“Is Mr. Gu still inside?” Ah Quan asked.

Mu Lingshi nodded and sighed sorrowfully, “Ah Quan, why do you think humans are so complicated? He clearly wants to use Brother’s authority, but now he’s making himself sound like a saint. Why would I have such a father?”

“Miss Lingshi, don’t feel troubled by this. Actually, Master and Bro Mo knew it right from the start. You just need to go with your heart. I think you already have an answer. Letting Doris or Gu Lingsha get everything doesn’t benefit us. Besides, there’s also Qi Feng eyeing covetously. To be honest, Miss Lingshi...” Ah Quan spoke, and then suddenly paused as he looked to Mu Lingshi who slowly stopped and glanced at him too.

“If it were me, I’d use these relationships and try to help Master with his burden.”

When Ah Quan said this, Mu Lingshi instantly understood what he meant. She froze for a while and then forced a smile. “You’re right. All along, it’s always been Brother who’s protected us while we... Sometimes, I really don’t know what’s the point of all these so-called moral intensities. If it helps everyone, it’s nothing for me to sacrifice a little.”

“I’m sorry, Miss Lingshi. That’s not what I meant either...” Ah Quan explained uneasily.

As an observer from the sidelines, he only felt that Mu Yuchen carried too much burden. He was worn out from holding it all up while some things could clearly be...

“No need to explain. I understand. I understand it all. I’ll give it some thought...”

Mu Lingshi breathed in and did not say anything more before she continued walking ahead.

The setting sun dragged out her shadow, and it looked quite lonely...

...

They had barely rested when the university reopened again. Xi Mushan and Shen Wenna returned to the university on the second day and were busy for the entire day. It was only in the evening that they could catch their breath and recall the promise they made before, so the husband and wife made their way to the sanatorium together.

Yue Lingshi was in a ward alone. Xi Xinyi had even hired a nurse to take care of her.

When Xi Mushan and Shen Wenna went over, Yue Lingshi had just left her ward as the nurse had wheeled her out for a walk.

After that, the husband and wife found Yue Lingshi at the pavilion by the lake in the garden.

Yue Lingshi was in a bad state indeed. She was all bloated, and her eyes were dim without any light. Appearing quite stiff, it was hard for her to move her limbs, so she could only sit in the wheelchair and be wheeled by the nurse.

The sunset engulfed the world while the lake was gleaming with reflections of the sun. It was quite a contented sight to behold.

When she saw Xi Mushan suddenly appear before her, Yue Lingshi was overjoyed, but when she noticed Shen Wenna beside him, the joy left her face.

“You came together!”

Yue Lingsi’s dull eyes could not help but flash with a cold light as she glared at Shen Wenna!

Xi Mushan, won’t you even give me a chance to be with you alone? Or are you afraid that this witch will misunderstand?

Yue Lingsi’s hatred for Shen Wenna did not fade. She had stayed there for so long in her wretched state that it made her even colder and twisted. Even though she knew it was her fault from before, she still hated Shen Wenna.

“Didn’t you say you wanted to talk? What’s wrong with sitting down together to talk?” Shen Wenna’s cold voice came through as she walked over and slowly sat down on a stone bench.

“Xinyi bumped into Xiaye and told us about you. Ah Chen and Xiaye mobilized us. Its time for this issue between us to be concluded,” Xi Mushan said in a low voice. His stern gaze looked at the nurse behind Yue Lingsi, who looked at the latter for instructions. When she got the hint from Yue Lingsi, she retreated.

“It’s been more than 20 years. Yue Lingsi, you didn’t think this day would come, did you?”

Shen Wenna’s voice did not hide her hint of delight and apathy while she looked at Yue Lingsi with a pitiful gaze just as how she had looked at her with an expression that said there was no use crying over spilled milk—

“I remember that 20 years ago, I had such a miserable day too. When that happened, I looked forward to the day that you, Yue Lingsi, to experience this, and that you’d do worse than me.”

“Evil witch!”

“Shut up!”

Yue Lingsi had just cursed when Xi Mushan frowned and shouted.

“See? Just like that! Xi Mushan, you’ve always been like that! Every time Shen Wenna’s mentioned, you treat me like this! I was still Madam Xi for over 20 years. Why do you have to be so cruel to me? You didn’t even bother touching me!”

Yue Lingsi laughed with a semblance of loneliness. “If you were willing to be nicer to me, we wouldn’t all be like this right now. You know that I love you to your bones, yet you wouldn’t forget Shen Wenna. Do you know how unfair that was to me? I endured all sorts of pain and suffering for you, but you never knew and you’d never be moved. I lost in this lifetime. I’ve lost thoroughly. You won, Shen Wenna...”

“Unfair? What’s fair? When you came in as the third party, why didn’t you think of fairness?” Shen Wenna sneered. She lowered her gaze and laughed. “Nothing done forcibly turns out good. With the three of us here, let’s just clear things up. Let’s not have any more doubts left so that the children can stop worrying.”

Yue Lingsi thought about it, bit her lip, and then looked up at Xi Mushan with a deep gaze, as she asked, “Xi Mushan, have you ever liked me? Even just a little? Or were you ever moved?”