Loving 1271

Chapter 1271. Relieved 2

When Xi Xiaye's eyes darkened, Xiao Mei happened to notice that expression of hers.

Xiao Mei had been working alongside Xi Xiaye for a long time now, so she knew quite a great deal about her. Judging by her reaction and Xi Xinyi's behavior from before, she somehow guessed what happened.

She then said quietly, "CEO Xi, Xi Xinyi...She's changed a lot. A few days ago, Manager Xu from the Marketing Department attended Owner Mo's birthday party. She was troubled by some people from the industry, and Xi Xinyi helped her out in secret."

Xiao Mei could not really speak up on Xi Xinyi's behalf, but due to special circumstances, she did pay special attention to her.

Xi Xinyi had been behaving well in the last few years. She kept a low profile and started working behind the scenes in Yueying.

Because Xi Xiaye did not reply after Xiao Mei spoke, the latter called out to her, "CEO Xi?"

Xi Xiaye opened her eyes and pinched the space between her eyebrows. "Well, keep an eye out on her. She's one of us now after all."

Xi Xiaye stopped talking after that and Xiao Mei nodded silently.

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Inside a prestigious room in Hospital T.

The doctor gave Qi Weier a checkup, then he put the records away.

"Doctor, how's Weiwei?" Qi Feng asked quietly as he stared at Qi Weier intently.

The doctor's expression darkened and handed the medical records to the nurse beside him. "Master Qi, Ms. Weiwei's condition is worrying, especially in the past month. It's obvious that she has some psychological obstacles. She needs to cheer up and maintain a good mood, or else..."

The doctor's words had Qi Feng frowning and he seemed worried.

"I need you to help her get better no matter what!" Qi Feng said.

"Master Qi, of course, we'll try our best, but we will need cooperation from Ms. Weiwei as well," the doctor said carefully.

Qi Feng took a deep breath and nodded. "We'll try our best to cooperate."

"That's good to hear! I'll leave you some time alone for now. Ring the bell if you need anything. Ms. Weiwei might only wake up tomorrow morning. She's too weak and needs some time to recover."

Qi Feng just waved his hand quietly, signaling for the doctor to head out.

The room became quiet suddenly as Qi Feng looked at Qi Weier with a pained expression.

"Don't worry, Master. Weiwei will be fine." Morrison noticed Qi Feng seemed exhausted and he tried to comfort him.

Qi Feng's expression was as cold as ice. "What happened?"

"I heard that she's been feeling under the weather since yesterday morning. Mary wanted to take a day off for her, but she refused. Mary was worried that it might upset her, so she just let her be. From what Mary told me, two servants at home discussed what happened to Missus and talked about Doris not liking Ms. Weiwei. That's why she got unhappy..."

Morrison did not continue when he noticed that Qi Feng's expression darkened like a thunderstorm cloud. It was truly terrifying.

"We don't need gossip going around at home! Fire them!"

Hearing his fury, Morrison shuddered slightly. "Yes, Master!"

"Also, tell Doris to get Shasha out as soon as possible. Let her know that Weiwei isn't doing well. I hope she can be quicker. Weiwei is her granddaughter after all."

"Yes, don't worry, Master! I will! Besides, CEO Qi called just now. He said he'll come and visit Weiwei in the evening." Morrison paused before he continued, "Master, we just got news that Qi Lei arrived in City B. I think we should get him into some accident and push the responsibility onto Mu Yuchen! Just like the last time..."

"Do you think Mu Yuchen is an idiot? How obvious would this be to him? Qi Lei isn't someone we can go against right now. Why else do you think I wanted Doris's help?" Qi Feng glanced at Morrison.

"Can we truly trust Doris though? She's such a sly woman! She accused you of threatening her. She's probably getting wary of us." Morrison sounded uneasy. "It's still possible for Doris to get Missus out when Mu Yuchen had still been abroad, but with Qi Lei, I'm not sure what to do about him or Gu Qiwu as well..."

"Don't underestimate Doris. I'm not sure what exactly she's going to do, but she has her own ways since she promised us. Though she did suffer a loss from Gu Qiwu, what else has she failed at before? It's a great deal to us anyhow. I'll help her hold Gu Qiwu down while she helps me to stop Qi Lei. It's a fair trade."

"How is Doris so sure that we can keep Gu Qiwu down?" Morrison could not figure it out and he had never heard Qi Feng talk about it before.

Qi Feng suddenly put on a mysterious smile. It was a cold, eerie smile. He glanced at Morrison cruelly. "Do you remember how Wang Qin died? Didn't Gu Qiwu hire that assassin?"

Morrison's eyes widened as he suddenly remembered that matter.

"I just handed Doris a piece of paper with two words: 'Wang, Gu', and she instantly understood everything. However, since she intends to take Hui Gu down, Shasha can't be in trouble, and she has to make sure that Gu Qiwu won't hand Hui Gu over to Mu Lingshi out of spite. What do you think she'll do next?"

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Qi Feng's words surprised Morrison.

His eyes widened as he looked at Qi Feng. "Do you mean that she's going to do something to Mu Lingshi?"

Qi Feng grinned. "You're right and wrong at the same time. You'll find out soon enough. Just wait and see how Mu Yuchen is going to turn this around. Do you really think Doris will work with us without having anything up her sleeve? That woman's wickedness is unimaginable."

Knowing Doris very well, he had started investigating her back when the accident with Gu Lingsha happened.

"So, we can only wait for Doris to make a move now?"

"I'm not sure if Mu Yuchen will figure out what I'm thinking. It's not Doris's first time planning to take over the Hui Gu Corporation. Just wait. A storm is coming!"

Qi Feng's voice sounded cold. He glanced over at Qi Weier on the bed and took a deep breath. "I just hope that no one will be able to threaten me again after this. Mu Yuchen, I want you to have a taste of what I experienced."

Then, he turned around and went outside.

Morrison quickly caught up with him. "Master, Professor Terl will be coming over to take a look at your legs tonight. He said you'll be entering the final phase of the healing process. I'm sure you'll be able to stand again soon!"

He sounded genuinely happy while Qi Feng felt relieved.

There was hope for him to stand again!
Xi Xiaye had been busy working in the past few days and barely had any time to rest. She could only take a breather during the weekend, but there was a surprise visit from Ji Zitong.
The weather was looking great today. It was cool and windy.
In the backyard of Maple Residence, Xi Xiaye and Ji Zitong sat side by side as they enjoyed the blooming chrysanthemums.
"They look great. They might even be better than the ones in my store," Ji Zitong said.
Xi Xiaye smiled and sipped some tea. "Grandmother planted these herself. They almost died back when she just passed away and no one took care of them, but Grandfather didn't give up and took over her job. Now, here they are."
While she was smiling, Xi Xiaye's eyes darkened slightly when she thought about Wang Hui. Ji Zitong turned quiet as well.
"Time really flies. It happened so long ago, but it feels like it just happened yesterday." Xi Xiaye sighed.
"There's no need to think too much. Grandmother will be able to rest in peace." Ji Zitong was not sure what to say.
"It's alright. I'm just saying." Xi Xiaye blinked her eyes as she averted her gaze away from the flowers and looked at the blue sky. "Isn't Su Chen back yet?"
Ji Zitong sipped some tea before replying, "Not so soon. It'll take him a few days. The three of them got together, so I bet something has happened, but he didn't tell me when I asked. He just told me to not

ask too much about it as it's men's stuff. He did tell me to come and visit you more often. Since my store hasn't really been busy lately, here I am."

"You should indeed come over more often. It's not like Su Chen can't support you anyway. There's no need for you to work so hard. You know what? Let's go to the spa to relax!" Xi Xiaye smiled as she looked at Ji Zitong. It was obvious that she was living a happy life with Su Chen.

Ji Zitong smiled back at her. "Maybe not today. I need to go back to the store later. Chairman Mu surely can afford to support you too, but you still go to work. I don't want to be a housewife. It'll make me feel old. I heard from other ladies that giving everything to your husband and children isn't really wise."

Xi Xiaye smiled. "How's Ah Shi doing?"

Mu Lingshi had gotten closer to Ji Zitong since Wang Hui's death. She would visit Ji Zitong's store from time to time whenever she was free. Sometimes, Ah Mo would join them together for meals along with Su Chen too.

"She still looked pretty unwell a few days ago. I guess she's worried about Gu Qiwu. He's been sending a lot of people to her lately. I also heard that Gu Qiwu went to the Imperial Sky Entertainment Club a few days ago."

"Gu Qiwu came to see Ah Shi recently? You saw him a few days ago?" Xi Xiaye frowned.

Should Gu Qiwu not be in City B right now? Had his company stabilized?

"Yes, I think he's there to meet Ah Shi."

She was not sure what Gu Qiwu was trying to do. Things seemed more complicated than she thought.

"What's wrong?" Ji Zitong noticed Xi Xiaye's odd expression.

Xi Xiaye came back to her senses after hearing Ji Zitong's voice. "It's fine. Have more tea!"

Ah Mo was still in City B at the moment, and Mu Lingshi had never mentioned Gu Qiwu to her. She worried about talking about it because she did not want to make Mu Lingshi unwell, but now
Xi Xiaye thought it was appropriate to let Mu Yuchen know, and it might be a good time to have a talk with Mu Lingshi.
Although she made a decision swiftly, plans could always change!
After several cups of tea, Ji Zitong noticed that Xi Xiaye seemed uneasy, so she bade her farewell and returned to her store.
As Xi Xiaye was thinking about whether she wanted to bring Mu Xiaocheng back to the Mu residence, her phone started ringing.
She picked up the call.
"Hello?"
A deep, male voice responded to her.
Chapter 1273. Lobby For Him? 2
"Hello, Miss Xi!"
It was a man's voice!
A slightly familiar voice!
Xi Xiaye immediately frowned. She quickly tried to remember whose voice this was. Moments after that, she recalled!

Gu Qiwu!
How could it be him?
Xi Xiaye was stunned for a moment. She did not reply immediately and just squinted with vigilance.
When he did not hear Xi Xiaye's voice, Gu Qiwu's low voice was heard. "Miss Xi, you're quiet. I'm sure you know who I am." His voice was filled with certainty.
Xi Xiaye did not hide it either as she calmly responded, "Mr. Gu, I wonder what you're calling me for."
Actually, she could already guess that it was probably about Mu Yuchen and Mu Lingshi. At this moment, she suddenly recalled that it was this man who had blocked her in the tunnel before this. Back then, had he wanted to warn Mu Yuchen too?
"I'm honored that you can still remember my voice." Gu Qiwu's soft chuckle was heard. His chuckle made Xi Xiaye frown even more.
"Not much. I just wanted to ask you out for a chat about Lingshi. I wonder if you'd be willing to give me the honor, Miss Xi." Gu Qiwu did not beat around the bush either as he made his intentions known.
The honor to meet?
As Xi Xiaye pondered, a mocking sneer flashed across her lips. "What if I'm not willing?"
"Of course, I'm hoping you'd say yes. You've always paid attention to Lingshi's matter, haven't you?" Gu

"Mr. Gu, I'm afraid I've got nothing to say to you. If it's about Lingshi's matter, then it's best that you look for Mr. Mu. I don't know about these things too well, so I'm afraid there's not much I can say."

Qiwu's voice remained low and still sounded calm as if he was certain that she would agree to his

request.

Xi Xiaye recalled Mu Yuchen's urges, so she did not make her own decisions. She thought that it was best if she discussed this with Mu Yuchen. If Gu Qiwu really wanted to talk to her, he would not just make this call.

Then, before Gu Qiwu could respond, she hung up.

Du-du-du...

When the sound of the engaged signal was heard, Gu Qiwu immediately frowned and slowly pulled his hand back to look at his phone screen that dimmed. After a while, he casually tossed his phone onto the table and leaned back against his chair. He could not help but lift a hand to massage the fatigue between his brows.

When he saw that Gu Qiwu did not look too good, Ah Yong quickly asked in concern, "Boss..."

Gu Qiwu sighed while his other hand held a pen. He blinked heavily and responded after a while, "It's fine."

"Did Xi Xiaye not agree to meet?" Ah Yong said carefully.

Gu Qiwu did not seem too bothered by this. He calmly responded and quickly relaxed, "Xi Xiaye's not the kind of woman without her own opinions. I'm sure she's vigilant about the way things have turned out. She's probably going to tell this to Mu Yuchen. When that happens, try to ask her out again. It shouldn't be too hard to meet someone."

"What about the thing I told you to investigate?" He suddenly looked up at Ah Yong. His gaze was dark and cool as a deep lake as it met Ah Yong's eyes. In that instant, Ah Yong felt worried and uneasy by his expression.

"Boss, no news for now. But Qi Qiming did make Qi Feng a mere director. I think he will be thinking of other ways. In fact, according to Qi Lei's current situation, it's enough to prove that Qi Qiming sees Qi Lei differently now. Right, I also recently heard that Qi Feng's been meeting Missus quite often, probably because of Miss Lingsha's problem," Ah Yong responded.

When Gu Qiwu heard that, he did not immediately respond. He just set the pen aside and picked up the tea to take a sip, and then fell silent.

"Boss, the people over there have said that they will do their best to settle this. Miss Lingsha will be released soon. Do we want to tell Miss...Doris?" Ah Yong clearly detected that Gu Qiwu was not too happy, so in the end, he quickly changed the way he addressed Doris.

"Whatever she wants to do has got nothing to do with us. Just keep your eye on her. She won't just let this go so easily. Open your eyes and pay attention," Gu Qiwu said with some thought.

He knew Doris well. If she let him off so easily after suffering such a loss, she would not be Doris!

How else could this woman have continued to stay by his side?

However, did she think that Gu Qiwu was a pushover too? If she were to behave, it might not have angered him. Perhaps he could have treated her better, but now, he did not feel any longing for this woman at all!

The more he thought about it, the more he realized that this woman made him feel down.

Even if Gu Qiwu and Mu Zixi had a past. Ever since Mu Zixi left, Gu Qiwu had only doted on Doris alone. He never had anything with any other women and had been loyal to her. Was that not enough?

What had this woman done to him instead?

When he thought about this, Gu Qiwu's lips could not help but flash with a self-mocking smile.

Upon seeing Gu Qiwu's shifting expression, Ah Yong quickly responded, "Yes! I got it! Right, Boss, Miss Weiwei is sick and hospitalized..."

"Make the arrangements. I'll go visit her tonight," Gu Qiwu answered frankly.

Gu Qiwu did love Weiwei. He continued to play his role as a loving grandfather which was different from the cold Doris.

"Yes, Boss! Do we want to call Qi Feng first? Miss Weiwei hasn't been too well recently. I heard that it might be because of Miss Lingsha's issue. The police station still won't let her go. It must be because of Mu Yuchen putting pressure. When I talked to them before this, they seemed like they were quite troubled. I'm worried—"

"City Z's still not Mu Yuchen's turf. He will know when to stop. He's clearly targetting Lingsha and Qi Feng with this issue. The fact that they got to this state is a good lesson for them too. They've overestimated themselves!" Gu Qiwu said coldly.

Every time Gu Lingsha caused a problem, he would always have to pick up the pieces. This time, he wanted to let Gu Lingsha and Qi Feng understand that they needed to take responsibility themselves!

"Yes, Boss!" Ah Yong listened and could only answer simply.

Chapter 1274. Lobby For Him? 3

The sky turned dark by the time she returned to the Mu residence.

The servants had prepared dinner, but only Xi Xiaye, Mu Lingshi, and Mu Yinan were around the dining table. Mu Tangchuan and Zhuang Shurong had appointments tonight and would not be back for dinner.

Mu Yinan went out for a walk right after dinner. It sounded like Elder Zhou had called him. They probably wanted to hang out together, leaving Mu Lingshi and Xi Xiaye at home.

"Have some fruits." Xi Xiaye prepared a fruit platter as Mu Lingshi was watching TV in the living room.

"Sister-in-law! Is Xiao Cheng asleep?" Mu Lingsha made some space for Xi Xiaye and poured some flower tea for her.

"He just fell asleep. What are you watching?" Xi Xiaye sat down beside Mu Lingshi as she glanced over at the TV. She then realized it was some children's program...

"I guess it's about time to do some prenatal education. I heard that by speaking with the baby and listening to more happy music, the child will turn out more cheerful."

Mu Lingshi's eyes turned gentle as she touched her baby bump. "Mmm, the doctor said so too, Ah Mo was pretty into it. Sister-in-law, my brother was pumped up as well, wasn't he? How was he?"

She glanced at Xi Xiaye curiously as she started wondering how Mu Yuchen did his prenatal education.

"He read stories to my belly every day and talked like a silly clown..." When Xi Xiaye remembered that period, she started grinning.

Mu Lingshi chuckled. "I can imagine that. He's just like Ah Mo. I just can't stop smiling thinking about how these two serious-looking men would act silly for their children."

"You'll get used to it soon enough. Your brother was a little awkward when I told him to speak to his child." Xi Xiaye tasted some tea as she fixed her gaze onto Mu Lingshi's face.

"What's wrong? Why are you looking at me like that? Do you have anything to tell me?" Mu Lingshi had sharp instincts and instantly read Xi Xiaye.

Xi Xiaye did not reply right away. She slowly put the cup down without averting her gaze away. Then, she took a deep breath and said, "Actually, I came over tonight to talk to you."

"To talk to me?"

Mu Lingshi was dazzled for a moment. She came back to her senses after a bit as she stared at Xi Xiaye. "Did Brother want you to tell me something?"

Xi Xiaye smiled and shook her head. "Your brother trusts that Ah Mo will take good care of you, so I'm here just to talk to you for a bit."

"Is it about Gu Qiwu?" Mu Lingshi instantly figured it out as she looked into Xi Xiaye's eyes. Her voice sounded a little bitter.

Xi Xiaye nodded her head. Naturally, she noticed Mu Lingshi's darkened expression. "However, I'll stop asking if you don't want to talk about it."

Mu Lingshi took a deep breath and put on a bitter smile. "It's fine. Ask away. I should be responsible and tell everyone about it anyway. I know everyone is being considerate about me and doesn't want to ask me about it, but I'm fine actually. I can face it right now. I'm a child of the Mu family after all. I'm not that fragile!"

"I'm happy that you have these thoughts. Your brother is actually very worried about you..."

"I know. You don't have to worry about me. I'm fine. Actually, I have something to tell my brother too. It's just that there hasn't been a chance..." Mu Lingshi said.

"Great, I'll be straightforward with you then." Xi Xiaye turned over to Mu Lingshi and took a pause. "I want to talk about Gu Qiwu. So, what's your plan from now on? I'm sure you know what's been going on. Gu Qiwu and Doris are divorced, Gu Lingsha's been arrested, and I know Gu Qiwu has had a change of attitude toward you lately."

Mu Lingshi was not surprised by Xi Xiaye's question. She had already decided to speak to Mu Yuchen about it, but she knew that telling Xi Xiaye would be the same as informing her brother, so there was no point for her to hide anymore.

She cleared her mind and answered, "Naturally, I can't accept what Gu Qiwu did in the past, but after experiencing all the love and concern from everyone around me, I'm truly touched. After Grandmother's death, I realized that escaping might hurt other people and cause even greater harm.

"Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha keep blaming the accident on Brother. I'm afraid they've been plotting revenge all these years. I know I've been avoiding the truth, and many people are paying the price of my avoidance. I've thought it through. Rather than letting Brother shoulder the burden, I should be strong and fight for what I deserve. That's better than letting other people use it to threaten him."

Mu Lingshi's tone sounded firm while her eyes were filled with renewed determination just like the stars in the sky.

Xi Xiaye smiled. "So, you're about to meet with Gu Qiwu soon, right?"

Mu Lingshi nodded. "Mmm, he wants to take me back as his daughter and compensate me. He made it sound all nice, but I don't feel his sincerity at all. I even suspect that he's trying to give the Mu family a response after all these years and try to get something out of Brother. That's just who he is." Her tone sounded cold and bitter.

"He wants you back as his daughter?" Xi Xiaye grinned coldly as she said quietly.

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She was not surprised at all since it was all within her expectations.

According to Gu Qiwu's situation, it would make sense for that to happen.

Xi Xiaye did not want to know whether Gu Qiwu was being genuine. During Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha's wedding, he seemed really sorry about how Gu Lingsha behaved for Mu Lingshi's sake, but it was great to see that Mu Lingshi could get over it.

"I can't say for sure if he's being genuine, but I can't forgive him no matter what. My mother, Lingtian, and Grandmother, these tragedies happened because of him, yet he's living a happy life right now. He doesn't even feel an ounce of guilt. While I won't allow myself to hate him, I can't just let him get away like this." Mu Lingshi did not hide the anger within her.

Her expression turned cold, and the dim light made her scar seem slightly eerie.

When Xi Xiaye turned over, she closed her eyes and concealed the anger in her eyes.

"Do you want to fight for Hui Gu?"

Mu Lingshi opened her eyes instantly after she heard Xi Xiaye's question.

Instead of answering Xi Xiaye's question right away, she smiled and paused. "Yes, even if I can't get it, I want to destroy it. I don't want to leave it to either Gu Qiwu or Gu Lingsha." Xi Xiaye was surprised and was not sure what to say. "You don't have to say anything. I know what I'm doing. I'm no longer the weak little girl who needs her brother to protect her any longer. Neither am I that fragile nor am I a fool. I know what to do." "Gu Qiwu called me this afternoon." Xi Xiaye's words shocked Mu Lingshi and she instantly frowned. "What did you say? He called you? What for? Did he threaten you?" When Mu Lingshi stood up, Xi Xiaye quickly grabbed her hand. "Don't be reckless! He didn't threaten me. He said he wants to see me and talk about your brother, but I declined him." "Hmph! He sure knows how to scheme. Is he trying to get you to lobby for him now?" Mu Lingshi managed to figure out what was Gu Qiwu planning. This whole matter was unrelated to Xi Xiaye. Even if Gu Qiwu wanted to talk, he should be talking to Mu Yuchen, but now he was just trying to exploit Xi Xiaye's weakness because he knew about her influence over Mu Yuchen. Furthermore, Mu Lingshi herself had nothing but respect towards her brother too. Lobby for him? Perhaps that was exactly what Gu Qiwu was thinking about.

"Just ignore him. I hope that you'll be left out of this. I don't want these things to drag you down." Mu

Lingshi's voice turned cold as she took a deep breath and left the living room.



Ah Yong looked straight into Ah Quan's eyes fearlessly before averting his gaze away momentarily after. Instead of answering Ah Quan, he continued to speak to Xi Xiaye, "Ms. Xi, our boss has been waiting

here for a while. I know that you're a busy person, but could you spare us 20 minutes or so?"

"Missus, should we just throw him aside?" Ah Quan asked for Xi Xiaye's permission.

Xi Xiaye glanced at him, then looked at the car blocking her way. As she was about to say something, the person got out from the car in front of her. It was a skinny, dark figure.

Who else could it be if not Gu Qiwu!?

"Don't worry, Ms. Xi. We mean no harm." It was Ah Yong who spoke.

Xi Xiaye figured that it was not possible to settle this matter if she did not get out of the car, so she took a deep breath and unfastened her seatbelt.

"Be careful, Missus! Who are they?" Sis Wang was concerned.

Xi Xiaye turned over and looked at her son who was sleeping soundly in Sis Wang's arms. "Don't worry. I know them. Head on back now. Give the baby a shower if he wakes up. I'll be back soon."

Xi Xiaye then got out of the car smoothly.

"Ah Quan, get someone to send them back to Maple Residence." Xi Xiaye gave her orders.

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Upon hearing that, Ah Quan looked vigilantly at Ah Yong and responded, "I'll let them send the Little Master home. I'll go with you Missus."

He then turned around to give orders to the two black-clothed bodyguards. One of them nodded and got into the car to escort Sis Wang and Mu Xiaocheng home first.

At this moment, Gu Qiwu walked over too.

When Xi Xiaye saw him stopping before her, she could not help but frown slightly.

"Mr. Gu, you really are persistent indeed." Xi Xiaye's calm voice was mixed with a hint of displeased mockery.

"Since you wouldn't say yes to me, I was forced to do this, Miss Xi." Gu Qiwu did not seem awkward either. He was at ease as he laughed.

Xi Xiaye did not quite understand this man before her. how could he seem so calm at such a time? She was truly amazed by this man.

Xi Xiaye squinted at him, then turned around to walk towards the roadside as a faint curve flashed on Gu Qiwu's lips and he gladly walked after her.

She had just walked across the road and along that pebble path until a manmade lake beside the Grand Waves Villa area when she stopped. Gu Qiwu had caught up with her while Ah Quan and the rest stood behind vigilantly.

"I've got nothing much to say to you, Mr. Gu. I'm afraid you've come looking for the wrong person."

On that cold night, Xi Xiaye was hostile too, and you could hear her disdain in her voice when she said this. She did not look at Gu Qiwu either.

Upon hearing that, Gu Qiwu only smiled. He looked at Xi Xiaye through narrowed eyes and smiled to say, "Miss Xi, are you still holding a grudge about what happened from before?"

His tone was certain, and it was because of that that Xi Xiaye hated the way he was asking a question that he already knew the answer to, but when she remembered her conversation with Mu Lingshi from before, she calmed the uneasiness in her down.

"Since you already know, are you trying to play old tricks again?"

When Xi Xiaye remembered the scene when she was first blocked at this tunnel, she could not help but feel irritated. She hated the way people kept using her to threaten Mu Yuchen. If it were not for her, Mu Yuchen might have been living more freely and easily right now.

"Don't worry, Miss Xi. I'm willing to apologize to you for my previous rudeness, but this time, the reason I want to see you isn't to give you or Mu Yuchen advice. Rest assured about that." Gu Qiwu's low voice was heard, but when she heard him, she only thought he seemed sulky.

"This time, it's because of Lingshi."

"Because of Lingshi?" Disdain flashed in the corner of her lips. "I don't remember how you're related to Lingshi, Mr. Gu. Are you sure you're talking about Lingshi and not Lingsha?"

Gu Qiwu could obviously hear the sarcasm in Xi Xiaye's tone. His expression froze, but after that, he only chuckled. "Why would you say that? You don't have to provoke me. Now, everyone knows about me and Zixi. Mu Lingshi is my daughter with Zixi. There's no doubt about that. No matter what, she still has to call me her father."

It was the first time that Gu Qiwu was being so certain in acknowledging Mu Lingshi's identity in front of someone else.

"Even though I'm not Lingshi, I still have to let you know. Please don't insult the term 'father'. At Gu Lingsha's wedding, did you even act like it? These past 30 years, what have you done for her?" Xi Xiaye's tone was filled with sharpness and unhappiness. Then, her eyes could not help but flicker with a chill as she turned and her eyes fixed on Gu Qiwu's.

You could not read any emotions in those jet black eyes of hers. Xi Xiaye seemed to be able to catch a hint of struggle. She wanted to say something more, but she heard Gu Qiwu sigh softly. He said in a heavy voice, "I don't deny all of these, and I don't want to talk about my reasons. You're all not me, so you wouldn't know about it."

"Since you think that way, you shouldn't have come to look for me today," she replied coldly.

"It's not like everything will be perfect once I acknowledge Lingshi as my daughter. Otherwise, the incident with Elder Madam Mu wouldn't have happened. You can put all the blame on me, and I will admit it. I'm still trying hard to make it up to Lingshi. That's why I've come to you, hoping you can persuade Lingshi and tell her not to resent me so much. After all, in the end, some things can't be erased. She's my daughter and I've never thought of treating her any less."

"Enough. What's your so-called compensation? To be the Gu family's second heiress? Or your Hui Gui Corporation? Do you think that Lingshi would care about these things?" Xi Xiaye immediately felt angry.

Gu Qiwu just smiled nonchalantly. "Whether or not she cares is not up to you. You don't care, and Mu Yuchen and the rest might not. It's not news that they want to kill off the Hui Gu Corporation. You know that I had another son, but now I'm only left with two daughters, so I'd have to leave these things to them. I can understand how Mu Yuchen feels. I want to make it up to Lingshi as well. As long as Mu Yuchen's willing to collaborate with me and get Lingshi to acknowledge me as her father, I promise that she will be treated well."

"Mr. Gu, I'm afraid you've come to the wrong person. You should tell these things to them, and not me."

Indeed as Mu Lingshi had guessed, Gu Qiwu had looked for her to help lobby for him.

However, when Xi Xiaye said that, he felt a wave of helplessness in his heart. If he could have said all these things to Mu Yuchen, he would not need to look for Xi Xiaye.

"Actually, you don't need to respond to me. Just like the last time, pass on this message to Mu Yuchen. Who knows? We might be on the same side in the future. He's planning his every move so carefully, so I'm sure he's got plans in mind, doesn't he?"

Especially when it came to Gu Lingsha's incident, Gu Qiwu did not need to guess and knew the answer right away.

Xi Xiaye remained silent and watched Gu Qiwu's solemn expression. Her gaze began to shift.

Gu Qiwu's words were quite interesting. He seemed to justifiably think that all of these incidents were Mu Yuchen's work.

On the same side?
Who would be their opponent then?
Qi Feng?
Or Doris?
Xi Xiaye did not answer him. She only showed amusement on her lips.
"When's Mu Yuchen coming back?" Gu Qiwu knew that Mu Yuchen had left City Z. It had been so long, but he was not back yet. This fact alone did not make him relax. He felt uneasy instead!
Chapter 1277. Alarmed! 1
Yes.
It was an uneasy feeling, just like the day something bad happened to Mu Lingtian.
As Gu Qiwu thought this, his heart could not help but tighten. The more he could not contact them, the uneasier he felt.
However, he hid it very well. Xi Xiaye tried hard to read his expression, yet she could not catch anything.
"I'm hoping you can consider tonight further. I admit that apart from Lingshi's matter, I've also looked for Mu Yuchen about other things. Besides that, on Lingsha's end, there's Doris who's dealing with it, so she should be released soon. I'm sure you two of all people should know about the actual situation of that incident. I don't want to look into what happened there anymore, but that doesn't mean Doris and Qi Feng will just let it go."
At this point, Gu Qiwu's voice suddenly turned solemn.
Gu Lingsha would be released soon?

Xi Xiaye's heart tightened slightly, but her expression did not change one bit.

"I've been married to Doris for decades. I can't be too sure of her conduct, but she's definitely not someone who will let things go so easily."

"So, you're worried that she'll do something to you. Is that why you're looking for Mr. Mu?" Xi Xiaye could almost immediately see through his intentions. "Back then it was you alone who provoked this matter. What does it have to do with Mu Yuchen? To be honest, I really look down on people like you. When there are benefits, then you want in. Otherwise, you're quite quick to lay your hands on others. Take Mu Lingtian years ago for example. Why was it him who had to suffer? You know best how Gu Lingsha is like. Since you know that Mu Lingtian and Ah Shi are your children, how could you just let Gu Lingsha marry Mr. Mu? Who do you think they are?"

Xi Xiaye could not help but get upset on behalf of Mu Yuchen. She felt a stifled sensation in her chest and could not hold back the unhappiness she felt. "You are the one who owes it to them, Gu Qiwu., not the Mu family or Mu Yuchen. Mu Yuchen's heart is tied to the Mu family and the kinship between us all, but still, you won't find it enough. Aren't you just out to get the Mu family and Glory World? To respect the deceased, I didn't want to say too much, but I really can't hold back anymore!"

"Alright now, Miss Xi!" The name 'Mu Lingtian' was a thorn in Gu Qiwu's heart.

"The siblings could have been like Ah Mo, living an innocent life, yet what breaks my heart is that you incited him, and made him go against the Mu family and Mr. Mu. Don't you find it ironic how you have treated Mu Lingtian? Was he a weapon for you to use against the Mu family?" Xi Xiaye's tone was exceptionally harsh, thus upon hearing this, Gu Qiwu's cold expression shifted slightly.

"You don't just have one daughter, Gu Lingsha alone. Every life is God's gift, and that represents a responsibility. Even my son understands this principle, don't you?"

Gu Qiwu was stumped by her words. He did not know what else he could say. It was as if what she said was all valid!

He found no reason to refute because he had done that back then. Apart from thinking that he loved Doris, it was also because he did not want to find himself between a rock and a hard place, so...

Xi Xiaye did not say anymore and stopped where necessary.

"You've already lost Mu Lingtian. Can't you be considerate about Ah Shi? Her mother passed away soon after she was born. For the past 20 years and more, she didn't even know who her father was, and even her blood-related brother has passed away. Now that the grandmother who loved her is gone too, how could you bear to..."

Xi Xiaye did not continue after that. She only turned around, and her calm eyes brushed past him before she walked away.

As he watched Xi Xiaye gradually vanish down the road ahead, Ah Yong frowned. When he looked at Gu Qiwu, he realized that the man had a downcast expression. He thought about it, then frowned and said, "Boss, do you want me to go stop her—"

Before he could finish, Gu Qiwu lifted a hand to stop him. "No need. Actually, for tonight, as long as I've come and she mentions it to Mu Yuchen, we will have achieved our goal. Mu Yuchen will understand what I mean," he said gloomily, then turned around to leave.

Ah Yong stood there, stunned for a moment, yet he could not figure out why!

...

When Xi Xiaye returned to Maple Residence, Sis Wang had already gotten Mu Xiaocheng sorted, so she went straight upstairs. After a simple shower, Sis Wang served her supper.

"Missus, I made some red bean soup. Earlier, at the Old Residence you didn't much either, so have some now while it's hot."

When Sis Wang knocked on the door to enter, Xi Xiaye was sitting on the sofa and reading through some documents. Upon hearing Sis Wang, she looked up.

"Thank you! You should rest earlier too. You've been busy the entire day!" Xi Xiaye's calm expression brimmed with a faint tenderness as she spoke with a smile.

Sis Wang smiled. "No worries. I wasn't busy with much today, but, Missus, you...you've been busy till late at night since you returned. You should watch your health. Otherwise, Master will be sad to see you torture yourself like this!"

"Isn't he like that too?" Xi Xiaye laughed helplessly.

"Missus, Gu Qiwu didn't do anything to you, did he?"

Earlier, when Xi Xiaye had walked in, Sis Wang keenly noticed that she had not seemed too good, but she dared not ask too much. Instead, she wondered if she should tell Mu Yuchen about it. After all, Master had mentioned taking good care of Missus, and to let him know immediately if anything happened.

When Xi Xiaye heard that, she slowly closed the document in her hand. "It's fine. It's just a small matter. Don't tell anyone about what happened tonight, especially Grandfather. After I discuss with your Master, we'll have a plan. Definitely don't let Grandfather know. Gu Qiwu's been looking for Ah Shi, and tonight he came to see me. Do you understand?"

Her abruptly solemn tone made Sis Wang's heart clench a little. She was about to say something when Xi Xiaye already picked up her phone from the side and got up. "It's late. Go home and rest first. I won't eat these now since I'm not quite hungry."

She said this as she picked up the documents to turn around and walk into her bedroom.

Chapter 1278. Alarmed! 2

Compared to Xi Xiaye's faint glumness, things on Mu Yuchen's end were much quieter and calmer.

Inside the new company's comfortable and elegant office, Mu Yuchen was busy at his desk. He was focused and serious. Not too far away from him on the sofa, Su Chen was browsing through a document as well. The drink in his hand was still steaming, and the faint aroma of tea filled the room.

However, gradually, the more Su Chen read, the more he frowned.

After that, he could not help but look up at Mu Yuchen who was busy with his head down. "Buddy, the other side might not be able to hold on much longer. Gu Qiwu and Doris are quite capable, and they've bribed the people there, so Gu Lingsha will probably be released soon."

"Hmm?" When Mu Yuchen heard that, he slowly lifted his head and looked at Su Chen.

"They can't hold on to Gu Lingsha's matter anymore. If you want her to stay in there longer, there is a way, but I'm just worried that we'll offend certain people and be affected later on instead," Su Chen replied after hesitating.

Mu Yuchen lowered his gaze. He fell silent for a moment then responded, "Let's just end things as they are. There's no need to pay attention to that. Your identity is more precarious than mine and Zimo's. If they catch on to you, it won't be good."

Su Chen thought about it and said, "Okay, after all, as you've said, we've achieved our goals for this thing. Not only did we give them a lesson, but we've also managed to drive a wedge between Gu Lingsha's relationship and the rest. Also, I think you're going to find this piece of news quite interesting."

"What news?" Mu Yuchen looked at Su Chen's relaxed, handsome face as he casually leaned back against his chair too. His dark eyes examined his friend, seeming quite thought-provoking.

"Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha's daughter, Qi Weier, has just been hospitalized."

Qi Weier?

When Su Chen said that, Mu Yuchen thought about it for a while before he remembered who Qi Weier was. He heard that the child had been prematurely born. When the accident had happened years ago, Gu Lingsha's body had been hurt badly, thus resulting in Qi Weier's current state of health.

Back then, when he knew that Gu Lingsha was pregnant after escaping, he thought that the child was Mu Lingtian's. Thankfully, it was not!

Otherwise, he would not know how to accept this fact, and Lingshi and the rest would find it even harder.

"What's wrong? I don't see you reacting much. I heard that this daughter is Gu Lingsha's precious gem. Perhaps, you can add fuel to the fire. Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha's relationship is already quite tense right now. If you could add on to that, perhaps they will break." Su Chen looked at Mu Yuchen with a hint.

Mu Yuchen sighed as he massaged between his brows with one hand propped up on the table, feeling a little worn out. "Don't go after the children."

"What's wrong? Feeling guilty?" Su Chen looked at Mu Yuchen. "You should also remember the lesson this time. You and Zhou Zimo are classic examples of the foolish leading the stupid. Next time, let Zhou Zimo clean up his own mess. Don't just keep on helping him out. Let him reflect on it too," he spoke in a tone that made it apparent he was annoyed about not seeing any improvements.

"Don't settle scores now. He's not doing well. Besides, you can't blame the latest incident entirely on him, or else, you wouldn't have rushed over, would you?"

"I was just visiting you guys on my work trip. I don't have the time to make a special trip to visit you two!" Su Chen glanced at him, then set aside the documents on the table before picking up the tea and drinking it casually.

Mu Yuchen was too lazy to expose him. They always made these stories up anyway.

"Things over here are mostly settled for now, so go back to City Z tonight. You can't interfere with things here anyway. I've gotten Li Si to book you a flight ticket," Mu Yuchen said, then he pulled open the drawer to take out a stack of things before tossing them onto the table.

"I can already go back tonight? What about you? Zhou Zimo's still being detained, yet you want me to just leave? I'm not leaving. You can leave if you want to. I don't know how to explain it to Mother Zhou and the rest. Besides, before things get cleared up here, I'll still be worried. Also, the killer has yet to be caught, hasn't he?" Su Chen did not even take a look at the stack as he lowered his head and continued with his tea.

"Things haven't been too peaceful recently, so we'll see how it goes since Qi Feng's assistant, Morrison, has appeared here. In fact, the killer's traces have appeared here too, which makes me slightly worried. Perhaps, I can find some useful clues," Mu Yuchen said. His dark eyes rippled with light. "I'm almost done with handling things over here. If you want to keep staying on, that's up to you."

"What about you?"

Mu Yuchen raised his brows. He kept feeling like there was another layer of meaning to his words.

"The incident in New York isn't a coincidence. Perhaps, Doris has been plotting on intimidating and restricting me. She wants to go against the people around me. That wouldn't be a bad idea. That would be exactly what Doris wants."

"Who would have thought that your situation all these years couldn't be hidden from them after all? I'm sure they had plans. How about you just listen to me, and reduce your power a little? Just go back home. It's good to be worried about one less problem." Su Chen's tone was solemn, but Mu Yuchen did not answer him.

Su Chen sighed, realizing that he could only stop bringing this up. "Right, how's the investigation going for Lingtian's thing?"

"Xiaye hasn't gotten any news as of now though she did notice something odd from the documents that my father delivered over. However, it still needs to be validated," Mu Yuchen did not hide anything as he said.

"It's an old case after all, and lots of evidence are gone. If you want to investigate this thoroughly, it will be quite tough. Besides, back then, it had been investigated quite a few times, and all the conclusions point to it being an accident. Do you think you'll find out anything more from looking into it again this time?"

Su Chen could not quite understand it. While he did not want to believe that it was an accident either, the evidence proved that...

"An accident?"

Mu Yuchen's lips suddenly curved into a sneer as his gaze turned stormy. "No, it was no accident. I dare say that it definitely wasn't. Did you think I was only making Gu Lingsha be detained just for that reason?"

Su Chen fell silent. A light of doubt flickered in his eyes, and after a short silence, he still did not understand what Mu Yuchen meant.

Mu Yuchen cleared his throat and said calmly, "In the time that Gu Lingsha was detained, I've told Ah Bao to do a thorough check on all the people that Qi Feng, Doris, and Gu Qiwu have been meeting. Do you understand what I mean now?"

Now, Su Chen's eyes really widened!

Chapter 1279. Alarmed! 3

He understood Mu Yuchen without even needing an explanation.

Since he thought it was suspicious, Qi Feng, Gu Qiwu, and Doris might have some clues on each of them. Therefore, in order for things to be easier in the future, Mu Yuchen investigated all three of them.

Su Chen seemed impressed. "Wow! As expected of a businessman, cunning and thorough! Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha must really be regretting what they planned! You must be the reincarnation of a famous strategist from ancient times or perhaps a wise king."

Mu Yuchen did not seem to be proud of himself. His reaction was pretty weak. "I'm just lucky. If I didn't receive news from Qi Lei and Xi Xinyi, we'd be the ones stuck right now."

Su Chen nodded in agreement. "You're right. Things could have gotten really ugly. They were targeting Xiaye when you weren't in City Z. These people really give you a run for your money."

Mu Yuchen's eyes darkened for a moment. "If we find out that Lingtian..."

Su Chen spoke up when Mu Yuchen went quiet. Unlike the cheerful tone he used before, he sounded bitter. "If that's the case, all the pain you had to bear all these years, I..."

"I just hope that we can find out the truth. That will be the best gift for Lingtian. We're brothers, after all, and staying alive is better than being dead. I suppose I'm not a good enough brother to him. It's unavoidable."

Although Mu Yuchen still defended Mu Lingtian, Su Chen understood him too well.

"You're a great brother, Ah Chen." He was not sure how else he could comfort Mu Yuchen.

Mu Yuchen turned around and watched the scenery outside the window as his back faced Su Chen.

"Maybe Lingtian has always been introverted since he was a child. If only I cared more for him, perhaps there wouldn't be a gap between us."

Mu Yuchen was suddenly reminded of his woman at home, as well as Mu Zirui and Mu Zicheng...

He would never let his children take the same path.

"Zimo and I probably have to re-evaluate ourselves if you say that. To be honest, we weren't really fond of hanging out with Lingtian when we were younger. We were straightforward back then. We didn't force ourselves to like people we don't. Now that I think about it, that was pretty mean of us," Su Chen confessed.

Mu Yuchen stayed silent for a moment. "What a rare sight to see you blaming yourself. Just forget about it now. You should head back tonight. Zimo and I can be at ease because we know you're looking after things over there. Plus, I'll be leaving New York soon and I'll leave the rest to Ah Bo and Zimo."

Su Chen nodded. "If you say so then. Don't worry. I'll be able to find out who the spy was. That's probably the case, or else, Doris wouldn't be so confident. She's not getting anything from the Hui Gu Corporation at all. What did she do to make the people work for her then?" He was pretty confused about that.

Mu Yuchen grinned coldly as he glanced at his own faint reflection on the window surface. "Su Chen, don't underestimate Doris. She's a powerful individual on her own. Moreover, she's been getting a lot of dividends from Hui Gu in the past years. Gu Qiwu is smart. He gave her the dividends from his personal account. That's also part of the reason why she lost the case."

Su Chen suddenly started laughing. "It's really funny that Doris actually lost. I was actually impressed by Gu Qiwu's determination as a man. Who would've known that he'd created a trap for her to step in from the very beginning?"

"Speaking of which, Ah Chen, would you be willing to sacrifice for Xi Xiaye?" Su Chen asked Mu Yuchen, but Ji Zitong's face appeared in his mind instead.

"Xiaye? Glory World?" Mu Yuchen said.

"Mmm, Glory World...are you willing to give it to Xi Xiaye?"

"Do you think Glory World is all I have? You don't really care about your mother's company either, do you?" Mu Yuchen turned around and asked him.

Su Chen shrugged.

"Well, why would I be so stingy towards my woman?"

"True! We're truly brothers after all." Su Chen laughed and Mu Yuchen smiled too...

•••

On a beautiful, sunny afternoon, the blue sky seemed vast.

A black car was on its way to the police station.

Qi Feng sat in the back passenger seat quietly, his expression seeming strained.
"Master, we're arriving soon," Morrison turned around and informed him.
Qi Feng looked up and glanced in front. He quickly noticed the police sign and the colorful flags.
"Be wary of the surroundings. The news hasn't been leaked, has it?" Qi Feng asked.
"Don't worry, Master, no one knows yet. We'll head home right away once Missus is released," Morrison replied before adding, "Master, Doris is really something. She actually managed to get her out! I was pretty doubtful when I first asked her"
Chapter 1280. Alarmed! 4
Morrison was truly impressed with Doris's capability.
Qi Feng tried to work through the higher-ups, but none of them could help as the matter was too severe. They only said that they would try their best, but Doris got it done in the blink of an eye, and Gu Lingsha turned out fine right now
When Qi Feng noticed Morrison's reaction, he grinned, "Now you know why I tried so hard to get her help, don't you?"
"Impressive, Master!" Morrison smiled.
Morrison then spoke to the chauffeur, "Park at the side and try not to get too much attention."
"Noted."
The car was parked beside a tree.

"Master, we're here!" Morrison announced their arrival. "Take a look at the situation inside and tell Shasha to come here directly once she gets out. I'll be waiting right here." Qi Feng grabbed a magazine and started reading it casually. Morrison nodded. "Yes, Master." He then left the car. On the other hand, Gu Lingsha signed the document with the lawyer accompanying her. "Ms. Gu, let's head out. Master Qi said he'll pick you up personally. He should already be waiting for you outside," the lawyer said after Gu Lingsha was done with the document. A cold smile appeared on Gu Lingsha's face. Her eyes seemed empty and she just went outside without saying anything. After leaving the police station, the bright sunlight and the fresh scent outside made Gu Lingsha squint her eyes. She found the unexpected freedom difficult to apprehend. Gu Lingsha had been on the verge of breaking down after being locked up for a month. However, she felt oddly calm at the moment. "Why am I suddenly released? Is it my father, Qi Feng, or my mother?" she turned around and asked the lawyer. The lawyer lowered his eyes and replied, "Owner Gu, Master Qi, and your mother have been worried about you, especially Missus. She's been exhausted in the past couple of days. Thankfully, now that you've been released, her efforts weren't wasted."

Gu Lingsha then realized that she was released because of her mother's effort. She just could not depend on her father and husband, could she?

She was truly disappointed. Her mother was the only one who truly cared about her.

She had thought about a lot of things during this period of time. She believed she was too self-centered. It was difficult for something to return once it had changed, especially feelings.

She found a new side to Qi Feng this time around. Perhaps, he did not love her as much as she thought. Their feelings were slowly diminishing...

"Are my parents in City Z right now?" Gu Lingsha asked.

"Missus has always been in City Z. Mr. Gu went back to City B to take care of some business a few days ago, but he's already returned, Assistant Ah Yong called this morning and said he needed to meet a client, so he won't be here today. He'll meet you back at the Gu residence soon."

"Where's my mother? Is she still staying at the hotel? I remember that she has some properties here." Gu Lingsha wondered how Doris was doing.

"She's been staying in a hotel, but it doesn't look like she's going to stay here for too long. Anyway, Ms. Gu, Assistant Morrison is here. I suppose he's here to pick you up."

When Gu Lingsha looked over and saw Morrison coming over, her cold eyes darkened.

The lawyer continued, "Ms. Gu, I can rest easy now that Master Qi is here. I have some documents to hand over to the police. It's all over now. Leave things here to me. Call me if you need anything from me."

Gu Lingsha turned to the lawyer and nodded. "Alright, thank you for your hard work during this period of time, Lawyer Wang."

"You're welcome. goodbye!"

The lawyer walked in the opposite direction, and Morrison arrived before Gu Lingsha.

"Missus!" Morrison had a relaxed smile on his face. He was relieved to see her doing well.

Gu Lingsha looked exhausted compared to before. Besides her darkened expression, she looked tired in general.

She glanced at Morrison when she heard his voice, but she did not seem thrilled.

"Master knows that you're being released today, so we've prepared a feast for you at home. They've prepared all your favorite food. I suppose you've been suffering inside lately, so..."

Soon, she noticed the two black cars under the tree.

Qi Feng seemed to have noticed her looking at him, so he lowered the car window and looked at her too.

Gu Lingsha felt a complicated feeling rise within her at the moment, and she found herself resisting Qi Feng's eyes. She could not forget about the argument they had the last time.

A glass could never be the same again once it was broken as there would be cracks, and for some reason, the crack in her heart was growing wider...