

Loving 1381

Chapter 1381. Perish 2

Doris's voice was exceptionally gloomy and cold while her arm was circled around Mu Lingshi's neck to the point that Mu Lingshi found it hard to breathe.

"Don't hurt our Miss. We'll agree to any of your conditions! Please be rational. Just don't hurt our Miss!" Ah Yi, the bodyguard, was clearly panicked now. As he looked at his comrades lying in a pool of blood, his face was as white as a sheet from the fright though he did not forget to care for Mu Lingshi's safety.

"Doris, the person you want to hurt is me. There's no need to hurt them! What do you want? Just say it!"

Uneasiness and dread rose in Mu Lingshi's chest as she put a hand on her baby bump.

"No need to put on an act of affection between master and servants now. It's too unrealistic. Mu Lingshi, you're just a little stronger than that mean mother of yours, but only just a little. Thankfully, she committed suicide by jumping off a building. Otherwise, I wouldn't know what to do with her." Doris's tone of disdain was heard, and Mu Lingshi did not look pleased at all.

"What went on between you, Gu Qiwu, and my mother has got nothing to do with me! Why do you need to impose your anger on us? We didn't know about your entanglement. We're innocent too!" Mu Lingshi said through clenched teeth.

"Huh, you say it quite easily. Didn't Gu Qiwu announce that he'll be handing Hui Gu to you? I've been with Gu Qiwu for decades. Do you think I'd let him do that? No one has ever trampled over my dignity, but since he dares do that, I'm going to make him pay! Let him feel the pain of losing a child!" Doris's hooting was akin to a hissing snake, and Ah Yi shuddered at this sight.

"You, quickly call Mu Yuchen. I want to see Gu Qiwu. If he doesn't want Gu Qiwu and Mu Zi's daughter to die quickly, get Gu Qiwu to see me! Call him now!" Her sharp gaze brushed past Ah Yi as she ordered coldly.

"Don't be too stirred up and don't hurt our Miss. I'll call Master right away, right away!" Ah Yi dared not delay as he quickly took out his phone and called Li Si.

At this moment, on Mu Yuchen's end, he and Xi Xiaye had just left to make their way for the old Mu residence.

When his phone rang, Mu Yuchen glanced at Xi Xiaye as he was driving, and she knowingly answered the phone.

Unexpectedly, Li Si's anxious voice came through, "Master! Master! It's me! Bad news! Miss Lingshi has been held hostage by Doris who has a gun. Ah Quan and the rest are hurt. Doris says she wants to see Gu Qiwu. The police have rushed over. Quickly make your way over!"

"What did you say? Ah Shi's been held by Doris?" When Li Si said that, Xi Xiaye was shocked.

"Missus..."

"Where?" Before Li Si could react, Mu Yuchen snatched the phone away from Xi Xiaye's hand.

"Master! Where Miss Mu Zi and Master Lingtian are buried."

"Help me make some arrangements. I'll rush over right away," Mu Yuchen said in a low voice, then he turned the car around and made his way to the west of the city.

...

On the way over, Xi Xiaye's brows furrowed into a concerned knot. "Didn't Ah Shi go home right after her checkup? Where's Ah Mo? Isn't Ah Mo with her?"

"It's Christmas Eve. She's probably gone to see Grandmother. She has always been holding onto her," Mu Yuchen explained.

Upon hearing that, Xi Xiaye felt an ache in her heart. Wang Hui was probably an torment that could never be erased in everyone's hearts. It was a pain that could only fade with time, and gradually be concealed, never to fully recover.

As she thought about this, Xi Xiaye suddenly thought of Gu Qiwu and Mu Lingshi.

"If anything happens to Ah Shi again, Gu Qiwu will be a sinner forever. Isn't Doris being too cruel now? Mu Lingtian is gone. Isn't that enough? She'll only resent not being able to get anything from Gu Qiwu, yet forget that she had already taken away Mu Lingtian's life, what could be crueler than that?" Xi Xiaye said. Her tone could not help but turn gloomy.

"If she knew how to think of these things, we wouldn't be where we are today," Mu Yuchen answered calmly while his gaze was exceptionally gloomy.

"Mr. Mu, don't worry, it'll be fine! Ah Shi is a lucky person, and Heaven helps the worthy."

"No, you should say that she has always been unfortunate. There was one time when Grandmother brought her to the temple, the fortune teller said that Lingshi's got a tough fate, we didn't care, but after that, Lingshi kept it in her heart. Why else do you think she would still be clinging onto Grandmother's death?"

A bitter smile flashed across her lips as she replied, "I thought you didn't believe in fate."

He paused, but in the next second he sped up. "I don't believe in it, but that doesn't mean..."

Mu Yuchen did not continue while Xi Xiaye only took one look at that handsome of his and did not continue asking anymore.

...

The cemetery had initially been quiet, but then suddenly many policemen showed up, and when the gunshots were heard, the surroundings were startled.

"Doris, it's best that you don't act recklessly. Let go of the hostage and follow us to the police station. Let's handle this nicely while we can," Captain Wang from the police force held a gun and pointed it at Doris as he advised.

"Shut up! Where's Gu Qiwu? Where's he? Tell him to meet me!" Doris refused to listen. She was determined that she wanted to see Gu Qiwu. Her arm held onto Mu Lingshi tightly again, and Mu Lingshi could not help but cough painfully before she inhaled sharply.

"He's already on the way, don't be rash!" Captain Wang tried his best to calm Doris down. He could not have expected that such an exquisitely beautiful woman could do something like this!

"Doris, why do you have to implicate your grudges with Gu Qiwu onto us? Let me ask you: did you plan for Lingtian to die? You knew that Gu Qiwu is Lingtian's and my biological father, didn't you? Is that why you've been racking your brains thinking of how to get rid of us?" Mu Lingshi asked harshly.

Who could have known that as soon as Mu Lingshi said that, Doris would have just laughed out loud and not hide it anymore. Her beautiful eyes gathered with a madness that seemed hell-bent on destroying.

"That's right! I knew about Gu Qiwu and Mu Lingtian's relationship seven years ago!"

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Even though she was inclined to this answer, upon hearing Doris admit it herself, Mu Lingshi suddenly felt her heart clench with pain.

"Seven years ago, I did a DNA test for Gu Qiwu and Mu Lingtian to prove that they were father and son. Why else do you think Gu Qiwu would have regarded Mu Lingtian so highly? I've probed about letting Shasha marry Mu Lingtian, and you should've seen the way his face turned pale!"

Doris laughed coldly before continuing, "No one has ever trampled on my dignity. Gu Qiwu kept me in the dark. If it weren't for my power back then, Hui Gu wouldn't be here today. Gu Qiwu is disrespecting me if he wants to just use me like that. Does he think I'm as dumb as your mother, Mu Zi?"

"Well, you didn't have to plot and kill Lingtian! We didn't even know we were Gu Qiwu's children, and we never planned on fighting for Hui Gu with you!" Mu Lingshi could not help but feel angry now. Her hands were clenched into fists as she glared at Doris. "If it weren't for you, you evil woman, that

accident would never have happened, and Lingtian wouldn't have died! I wouldn't have been disfigured while Gu Lingsha and Qi Feng wouldn't vent out their hatred onto my brother! You're a lowly, evil woman. You wouldn't even let go of your daughter! How evil! A woman like you doesn't deserve any so-called dignity!"

"Shut up! Or I'll shoot you to death! Shut up!" When she heard Mu Lingshi reprimanding her like that, Doris's face instantly turned as dark as the sky before a storm. Her fingers were gently placed on the trigger as she glared at Mu Lingshi coldly.

When Captain Wang and the rest saw this, they quickly tightened the guns in their hand and advised worriedly, "Doris! Calm down! Don't be rash!"

"Evil? It's not just you who says that! Lingsha being in the car was a coincidence. Do you think I'd be like that witch Mu Zi and ruin myself for a man who doesn't love me? Haha, only a lowly woman like Mu Zi would do such a foolish thing! Gu Qiwu is nothing! His son isn't worthwhile giving up my daughter's life! Annoying Mu Lingtian! Such a busybody! Who did he think he was?! He wanted to help Lingsha escape, so he should've died! He's got a lowly life like his mother. Do you understand? Do you?"

Doris had fallen into a mad state now. She was not afraid of anything. She wanted to let Gu Qiwu see that even if she lost, she would lose heroically! Even if she died, she'd drag his daughter down with him!

Even if Doris died, she would die worthily unlike Mu Zi that useless, lowly person!

"Shut up! You killed him either way. How dare you say such things?! He was so innocent, and I've never bothered you, so why do you have to vent out all of your unhappiness on us?! Why?!" Mu Lingshi had reddened from fury now. It felt very uncomfortable with Doris's arm around her neck, but it was far from the pain she was feeling in her heart.

Why? Why did it have to turn out like this?

"Because you just reincarnated wrongly, and became the children of Gu Qiwu and Mu Zi! I'll get rid of every single person that's a threat to me, so in your next life, pray that you don't bump into me again! Yes, I'm the one behind Mu Lingtian's death. It's too bad that you were all too foolish. It's been so many years, but you only know the truth now. When I think about how Gu Qiwu was saying he loved the person who killed his own son, I felt extremely satisfied."

“Doris, you’re an evil, mad woman!” Mu Lingshi accused in a dispirited manner. She could not help but feel worn out.

At this moment, an anxious, familiar voice came, “Lingshi! Lingshi! Are you okay!?”

Mu Lingshi then looked up, and Ah Mo’s worried, anxious face greeted her sight!

“Ah Mo! Don’t come over! This crazy woman has a gun!” When she saw that Ah Mo was walking up to her, her expression instantly turned pale. She did not forget that this woman had guns in both hands!

“Stay back! I’ll shoot whoever dares come closer!” As Doris’s sharp gaze looked at Ah Mo, she tightened her grip on the guns, and Mu Lingshi was forced to lean backward. Ah Mo felt worried right away.

“Doris, don’t hurt her. You want a hostage, don’t you? I’ll be your hostage. Just let her go. I won’t move. Don’t hurt her. Please don’t hurt her...” Ah Mo’s eyes were filled with endless worry and apprehension. After he took off his coat and revealed only a thin white shirt, he raised both hands and walked slowly towards Doris.

“Stop right there! Huh, Mu Lingmo, the fact that you could escape with Qi Lei and the rest really shows your capability! But right now, you’ve become a tossed chesspiece. Your life isn’t as valuable as hers. Besides, she has a little one in her!” Doris laughed grimly. “Back away! Do you hear me?!”

Ah Mo looked worriedly at Mu Lingshi. He dared not act rashly, so he moved backwards slightly. “I’ll move back. Don’t be impulsive. Don’t hurt her. Otherwise, I won’t let go of you either!”

“Hmph, I don’t plan on leaving this place alive. Haven’t you all sealed off everywhere, wanting to arrest me? If I die and drag her along with me, then it’ll be worth it!”

Just as Doris finished, a cold and sharp voice was heard. “Shut up! You witch! Let go of Lingshi! Just come for me if you’re unhappy about anything! Why do you have to involve the innocent?!”

Upon hearing that, the people behind automatically opened up a path.

Dressed in a black coat, Gu Qiwu was slowly walking over.

“Gu Qiwu, you finally show up! How does it feel to be in jail?” Doris’s cool gaze landed on Gu Qiwu with disdain as she smiled coldly.

Gu Qiwu did not get close to her. Instead, he stopped and ignored her mocking while he turned to look at the tombstones that had Mu Zi and Mu Lingtian’s pictures on them. His stern face tensed up, but he looked quite dispirited, and he appeared like he had aged by more than 10 years.

When he stared quietly at the photo on Mu Lingtian’s tombstone, you could see that his hands were clenched tightly by his side as if he was enduring some sort of painful emotion. His eyes were gloomy akin to dense ink that would not dilute.

“You admitted that you were behind the accident six years ago, didn’t you?” Gu Qiwu’s expression darkened as his cold gaze looked sharply at Doris as if they had been laced with poison.

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Doris met with his gaze fearlessly, and her arm that locked onto Mu Lingshi tightened much more. Mu Lingshi did not look very comfortable, but she held it in and did not make a sound. Her feet shifted slightly.

“Have you never suspected me? Huh, Gu Qiwu, stop pretending now. I know that you’ve looked into me. All these years, you always privately found out more about Mu Lingtian’s death. Didn’t you also hate Mu Yuchen to the bones before this? Because your relationship with Mu Zi couldn’t be revealed, you could only use Shasha as an excuse,” Doris sneered with disdain though she now seemed extremely calm.

Gu Qiwu appeared sour and his voice was gloomy, “I’d say that I’ve never treated you unfairly all these years. Zixi could never compare to your status, so what else are you unsatisfied with? Zixi and I were a thing of the past. Why do you have to be so vicious to the point that you wouldn’t let go of the children? You even used your own daughter. Doris, I’ve never seen a woman eviler than you!”

“You can say anything you like! I don’t want to explain anything when it comes to Shasha’s matter, but no matter how desperate I am, I won’t get my children to settle it for me, and I won’t be like that lowly woman, Mu Zi, who let her kin suffer for her own mistakes!”

“You let go of Lingshi. Everything happened because of me. If you want to hurt someone, then come for me. There’s no need to hurt them. I’ve long had enough of you!” Gu Qiwu’s expression was exceptionally gloomy, and in Doris’s eyes, it was filled with loathing and anger.

Doris immediately laughed in resentment. “You’re distressed now? Back then when Shasha got detained at the police station, I didn’t see you this worried, and you dare say you care about us mother and daughter? If you cared, would you have done this to me? Why should I let you trample all over me?”

“Let go of Lingshi. We can talk it out. It’s got nothing to do with them.” Gu Qiwu’s expression turned into one that seemed like he was enduring a lot of suffering and his heart clenched. “You just want Hui Gu, don’t you? We can discuss it, but you have to let her go first.”

“Don’t lie to me, Gu Qiwu! Given today’s circumstances, and all of the things I’ve done, I probably won’t be able to escape out from here. I’m not someone that’s easily fooled. Since I dare to do this today, then I dare say I’ve never thought of getting out here alive. I know you really hate me right now, and I hate you just as much too, Gu Qiwu. Six years ago, Mu Lingtian died. If another Mu Lingshi dies today, do you think you’d be able to handle it?”

Doris’s cold sharp gaze looked straight into Gu Qiwu’s darkened eyes while her finger was trained on the trigger, making Ah Mo’s heart pound in fear.

“Doris, don’t be rash. Don’t hurt her. Please don’t hurt her!”

Ah Mo’s hands were tied, and he turned pale now. The police on the side moved forward slightly, yet with a single gaze from Doris, they retreated again.

“Doris! Let go of Lingshi. What do you want? Name the conditions. I’ll agree to it!” Gu Qiwu’s cold voice sounded slightly furious, and you could see the veins on the hands by his side bulging.

“Doris, just kill me if you dare. If I frown even just a little, then my surname isn’t Mu!” Mu Lingshi said coldly.

“Shut up!”

Before Mu Lingshi finished, Doris pressed the gun in her hand harder against her. Mu Lingshi could only felt her head hurt.

“Gu Qiwu, don’t you dare lead a good life in this lifetime. I want you to know, Mu Zi, and your two children died because of you, a cold-hearted man like you. I must make you regret everything that you’ve done to me,” Doris said as an odd smile flashed across her lips and her finger moved slightly.

“No, please don’t shoot!”

“Doris, you’re insane!”

“Lingshi!”

“Ah Shi!”

Bam!

Bam bam!

The sounds of two gunshots were heard almost at the same time.

Mu Lingshi had already closed her eyes while her expression was calm. She did not feel the fear of impending death at all. She only felt warmth on her face, and the smell of blood assailed her nostrils. The piercing coppery smell almost made her want to just faint, but she did not feel hurt anywhere. Instead, she knew that Doris was behind her.

She felt that Doris’s arm seemed to have paused, then she fell limp...

Pa!

The sound of a piece of metal falling to the ground was heard before Mu Lingshi could react. Doris had already fallen.

“Lingshi!” Ah Mo quickly rushed up and held Mu Lingshi whose legs had given way. In the next instant, Gu Qiwu went up to hold Doris who had collapsed too.

“Doris...”

Doris had been shot right in the middle on that beautiful forehead of hers, and the blood flowed from her wound over her exquisite face. No matter how you looked at it, one still found her features enchanting and captivating.

As Doris shuddered, she could not focus on Gu Qiwu who held her. Her hands held tightly onto Gu Qiwu’s shirt, yet she could not say a word. In her flickering eyes, you could see faint hints of tears...

“Doris...why did you cheat on me? Did I not treat you well enough?”

The anger and hatred on Gu Qiwu’s face had faded, and it was replaced with lots of sadness and bitterness. He thought that he had actually loved her before, but no matter how much he did, no one had gotten each other’s hearts.

Well, they were both equally paranoid people.

“We could have spent the rest of our lives together,” Gu Qiwu hugged her tightly and said softly.

Doris was losing consciousness, gradually losing all her energy. She understood that after this hint of consciousness left her, she would be silenced forever.

“I... I don’t regret it...I hate you...” She struggled as she managed to muster, then she fell limp and stopped moving.

“Doris! Don’t die!” Gu Qiwu held her wrist, his eyes red. “You haven’t explained to me! I haven’t gotten back at you. Why did you have to hurt Lingtian? Wake up! Wake up now!”

When the police saw, they quickly went up to pull Gu Qiwu away, yet he only looked morose as he shuddered at the sight of Doris on the ground. The fresh red blood stained the tombstone, making a stark contrast.

...

“Master...”

On the stairs not too far away, Li Si took a deep breath as well, and then turned to look at Mu Yuchen who stood underneath the umbrella.

Mu Yuchen’s handsome face was stony as he did not reveal any expression. He just closed his eyes, eased himself, and when he opened them up again, he had returned to his usual calmness.

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He came over and stood there for a while without saying a word. When the gunshots rang out, Xi Xiaye, who was beside him, could feel that he had suddenly tensed up. She suddenly held his hand tightly and looked at Doris who had fallen, and Ah Mo who held Mu Lingshi, she then breathed a sigh of relief, patted his hand, and reassured him, “It’s fine, it’s fine, Mr. Mu! It’s fine now. Don’t worry. It’s all over now.”

Her calm consolation reached his ears in his dazed state. Then, he gathered himself and turned to peer down at her looking up at him. He consoled his wife with a sigh. Suddenly, he turned to pull her into his arms, feeling a thin hint of warmth from her, and he felt grounded again.

Xi Xiaye was engulfed in his embrace as she said softly, “It’s fine. It will all be well.”

He did not quite answer. Only after a while did he pull her out from his arms, then turn to order Li Si, “I’ll let you handle the rest.”

After that, he pulled Xi Xiaye’s hand to go downstairs.

“Master...” Li Si muttered, but Mu Yuchen had already gradually moved further away.

The forensics quickly took Doris’s remains, and Gu Qiwu, who was being held down by the police, could only just watch her be taken away.

She was gone, forever, just gone.

Gu Qiwu acknowledged that in his heart, but this made him feel more bewildered. He would always be sad. Back then, when they found out that Mu Zixi had jumped to her death and ended her life, he had experienced the same feeling.

The Elder Madam Gu who had passed away had claimed that she was a cold person who had a strong fate, and was determined to have a tough love life.

Back then, he had just laughed about it. Women were not that important to him. In truth, he himself did not know anything, or what should be important to him.

The Hui Gu Corporation?

Love?

Or kinship?

When he thought about it, it all did not seem right. He never spent much time experiencing these things, so how could he truly understand the preciousness of these things?

Mu Zixi had once said she loved him, but he had only smiled and let it pass.

He, Gu Qiwu, did not need any so-called love until he met the elegant and noble-like princess Doris. He wanted to dominate a woman like her, but...at the same time, he did not want to be resigned to mediocre sorrow...

Mu Zixi and Mu Lingtian were all his closest kin, and they were gone forever. Right now, Gu Qiwu's heart suddenly felt a pang of pain as his chest could no longer hide the surge of emotions or numb the agony. He began to spit blood out too.

Pfft!

"Boss! Are you okay?"

On the side, Ah Yong quickly held Gu Qiwu, and then looked at his boss who had just spit blood in a panic.

Left with no energy, Gu Qiwu's eyes turned dark and then he fell forward...

When Ah Yong went up to hold him, he realized that on the side of Gu Qiwu's right torso...

The gun that had hit Doris earlier had been fired by a hidden sniper nearby the area. Doris could not move quicker than the sniper, thus that single gunshot tackled her down. Mu Lingshi managed to escape this by a close shave. However, she seemed quite frightened when she remembered that Gu Qiwu had just gone up to her. As a result, the bullet that hit Doris had brushed past Gu Qiwu's trunk.

"Boss! Boss! Someone, hurry! Our boss has been shot!" Ah Yong then shouted in panic.

When she heard the shouts, Mu Lingshi, who had not calmed down, looked to the source of the voice and indeed saw Gu Qiwu falling into Ah Yong's arms...

...

After the storm, there seemed to be a very long period of silence.

The news of Doris's death was handled in a low-profile manner, and it did not create a buzz like the last time.

The Christmas Eve dinner did not get to happen as planned. Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye went straight back to Maple Residence. As soon as they got home, he suddenly felt a headache. Knowing that he did not feel good, Xi Xiaye let him go upstairs to rest. He did not say anything and obeyed her stern instructions to go to sleep.

He had been working hard for so many days now, so she knew that he would not be able to take it sooner or later. She hoped he could be more at ease and rest.

Xi Xiaye did not bother him either. When she saw his even breaths and he seemed like he had fallen asleep, she went downstairs to prepare dinner.

However, before that, she still called Ah Mo. When she heard that Mu Lingshi was fine, she felt more relieved.

Mu Yuchen slept very soundly. When he woke up, the sky had long darkened outside. The bedroom lights were not switched either. Even the wall lamp by the window was switched off, so the bedroom was pitch dark.

He felt much better after a good sleep. He got up, walked to the window, and pulled open the heavy curtains. Faint light poured in, and Mu Yuchen stood there leisurely with his arms behind his back. When he looked up, he suddenly realized that a hazy crescent moon hung high up in the faraway night sky, appearing a little bleak and gloomy.

He had only stood there for a while when the gentle sound of the piano was heard. In surprise, he turned towards the door, and suddenly the bedroom was lit up as his own wife walked in through the door.

“You’re awake? How are you feeling now?” She walked over in concern and felt his forehead. When she did not notice anything out of the ordinary, she was relieved.

“I’m fine, just a little tired, I feel much better after a sleep. The night is quite lovely tonight,” he said, and then suddenly walked over to switch off the lights, leaving only one lit by the wall as he pointed at the night sky through the window.

Xi Xiaye looked to where he pointed as well, and the hazy crescent moon greeted her sight. When the man beside her quickly reached out to pull her into an embrace, Xi Xiaye could hear his heavy breathing.

“Do you hate Doris? Mr. Mu, it was she who...” she suddenly asked softly.

“How could I hate her for long? As long as I know I’m not such a sinner, I can’t be bothered about the rest of it.”

“Do you feel very worn out?” She turned and looked up at him.

The cold moonlight was reflected on his handsome face, and she could not quite look away.

“If I say I am, would you feel sad for me?” he teased with a smile.

“Pretentious!” She shot him an annoyed glance, yet her lips contained a smile. “Li Si just called earlier. I picked up his call. Doris’s matter has been handed over for the police to handle. Gu Qiwu had a gunshot scrape at the waist, so he’s been hospitalized for treatment. Ah Shi is fine. She’s just in shock. Ah Mo has returned to the old residence with her, and Grandfather and the rest are aware of the whole incident.”

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He silently listened but did not say anything after that. He only reached out to caress her long hair that fell along her back.

When she saw that he did not respond, she softly asked, “Don’t you have anything you want to say?”

“What do I say? This is what I wanted, and this outcome was within my expectations.”

“Are you referring to Doris’s end?” Xi Xiaye asked.

Mu Yuchen slowly moved his arm away from around her waist and answered calmly, “Right from the start, I never thought of letting Doris leave City Z, so I could only cut her wings first, but she was smart too. She arranged for Gu Lingsha to leave, but the move was a step slower than I anticipated.”

When Xi Xiaye heard his revelation, she could not help but sigh. The image of Doris collapsing replayed in her head once again, and her heart could not help but tighten. "What do you think Gu Qiwu feels about Doris? I really can't see through him. To say that he really cared about Doris, it doesn't seem quite like it either, much less Aunt."

"I'm afraid he doesn't know the answer to this either. All of the worries from before might fade with Doris, and come to a full stop. It's time for these things to end now," he responded, then walked over to switch the lights on again.

Xi Xiaye nodded as she followed after him. "Dinner's ready downstairs. Come down to eat when you're ready."

...

It was night time, so the wind was colder than in the day. When one stood on the balcony, one could hear the whistling in the ears.

"Master, Miss Doris is gone..." Morrison's soft voice came through as he carefully watched Qi Feng hold his phone.

When Qi Feng heard the update, gloominess displayed itself on his face. He could not quite tell what he was feeling. As he silently put his phone aside on the table, his raspy voice contained a forced calmness. "This is as expected given the fact that Doris was pushed to that extent. Mu Yuchen...how should I deal with you?"

"Doris admitted that she planned that accident six years ago, killed Mu Lingtian, and hurt you and Miss Lingsha. I think the reason she went onto this fatal path was that she wanted to die with Mu Lingshi, perhaps to redeem herself. Glenn said that she didn't intend to hurt you and Miss Lingsha, but some things were fated," Morrison said, "Thankfully, she took on the whole thing and didn't expose us for your sake, Master, but now I'm afraid they already know about this in England. I'm a little worried about Miss Lingsha."

Qi Feng's expression darkened. He looked down at his legs and his gaze was exceptionally complicated. He never could have guessed that the person who caused him to be like this today would be Doris!

His mother-in-law!

When he thought about this, he could not help but laugh about the irony of it all, and as he laughed, he suddenly felt depressed.

“Gu Qiwu was shot too. He was sent to the hospital. He seemed to be quite affected. I heard he even puked blood. Meanwhile, Mu Lingshi is alright. Mu Yuchen got his personal assistant, Li Si, to settle Doris’s funeral arrangements though it might take a few more days before Miss Doris will be buried. Master, should we let Miss Lingsha come home to see Doris one last time?” Morrison asked for further instructions.

Qi Feng’s expression was sunken whereas his head felt heavy as he propped his head on one hand exhaustedly. He tried to relax for a while, then answered, “Arrange for her to come home. Bring Weiwei along. Go and settle Doris’s funeral, but don’t alarm anyone else.”

“Yes, First Master! Right, First Master, Second Master Qi has returned to Grand Waves Villa tonight. CEO Qi has sent people over to ask him to go home, but he ignored them,” Morrison quickly updated on Qi Lei’s situation.

“Is this his rebirth? The fact that he even made it out is quite surprising. If I had known, I’d have been crueler back then, and now we wouldn’t be faced with so many worries. Morrison, say, have I become indecisive now? Is that why I’m being attacked from all sides now?” Qi Feng sneered. As for Qi Feng’s passing, he did not seem very sad because he had long prepared for that, so he could only calmly accept all of it. However, he did feel his uneasiness grow.

“Master, don’t think too much. We’re still safe for now, but caution will do us good. Still, Master, it’s best if we establish our influence at the office right now. Who knows what might happen in between things? CEO Qi’s thoughts have begun to sway. Plus, with Miss Doris’s incident, if CEO Qi were to think from the Qi family’s perspective, he’d probably have to reposition you and Second Master Qi again.”

Even though Morrison did not have the heart to, he had to still brace himself and mention these things.

Upon hearing that, Qi Feng’s expression did not change, yet his gaze darkened slightly. He breathed in, then could not help but sigh and say, “I never thought that my younger brother would know how to ride

on power, and I thought we were the one controlling the narrative, but it looks like Mu Yuchen might not be weightless. Is he trying to help Qi Lei climb up?”

“Master, I don’t understand how someone like Second Master Qi could have fallen in with Mu Yuchen and the rest. Mu Yuchen clipped Doris’s wings off so that she wouldn’t be able to make a comeback. On one hand, it was for Mu Lingshi to have a fighting chance at Hui Gu, and on the other hand, they cut off all our backup help. I’ve always thought that he might not just want to get back Doris.”

“He’s someone who won’t make a loss in business transactions. As for the fight between me and Qi Lei, if he must join, then our chances at winning aren’t huge, Morrison.”

Qi Feng was very self-aware of his own capabilities. When it came to his background, what he should do, and what he should not do, he knew it very well. He would do his best meticulously most times. Otherwise, he would have been worn out from all these years of acting.

When Qi Feng said that, Morrison’s eyes darkened, and he could not help but sigh. “What should we do now, Master? If we really can’t, then we just shouldn’t do it...”

Before Morrison could finish, Qi Feng had already lifted a hand to stop him. “Not unless it is absolutely necessary. I don’t want to take this step. After the New Year is the annual shareholders’ meeting, so we’ll play by ear then. As for Doris’s incident, you can forget about it,” he said. Then, he put his hands gently on the armrest of the wheelchair and tried to get up. Although it was tough, he did get a second in. Soon, he fell limp again...

Chapter 1386. Realization 1

“First Master!” Morrison yelled in shock as he quickly went over to help him up.

However, Qi Feng pushed him away and clung onto the wheelchair stubbornly as he stood up again. His posture was still shaky, but he managed to stand on his own.

Morrison saw big droplets of sweat dripping off Qi Feng’s face while his expression was strained from the pain he was experiencing. Veins appeared on the back of his hand, showing just how much force he was exerting.

Although Morrison watched all this quietly, he was vigilant as well in case Qi Feng fell. He was delighted when Qi Lei managed to stand. “Master, you can stand! You’re finally standing again!”

Qi Feng panted and carefully tried to walk...

Morrison noticed that Qi Feng seemed happy even though his forehead was all sweaty at the moment.

“Professor Terl is really something. I’m sure you’ll be able to fully recover soon!” Morrison was really thrilled.

Qi Feng sat back onto his wheelchair as Morrison handed him some tissue. “Please use this to wipe off your sweat. I bet you’ll be able to stand properly in the near future!”

Qi Feng wiped the sweat off his forehead and took a deep breath. “In the past six years, I’ve been trapped because of this.”

“Master...Ms. Doris said this wasn’t her intention. She was against Mu Lingtian and didn’t expect both Ms. Lingsha and you to be in the car. I think the reason she held Mu Lingshi hostage this time and wanted to get rid of Mu Lingshi was to exact revenge for you.” Morrison was not sure how to judge Doris. In fact, he felt sorry for her, but...

Qi Feng’s eyes darkened when Doris was mentioned. Moments later, he said, “I never expected her to be the one who got me stuck in a wheelchair. Morrison, do you understand how I feel?”

It was hard to distinguish the emotions behind Qi Feng’s flat tone.

“First Master, I...”

“Doris played us on her chessboard. Even Lingsha became one of her chess pieces.” Qi Feng suddenly felt his head getting heavy, and he seemed tired. “Mu Yuchen was involved as well. She really did pull a big one on all of us!”

His speech sounded hateful, and the chill that Morrison felt from him sent shivers down his spine. “No wonder she was wary around me all the time.”

“Master, Doris is already gone now. As for this...”

Qi Feng took a deep breath and gave it some thought before replying, “Handle things as they are now. Leave the rest for later. I’m tired. You can go back first.”

“Yes, First Master.” When Morrison noticed the chaos in Qi Feng’s eyes, he quickly wheeled him out of the room.

...

It was already the next morning when Gu Qiwu woke up.

What happened yesterday felt like a dream to him. He stared at the empty ceiling without moving an inch.

“Master, he’s already woken up. His injuries are alright, but he doesn’t seem to be in a good mood,” Li Si said quietly.

Mu Yuchen nodded before heading in. The dark shadow at the door caught Gu Qiwu’s attention. He then saw Mu Yuchen’s handsome face.

“You’re here!” Gu Qiwu sat up as he spoke.

“I’ve told Li Si to take care of Doris’s funeral. Take your time to heal.” Mu Yuchen seemed conflicted when he noticed that Gu Qiwu suddenly looked much older after last night. He never expected Gu Qiwu to shield Mu Lingshi when Doris pulled the trigger.

“I’m fine. How’s Lingshi?” Gu Qiwu’s tone sounded flat and his voice felt a little weak.

“She’s alright, just a little shocked.” Mu Yuchen stood by his bed and looked at him from above.

Gu Qiwu was slightly relieved as he leaned back onto the bed and had a rare smile across his face. It was a very bitter smile.

“Perhaps it’s karma though I don’t think I’m bound by anything in this world. I had to believe in karma after having gone through so much. I got what I deserve, so there was no escape from this.” Gu Qiwu sighed.

Mu Yuchen watched him quietly for a while before pouring him a glass of water which Gu Qiwu accepted as he grabbed a chair and sat down.

“Ah Chen, how big do you think your heart is? Could you have another woman in it other than Xi Xiaye?” Gu Qiwu took a sip of water before asking Mu Yuchen.

For some reason, Mu Yuchen and Gu Qiwu were able to have a peaceful conversation with each other.

Perhaps Mu Yuchen found the deep melancholy within this man relatable to himself. That was what he thought at the moment. He actually never knew what Gu Qiwu was truly thinking as the man had always been an unsolvable mystery in Mu Yuchen’s mind...

And yet, they were having a conversation like this right now.

Mu Yuchen gave Gu Qiwu’s question some serious thought. “I can’t. It’ll only be her from now till forever.”

A light glinted in Gu Qiwu’s eyes as he smiled and said, “The people from the Mu family are so loyal. Your aunt used to tell me that with the same determination and expression that you have.”

Chapter 1387. Realization 2

Gu Qiwu seemed distracted for a moment.

“Making just one wrong decision in life can cost you so dearly. If I weren’t so stubborn back then, there might’ve been a good chance that I could be your uncle.” Gu Qiwu did not deny the possibility.

“But you said you had no feelings for her,” Mu Yuchen said.

Gu Qiwu nodded and sighed. “While it’s true that I can’t say we were in love, I never meant to take her feelings lightly. We were more like friends when we were together. I might not be able to tell Doris about the things I can talk to your aunt about. It sure was relaxing and comfortable to be by her side.”

Mu Yuchen could not understand Gu Qiwu. If they had been friends, then why...?

“I didn’t want to make any excuses. In fact, I’ve pondered between whether to regret it or not over the years. However, not knowing how to appreciate things during my earlier years was one of the reasons this happened today.” Gu Qiwu paused here and drank some water. He lowered his head and seemed to be reminiscing the past.

“No matter what you say, you let her down and pushed her into the deep, dark abyss,” Mu Yuchen reminded him of the cold, hard truth.

“That’s true, and I’ve never denied that. Your aunt’s misfortune happened because of me. I don’t expect much from my relationships. It’s not like I never hesitated when I married Doris back then, but it was a hard time for Hui Gu, so...” Gu Qiwu put on a bitter smile. “If we have a chance to go back in time, your aunt might not want to meet me again, and I don’t want things to be so complicated. The current matters wouldn’t happen if there was nothing, to begin with.”

“You shouldn’t have gotten involved with her if you never planned to be with her. Although my father mentioned she was rebellious, she was soft-hearted and she didn’t deserve to be trampled over by you. You caused her, Lingtian, and Lingshi pain, don’t you understand? You’re Lingtian and Lingshi’s father, yet you’ve never fulfilled a father’s responsibility to them.”

“I’m not going to make excuses for my mistake. I don’t mind bearing all the burden if it helps everyone feel better. I thought Lingtian’s sudden death was caused by you, but who would’ve thought that I was the main cause instead?” Gu Qiwu opened his palms and looked at them as if he had something dirty on them. “My hands are filled with my son’s blood. I suppose I’ll go to hell after I die...”

“Do you think that you deserve to die because of the sins you’ve committed?” Mu Yuchen had a tiny little grin on his face.

Gu Qiwu took a deep breath and looked at him as his eyes darkened. “Yes.”

Mu Yuchen glanced at him for a moment before averting his gaze towards the window frame. “I can’t make any decision regarding Lingshi. Grandfather said he’d like to meet you though,” he finally told him the purpose of his visit.

Mu Yinan?

Gu Qiwu’s eyes shrunk slightly as he looked at Mu Yuchen who stood up and casually adjusted his buttons. “Doris is gone now, and the truth of what happened six years ago was revealed. I shouldn’t really have grudges any longer since I’ve proven my innocence now. However, I’m not as happy as I thought. I’m sure you know the reason why.”

“Did you know that Doris was behind it from the beginning?” Gu Qiwu asked.

Mu Yuchen smiled. “I might have thought of that if it weren’t for Gu Lingsha and Qi Feng’s involvement in the accident too, but the truth couldn’t stay hidden forever. What do you think?”

Although Gu Qiwu posed a question, he already knew the answer. “So, you’ve been plotting how to go against us from the beginning? Starting from Qi Feng and Lingsha’s wedding?”

Mu Yuchen looked at him. “My intention back then was just to try to help Lingshi. I didn’t think that my friend in New York would’ve sent me news about Doris. From the file that I saved, I found that the person who handled this case years ago was someone she knew well. This made me more alert, and of course, there was also that pen that was auctioned. You should remember that, don’t you?”

“Doris was an extremely proud person. Why would she turn up at the auction with Lingsha for Lingtian’s sake unless she had some other thoughts? So, I sent someone to look into her. She’s quite good. I spent a lot of time before I finally found some traces from years ago. It was only recently when the DNA test for you and Lingtian from seven years ago landed in my hands did everything come to light.”

Upon hearing Mu Yuchen say that, Gu Qiwu smiled defeatedly. "It's also because of that that Doris and I are where we are now, including how I found out her infidelity and the truth about Lingtian's death! Ah Chen, you stabbed all of these right into my heart, and truly, I couldn't hit back. However, I still have to thank you for letting me know all of this even if I didn't want to."

"Please arrange for the meeting with Elder Mu. I think we do indeed have to meet."

"Doris's funeral won't be held so soon, but you can take one last look at her," Mu Yuchen also said.

Gu Qiwu shook his head and said in a low, raspy voice, "No need. Some things have been worn down in between conflicts, so it's best not to."

"Are your feelings for her stronger than for Aunt?" Mu Yuchen asked.

Gu Qiwu slowly closed his eyes and said calmly, "Even if I didn't love her as much as I think I did, I still did care for her. Zixi's different. With her, it was more suitable for us to be intimate friends. Even if I married her back then, I'm afraid I'd...If back then, we could've all been more rational and clear these things up, we wouldn't be where we are today."

"You mean you'd make the mistake of being rash too?" Mu Yuchen laughed coldly.

"If you want to laugh at me, then go ahead," Gu Qiwu said with a lowered voice.

Chapter 1388. Realization 3

Mu Yuchen's expression was calm. He just shot him a side glance, then dropped his gaze and thought about it for a moment before his lowered voice then rang out, "I have one last question to ask you."

"What is it?" Gu Qiwu did not open his eyes when he answered.

"Did you really have nothing to do with Wang Qin's death at all?" Mu Yuchen's silent gaze suddenly turned sharp as he fixed his eyes on Gu Qiwu, not wanting to miss any changes in his expression.

"Maybe you have some thoughts on Wang Qin's death, hmm?"

When he asked his, Gu Qiwu was stunned. Moments after that, he slowly opened his eyes and met Mu Yuchen's questioning gaze.

"It's got nothing to do with me. I admit that I sent the assassin, but my intention then was just to send you a warning and not have you obstruct my movements in City Z. Sadly, you all managed to get out of that sticky situation. I also got my people to contact that assassin after that, but it seemed like he had vanished into thin air as I couldn't find him," Gu Qiwu said calmly.

"Do you know why that happened?" Mu Yuchen squinted at him and asked coldly.

Gu Qiwu fell silent, but he did not answer. A while after, he said, "This incident has passed for so long. Ah Chen, I suggest that you don't look into it anymore. It doesn't do you or anyone else any good. Even if you know the whole story, it might not be a good thing. Take me for example right now, or rather, look at us right now. Do you understand?"

Upon hearing that, Mu Yuchen only looked at him with an unfathomable gaze. "I don't understand it, just like how someone like you wouldn't understand what affection, kinship, friendship, and even romance are. You never understood any one of those."

As Gu Qiwu listened, he paused, and his expression darkened. He did not say anything more afterwards.

Mu Yuchen's handsome figure passed him.

Mu Yuchen was about to walk out of the ward when Gu Qiwu suddenly called out to stop him, "Ah Chen!"

Mu Yuchen's footsteps stopped too.

Gu Qiwu's worn-out voice was raspy and concealed uneasiness as he asked, "Say, do you think Lingshi will acknowledge me as her father?"

Mu Yuchen stopped walking, and while his back faced him, he thought about it before answering indifferently without turning around, "I don't know, but if it were me, I wouldn't."

When Gu Qiwu heard his reply, his face instantly drained to an ashen pale tone, then he forced a smile and nodded. "Ah, so that's what you think...Thank you..."

Mu Yuchen then walked out of the door.

The door closed with a loud bang as if it was a hammer that pounded against Gu Qiwu's heart.

He did not know how to describe his feelings right now. Nonetheless, he released a long sigh, and when he turned to look out the window, he noticed that the sun was high up in the sky. The warm winter sun shone onto a corner of the window.

He had never been someone who realized things quickly. Furthermore, he was not quite enlightened about anything given all that had happened recently. However, from now on, he could feel that his life was a little dull now. Apart from the loneliness that always accompanied him, there was another invisible layer of bleakness.

Mu Zixi...

Her bright little face could not help but flash across Gu Qiwu's mind.

He remembered her clearly. She was impressively beautiful, and her grace was one worth cherishing no matter what. Sadly, the good times were a thing of the past, and she was no more.

Mu Lingtian, their son, was his first child.

Gu Qiwu admitted that when he first met Mu Lingtian, he was biased towards him. There was not much he could do with the feelings he held in and could not express.

If he were to go back in time, if he had known that Doris would have used such an extreme method to hurt Lingtian, he might not have chosen to conceal things. Maybe, if he had not felt any love for Doris, that would have been fine.

Gu Qiwu cleared his thoughts. With the truth laid out before him, he finally had to admit that he was just muddling through life. He was not as free and at ease as he thought. His heart clung onto no one, and no one's heart clung onto him...

This was true sorrow.

He did not want to keep thinking about this, and he dared not to.

...

When he walked out of hospital T, Mu Yuchen felt quite heavy though his expression was indifferent. Li Si watched him carefully and could see that he had something on his mind.

The car drove ahead for quite a distance before Li Si could not help asking, "Master, if Gu Qiwu knows something about Wang Qin, why won't he say anything? Does he want to spend the rest of his life in jail? Yang Sheng probably knows something about this since he's calling to ask. I'm worried about Second Qi..."

"Qi Lei isn't the kind of person who can't distinguish between right or wrong. He would have his own opinion on things. When this passes, get him to meet me," Mu Yuchen said after snapping back from his deep thoughts.

Li Si did not dare say more. He then picked up a magazine from the side to flip through.

"How are Doris's funeral arrangements coming along?" Mu Yuchen asked calmly.

"Master, Qi Feng sent Morrison to handle the funeral. I've ordered the subordinates to be cooperative. Gu Lingsha's plane might be landing in City Z tonight, and I'm worried that..."

He heard that Doris and Gu Lingsha were close, and based on Doris's final move, Li Si could already guess that she had not intended on letting Mu Lingshi live. That way, Hui Gu could be Gu Lingsha's, and

this was not a difficult possibility to speculate. From the way she criticized Mu Zi, he could already sense it.

When he saw Mu Yuchen fall silent, Li Si sighed and expressed his hope out loud, “May Gu Lingsha accept Doris’s atonement before she died and not go down the same path as Doris.”

After a while, the silent Mu Yuchen spoke up, “Arrange things with Gu Qiwu. Find a way to bail him out, and honor our previous commitment.”

When Li Si heard his instructions, he frowned. “Master, but I’m afraid that the thing with Mr. Gu will be difficult to handle. I’m worried that—”

“Even if it’s difficult, we have to do it. That evidence can’t be used as direct evidence. Besides, isn’t the murderer still at large? Let the authorities spend more time catching the suspect who committed the crime,” Mu Yuchen coldly cut him off before he could finish.

Bewildered, when Li Si noticed Mu Yuchen’s cold expression, he thought about it, then softly said, “Yes, Master!”

Chapter 1389. Realization 4

After that, all Mu Yuchen said was, “Go straight back to the old house. Pick Madam up from New Era Plaza first.” Since it was Christmas today, it was very lively in New York. Although City Z could not keep up with New York, it was still livelier than usual. As cars whizzed through the streets, Christmas carols could be heard. Mu Yuchen sat quietly while Li Si just silently observed in the front. The car drove through the streets swiftly and went towards the concrete avenue leading to New Era Plaza.

From a distance, Xi Xiaye could be seen waiting in her black coat. Just as the car came to a stop in front of her, Mu Yuchen had already reached out to help her open the car door. She got into the car, her body still chilly.

“Cold?” Mu Yuchen thoughtfully grabbed a Thermos flask, poured her half a cup of hot water, and handed it to her.

Xi Xiaye brushed her messy hair and then reached out for the cup of water. “It’s okay. Fortunately, today isn’t as cold as yesterday, but it is rather windy.”

“Have the procedures been completed?”

Xi Xiaye nodded. She had gone to the bank to deal with some financial affairs today. Coincidentally, Mu Yuchen was going to the hospital to see Gu Qiwu, so she went along with him.

“What did Gu Qiwu say? You seem to have something on your mind.” She quickly noticed that something was wrong with him. After all, she seemed to be able to read his thoughts more easily now.

He listened and glanced up at her. His tone was very calm as he said, “It’s about Aunt and Lingshi.”

“He’s someone that is hard to read. I’m afraid he’s the only person who understands himself. If I were Lingshi, I’m afraid there would be no way to convince myself to forgive him, Mr. Mu. However, this matter should be up to Lingshi to decide for herself. There’s only so much we can do, alright?” Xi Xiaye’s tone was also very calm as she focused on him.

Mu Yuchen nodded. “She makes her own decision.”

She finished the water in the cup and returned it, then pulled Mu Yuchen’s big hand onto her lap and held it gently. “This is also a happy matter. Years of being restrained and tolerating have finally come to light.”

Upon hearing this, Mu Yuchen gave a chuckle and replied, “I know. It’s not this that I’m worried about. It’s Qi Lei. If his affairs can’t be solved, Xi Xinyi’s matters will be affected.”

Xi Xinyi...

Upon hearing this name, Xi Xiaye was startled. She had almost forgotten about her.

“Let’s wait and see how it goes. After this incident, it’s really hard to tell how bad Qi Qiming’s relationship with Qi Lei will get. Based on the current situation, Qi Lei is already independent. Qi Kai is most likely going to be Qi Feng’s. Do you really expect Qi Feng to retreat? In my opinion, that’s simply impossible.”

“How do you know that’s impossible?”

Right after Xi Xiaye said that, Mu Yuchen immediately looked at her while he was deep in thought.

“Well, do you have any ideas?” Xi Xiaye looked at him, unconvinced.

Mu Yuchen smiled mysteriously. “Why do you think Doris took Qi Lei this time? Obviously, she could’ve just taken Ah Mo.”

After the incident between Ah Mo and Qi Lei, everyone was just busy looking for them. No one really went into detail about the root cause of this problem.

Now that this was brought up, Xi Xiaye was also taken aback and bewildered. She stared at Mu Yuchen in a daze.

“Doris and Qi Lei aren’t worth much. Moreover, unlike us, they don’t have many grievances. Initially, I didn’t realize this problem until Li Si reminded me about it. This time, Doris was determined to take Lingshi with her and perish together, and I suddenly understood something.”

“Do you mean that the reason why Doris kidnapped Qi Lei is very likely because of Gu Lingsha? No, it should be because of Qi Feng! Because Qi Feng and Gu Lingsha are still husband and wife! As long as Qi Lei collapses, Qi Feng will mean no threat to Qi Kai, just like this time. If something happens to Lingshi, then Hui Gu will be in Gu Lingsha’s back pocket, is that right?”

Xi Xiaye understood Mu Yuchen immediately and she stared wide-eyed at the man beside her.

As he smiled and nodded, he glanced at her admiringly and wrapped his long arms around her shoulders before saying proudly, “Missus, you are really getting smarter by the day. I’m such a lucky husband!”

“Hey...” Xi Xiaye could feel her face flushing when he said that.

“It’s a compliment!”

As she shyly turned her head away and looked out of the car window, he chuckled and explained, “That’s just my guess. I heard that he suddenly got very close to Doris some time ago. I think his relationship with her was a little unusual compared to before.”

“Unusual means that something must be going on! Mr. Mu, now that Doris’s matter has been resolved, and Gu Qiwu is also stable for the time being, we don’t have to worry that much. Let’s do a thorough investigation of Qi Feng. Qi Kai is about to convene a shareholders’ meeting later this year, and Qi Lei’s company will also be formed, so there is no room for mistakes.”

“You care about his matters more than you care about me.” He glanced at her sourly.

She could not help but turn her head and look at him. “You mentioned it first. I also feel like you are more interested in him than you are in me. Does that mean that there’s something unspeakable going on between you?”

As she said this, her slightly jealous tone made Mu Yuchen pleased. He quickly held her so that she was pressed up against his chest. He smiled. “Nonsense, you know me best. Qi Lei is rugged and stout. How could he be my type?”

“Rugged and stout? Qi Lei? Aren’t you like that too? Otherwise, you...” Xi Xiaye gulped as she said, and a beautiful image came into her mind. Yes, she was imagining Mu Yuchen with...

When Mu Yuchen’s eyes sensed something dangerous, he grabbed her wrist. “I’ll prove to you that only you can satisfy me.”

“Ahem! Cough cough!” When Li Si heard this from the front, his eyes widened, and he was shocked to overhear the conversation between Mu Yuchen and Xi Xiaye!

He did not recognize this Master, certainly not his icy cold Master! Absolutely not!

Was the Master's restless hand actually touching the Missus'? He could see it clearly in the rearview mirror from the front!

Chapter 1390. Still Father and Son? 1

The chilly downpour lasted very long, but today there were finally hints of a warm sun. The wind was quite strong, and the wet ground was almost dry now.

At the entrance of the Grand Lake Villa area, a luxurious black car slowly drove along the clear road, and along the curved trail, it soon stopped before a posh villa.

The car door slowly opened, and a man dressed in a tailored suit got down. He looked like an assistant or a secretary. Quickly, he went to the back seat and opened the door.

"Master Qi, we're here. I've just checked earlier, and Second Master is home!" the secretary said.

Qi Qiming slowly got down from the car and looked up to squint at this villa before him. He could vaguely remember that Wang Qin had bought this villa a while back, and then given it to Qi Lei to live in. It had quite a pleasant environment.

Qi Qiming stood there and looked on for a while before walking in. "Let's go in. Get him to open the door."

"Yes, CEO Qi!"

...

When he heard the doorbell ring, Qi Lei was leisurely making lunch in the kitchen.

Actually, a while back, Qi Lei had set his mind to being a good self-reliant man. It had been quite some time since he became very interested in culinary arts, and gradually, the food that he made smelled, looked, and tasted great.

The kitchen in his villa went from being an open kitchen to a closed kitchen. It was huge, so it was easier to move around in. Right now, there was soup on the stove while two plates of side dishes were set aside. Everything looked quite delicious.

The doorbell rang for quite a while. He unhurriedly scooped up the third dish from the pan, and then put it onto the dining table before strolling slowly to the door.

When he saw that it was Qi Qiming outside the door through the screen, he raised his brows slightly. He thought about it for a moment, then pressed the button for the door to open before he turned around to return to the kitchen.

In front of the door, Qi Qiming had waited for quite a while, but he did not see Qi Lei opening the door, so he began to look unhappy. He kept his annoyance in for a while and was about to call Qi Lei when the door opened automatically. Then, his expression eased before he quickly went in.

He had just walked into the living room when he saw that it was empty. Qi Qiming looked around and soon saw the few plates of dishes on the dining table which were still steaming. He walked over to take a look, noticing that everything appeared quite appetizing even though it was just a few simple dishes and soup...

Qi Qiming was stunned. He looked around again but did not see Qi Lei. He hesitated for a moment and was about to walk to the kitchen when he heard a sound from inside. Before he could react, a tall figure suddenly greeted his sight.

Qi Lei was walking out of the kitchen with a dish and a pair of bowl and chopsticks to Qi Qiming's surprise. His serene gaze followed Qi Lei's movements until the younger man put the dish on the dining table, and elegantly wiped his hand with a wet towel. Then, he snapped back to his senses.

When did Qi Lei learn how to cook?

Even though Qi Qiming was usually quite indifferent about Qi Lei, he did know his son a little.

Wang Qin was a very powerful person. She had long thought of how she could cultivate their son, Qi Lei, to be like her, so when it came to things like the culinary arts, she did not seem to agree to him spending

too much on it. Instead, she let Qi Lei allocate more time for business and work though Wang Qin herself was a great cook.

Qi Lei sat down calmly and took the sake from the side. When he saw that Qi Qiming remained standing across him, he said coldly, "Do you want some?"

Qi Qiming did not expect him to offer the drink, so his mind blanked out momentarily. He looked down at Qi Lei who had a calm expression, and felt distant from him. He did not know why his heart sank slightly as if he could not breathe easily.

After a while, he sat down. His assistant swiftly went to get him another pair of bowl and chopsticks from the kitchen and served Qi Qiming the sake.

"Wait for me outside," Qi Qiming waved and said to the assistant.

"Okay, CEO Qi!" The assistant left the living room quickly.

Qi Lei did not seem to react as he silently held up his drink and sipped it with ease. After that, he picked up his chopsticks and began eating.

Qi Qiming's gaze remained on him. He examined him for quite a while and felt as if he was quite different now...

After a long time, Qi Qiming picked up the drink and slowly had a taste. Upon seeing that Qi Lei was silently eating and seemed to plan on ignoring him, he struggled for a bit, then asked softly, "When did you get back?"

Actually, Qi Qiming knew the answer to this, but he still could not help asking.

Qi Lei's hand slowed down to a pause, yet he did not look up at Qi Qiming. Instead, he said calmly, "It's none of your business. You shouldn't have come over either."

Qi Qiming stiffened. When he saw that Qi Lei continued what he was doing, he sighed. This response was within his expectations. He had actually prepared lengthily before going over today. Because he had been thinking hard about many things recently, he admitted that apart from being harsh to this son of his, he wondered if it was because he always thought of Wang Qin, but he felt the guilt increasing by the day, so he had to have a good talk with Qi Lei.

"I know you're unhappy with me about the incident this time. In fact, it's probably not just because of this. As your father, I owe you too much. I'm not qualified to be a father." Qi Qiming's tone was soft and slow while his voice seemed to carry hints of fatigue.

However, when Qi Lei heard him, a dim light flashed across his eyes. He then looked up nonchalantly at Qi Qiming indifferently before saying, "You seem to be quite self-conscious, but from what I see, you're a very qualified father, but only to Qi Feng. That's got nothing to do with me."

After he finished, Qi Lei looked away and continued to eat with his head down.

Qi Qiming's expression darkened. He sighed to himself, picked up the drink, and took a reluctant sip. He silently looked at the tempting dishes, and suddenly remembered that these seemed to be the very ones that Wang Qin used to always make. They were all dishes that Qi Lei liked.