

R Woman 581

Chapter 581: The calm before the storm

Lu Yan's brazenness stemmed from the fact that she was already dead.

Who would speak up against claiming the possession of something from someone who had passed away?

In this world, only the dead never speak.

But Lu Yan had surely never anticipated that she would live on in another identity, that she would live on as Chu Jin.

In this life, she was determined to make Lu Yan suffer complete defeat and pay for her actions in blood!

The plagiarism scandal caused a major stir in the literary circle, even making it to the trending topics on Weibo.

But during that period, Chu Jin was in military training and was unaware of the situation, hence she did not give any response.

Taking advantage of this, Lu Yan bought a bunch of internet trolls to attack Chu Jin on Weibo.

She also admitted publicly on Weibo that she was "Blue Smoke," and feigned pitifulness by posting photos of her increasingly frail figure. Since Lu Yan was already very popular on Weibo, her fans supported her wholeheartedly when they found out she was "Blue Smoke," believing that she would not plagiarize.

Lu Yan posted on Weibo claiming that "The World and You" was completed a year ago, but the submission was delayed because of her good friend Qin Jie's accident. Therefore, in a sense, "The World and You" was completed even before "Blooms like Brocade."

"The Return of the Past" stole her manuscript and took advantage of her grieving period to publish the article.

Before this, Lu Yan had crafted an image of gentleness and kindness in the hearts of the public by using Qin Jie's incident.

As such, most of her fans were true fans who refused to believe that Lu Yan had plagiarized.

They also accused "The Return of the Past" of being shameless for taking advantage of someone else's misfortune.

Moreover, Lu Yan shared a handwritten draft that recorded inspirations that came to her by chance, all of which were written by Qin Jie in her previous life.

Because of this handwritten draft, and due to Chu Jin not having issued any response, more and more people sided with Lu Yan.

After all, "The Return of the Past" was just a new author, whereas Lu Yan was a well-known public figure in Capital City. When comparing the two, it was normal for people to trust Lu Yan.

After the incident, the book gained massive exposure and attracted many onlookers eager for gossip.

Chu Jin read through the comments on Weibo one by one.

Essentially, the readers who had followed her all this way believed in her unconditionally.

"Sister 'The Return,' the innocent are innocent, and we all trust you."

"'The Return', your words have helped me through the toughest times of my life; don't be afraid, we have always got your back."

"'Blue Smoke' the plagiarist has no shame! Our 'Blooms like Brocade' has been published for nearly two months now! Her 'The World and You' has just finished. Who gave this plagiarizing dog the face to say that we plagiarized?"

"The above +1, 'Brocade' has been published, and 'The World' has just finished, it's clear who plagiarized whom, yet there are still people here talking nonsense without any clue."

"Sister 'The Return,' we will always trust you."

"Shout out for sister 'The Return.'

"We strongly demand 'Blue Smoke' to publicly apologize and remove the plagiarized work!"

"We believe that justice may be delayed, but it will never be absent!"

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"'The Return of the Past' is a plagiarist! Once a plagiarist, always despised!"

"Our Yan Yan is so troubled by this matter that she can't even eat or drink! Can the plagiarist please leave her alone?"

"A bunch of idiots, brain-dead fans! Your 'sister 'The Return' is now too guilty to face anyone!"

"Exactly! If she's so bold, let 'The Return of the Past' come out! Just a piece of trash that only deserves to live in darkness."

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"Ding! Tour group checking in!"

"Not a fan of either side, just waiting to see when 'The Return of the Past' will come out with a statement."

"This circle is really chaotic!"

"To be honest, 'The Return of the Past' avoiding this forever is not a solution."

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"What's there to avoid? Isn't that what plagiarists are best at?"

"Time-wise, 'The Return of the Past' has the advantage, after all, her work was published so many days earlier than 'Blue Smoke.' In terms of evidence, 'Blue Smoke' has the advantage, since she is already outstanding and doesn't need to plagiarize to gain fame."

"Time is not the issue at all, our Yan Yan already explained in her statement that 'The World and You' was completed a year ago, and has always been stored on the computer. With such a major incident happening recently, how could our Yan Yan be in the mood to submit it! It's clear that 'The Return of the Past' took advantage of her vulnerability and stole Yan Yan's manuscript!"

"It's clearly 'The Return of the Past' who plagiarized! And now they are trying to smear our Yan Yan!"

"I reckon 'The Return of the Past' knows our Yan Yan in real life too! Otherwise, why would she act like a shrinking turtle, not daring to make a peep! Probably afraid of exposing herself, right? Such shamelessness!"

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"I just want to see how 'The Return of the Past,' the plagiarist, will try to whitewash herself."

"Damn! Stealing manuscripts! That stain will never wash away."

"Plagiarize if you must, but not daring to make a statement, what's up with that? Who the plagiarist is, I think 'The Return of the Past' is very clear about it in her heart."

"'The Return of the Past' took advantage of someone's misfortune, utterly shameless."

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"Gu Gu, no matter what they say, we believe you are not evading, but just temporarily away. All of us in the Gu Family believe in you! Don't be afraid, we'll always stand by you. During that time, you were our sunshine; now, it's our turn to be your sunshine."

"Yes, we are all your little suns, trusting that justice will eventually arrive."

"..."

Ever since the plagiarism controversy erupted, fans of "Blooms like Brocade" formed a fan group named "Gu Family." They encouraged each other in the group, made color palettes, gathered evidence, and were resisting against the fans of Lu Yan.

Because they all believed that the person they had always had faith in would never plagiarize.

As Chu Jin read these comments, there was a slight redness in her eyes—it would be a lie to say she wasn't moved.

Thinking of those she had never met, who had put so much effort into supporting her and trusted her so deeply, her heart felt incredibly warm.

At such a time, if she didn't step forward and say something, she would be letting down those who had always supported her.

Chu Jin's latest Weibo post gathered nearly two million comments, half of which were attacking "The Return of the Past."

The public opinion was now overwhelmingly one-sided.

Under Lu Yan's deliberate guidance, many people believed that "The Return of the Past" had stolen her manuscript and published it early, painting her as the victim of plagiarism.

Half a month had passed since the incident.

Both works became very popular.

Lu Yan claimed that "The Return of the Past" had stolen her manuscript, but this was just her side of the story with no concrete evidence; and since "The Return of the Past" was indeed published much earlier and its author had not made any statements, the literary world was temporarily unable to judge who the plagiarist was.

Chu Jin placed her hands on the keyboard and started typing, one letter at a time.

"The Return of the Past" V reposted Lu Yan V's Weibo:

"Regarding what Ms. Lu has mentioned above, it is purely fabricated. I have taken screenshots for evidence and handed them over to my lawyer for handling.

I'm sorry that it has taken me until now to make this statement, and I appreciate everyone's trust! "Blooms like Brocade" is my first work, a piece that took me three years to complete. It holds immense significance to me, and I will not allow anyone to tarnish it.

Lastly, to borrow a line from Shakespeare: however long the night, the dawn will break."

Thank you to all who believe in me."

She didn't cry about her hardships to gain sympathy; she simply stated the facts and made it clear she intended to let her lawyers handle the matter by directly tagging Lu Yan.

As soon as this Weibo post was published, it immediately hit Weibo's trending search.

"'The Return of the Past' makes a statement."

The post attracted a new wave of spectators.

In just 10 minutes, the comments on the Weibo post had reached six digits and continued to soar.

"Sister Return, you finally came back!"

"Ah, I'm so excited! Love you, Sister Return!"

"However long the night, the dawn will break!"

"Add one for the above."

"Plus 2 for the above."

"Plus N for the above."

"I knew Sister Return wouldn't bow down to the filthy forces of evil so easily."

"Sister Return, we will always be your strongest support!"

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"How shameless can a plagiarizing dog be! Leave our Yan alone, she's in the hospital now!"

"Our Yan has had such a hard time already!"

"I trust that the law is fair! It will surely bring justice for Yan!"

"Heh, plagiarizing dog, you finally showed up!"

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"Ding! Sightseeing group checking in!"

"Here for the trending search sightseeing."

"Front row seats with sunflower seeds, bench, and tea all ready!"

"Sitting back and waiting for the drama!"

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The comments were essentially divided into three groups: fans of both sides and neutral onlookers.

In an era where sensationalism prevailed, onlookers loved a big scene.

After posting on Weibo, Chu Jin responded to some fan comments and then picked up Mo Zhixuan's phone to log into WeChat, only to realize that her editor had sent her countless messages.

Linglong dice: "Old Return! Weibo is exploding! You need to make a statement quickly."

Linglong dice: "I believe you wouldn't plagiarize!"

Linglong dice: "Are you there?"

Linglong dice: "The editor responsible for 'The World and You' came to me, but don't worry, we won't be taking down your work!"

Chu Jin looked through the messages the editor had sent, one after another, and replied, "Thank you, Editor, for your trust. I'll handle this matter well. Peace."

Linglong dice: "Old Return, I've finally reached you! I thought you'd gone to Mars!"

Brocades and Mountains: "I was on military training the past few days and just got off yesterday; sorry for making you worry."

Capital University prohibits mobile phones during military training to cut off contact with the outside world, and the editor was aware of this.

Linglong dice: "Understandable, can you handle this on your own? If you need my help, just say the word."

Brocades and Mountains: "Thank you, I can handle it on my own."

On Lu Yan's side.

Seeing Chu Jin's post, she fell into a state of extreme panic.

She had thought "The Return of the Past" had vanished from the literary world for good, yet there she was, making such a statement. Was she ready to confront her head-on?

Who is this "The Return of the Past"?

Why does she also have Qin Jie's brilliant creation?

What on earth does she want to do?

"The Return of the Past", "The Return of the Past", could it be that Qin Jie has returned? Has Qin Jie come back for revenge?!

What's even more bizarre is that she can't find any information about "The Return of the Past"!

It's as if this person doesn't exist in real life at all!

Lu Yan sat in front of the makeup mirror, anxiously clutching her hair, her face contorted with frustration.

Just then, the door opened.

Shen Lingtian walked in from outside.

"Ling Tian, you're back!" Lu Yan exclaimed as if she had grasped a lifesaving straw.

Shen Lingtian frowned slightly, "What's the matter? You seem all flustered."

"I..." Before she could finish her sentence, Lu Yan sniffed gently, detecting the scent of perfume on Shen Lingtian's body. Her intuition told her Shen Lingtian had been with another woman, and Lu Yan, infuriated, pushed him away forcefully.

Lu Yan hated being betrayed in love above all else!

"What's wrong?" Shen Lingtian asked, clearly annoyed.

Lately, he found Lu Yan more and more displeasing to the eye, thinking that if it weren't for her looks, he wouldn't give her a second glance!

"What's wrong? Shen Lingtian, you still have the nerve to ask me what's wrong!" Lu Yan mocked with a scoff, "Tell me the truth, are you keeping another woman on the side?"

Shen Lingtian didn't deny it but simply smiled, "What happens with them is just for fun. My true love is you."

"Get lost!" Lu Yan said with disgust, "Don't touch me with your filthy hands! It makes me sick!"

"What happened? Who made you angry?" Shen Lingtian asked.

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Shen Lingtian had a real knack for placating people.

Half an hour later, Shen Lingtian leaned against the headboard, gently swirling a glass of red wine in his hand.

"By the way, I have something to ask you," Lu Yan said.

Having sipped his wine, Shen Lingtian replied, "Go ahead."

"The manuscript that Qin Jie left behind, besides me, have you given it to anyone else?" Lu Yan racked her brain, thinking the most likely scenario was that Shen Lingtian had given the manuscript to other women as well.

Otherwise, how could there be two identical articles in the world?

"No." Shen Lingtian was momentarily startled, "Why would you ask that?"

Distrust flickered in Lu Yan's eyes as she pressed, "Really?"

"Really," Shen Lingtian raised three fingers, "I swear to heaven!"

Seeing that Shen Lingtian didn't seem to be lying, Lu Yan cast aside her suspicions, frowning, "If it wasn't you, then who could it be?"

Who's the most likely to have stolen the manuscript and published it before her?

Seeing her like this, Shen Lingtian asked nervously, "What's going on?" Could it be that his affair with Lu Yan had been exposed?

Lu Yan recounted the whole situation to Shen Lingtian.

After listening, Shen Lingtian also frowned in confusion. He had never shown the manuscript to anyone other than Lu Yan! So, how could someone out of nowhere now be publishing an identical article?

Moreover, before Qin Jie's death, other than being close with Lu Yan, she hadn't had any other friends. So who on earth could "The Return of the Past" be?

"Ling Tian, what should I do now?" If the plagiarism scandal was confirmed, Lu Yan's carefully crafted public image would crumble completely.

Even the Lu Group could be affected.

She would no longer be able to establish herself in Capital City.

"Don't be afraid," Shen Lingtian patted Lu Yan's back, comforting her, "The article was originally written by Qin Jie, so you are the original creator. The real plagiarist should be 'The Return of the Past'! And we have the original manuscript; she can't make any waves."

Relieved, Lu Yan exhaled. Shen Lingtian was right! After all, Qin Jie was dead, and she had the original manuscript in hand; what was there to fear? Besides, so many people supported her online!

If it really came down to it, "The Return of the Past" would be the plagiarist!

She should use her fans wisely to create some buzz and win their sympathy!

So, Lu Yan picked up her phone and posted a new Weibo.

Lu Yan V: I don't have the energy to say much; justice resides in the hearts of people, and that's that.

She also attached a photo of herself wearing hospital attire.

In the picture, Lu Yan looked pale, the embodiment of sickness.

As soon as the Weibo was posted, the fans commented with various consoling and pitying messages.

In reality, these fans were all kind-hearted, only being deceived by Lu Yan.

Not long after the Weibo was posted, it was shared by Chu Jin.

"The Return of the Past" V: Well said, justice resides in the hearts of people, and the truth will eventually come to light. @Lu Yan V: I don't have the energy to say much; justice resides in the hearts of people, and that's that.

Upon seeing this shared post, Lu Yan was so startled she dropped her phone onto the bed, her face turning pale.

Lu Yan had an intuition that "The Return of the Past" was no ordinary person; she kept provoking her, seemingly fearless of her stature. Trembling, Lu Yan clicked on "The Return of the Past"'s profile and browsed her information.

Nickname: The Return of the Past.

Weibo Authentication: Original literature website author, famous for "Blooms like Brocade".

Gender: Female.

Location: Capital City.

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Capital City!

Lu Yan's face turned even paler. So this "The Return of the Past" was also in the Capital City...

Who on earth was she?

With trembling hands, Lu Yan clicked on the chat, hesitated for a long time, and finally composed a message to send.

In the interest of caution, she used a secondary Weibo account.

Capital City Beauty: "Who are you, exactly?"

The reply came quickly.

The Return of the Past V: "Little Sister Yan, long time no see (Emoji/Smile)."

Staring at the text on her phone screen, Lu Yan's mouth fell open in shock, her scalp tingled, and she was stricken with panic!

How... How did she know to call her 'Little Sister Yan'?

Since Qin Jie's death, no one had used that nickname!

Qin Jie was the only one who would call her that!

Lu Yan, horrified, threw her phone against the wall and let out a piercing scream, completely losing control!

"What's wrong?" Shen Lingtian sat up and embraced Lu Yan.

"Ghosts!" Lu Yan pointed at the phone lying on the ground, terror-stricken, "There are ghosts! There are ghosts!" Then she turned around and grabbed Shen Lingtian's collar, "Qin Jie is back! What do we do, Ling Tian? Qin Jie is back for revenge!"

"Don't be afraid, don't be afraid. Qin Jie is dead, she can't come back! It's all your hallucination..." Shen Lingtian comforted Lu Yan while getting out of bed to pick up the phone.

The phone screen was shattered, but it was still usable. After unlocking it, the Weibo chat page showed no anomalies.

Shen Lingtian, looking at the phone, said with a hint of puzzlement, "Yan, there's nothing here at all, are you sure you didn't see it wrong?"

"No, I didn't see it wrong," Lu Yan clutched her hair, her face filled with terror, "The Return of the Past is Qin Jie, she really came back, she just called me 'Little Sister Yan' and said it's been a long time..."

Shen Lingtian walked towards the bed with the phone in hand, and as he approached, lifted the phone saying, "Look, there's really nothing here."

Lu Yan kept backing up towards the head of the bed, panic-stricken, "Don't come closer, don't!"

Shen Lingtian sat on the bed and held the phone up close to Lu Yan, "Take a look for yourself, you're just too nervous! Qin Jie has been turned into a pile of ashes, she can't come back, and I'm here, so don't be afraid."

Lu Yan stared wide-eyed at the screen and saw that the chat page on her phone had only her own sent message, "Who are you, exactly?"

The message was marked as "unread."

There had been no reply at all.

It was as if the whole scene had just been her own illusion, yet she had clearly seen it...

What on earth was going on?

Lu Yan's face was covered in cold sweat, pale as death, she swallowed hard, and for a moment, she struggled to distinguish between reality and illusion.

"Ling Tian, I don't know what's happening? You have to believe me, I really saw her reply to me just now!"

"It's okay, it's okay," Shen Lingtian hugged Lu Yan tightly, "It's all hallucination, with me here, no one dares to hurt you! The Return of the Past is just a copycat, you shouldn't take her to heart. Moreover, you have so many people supporting you on Weibo. This time, just focus on managing your fans, and leave the rest to me."

"Okay," Lu Yan nodded heavily, finally finding her anchor, "Ling Tian, thank you."

"Why be so formal with me."

Mo Group.

Chu Jin had been scrolling through Weibo, completely oblivious to the fact that two or three hours had passed, that it was time for lunch, and she hadn't even noticed when Mo Zhixuan walked in.

Her fingers were constantly tapping on the keyboard.

The rapid clatter of typing.

The soft glow from the computer screen cast a pearly luminescence on her fine features.

Mo Zhixuan walked up behind her quietly and gestured for the secretary to remain silent.

"What are you looking at so intently?" Mo Zhixuan suddenly leaned over, wrapped an arm around her slender waist, and rested his chin on her shoulder.

Chu Jin, startled by his sudden move, chided him, "Why don't you make any sound when you walk? You scared me to death."

Upon finishing her sentence, Chu Jin then said, "I'm thirsty, go get me a glass of water."

Good old Mr. Mo skittered off obediently to fetch her water.

"Do you want tea? Black tea or green tea?"

"Hmm... green tea," Chu Jin responded while typing on her computer.

Mr. Mo dutifully brewed the tea, and even personally handed it over to her, stopping just short of feeding it to her mouth.

"What do you want for lunch?" Mo Zhixuan continued to inquire.

"...Anything." Chu Jin didn't look up from her screen, her focus still on Weibo.

Mr. Mo, striving to make his presence felt, asked, "Shall we go out to eat, or should we have something delivered?"

Chu Jin typed rapidly on the keyboard, her speed so fast it made Mo Zhixuan's head spin, "Have it delivered up here, I still have work to do."

"All right." Mo Zhixuan picked up his phone, first sent a message to his secretary, then opened the search engine, typed in 'Weibo', and spent ten full minutes figuring out what Weibo did.

Mr. Mo downloaded the Weibo app, registered for an account, and when it came to choosing a nickname, he glanced at the computer before quickly typing in three characters, "First Encounter."

After doing all this, Mr. Mo returned to Chu Jin's side and spoke in a low voice, "What's your Weibo account? Let's follow each other."

Chu Jin, somewhat surprised, looked up, "Wow! You actually know about Weibo!?" For someone as old-fashioned as Mr. Mo, knowing about Weibo was even more extraordinary than the sun rising in the west!

Chapter 582: we

Mr. Mo, who felt disdained: "..."

She spoke as if he were some antique who knew nothing about anything.

He's still very young, okay?

Mr. Mo said with a sullen face, "I also know about QQ, you know, I know a lot!"

Even if he didn't know, he could still just search on Baidu.

Chu Jin laughed softly, stopping her typing, "Here, just search for 'The Return of the Past' and follow that Weibo account."

Mo Zhixuan took his phone seriously, inputting the three characters and then clicked to follow.

Almost immediately, a notification sound came from Chu Jin's end.

'The Return of the Past' has become your fan.

Looking at these three characters, Chu Jin's lips curled into a faint smile.

Meeting you for the first time felt like welcoming back an old friend.

To describe her relationship with Mr. Mo using this verse couldn't be more appropriate.

Chu Jin also clicked to follow.

Then she tapped into Mr. Mo's Weibo profile, only to discover that his Weibo had nothing in it; not even an avatar was uploaded, with only one follower and one account following.

It was clearly a new account he had just registered, yet there he was, puffing up his cheeks, pretending to know a lot.

"I'll help you upload a profile picture." Chu Jin snatched Mr. Mo's phone away.

Mr. Mo was browsing Chu Jin's Weibo very seriously, his expression extremely stern. No wonder he'd always been too busy for him...

"Such a big incident happened, why didn't you tell me?" Mr. Mo gathered his focus, looking down at Chu Jin.

It felt terrible.

If he was indeed her fiancé, then he should be standing in front of her when she was facing difficulties, shielding her from the storm and solving all the demons and monsters for her. Otherwise, what was the point of having a fiancé?

To look nice sitting at home?

Or to keep him around for New Year's?

This person, though! She actually didn't tell him anything!

If it weren't for this Weibo incident, he wouldn't have even known that his fiancée was also a writer.

Now she was facing so much criticism and questioning online, and he'd been kept in the dark; he hadn't been able to help her with anything.

The more Mr. Mo thought about it, the worse he felt, his handsome brows deeply furrowed.

Knowing that Mr. Mo was angry, Chu Jin quickly put down her phone, tiptoed, and smoothed out his furrowed brows with her hands, saying softly, "Actually, it's not a big deal. I can handle it myself, trust me."

Mr. Mo was still very angry, his face tight, not saying a word, his thin lips almost drawn into a line, an intense cold aura radiating from him.

Communication and trust are the most important things between lovers.

Yet, with such a big incident happening, Chu Jin didn't communicate with him, and Mr. Mo felt the validity of his presence was under question.

In her heart, was he not that important after all?

Chu Jin continued, "Don't be angry anymore. Anger hurts the body. I didn't mean to keep it from you on purpose. I only found out about this today. Plus, such a trivial matter, I can solve myself. It's not worth mentioning. Why bother you with it?"

After a long while, Mr. Mo finally spoke slowly, "But I don't consider it a bother!"

His expression serious, his tone sharp.

Moreover, when it concerned her, Mr. Mo had never found anything to be too trivial.

This was the first time Mr. Mo had gotten angry at her for so long. There were reasons Chu Jin hadn't told him about this matter.

She didn't want to rely on others for revenge for the grudges of her past life; she wanted to take care of it herself.

But, Mo Zhixuan was angry because he cared about her.

Any man would be very angry in such a situation unless he was a man who lacked responsibility.

Chu Jin took the initiative to apologize, her voice soft, "Daddy Mo, sorry, can you forgive me? It won't happen again."

"You think there'll be a next time?" Mr. Mo spoke coldly, his features as if veiled in an impenetrable layer of frost.

"No more next times, I swear, absolutely no more next times," Chu Jin immediately raised three fingers.

Mr. Mo's expression was still somewhat cold, turning his gaze away, not looking at Chu Jin.

He thought maybe he could use this opportunity to regain some domestic status, to assert some authority.

Seeing his reaction, Chu Jin tiptoed, her arms encircling his lean waist, "Considering how sincere I am, can you forgive me now?"

Mr. Mo, satisfied, sat in the executive chair.

"Are you not angry anymore?" Chu Jin pinched his face.

Mr. Mo huffed slightly, his proud face on display, but his arms unconsciously tightened around her waist.

"Oh," Chu Jin raised her eyebrows slightly, mischief in her eyes as she increased the pressure of her fingers, "Still escalating the matter, aren't you?"

On Mr. Mo's cold and handsome face, bright red fingerprints quickly appeared.

Mr. Mo hugged her tightly, "You're making me panic. Everyone else can leave me, betray me, ignore me, but not you. You're mine. I can lose the whole world, but I cannot lose you. Let's not do this again, okay?"

Mr. Mo had always been proud. When had he ever spoken such humble words?

Chu Jin was startled for a moment, then pretended to be nonchalant, "Gee, am I on a pirate ship now? Can I still get off and get a refund?"

Mr. Mo's lips curved slightly, almost imperceptibly, "Of course not!"

Chu Jin patted his face, "Mr. Mo, your face is telling me it doesn't need you anymore."

Mr. Mo grasped her hand, his voice deep, "Hasn't it not needed me for a long time already?"

Chu Jin: "..."

This man really knows his way around, even in being shameless, he is utterly serious.

Outside the window, the years were calm, the sunlight perfect.

"Mo Zhixuan." Chu Jin played with his fingers, speaking in a low voice.

Mr. Mo said, "Hmm, I'm here."

Chu Jin then said, "I want to handle this matter by myself, so don't get involved, okay?"

"Not okay!" Mr. Mo refused outright, "If even such a small matter I can't handle better than you, then what kind of fiancé am I?"

Chu Jin looked up at him with a serious expression, "But I want to handle it myself." Her captivating peach blossom eyes shimmered like stars in the night sky, sparkling brightly, enchanting the heart.

Mr. Mo was successfully bewitched. He nodded slightly, "Okay." After a pause, he added, "But if you can't solve it, you must tell me."

"Yeah, definitely," Chu Jin nodded slightly.

The buzz on Weibo continued.

Ever since Chu Jin shared Lu Yan's Weibo post, the number of comments below it had been steadily increasing, with onlookers flowing in an endless stream to the point that even the Weibo server crashed.

The topic that everyone discussed still revolved around "Who plagiarized whom?"

Even though "The Return of the Past" was published earlier, Lu Yan claimed that her work was completed over a year ago, insinuating that "The Return of the Past" had resorted to unscrupulous tactics to steal her manuscript.

The Return of the Past V: Well said, justice resides in the hearts of people, the truth will eventually come to light one day. @Lu Yan V: I don't have the energy to say much more, justice resides in the hearts of people, that's that.

"Sister 'The Return' is doing great! That's how you should fight back against plagiarists!"

"Going crazy calling out support for Sister 'The Return'."

"Justice resides in the hearts of people! Good job, old 'Return'!"

"Return, we'll always stand behind you, through thick and thin, every step of the way."

"Using a line from Return's own writing: Life is like a chess game, full of bizarre and varied events, amidst the many confusing phenomena, the day will come when the truth will out. We believe firmly that day will come."

"Life is like a chess game, full of bizarre and varied events, amidst the many confusing phenomena, the day will come when the truth will out. This is also my favorite line."

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"So outrageous! Plagiarist 'The Return', how shameless can you be! To plagiarize and still be so brazen about it!"

"Our Yan Yan is already so sick, please can you plagiarizing dogs leave her alone?"

"Yan Yan, don't be afraid! We will always support you!"

"My heart aches for Yan Yan."

"My Yan works so hard, she's such a good person, so kind, combining beauty and talent all in one, how could she plagiarize? It's clear that 'The Return' is crying 'thief' after stealing herself! What a scheming bitch 'The Return' is! Truly shameless!"

"Exactly! My Yan is one of 'the Two Talents of Capital City,' does she need to plagiarize?"

"Plagiarist 'The Return', go die! Shameless 'The Return'!"

"Saying my Yan plagiarized? Even if everyone in the world plagiarized, my Yan never would!"

"Plagiarist 'The Return', why don't you just go die?"

"Why is it my Yan who's sick, and not this plagiarizing dog!"

"Bitch, how are you not dead yet!"

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"Somehow turned into a fan of 'The Return'."

"Here lies an honest follower of 'The Return'."

"I'm not a fan of either side, but from a bystander's perspective, I feel like 'The Return' doesn't seem like the one who plagiarized. If she were the plagiarist, she wouldn't have chosen to confront Lu Yan head-on. Tell me, would a thief who has just stolen something call the police himself?"

"Are you saying that my Yan is the plagiarist?"

"May the poster's whole family drop dead!"

"Thanks to the poster for being willing to believe in our 'Old Return'."

"Actually, the poster's analysis makes a lot of sense."

"Thank you, poster."

"Cheap bitch, trash! Just as rotten as 'The Return'!"

"Lu Yan's fans really have no class."

...

"Just to be clear here, I'm not a fan of either side, I just want to express my opinion. Lu Yan's fans really have such bad character, swearing at every turn! The quality is just too low! Look at 'The Return's' fans, then look at Lu Yan's fans, there's no injury without comparison."

"I've noticed it too! Yan's fans are too extreme, while 'Return's' fans are very reasonable, they didn't say a single swear word under Lu Yan's Weibo."

"The kind of idol you have reflects the kind of fans you attract! There's a big problem with Lu Yan's character."

"A bunch of shameless trend-following dogs! You make it sound so easy, son of a bitch, but if you worked hard for a year writing something and it got stolen just like that by a plagiarizing dog, I'd like to see if you could still be so *rational*!"

...

Some keen-eyed netizens noticed a change in Chu Jin's Weibo, where the number of people she followed went from 0 to 1, standing out prominently.

"Quick, go check out 'The Return's' homepage to see who she's following!"

This comment was upvoted to the top.

For a moment, everyone scrambled to see who 'The Return of the Past' was following exclusively.

Everyone was guessing about the identity of this 'First Encounter,' who managed to catch 'The Return of the Past's' eye and even earn a follow back.

According to the information displayed, 'First Encounter' is male with age set to private.

The Weibo verification is blank.

The bio is blank.

The company field is blank.

Only the nickname and gender fields are filled out.

It gave off an incredibly mysterious vibe.

People were extremely curious, desperately wanting to know the backstory of this man, feeling as though there was a cat paw incessantly scratching at their hearts...

How could 'The Return' possibly follow such a mysterious three-nothing account for no good reason?

When Mo Zhixuan logged back into Weibo, he was completely shocked; his follower count had skyrocketed from 1 to over 100,000+ in just a few hours since he registered.

In a daze, Mr. Mo felt like he'd suddenly latched onto a powerful thigh.

To show off a bit, Mr. Mo opened his camera and sneakily snapped a photo of their intertwined fingers.

And he posted it with a caption.

First Encounter: Us. (image ing)

The pair of hands in the picture, fingers interlocked, clearly belonged to a male and a female.

The girl's hands were slender and delicate with distinct knuckles, refined and long, fair and soft; the man's hands had prominent veins, fingers like hooks, uniquely exquisite, so attractive it was explosive, making those who appreciated hands fall deep into addiction, unable to extricate themselves!

With just a pair of hands looking this beautiful, one could imagine just how stunning the owners of these hands must be.

"Meeting you for the first time feels like 'The Return of the Past,' is the name of your account inspired by this poem?"

"Poster, what's your relationship with our 'Return?' Lovers?"

"First Encounter, 'The Return of the Past', I'm sensing strong CP vibes."

"Poster, dare to show your face?"

"Is this girl's hand claimed by me?"

"The hand I claimed is so beautiful!"

"Damn, damn, damn! That's hard to look away from!"

"Blogger, we need a full-face photo of the claimed one."

The number of comments on Weibo continued to grow.

Among them were also discordant voices.

"Blogger, are you blind? You're actually together with a plagiarist! I think you're no good either! Trash!"

"Plagiarism for life, shame! Die, plagiarist! Disgusting bitch!"

"Birds of a feather flock together, the blogger must be a scumbag too! Just knows how to steal others' work! Disgusting! May your whole family die!"

These three were Lu Yan's die-hard fans, the ones spewing the most vile abuse on Chu Jin's Weibo.

Mo Zhixuan looked at their comments, a coldness rising from the depths of his eyes as he copied and pasted their Weibo accounts and sent them to his assistant.

Three minutes later, Mo Zhixuan posted on Weibo.

First Acquaintance: 1. The three of you have violated Article 246 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China (Insult and Libel Crimes). 2. The matter has been handed over to my lawyers. 3. You have two hours to post an apology, otherwise, bear the consequences! @Loving Yan Yan! @The Return of the Past is a plagiarist dog, @What name should I choose?

A Weibo post oozing with the aura of a domineering CEO, making people's hearts flutter with teenage fantasy.

This post immediately drew countless onlookers.

"@The Return of the Past V, your man is so freaking handsome!"

"Ahhh, my teenage heart is fluttering!"

"First Classmate, aren't you being a bit too arrogant?"

"Sitting and waiting for a slap in the face."

"Definitely a boyfriend reveal."

"With you, The Return of the Past, I feel at ease."

"Worthy of my The Return of the Past's man! So domineering!"

"Turned fan on the spot."

"3. You have two hours to post an apology, otherwise, bear the consequences! Hahaha, I just want to know what will happen if they don't apologize after three hours?"

"Two hours later, check Weibo again, sitting and waiting to slap the blogger's face."

"@The Return of the Past V, dear The Return of the Past, your man is stirring up trouble."

"Domineering CEO!"

"Blogger, are you a rich second generation?"

"@The Return of the Past V, @The Return of the Past V, @The Return of the Past V, @The Return of the Past V."

"I just want to know, will it hurt when you get slapped?"

Within less than ten minutes, "domineering CEO" became a hot search term stirred up by netizens.

"So awesome!"

"Seeing this, I feel my spring heart stirred!"

"What's the deal with The Return of the Past?"

"I want a dozen boyfriends like this!"

"So who's copying whom here?"

"Snapshot saved as evidence, sitting and waiting to slap the blogger's face."

"Ding! Tour group checking in!"

"Ding! Little Fairy card!"

"Everybody disperse; come back in two hours to watch the blogger get a slap in the face live."

"Come back after two hours."

"Holy shit! Even an account without any info dares to be this arrogant!"

"Let's dox the blogger!"

"Disperse, everyone; the blogger has already been beaten to death."

Mr. Mo browsed Weibo with great entertainment, especially when he saw a user @The Return of the Past and mentioned 'your man' in the comment.

When his secretary came in, he was greeted with such a scene.

The girl sat on the CEO's lap, seriously focused on her computer;

The usually serious CEO wrapped one hand around the girl's waist and toyed with his phone using the other, resting his chin on her shoulder with a contented smile playing at his lips, which startled the secretary into thinking he was hallucinating.

The two sat together, busy with their own things, yet the scene looked unexpectedly harmonious and beautiful.

The secretary regained his composure, placed the takeout box on the side table, arranged it properly, then said, "President, it's time for lunch."

Mo Zhixuan looked up at him, immediately regaining his icy persona, "Hmm, you can leave," he said in a low and frosty voice.

"Yes!" The secretary respectfully left the room.

"Time for lunch," Mo Zhixuan put away his phone and reminded Chu Jin.

Without looking up, Chu Jin replied, "You go ahead, I'll be there soon."

"Shall I get it for you?" Mr. Mo asked very submissively."

Chu Jin absentmindedly responded with one word, "Okay."

Mr. Mo got up to get her the meal, while Chu Jin's attention was still on her computer.

Just then, Mr. Mo's phone chimed, the notification tone for special attention on Weibo.

Mr. Mo's chopstick-holding hand stiffened, then he took out his phone. When he saw the content on the screen, a pleasantly smug smile curled at his lips, his eyes warmed.

On the screen, it read: The Return of the Past V reposted your Weibo.

The Return of the Past V: For the rest of my life, please guide me. @First Acquaintance: Us. (Picture.jpg)

This post confirmed the romance between the two.

"So, the question arises, who is 'For the rest of my life'?"

"I salute this wave of PDA!"

"Today's Weibo is sponsored by The Return of the Past and the domineering CEO."

"Wishing happiness of 99 years."

"Be happy."

"Show off your love and get pregnant soon!"

"I could play with these hands for ten years! No! A hundred years!"

"My goddess is taken! Crying to death!"

The next hot search was, "The Return of the Past responds."

Chu Jin's Weibo followers skyrocketed from twenty million to thirty million, nearly overtaking top-tier influencers.

Mo Zhixuan's followers increased from one hundred thousand to one million.

Attracting countless sightseeing groups to check in.

...

After successfully flaunting romance in front of everyone, Mr. Mo contently put away his phone and served the food to Chu Jin.

"No need to serve, I'll come over to eat," Chu Jin stood up and walked over.

Mr. Mo had no choice but to put the lunchbox back on the table.

"Where's the restroom?" Chu Jin raised her eyes towards Mr. Mo, "I'm going to wash my hands."

"I'll take you there," Mr. Mo followed her steps.

About 40 minutes later, Mr. Mo emerged from the restroom, refreshing, with Chu Jin in his arms.

On this side.

Seeing that the Weibo hot search was all taken by The Return of the Past, Shen Lingtian couldn't sit still any longer and immediately published a long post to ride the trend.

With the title of 'man of long-standing love', Shen Lingtian had over twenty million followers on Weibo and was highly recognized.

Shen Lingtian V: "@Lu Yan V, due to my wife, I've known Lu Yan for almost ten years now. I can say that I've personally witnessed her transformation from an inexperienced girl to her success today. Her achievements and usual hard work are inseparable. My wife had praised Lu Yan more than once in front of me, saying that Lu Yan was very accomplished in literature.

To accuse Lu Yan of plagiarism is utterly absurd. When my wife was still with us, I personally saw her and Lu Yan discussing 'The World and You'. I can guarantee with my character that Lu Yan would never plagiarize!

If my wife were still alive, she would be heartbroken to see all of this!

@The Return of the Past V, what goes around comes around! Plagiarizers who take shortcuts will eventually be infamous!"

When Chu Jin saw Shen Lingtian's Weibo post, she had just finished her meal. The corner of her mouth slightly curled, a glint of coldness flashing in her eyes, before she retweeted the post.

Accompanying it with this comment:

"Can you let the deceased rest in peace? Always seeking sympathy by stepping on the departed, is that amusing?"

With those words out, Shen Lingtian's fans couldn't take it and all sought justice for their idol.

A mob began clamoring under Chu Jin's Weibo post.

Cursing Chu Jin for disrespecting the deceased.

Chu Jin wasn't angry, instead, her lips curled with a hint of a smile. Things were developing in the direction she anticipated; the more furiously people cursed, the more successful her plan was. At first, she had been worried that Shen Lingtian wouldn't get involved, but it turned out he wasn't as smart as she had thought.

Two hours later.

"Initiate an apology." This entry became a new hot search.

Clicking on it revealed three lengthy apologies.

The IDs were: Love Yan Yan Most!, The Return of the Past is a plagiarizer, What name should I take.

The three individuals each tagged The Return of the Past, apologizing sincerely and earnestly, hoping for forgiveness and promising never to dare to do it again.

One of them even changed their nickname to 'Little fan of The Return of the Past.'

Weibo exploded once more!

Everyone was speculating about the background of this new player, who seemed so impressive!

Previously thought to be just boasting, they really pulled it off!

Netizens flocked to comment on the original Weibo post.

"Boss, do you need a keychain?"

"Tell us, how much did you pay those three?"

"Money is almighty."

"Big shot, do you need someone to warm your bed? The kind that can also act cute?"

"Seeing so many offering to warm the bed for the big shot, I'll be different. May I ask, big shot, do you need any keychain accessories?"

...

Shen Lingtian's expression twisted upon seeing the text Chu Jin had retweeted.

This Return of the Past spoke piercingly, thought clearly, and was no pushover. The words even seemed to show a deep understanding of himself, indicating he had underestimated her!

Shen Lingtian began to regret posting that Weibo.

He shouldn't have gotten involved in this mess!

But now that it was out, deleting it would only make things worse!

Having taken the first step, he had to take the second.

Reluctantly, Shen Lingtian posted another Weibo.

Shen Lingtian V: "Plagiarists are getting bolder and bolder! @Lu Yan V, don't worry, we all stand behind you!"

Chu Jin didn't retweet this post.

And those netizens praised Shen Lingtian for being loyal and a good husband, a good man, a good friend! Supporting his deceased wife's friend so unreservedly during such times.

As Shen Lingtian's Weibo post spread, more and more Weibo influencers began retweeting his post, all supporting Shen Lingtian and Lu Yan.

As the matter escalated and exposure increased, influencers hoped to use this opportunity to gain more followers.

The influencers supported Lu Yan simply by following the trend.

It didn't matter who actually wrote the article.

What could an ordinary author do against Lu Yan?

In this battle, Lu Yan was destined to win.

The influencers' followers all flocked to Chu Jin's Weibo to bombard her.

The debate over who plagiarized whom entered a fever pitch.

The dispute grew larger and more heated.

The voices of abuse grew louder and more numerous.

The number of people supporting Lu Yan also increased.

Chapter 583: Feng'er, do you really not remember me?

Facing the onslaught from Weibo's big Vs, Chu Jin did not respond.

She simply let the event unfold on its own.

The bigger the fuss, the more lively it got.

Original Literature Website V: We are the Original Literature Website, and authors of the Original Literature Website never plagiarize! Therefore, we all believe in you @The Return of the Past.

Editor Linglong V: We are all with you @The Return of the Past.

Actress Qingli V: The first time I read sister's articles, I was at the lowest point in my life. At that time, I almost couldn't make it through those years, but it was sister's words that saved me. Sister, we're all with you @The Return of the Past.

Seeing these three Weibo mentions of herself, Chu Jin was somewhat surprised. She hadn't expected that there would be big Vs standing up to support her at such a critical moment. Normally, people would choose to stay out of such issues.

As soon as these three Weibos were posted, they immediately sparked a war of words.

Especially the Weibo from Actress Qingli, which was on the verge of being overrun, netizens furiously criticized Qingli for her distorted values, supporting a plagiarist dog like that.

But Qingli didn't care, she neither deleted her Weibo post nor closed the comments.

Qingli was a famous first-tier actress. Since her debut, she had always presented herself as a pure and innocent woman. After 7 years of ups and downs in the entertainment industry, she brought countless works to the public and had already amassed a fortune over a billion.

And yet, she suffered from severe depression.

By chance, she came across the works written by The Return of the Past.

Her words became a ray of warm sunshine, dispelling the gloom in Qingli's heart and giving her light and hope. It was The Return of the Past that made her what she is today.

Therefore, Qingli believed that someone capable of writing such words would never stoop to plagiarize.

Qingli was very fond of The Return of the Past. On the day when "Blooms like Brocade" went on pre-sale online, she spent a hefty sum to buy one third of the preordered copies. She planned to donate these over sixty thousand books to libraries around the country so that more people could read The Return of the Past's words.

To let more people be saved.

Thus, when Qingli saw the 'plagiarism incident', she didn't hesitate to trust The Return of the Past.

Even if it meant being at odds with the entire nation, she would stand behind The Return of the Past.

"For my goddess, I'm thinking of checking out The Return of the Past's work."

"Goddess goddess, I also like Sister The Return of the Past. Seeing your Weibo really got me excited!"

"Actors and dogs, forever and ever."

"How much did the plagiarist pay you?

"Heartbroken for Qingli."

"Qingli we believe in you, and we believe in The Return of the Past."

"Unfollowing decisively!"

"Goodbye unfollow!"

"Fans turn to haters!"

"Qingli, I really like you, but you have disappointed me so much! Goodbye!"

"Disgusting!"

"Utterly disappointed, goodbye!"

This Weibo post, in less than two hours, saw Qingli lose nearly ten million followers.

Plagiarism is a very serious issue.

The values of netizens nowadays are very upright.

It didn't take long for "Qingli losing followers", "Qingli's twisted values", and "Qingli and the plagiarist" to climb onto the hot search.

Qingli's agent was going crazy, making one call after another to Qingli.

"Oh my dear ancestor! You need to delete your Weibo right now! I'm going to call the PR team to handle this immediately, and we'll say your account was hacked!"

"I'm not going to delete it," Qingli said succinctly.

"Do you understand that you have become the nation's enemy?"

"Oh," Qingli replied with an air of indifference.

"What do you mean 'oh'?" the agent begged, "My dear ancestor, for my sake, please delete your Weibo, okay? If this keeps up, it will affect your acting career! I've already received countless calls from sponsors wanting to terminate their contracts with you!"

"Then I won't act," Qingli casually said while crossing her legs and stuffing chips into her mouth with a crunch.

The epitome of leisure.

Noticing something amiss in the sound, the agent asked suspiciously, "Are you eating?!"

"Mhm," Qingli replied.

"You're still in the mood for eating!" the agent was on the verge of insanity, "Goddess, what are you doing eating at a time like this?"

Chewing on chips, Qingli said nonchalantly, "Food is the god of the people."

Agent: "..." He was practically fuming on the other end of the phone!

Qingli hung up the phone with a smile, continuing to munch on chips and scroll through Weibo.

When she saw that entertainers she was usually on good terms with had also quietly unfollowed her, she slightly curled her lips, "Heh, women."

Fake sisterhood.

The most mocking thing was her second Weibo post.

It was from a male entertainer who had posted to wish her a happy birthday.

At that time, she had reposted the male entertainer's Weibo to express her gratitude.

Now.

The original post had been deleted by the male entertainer.

The repost was completely blank, with only her "Thank You" remaining.

These people were so pragmatic; a small incident occurred, and they were scrambling to distance themselves, afraid of being implicated.

They completely overlooked past relationships.

How ironic.

So, there's a saying that is very true.

If life doesn't throw some storms your way, you'll never know whether the one facing you is a person or a dog.

Qingli's fans were still unfollowing her.

While she was losing fans, she was also gaining them.

Most of the new fans were crawling over from Chu Jin's side.

When the wall falls, everyone pushes, and after this incident, some envious artists started hiring internet trolls to smear her.

For a time, Weibo was filled with negative news about Qingli.

The topics basically revolved around allegations like Qingli having plastic surgery, Qingli openly supporting plagiarism, and Qingli sleeping her way to the top.

"Thinking about it is disgusting, I can't believe I liked you for six years!"

"Actresses and dogs, both are forever."

"It's not surprising that Qingli supports plagiarism, she has a big problem with her character."

"Lili, don't be sad, we will always support you."

"Lili, true fans will never leave."

The management company also began to pressure Qingli, stating that if she didn't delete that Weibo post, they would terminate her contract and ban her permanently.

But Qingli didn't care at all; she calmly sat next to the computer and reposted the Weibo that accused her of having plastic surgery.

And she responded arrogantly.

Qingli V: Plastic surgery and I still became a star, are you mad? @Striving Youth: Suspected pre-plastic surgery photos of Qingli exposed! [Picture][Picture][Picture][Picture][Picture][Picture][Picture][Picture]

Whether it was passersby or Qingli's fans, when they came across this Weibo, they were all unsettled!

"Lord Lili V587!"

"Hahaha, I want to know the size of the original poster's psychological shadow!"

"Straightforward as my Lili!"

"Impressed with you and nothing else!"

"Lili, your response is great! It hurts to see you getting slandered."

"Are you happy now after this clap back?"

"My Lili lord is awesome!"

"Ahhh! Qingli is so cool!"

"Even if it's plastic, I still love you."

"Lili, don't be sad. Haters are everywhere; you have to be strong!"

"My lord Lili is so domineering."

While Qingli was happily scrolling through Weibo, the doorbell rang. She picked up a bag of potato chips and trudged to open the door, wondering who would come to her house after such a scandal had broken out.

As soon as she opened the door, her agent rushed inside, looked at Qingli with frustration, and said, "How can you still be in the mood to eat?"

"Because it's delicious," said Qingli, as she popped a chip into her mouth.

"Grandma! Stop eating! You have to watch your weight!" roared the agent as he snatched the chips from her hand, "Also, do you realize how serious the situation is now?"

He was nearly dying of anxiety while Qingli, as if nothing had happened, carried on with eating and drinking!

Her heart was so big!

"No big deal!" she snatched back the potato chips from his hand as she responded, "Worst comes to worst, I'll just diet." With that, she began crunching on the chips again.

"My little ancestor, when will you stop making trouble?" the agent was nearly driven mad by her, "What does the literary circle's matter have to do with you? Why are you randomly sticking your nose into it?"

This was just causing needless trouble. Others would flee at the first sign of such a problem, but she was actually rushing headlong into it!

Qingli held the chips in her hand and carelessly sprawled on the sofa, "It's not okay for them to frame my goddess for plagiarism!"

"Little ancestor, when will you delete that Weibo post? If you apologize and delete the post now, you might be able to salvage your image somewhat," the agent softened his tone.

"Not deleting it!" Qingli's attitude was very firm.

"Would you please consider it for my sake?"

"No way!" Qingli winked at him, and gulped down the chips in her hand, "Not even a window!"

If she apologized and deleted the post, wouldn't that be akin to admitting that "The Return of the Past" was plagiarism? "The Return of the Past" was her goddess! Even at the cost of her acting career, she would not slander her own goddess!

"You," the agent pointed at her, speechless with anger, suffering from sheer frustration! This artist he managed had excellent qualifications, was classically trained, excelled in the four arts, had exquisite acting skills, was good-looking, and more hardworking than others.

The agent had been with her for seven years. In her debut year, she rose to fame across Capital City thanks to a supporting actress role.

The company was also willing to promote her.

Almost all the best resources had been given to her, and she made them proud. Apart from eating a bit too much, she seldom had any flaws or threw diva tantrums, always being cautious with her words and actions.

Yet such an outstanding artist had caused him such a big mess today!

"Do you also want my potato chips?" Seeing the agent staring at her, Qingli quickly poured the rest of the chips into her mouth and tossed the empty bag into the bin, mumbling indistinctly, "See, all gone."

Agent: "..."

"Qingli!" The agent regained his composure, "Tell me honestly, what are you thinking?"

"What am I thinking?" Qingli propped up her chin with her hands, with a slight smile on her lips, "Is there anything wrong with supporting my goddess? Not only will I support her today, but I will continue to do so tomorrow and for the rest of my life."

"'The Return of the Past' has been plagiarized!" the agent stood up in agitation, "Plagiarism! Do you understand the severity of this issue?"

"My goddess didn't plagiarize!" Qingli also stood up, looking down at the agent from above, her aura suddenly opening fully, "If you continue slandering my goddess, beware that I turn against you!"

With the aura of a big star, she was indisputably beyond the average person.

The agent, somewhat helplessly, took out his phone, opened Weibo, "Look at this, do you see how many fans you've lost up to now? And they say if you don't apologize and delete your post, they're going to terminate your contract and ban you across the entire network."

"Let them ban me, I'm not scared," said Qingli indifferently. After all, she had already made enough money, and when she stopped acting, she would take what was left and go support a kept man.

As for the unyielding Qingli, the agent felt helpless! Damn it! How did he ever come across such an artist!

"Ah!" Just then, the agent shrieked suddenly, collapsing to the ground in excitement.

Qingli glanced sideways nonchalantly and peeled a banana, "What's the matter?"

"Little ancestor!" The agent held up his phone to her, complaining, "It's only been a few hours! How could you stir up another mess for me? Can't you show some sympathy and cause me less trouble?"

Did his artist take the wrong medicine?

Qingli glanced lazily at the phone and said indifferently, "Just a joke..."

Agent: "..." Who jokes about their own plastic surgery rumors? And, with those words, she indirectly admitted to having plastic surgery.

If a top-level artist gets involved with plastic surgery, their future is truly over.

Qingli's image was that of a "jade girl."

A "jade girl" turned plastic beauty?

Most importantly, Qingli had never undergone plastic surgery, she was all-natural!

The agent's mouth twitched violently, "Hurry up and delete that Weibo post! Do you want to make this even bigger?"

"Daddy won't delete it." Qingli turned her head haughtily.

Agent: "..." He really had found himself a "daddy"!

Qingli wasn't like this in the past!

On the other side, Shen Lingtian watched the online trends with a smug curve to his lips, thinking that "The Return of the Past" really had some skills, but in the end, it was nothing substantial.

Two days have passed, and "The Return of the Past" still hadn't made a move.

Her fans were also very quiet.

It seemed they had conceded to the plagiarism accusation.

Now the netizens were gathering signatures to urge the publishers to destroy the works of "The Return of the Past," to take down the work from the original literature website, and to permanently blacklist "The Return of the Past."

"The Return of the Past" is the shame of the literary world.

Lu Yan also officially sued "The Return of the Past" for 50 million in compensation and a public apology.

In this battle, it seemed Lu Yan was sure to win.

Those big Vs who publicly supported Lu Yan used this opportunity to gain a large number of followers.

Before "The Return of the Past" issued an apology, the plagiarism incident remained hot, and more and more people joined in to ride on the popularity wave by supporting Lu Yan and hurling insults under "The Return of the Past"'s Weibo.

Because standing on the side of justice was the only way to attract attention and support from others.

In this affair, the most pitiful person was none other than Qingli.

In just two days, Qingli's follower count dropped from 60 million to 40 million, losing a full 20 million followers.

Moreover, the agency officially announced the termination of their contract with her, and those artists who had previously kept their distance from her rejoiced in secret, thankful they had withdrawn quickly, otherwise they would have been implicated!

Everyone secretly sympathized with Qingli and believed she must be leading a life of daily tears, deeply regretting her past decisions.

In reality.

Qingli was leading a very happy life every day.

Waking up naturally from a good night's sleep.

Picking her feet whenever she wanted.

Eating chips if she felt like it.

Picking her nose if the urge struck her, no longer needing to put on a façade.

However, she did feel a bit regretful, after all, she really loved acting.

But as important as acting was, it wasn't as important as the Fairy.

The Fairy hadn't been in touch these past few days, could it be that she had compromised with the evil forces? Qingli picked up her phone and posted a Weibo.

Actress Qingli V: Sister "The Return of the Past", keep going! Don't be sad, don't cry, don't give up! And don't bow to the evil forces! Let me introduce everyone to my Fairy, an eternally eighteen-year-old little Fairy @The Return of the Past. [picture][picture]

The first picture was a selfie of herself.

The second picture was the cover of "Blooms like Brocade."

"My heart aches for my LiLi."

"The Fairy of my Fairy is also my Fairy."

"My Li is so beautiful."

"My Li, a celestial Fairy."

"Qingli is an idiot, right? Babbling nonsense on your own, see if 'Plagiarist Return' pays you any mind?"

"To the one above, got slapped in the face, didn't you? [picture]"

The picture showed the latest post from "The Return of the Past."

The Return of the Past V: Thank you, A-Li. @Actress Qingli V: Sister "The Return of the Past", keep going! Don't be sad, don't cry, don't give up! And don't bow to the evil forces! Let me introduce everyone to my Fairy, an eternally eighteen-year-old little Fairy @The Return of the Past. [picture][picture]

Seeing that "The Return of the Past" had responded to her, Qingli got so excited that she jumped up from the couch and started to hop around, "Ah! My Fairy replied to me!"

At that moment, another notification popped up on Qingli's phone, displaying that "The Return of the Past" became a new follower of hers, and they were now following each other.

Qingli's first reaction was to take a screenshot and show it off in her Moments.

After all, she was the second person "The Return of the Past" followed.

There were only two people on "The Return of the Past"'s follow list.

One was her boyfriend, and the other was her!

Qingli was just too excited and too thrilled!

Grass on the Ancient Plain: My Fairy is following me! [picture]

Qingli's Moments mostly consisted of her close nonspecific friends, with very few outsiders and even fewer insiders from the circle.

Jiangzhehu's Number One Handsome Guy: "The Return of the Past?! What is this ghost?"

I'm Not Daji: "Holy shit! You like 'The Return of the Past' too! [handshake] Can you get me an autographed physical book?"

Pikachu: "I heard that person... plagiarized."

Hoodlum: "Damn! Dad sends you a message, and you don't even reply to dad! I was so scared I thought you died!"

Princess Syndrome: "Damn, I need the inside scoop, did she really plagiarize?"

Love Deep in Your Bones, Do You Know?: "Damn, are you alright? Why aren't you answering your calls?"

Lush Grass Echoes in Response: 1. "The Return of the Past" is my goddess, as well as the author of "Blooms like Brocade". 2. My goddess didn't plagiarize! 3. I'm fine, thank you all for your concern, love you all, mwah.

Over the last couple of days, Chu Jin had been staying at the Mo family's residence.

On the third day at noon, after saying goodbye to the elderly Mrs. Mo, she came to Huagui Park. As soon as she reached the villa's entrance, Xiao Bai burst out from inside and jumped into Chu Jin's arms with a 'whoosh', meowing non-stop.

If it wasn't for the fear of being caught by humans for experiments, it would almost have started to talk.

"Miss, you're back," Aunt Zhang also came up to greet her, with a beaming smile.

Aunt Zhang probably hadn't seen Chu Jin for over a month, and felt that there were some changes in her. She seemed to have grown a bit taller, and her face, well, seemed even more beautiful.

"Aunt Zhang," Chu Jin nodded slightly in response.

"Oh, Miss, there's a guest waiting for you at home," Aunt Zhang continued, almost losing herself in the otherworldly beauty of that person.

"A guest?" Chu Jin raised her eyebrows slightly, "Who is it?"

Chu Jin knew not many people in Capital City, other than the Mo family and the Zhao family, and there was no contact with the Zhao family anymore. As for the Mo family, that was even less likely since she had just come back from there.

Could it be one of her other classmates?

Aunt Zhang shook her head as well, "I don't know who he is. He said he came to see you, and he's quite handsome, sitting in the living room."

"Alright, I got it." Chu Jin nodded and began walking inside.

As soon as Chu Jin stepped into the living room, she saw a tall, imposing figure standing against the light, with his right hand on the table, left hand in his trouser pocket, leaning slightly, appearing lazy but carrying an air of authority that demanded attention.

This was—

Song Shiqin.

What was he doing here?

Chu Jin subconsciously frowned.

Hearing the noise behind him, Song Shiqin turned around, his gaze meeting Chu Jin's.

The room fell silent, as if time was frozen at that second.

Chu Jin seemed to see, through his eyes, a very familiar figure; a myriad of emotions welled up in her, but that was just a fleeting moment.

Her acquaintance with Song Shiqin hadn't even lasted a year; where did all these emotions come from?

"Instructor Song?" Chu Jin raised her eyebrows slightly.

"Mhm," Song Shiqin nodded, "Have you been staying at the Mo family's these days?"

"Yeah," Chu Jin admitted openly.

Song Shiqin's expression was calm as he continued, "I'm here to remove your stitches, are you free now?"

Only then did Chu Jin realize why Song Shiqin had come to see her. However, removing stitches was a small task that even a nurse could do; he didn't need to come all this way just for that.

"The stitches haven't been removed yet?" Chu Jin was somewhat surprised, as she had been told that they were to be removed on the third day, and today was already the fifth.

"No." Song Shiqin replied succinctly.

"Then follow me." Chu Jin turned and led the way upstairs, calling back to Aunt Zhang, "Aunt Zhang, bring two cups of green tea to the study."

"Of course, Miss." Aunt Zhang responded promptly.

The study was spacious, facing south with the seat to the north. It was converted from a master bedroom. The floor was covered with thick cashmere carpet, and bookshelves surrounded the room. Between the shelves stood a low table with burning sandalwood, beside which was placed a vase of flowers.

There were two cushions placed on either side of the low table.

The environment was serene and beautiful, a place where one could forget their troubles. Song Shiqin could even imagine her sitting cross-legged on the cushion, reading a book, just as she always had.

Her interests and hobbies remained the same, completely unchanged.

Chu Jin pointed to one of the cushions and said, "Sit."

Song Shiqin silently sat down cross-legged.

Chu Jin turned and reached for the medical kit behind the bookshelf.

Just then, Aunt Zhang came in with the brewed tea, "Sir, your tea."

"Thank you," Song Shiqin replied, a rare display of gratitude.

Aunt Zhang, slightly startled by his manners, replied, "You're welcome," and then quickly left the study.

Chu Jin walked out from behind the bookshelf with the medical kit, looking down at Song Shiqin with a calm voice, "Take off your clothes first."

"Okay," Song Shiqin started unbuttoning his shirt.

The tools for removing the stitches were simple.

A pair of scissors, tweezers, a bottle of disinfectant, and a tube of ointment that could fade scars.

Chu Jin took these items out of the kit and knelt behind Song Shiqin, efficiently removing the stitches.

After the stitches were out, Chu Jin applied the scar-fading ointment on the marks.

Professional boundaries between a doctor and patient were clear, so Chu Jin was very natural with her actions.

"Does it look ugly?" Song Shiqin suddenly asked.

Hearing this, Chu Jin paused before responding, "It's okay. After I apply this scar-fading ointment, the scars won't be visible in the future. Don't worry."

Her tone was light and unaffected, as if she was treating him as a stranger.

A mocking light flashed in Song Shiqin's downcast eyes.

"You're done," Chu Jin said as she removed her rubber gloves and stood up, "Don't bathe tonight, and it will probably be fully healed by tomorrow."

Song Shiqin looked up at her retreating figure and slowly said four words, "Okay, thank you."

"You're welcome." Chu Jin gave a light smile and then said, "Let's go downstairs," and turned to leave. However, after only a few steps, her wrist was abruptly grabbed with a strong hold, and then her whole body was pulled into a stranger's embrace.

A faint scent of medicine lingered at the tip of her nose.

"Feng'er, do you truly not remember me?" Song Shiqin's voice turned soft, his arms tightly encircling her, resting his chin on her head, his low voice sounding very pleasant.

Chapter 584: Heartbroken

In that instant, Song Shiqin didn't know why he had acted that way.

He just felt, suddenly, unable to control himself.

His mind went blank, wanting nothing more than to hold her tightly.

There was a sudden reluctance.

Unwilling to let each other slip away like this.

He thought he could be open-minded enough to wish her well.

Turns out, all of that was just what he thought.

Those past memories played out in his mind like a movie, scene by scene presenting themselves before him, and he realized he couldn't let go at all—only she could soothe the pain in his heart.

Does it hurt?

Of course, it hurt.

A pain beyond words.

Pain that made it hard to breathe.

This feeling, no one can understand.

Like a fish out of water.

Song Shiqin hugged her tightly, his arms trembling slightly, fearing that in the next second, she would leave him.

Since when did even a simple hug between them become such a luxury?

The faint scent of medicine lingered at the tip of his nose, making Chu Jin feel a momentary daze, the embrace strange yet familiar, even though she didn't know where that familiarity came from.

Soon, Chu Jin regained her composure, reached out to push him away, and her tone was somewhat cold, "Instructor Song, please have some self-respect."

His clear face showed not a trace of emotion, terrifyingly calm.

A stark contrast to his usual indifferent demeanor.

Song Shiqin hadn't expected her to react this way, staggering back a few steps before stabilizing his body.

Only then did Song Shiqin believe that she truly didn't remember him.

Bitterness filled his eyes.

Her voice echoed over and over in his ears.

So be it.

This was the bitter fruit of his own making, no one else to blame.

It's a pity that time can't be rewound.

Song Shiqin looked at her with a deep expression in his eyes, his presence exuding a melancholic aura, "I, I..." The rest of the words caught in his throat, and he couldn't utter a single one.

How to explain all of this to her?

"Please leave." Chu Jin pursed her lips, pointing to the door with a cool tone.

Song Shiqin just stood looking at her, silent, without any other action, remaining on the spot as if turned to stone.

Time ticked away, second by second.

Their eyes met.

The air fell into silence.

Chu Jin didn't have Jun Huang's memories, but as she locked eyes with Song Shiqin, she suddenly saw the figure of a young man in black robes flash in front of her, and the young man with his back to her slowly began to turn around.

But in that moment, a sudden wave of inexplicable hatred surged through her limbs, nearly causing her to lose her balance.

Just as she was about to see the face of the young man in black robes.

A wave of unfamiliar pain struck her mind, overwhelming, leaving her unable to breathe.

A headache, as if it would burst.

Just like the day she was reborn, it hurt to the point of questioning life itself.

The figure of Song Shiqin in front of her also seemed to overlap. Chu Jin reached up to massage her temples, gently shaking her head, striving to regain some clarity. Beads of sweat appeared on her pale forehead, and she looked extremely weak.

Song Shiqin controlled the emotion in his eyes and tried to look up nonchalantly. But on seeing her that moment, his heart clenched, and he took large strides towards her, asking anxiously, "Are you okay?"

Chu Jin, with one hand on her temple and the other gently raised in front of her, took a few steps back, saying coldly, "Don't come any closer."

Song Shiqin halted his steps.

Standing opposite her, just watching her, his deep eyes betraying no emotion. After a moment, he finally spoke slowly, "I'm sorry, I was out of line just now." His apology was heartfelt, but his heart was filled with bitterness.

Chu Jin, enduring a headache, opened with an extremely faint tone, repeating once more, "If there's nothing else, Instructor Song, please leave."

Song Shiqin's mouth opened, and then he said, "You... resemble an old friend of mine greatly, just now... I'm very sorry, it won't happen again, goodbye." His voice was somewhat hoarse, as if choked with emotion.

With those words, he turned and left.

In the moment he turned around, where Chu Jin couldn't see, tears streamed down like rain.

The tears blurred his vision, and also drenched his heart.

Every step he took was incredibly difficult, as heavy as a thousand pounds.

Watching Song Shiqin leave the room, Chu Jin finally breathed a sigh of relief, collapsing to the ground as though all strength had left him, his face deathly pale.

His heart was pounding violently.

He even felt a wild joy of having narrowly escaped death!

"Brother Jin, are you alright?" Zi asked anxiously, this being the first time she had seen Chu Jin like this.

"I'm fine." Chu Jin's voice sounded weak and feeble. She didn't know what was wrong with her; ever since her rebirth, this was the first time she felt so fragile, so insignificant, with death seemingly at her feet.

This feeling was very uncomfortable, very frightening.

Zi did not say much more but was somewhat worried; Brother Jin's condition didn't seem very optimistic.

Currently, there was no Soul Resurrection Grass.

Unable to complete their long-term mission, they were at risk of scattering like ashes at any moment.

Zi sighed, sitting on a stone bench, resting her chin on her small hand, her face full of melancholy.

What would the path ahead look like?

A moment later, Chu Jin wiped the sweat from her forehead and then said, "Zi, send me the video you've organized."

"Alright." Zi nodded, then picked up the tablet computer.

As the headache began to subside, Chu Jin sat cross-legged in front of the desk, sipping tea lightly before turning on her phone to view the video Zi had sent over, a slight smile curling at the corners of her mouth.

The show was about to start.

Chu Jin first opened Weibo.

It was still bustling on Weibo.

The latest comment count on Chu Jin's newest Weibo post had exceeded nine million, half of which were people seeking justice for Lu Yan.

The top comments also included several prominent Weibo users—big V's who were riding the trend for attention, simply looking to make a name for themselves through trampling others.

There was one particularly interesting entry on the trending search list: "Blue Smoke's 8th day of illness."

In the past few days, Lu Yan had been playing the sympathy card, winning the pity of many netizens, all very distressed over her plight.

The term "'The Return of the Past' plagiarism" also topped the list.

While many days had passed, the topic of plagiarism was still hot.

This showed the influence of "Blooms like Brocade."

A world-shattering masterpiece, indeed.

In her previous life, it was Lu Yan who reaped the unearned reward.

Chu Jin leisurely scrolled through her Weibo comments and private messages, occasionally sipping her tea, calm and composed.

"'The Return of the Past' shameless! @OriginalLiteratureWebsite, @Editor Linglong, @TheReturnofthePast."

"@OriginalLiteratureWebsite, @Editor Linglong, when will your site take down plagiarized works?"

"Plagiarism for life, disgrace! Due to this incident, Blue Smoke's health is worsening by the day. Plagiarizing Gui, do you have no conscience? Can't you leave Blue Smoke alone? Give her a peaceful life back."

Shui Mu Yuan V: "Looks like our Original Literature Website is going to become famous, although the way we're becoming known is somewhat astonishing to me. But fame is fame, right? Some people are simply a disgrace to the community of literary authors!"

Shui Mu Yuan was a gold-medal author of Original Literature Website who had become famous early on.

Unfortunately, her recent works had been somewhat disappointing.

Although Shui Mu Yuan did not openly name the person, her words insinuated that The Return of the Past was the shame of authorship.

Shui Mu Yuan's action was just to ride the wave of attention. After all, people always want to give themselves a chance, don't they?

She had been irked by The Return of the Past for a long time; why should a rookie author snatch away all her glory?

Sure enough, after Shui Mu Yuan posted that Weibo, her followers increased by more than a hundred, and she received far more comments than usual.

Chu Jin, expression serene, sat cross-legged in front of the computer, her fingers rapidly tapping on the keyboard—

Ten minutes later, an astonishingly informative Weibo appeared before everyone.

Qin Jie proclaimed, "Feels good to sleep with your bestie's man, huh? @Lu Yan V, @Shen Lingtian V[Picture][Picture][Picture][Picture]."

All of these photos were intimate shots of Shen Lingtian and Lu Yan.

Some of them hugging each other, kissing, feeding each other, incredibly close, clearly things only a couple would do.

Each photo was extremely clear, even giving close-ups of their faces.

Shen Lingtian and Lu Yan both have super high popularity on Weibo.

As soon as it was posted, the whole internet was shaken, attracting herds of onlookers. This news was really too sensational!

With these photos coming out, Shen Lingtian's reputation as a devoted lover completely crumbled!

"Damn! This smear campaign is so hardcore 666666!"

"Well, this is the so-called devoted lover!"

"These photos must be fake, right?"

"'The Return of the Past' has no shame!"

"Shit, shit! I'm going blind! Never thought Shen Lingtian could be such a person! Disgusting! He doesn't even spare his wife's bestie! Scum!"

"The mistress has no shame!"

"Aren't you afraid Qin Jie will come knocking at your door in the middle of the night?"

"Qin Jie's not even cold in her grave, and Shen Trash is already doing such despicable, pig-and-dog acts! A pair of dogs, shameless!"

"If I remember correctly, Lu Yan and Qin Jie were supposed to be besties, right? Gotta guard against fire, theft, and best friends!"

"A man loses his wife, a woman's single, nothing's wrong with them being together."

"That's right, it's consensual between both parties, and they're both single. So, how come they can't be together?"

"Never expected that the pure-looking Lu Yan is actually so slutty and cheap beneath the surface!"

"Aren't we making a mountain out of a molehill? They're both single; the woman can't be called a mistress."

"You say we're making a big deal out of it? To the person above, what if you died, and within less than a year, your husband got together with your best friend, how would you feel?"

"'The Return of the Past' plagiarism!"

"This must be photoshopped, right? Lu Yan was Qin Jie's best sister while she was alive, I believe Lu Yan wouldn't do such a thing."

"Is the blogger a high-level troll hired by 'The Return of the Past'? Must have spent a lot of money on these photos, right?"

"Lu Yan's values are indeed questionable."

"No trace of Photoshop."

"Well-spent money on Photoshopping these pics, huh?"

When Lu Yan saw these photos, she was so scared her face turned pale, and she was nearly breathless. She knew very well that these photos were real and that they were all taken in the Shen family villa.

Who on earth was this person? Where did they take these pictures? And they were so clear...

Just the thought that there were eyes on her, watching her every move at all times, made Lu Yan freak out completely!

She hasn't got over the plagiarism issue yet, and now a scandal involving explicit photos had broken out...

No, she couldn't just compromise that easily, while everyone was still questioning the authenticity of the photos, she needed to act quickly to turn the situation around.

Otherwise, in the Capital City, she would really have nowhere left to stand.

Lu Yan's PR team also discovered the problem immediately and called an emergency meeting to discuss solutions.

After ten minutes of deliberation by the PR team, Lu Yan retweeted the Weibo post.

Lu Yan V: "The Photoshop work isn't bad, noses look like noses, and eyes like eyes. Brother-in-law, what do you think? @Shen Lingtian V, Also, I'm giving the original poster one hour to delete this post, or see you in court. @Qin Jie: Feels good to sleep with your bestie's man, huh? @Shen Lingtian V, @Lu Yan V[Picture][Picture][Picture][Picture]."

You must admit, the PR team's strategy was very clever, manipulating people's psychology perfectly.

Usually, mistresses are not welcomed into the light.

Seldom can a mistress appear so boldly before the public eye.

But Lu Yan, not only did she retweet the post, but she also tagged the scandal's male lead and the original blogger.

This move indirectly expressed that all of this was nonsense. Lu Yan was definitely not a mistress; if she were, she couldn't have been so calm and collected.

A few short words, far more effective than a long-winded explanation of thousands of words.

"Yan Yan, don't mind these trolls, we believe in you."

"Yan, are you feeling better now?"

"Feeling for my Yan."

"Yan Yan, are you still at the hospital?"

"I just knew it was Photoshopped, how could Yan Yan do such a thing! Besides, Shen Lingtian isn't that kind of person either."

"Yan Yan, such people are simply too despicable. We should sue her to death! Lock her in prison for life and never let her out!"

"This must be the doing of 'The Return of the Past'!"

"Don't let the plagiarist go!"

"The impact of this incident is really too vile! 'Blue Smoke', please don't be soft-hearted, show them some real power!"

"Homewrecker!"

"Shameless! Seducing your good sister's man!"

"My Yan is not a mistress! Please don't throw around accusations here, alright?"

"To tell the truth, Lu Yan's features are not those of a decent married woman. Saying she's a mistress isn't surprising to me at all."

"Mistress, go die!"

"Yan Yan, don't be afraid, we all believe in you."

"Yan Yan, love you."

"It must be the water army hired by the plagiarist!"

"Plagiarist, if you have the guts, face Yan Yan head-on! What skill is there in launching sneak attacks from behind?"

Netizens almost all believed in Lu Yan.

Those big-name verified bloggers also retweeted the post, expressing their trust in Lu Yan's character.

They believed that Lu Yan would definitely be able to resolve this troublesome matter!

Moreover, they also believed that Shen Lingtian, such a lovelorn person, would never betray his recently deceased wife.

So all of this was just gossip after all.

Shen Lingtian then issued a statement, in which every line expressed his yearning for his late wife, and their deep affection for each other. He even hypocritically wrote that if it were possible, he would be willing to exchange his life for hers, to trade his life for Qin Jie's.

Subsequently, he angrily accused those who edited the photos, imploring them to give the deceased some peace.

His words were straightforward and vigorously cleared up his relationship with Lu Yan, as though these photos were really Photoshopped.

In fact, Shen Lingtian was very scared. When he issued this statement, his hands were trembling. He had never felt as panicked as he did now.

Ever since that incident occurred, he had bodyguards following him 24 hours a day, so it was impossible for anyone to take those pictures.

Especially when he saw the four characters for "The Return of the Past."

He immediately thought of Qin Jie.

This matter was truly too bizarre!

Could it really be Qin Jie coming back for revenge? Sweat bead upon sweat bead formed on Shen Lingtian's face.

Thinking it over, Shen Lingtian picked up his phone again and sent out another Weibo post.

Shen Lingtian V: I have reported this to the police, please delete these photos immediately! Otherwise, bear the consequences! @TheReturnofthePast.

Just three minutes after Shen Lingtian posted this Weibo.

The intimate photos of Lu Yan and Shen Lingtian on The Return of the Past's Weibo were gone.

It looked like they had been deleted.

The netizens were in an uproar.

After all that, it turns out they really were Photoshopped! Otherwise, why would the blogger panic and delete the pictures?

Shen Lingtian and Lu Yan also quietly breathed a sigh of relief.

Many people flocked to The Return of the Past's Weibo to hurl abuse.

"The troll chickened out, right?"

"Fool! If you dare, then don't delete it!"

"Trash! You and The Return of the Past are both garbage."

"Blogger, which photo editing company did you use? Can you introduce me to it?"

"Blogger, does your face hurt?"

Just when everyone thought The Return of the Past had backed down, an even more explosive Weibo post flashed across her homepage.

The Return of the Past: How does it feel, bro-in-law? Exhilarating, right? Despicable couple!
[Video][Video][Video][Video][Video] @Lu Yan V, @Shen Lingtian V.

Chapter 585: reversal

Along with these videos, a multitude of photos were released.

Instantly, the internet was flooded with videos of Lu Yan and Shen Lingtian.

The videos were explicit, with a level of content that matched Level Three films from the island country.

Combining the photos and videos...

Lu Yan and Shen Lingtian were cursed by netizens like dogs.

Some of these videos were shot two years ago, and some were recent.

Two years ago, Qin Jie hadn't run into trouble yet, and at that time, Shen Lingtian would occasionally show off his affection for his wife online, parading himself as a good man. Now, with the videos exposed, Shen Lingtian's infidelity was thoroughly confirmed.

Even more ironically, Lu Yan repeatedly claimed she was hospitalized due to the impact of the plagiarism incident, with her health deteriorating day by day, yet netizens discovered that during this time, she had been with Shen Lingtian all along. According to the date she announced her hospitalization, the videos clearly showed, she was busy rolling in the sheets with Shen Lingtian that very day.

Moreover, Lu Yan's mental state appeared to be very good, nothing like someone who was physically weak.

She was not only a mistress but also a drama queen, having deceived everyone's sympathy.

"Lu Yan is nothing but a green tea bitch! With such acting skills, it's a waste she's not in showbiz!"

"Haha, sick my ass, she's only sick enough to end up in bed with her brother-in-law?"

"Damn it! I can't even watch this! I really want to jump through the screen and strangle this pair of scumbags to death!"

"Ding! Lu Yan and Shen Lingtian's PR team have entered the chat!"

"No washing this clean!"

"I used to not believe in "Blue Smoke's" plagiarism, now I do!"

"Shen Dog, Lu Dog, how could you do this to Qin Jie?"

"Disgusting!"

"Despicable couple, shameless!"

"My heart aches for Qin Jie."

"Sorry blogger, I apologize for my previous brain-dead behaviour! A couple like Shen Lingtian and Lu Yan should be punished by being dunked in a pig cage."

"This should have nothing to do with the Shen family, it's all because of that shameless Lu Yan seducing him!"

"He cheated two years ago! I really feel sorry for Qin Jie!"

"Am I the only one here who notices Lu Yan's great figure?"

"If her figure weren't good, how could she seduce men?"

"Qin Jie's looks are just average, no wonder she got cheated on."

"True beauty lies in the bones, not the skin. Who can compete or copy that unique scholarly aura of Qin Jie?"

"Gross, I actually took a mistress as my idol!"

Qingli also conveniently shared this Weibo post.

Qingli V: Tsk tsk, what a sensation! Not only is "Blue Smoke" great at copying, but her bedroom skills are also amazing. @Qin Jie High Above: How's the taste of your brother-in-law? Exhilarating, huh? Dogs! [Video][Video][Video][Video][Video] @Lu Yan V, @Shen Lingtian V.

"What goes around comes around, karma never loses an address!"

"Never thought "Blue Smoke" could be so cheap!"

"I knew it, my goddess couldn't possibly be a plagiarist."

"I never imagined Lu Yan could be so thirsty, not even sparing her best friend's husband."

Qingli's retweet significantly increased the exposure of the video.

Within moments, "Lu Yan's Bed Photos" and "Lu Yan's Affair with Shen Lingtian" became hot search terms thanks to the powerful netizens.

Three minutes later, Qingli released another Weibo post.

Qingli V: Looks like you're better suited for acting than I am. @Lu Yan.

No one expected the turn of events to be like this, fans who had unfollowed Qingli earlier started creeping back quietly.

"Li Li, I'm sorry, I misunderstood you before."

"Li Li, I'm back."

"Ah... my face hurts from slapping it earlier, I should've never lost trust in you, let alone say those things."

"Li Li... can you forgive my youthful ignorance?"

Below this Weibo post was filled with apologetic comments, and within just a few hours, Qingli's follower count had risen back up, even exceeding the previous number by ten million.

Artists who had unfollowed Qingli due to the plagiarism incident were now regretting it deeply! Regretting not standing united with Qingli – had they chosen to support "The Return of the Past" back then, they would be the ones basking in fame now!

Qin Jie had previously enjoyed a high reputation in the literary circle and had a very large fan base. With the emergence of this incident, her fans who had previously been quiet came forward to defend her vehemently.

Some even questioned Qin Jie's true cause of death.

Shen Lingtian, Lu Yan.

One was a well-known entrepreneur in Capital City and also heralded as a paragon of devotion.

The other was one of "the Two Talents of Capital City" and also the head of the Lu family.

No one had imagined that these two people could stoop so low as to be together like this.

Both the Lu family and the Shen family were prominent clans in Capital City, and the video's release caused a media frenzy.

In just one day, the news spread throughout Capital City and became a laughing stock discussed over tea and meals.

Despite Shen Lingtian and Lu Yan issuing statements to clarify, it was to no avail.

The impact of the incident was too great, leading to the direct collapse of their public personas.

Those Weibo influencers who had previously staunchly supported Lu Yan and Shen Lingtian hurriedly deleted their past posts, but were still affected by the scandal, losing countless followers.

Trying to salvage their images, the influencers began to speak out for "The Return of the Past," asserting their belief that it had not plagiarized.

More and more people supported "The Return of the Past."

Qingli's management company officially issued an apology to Qingli, proposing a new contract with her, but Qingli declined. She was a proud person who would naturally not go back on her word, nor would she partner again with a company that did not trust her.

Meanwhile, "The Return of the Past" posted two color palette comparisons on Weibo, showcasing a side-by-side comparison of two works as well as a very important piece of evidence that could directly prove Lu Yan's plagiarism.

It also declared that it had officially filed a lawsuit against Lu Yan for plagiarism and infringement.

After the affair scandal, almost no one was willing to believe Lu Yan. How could a woman who lost all moral compass as a mistress write such articles?

No matter how the PR team tried to salvage the situation, Lu Yan's image was beyond redemption.

In recent days, both her and Shen Lingtian's Weibo had been overrun, with insults tearing them to shreds.

Lu Yan's plagiarism was now officially confirmed.

Upon learning of this, Qingli was the first to congratulate Chu Jin on Weibo.

Qingli V: Congratulations to the goddess, at last the dawn has come @ "The Return of the Past".

Many influencers immediately reposted Qingli's Weibo, sending their congrats.

Qingli once again soared to fame, and a plethora of invitations followed. Those advertisers who had terminated contracts with her now regretted their decisions deeply.

"The Return of the Past"'s new book sales once again broke records in the literary circle.

Yet the affair was far from over.

Netizens did not let Shen Lingtian and Lu Yan off the hook.

These past few days saw more and more investors break contracts with the Shen Group, leaving Shen Lingtian scrambling.

As the situation worsened, in order not to affect himself, Shen Lingtian began to desperately distance himself from Lu Yan, unfollowing her on Weibo and refusing to meet with her.

He eventually posted a Weibo to forcefully clear his name, claiming he too was a victim, and that Lu Yan had drugged him and taken advantage of him against his will.

With the help of public relations, the tide began to turn.

In these matters, men tend to receive forgiveness more easily.

But it's different for women. Lu Yan received severe backlash and even feared leaving her house.

She didn't know where rotten eggs and spoiled vegetables might be waiting for her.

There were even those who sent dead rats to her house...

Lu Yan had a very hard time. She didn't dare to log into Weibo, nor did she have the courage to open WeChat.

Everywhere online, her scandals were popping up. She was completely ruined, Lu Enterprise's stock fell sharply, and to preserve their own interests, the family removed her from the Lu family tree.

They also held a press conference to publicly announce that Lu Yan had nothing to do with the Lu family hereafter.

In just seven short days, the head of the Lu family had changed from Lu Yan to Lu Xinxi.

Stripped of everything, Lu Yan had become a rat crossing the street, everyone yelling to beat her.

In a damp and musty basement,

Lu Yan sat in front of an old TV set, calling Shen Lingtian. At times like these, she could only pin her hopes on Shen Lingtian. She hadn't seen him since the incident.

But she never doubted Shen Lingtian's love for her.

She believed he would never abandon her.

Full of hope, she dialed his number, but the call was answered by Shen Lingtian's assistant.

"Miss Lu, is it? Our manager is currently in a meeting," the female assistant's voice was cold, somewhat inhuman, and laced with a hint of contempt.

This woman caused the general manager to end up like this, and she still has the nerve to call!

Shameless.

The female assistant snorted coldly on the other end of the phone.

Lu Yan's eyes dimmed.

Times have changed; in the past, even if you gave the assistant ten guts, they wouldn't dare speak to me like this!

The coldness of the world.

These people are just showing their true colors now that they see me fallen!

"Then I'll call back later," Lu Yan continued, having gone through so much, she had long since lost her temper.

This is what it means to bow one's head under someone else's roof.

Lu Yan, who always held her head high, never imagined she would see such a day.

Ironic.

Truly ironic.

"Miss Lu, please be aware of your own status!" the female assistant's voice came through again, "Don't call again in the future, our manager doesn't have time to take calls from people like you!"

After speaking, she hung up the phone with a 'click'.

Listening to the busy signal on the phone, Lu Yan's face was full of disbelief.

Me, this kind of person?

What kind of person am I?

And where is Shen Lingtian so much nobler than I am?

Lu Yan couldn't quite believe it, she refused to believe that Shen Lingtian could be so heartless! She tried calling again, but all that came from the other side of the line was a busy signal.

Had he... blocked her?

Was it the assistant acting on her own, deceiving her superiors and subordinates, or did Shen Lingtian give the order?

At this moment, she couldn't worry about that. Lu Yan hurriedly opened WeChat, to find that there were hardly any people left on her friends list, and Shen Lingtian's WeChat ID had disappeared.

He had deleted her.

He had cut off all contact with her.

Was this a case of everyone flying separately when disaster struck?

How could he...

How could he...

"Hahaha..." Lu Yan laughed madly, tears sliding down her cheeks. This was the man she had loved for nearly 10 years.

For Shen Lingtian, Lu Yan didn't hesitate to betray her best friend, only to end up like this.

How did things turn out this way?

How could Shen Lingtian treat her like this?

How could he be so cruel!

Lu Yan covered her face and burst into tears. This was the first time she had cried in many days.

Crying her heart out.

Regret, helplessness, and various emotions intertwined.

If not for Shen Lingtian, how could she have ended up here today?

Everything she did was for Shen Lingtian, yet Shen Lingtian betrayed her!

After crying, Lu Yan felt slightly calmer. Holding her phone, she scrolled through her contacts over and over again.

As one of "the Two Talents of Capital City," she still had many connections, and these people all seemed to be on good terms with her normally.

But when she called, they either didn't answer or she was added to their blacklist.

In short, not a single person was willing to take her calls.

Nor was there one willing to lend her a hand.

At this point, Lu Yan realized she didn't have a single true friend.

Those people who seemed so warm and sincere to her usually were now showing their true colors at this moment.

Lu Yan reopened her long-abandoned Weibo account to find that the topics of her being a mistress and plagiarism were still on the trending list, with undiminished popularity.

Lu Yan scrolled through Weibo with agitation, only to discover that Shen Lingtian had pushed all the blame onto her.

He even fabricated rumors claiming she had drugged him and plotted against him!

Now, he had extricated himself perfectly from the affair, leaving her to shoulder all the fault!

Shen Lingtian was still the general manager of Shen Group, still untouchable, living a life of glamour and splendor.

And what about her?

She had become an outcast living in a basement, struggling to have her next meal.

How could Lu Yan accept things turning out this way? It wasn't solely her fault! If Shen Lingtian hadn't approached her with an olive branch first, how would she ever have gotten together with him?

But now, how audaciously Shen Lingtian turned on her, biting back!

Seeing Shen Lingtian's statement, Lu Yan trembled with anger, hatred welling up within her.

She was already brought to this low point; she was determined to drag Shen Lingtian down with her, to fight him to the bitter end!

Even if it meant death, she wanted Shen Lingtian to go down with her!

Just as Lu Yan was about to hit back on Weibo to divulge the truth, a sudden wave of nausea washed over her, and she covered her mouth, rushing to the restroom to retch.

After vomiting nothing but acid for a while, Lu Yan stood up, faced the washbasin, turned on the tap, and splashed her face with cold water, feeling somewhat more alert.

The beauty in the mirror had lost her former luster, her face immensely ashen, her eyes red and swollen. Where was the poise of the Lu family's head?

Lu Yan looked at her reflection and let out a self-mocking laugh.

Suddenly, she felt nauseous again and couldn't help but retch anew.

Lu Yan suddenly remembered that her period was nearly 10 days late. All these signs pointed to the likelihood of a pregnancy.

Possibly pregnant with Shen Lingtian's child.

Lu Yan touched her abdomen, a glint of hope sparking in her eyes, as she pulled out two pregnancy tests from the drawer.

After ten minutes.

Both tests showed two lines.

She was really pregnant.

Inside her, was the first child between her and Shen Lingtian, also the future eldest grandson of the Shen family.

The child's unexpected arrival undoubtedly became her only redemption.

For the sake of their child, Shen Lingtian wouldn't possibly ignore her.

Lu Yan looked at the two lines on the test, suddenly bursting into laughter, she took a picture with her phone, then opened Weibo and sent the news to Shen Lingtian via private message.

She waited a long time but received no reply from Shen Lingtian.

The hopeful look on Lu Yan's face gradually faded.

Even if Shen Lingtian were heartless, he wouldn't abandon his own flesh and blood; he must be too busy to check Weibo...

It must be so.

Lu Yan consoled herself internally.

If Shen Lingtian was too busy for Weibo, then she had no choice but to go see him in person.

Lu Yan took a silk scarf from the table and tied it around her head, then put on a pair of sunglasses, making sure she wouldn't be recognized before she hastened out the door.

When she arrived at Shen Lingtian's company, she was barred entry by the security due to her attire.

Now, Lu Yan didn't even have the privilege to see Shen Lingtian.

Left with no alternative, Lu Yan waited on the path Shen Lingtian would take to go home, from noon till afternoon, from afternoon till evening.

It wasn't until 9 p.m. that she finally saw Shen Lingtian's car.

He was still driving that old Mercedes.

The car was a gift from Qin Jie before she passed away, one that Shen Lingtian had driven for many years as a testament to his lingering love for his late wife.

As the car slowly approached, Lu Yan stepped out with her arms spread, blocking its path.

"Tssk—"

The sound of a screeching halt filled the air as the car stopped just 0.01 meters from Lu Yan.

"Who are you? Have a death wish?" Shen Lingtian asked irritably as he got out of the car.

"Ling Tian, it's me," Lu Yan removed her headscarf and sunglasses, smiling as she faced him.

Chapter 586: it's pouring rain.

Seeing that the person approaching was actually Lu Yan, Shen Lingtian didn't bother to hide his frown, and his eyes were filled with disgust. "What are you doing here?"

"Lingtian, I came to find you, I know you still love me, please don't leave me," Lu Yan ran over and hugged Shen Lingtian's waist.

"Let go of me!" Shen Lingtian, like a changed person, heartlessly pried Lu Yan's hands away and said coldly, "Get lost! This isn't a place for you to stay!" With that, Shen Lingtian pulled open the car door and got inside.

"Lingtian, you can't be so heartless!" Lu Yan followed, opened the passenger door, and sat down inside.

"Lu Yan! Can't you have some shame?" Shen Lingtian turned his head away in disgust. "It's over between us! Can't you stop clinging to me? Don't you think you've already hurt me badly enough?"

It was all because of this despicable woman. How could he have ended up like this today if it weren't for her?

These past few days, Shen Group seemed calm on the surface, but in reality, it had turned into a complete mess.

Numerous products were returned by partners due to this incident.

And a lot of investors withdrew their funds.

He had barely extricated himself from the affair scandal, and now this despicable woman had come looking for him again. Wasn't she purposefully making things difficult for him? If he got entangled with this despicable woman during this period, Shen Clan wouldn't be able to hold on anymore.

"Lingtian..." Lu Yan looked at him, her eyes brimming with a layer of mist.

"Could you just leave?" Shen Lingtian gritted his teeth in frustration. "Don't make me get physical!"

"Lingtian, I'm pregnant!" Lu Yan looked at him, enunciating each word.

But Shen Lingtian acted as if he hadn't heard her, stepped out of the car, walked around to the passenger side, and while pulling Lu Yan out of the car fiercely, he said, "Slut! Get the hell out of my car!"

A woman's strength is ultimately not as great as a man's, and Lu Yan was quickly pulled out of the car. She screamed at Shen Lingtian's retreating back, "Shen Lingtian, I'm carrying your child!" Her voice was heart-wrenching, as if she'd used all her strength.

Shen Lingtian finally stopped in his tracks and turned to look at her, the night hiding his expression.

"Lingtian, I'm carrying your child." Lu Yan moved a few steps closer, took hold of Shen Lingtian's hand, and softened her tone a bit, certain that Shen Lingtian wouldn't abandon her and the child.

"You're pregnant?" There was no hint of joy on Shen Lingtian's face.

"Yes!" Lu Yan nodded vigorously.

"You're saying this bastard child is mine?" Shen Lingtian pointed at himself.

"It's not a bastard!" Lu Yan clutched his hand. "Lingtian, how can you say that about your own flesh and blood!"

"Get lost!" Shen Lingtian flung off Lu Yan's hand, saying coldly, "Who knows who's bastard child you're carrying in your belly! With a woman like you, who flits from one man to another, promiscuous and flirtatious, you probably have a fair number of lovers out there!"

Even if the child in her belly really was his, Shen Lingtian would never acknowledge it!

"Lingtian, the child really is yours, you know I've only been with one man!" Lu Yan clung to his sleeve, desperately pleading. She never expected Shen Lingtian to say such things, that he would distrust her!

"Get lost!" Shen Lingtian shoved Lu Yan away, looking down at her with a sneer, "A disgusting slut like you doesn't deserve to carry my child."

Who knew who's wild seed was in her belly!

Anyway, it definitely wasn't Shen Lingtian's!

Lu Yan was pushed to the ground, feeling a sharp pain in her lower abdomen, her face instantly turning deathly pale as her heart sank into despair.

She never imagined Shen Lingtian could be so merciless!

Were their ten years of love all fake?

Shen Lingtian's car vanished around the corner, leaving Lu Yan sitting on the ground, crying uncontrollably, her tears streaming like broken pearls.

She had thought the arrival of the child might bring her hope, but Shen Lingtian was so ruthlessly disowning it!

Thunder rumbled.

The sky, once filled with stars, suddenly became overcast with dense clouds.

Peals of thunder exploded overhead.

And soon, a torrential rain began to pour.

Lu Yan sat in the rain-soaked night, crying out in sorrow, her face indistinguishable between rain and tears.

If she could have another chance to do it all over, she would never choose to be with a man like Shen Lingtian.

Only to disgust others.

And disgusted herself too.

Unfortunately, no Regret Medicine ever existed in this world.

After a while, Lu Yan finally stood up shakily from the rain and started moving forward step by step.

On the other hand, Chu Jin had officially returned to campus life.

The freshman curriculum wasn't fully packed.

And, with the knowledge from her previous life, Chu Jin wasn't worried about failing, so she used her free time every afternoon to set up a fortune-telling stall.

In the afternoon, back from fortune-telling.

Chu Jin had just returned to the dorm when she sensed that something was off.

Liu Meng Haoran was eating something while sizing her up, a faint smugness in her eyes, tinged with schadenfreude.

Qiao Muyan was in high spirits lying on the Princess bed with a face mask on, playing with her phone, humming a tune, and watching Chu Jin from the corner of her eye as she returned.

"Jin?!" Yin Wu panicked when she saw Chu Jin return and hid her phone behind her back.

"Little Wu, what are you hiding?" Chu Jin slightly raised her eyebrow.

Yin Wu's gaze darted around evasively, stammering, "No, nothing..."

Qiao Muyan laughed lightly, sarcastically adding, "Of course, she's hiding something shameful."

Chu Jin slightly furrowed her brows; ever since returning from the National Day holiday, Qiao Muyan had always been sarcastic, her words barbed, and Chu Jin couldn't be bothered with her.

"Some people..." Liu Meng Haoran also joined in with a mocking tone, "put on a very pure facade, but behind the scenes, they're nothing but promiscuous trash."

At these words, Yin Wu stood up abruptly and turned to Liu Meng Haoran and Qiao Muyan, yelling angrily, "Can you two watch your mouths when you speak!"

"Heh," Liu Meng Haoran sneered, looking at Chu Jin with an insinuating tone, "She dares to do it but doesn't allow people to talk? Shameless!"

"Who's shameless?" Chu Jin dashed in front of Liu Meng Haoran, grabbed her chin, and looked down on her from above, a slight smile playing at her lips, a chill flashing in her eyes.

She was smiling, but Liu Meng Haoran couldn't find a hint of warmth in that smile.

A formidable aura burst forth, chilling to the bone.

Shivering internally, Liu Meng Haoran still tried to appear calm; after all, they were in a lawful society – what could Chu Jin do to her? As she thought this, Liu Meng Haoran's expression began to relax somewhat, though strained, she retorted, "I'm talking about you, shameless!"

"Do I look like someone easy to bully?" Chu Jin raised her eyebrow slightly and increased the pressure on her hand, "Hmm?"

The smile on her lips was three parts wicked, seven parts ruthless.

She was both dazzling and defiant.

It was hard for anyone to look away.

Qiao Muyan found the scene before her glaringly irritating, even fostering the thought that without Chu Jin, she would be the most outstanding person in the dormitory.

Song Shiqin wouldn't be oblivious to her anymore.

And she didn't understand what part of Chu Jin, a woman of two faces, Song Shiqin was attracted to.

Chu Tian was just as foolish to think Chu Jin was a good person!

Qiao Muyan narrowed her eyes slightly, a swift glint of murderous intent passing through them. Surely, the world would be better without Chu Jin, wouldn't it?

Such people were a plague upon the earth.

To everyone else, Chu Jin seemed to be gently pinching Liu Meng Haoran's chin, but only Liu Meng Haoran knew the true extent of the pain – it felt like her bones were being crushed! The pain was so intense that Liu Meng Haoran's tears came pouring out!

"Let go of me right now!" Liu Meng Haoran flailed weakly at Chu Jin's hand.

Chu Jin just looked at her, her tone chilly as she commanded, "Apologize!"

Those two simple words landed heavily, imbued with an intimidating presence.

Barely containing her pain, Liu Meng Haoran continued, "You are shameless to begin with! Now everyone in school knows about your scandal, and what, you won't let people talk about it?"

"Liu Meng Haoran!" Yin Wu scolded angrily, "Don't spout nonsense! Jin isn't like that!"

"Hmph," Qiao Muyan snorted coldly, sat up from the bed, and removed the face mask, speaking with utter disdain, "What, she dares to do it but not own up to it? She might stop Haoran from speaking, but can she shut up the whole school?"

Chu Jin slowly extended her left hand, instantly grabbing Qiao Muyan's neck, and glanced sideways, "Then why don't you say it, what heinous act have I committed?"

With one hand pinching Liu Meng Haoran's chin, and the other clutching Qiao Muyan's, she stood there with ease, as if she were using no effort, her pose incredibly cool.

Yin Wu's eyes widened at the sight, and if the situation hadn't been so inappropriate, she would have cheered for Chu Jin's dominance!

This was the first time Yin Wu realized that a girl could also be this cool!

No wonder some people called her "Brother Jin"!

People like Qiao Muyan and Liu Meng Haoran should be met with a taste of their own medicine! No mercy should be shown!

"Let go of me now!" Qiao Muyan struggled against Chu Jin's grip, kicking about wildly, but Chu Jin had no intention of letting go. Instead, she tightened her grip on the neck, lifting her up.

In an instant, Qiao Muyan's face turned pale, her features twisted in agony, her legs flailing in the air. The horror was beyond words! She was terrified she might die at Chu Jin's hands any second.

"Are you going to apologize or not?" Chu Jin's grip intensified.

The air was immediately filled with a cry of pain.

It was Liu Meng Haoran who cried out.

And Qiao Muyan was frantically nodding her head.

They were truly frightened!

Only then did Chu Jin leisurely let go of her grip.

"Bang bang—"

The sound of two heavy objects hitting the floor reverberated through the air. When they breathed in fresh air, Qiao Muyan immediately clutched her throat and began coughing violently.

This Chu Jin!

How dare she treat herself this way!

She dared so much!

Despite feeling resentful, Qiao Muyan's mouth was quite honest as she said to Chu Jin, "I'm sorry."

A prudent man does not make a rod for his own back!

This grudge, she would repay sooner or later!

Liu Meng Haoran also followed with an apology.

Chu Jin pulled out a tissue and meticulously wiped her hands, as if they had come into contact with some bacteria. Upon hearing the apologies, she slowly lifted her gaze to look at the two, the light shifting in her eyes, and spoke in a calm voice, "If I ever hear your mouths spouting filth again, do you believe I can make sure you never speak another word as long as you live?"

At the same time, she casually tossed the tissue in her hand, and it flew into the trash can 3 meters away, landing perfectly inside.

Qiao Muyan and Liu Meng Haoran were both inwardly shaken.

Chu Jin tilted her head slightly and spoke coldly, "Did you hear me?"

"We heard you!" Qiao Muyan and Liu Meng Haoran exclaimed in unison.

Chu Jin nodded in satisfaction, her red lips parting as she uttered two words, "Scram."

Qiao Muyan and Liu Meng Haoran fled the dorm room as if they had been pardoned.

Once the two were far away, Chu Jin put away her fierce aura and walked over to Yin Wu, "Little Wu, what exactly happened?"

Chu Jin's intuition told her something had happened, and it definitely involved her.

Yin Wu sighed, looking somewhat troubled, then took out her phone, opened a webpage, and handed it to Chu Jin.

The phone displayed a page from Capital University's campus forum.

On the forum was a sticky post highlighted for emphasis.

The title read: "Unexpected Truth About the Goddess: Freshman Beauty Sponsored by Sugar Daddy, Juggling Two Men at Once! Pictures and Proof Inside!"

In total, there were nine photos.

All were taken from a very clear angle.

The first one was a picture of Chu Jin kissing Mr. Mo at the dormitory building entrance.

The second photo is of Chu Jin feeding Mr. Mo in the cafeteria.

The third photo is of Chu Jin getting into Mr. Mo's Volkswagen.

The fourth photo is of a T-shirt, a white one with the logo clearly visible on the outside. Anyone with sharp eyes could tell that this T-shirt was worth six figures.

The fifth photo is of high-end imported snacks.

The sixth photo is of those upscale skincare products.

Not only that, but the original poster also detailed Chu Jin's class and name...

The first two photos show Mr. Mo's front profile, described by the original poster as the legendary sugar daddy.

The third photo is of Chu Jin getting into the Volkswagen. Since Mr. Mo's face is indistinct, only Chu Jin is visible, so the original poster described it as Chu Jin using the sugar daddy's money to secretly keep a pretty boy on the side.

After all, how could someone who drives a Volkswagen afford to give Chu Jin such expensive gifts?

The money spent on that T-shirt alone could buy a Volkswagen!

The original poster's wording is very sharp, ridiculing Chu Jin for being kept by someone in every sentence and filled with derogatory remarks about her, even claiming that someone like Chu Jin is simply a disgrace to Capital University.

There are a lot of follow-up posts.

"Wow! So this girl is called Chu Jin. I noticed her during military training; she's really pretty! A classic beauty."

"I'm a girl, and I can't bring myself to dislike this junior in the photos! My brain must be broken because I actually think these two look surprisingly good together. This scene is just so pleasing to the eye!"

"You're not alone," said the person above.

"Damn, damn, damn, this guy is so handsome! Is this girl stupid? She's got such a handsome sugar daddy willing to take care of her, and she's still bothering with a pretty boy? If I were her, I'd rather die on the sugar daddy, you know?"

"However, she doesn't have the balls."

"She's blind."

"It could also be that the sugar daddy can't satisfy her."

"This woman is really trashy, dealing with two men at the same time. Can she handle it?"

"She's got stamina."

"Oh my, she and the sugar daddy really match well. I feel like this feeding photo is full of love. Am I sick?"

"Heh, that such a girl could even get into Capital University!"

"..."

The number of followers is very high, with the comment count already exceeding five thousand.

Chu Jin skimmed through them, a chill forming in her eyes.

The first three photos in the post were all taken outdoors, so it was not clear who had secretly taken the photos.

But the last three were taken in the dormitory, and these items were all kept in her trunk, so these photos must have been taken by someone in the dorm.

Only someone from her dorm could have taken these pictures.

They had some nerve!

To dare to rummage through her trunk like that! Chu Jin's eyes narrowed slightly, filled with coldness.

In that dormitory, besides herself, there were only three others, and Yin Wu would never do such a thing.

That left Qiao Muyan and Liu Meng Haoran, either of whom could be the culprit.

Seeing Chu Jin silent, Yin Wu took the initiative to comfort her, "Jin, don't be angry. These are all their fabrications; no one will believe it! Give it a few days, and once the post cools down, everyone will forget about this."

It was hard for anyone to deal with this situation.

Besides saying that, Yin Wu didn't know how else to comfort her.

Chu Jin withdrew her gaze and handed her phone to Yin Wu, her lips curving slightly upward, "I'm fine, you don't need to worry." With that, she turned to sit at the computer desk, opened her computer, and navigated to the school forum page, her fingers clacking rapidly.

Soon the computer screen changed to a string of English code that Yin Wu couldn't decipher.

Chapter 587: say it again.

Chu Jin sat in front of the computer, typing away with rapid clicks and clacks.

Her speed was very fast, her fair fingers almost looked like a blur, and her expression was extremely serious, quite different from her usual indifferent demeanor.

The sunlight poured in through the window, evenly scattering over her, casting a faint halo around her.

In the sunlight, her already fair skin was almost translucent.

Ethereal, tranquil, beautiful, and captivating to the point where one simply couldn't look away.

Yin Wu watched the scene before him, momentarily spellbound.

If she were a man, he would surely bend the knee for her.

Chu Jin continued her actions unhurriedly.

Soon, the page on the computer changed from the initial code to a blue screen with a string of links in the top left corner.

Seeing this, Chu Jin slightly curved her lips upward and pressed the enter key, switching the display back to the school forum page.

Only then did she leisurely pick up a cup of water and took a light sip.

Yin Wu, standing behind her, was astonished, "Jin, did you find the other party's IP address?"

Even though she didn't understand what the string of code meant, she had a vague idea.

She might not have eaten pork before, but at least she had seen pigs run.

Chu Jin nodded slightly, "Smart."

"You're really amazing!" Yin Wu's eyes gleamed with admiration.

As she finished speaking, she asked, "Who posted this thread?"

The person who posted the thread clearly knew Chu Jin very well and even managed to capture photos of her private possessions; it might even be one of Chu Jin's close friends.

Who would target Chu Jin like this?

Yin Wu was puzzled, feeling the malice of human hearts. Chu Jin was such a nice girl, yet someone was slandering her behind her back!

For a girl, her reputation and integrity are of utmost importance, but these people were defaming her with baseless accusations! Slandering her!

Clearly, they did not wish for her to remain at this school.

Who could be so malicious?

Chu Jin closed her laptop unhurriedly, leaned back lazily in her chair, and with a slight smile lifting the corners of her mouth, she said indifferently, "Hmm... it's someone from our dorm."

While Chu Jin spoke casually, Yin Wu was extremely shocked; there were only four people in their dorm, excluding Chu Jin and herself, leaving Liu Meng Haoran and Qiao Muyan.

Could it be that this was done by Qiao Muyan and Liu Meng Haoran?

Thinking this, Yin Wu's heart started pounding, sensing that there was more to this than met the eye.

This was no small matter.

"Ah!?" Yin Wu was visibly shaken.

In contrast to Yin Wu's shock, Chu Jin was the epitome of calm.

She stood up nonchalantly, patted Yin Wu's shoulder, and smiled, "Come on, let's go get something to eat."

"Ah?" Yin Wu was still a bit slow to react. With the situation as it was, this person still had the appetite to eat!

What a nerve!

Meanwhile, in the boys' dormitory.

"Dammit! How dare they insult my goddess!"

"Damn it! Do they think we're all dead or something?"

"Watch me, I'm going to crush them!"

A few boys crowded around the computer, seething with anger.

One of them was the boy Chu Jin had saved during military training.

Another was Li Boyuan, who had partnered with Chu Jin during wilderness training.

The others were from the same class.

Chu Jin was the class darling, and now that someone was posting to defame her, they obviously couldn't stay calm.

These guys all had absolute trust in Chu Jin.

In their eyes, Chu Jin was like an omnipotent goddess.

Chu Jin had won their respect through her actions.

A boy in a black T-shirt said, "Old Li, can you take down the opponent's post first?"

Upon hearing this, Li Boyuan adjusted his glasses, calmly saying, "It's already been taken down."

"..." The guy in the black T-shirt was stunned for a few seconds before he asked, "Can you find out who it was?"

"I found out." Li Boyuan nodded.

Upon hearing this, several guys became eager and excitedly said,

"Who's the poster? Let's go see 'em!"

"Let's show 'em a lesson!"

"Watch me not beat 'em to death!"

Their demeanor indicated that they couldn't wait to go beat up the poster.

Did they have the guts of the heavens? To actually dare to slander the favorite of Class 6!

"Calm down, calm down," Li Boyuan slowly stood up, raising his hand to adjust his glasses.

"Fuck no! Can't calm down!" Guy A rolled up his sleeves, ready to throw down.

"Right! What time is it to be calm? If we don't teach 'em a lesson, they'll really think people from Chinese Literature Class 6 are easy to bully!"

"Exactly! Leave the tech work to you, old Li, but leave the fighting to us men!"

"Yeah! Leave it to us men!"

Li Boyuan: "..." As if he wasn't a man!

"Here, take this, take this..." Guy B picked up a clothes rack, clothespins, and other items to distribute to the others.

Getting ready for a good battle with the poster.

Just as everyone was about to set off with great ambitions, Li Boyuan said in a faint voice, "The poster is a girl."

Li Boyuan was a computer expert. Not only had he hacked that post, but he'd also permanently banned the poster's account, breached their firewall, and hacked into their computer.

So it wasn't difficult to find out detailed information about the other party.

Guy A withdrew the foot he was about to step out of the dorm with, turned around somewhat dejectedly, "What did you say?"

"The poster is a girl." Li Boyuan repeated, his face remaining composed.

Fuck! A girl?!

Upon hearing that, everyone's face showed shock, and then they all threw away the tools in their hands.

If it was a guy, they could still beat 'em up!

But a girl? You can't hit her, you can't scold her either.

Plus, it wouldn't sound good for a bunch of guys to bully a little girl.

"Not only is she a girl, but she also shares a dorm with Jin," Li Boyuan continued.

"Shares a dorm?" Guy C was somewhat shocked, seemingly not expecting that this person actually knew Chu Jin.

They shared the same dorm, yet she did something like this!

She must be jealous of Jin's talents and beauty!

Jealousy drives people mad!

Even though the post was quickly deleted, it was still seen by many people.

When Chu Jin and Yin Wu arrived at the cafeteria, they saw many people giving sidelong glances at Chu Jin and whispering among themselves.

"Is that her?"

"She's so pretty!"

"She looks even prettier than in the photos."

"Her skin is so nice."

"Isn't she the one being kept by someone?"

"What's her name again?"

"Right, she's the one being kept, her name is Chu Jin," the girl said while sizing up Chu Jin, "Chu of Chu River and Han Border, Jin of prosperity and splendor, a student in Chinese Literature Class 6. She's so shameless, still has the nerve to come here and eat. If I were her, I would've been so ashamed I'd have dropped out long ago!"

The girl did not lower her voice when she spoke, and the people around all turned their gazes to her and Chu Jin.

"Let me correct you," a clear voice arose. Chu Jin, who was originally more than ten meters away from the girl, suddenly appeared in front of her, standing aloof above her, lightly lifting her chin with her hand, "It's Chu of Chu River and Han Border, Jin of beautiful landscapes."

Her voice was faint, yet it carried a powerful presence, resounding with authority, shocking people to the core.

The people around were all stunned, just staring at her, unsure of how to react.

It was the first time everyone had seen such a domineering girl! She was so cool!

"Repeat what you just said." Chu Jin's lips curved slightly, as she spoke again, her tone cool.

Chapter 588: Sky Fairy Attack

Chu Jin simply stood there, her lips still curled in a faint smile.

Despite being only eighteen or nineteen, she exuded the aura of a strong presence back in town, compelling unconscious submission at her feet.

Beauty and presence coexisted.

True beauty is a perfect synthesis of bone structure and skin.

Clearly, Chu Jin was such a person.

"I, I..." The girl was scared stupid, she didn't know Chu Jin before and only followed the trend blindly after looking at the forum.

She thought Chu Jin was just a delicate beauty, after all, beauties are only for show, not for function. She hadn't expected... that Chu Jin's combat strength was so strong.

If she had known this earlier, she wouldn't have spoken out of turn for a moment's satisfaction.

Chu Jin increased the strength in her hands, her voice cold, "Repeat that again!"

It hurt!

The girl was so pain-prone that tears almost fell.

When it came to matters of her reputation, Chu Jin naturally wouldn't give in an inch.

Should she give in an inch on this matter, these people would take a mile, thinking she was a pushover who could be easily manipulated.

Holding the girl's chin in one hand and her phone in the other, she looked down at the girl with complete dominance!

Just a glance was enough to inspire fear, leaving the girl utterly defenseless.

More and more onlookers gathered, yet no one mentioned the matter of being kept anymore.

Admiration sparkled in the eyes of the crowd.

The girl in front of them couldn't be as bad as described on the forum, could she?

Could someone who's kept have such a temperament? Such explosive power?

This wasn't some gold-digger.

What kind of gold-digger looks like this?

She was clearly a celestial dominator!

Breathtakingly cool.

"Damn, damn, damn!" an onlooker with stars in his eyes exclaimed, "I'm gonna go gay for her!"

His calm friend patted his shoulder, "Hold on! Remember, you're straight." Immediately after, she changed her expression, gazing obsessively at Chu Jin, "Actually, I might go gay too!"

"So handsome."

"Her eyes are so beautiful."

"Her whole being is so beautiful, okay?"

"Icon!"

"Eh! Isn't that Jin from Class Six?"

"Jin?"

"Yeah, the Jin from the Chinese Literature class. Don't you know?"

"She's obviously our Jin."

Some pulled out their phones to capture the scene, only to be stopped by a nearby boy, "Our Jin doesn't like being photographed."

Cold sweat broke out on the girl's back in an instant as she looked at Chu Jin with a pale face. Chu Jin hadn't done anything, yet she was petrified.

So many people were watching, she couldn't appear too weak! The one being kept was supposed to be Chu Jin; she should be the one losing face!

And with so many witnesses, could Chu Jin still lay a hand on her?

Thinking this, the girl's heart steadied a lot.

She swallowed, looked at Chu Jin, and said with false bravado, "You're being kept! Are we not even allowed to talk about it? You're the shame of Capital University."

Chu Jin remained calm, "You're a law major, aren't you?"

The girl was taken aback, then responded, "What's that got to do with you?"

Chu Jin's lips curved slightly, as she continued.

"Are you aware that you've now committed the crime of defamation? According to Article 246 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China, for the crime of defamation, one may be sentenced to a

fixed-term imprisonment of not more than three years, criminal detention, surveillance, or deprivation of political rights."

Her tone, though light, was imbued with deterrence, and resonated with a powerful force.

"You're kept anyways! The forum has exposed you!" The girl's confidence was clearly faltering. Wasn't Chu Jin from the Literature department? How come she knew so much about the law?

And she even knew the girl was a law major!

This was quite unbelievable.

"Where's the evidence?" Chu Jin pressed on.

"It's on the forum! If you want evidence, I'll show you right now! Let everyone see how you seduce men!"

As she spoke, the girl took out her phone from her pocket, accessed the school forum, and clicked on the thread. As soon as she did, her phone blue-screened and froze—clearly infected by a virus!

At the same time, many others viewing the thread were encountering the same problem.

Those who clicked on the thread were also experiencing these issues one after another.

This was a very powerful virus, one that ordinary phone repair shops couldn't fix. The only solution was to get a new phone.

The girl frantically shook her phone, pressing the pause button, the back button, to no avail.

Seeing this, Chu Jin raised her eyebrows slightly, "There are cameras here, and there's audio recording. Wait for my lawyer's letter."

Inwardly, though, she was curious as to which hero had hacked the post, leaving such a magnificent trail.

The girl went pale with fear, because she knew Chu Jin wasn't joking.

Given Chu Jin's style, she would very likely sue in court.

Moreover, the backer behind her had so much money, locking her up for three to five years wouldn't be a problem at all.

Thinking of this, the girl's face, which had just calmed down, turned deathly pale again.

"Don't be nervous," Chu Jin said, patting the girl's shoulder, "Three years will pass in the blink of an eye, you'll be out before you know it."

"Sister," a sweet voice suddenly broke through the air; Chu Tian emerged from the crowd, a shallow smile on her lips, graceful and gentle.

It had to be said, Chu Tian's demeanor was increasingly becoming that of a lady of nobility.

Even her face was becoming prettier, attracting attention wherever she went.

However, Chu Jin could see a trace of indistinct dark aura on her forehead.

She remembered seeing her 10 days before and everything seemed normal. How could Chu Tian have changed so much in just 10 days?

Could it be...

Chu Jin's eyes narrowed slightly.

She harbored an incredible thought: could this Chu Tian also have been reborn?

It was because she was reborn that she could foresee the future.

Otherwise, none of this made any sense.

"Sister, look how scared you've made our classmate, she's even sweating," Chu Tian said cheerfully, "You don't have to be afraid. My sister is really nice, very kind. She was just joking with you, she won't really sue you in court."

Chu Tian played the image of warmth and kindness to the hilt.

The girl immediately looked at her with gratitude.

Chapter 589: For whom do we live?

Chu Tian's arrival gave the girl a glimmer of hope, as she was gentle and kind, and clearly not the same type as Chu Jin.

The girl subconsciously stood by Chu Tian's side, reaching out to grasp the hem of her clothes, her body trembling slightly.

Chu Tian gently patted her shoulder and said softly, "Don't be afraid, we're all schoolmates here, and my sister is so nice, she won't lower herself to argue with you."

Between the lines, Chu Tian was expressing how good Chu Jin was, acting as if they had a very close relationship.

As the saying goes, love me, love my dog.

Seeing Chu Tian defend Chu Jin in such a way naturally made everyone think highly of Chu Tian.

"Thank you," the girl said softly, yet she wondered, were Chu Tian and Chu Jin really sisters? Why were they so different from each other?

Chu Tian was understanding; Chu Jin, on the other hand, was unreasonably unforgiving!

It was clear that she was being kept, yet she wouldn't let anyone mention it!

And yet Chu Tian still insisted that Chu Jin was kind!

If Chu Jin was truly kind, why would she bother with such trivialities with others?

Chu Tian was indeed naive!

The onlookers were also somewhat confused.

When did Chu Jin suddenly have a younger sister?

Everyone was talking.

"I know her, she's Chu Tian from class six."

"Isn't she the girl who came in second during the wilderness training?"

"Yeah, that's her, she even gave a speech at the end."

"Actually, the chance to speak was given to her by Brother Jin; if not for Brother Jin, she would never have had the chance to go on stage."

"Chu Tian, Chu Jin, they couldn't possibly be real sisters, could they?"

"They don't look anything alike."

"Chu Tian is quite pretty too."

"Worthy of being Brother Jin's sister!"

"But I still prefer Brother Jin a little more."

"She seems so gentle."

"..."

Hearing the various discussions around her, Chu Tian's lips curled silently.

"You're welcome," Chu Tian patted the girl's arm, saying with a gentle face, "The person you should be thankful to is not me, but my sister. Remember not to talk nonsense in the future, lest you bring disaster on yourself with your own words."

Hearing this, Chu Jin looked towards Chu Tian with a faint smile, saying in an even tone, "You're calling me sister? When did I forget that I had a younger sister?"

Chu Tian was clearly up to no good; she knew Chu Jin wouldn't let such a matter of reputation slide so easily, so she deliberately praised herself in front of everyone as understanding and above petty squabbles with schoolmates.

If Chu Jin persisted with the issue, it would make people feel she was petty and narrow-minded.

If Chu Jin followed suit and just let the girl go, that would play right into Chu Tian's hands, allowing her to successfully curry favor in front of everyone.

So, no matter what decision Chu Jin made, Chu Tian would be the one to benefit.

Chu Tian was indeed clever, her scheming profound.

Actually, Chu Tian was just using her to make a lasting impression in everyone's eyes.

She was laying the groundwork for a plan she had in the future.

Chu Tian was a person of both good and evil.

The good thing was, she would kindly warn her before a disaster.

The evil part was, from the very first meeting, she had been using her.

It was hard to see her true intentions.

What exactly did she want to do?

However, if she was planning to use herself to show face in front of everyone again, it wouldn't be so easy.

"Could it be..." Chu Jin continued, "you're the illegitimate daughter my dad had outside?"

Chu Tian was taken aback; she hadn't expected Chu Jin to suddenly ask such a question.

Things weren't developing in the direction she had anticipated.

Chu Jin seemed different somehow.

Where exactly was the difference?

Illegitimate daughter?

Seizing the phrase, the onlookers' eyes nearly glowed; so Chu Tian was not Chu Jin's sister!

And judging by Chu Jin's expression, it seemed like she didn't particularly like Chu Tian.

The scene was set for a good show.

Could it be that Chu Tian truly was an illegitimate child?

"I'm sorry, sister, that's not what I meant..." Chu Tian immediately lowered her eyes to apologize, showing utter humility.

The one who apologizes first often gains the sympathy of the crowd.

Having lived a second life, Chu Tian was no longer the naive country girl she used to be.

In this world, only the strong survive.

The strong climb to the highest place by stepping over skeletons and wading through blood.

This world is all about using and being used by others.

Otherwise, she wouldn't have met such a miserable end in her previous life.

Both reborn, Chu Jin was a hundred times stronger than her; why couldn't others see her?

It was Chu Jin who stole the halo that rightfully belonged to her.

If not for her, she herself would be the shining one.

Feeling the intense hatred emanating from Chu Tian, the system voice in her mind gave a reminder.

[Host, a reminder not to have direct confrontations with Chu Jin. I've said it many times, your rebirth is meant to help Chu Jin achieve a true rebirth.]

Put simply, it was because of Chu Jin that Chu Tian had this opportunity to be reborn. Her very existence depended on Chu Jin.

That's why she was so envious of Chu Jin.

Hating to see Chu Jin do well,

Yet unable to let Chu Jin die.

As reborn women, why was there such a difference between them?

This time, her fate could not be controlled by anyone!

Including this system!

Chu Tian gathered her thoughts and responded, "Understood."

[Ding! A new daily quest has been triggered: Gain the sympathy of the people! Quest completion reward: a pair of Willow Leaf Brows and a stick of Ice Skin Jade Snow Cream.]

After accepting the quest, Chu Tian raised her eyes to look at Chu Jin once again, and said softly, "Sister, is there some misunderstanding between us? Actually..."

"I've said it, stop calling me sister, I find it disgusting, and you're loath to say it," Chu Jin said, looking down slightly, cutting off Chu Tian's words.

"Sister..." Chu Tian lowered her head, her eyes misty, appearing as if she'd been wronged greatly.

Chapter 590: I have no malice towards you.

Chu Jin leaned in close to Chu Tian's ear, her lips curling into a faint arc, and whispered, "Stop pretending, aren't you tired? Actually, you've been reborn, haven't you?"

Throughout this time, Yin Wu had been standing right beside Chu Jin, yet she hadn't managed to catch a single word.

She watched as Chu Jin's lips moved lightly twice, and then Chu Tian's complexion turned pale in an instant.

Chu Tian had never dreamt that Chu Jin could possibly guess she was reborn!

"What are you talking about? I don't understand," Chu Tian dropped her facade and instinctively avoided Chu Jin's gaze, her face devoid of color.

Having her true origins exposed by Chu Jin was certainly no good news.

Indeed, the next second, she heard the system's voice in her mind, "Dong! Favorability acquisition failed, please host accept a level 3 lightning punishment."

In a flash, countless invisible thunderbolts ruthlessly struck down upon Chu Tian.

Pain, piercing to the bone.

Pain beyond words.

Cold sweat broke out all over Chu Tian's body, and her already pale face turned as white as paper.

Yet Chu Tian bit her teeth tightly shut, not uttering a single syllable.

Her willpower was extremely strong.

"I mean you no harm," Chu Tian squeezed these words out from between her teeth.

A simple seven words, but they exhausted all her strength.

Chu Jin raised an eyebrow slightly, "Do you think I look like a fool?"

"I..." Chu Tian endured the intense pain, and continued, "Whether you believe it or not, I truly mean you no harm, I sincerely want to be friends with you, and if possible, I hope, I can call you sister just like before."

Chu Tian indeed harbored no ill-will towards Chu Jin; she was simply using her all along.

After all, her fate was intertwined with Chu Jin's—if anything happened to Chu Jin, she would also suffer the consequences.

As a reborn woman, Chu Tian naturally knew much about the future, including Chu Jin's eventual fate.

Her purpose in being reborn was to help change Chu Jin's destined end.

However, this life's Chu Tian was not content to live for another.

Therefore, she was now working hard to find a way to break free.

Only by severing ties with Chu Jin could she achieve eternal peace.

Before that, she needed to use Chu Jin to increase her own fame and leave a good impression in everyone's hearts.

To make more and more people aware of Chu Tian's presence.

When the time came, with no Chu Jin in the world, people would naturally see Chu Tian.

Chu Tian had carefully planned everything and was executing her plan, but she had not yet found a way to break the contract.

So, she had to first stabilize Chu Jin and gain her trust.

"Want to be my sister?" Chu Jin's lips curled slightly, her tone flat, "You... are not qualified."

Her voice was neither loud nor soft but clear enough to reach everyone's ears.

Her demeanor was exhilarating and captivating, impossible to look away from.

Standing there, she was like a painting.

Chu Tian was naturally beautiful, but standing in front of Chu Jin, she seemed to fade into insignificance.

Chu Tian's face turned from red to white, extremely unsightly. She had not expected Chu Jin to speak such words in public, leaving her no dignity.

The surrounding onlookers' eyes nearly popped out of their heads.

Chu Jin's statement was simply too dominant; not everyone could withstand it.

And Chu Jin had exactly the right presence for it.

Such a person would never degrade herself by being kept by someone else.

"The society knows Brother Jin, notorious for few words."

"Truly worthy of Brother Jin!"

"It feels like Chu Tian is just a scheming bitch, always playing the victim!"

"Ah, my heart throbs for youth."

"..."

Listening to the surrounding discussions, Chu Tian's face grew paler.

Even though she was the weaker one, why did everyone still side with Chu Jin?

Just because Chu Jin was prettier than her?

The world was simply too unfair.

Her efforts were no less than Chu Jin's, but in the end, she could only serve as a foil to Chu Jin.

"Sister..." Chu Tian bit her lip, her voice soft and weak.

At this point, besides resorting to pity to win others' sympathy, she had no other option.

Chu Tian didn't want to present herself with a Human Skin Mask, but she had to.

Only that way could she survive better.

"I said stop calling me sister," Chu Jin spoke coldly, "Can't you understand human language?"

"I'm sorry..." Chu Tian's voice was almost hoarse, and her eyes began to redden

Ever since her rebirth, her acting skills had improved significantly.

Tears were like child's play to her, a piece of cake.

People continued discussing...

"Why does she always cry?"

"Crying is a little white lotus's essential skill number one."

"Somehow, I dislike Chu Tian."

"Still, Brother Jin's beauty is unmatched."

"..."

"Why are you like this!" A girl next to Chu Tian couldn't stand it any longer, "Classmate Chu Tian is only calling you sister out of respect for you, you're too ungrateful!"

"Oh, right," Chu Jin turned her gaze toward the girl, and added, "Had you not mentioned it, I would have forgotten, you too, just wait for my lawyer's letter at home, I hope that after three years, you can turn over a new leaf and become a good person."

Defamation was enough to sentence that girl for three years.

When it came to matters of reputation, Chu Jin would not take any step back and would always deliver on her word.

She was no Saint Mary Sue.

Some people won't learn their lesson without a bit of discipline.

"Sister, you may not like me, but could you not displace your anger onto this student? She's innocent! If she has offended you in any way, I apologize to you on her behalf," Chu Tian said, and with the last word, she even bowed to Chu Jin.

She looked the picture of enduring humiliation.

She was forcefully trying to attract more hatred towards Chu Jin.