

The Beauty 86

Chapter 86 Apology

Nanrong Wanqing gazed at Ling Chen, her beautiful eyes flickering, seemingly brewing her words. Seeing her hesitant to speak, Ling Chen grew impatient. What did this woman want with him if she wasn't going to talk? With this thought, he leaned forward, ready to stand up.

"I'm sorry."

Just then, three light and indistinct words reached his ears.

What?

Ling Chen sharply turned his head, looking at Nanrong Wanqing with surprise, somewhat doubtful whether he had misheard. Was she apologizing to him?

Slightly dazed, he opened his mouth and said, "Miss Nanrong, did I hear wrong, or did you misspeak?"

"You didn't hear wrong, and I didn't say anything wrong." Nanrong Wanqing lowered her head slightly, her fingers tightly intertwined, "I was wrong about what happened last time, and I hope you can accept my apology."

Ling Chen was surprised; he had never thought that Nanrong Wanqing would apologize to him. However, seeing is believing, not only had he heard her, but now he also saw it with his own eyes.

His mind whirled, and he leaned back a little, sitting down on the sofa again.

"Miss Nanrong, the past is the past; I didn't take it to heart. Moreover, I no longer work for the Nanrong family, so there's no need for you to apologize to me."

"If you refuse to accept my apology, it means you still haven't forgiven me." As she finished speaking, a hint of hesitation flashed in Nanrong Wanqing's beautiful eyes, then as if she had made up her mind, her gaze immediately hardened, "What do you want for you to accept my apology?"

This...

Ling Chen was momentarily rendered speechless, feeling incredibly strange. Today's Nanrong Wanqing seemed different from before. She would usually try to avoid communicating with him, much less say something like this.

With this thought, his eyes shifted, and the corner of his mouth lifted slightly, carrying a mischievous smirk, "Miss Nanrong, do you mean I can make any request I want?"

Nanrong Wanqing nodded gently.

For an instant, countless thoughts surged through Ling Chen's mind, including some that were not so pure. However, he quickly cast those thoughts aside. If he really accepted Nanrong Wanqing's conditions, wouldn't it make him appear petty, as if he lacked even the most basic magnanimity?

What's more, he had always been a magnanimous person. Since Nanrong Wanqing had already apologized, and her attitude seemed sincere, why would he quibble with her?

Right then, he smiled slightly, "Miss Nanrong, let's forget the conditions, I accept your apology."

"Thank you." After speaking, Nanrong Wanqing turned to call Zhong Wei over.

"Chairman, do you have any orders?"

"My safety will continue to be Ling Chen's responsibility, you just provide support."

Hearing this, Zhong Wei's eyes brightened, and he quickly replied, "Yes, Chairman."

"Hey, hey, hey!" Ling Chen panicked, "Miss Nanrong, I didn't say I'd return to work at Hongyu Group."

"Since you are willing to accept my apology, it indicates you are ready to return to the Nanrong family without harboring past grievances."

"That is a separate matter; it can't be conflated," Ling Chen said. Ever since he had voluntarily resigned, he hadn't thought about returning to the Nanrong family.

"Ling Chen..." Zhong Wei started to say something in persuasion, but before he could finish, Nanrong Wanqing gestured to him to keep silent. Zhong Wei immediately closed his mouth, tactfully retreating to Liang Zhao Hui's side.

"Miss Nanrong, others are handling your security, one more or less person doesn't make a difference. Besides, that job is too restrictive and doesn't suit my temperament; I prefer freedom."

"My main reason for asking you back is not because of my personal safety, but for the sake of Nanrong Hao."

"Haozi?" Ling Chen was a bit confused. What did this have to do with Nanrong Hao?

"Nanrong Hao is the eldest grandson of the Nanrong family and the future heir of Hongyu Group. Although I am running the company now, I am, after all, a woman. This heavy burden will eventually have to be handed over to Nanrong Hao. Having been around Nanrong Hao for so long, you must be well aware of what kind of person he is. The current Nanrong Hao is not yet fit for great responsibility because he is too gentle, lacks a sense of duty, so I hope you can help me change him."

Ling Chen chuckled and said, "Miss Nanrong, have you got the wrong person? You are his sister; I am just an outsider."

"It's precisely because you are an outsider that Nanrong Hao doesn't reject you. I can see that Nanrong Hao trusts you a lot, and the recent changes in him are all because of you. The Nanrong family is not blessed with many children, and a man must step forward in the future. My grandfather is too ill to rely on, so Nanrong Hao is our only hope. If you can get Nanrong Hao to pull himself together, I will agree to any conditions you set."

After listening to Nanrong Wanqing, Ling Chen felt the determination, the expectation, and a faint plea in her words, and he was inwardly moved.

Only at this moment did he somewhat revise his opinion of Nanrong Wanqing, even feeling a bit of sympathy for her.

This woman, sitting in a wheelchair, frail as a breeze, carried the heavy responsibility of the Nanrong family on her small shoulders, a burden that should have been bore by Nanrong Hao. But he knew Nanrong Hao too well; even if this responsibility were handed to him, he wouldn't be able to bear it.

Nanrong Wanqing was acutely aware of this, so with no choice, she had to take on the weight for Nanrong Hao. All the while, she hoped that one day Nanrong Hao would grow up. Unfortunately, her brother was indeed disappointing.

"Ling Chen."

Nanrong Wanqing's voice rose, and Ling Chen looked up, his expression hesitant.

"Miss Nanrong, Nanrong Hao is my friend, and I will help where I can, but there's no need for me to return to the Nanrong family."

"When Nanrong Hao learned that you had resigned last time, he was very upset and hasn't spoken to me for days. If you don't come back, I don't think he will forgive me. Ling Chen, I know what you're concerned about. This time I'm asking you back, not just for my safety, but mostly for Nanrong Hao. I can grant you the greatest freedom, without making you feel constrained by the Nanrong family."

"Miss Nanrong, to be frank, I never thought of returning when I chose to leave. However, since you're thinking of Nanrong Hao, let me consider it more, and I'll give you an answer after I've thought it through."

"Alright, you have my phone number, you can call me anytime after you've decided."

While Ling Chen and Nanrong Wanqing were conversing, in the VIP room of the banquet hall, Zhu Hong sat on a soft leather sofa, holding a glass of red wine in his hand, his gaze cold, exuding an oppressive feeling without saying a word.

"Has Wanqing left?"

It took a while before he spoke to someone beside him.

Seeing his gloomy expression, his subordinate cautiously replied, "No, she's talking with Ling Chen."

"Ling Chen? Hmph!" Zhu Hong smashed the wine glass onto the ground, his face full of rage.