

Toxic Ex 306

Chapter 306: Delayed Fantasy

The man in front of her seemed somewhat unfamiliar, causing Lin Yixun to feel momentarily dazed. She slowly retracted her gaze and instinctively took a step back, putting some distance between herself and the man. She said softly, "No need, I'll eat later."

The man's eyes darkened slightly, but he didn't say anything. He simply handed the plate of food to Lin Yixun, signaling her to take it to the dining room table.

Lin Yixun took the plate from Leng Yixiu's hands and left the kitchen as if escaping. As it turned out, besides the dish in her hands, there were already three dishes and a soup in the kitchen. The table was set with a balanced mix of meat and vegetables, and each dish was a feast for the eyes.

Lin Yixun didn't return to the kitchen to avoid unnecessary awkwardness. Before long, Leng Yixiu also came out of the kitchen, carrying two bowls of white rice. This scene clearly should not match his demeanor, yet it wasn't as incongruous as one might have imagined.

The man handed a bowl of white rice to Lin Yixun and then sat down across from her. Although the dining room was spacious, it did not feel overly empty. The orange-yellow light above the dining table created a warm atmosphere.

Lin Yixun gazed at the steaming dishes on the table, feeling a bit sentimental. From the moment she fell in love with Leng Yixiu, she had countless times fantasized about marrying him, becoming his wife. She imagined them being loving, going to work separately during the day and cooking dinner together after work, then sitting around a table to enjoy a hot meal. If there was nothing else to do after dinner, they could take a walk together, passing their days peacefully and happily.

She never imagined that this scene, instead of happening when they were married, would ironically occur after their divorce.

The man saw her staring blankly at the food without moving for a long time and couldn't help but say, "Let's eat. If we wait any longer, the food will get cold."

Hearing this, Lin Yixun slowly pulled herself out of her thoughts. She picked up a piece of meat from the table and chewed it slowly and carefully. Even though she didn't look favorably upon Leng Yixiu, she had to admit that the man's cooking was truly delicious.

However, this also matched Leng Yixiu's personality. This man did everything perfectly. Given that he could dominate the business world, cooking a few dishes was no big deal for him.

"Where are David and the others?" Lin Yixun suddenly remembered and asked.

"David and the others are only here to guard the manor when I'm not around. Now that we're here, they don't need to stay. Except for necessary cleaning, there won't be anyone else in the villa for the next few days."

Lin Yixun didn't pay much attention to the first part of his words. Her focus was on the last few words. So, during this period in England, only she and Leng Yixiu would be in the villa?

"How long will we stay here?"

The man's sharp eyebrows slightly furrowed, and he raised an eyebrow, "Why, just arrived and you already want to leave? Or..."

He didn't finish the sentence, but looking at Leng Yixiu's expression, Lin Yixun could mostly guess that it wouldn't have been anything pleasant.

In the next moment, Leng Yixiu's expression returned to its previous gentleness. He opened his thin lips slightly and said, "We haven't decided how long we'll stay. It depends on the specific circumstances."

After dinner, Lin Yixun stood up from her seat, intending to leave, but was stopped by Leng Yixiu. He pointed at the leftovers on the table.

"You wash the dishes."

Chapter 307: Do You Like It?

"Why do I have to wash the dishes?" Lin Yixun hated washing dishes the most.

"You ate the food I cooked, shouldn't you wash the dishes?"

Lin Yixun thought about it and realized the request wasn't unreasonable. She turned and started to clear the table with a sullen face, glaring at Leng Yixiu before heading into the kitchen.

A businessman is always a businessman, never changing their mercenary nature, never doing anything that wouldn't benefit them. A single meal, and he was this petty?

Leng Yixiu saw Lin Yixun's unwilling expression and couldn't help but feel amused. To him, that look was much more adorable compared to her recent indifference and aloofness.

After washing the dishes, Lin Yixun dried her slightly greasy hands and was about to go upstairs to rest when Leng Yixiu pulled her out of the villa, saying that an after-dinner walk was good for digestion.

Lin Yixun thought that she wouldn't mind a walk to help digest, but she didn't want to walk with him. She suspected Leng Yixiu knew this too, but lately, he just liked making things awkward for himself.

Compared to the hustle and bustle of home, the suburban London evening was remarkably peaceful. Outside the villa was an endless, lush green lawn. A road meandered through the expansive grass, extending to the horizon.

At the junction of the lawn and the sky, the sunset was slowly sinking below the horizon. The afterglow of the setting sun painted the sky a beautiful orange-red. Near the horizon, a bright moon hung in the sky, surrounded by a few dazzling stars.

Lin Yixun couldn't help but smile, a radiant smile spreading across her face. She had to admit, the scenery here was beautiful. A cup of coffee at this moment would be perfect.

Leng Yixiu glanced at Lin Yixun beside him, seeing the smile in her eyes and asked in a low voice, "Do you like it?"

For a moment, Lin Yixun forgot her situation and nodded, "Yes, it's very beautiful."

"If you like it, we can come here for a few days every year."

Upon hearing that, Lin Yixun's smile stiffened and slowly faded away.

Every year?

She didn't know if he was being casual or serious. If it was casual, that would be fine, but if he was serious, she couldn't bear it.

"No need, you should bring Cheng Ying here instead."

Cheng Ying's name was like a thorn—untouchable, unspeakable.

Sure enough, Leng Yixiu's expression immediately changed, and he fell into silence. The atmosphere turned somewhat oppressive, even though they were outdoors, Lin Yixun still felt stifled.

After a long while, Leng Yixiu was the first to speak, breaking the suffocating silence, "Lin Yixun, actually, Ying'er and I aren't what you think. She..."

Lin Yixun cut him off coldly, "Mr. Leng, I'm not interested in whatever is going on between you and Miss Cheng."

Leng Yixiu gave her a long, deep look, hesitated, and ultimately swallowed the words that were about to come out.

He sighed softly and asked in a low voice, "In your heart, have you already judged me as utterly unforgivable?"

"Not utterly unforgivable," Lin Yixun suddenly smiled, "I'm just once bitten, twice shy."

She emphasized every word in the last sentence. Years ago, because of Cheng Ying and Leng Yixiu, she paid a painful price. It took her four years to heal that wound. Now, she didn't want to know anything about Leng Yixiu and Cheng Ying.

She just wanted to be a good mistress, nothing more. All she needed was to wait for Leng Yixiu to marry Cheng Ying, then go their separate ways.

Chapter 308: He Changed

Ouyang Che's prediction was correct. Within a few days, Ouyang Hao came back on his own. Mrs. Ou was overjoyed to see her son return, but she still couldn't relax until she had a doctor give Ouyang Hao a full body check-up.

"Mrs. Ouyang, Mr. Ouyang's injuries are not serious. You can rest assured."

Only when she heard the doctor's words did Mrs. Ou's heart finally come down. However, upon seeing that Ouyang Hao had lost quite a bit of weight, she couldn't help but feel distressed.

"Where have you been these past few days? How have you lost so much weight?"

"Nowhere, just wandering around." Ouyang Hao still spoke as casually as ever, as if nothing unusual had happened.

"I had the auntie make some chicken soup for you. Drink it later. You've been eating out these past few days, and the nutrition must have been lacking. You need to make up for it."

"Alright, alright. Mom, I'll drink the soup later. You go out first. I'm tired and want to sleep for a bit."

"Okay, mom will go out now, but remember to drink the soup."

Mrs. Ou left the hospital room reluctantly. At the door, she ran into Ouyang Che, who had just rushed back from the military. Ouyang Che said to the guard beside him, "Other than the bodyguards in the corridor, the rest can be dismissed."

Hearing this, Mrs. Ou worriedly said, "Aren't you afraid your brother will sneak out again if you pull back the bodyguards?"

"He won't." Because the reason he sneaked out is no longer there.

Mrs. Ou was skeptical, "Are you sure? If your brother sneaks out again and something happens, I won't let you off the hook."

"Mom, don't you trust me? Besides, Hao is an adult now and has his own decisions in doing things. If he really wants to leave, do you think these bodyguards can stop him?"

Mrs. Ou thought for a moment and realized it was true. Didn't Ouyang Hao slip away last time?

What comforted Mrs. Ou was that, just as Ouyang Che said, since Ouyang Hao returned to the hospital, he hadn't made any noise about wanting to leave, not even once mentioning Lin Yixun's name.

Seeing Ouyang Hao's injuries gradually healing, Xiao Mu started arranging some easy work for Ouyang Hao, like interviews and such.

The reason she did this was partly because Ouyang Hao had disappeared from public view for quite a while, and many media outlets kept inquiring with the company about his status, which she found very annoying. But more importantly, she hoped that work might distract Ouyang Hao, helping him get over that relationship.

Actually, ever since he came back, Ouyang Hao appeared normal on the surface. But Xiao Mu, who had grown up with Ouyang Hao and worked together for many years, knew her brother too well.

Even though he was still eating, sleeping, and acting carefree and cynical as usual, the light in his eyes was gone. She knew very well how much the matter of Lin Yixun had hurt him.

One day, after Ouyang Hao finished an interview in the hospital room and sent off the reporters and staff, he welcomed an unexpected visitor.

Li Yun'er glanced downward at the cast on Ouyang Hao's leg and said with schadenfreude, "Oh, I never expected our suave Second Young Master Ouyang to become semi-disabled."

"Are you here to laugh at me? If so, the door is over there. Don't let me see you out."

Chapter 309: You are the great romantic

"Come on, we're old flames after all. Even if you're not in the best mood, you should at least think about our past relationship."

"Who's old flames?" A voice suddenly interrupted the two from outside.

"Who's out there?" Li Yun'er turned around in annoyance, and saw a head peeking from the doorway.

Li Yun'er was extremely beautiful to begin with, and her proud demeanor instantly dazzled Mu Chen. He straightened his clothes and walked into the ward with an air of importance, naturally seizing the opportunity to chat with the beauty.

"Hi, beautiful! You're Li Yun'er, right? I've seen you on TV. You look even more stunning in person."

Li Yun'er ignored him, assuming he was just another playboy, and turned to Ouyang Hao, saying, "I heard your agent got you a role in a TV drama. It just so happens that the director of that drama also contacted me."

"So?" Ouyang Hao raised an eyebrow.

"So, barring any surprises, we'll be co-stars for the next few months."

"You're a model. Why aren't you sticking to the runway instead of messing around in the film industry?"

"What do you mean by 'messing around'? You're just a singer. If you can switch to acting, why can't I? Anyway, I'm here to inform you, and to see if you're crippled or not." She said, knocking on Ouyang Hao's casted leg with her finger, "I heard the entire crew delayed filming because they're waiting for their leading man. You better not disappoint. Making me wait wouldn't be very nice."

To which Ouyang Hao responded, "If you're in that drama, I'm quitting."

"You dare!" Li Yun'er suddenly realized her reaction was too strong. She calmed herself and said, "Fine, I have another appointment later. I'll be going now. But, Ouyang Hao, I have to remind you, whether you want to act in this drama or not, you have to. Otherwise, you're not getting away with it."

With that, Li Yun'er turned and left without a trace, leaving the two men in the ward petrified.

Mu Chen's gaze followed Li Yun'er's figure for a long time before he retracted his eyes and leaned in toward Ouyang Hao with a sly look, "I bet Li Yun'er still has feelings for you."

"What feelings? I have nothing to do with that woman, okay?"

"Wasn't she your ex-girlfriend? How's that not related?"

"Didn't I tell you, we were just pretending to be a couple back then?"

"Maybe she thought the act was real?" Mu Chen smirked.

Ouyang Hao's expression changed slightly before he composed himself, "Nothing like that happened. Don't guess wildly."

"I'm not guessing wildly. My eyes are sharp."

"Yes, yes, your eyes are sharp. You're Sun Wukong with fiery eyes and golden pupils."

"Those eyes are for spotting monsters. I'm saying she has feelings for you based on evidence. Back when you asked her to pretend to be your girlfriend, she agreed without a word. When you two 'broke up', it was clean. With her current fame, there must be many famous directors reaching out to her. Yet she chose to act with you. And the way she looked at you just now, it's clear she likes you."

"Okay, fine. You're experienced and your words make sense."

"Of course. Who am I? I'm the love expert."

"Love expert?" Ouyang Hao scoffed, "Have you ever had a real relationship?"

Exposed by Ouyang Hao, Mu Chen's face turned a bit sheepish, "Fine, fine, I lose. You're the love sage who has had genuine relationships."

Chapter 310: What Kind of Love Saint is He?

Ouyang Hao's eyes suddenly darkened, and he laughed at himself, "What kind of love saint am I? If I were a love saint, I wouldn't be like this now."

Always invincible in the love game, who would have thought he would meet his lifelong nemesis. He gave his whole heart to that person, only to find that her heart and eyes were all for the man who once let her down.

Haha, isn't it a joke?

Young people's bodies always recover faster. Ouyang Hao had been exercising regularly, so his body was naturally better than ordinary people. A few days later, the doctor informed him that he could be discharged from the hospital.

After being discharged, Ouyang Hao took on a lot of work. To be precise, even some commercial activities he used to disdain, he didn't refuse. He packed his schedule tightly, working non-stop every day.

After Ouyang Hao was discharged, Mrs. Ouyang did not leave T City but stayed in his apartment to take care of him, making soup for him every day, hoping that his leg injury would heal soon.

However, seeing Ouyang Hao leave early and return late every day, Mrs. Ouyang couldn't help but worry and feel distressed. She advised, "Son, your injury hasn't healed yet; you can't exhaust yourself like this. I'll talk to Xiao Mu and ask her to arrange less work for you."

"Mom, why are you looking for Cousin? I can handle this much work, so don't worry about me. Besides, celebrities have to maintain their popularity and exposure, otherwise, their popularity will decline."

"It's better to lose some popularity than work until you fall ill. Our Ouyang family can afford to support you. If one day you can't make it in this industry, you can always return to the Imperial City and get a job."

"No way, I still like my current job!" Ouyang Hao leisurely took a sip of chicken soup.

How could it be possible for Ouyang Hao to return to the Imperial City and live under his parent's watchful eyes? Besides, he had no interest in those nine-to-five jobs.

"I knew you would say that, forget it, I won't bother you. Your eldest cousin is getting married tomorrow, so I need to go back. Take good care of yourself here, okay?"

"Is Cousin getting married so soon? With whom?"

"Who else? Uncle Wang's eldest son."

Ouyang Hao frowned. Wasn't Cousin's previous boyfriend a high school teacher? How did it change to Uncle Wang's eldest son?

But soon, Ouyang Hao understood the reason behind it. It was nothing more than history repeating itself, with forced separations. He suddenly felt what was in his bowl tasteless. People in their circle could never escape the fate of political marriages.

So, who will be the next victim of a political marriage?

"Look at how fast your cousin is." Mrs. Ouyang turned her eyes to Ouyang Hao and said, "You are not young anymore; you should also consider your life-long affairs."

Ouyang Hao, disinterested, made an excuse, "Brother isn't married yet, so why should I be in a hurry?"

Mrs. Ouyang thought of the recent incident between Ouyang Hao and that woman, which had just been resolved, and didn't dare to push him too hard. She only mentioned it at this level but still thought about finding good matches for her two sons later.

"Mom, I'm done eating. I'm going out for a bit."

"Your leg injury hasn't healed yet. Where are you going?"

"A high school classmate is here. I'll be back soon."