

Toxic Ex 321

Chapter 321: Without Her, What's the Difference Between Life and Death?

As he spoke, Ouyang Hao took a cheque from his wallet, wrote down an amount, and signed his name briskly. He handed it to the woman in front of him, "Take this."

"No, no, no, sir, you've already helped me a lot. I can't take this cheque."

"Just take it and stop arguing! If you don't have this money, even if you don't show up here again, you'll appear somewhere else, and you might not be as lucky as you are today."

What Ouyang Hao said was true. The woman hesitated for a moment but still took the cheque, hastily expressing her gratitude, "Thank you, sir! I will never forget your kindness. If I ever get the chance, I will surely repay you."

"No need to repay me, just don't trouble me again."

Ouyang Hao turned and walked towards the elevator. Seeing this, his female companion hurriedly chased after him, grabbing his arm, "Young Master Ou, our room isn't in that direction."

Ouyang Hao waved his hand at her, "I'm tired, I'm going back."

His female companion, alarmed at the impending loss of her catch, quickly suggested, "Young Master Ou, you've had some drinks, it's not convenient for you to drive. How about I drive you back?"

The man turned back and squinted, "Haven't you been drinking too?"

The female companion was taken aback by the question. In the VIP room earlier, everyone was having a good time. How could she not have had some drinks?

"Then... I will accompany you...", she began to say, but the rest of her words got stuck in her throat. The man had already entered the elevator without her noticing.

Watching the numbers on the elevator change, the female companion stomped her foot in frustration. Glaring at the room card in front of her, she fumed internally. What's this? She spent so much effort, and the big fish just slipped away?

Ouyang Hao did not call for a chauffeur or a cab but instead went to Nightshade's underground garage, drove off in his Lotus sports car, and left Nightshade alone.

Actually, his leg hadn't fully healed and he had been drinking, so he shouldn't have been driving. But he was never one to play by the rules. He drove at high speed, leaving one car after another behind.

The buildings on both sides of the road flew by rapidly, the neon lights casting a bewitching glow on his handsome face.

As he drove over an overpass, a hint of madness seemed to flash in his eyes as he looked at the guardrail. For a moment, he even wondered what would happen if he suddenly turned the wheel and crashed in that direction.

Would he die?

The man curled his lips in self-mockery. Living like this felt no different from being dead. Every second without Lin Yixun was excruciating.

Everything in this world was meaningless without her. Despite having money and fame, he still felt an abnormal loneliness. Even alcohol couldn't numb his nerves or make him forget her.

What was so good about her, anyway?

Ultimately, the man didn't act on his crazy impulse. He safely returned to his apartment and fell asleep as soon as he hit the bed. But the next morning, he was rudely awakened by a series of relentless phone calls.

Unsurprisingly, his actions from the previous night had reached the media and blown up into a scandal. Xiao Mu was furious and gave Ouyang Hao a severe reprimand.

Having partnered with Xiao Mu for so many years, Ouyang Hao understood Xiao Mu's temper well. With a few casual words, he managed to brush the matter off. Just as he'd barely dealt with Xiao Mu's outburst, the doorbell suddenly rang.

Chapter 322: Leng Yixiu, please stay away from my mom

"Brother, why are you here?" Ouyang Hao opened the door and saw Ouyang Che at the entrance.

"Just came to check on you." The man walked into the apartment, noticing the mess all around. He frowned and said in a low voice, "You could hire a housekeeper."

"I did, but I ended up yelling at them, and they left," Ouyang Hao shrugged.

"With such a big place, someone has to clean it."

"Doesn't matter. I'm planning to sell this apartment anyway."

"You're planning to sell it?" Ouyang Che gave him a deep look and then said, "Since you're planning to sell it, why not move back and live with our parents?"

"Brother, give me a break. Living under our parents' eyes, I'd be nagged to death."

"That's Mom's idea. You living alone here, Mom can't take care of your daily needs. Moving back to the Imperial City isn't a bad idea. The family can look after each other. Besides, Mom has been busy finding you a match lately. You'll have to go back anyway."

"I can find my own partner. Empress Dowager doesn't need to worry about that. And besides, aren't your personal issues still unresolved? Shouldn't she be focusing on you first?"

Ouyang Che's face broke into a refined smile, and he raised an eyebrow, "Do you think I can escape?"

"True, but brother, are you really planning to accept the family's arrangement?"

"I've reached a suitable age for marriage. Talking about marriage isn't unusual."

Ouyang Hao frowned, "No matter what they look like or whether you like them, you'll marry them?"

"Does it matter if I like them or not?" In Ouyang Che's eyes, love in marriage was optional. A marriage with love didn't necessarily last.

The human heart is the hardest thing to control. Maybe you loved someone passionately at first, but after a few years, treating them like a nuisance isn't unheard of.

Ouyang Che's wife only needed to be gentle, generally understanding, and maintain mutual respect with him.

Ouyang Hao suddenly laughed, "True, does it matter if you like them or not? It doesn't make a difference who you marry."

After all, he'd never be with the person he loved, so it didn't matter whom he married.

However, the deep sorrow in Ouyang Hao's eyes was obvious. Life is long, and if a marriage is only about mutual respect, what meaning does it hold?

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Lin Yixun and Leng Yixiu lived alone in the London Suburb for a few days. Although their relationship wasn't pleasant, it wasn't confrontational either.

Time passed silently, and Lin Yixun's patience gradually wore thin. She couldn't help but ask Leng Yixiu, "When are we going back to the country?"

"Are you in a hurry to go back?"

"I haven't seen my mom in many days. She's alone back home, and I'm worried. Besides, I've taken so many days off work, it's hard to explain to the company." Lin Yixun's reasons sounded legitimate, but they weren't the most important ones.

"You don't need to worry about the company. As for your mother, if you're worried about her, you can bring her next time."

"Bring her along?" Lin Yixun's face grew cold, "Leng Yixiu, you should know very well that my mom wouldn't want to see you."

The man understood the reason well. Because of him, Father Lin was imprisoned, and Lin's mother undoubtedly hated him to the core.

Lin Yixun saw the man's unhappy expression but didn't want to avoid the topic. She fixed her eyes on Leng Yixiu and said word by word, "Leng Yixiu, I don't want my mom to be involved, so you better stay away from her."

Chapter 323: His Temperature

The man pressed his thin lips tightly together and fell into silence for a long time. Finally, he spoke in a low voice, "We will return home the day after tomorrow."

"As for your mother..." The man turned his gaze to Lin Yixun's profile, "Don't worry, I won't appear in front of her before your father is released from prison."

Upon hearing this, Lin Yixun felt a slight relief in her heart. Deep down, she was indeed afraid that Yixiu would insist on meeting her mother, but come to think of it, there was no need for Yixiu to meet her mother.

What benefactor would go to see the family of his mistress?

However, he said he wouldn't meet her mother before her father was released from prison, so what happens after her father is released?

Lin Yixun did not delve into the meaning behind Yixiu's words. His wedding with Cheng Ying was already scheduled and would take place this year, while her father wouldn't be released until next year. Therefore, no matter what he meant, it had nothing to do with her.

Considering Yixiu's current attitude towards her, as long as she didn't provoke him or make her own life miserable, he was still somewhat kind to her and didn't do anything too extreme, at most occasionally taking advantage of her.

Hope suddenly sprouted in Lin Yixun's heart. As long as she was careful before Yixiu got married and didn't anger him, perhaps she could escape unscathed.

With this thought, Lin Yixun's mood brightened. So much so that the next day when Yixiu suggested taking her to London City, she didn't resist or oppose.

It was her first time in England, and since she was here, visiting the England Capital was a good choice. Although the traffic regulations in Britain were different from those back home, with cars driving on the left, Yixiu was quite adept at driving.

Their first stop was Buckingham Palace, the residence of the Queen of England. When the Queen isn't inside, tourists can visit. But today, they were unlucky, as the Queen was there.

However, even from a distance, viewing Buckingham Palace was a remarkable experience. Western architecture differs from Chinese architecture, being low-key yet grand, standing firm through history with a profound historical essence.

"How about a photo?" Yixiu suggested.

"Sure." Lin Yixun readily agreed, forgetting that she was with Yixiu.

Yixiu asked a passing tourist for help and handed over his camera. Only then did Lin Yixun realize that Yixiu meant a picture of both of them.

She thought of refusing but it was too late. The man had already come behind her, wrapping his arm around her waist and drawing her into his embrace. Lin Yixun looked down at the arm around her waist, instinctively wanting to break free, but then she thought of her impending freedom and gave up.

At the moment she lifted her gaze, the passerby pressed the shutter, capturing the moment with the magnificent Buckingham Palace in the background, the clear southern sky, and her and Yixiu.

The man took the camera back from the passerby, glanced at the photo on the screen, and raised the corners of his lips in satisfaction, seemingly very pleased.

He looked at Lin Yixun and asked, "Do you want to see it too?"

"No, thanks."

A trace of sadness flickered in the man's eyes but disappeared quickly. He stepped forward, took Lin Yixun's hand, and walked towards the broad streets of London.

The warmth of the man's palm gradually seeped into Lin Yixun's hand, but for some reason, she found the 37-degree temperature somewhat burning.

Chapter 324: A Call from Cheng Ying?

She pretended to inadvertently break free from the man's hand and asked proactively before he could turn cold, "Where are we going?"

"You'll know when we get there."

The man's face showed no change, but his fingers hidden under the sleeves opened and closed, as if trying to grasp something, but ultimately grabbed nothing.

Along the London streets, a black sports car drove slowly. The road was lined with western-style buildings, some of which were old and weathered. This is the difference between London and Chinese cities: in London, many buildings have been preserved despite the war, while in China, old buildings are torn down one by one to be replaced with concrete structures.

Actually, there is no need to visit specific attractions, the scenery is right along the way. Lin Yixun looked out the window, momentarily forgetting her situation, and admired everything outside the car.

Blond-haired, blue-eyed Brits, ancient and majestic western-style buildings, and the sound of a clock ringing from not far away — it was Big Ben making the sound. From a distance, Lin Yixun could see the top of the clock tower.

In the lingering chimes of the clock, Lin Yixun's heart gradually calmed down. She slowly closed her eyes, her lips unconsciously curled up, allowing herself to forget her identity for a while, forget her current situation, forget everything.

The man turned his gaze towards her profile, seeing her serene smile. Under the sunlight, the cold contours of his handsome face softened somewhat.

This was the first time in a long while that the atmosphere between them could be so harmonious.

However, beautiful moments are always fleeting; the harmonious atmosphere was soon interrupted by the sound of a ringtone.

Seeing that the phone had been ringing for quite a while and the man had no intention of answering it, Lin Yixun couldn't help but remind him, "Your phone."

The man glanced at the phone screen, his eyebrows knitted, then he took the phone from beside him and answered, "Hello?"

"I heard you're in the UK these days. Why haven't you called me even once despite being there for so many days?" On the other end was Cheng Ying's voice.

"I had some business here, couldn't find the time."

"You aren't secretly doing something bad behind my back, are you?" Cheng Ying joked.

"No, don't overthink it."

"I was joking! So... have you missed me in the days I wasn't there?"

The man cast a deep glance at Lin Yixun beside him, then lightly said, "I'm driving now, we'll talk later."

"Hmph, can't you tell me you miss me even while driving? You are so old-fashioned. Alright, I have some things to deal with here, we'll talk later."

Soon, the call ended with a busy tone. Leng Yixiu tightly gripped the phone, looking somewhat dazed, and then he put the phone back.

Noticing the displeased look on Leng Yixiu's face, Lin Yixun asked tactlessly, "Was it Cheng Ying calling?"

The man nodded, "Yes."

In Lin Yixun's view, the reason for Leng Yixiu's displeasure was mostly because he felt guilty towards Cheng Ying for being unfaithful. Yet, what Lin Yixun couldn't understand was, if Cheng Ying was his true love, why did he keep bothering her?

Could it be that rich people really need one or two mistresses to showcase their status and identity?

But why didn't she see any sense of achievement or satisfaction from having a mistress on Leng Yixiu's face? Instead, it seemed that he was already "stuck in a dilemma, at a loss."

"Leng Yixiu, I have a question I want to ask you."

"What question?"

"If... if Cheng Ying finds out about our relationship, what will you do?"

Chapter 325: I Advise You to Put Away Those Little Schemes of Yours

The man's face suddenly turned cold, his eyes sharp as a knife. He curled his lips in a sneer and said word by word, "Lin Yixun, if you think I don't know what you're scheming, I advise you to stop your little thoughts!"

Noticing the man's overwhelming anger, Lin Yixun wisely kept her mouth shut. Leng Yixiu was right. Lin Yixun asked this question out of some private motives. If Leng Yixiu really cared about Cheng Ying, he certainly wouldn't want their unspeakable relationship to stay hidden from Cheng Ying.

However, if this flimsy cover were to be torn apart, would Leng Yixiu have to choose between them at that time, or would he sacrifice her to protect Cheng Ying?

If that were the outcome, she was more than willing to see it through, even willing to push it along. Although she valued her reputation and didn't want her disgraceful status to be exposed, ending this relationship with Leng Yixiu would make her let go of such concerns.

"Lin Yixun, does being with me make you this uncomfortable?" After a long silence, the man suddenly spoke, breaking the eerie quiet in the car. He sighed softly, "Ying'er won't know."

"In this world, there are no walls that don't let the wind through. Who can guarantee she won't find out?"

"Even if she finds out, it won't be the result you expect." The man said coldly, "Lin Yixun, if I don't let go, don't think you can go anywhere."

The man's resolute words startled Lin Yixun. She turned to the man beside her and mocked, "Leng Yixiu, you're making me think you've fallen in love with me."

Lin Yixun thought her words would provoke scorn and disdain from the man. Unexpectedly, he responded indifferently, "If you want to misunderstand, you can keep misunderstanding."

Lin Yixun was momentarily stunned. What did Leng Yixiu mean by this?

There was silence all the way, and after some time, the car stopped by the Thames River. Lin Yixun was amazed to discover that not far from them stood the London Eye.

The giant Ferris Wheel before her was built at the end of the last century and has become a landmark of London through the passage of time.

When they boarded the Ferris Wheel, their bodies gradually rose with the cabin, and the tall buildings were gradually left beneath their feet. At the highest point, the view before them became exceptionally wide. From Lin Yixun's position, she could see a vast expanse of London's scenery.

At that moment, the sun slowly started to set, casting a glow in the sky. As the sun set, it showered the Thames River with a brilliant light, staining the river with vibrant colors. Across the river, Big Ben suddenly tolled the hour, and the chimes echoed through the city, creating a sense of timelessness.

Lin Yixun turned to the man beside her and softly said, "Leng Yixiu, do you know what my dream was when I was a young girl?"

Seeing Leng Yixiu shake his head, Lin Yixun smiled sadly, "Of course, you wouldn't know. Back then, my dream wasn't to become a scientist or to get into a prestigious university. My wish was simple, just to watch the sunset on a Ferris Wheel with someone I loved.

Back then, I foolishly fell in love with someone, tirelessly chasing after him, doing everything I could to please him, hoping he would look at me even once."