

Toxic Ex 471

Chapter 471: Ouyang Hao's rumored girlfriends

"A celebrity entering politics? He won't be like Schwarzenegger, right?" He acts well, but he's not cut out to be an official.

"At that time, most people thought the same as you do now. In people's eyes, Ouyang Hao quitting the music scene to enter politics seemed like child's play, something that wouldn't last more than half a year before he would roll back into the entertainment industry. But who would have thought, once he started, he made a splash in the political arena within just four years, and quickly rose to the level of a principal officer. You have to admit, this guy's got some skills. Of course, he didn't do it alone—his father's and brother's help was crucial. After all, his father's rank and political resources are beyond what ordinary people can match."

Shi Yi listened to this and finally seemed to catch some clues. She squinted her eyes and asked, "He's working in the new district government now?"

"Bingo!" Shen Xu snapped his fingers, "You finally get it. He's now in the new district government, and he is quite influential. If you can get him on your side, then that piece of land won't be a problem."

"People like him must be tough to deal with, right?" Shi Yi glanced at the photo in her hand. Ouyang Hao came from a distinguished family and was a former superstar. He didn't need family connections or money, making him the hardest type of person to handle.

"Everyone has a weakness. As far as I know, Ouyang Hao, despite his flamboyant and unrestrained personality, is a hopeless romantic. Five years ago, he almost fell out with his family over a woman, and later he even..."

"I'm not interested in this gossip." Shi Yi interrupted him.

"Don't rush, I haven't finished yet." Shen Xu paused and then said, "Do you know who the woman he was madly in love with is?"

"Does it have anything to do with me?"

"You're really no fun." Shen Xu rolled his eyes at her and said mysteriously, "The person he was madly in love with is the ex-wife of the Leng Group's president—Lin Yixun."

Lin Yixun...

Hearing this name, Shi Yi's chest suddenly felt a sharp pain, but the feeling disappeared in an instant. Thus, Shi Yi did not take it to heart.

"And then?" For some reason, Shi Yi was unusually interested in the ex-wife of the Leng Group's president.

"It's said that at that time, Ouyang Hao had an intense relationship with Lin Yixun despite his family's opposition, but later, the president of Leng Group intervened, and the intense love affair was abruptly cut off. After that, due to the love triangle, Lin Yixun was pushed off Seaside by the president's ex-fiancée, and her body has never been found since."

Seeing Shi Yi frowning with a distant gaze, Shen Xu nudged her, "Hey, are you listening?"

Shi Yi suddenly snapped back to reality, her long fingers idly tapping on the side of the desk, "From what you said, Ouyang Hao and the Leng Group's president must not get along well, right?"

"Of course. In the past four years, Ouyang Hao has often given Leng's a hard time. Although the official reasons sounded legitimate, anyone with a brain could see the truth. Take, for example, the shopping center Leng Group planned to build in the new district last year. Everything was set, and just before the contract was signed, the project was suddenly killed before it could start."

"From what you're saying, it seems we might have a chance to compete with Leng Group." Shi Yi smiled.

"Don't get too excited. Our company's scale is small, and the piece of land we want is also small. Even if Leng Group doesn't get it, it won't negatively impact them much. Therefore, Ouyang Hao might not interfere with Leng Group joining the bidding this time; it doesn't hold much significance for him."

"Might not interfere, doesn't mean he definitely won't. Effort counts; I will find a way."

Shen Xu gave her a deep look and suddenly joked, "Miss Shi, you aren't thinking of using a honey trap, are you? If you do, it might actually work."

He had to admit, Shi Yi's face met every man's aesthetic standards for beauty: enchanting but not at all vulgar, with a smile that could make any man fall for her. If he hadn't worked with her for years and developed some immunity, he might have fallen for her too.

Hearing this, Shi Yi glared at him fiercely, "Get lost! I'm going to rely on my real skills!"

"Haha... Looks are part of the skill set, aren't they?"

"I don't have time for you." Shi Yi rolled her eyes at him, glanced at her watch, still past six, and decided to go out for some food. She asked Shen Xu, "Want to go out and grab something to eat with me?"

"I have a date tonight."

"Siding with beauty over friends!"

"Going out with you would be considered siding with beauty over friends, wouldn't it?" Shen Xu smiled, then suddenly seemed to remember something and said seriously, "I do have another piece of information about Ouyang Hao. I'm not sure if it's useful."

"What information?" Regardless of its usefulness, Shi Yi wanted to know.

"According to reliable sources, Ouyang Hao will attend an auction this Sunday. If you have time, you can go there and test the waters."

"Okay, got it, thank you."

Shen Xu was capable of handling things efficiently. Although he went on his date, he didn't forget to have his secretary deliver an auction invitation to Shi Yi.

Shi Yi looked down at the address and time on the invitation, Saturday night at eight o'clock, Xiangning Exhibition Center. Today was already Friday; she didn't have much time left.

That night, Shi Yi still couldn't fall asleep. After tossing and turning for a long time, she finally jumped out of bed and turned on her computer. Since Ouyang Hao was the key to this bid, she might as well use the time to investigate this man.

Fortunately, due to Ouyang Hao's unique background and most of his life spent in the spotlight, information about him wasn't hard to find. As soon as she typed his name into the search bar, a flood of related entries appeared.

The entries included achievements and gossip evenly. Even after quitting the music scene and entering politics, gossip news about him continued. He still occasionally appeared on the front page with some socialite or actress. Most of these women had one thing in common: oval faces, black hair, and big eyes.

Shi Yi rested her chin on one hand, pondering. All these women looked so similar, almost like they were mass-produced in a factory. Didn't Ouyang Hao ever get tired of this aesthetic?

Chapter 472: diamond ring?

Shi Yi couldn't help but recall what Shen Xu had said to her today, and found it amusing. Back then, didn't Ouyang Hao love a woman to death? Now, he entangled with so many people. A man's love really can't be taken seriously.

However, these were not the issues Shi Yi was concerned with. She didn't care who Ouyang Hao was involved with, or how many women were in his life. What she cared about was Ouyang Hao's purpose in attending the auction.

Shi Yi checked the items to be auctioned and found that they were all jewelry and accessories, typically things that women are interested in. Why would Ouyang Hao go to such an auction? Could it be to buy jewelry for his many female companions?

Thinking about it, Shi Yi thought it's possible. She yawned, closed her laptop, and decided, no matter what Ouyang Hao's purpose was, she must meet this legendary figure. She must get that plot of land in the new district, even if Leng's Company is the industry leader.

The next day, Shi Yi arrived at the exhibition center on time according to the address and time stated on the invitation. Although the center was in a remote location, there were quite a few attendees. When she arrived, there were only a few empty seats in the corners of the venue.

Shi Yi did not sit down immediately but instead wandered around the venue seemingly aimlessly. Soon, she spotted Ouyang Hao's figure sitting in the front row.

In person, Ouyang Hao was even more handsome than in photos. His features were more delicate than a woman's, yet the distinct contours made him radiate an irresistible charm rather than an effeminate air.

Even though Shi Yi was very particular about men's looks, she had to admit that Ouyang Hao was extremely handsome.

Her scrutinizing gaze did not attract attention from Ouyang Hao but did provoke dissatisfaction from his female companion beside him. Because Ouyang Hao was present, she couldn't make a scene, but her eyes were full of hostility towards Shi Yi.

Noticing the female companion's gaze, Shi Yi instinctively sized her up. She seemed different from those rumored girlfriends Shi Yi saw last night, yet her appearance followed the same template.

The female companion looked quite innocent, but Shi Yi had no idea about her true nature.

She smirked with interest. Ouyang Hao's taste in women really wasn't great.

Seeing the woman treating her like a gold-digging vixen, Shi Yi felt a bit wronged. She couldn't help the face she was born with. Since she was already misunderstood as a vixen, she decided she might as well live up to the title.

Coincidentally, there was an empty seat beside Ouyang Hao. Shi Yi smirked and sat down next to him.

She glanced sideways at the man beside her. He was leaning lazily against the chair, eyes closed as if he was quite fatigued.

After rounds of enthusiastic applause, the auction began. The first item was a jade bracelet. According to the presenter, it was a relic from the Ming Dynasty. Shi Yi wasn't very knowledgeable about or interested in antiques.

The second item was a diamond necklace with a starting bid of two million. Seeing the necklace, Ouyang Hao's female companion couldn't sit still. She turned to Ouyang Hao, sweetly saying, "Hao, my birthday is coming up."

"Is that so?" The man's sexy thin lips curved slightly, revealing a charming smile, but deep in his eyes lay a strong sense of sarcasm.

The sarcasm in the man's eyes wasn't missed by Shi Yi. Intrigued, she raised her eyebrows. She thought this female companion might not last past today with Ouyang Hao.

However, Ouyang Hao was indeed generous. He ultimately spent five million to win the necklace.

When the female companion received the necklace, she smiled like a flower, throwing herself at the man's neck and giving him a passionate kiss, not caring about the public setting.

Was a five-million-yuan necklace worth it for a kiss?

Shi Yi pondered. She wouldn't find it worth it, but she understood that sometimes, for men, spending money on women was a form of pleasure.

As the auction neared its end, the final item was a diamond ring. Shi Yi noticed that Ouyang Hao, who had been uninterested, suddenly sat up straight, his eyes locked on the diamond ring.

Normally, Ouyang Hao should be the type of person who hides his emotions, but Shi Yi saw deep pain on his face.

Shi Yi immediately understood that Ouyang Hao attended this auction specifically for that diamond ring.

What is the significance of this ring?

Curious, Shi Yi listened to the auctioneer's introduction. The diamond ring featured a diamond from South Africa. Although the diamond wasn't as big as a pigeon's egg, its cut and clarity were top-tier, making it highly valuable.

Soon, the auction began, with a starting bid of fifty thousand.

"Fifty-five thousand," a man in the corner raised his paddle.

"Sixty thousand," a woman in the front raised her paddle.

"Seventy thousand," another woman raised her paddle.

"Seventy thousand once, any higher bids?" The auctioneer's voice echoed through the venue. Seeing no one raising their paddle, he continued, "Seventy thousand twice, seventy thousand..."

Just then, Shi Yi saw Ouyang Hao raise his paddle, "One hundred thousand."

Ouyang Hao's voice was neither loud nor soft, but it drew the attention of everyone in the venue. They were all familiar with his identity and became curious about his interest in the ring. Could it be...

Everyone turned their gaze to the female companion beside Ouyang Hao, speculating that an engagement might be near.

If so, it would definitely be the most sensational news of the year. Everyone temporarily forgot their purpose at the auction, with gossip filling the air.

The auctioneer was the first to regain his composure, clearing his throat, "Mr. Ouyang bids one hundred thousand, any higher offers?"

Everyone knew about Ouyang Hao's wealth and status, realizing that even if they competed, they wouldn't win the ring. It was better to give Ouyang Hao some face and refrain from bidding, letting him acquire it for a low price.

Seeing this, Shi Yi immediately lost interest. She suddenly had a mischievous thought—should she bid and make it harder for Ouyang Hao to get the ring?

But then she thought it wouldn't be meaningful. She needed Ouyang Hao's help, and raising the price maliciously would only create enmity, which she didn't want.

Just as she was about to give up, a man's voice suddenly came from the back of the venue, "Two hundred thousand!"

Chapter 473: Unexplainable Familiarity

Shi Yi never expected that just as the host was about to bring down the hammer, a Cheng Yaojin would unexpectedly appear out of nowhere. She was a bit curious about who this uninvited guest was. After all, from what she knew, Ouyang Hao's power in T City could not be underestimated. Anyone who dared to challenge Ouyang Hao would naturally not be an ordinary person. Shi Yi curled her lips with interest. She originally thought the auction would be boring all the way through, but now it seemed interesting. She crossed her arms and waited for the show, but when she turned back and saw the "Cheng Yaojin" clearly, the smile on her face suddenly froze. Wasn't this man the one who had harassed her that night and got beaten up by her? What a small world! She hadn't seen him for a few days, and the man was no longer in his drunken state. Yet, no matter how handsome he looked, he was not pleasant in Shi Yi's eyes. Thinking about how he had taken advantage of her previously, Shi Yi felt her teeth itch with anger. She now regretted not kicking him a few more times, making sure he couldn't get out of bed for ten days to a month.

In the moment Shi Yi was absent-minded, Ouyang Hao raised his sign again, directly increasing the price to three million, and that man was not to be outdone. In a matter of seconds, he counterattacked and

raised the price to four million. In this back-and-forth, less than a minute had passed before the price of the small diamond ring skyrocketed to ten million.

This price left the elite present gasping in surprise. After all, the ring wasn't an antique, and no matter how exquisite the craftsmanship or how high the diamond's transparency, it was simply not worth that much. For a while, the venue buzzed with chatter.

"Why are they fighting so hard over just a diamond ring?" Socialite A asked, puzzled.

"You don't get it. Don't you know that President Leng and Ouyang Hao have a grudge?" Socialite B lowered her voice and whispered.

"A grudge? What grudge? I've never heard of it," Socialite A asked softly.

"Well... it's a long story. I'll tell you slowly later. Anyway, they've been openly and secretly fighting for many years. Their relationship is an open secret in the circle," Socialite B said discreetly.

"So, who do you think will win this time?" Socialite A asked.

"Well... it's really hard to say." Socialite B shook her head. "Both are equally powerful and arrogant. It's really hard to tell who will get the ring in the end."

"Doesn't that mean there's a good show to watch?" Socialite A said excitedly.

"Shh... keep your voice down. Be careful not to be overheard. We can't afford to offend either of these deities," said Socialite B.

Although people were excited in their hearts, they didn't dare to openly watch the drama unfold, but Shi Yi was full of interest. Such a good show, she wouldn't miss it for the world. Not only did she want to watch, but she also wanted to do something.

Just now, she was worried about not having a way to approach Ouyang Hao, but the sudden appearance of this Cheng Yaojin solved her urgent problem. Seeing the price of the diamond ring soaring to twelve million, Shi Yi suddenly raised the sign at her side, "Thirteen million!"

At the moment she spoke, the entire venue suddenly fell silent. Considering the identities of Leng Yixiu and Ouyang Hao, no one on site dared to interfere recklessly. Yet, no one expected that this stalemate would be disrupted by a woman. Shi Yi only felt countless gazes focused on her, and even Ouyang Hao, who had not looked sideways, turned his gaze towards her.

At the moment their eyes met, for some unknown reason, Shi Yi's heart unexpectedly trembled. She didn't know why, she just felt that the man in front of her was very familiar. In a moment, she regained her composure. Ouyang Hao used to be a star. If she were a fan, it wouldn't be strange for her to recognize him.

But Ouyang Hao's gaze seemed a bit... slightly astonished, among other emotions she couldn't decipher. To Shi Yi's surprise, after her sudden interference, both the "Cheng Yaojin" and Ouyang Hao no longer raised their signs. Thus, the diamond ring ultimately fell into her hands. Shi Yi felt a slight heartache. Spending over ten million on a diamond ring did seem a bit wasteful to her. For the new district's land, she'd really thrown everything in the pot this time.

After the auction ended, Shi Yi stood up and prepared to leave, but at that moment, Ouyang Hao suddenly called out to her.

"Miss, please wait!"

Shi Yi paused, her lips unconsciously curling up slightly. She had been waiting for this sentence for quite a while now. However, on the surface, she had to play dumb, "Sir, is there something I can do for you?"

"Can you sell me the ring? As for the price, I won't let you suffer a loss."

"Well..." Shi Yi's eyes darted around before she smiled and said, "Of course that can be arranged, but Mr. Ouyang, I also have a favor to ask of you."

Ouyang Hao squinted his eyes, his gaze locked onto her face, "What is it?"

Shi Yi took a card out of her handbag and handed it to Ouyang Hao, "Mr. Ouyang, hello! Allow me to introduce myself, I am Shi Yi, CEO of Lei Man. My purpose here today is actually to make your acquaintance."

Ouyang Hao gave her a deep look, his sharp gaze seemingly piercing through her, and his lips suddenly curled into a mocking smile. Another person wanting to cling to his power.

"Speak, what do you want?" The man straightforwardly said.

"Our company plans to build a branch in T City this year, but there's been some issue with the land we've chosen. Coincidentally, that piece of land is within the new district under Mr. Ouyang's jurisdiction. I wonder if Mr. Ouyang could help me with this?"

"Do you want to exchange a ring for a piece of land? Ha, you have quite an appetite."

"Mr. Ouyang, that's not what I mean. I just want a fair competition. After all, Lei Man has just entered the China market and has no advantage competing for the land with the industry leader, Leng's."

"Leng's?" Ouyang Hao squinted dangerously, a chilling light flashing in his eyes.

Shi Yi nodded intentionally to catch Ouyang Hao's attention by mentioning Leng's. "As far as I know, Mr. Ouyang and the president of Leng's have some grudges. If you can give the land to Lei Man, it will be a win-win."

But as soon as Shi Yi finished speaking, she heard the man's cold voice lowly say, "Miss Shi, have you investigated me?"

Although it was a question, the man's voice was exceptionally certain.

Shi Yi felt a bad premonition rise in her heart, but could only grit her teeth and nod. "Yes, before this, I did do some homework."

"I knew it." Ouyang Hao's eyes grew colder bit by bit, and he suddenly asked, "Miss Shi, do you know what I hate the most?"

Shi Yi was stunned for a moment and then shook her head.

"What I hate most is people investigating me."

Chapter 474: Sir, what exactly do you want?

"Mr. Ouyang, I investigated you only because..."

"I don't care what your intentions are," Ouyang Hao coldly interrupted her, "Indeed, there are some grudges between Leng Yixiu and me, but I don't like others meddling in our affairs. I know what I want to do, it's not up to others to point fingers at me."

After saying this, Ouyang Hao turned away coldly, leaving Shi Yi standing there in a daze.

His silent female companion who had been by his side saw Shi Yi being humiliated and proudly raised her chin, feeling very pleased. She glanced at Shi Yi triumphantly, as if she had won a battle.

Shi Yi found it ridiculous and curled her lips ironically, "Miss, if you keep staring at me like that, your man is going to leave you behind."

Upon hearing this, the female companion instinctively looked back towards Ouyang Hao, only to see that he had already reached the entrance of the hall. She glared at Shi Yi fiercely, stood up quickly, and after a short run, managed to catch up with Ouyang Hao, then proactively hooked her arm around his.

Shi Yi shook her head speechlessly. This Ouyang Hao, his taste in choosing girlfriends was as bad as his temper.

After this little episode, Shi Yi felt a bit better, but thinking about how she had spent over ten million on a useless diamond ring without achieving her goal, and was coldly dismissed by Ouyang Hao, she felt quite aggrieved.

She took a deep breath, looked in the direction Ouyang Hao had disappeared, and bit her lower lip. There's no turning back now. Since she had invested so much in this matter, she wouldn't give up easily.

Thinking of this, Shi Yi said to the relevant person in charge of the auction, "Please help me send this ring to Ouyang Hao's residence."

Leaving the auction hall, Shi Yi decided to return to her hotel. The location of the convention center was remote, and most people who came here had their own cars. The passing vehicles were also mainly private cars. Shi Yi stood by the roadside for a long time without being able to catch a taxi.

Just at this moment, it started to rain. Shi Yi looked at the gray sky and felt miserable. She regretted not taking Shen Xu's suggestion to have the driver bring her here.

Shi Yi used her handbag to cover her head and ran to a bus stop. Seeing the rain getting heavier, she gave up, pulled out her phone, and prepared to call Shen Xu to arrange for a driver.

At that moment, a black Bentley suddenly stopped in front of her and flashed its lights.

Shi Yi paused, confused, and looked towards the driver's seat, only to see the back window roll down, revealing a familiar yet unfamiliar handsome face.

The "Cheng Yaojin" who had harassed her at the hotel?

Shi Yi couldn't help but feel shocked, and amidst her shock, there was confusion. She squinted at the man in the back seat, wondering if he had recognized her.

He... shouldn't... right?

That night, he was drunk. How could he possibly recognize her? Was he also after that diamond ring?

While Shi Yi was lost in thought, the man had already pushed open the car door and approached her.

He was holding a black umbrella, wearing an all-black bespoke suit. In the dark night, he looked like a messenger from Hell, exuding a sense of danger.

Most of the people coming to the convention center had already left. The only ones at the bus stop were Shi Yi and the man. His gaze locked onto Shi Yi's face, causing the atmosphere to become tense.

Suddenly, the man's deep, magnetic voice broke the silence, "Isn't it time we settled our score? Shi Yi, Miss Shi."

Shi Yi's eyes flashed with astonishment. How did this man know her name?

She suddenly remembered that she had used her ID card when she checked into the hotel. If this man wanted to investigate her identity, it wasn't impossible.

Since he already knew who she was, he must also know what happened that night. Was he here to demand an explanation?

Shi Yi found it amusing. Clearly, this man had harassed her first, and now he was posing as a victim to settle accounts with her. What kind of logic was that?

Shi Yi suddenly raised her eyes, fearlessly meeting the man's cold gaze, and said calmly, "Sure, how do you plan to settle this, sir?"

The familiar voice caused the man to lose focus momentarily, but the woman in front of him looked very different from the person in his memory, forcing him to come back to reality.

There are many people in the world with similar voices, and sometimes a similar voice doesn't mean anything. Moreover, the woman in front of him looked and acted completely different from Lin Yixun.

Leng Yixiu regained his composure, suddenly stepped closer, pinning Shi Yi between himself and the bus stop sign. He raised an eyebrow slightly and said, "How to settle it? Hurting someone, naturally, you must pay the price. I never take a hidden loss."

"Hidden loss?" Shi Yi instinctively stepped back, trying to maintain a distance from Leng Yixiu, and said calmly, "Sir, I think I've suffered more losses than you, haven't I? Besides, you harassed me first. I only did what any woman would do; I did nothing wrong."

Leng Yixiu mockingly curved his lips, "What any woman would do? Miss Shi, you must be joking. Do other women also practice grappling throws? And then take advantage by punching and kicking someone?"

That's only because you deserved it!

Shi Yi raised her chin confidently, "I was only defending myself. I don't see anything wrong with a woman having the ability to defend herself."

If she had been as weak as other women, she would have been bullied by those school thugs in the United States long ago.

The man looked at the stubborn, proud face in front of him with interest. He suddenly leaned closer and said, "Miss Shi, you're quite eloquent."

"Thank you for the compliment, sir," Shi Yi said with a forced smile.

Standing so close made Shi Yi feel uncomfortable. She wanted to move back, but found she had nowhere to retreat. Feeling displeased, she wondered if she should use another grappling throw to get rid of this troublesome man. Just then, a large hand firmly grasped her wrist.

The man had already sensed her intention and said in a deep voice, "Miss Shi, if you want to repeat your old trick, it won't be easy."

The man moved swiftly and had a strong grip. Shi Yi could tell he was trained. The self-defense techniques she learned in the United States were no match for his strength and skill. If she fought with him, she would likely be at a disadvantage.

After considering her options, Shi Yi ultimately decided not to resist and said sullenly, "Sir, what exactly do you want?"

Chapter 475: The voice of that young lady sounded very much like Miss Lin

"Apologize to me!"

"Impossible!" Shi Yi didn't feel she was wrong, "You're the one who's at fault first. Why should I apologize?"

"Not only sharp-tongued but also stubborn." Leng Yixiu didn't get angry, he spoke lightly, "Alright, we can take our time, we have plenty of time tonight after all."

For some reason, Leng Yixiu was extremely patient with the woman in front of him. Even he was secretly surprised by this.

"I can sue you for harassment!" Shi Yi reached for her phone but found that her phone had somehow ended up in the man's hand. She was furious and reached out to grab it. "Give me back my phone!"

The man easily avoided Shi Yi's attempt to grab the phone, thanks to his height advantage. Shi Yi was angry and tiptoed, but lost her balance and fell straight into Leng Yixiu's arms, caught off guard.

The unexpected change left Shi Yi stunned, until the mocking voice of the man above her head broke the silence, "What, can't apologize, so you're using a beauty trick now? But beauty tricks don't work on me."

"You damn uncle, it's you who uses beauty tricks!" Shi Yi cursed angrily and pushed Leng Yixiu away with force.

Leng Yixiu was amused by Shi Yi's sudden curse, "You're really not ladylike at all."

Old He, watching the scene from inside the car, was secretly surprised. Was Mr. Leng actually laughing? But wasn't he here to settle accounts with this woman? And didn't Mr. Leng hate women who curse the most? Why was he so tolerant of this woman?

This... was indeed somewhat baffling.

At this moment, the phone inside the car rang suddenly. Old He was brought back to reality and looked towards the back seat, finding Leng Yixiu's phone there.

He reached for the phone, glanced at the screen, and then got out of the car, handing the phone to Leng Yixiu.

In a low voice, "Boss, it's Sister Yi calling."

Leng Yixiu took the phone and answered it. A child's voice came from the other end, "Daddy, story..."

Reminded like this, Leng Yixiu remembered that he hadn't told his precious daughter a story tonight. Ever since Xiao Yi Xun could remember, he has been telling her a story every night without fail. Gradually, Xiao Yi Xun developed the habit of needing a story from him every night to fall asleep.

Upon hearing Xiao Yi Xun's voice, the lines on Leng Yixiu's face instantly softened, his eyes filled with tenderness, "Alright, alright, baby, I'll be back soon."

Baby?

Shi Yi raised her brow. Was this man's girlfriend or possibly his wife?

Shi Yi had heard that some couples in the country, some men liked to call their girlfriends "baby" affectionately. She just hadn't expected the cold man in front of her to do the same. This scene... was indeed somewhat odd.

She felt a layer of goosebumps all over her body, feeling a little creeped out. Didn't this man find calling someone "baby" very cringeworthy?

Leng Yixiu naturally didn't know that Shi Yi was internally cursing him hundreds of times over.

After hanging up the phone, Leng Yixiu turned and glanced at Shi Yi, "I'll leave your apology for later. I'll come back for it."

After saying this, he got in the car, and the black Bentley drove away, leaving Shi Yi standing at the roadside, somewhat exasperated. She hadn't expected the situation to end this way.

What was this?

Shi Yi laughed helplessly, feeling speechless. After all that fuss, the matter ended inconclusively. Also, what did that man mean by "I'll leave your apology for later"? Would he come looking for her again?

Hah, he may have the leisure to find her, but she didn't have the golden time to play with him!

Shi Yi checked her watch and saw it was already late. She felt anxious; she should have ignored that man earlier and called the police directly.

That's right, the phone!

Shi Yi slapped her forehead. She had been so focused on arguing with that annoying man that she forgot he still had her phone. That damn man didn't even return her phone!

Shi Yi stood alone on the roadside, feeling the cold wind, extremely depressed. Meanwhile, on the other side, Leng Yixiu lazily leaned back on the leather seat in the car, feeling very at ease.

He casually played with an Apple phone, a small and light white phone with a cartoon case, obviously not his style.

This phone was exactly the one Leng Yixiu took from Shi Yi. He forgot to return it when he got in the car, and the man didn't intend to return it anytime soon.

"Sir, there's something I'm unsure if I should mention?"

"Speak."

"That woman's voice... it sounds somewhat similar to Miss Lin's." He carefully watched the change in the man's face through the rearview mirror, seeing a flash of indescribable pain in the man's eyes, he regretted mentioning it.

The air in the car became somewhat suffocating. After a long time, Old He heard the man speak in a deep voice, "She's not her."

Leng Yixiu remembered Lin Yixun's aura clearly even after four years. He remembered her habits too, like how she never used perfume. But that woman had a faint perfume smell when she deliberately approached him, and it was Lin Yixun's most hated green tea scent.

A person can change their face, but it's hard to change their habits, their aura, and their personality.

The man leaned back, resting his head on the seat, slowly closing his eyes, his hand pressed tightly to his heart.

Yixun, where are you? They all say you're gone, but why can I clearly feel your presence, feel that you're still alive in this world.

...

The auction manager followed Shi Yi's instructions and delivered the diamond ring she won to Ouyang Hao the next morning. When Ouyang Hao opened the box and saw the diamond ring, he felt his heart tremble.

He seemed to have returned to four years ago, to the church behind the lavender fields, back to the moment when he proposed to Lin Yixun.

Back then, they thought that once they made a promise, it would be for a lifetime. But who would have thought that fate always likes to play tricks, giving you a sweet moment only to deliver a fatal blow the next.

His long fingers slowly tightened, wrapping the diamond ring in his palm. Due to the force, a stabbing pain emanated from his hands, but that pain was exactly what he wanted.

Only by feeling the pain could he be sure that he was still alive.