

Toxic Ex 76

Chapter 76: Has this guy been kicked in the head by a donkey?

Getting into the chauffeur-driven car, Ouyang Hao turned his gaze to the woman beside him and said with a half-smile, "Lin Yixun, you've really opened my eyes today."

Ouyang Hao had to reassess the woman beside him. Sometimes, she was timid and numb, enduring his bullying with silent acceptance.

But other times, she was like a hedgehog, untouchable. Take tonight, for example; she even dared to provoke Leng Yixiu. Did she not know that Leng Yixiu could easily make her disappear with just a flick of his finger?

Ouyang Hao was somewhat curious about the relationship between Lin Yixun, Leng Yixiu, and Cheng Ying, but since there were others in the car, he didn't ask.

He thought that even if he did ask, he wouldn't get an answer. This blockhead was so stubborn that if she didn't want to talk, even prying her mouth open wouldn't work.

Seeing Lin Yixun holding herself tightly, her lips turning purplish, Ouyang Hao said to the driver in the front row, "Turn on the heat."

The driver was a bit surprised. Although it was already early autumn, turning on the heat was still unnecessary.

The car gradually warmed up, and some color returned to Lin Yixun's face. She turned to Ouyang Hao and smiled faintly, "Thank you, Mr. Ouyang."

Ouyang Hao glanced at her sideways and awkwardly turned his head, "I just can't stand your corpse-like face, looking as pale as a ghost. It's really an eyesore."

Lin Yixun smiled helplessly. This guy's mouth was still as sharp as ever, never missing an opportunity to mock her.

"Where do you live?" the man asked in a deep voice.

"Mr. Ouyang, my home is quite far; it's not on your way. Just drop me off at the nearest bus stop."

"Do you plan on taking the bus looking like this?"

Through the car window, Lin Yixun barely made out her own appearance. Her soaked clothes were clinging to her, her hair was disheveled, and her makeup was a mess. She did look somewhat like a female ghost, as Ouyang Hao had said.

Her eyelashes trembled slightly, and she bit her lip before finally reporting her address.

An hour later, the chauffeur-driven car came to a steady stop at the entrance of Lin Yixun's apartment complex. She thanked everyone and hurriedly got out, walking step by step into the hazy night, eventually blending into it.

Ouyang Hao rolled down the car window and let his gaze linger on the dilapidated buildings in the complex for a few seconds, frowning.

This was the most remote slum in A City. Clearly, Lin Yixun wasn't living well. But wasn't he paying her a decent salary? What was she doing with the money?

Back at the apartment, Ouyang Hao walked to the floor-to-ceiling window and dialed Mu Chen's number. The phone rang several times before it was answered, and soon a somewhat annoyed male voice sounded.

"I say, Second Young Master Ouyang, can't you let a guy have a good night's sleep?"

"Did I interrupt your fun?" Ouyang Hao said, hitting the nail on the head.

"Damn right, I was in the middle of something." Warm and fragrant company in his arms, and just halfway through, he was interrupted. Anyone would be pissed. "Alright, alright, what's up? Speak quickly or forever hold your peace!"

"Help me investigate someone."

"What's the name?"

Looking out at the myriad lights outside the floor-to-ceiling window, Ouyang Hao's eyes flashed with countless emotions but he said in a deep voice the next moment, "Never mind, don't investigate. That's all, nothing else, bye."

What did Lin Yixun's situation have to do with him!

"Damn it! Are you messing with me?" Mu Chen stared at the phone that had been hung up, fuming. "Has this guy taken a blow to the head? Getting more and more irrational! Next time he calls me, I'm never picking up again, hmph!"

Chapter 77: Matchmaking?

When Lin Yixun returned home, Lin's mother was still awake. It had been this way for years, no matter how late she came back, Lin's mother would always leave a light on for her.

"Oh, Xiao Xun, what's happened to you? Why are you all wet?"

"Mom, I'm fine. I just attended a banquet with my boss and accidentally fell into the swimming pool." Saying this, she quickly walked into her bedroom and changed her clothes.

"You need to dry your hair too, or you'll catch a cold." Lin's mother fetched a dry towel, talking while helping her dry her hair.

Lin Yixun felt a warmth in her heart. She remembered how she used to be very naughty as a child, enjoying playing with the spray nozzle whenever her father washed the car, always ending up in a mess.

Each time, her mother would sternly scold her, but in the end, she would bring out a bath towel and carefully dry her hair. Sometimes, she was confused as to whether she liked playing with the spray nozzle or the feeling of having her hair dried by her mother.

"Mom, it's really nice to have you by my side." It really was.

"Silly child." Lin's mother smiled and patted her shoulder, "Xiao Xun, your mother is getting old and can't accompany you forever. My biggest wish now is that you find someone who loves and cherishes you. That way, even if I die, it'll be worth it."

"Mom, what nonsense are you talking about!" Lin Yixun stood up, wrapped her arms around Lin's mother's neck, and said coquettishly, "Mom, you will live a long life."

"Xiao Xun, do you remember Aunt Wang whom I mentioned before? She asked about arranging a meeting between you and her nephew again yesterday. What do you think, would you like to meet him?"

"Mom, Aunt Wang's nephew is a Ph.D. and has studied abroad. How could he possibly take a liking to me?"

"Xiao Xun, I have already discussed this with Aunt Wang. She is aware of what happened back then... Her nephew has said that he doesn't mind whether you've been married before. Xiao Xun, please listen to Mom and just go meet him?"

Lin Yixun knew, with her mother's personality, even if she didn't agree now, it would come up again later. Unable to withstand her mother's coaxing, she nodded.

Lin's mother was all smiles, and the next day she contacted Aunt Wang. The two elderly ladies were surprisingly efficient, quickly arranging the meeting time.

Lin Yixun found it both amusing and frustrating.

She thought, even if that person didn't mind her past marriage, the scar on her face would probably make the returnee back out.

Men are visual creatures.

Their meeting place was a revolving restaurant on the top of a landmark building in A City. The average spending there was at least a thousand yuan per person, indicating that Mr. Xing took this date quite seriously.

However, Lin Yixun thought he would probably be disappointed.

To show respect, she put on light makeup and chose a white dress that was barely presentable. She thought this was the best she could do.

In the high-end restaurant, aside from the exquisite dishes, the waitstaff's service was also top-notch. As soon as Lin Yixun walked into the restaurant, a young waiter warmly greeted her.

"Miss, how many in your party?"

"There's a reservation already. Where is table 12, please?"

"Sure, miss, please follow me."

The waiter led her to a window seat where a man was already seated. With his back to her, she couldn't see his face, but from his tall and straight back, it seemed he wouldn't look too bad.

Chapter 78: Accidental Romance

When Lin Yixun saw the man's appearance clearly, she couldn't help but sigh, not only was he good-looking, he was incredibly good-looking. The man wore gold-rimmed glasses, making him look gentle and refined, very pleasing to the eye.

However, this person seemed somewhat familiar, but she couldn't quite remember where she had seen him before.

She thought, perhaps it was her imagination.

An outstanding appearance, plus a prestigious university PhD who had returned from studying abroad, such a person would be sought after anywhere, yet this person still needed a blind date.

"Are you Mr. Xing?" Just to be safe, Lin Yixun confirmed first.

Seeing the other party nod politely, Lin Yixun finally sat down. Knowing exactly where she stands, she didn't think she could catch the eye of the gentleman in front of her, so she decided to go straight to the point.

"Mr. Xing, you must have learned some things about me from Aunt Wang. I had a failed marriage before, my job is not very decent, and the scar on my face, even the plastic surgeon said there's almost no chance of completely removing it. In any aspect, I'm not worthy of you. I think, you surely wouldn't fancy me either. Your parents definitely wouldn't want a girlfriend like me. So, Mr. Xing, if you have things to do, you can leave first."

This last sentence, Lin Yixun said very tactfully, in reality, she just wanted to give the other party an excuse to leave. She was certain he wouldn't like her, so why make him waste time and money on her?

Lin Yixun talked for quite a while, but saw no sign of impatience on his face, instead, there was a hint of interest in those phoenix eyes behind the gold-rimmed glasses.

After a long while, the man elegantly adjusted his glasses on his nose and lightly opened his thin lips, "No worries, today is the weekend, I have free time all evening."

"Also..." The man suddenly looked up at Lin Yixun, his rich voice carefully enunciating each word from his thin lips, "Miss Lin, right now in our country, the divorce rate among those born in the 80s is over twenty percent, and of the remaining eighty percent, quite a few are just making do; in the United

States, the divorce rate is even higher, people's acceptance of divorce is really high. So, Miss Lin, whether you've been divorced or not, I don't mind.

Moreover, you say your job is not decent, then in Miss Lin's eyes, what kind of job is considered decent? In my opinion, a job is just a tool to support oneself, nothing worth discussing about decency.

Lastly, you say my parents might not want a daughter-in-law like you, this is actually something Miss Lin doesn't need to worry about, my parents are quite open-minded, they respect my choices in matters of marriage, besides, they are often abroad and rarely return home, so Miss Lin, all your worries are unnecessary."

The man calmly addressed all of Lin Yixun's concerns, finally his gaze landed on the long scar on Lin Yixun's cheek, "As for the scar on your face... I don't think it affects your beauty."

Lin Yixun was stunned, she had been ready to wrap things up, but hadn't expected this sudden response from Mr. Xing.

She didn't know what to do for a moment, and said in a low voice, "Um... Mr. Xing, maybe you don't know, my mother's illness is also quite serious, it would cost a lot of money..."

She spoke very tactfully, thinking the man would understand her meaning clearly, the "a lot of money" she mentioned was no small sum. Lin Yixun thought, no one would want a mother-in-law who is a financial burden, right?

"Miss Lin, although I am a salaried worker, sometimes I take on extra work on the side, supporting a family shouldn't be a problem."

Chapter 79: The Legendary Campus Heartthrob

Lin Yixun lowered her head, somewhat overwhelmed. In this world, there was such a man who didn't care about her past, her job, her family background, and even her appearance?

Should she feel grateful or terrified?

Probably more of the latter.

She didn't know how to react momentarily, but luckily the waiter eased her embarrassment.

"Miss, may I take your order?"

Lin Yixun nodded heavily, her hands trembling as she flipped through the menu, "seriously" reading line by line. However, even though her head was down, it seemed like a gaze was fixed on her, making her feel uncomfortable.

Lin Yixun kept comforting herself, it must be just her illusion. She "seriously" ordered the dishes, without actually processing a single word, until she heard the waiter's reminder.

"Miss, the menu is upside down."

"Ah?"

Lin Yixun looked up in astonishment, and after being petrified for a while, her small face turned red. She really wanted to dig a hole on the spot and bury herself alive.

She hurriedly corrected the menu, randomly pointing to a dish, finally completing the difficult task of ordering.

Compared to Lin Yixun's panic, the man across from her was much more composed. He calmly ordered a filet steak, two desserts, and a drink, politely adding at the end, "Honey grapefruit tea, hot."

Lin Yixun raised an eyebrow suspiciously, this man also liked honey grapefruit tea? However, it's rare for men to drink hot beverages.

But later Lin Yixun found out that the honey grapefruit tea was ordered for her. She was somewhat surprised, how did this man know she liked honey grapefruit tea?

"I noticed you didn't order a drink earlier, so I ordered for you. I hope you like it?" the man said with a smile.

Lin Yixun felt relieved, it seemed to be just a coincidence. If he really knew, she would probably be terrified again.

It was their first meeting, with no intersections between them, and naturally no topics to talk about. Lin Yixun felt somewhat fortunate that she could use eating to block her mouth, otherwise she really wouldn't know what to do.

But at the dinner table, not saying a word made the atmosphere extremely awkward. Finally, the man seemed to be unable to stand it, and broke the silence first.

"Miss Lin, did you graduate from A University?"

Lin Yixun's hand holding the knife and fork paused slightly, then she smiled dryly, "I dropped out of university, only studied for three years, and didn't graduate."

The man did not delve into why Lin Yixun didn't graduate from university, he raised his eyes looking at Lin Yixun, and said casually, "I also graduated from A University."

"You also graduated from A University?" Lin Yixun's eyes flashed with surprise, she couldn't help but ask, "Which year did you graduate? Oh, and which department were you in?"

"Class of 2012, Computer Science Department."

Class of 2012, Computer Science Department? How could there be such a coincidence?

Lin Yixun suddenly let down her guard, and smiled, "I'm also in the Computer Science Department, but I'm one year below Senior. However, in the past, the class of 2012 often had activities with us, why have I not seen you much?"

"During university, I started a small company outside, so when there were no classes, I was usually not on campus."

"No wonder." She thought to herself, someone as outstanding as him, if he often wandered around the campus, how could she not notice?

At that time, the Computer Science Department had a lot of male students, but most of them didn't look good, handsome ones were even rare to find.

In their year, Li Yun was quite presentable, but in the class of 2013, except for the legendary Senior Xing, the others were simply unbearable to look at. However, in her three years in university, she had never seen the so-called department beau.

What was his surname again, it seemed to be Xing.

Lin Yixun's eyes suddenly flashed with a glimmer, her eyes widened, it appeared that the person in front of her also had the surname Xing!

Chapter 80: Ouyang Hao, guess who I just met?

Lin Yixun's eyes darted around before landing on the man in front of her. She asked somewhat guiltily, "What's your name?"

Initially, she had agreed to come to the blind date just to appease Lin's mother. Therefore, she paid little attention to the man's name, vaguely remembering his last name was Xing.

Thinking about it now, it was indeed a bit awkward.

The man didn't seem annoyed and patiently repeated his name, "My name is Xing Yi. Miss Lin, make sure to remember it this time."

"Yes, yes, senior, I will definitely remember."

Lin Yixun silently grumbled to herself; of all times to run into someone, why did it have to be now? And it just had to be the campus idol from back then. If she told her former roommates, wouldn't their jaws drop?

Thinking about her college roommates, Lin Yixun couldn't help but feel a bit down. She had left school so hastily back then that she didn't even have a chance to say goodbye. Reflecting on it now, she felt a bit regretful.

"Um... senior, did you go to the United States right after you graduated from college?"

"Yes, I just came back recently."

The man cut the steak on his plate into pieces, placed them on another clean plate, and pushed it in front of Lin Yixun. His actions were natural and smooth, as if he had done it a thousand times before.

Lin Yixun felt a bit embarrassed but didn't know how to refuse his kindness. She had no choice but to take the plate, "Thank you, senior."

For a moment, the atmosphere became awkward again.

Lin Yixun looked around, trying to change the topic, "Senior, where are you working now?"

"I'm currently teaching at T University."

"That's impressive, senior."

At a prestigious university like T University, the selection process for faculty is especially rigorous. Lin Yixun guessed that Xing Yi was only about a year older than her, yet he could teach at such a renowned university. It was truly extraordinary.

Later, they talked about some interesting stories from A University. The atmosphere during the meal was quite harmonious, not as uncomfortable as she had imagined.

Out of gentlemanly manners, Xing Yi naturally paid for the meal. Lin Yixun felt rather embarrassed about it, knowing that meals at this place weren't cheap.

As they were leaving the restaurant, Lin Yixun ran into Li Yun'er and her assistant. She wasn't sure if Li Yun'er still remembered her, so she didn't greet her.

She thought, someone like her, a socialite, probably wouldn't remember her.

But quite the opposite, Li Yun'er remembered her very clearly. As they brushed past each other, she took a quick glance at Lin Yixun and then swiftly assessed the man beside her, a charming curve appearing on her red lips.

She took out her phone from her bag, found Ouyang Hao's name in her contacts, and dialed it.

The phone rang several times before it was answered, and Ouyang Hao's impatient voice came from the other end, "Hello? What is it?"

These past few days, for some reason, Li Yun'er had been calling him incessantly, driving him crazy. He was increasingly regretting whatever brain glitch had led him to ask her to pretend to be his girlfriend back then.

"Oh, quite the temper you have there. Could it be that I'm interrupting something?"

"Good thing, bad thing, just speak your piece, or I'm hanging up."

"Don't do that. I'm calling about something important."

"What important thing?" Don't tell me she wants me to be her damn driver again?

"Relax, I'm not asking you to come pick me up. I'm about to eat, and I don't have time for you," Li Yun'er said nonchalantly while playing with her newly done nails. "Guess who I just ran into?"