

Chapter 161

Meanwhile, Lin Xinyan's eyelashes batted slightly, and soon, she slowly opened her eyes.

Everything that greeted her was unfamiliar to her, so she sat up abruptly. The room was small and plainly furnished, with a layout looking like a two-story building in a rural area.

Why am I here?

Her heart suddenly skipped a beat. Someone sent her a text that mentioned Lin Xichen and Lin Ruixi. She was afraid that the person would harm her children, so she took the initiative to contact the text sender.

The person asked her to meet in a rental house...

"This drug can destroy the nerves in the human brain. After injection, it will cause hallucinations and confusion in memory."

She suddenly heard a male voice and turned to look at the source of the voice. Through the curtains, she vaguely saw two figures standing on the balcony. Judging from their height and voice, they should both be men.

She tightly held the bedsheets under her body. Who are they? What are they trying to do?

Standing on the balcony on the second floor was a doctor in a white coat. He was the one talking just now.

He Ruize looked distantly at the hillside not far away, seemingly hesitating.

Noticing his hesitation, the doctor said, "If you want her to forget the past, you have no other choice."

He Ruize was silent for a moment, as if he had made a decision, before he said, "Okay, give her the injection."

This voice...

Then the two men moved and opened the balcony door to enter the room.

Having no time to think about it, Lin Xinyan lay down closing her eyes, and pretended to be asleep.

While her hands under the blanket kept shaking.

They were talking about drug injection. Is it for me?

After the injection, I will have memory confusion and even forget my past?

No, no, I must not lose my memory.

She felt someone was rubbing alcohol on the skin on her arm—

Her fear grew deeper. Suddenly, she opened her eyes, and a complicated yet familiar face came into view.

He Ruize.

Isn't he in jail?

Why is he here?

She had too many questions, but she couldn't ask.

She now had to make sure that she wouldn't get the injection.

He Ruize didn't expect that she would wake up suddenly, so he didn't know what to do.

"Yan—"

She glanced at the man standing by the bed with a syringe in his hand, as she clasped her hands tightly, looking at them in horror. "Who are you?"

He Ruize was taken aback for a moment. "Yan, it's me."

"Y-You know me?" Lin Xinyan curled up on the bed, looking obviously defensive.

He Ruize looked at the doctor inquisitively, seemingly asking him what was going on.

Why would Lin Xinyan show signs of memory loss even before his drug is injected?

The doctor didn't know what was going on either. "I have to examine her first to find out what is wrong."

He Ruize bent down and looked at Lin Xinyan. "Don't you remember me?"

Lin Xin said in panic, "W-Who are you? Do you know me?"

"Of course, I know you. You always call me brother. Don't you remember?"

Lin Xinyan pretended not to remember and shook her head. "I don't remember."

He Ruize reached out to smooth her messy hair. "Don't be afraid. I am your family. You got hurt. Can you let this doctor take a look?"

Lin Xinyan turned her head sideways to dodge his hand, obviously resisting his touch.

He Ruize's hand stopped midair, while he continued to persuade, "Yan, I'm your family, why don't you let me touch you? You listened to me the most before. Be good, and let the doctor take a look at your injury."

He put his hand on her head and smoothed her hair.

Lin Xinyan only felt horrified.

She couldn't stop trembling. "A-Are you really my family?"

"Yes," He Ruize answered in an affirmative tone.

Lin Xinyan thought for a moment, with her eyes as innocent and clear as an elk's. She let her guard down a little. "Make it quick, then."

Seeing her agreeing to it, He Ruize smiled. "It will be done really quick." He held Lin Xinyan's arm. "Be good, and lie down, so that it's easier for the doctor to check it."

He shot the doctor a look. Regardless of whether Lin Xinyan lost her memory or not, he would inject her with this drug just in case.

After Lin Xinyan lay down, the doctor tried to give her the injection while checking her. But, Lin Xinyan responded quickly and pushed the doctor away. "I don't want a shot."

The syringe fell to the ground and rolled to He Ruize's feet. He looked at Lin Xinyan. "You are sick. How can you get better without a shot?"

Lin Xinyan turned over and got out of bed, distancing herself from them, and insisting on not getting an injection. "I don't want a shot. It hurts. I don't want any shots."

"Yan—"

"I don't want it." She stepped on the chilly ground barefoot, hiding in the corner shivering. "I don't want a shot."

She was too emotional, so it was impossible to make her listen, so they could only get tough with her.

The doctor looked at He Ruize. "You'll hold her?"

He Ruize stooped to pick up the syringe on the ground, put it in his hand, and looked at it. "Can a person lose his memory for no reason?"

He didn't know whether Lin Xinyan's memory loss was true or not.

The doctor pondered for a moment. "People may lose memory when they suffer from emotional shock. I had a patient, who was a student with excellent grades from elementary

school to high school. Everyone said that he would be admitted to Tsinghua or Peking University in the future. But he didn't even get accepted by ordinary universities. It seemed that he couldn't accept this fact, so he went crazy."

Then, he looked at He Ruize. "You are also a psychiatrist. You should know that there's a limit to human tolerance. If something is rather shocking to her, she will suffer from amnesia. But this situation is not stable, as her memory may not recover for the rest of her life, or it may recover in a few days."

"I see. You may leave today. I will call you if there's anything." He Ruize handed him the syringe.

Taking it, the doctor hesitated and asked, "Are you sure you won't give her the injection?"

He Ruize hesitated for a while and nodded.

The doctor put the syringe into the medicine box. "Okay then, I'll leave first. Just call me if you need me."

"Okay."

Lastly, the doctor glanced at Lin Xinyan who was hiding in the corner, before he closed the door of the room.

Lin Xinyan's heart suddenly skipped a beat. As the door closed, she became more vigilant.

"Look, the doctor has left. There'll be no shot." When He Ruize spoke, he walked gently toward her.

"D-Don't come here." Lin Xinyan was in a panic.

She had too many questions. Why am I here? Why is He Ruize here?

Could this be a conspiracy between him and He Ruilin?

She met He Ruilin in the rental house.

She still remembered how surprised she was when she saw He Ruilin.

"Do you find it weird to see me, and that I know what happened to you before?"

She was confident in everything she said and did.

Whereas Lin Xinyan panicked, as she looked at her and asked, "How do you know things about me so clearly?"

What role did He Ruilin play in the incident six years ago?

“Haha—” He Ruilin laughed. “How do I know? Because I was the one paying for your body.”

Her sinister laughter was especially terrifying in the dim rental house.

Lin Xinyan fell into despair. It was He Ruilin who gave me money that night.

So, who was the man that night?

Chapter 162

“Do you really want to know who the father of your children is?” He Ruilin approached her slowly.

Lin Xinyan couldn't help but stepped back. At this moment, a woman wearing a cap and a mask on her face came in through the door.

The reason why the person coming in was said to be a woman was that she dressed like a woman.

It was just that her face couldn't be seen clearly.

With a bang, the worn-out metal door was shut tightly.

Lin Xinyan was standing at the back of the house, while cold sweat had been forming on her palms since the woman came in.

As the door closed, her heart flinched hard.

Although the woman said nothing, Lin Xinyan could feel her unfriendliness and hostility toward her.

He Ruilin glanced back at her. The pair seemed to know each other well. “You are here.”

The woman responded in agreement, with her eyes staring at Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xinyan couldn't see her expression clearly under the dim light, and she was even wearing a mask, but her eyes were full of hatred when she looked at her.

Lin Xinyan was in a panic, while she tried to remain calm on the surface. “Who are you?”

Instead of answering her, the woman smiled creepily. “You don't need to know who I am. I only want you to know that from now on, everything that's yours will be mine, but—”

Pausing mid-sentence, she smiled more viciously. “You fell into my hands today, so I can’t easily let you go. Otherwise, how can I do right by you? You’ve sent my mom to jail and forced me to leave B City. You didn’t expect that I could still come back, did you?”

As soon as she finished speaking, she and He Ruilin surrounded Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xinyan looked at the woman in front of her with a pair of inquisitive and horrified eyes. “Are you Lin Yuhan?”

“Haha. Very well, you still remember me.” Lin Yuhan smiled and looked at He Ruilin beside her. “Join me?”

He Ruilin curled her lips. “She falls into my hands today, of course, I will not let her off.”

Lin Xinyan stared at the closed door to see if there was a chance to escape, but Lin Yuhan seemed to see through her intentions. “Don’t think about running away. You can’t get away. We set up such a big trap to finally lure you here. Do you think we will let you run away?”

“Why are you two together?” Lin Xinyan deliberately talked to them to buy time, while she reached out to try to get the phone in her pocket, only to find that she had somehow lost the phone.

“Don’t you know that the enemy of my enemy is my friend?” Lin Yuhan pinched her chin. “For this day, I spent four years getting back to you. If you did not return to China back then, I will still be Young Mistress Yuhan, and the apple of my dad and mom’s eye. But everything changed after you came back. So tell me, how can I let you off?!”

Lin Xinyan broke free from her grasp. “When Lin Guoan’s company was in difficulties, you escaped with his money. How can you blame me? You’re the one with bad character—”

Smack!

Lin Yuhan slapped Lin Xinyan in the face. When she was about to fight back, He Ruilin came up to her and grabbed her hand that had been raised.

Squinting, Lin Yuhan stared at her, like a fit of great anger suffocating her, as the firelight shot out sharply from her eyes at Lin Xinyan. A sarcastic and cruel smile tugged at her lips. “You’re at death’s door. How dare you refute and fight back?!”

“Enough nonsense with her.” He Ruilin couldn’t wait to raise her hand at Lin Xinyan. Thinking of her triumphant days, Zong Jinghao’s attention for her, and the two children she gave birth to, He Ruilin was full of hatred, and wished to kill her.

Ouch!

Lin Xinyan didn’t know what He Ruilin used to hit her waist, as she felt a stabbing pain. Faced with two crazy women, she couldn’t fight back.

They acted like some shrews without any regard for laws, as they punched, kicked, insulted, and grabbed Lin Xinyan's hair.

Lin Xinyan tried to run several times but was caught.

Lin Yuhan took out a wooden stick from somewhere and hit her on the head. Everything before her eyes went black, while her body collapsed and fell to the ground. Later, she lost consciousness. Before she passed out, she heard He Ruilin say, "Let's stop. Don't beat her to death."

"She is a time bomb if she's not dead. Are you sure she will never appear in B City, or in front of Zong Jinghao?"

"I can guarantee that."

"Your brother is so crazy about her..."

Later, she passed out. When she woke up, she was already in that room, hearing the conversation between He Ruize and the doctor, as well as the thing he wanted to do to her.

She finally understood everything now.

The reason why she was not killed by them was that He Ruilin knew He Ruize liked her, and so she kept her alive, but she was afraid that she would return to B City, so they had to give her that kind of medicine to make her lose her memory, and then live together with He Ruize.

So that, she completely disappeared from Zong Jinghao's life.

Although she still couldn't figure out how Lin Yuhan became acquainted with He Ruilin and He Ruize, she knew that the three of them came up with this plan together.

"Yan, don't be afraid. I won't hurt you." He Ruize slowly approached her.

Clutching the curtain tightly, Lin Xinyan stood behind the curtain, trying to separate herself from He Ruize. "D-Don't you come near me."

"Yan..." He Ruize didn't take Lin Xinyan's words to heart and approached her slowly.

Seeing that he was about to come and grab her, Lin Xinyan moved slowly and ran out from the side. She turned the door handle in a panic to open it but failed. She didn't give up and continued to twist the handle forcefully.

"You can't open it."

He Ruize walked over unhurriedly, with a dark look on his face. "I can guarantee that you will not die, so I can also make sure that you can't escape. Everything here is under my control. Without me, you can't get out."

Lin Xinyan clenched her fists involuntarily.

“Yan, you didn’t forget at all, did you?” He Ruize stared at the expression on her face.

“I don’t know what you’re talking about.” Suppressing the fear in her heart, Lin Xinyan met his eyes calmly, and questioned him sternly, “You said I call you brother, so you are my family. Why are you forcing me to get an injection?”

“It’s for your sake. You are sick.”

“I’m not!”

“Okay, you are not sick. I won’t give you an injection. Get over here.” He Ruize stretched out his hand with the palm up, showing the delicate yet crisscrossing lines on it.

Lin Xinyan stared at his hand. If she kept resisting him, he would definitely suspect that she did not lose her memory and would give her an injection.

I must not get the injection. I must not lose my memory.

She clenched her fists repeatedly to calm down the fear in her heart, and slowly stretched out her hand to put it onto his hand.

He Ruize held it lightly, then clasped her hand in his palm, saying with a smile, “Good job. You’re my good sister.”

Lin Xinyan was disgusted, but couldn’t show it, so she had to bite the bullet and deal with him.

“Is this our home?” Looking down, she asked in a low voice.

“No.”

It was too close to B City. In order to prevent Zong Jinghao from finding her, this place was definitely not a place they could settle down for long term.

After getting her out of the rental house, she had injuries on her body and needed medical treatment. Besides, she could not be allowed to leave with any memories of this city.

Therefore, this was just a temporary place to stay. After she recovered from the injuries and got the injection, he would take her out of here and never returned.

“T-Then, where is our home?” Lin Xinyan took the opportunity to sound him out.

“Somewhere far away.” He Ruize didn’t fully believe that she really lost her memory, so he didn’t tell her where they would be going.

He didn’t insist on giving her the injection because he was sure that she could not escape.

He held Lin Xinyan's hand tightly, put it on his lips and kissed it. "Our home is very far away. In a few days, after your injury is healed, I will take you out of here and return to our home."

Lin Xinyan instinctively wanted to withdraw her hand, but He Ruize held it tighter. "Yan, are you rejecting my kiss?"

Lin Xinyan lowered her head in order to prevent him from seeing her emotions. "Aren't you my brother? It's not good to be too intimate like this."

He Ruize rubbed her hair. "You silly, we are not real brother and sister, we are—lovers, I love you, and you—love me too. We love each other very much, don't you remember?"

Lin Xinyan shook her head.

He Ruize held her in his arms. "It's okay, I remember. In the future, I will slowly tell you about our—love story."

Chapter 163

g so will only alert them."

Will it be disadvantageous for Lin Xinyan?

He had to think about it.

Shen Peichuan thought for a while and came up with an idea. "I'll get you some sleeping pills, and you find a way to make her take it. When she falls asleep, we will take the doctor in for an examination so that she won't find out."

He felt that if this woman was really not Lin Xinyan, then this matter was definitely complicated.

In order for one person to completely become another person through plastic surgery, it will need at least several years. Besides, how can they allow failure after so many efforts have been invested? How can they let them find the real Lin Xinyan so easily?

The more Shen Peichuan thought about it, the more he found it to be a serious case. He would not feel at ease if he didn't get to the bottom of it, so he stood up and said, "I'm going to put on clothes. Wait for me."

After changing into his uniform, Shen Peichuan looked tall, gallant, and exceptionally good-looking. He took the car key and said, "Let's go."

Zong Jinghao glanced at him and said nothing, as if he had acquiesced to his suggestion.

Leaving Shen Peichuan's place, Zong Jinghao returned to the hotel with the medicine, while Shen Peichuan went to look for a reliable cosmetic surgeon.

Inside the hotel, 'Lin Xinyan' couldn't sleep at all, as she sat on the bed and grumbled, "Didn't Zong Jinghao love Lin Xinyan? Why didn't he stay with me even though I'm injured?"

The more she thought about it, the angrier she got. She stood up and walked to the bathroom with her limping legs. Looking at herself in the mirror, the face that looked exactly like Lin Xinyan's, she reached out and touched it, saying, full of confidence, "I have to say, this face is indeed delicate and beautiful."

She grinned creepily. "From now on, I will be Lin Xinyan, the mother of Zong Jinghao's children. Even if Zong Jinghao doesn't love Lin Xinyan so much, he will be good to me because I am the mother of his two children, won't he? For the rest of my life, I can live a life of worry-free and stress-free. I no longer need to be at others' mercy and come out of hiding. Haha—"

Click...

With the sound of the door opening, 'Lin Xinyan' immediately put away her smile and walked out of the bathroom pretending to be weak.

A tall figure walked in from the door, and she immediately smiled, "You're back?"

Zong Jinghao stepped in and responded lukewarmly in acknowledgment.

'Lin Xinyan' thought that he was lukewarm like this when he was with Lin Xinyan, perhaps because Lin Xinyan would not flirt with a man.

Even if she gave birth to two children for him, she couldn't make him fall in love with her.

Now that she was Lin Xinyan, she would definitely make Zong Jinghao fall in love with her deeply.

She limped toward Zong Jinghao and said coquettishly, "I'm hungry."

Zong Jinghao gave her a hand pretentiously. "I'll order some food for you."

"I want to eat in the restaurant." Following Zong Jinghao's gesture of helping her, she fell into his arms, tugging at his collar. "Eat with me at the restaurant, okay?"

Lowering his gaze, Zong Jinghao felt disgusted looking at her who had the exact same face as Lin Xinyan but had such a pretentious character.

"Please?" 'Lin Xinyan' pressed her face against his chest, rubbing.

He pushed her away calmly. "You sprained your ankle. I'll ask them to send the food here."

He then made the phone call, using the opportunity to completely leave the area which 'Lin Xinyan' was in.

Lin Xin stared at the tall figure bitterly, feeling unreconciled. Now that she had a pretty face and gave birth to two children for him, he should treat her very well. She walked over, wrapping her arms around his thin waist from behind. "Jinghao, are you avoiding me?"

Zong Jinghao lowered his head and looked at her hands that were wrapped around his waist. A hint of coldness flashed across his eyes, as he slightly raised the corners of his lips, faking a smile. "Why should I avoid you?"

Hearing this, 'Lin Xinyan' smiled brilliantly, and rubbed her face against his back. "Then, are you still willing to make a baby with me? I especially want to have more kids with you. I think it's fun to have more kids. After all, you are the only son of the Zong family."

At this moment, Zong Jinghao was completely certain that she was not Lin Xinyan.

He remembered Lin Xinyan had said that her physical condition didn't allow her to have kids anymore.

He slowly closed his eyes. After a while, he only opened his eyes after he calmed down.

"You're the boss."

His eyes were full of coldness, as there wasn't even a subtle expression on his face.

'Lin Xinyan' felt happy, as it meant that he was willing to have children with her.

If she was going to get pregnant, they would naturally need to have intercourse. Feeling excited, 'Lin Xinyan' tightened her grip around his waist. "Jinghao, I am so happy."

At this time, there was a knock on the door of the room, so Zong Jinghao broke free from her. "I'll get the door."

'Lin Xinyan' smiled. "Is it room service?"

When the door was opened, it was indeed the room service.

"Mr. Zong." The waiter wore a white shirt with a black waistcoat, looking neat and tidy, as he was respectful toward Zong Jinghao.

Zong Jinghao let him in.

Pushing the room service cart in, he then brought the plates of food to the table one by one and arranged them nicely with plates and chopsticks. "Okay, call me if you need anything."

When the waiter was pushing the cart to leave, he accidentally bumped into 'Lin Xinyan' who was walking toward the dining table.

He quickly apologized, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry. Are you all right—"

"Are you blind?" 'Lin Xinyan' was arrogant since she was Young Mistress of the Lin family. Having become accustomed to being arrogant, she couldn't change her personality. She said coldly, "Do you think an apology is enough?"

The waiter frowned slightly. He had seen this woman before. She followed Mr. Zong here, and looked like a person who was very easy to get along with. Why does she have such a bad temper and also being so unreasonable?

"Believe it or not, I can make you get out of this hotel." Lin Xinyan became more and more arrogant because she thought she was someone close to Zong Jinghao.

The waiter was in a dilemma and apologized again and again. "I'm really sorry for being blind and running into you..."

"You may go out." Zong Jinghao interrupted the waiter's apology.

'Lin Xinyan' frowned, disapproving of Zong Jinghao's actions. "He bumped into me, how can you just let him off like this?"

Chapter 164

He stared at 'Lin Xinyan' calmly and said, "What do you want?"

'Lin Xinyan' startled. Even though he looked calm, he sent a chill down her spine when he spoke. She quickly said, "He, he didn't mean it. It doesn't matter."

"Thank you. My sincere gratitude to you for being so kind-hearted." The waiter thanked her repeatedly and pushed the food trolley to leave the room. Before he closed the door, he glanced at 'Lin Xinyan' and was ill-disposed towards her.

Clearly she's like a dog that's backed by a powerful master. Who will know her if she isn't with Zong Jinghao?

Came up to him, 'Lin Xinyan' tried to hold his arms and said, "Jinghao..."

"Aren't you hungry? Let's eat." Zong Jinghao avoided her.

'Lin Xinyan's hands were left stranded in the air. Obviously, Zong Jinghao avoided her from being close to him, yet he promised to have babies with her just now.

"Jinghao, are you angry?" 'Lin Xinyan' tried to sound him out cautiously.

Looking at her, Zong Jinghao pulled the chair and replied calmly, "Nope. Let's eat."

Lin Xinyan was relieved when she saw that he wasn't angry. She took herself down a notch and sat down quietly to have their meal.

Zong Jinghao picked up some vegetables for her and said, "Eat more."

'Lin Xinyan' blushed as she was slightly shy. Apparently, Zong Jinghao treated Lin Xinyan rather well.

She was joyous.

To ensure that everything went smoothly, she didn't eat nor sleep well. She was now relieved after successfully getting to him. As she was in a good mood and had the appetite to enjoy the meal now, she had quite a lot of food.

Zong Jinghao handed a glass of water over to her and said, "Take your time."

'Lin Xinyan' felt happy to live with Zong Jinghao and sit with him together like now. She wasn't sure if she felt joyous now because Zong Jinghao gave her the glass of water and took several sips of it. Later, she put down the glass and acted cute to ask Zong Jinghao gently, "Can you stay here to accompany me today?"

Zong Jinghao responded affirmatively in a calm manner.

'Lin Xinyan' was too excited, to the extent that she forgot that she sprained her leg. As she jumped up all of a sudden from her chair, she moved too much and accidentally rammed her stomach against the corner of the table. She frowned in pain and said, "It hurts."

She was looking at Zong Jinghao in the hope that he would comfort her.

At this moment, Zong Jinghao's phone rang. After taking out the phone and knowing that it was a call from the villa, he didn't pick it up immediately but asked 'Lin Xinyan' to go back to her room and rest.

Reluctant to be back to her room, she tried to grab his phone and asked, "Who's that?"

"It's about the company. What's wrong? Do you want to interfere in my business?" He said coldly and imposingly.

As 'Lin Xinyan' didn't want to piss him off, she pouted her lips and said, "Nope. I'll just go back to my room."

Lin Xinyan limped off to her room. Her smile disappeared completely as soon as the door was closed.

Why is Zong Jinghao so moody?

Sometimes he treats her well, yet sometimes he's impatient with her. Does he really love Lin Xinyan?

Lin Xinyan was perplexed as she wasn't sure what kind of a man he was.

In the living room, Zong Jinghao closed the door of the bedroom and picked up the phone only when he was standing by the window.

Lin Xichen's voice was heard over the phone when he asked, "Where's my mommy?"

He was questioning him immediately.

Zhuang Zijin said Zong Jinghao and mommy were on a business trip, but he didn't believe it. His mommy would never go on a business trip with Zong Jinghao without telling his sister and him.

Also, she didn't bring along her clothes and daily necessities.

This didn't make sense.

Zong Jinghao clenched his fists while blue veins stood out on the back of his hand. He was infuriated as he didn't know how and where she was, and whether she was safe or harmed.

He knew nothing about her now and felt regret and worried over such a thing that happened out of his control.

He said with a shaking voice, "She's on a business trip with me..."

"Don't lie to me. I can't be easily fooled like my sister. Where's my mommy? If you're really with mommy, let her talk to me." Lin Xichen interrupted him and said with a slightly hoarse voice, "If she's really with you, why can't I get through? Doesn't she know that I will be worried about her and miss her? She knows, and so she won't do that."

This kid was too detail-oriented as they couldn't hide it from him.

Zong Jinghao wasn't sure how he should explain it to him.

He had never been so disoriented.

He couldn't even give an answer when Lin Xichen questioned him.

"Xichen."

"There's no need to explain anything. Just tell me where my mommy is or what kind of danger she's in. Please tell me everything. I've never left her ever since I was born. Since I'm the only man at home, I promised that I'll protect her..."

In the huge living room of the villa, Lin Xichen looked very tiny as he stood next to the couch. His eyes turned bloodshot and watery as he said, "Tell me."

Zong Jinghao remained silent for a moment and said gently, "I'll let Guan Jing pick you up."

"Okay." Lin Xichen hung up the phone.

Zong Jinghao was still holding his phone and lost in contemplation. Only when the phone rang again, he ended the phone call and opened the message that was just sent to him.

Shen Peichuan had brought the surgeon here and asked if they could come in as they were already waiting outside.

He checked the time. 'Lin Xinyan' should have fallen asleep now.

To ensure that she wouldn't find out, he opened the door to check if she's asleep before texting Shen Peichuan to bring him in.

When the door was opened, Shen Peichuan came in with a man that looked 40 to 50 years old and was wearing a pair of glasses with a gold frame.

"This is the plastic surgeon who has been in the plastic surgery industry for more than 20 years..."

Leaning against the couch, Zong Jinghao held his eyebrows with one of his hands and stopped Shen Peichuan from speaking as he wasn't interested to know all this. He then said, "Bring him in."

Shen Peichuan didn't continue speaking as he could sense that he wasn't in the mood. He brought the plastic surgeon to the room to examine 'Lin Xinyan'.

The surgeon brought some small tools along as Shen Peichuan explained the situation to him. He checked 'Lin Xinyan's nose with a light and noticed that there were some transparent substances. After checking her cheeks, chin, forehead, eyes and all sensory organs, he said, "There was some stuffing in her nose. She underwent eyelift surgery, orthognathic surgery, teeth-straightening surgery and many more. Basically, she underwent plastic surgery for the entire face..."

Shen Peichuan looked solemn and asked, "How much time would be needed to perform such a plastic surgery?"

"She would need at least three to four years for her to look natural, or else her face would look stiff. But, the one who performed plastic surgery for her was skillful because there are almost no flaws on her face. No one would notice that she underwent plastic surgery without meticulous examination."

Shen Peichuan walked him to the door, took out a pile of money to him and said, "Thank you. I hope that you won't mention this to anyone other than me."

“Understood. You can rest assured that I’ll not look for troubles for myself.” Once the surgeon took the money, he turned around and left.

Shen Peichuan turned around and looked at the man sitting on the couch. He was making a phone call and seemed to ask Guan Jing to go to the villa.

After closing the door, he sat in front of him and only opened his mouth when he hung up his phone, “She underwent plastic surgery.”

Zong Jinghao wasn’t surprised at all as he had expected it.

“I asked the surgeon. To undergo a plastic surgery like hers, a woman would need at least three to four years to look natural. With such a long time...” Shen Peichuan said solemnly, “I’m afraid this isn’t something simple. Who is this woman? How could she lurk for so long to be the impostor of Ms. Lin?”

Zong Jinghao had been pondering over it and knew that only several people held entrenched grudges against Lin Xinyan. Shen Xiuqing was dead, He Ruilin was jailed, and the remaining person was Shen Xiuqing’s daughter who disappeared six years ago.

Since she’s disappeared for six years, she had the time.

Plus, she had always been holding a grudge against Lin Xinyan, and had the motive to do such a thing.

Zong Jinghao seemed to have known the identity of the woman who underwent plastic surgery. Shen Peichuan came closer to him and asked, “Do you know who she is?”

“I’m just guessing. We can only be certain after investigating it.”

“So, what do you prepare to do? How should we deal with that woman?” Shen Peichuan thought that the whole incident was insane. He thought that He Ruilin was crazy enough, yet he never thought there could be a person who was crazier than her.

Women are complicated.

Shen Peichuan shivered.

He felt that women are a type of terrifying creature.

Zong Jinghao smiled and looked rather bloodthirsty and sinister.

How would that woman deserve to have Lin Xinyan’s face?

Chapter 165

“Should I bring her back for interrogation?” He might still have to obtain information from her to find Lin Xinyan.

Looking tired, Zong Jinghao closed his eyes and said, “No.”

She could still be of use.

Shen Peichuan didn't continue to discuss it as he knew that Zong Jinghao had his own plan. He changed the subject and said, “This is clearly a huge plot. We first had Shen Xiuqing and He Ruilin, and now this fake Ms. Lin got to you. If they did so many things just to make sure that this fake Ms. Lin can be by your side, what benefits would He Ruilin get?”

Zong Jinghao suddenly opened his eyes, his mind flashed back to the past memories. He Ruilin might have no direct bearing on Shen Xiuqing's death, but rather she wanted to die out of her own free will due to Lin Yuhan. Since she had lost her freedom, she thought it would be better for her to help realize her daughter's wishes.

Then, how would that benefit He Ruilin?

She isn't the type of person who would help others for free.

Why did she help Lin Yuhan and have her back to the wall?

The relationship between the He family and her wasn't good, while the only one who's close to her was He Ruize. Plus, He Ruize had been thrown in...

“This doesn't look good.” Zong Jinghao stood up suddenly.

Shen Peichuan wasn't sure what he was thinking about and asked, “What's wrong?”

“He Ruize might not be in jail anymore.” He strode towards the door.

Shen Peichuan quickly followed him and said, “It can't be. The only possibility that he isn't in prison now is that he managed to escape...” He suddenly realized that something wasn't right and said, “Did the He family renege on their promise?”

Zong Jinghao glanced at him and thought to himself. This might not be related to the He family, yet He Ruilin must have a direct bearing on it.

When the door was opened, they saw Guan Jing holding Lin Xichen in his arms, standing in front of the door and about to knock on it.

Zong Jinghao stopped, looked at Lin Xichen in Guan Jing's arms, and gulped.

“Where's my mommy?” Lin Xichen was staring at him.

Zong Jinghao initially wanted the fake woman to be an impostor of Lin Xinyan to put him at ease, yet he couldn't accept it once he imagined him calling the woman as his mommy.

He slowly lifted his slightly shaky fingers to caress his face and said, "You are a man, and so you should look like a man."

Lin Xichen looked nervous.

Clearly, what Zong Jinghao said indicated a bad omen.

"Your mommy is missing." He picked Lin Xichen up and said, "We'll find her together, okay?"

The stubborn Lin Xichen didn't refuse to be carried by Zong Jinghao but said nothing. Even though his eyes were bloodshot, he tried his best to open his eyes and prevent the tears from streaming down his face. He said hoarsely, "I'm a man, and I won't cry. I want to find mommy."

Zong Jinghao took the little one in his arms, showing tenderness that was never seen before.

Lin Xichen leaned against his chests quietly, listened to his heartbeats and immersed himself in the special smell of his body.

His little hand grabbed him by his collars tightly as he said firmly, "We will find mommy."

Zong Jinghao responded affirmatively and softly.

He looked at Guan Jing and said with a deep voice, "You'll watch over the woman inside."

After finished speaking, he strode out of the hotel.

Guan Jing was confused. Which woman? And what's happening now?

When Shen Peichuan passed by him, he made a long story short by saying, "Ms. Lin is missing, while the one inside the house is fake. Since she could be of use, we mustn't let her know that we've figured out her identity."

Guan Jing was at loss for a moment.

What?

Lin Xinyan is missing, yet an impostor is here? What's really happening?!!!

As Shen Peichuan didn't have time to explain to him in detail, he just patted him on his shoulder and followed Zong Jinghao to leave the hotel.

Shen Peichuan started the car and called his subordinate. He instructed him to check if He Ruize was still in prison.

After about half an hour, he received the news that He Ruize was replaced by another person who merely looked like him to be in prison.

Shen Peichuan looked at Zong Jinghao in the rear-view mirror and said, "He's gone."

"What should we do now?" Shen Peichuan was nervous.

"I want to meet He Ruilin." He said with a rough and deep voice.

Shen Peichuan understood it and accelerated the car. Soon, the car pulled over at the detention center.

Zong Jinghao brought Lin Xichen out of the car, caressed his son's hair and said, "You can play with Mr. Shen for a while. There are some matters that I have to deal with."

Even though Lin Xichen didn't know what he wanted to do, he knew that the place that he's going to wasn't a place that he should see. He thoughtfully nodded his head.

Shen Peichuan held Lin Xichen's hand and said, "Let's go. I'll bring you to tour around my office."

Lin Xichen nodded and followed him.

"Mr. Zong." Liu came out of the building.

Liu was one of Shen Peichuan's subordinates and had made the necessary arrangement.

After Zong Jinghao nodded at him in response, Liu led the way.

It was still the same room at the end of the passageway in the building that he came that night.

"It's quiet here, and nobody will disturb you. I'll wait for you outside." Liu said.

Zong Jinghao nodded and walked towards the last house at the end of the passageway. There was a solid wall at the end of the passageway with a small four-sided window connected with an electric fence as well as a door right next to the wall.

He pushed the door open. It was a four-sided house without any window, and merely an energy saving bulb was hung on the ceiling. There was an interrogation chair beneath it on which He Ruilin was handcuffed.

She was still wearing the same clothes since the night when she was caught. Her clothes looked rather shabby and revealed much of her skin.

There were some blood stains on her corners of the mouth and clothes. As the wounds on her head and lips were not cleaned, scabs had grown on her wounds after a day.

Tilted her head, she looked at Zong Jinghao who was walking in and said smilingly, "You're here to visit me again?"

Zong Jinghao closed the door and walked steadily towards her. When he stood in front of her, he looked down to stare at her.

He Ruilin looked up, stared into his eyes and said laughingly, "Why are you staring at me? You missed me already?"

But she felt that something wasn't right. He should have found 'Lin Xinyan' by now, but why is he still here?

"Aren't you supposed to spend your intimate moments with Lin Xinyan? Why did you suddenly think of me?"

Zong Jinghao remained silent and looked emotionless, so much so that others could not read his mind at all.

He Ruilin felt slightly uneasy. But according to their plan, 'Lin Xinyan' should be able to get to him successfully now.

He Ruize had also brought Lin Xinyan who lost her memories to leave B City.

As for her, Shen Peichuan could never discover any evidence that she committed a crime, while at the same time, she had asked a lawyer to assist her when needed.

This will be a happy ending for all.

Even though she lost Zong Jinghao, she managed to fulfill her brother's wish.

She wasn't liked by Zong Jinghao anyway.

The plot was perfect so far.

But why would he be here?

Shouldn't he be clinging to Lin Xinyan at home all the time once he found 'Lin Xinyan'?

She would then be dealt with by Shen Peichuan, and she could soon free herself as Shen Peichuan didn't have a shred of evidence to prove her crime.

She felt something strange when Zong Jinghao appeared before her.

"Would it be that Lin Xinyan wasn't coquettish enough and didn't serve you well..."

Bang!

Her voice stopped all of a sudden.

Before finished listening to her filthy language, Zong Jinghao slapped her on her face with all his might. As He Ruilin didn't expect it at all, she fell to the ground all of a sudden along with the chair. The dust was flying all over the house following the loud bang.

He kneeled on one of his legs in front of her and said, "Don't try to play tricks on me. You don't know how much evidence I have that is unfavorable to you, and how many things that you thought I'm not aware of. Tell me everything if you wish to live. Where is Lin Xinyan?"

He Ruilin suffered from a temporary hearing loss and could hear only constant ringing in her ears, while her right face was numbed and unconscious. She looked at him through her hair that partly blocked her eyes and said stubbornly with her bleeding mouth, "I don't know what you are talking about."

"Really?" Zong Jinghao lost his patience. He stood up to unbutton his jacket and revealed his white suit.

As He Ruilin hadn't recollected herself after being slapped hard on her face, she wasn't sure what he was up to and said, "You, what are you doing?"

Zong Jinghao gave her a sinister smile and said, "Since you don't want to talk, let's change the method."

When He Ruilin opened her eyes and was about to say something, he kicked on her chests as fast as lightning with all his might. She was sent flying and smashed against the solid wall. It was indeed a savage torture as her spine was fractured and she was now in severe pain.

She fell to the ground with her body twitching in pain.

Panicked, she looked at the ferocious man and asked, "You, you knew it?"

Chapter 166

This shouldn't happen. Even though she couldn't tell whether 'Lin Xinyan' is the impostor, how could he figure it out in just a day?

Impossible!

He Ruilin couldn't believe that Zong Jinghao would be able to get to the truth so soon.

She said stubbornly with her bleeding mouth, "Don't you try to deceive me."

She firmly believed that Zong Jinghao wouldn't get to the truth, at least not so soon.

Even though Zong Jinghao looked composed, He Ruilin would shiver unknowingly whenever he stepped forward. He was like a devil who came against the light and could easily strike terror into her heart.

He Ruilin wanted to move to stay away from him, yet every inch of her muscle would be in pain as soon as she moved.

She was trembling in fear. "What do you want?"

Zong Jinghao kneeled with one of his legs before her, lifted the hair that blocked her eyes and said, "Just tell me exactly where Lin Xinyan is, and you might have a chance to stay alive."

He Ruilin was reluctant to admit to herself that he knew the truth. Nevertheless, what he said just now indicated clearly that he had already figured out the woman wasn't Lin Xinyan.

Tears streamed down her face as she asked miserably and reluctantly, "Why on earth does Lin Xinyan deserve all this? Why would you care about her so much? Is it because she bore two children for you? I can do it without her, or even the fake Lin Xinyan can do it for you too."

Frowned, Zong Jinghao became extremely impatient and said with a colder voice, "Tell me. Where is she?!"

He Ruilin stared at him for quite some time and laughed all of a sudden.

"Since you're aware of it, I won't lie to you anymore. The one who's with you was Lin Yuhan and not Lin Xinyan. The real Lin Xinyan should have left this place with my brother."

She laughed crazily and looked ferocious as she said, "I know that you won't let me go, but you'll never find Lin Xinyan even after I'm dead. This is still a good deal for me. Haha..."

Zong Jinghao squeezed her neck, and her laughter was immediately turned into a whimper in pain.

He looked at her ferociously and said, "Was I being too kind to you?"

He Ruilin was terrified.

Her slim neck in Zong Jinghao's hand was like a fragile young shoot that could be broken easily with just some force.

Zong Jinghao's finger strength was astonishing. She heard Shen Peichuan say before that Zong Jinghao was trained in martial arts, and many of his skills were even more powerful than his. He didn't continue learning it as he had to inherit the business of the Zong family, or else he might have great achievements.

She could clearly see Zong Jinghao's intention to kill her in his eyes. As she leaned against the cold and solid wall, she felt that the wall was piercingly cold to her, and the pain was killing her.

Does he really love Lin Xinyan so much?

He Ruilin's heart wrenched as she struggled to say, "I'll talk..."

Zong Jinghao loosened his hand and let go of her.

She lay on the floor and gulped for air once she could breathe. She coughed non-stop due to her dry and scratchy throat and spitting up blood. The fingers of both of her hands on the floor were clenched into fists.

"It's too late even if you know it. According to our plan, when you've found the fake Lin Xinyan, the real Lin Xinyan will be injected with a type of drug that disrupts the nervous system. She will lose all of her memories as a result, and my brother will bring her and leave City B. I'm afraid she had already left B City by now." She looked up at Zong Jinghao through her hair that partially blocked her eyes and said, "We want her to lose all of her memories so that she can forget everything that happened in the past, including her children and you. After that, she'll only remember a person in her world, that is my brother. They can go to a serene place to live a peaceful life like a pair of ordinary couples. Who knows that she might be lying down underneath my brother now to enjoy the intimate moment passionately..."

Before she could finish her words, she was punched by Zong Jinghao and passed out.

His eyes looked bloodthirsty as each and every word of He Ruilin got on his nerves.

He didn't even notice that his hands were full of blood and shivering.

After a while when he recollected himself, he stood up and left the room.

Liu immediately came up to him and said, "Captain Shen is in the office."

Zong Jinghao said gloomily, "You will not allow anyone to meet that woman. Take good care of her, make sure that she won't have any obvious injuries, and spare her life."

"Understood." Since Liu was working for Shen Peichuan, he was thoughtful and had a strong attention to detail. He said, "Don't worry, Mr. Zong. I will take care of it to make sure that it's traceless."

Zong Jinghao nodded in response and left the place.

In the office.

No matter how Shen Peichuan tried to entertain or coax Lin Xichen, he never smiled. Standing in front of the desk, he merely lifted one of his fingers to fiddle with the tiny Flag of China on the desk.

Shen Peichuan sat on the couch and searched some information on Baidu about ways to entertain children, yet all answers given to him were about buying toys and food, going to an amusement park, and so on.

He could see that Lin Xichen was way too mature than the ordinary five-year-old kids.

Those things would surely fail to coax him.

“Don’t worry, Xichen. We will surely find your mommy.”

Lin Xichen who was fiddling with the red flag suddenly stopped as he finally couldn’t stop his tears from streaming down his face.

Ever since mommy is missing, he is worried and scared.

“Jinghao.” Once Zong Jinghao entered the office, Shen Peichuan stood up from the couch, heaved a sigh and said, “This kid is too mature.”

He didn’t know if it was a good or bad thing.

Zong Jinghao’s gaze fell upon the little body in front of the desk.

As he noticed Zong Jinghao had returned, he quietly wiped away his tears, turned around and asked as if nothing had happened, “You’re back?”

“Yup.” Zong Jinghao responded.

“You’ll assign your men to watch over ports, docks and airports.”

As long as they hadn’t left the country, he still had time.

Shen Peichuan knew his intention and said noddingly, “Don’t worry. I’ll never let him leave. How will you deal with He Ruilin?”

“I will grant her the wish if she doesn’t want to live.” He said it without hard feelings, as if a life was worth nothing before him.

Shen Peichuan gasped in slight disbelief and said, “I got it.”

“I’ll ask Su Zhan to find you.” Now, Su Zhan and Yu Doudou could finally be put to use.

After talking to him, he waved his hand at Lin Xichen and said, “We should go.”

Lin Xichen came up to him and voluntarily held his hand.

When both the adult and kid left, he walked towards the office desk and made phone calls to assign his men to be stationed at every checkpoint.

After getting into the car, Lin Xichen fastened his seat belt and said, "Can we not go home first?"

Zong Jinghao didn't ask why but merely responded, "Alright."

After leaving the detention center, he drove the car around aimlessly and finally pulled over by the serene woods.

He stopped the car.

Lin Xichen hesitated for a while before he said, "I think I have to make this clear to you."

Turned around, Zong Jinghao looked at him and said, "What do you want to say?"

"It doesn't matter if you love mommy or if I like you, but we shouldn't feud with each other now. Let's try our best to find mommy, and we can talk about the other things after mommy's back."

Even until today, Lin Xichen wasn't sure if this father really loved mommy.

He didn't want to hate him now because only he was able to help him locate mommy.

"Although you are very young, you have a lot of concerns."

Lin Xichen lowered his eyes while his wavy and thick eyelashes slightly shivered.

"Mr. He used to tell me before that mommy risked her life in exchange for the lives of my sister and me. When mommy was still bearing us, she met with an accident and was injured. She had to undergo surgery, or else she might be permanently disabled. However, if she underwent surgery, anesthetic drugs had to be given to her, and she might be unable to give birth to my sister and I because of the effect..."

He opened his eyes widely to prevent tears from streaming down and said, "In the end she underwent surgery without anesthetic drugs and managed to save my sister and me. I'm not sure how painful it was as I've never experienced it. But I heard that she passed out several times due to the pain and almost died..."

"Ever since I was born, I'm the only 'man' at home, and I want to protect and love her so that she will not be harmed or experience such pain ever again." He sniffed and continued, "I don't mind if the man who takes care of her in future is my real father or not. As long as he loves, cares, respects, cherishes and protects my mommy, I'm willing to accept that man and even call him as my father."

Lin Xichen made himself clear. No matter what choice did Lin Xinyan make, he would understand her and accept it.

If his real father, Zong Jinghao couldn't do such things that he mentioned, he won't be able to accept him as well.

His mommy must have a really good man to take care of her.

Zong Jinghao propped himself up on an elbow that rested on the window. His emotions were hidden beneath the shadows of the trees, and only the outline of his face could be fuzzily seen. However, his entire body was slightly shivering if one could get a closer look at him.

No words could describe his inner feelings now.

The shock, impact, and indescribable pain...

He could only recollect himself after quite some time to talk to Lin Xichen. His voice was still hoarse when he said, "We should go home."

He started the car again when he was still talking.

"Wait." Lin Xichen stared at the blood stains on the back of his hand and asked, "Are you hurt?"

"No." The blood on his hand wasn't his.

Lin Xichen unknowingly heaved a sigh of relief, took out a piece of wet tissue from the box at the front and said, "I'll clean it for you."

Zong Jinghao reached out his hand. Lin Xichen looked down and held his palm with one hand, while cleaning the blood stains on the back of his hand with another hand.

He was very thoughtful and didn't ask where he got the blood stains from.

Zong Jinghao was looking at him. He has the face of a child, yet does not act like a child at all.

When he saw the kid's matureness, his heart wrenched, as if being eroded by agony.

Chapter 167

The sun hung low in the blue sky and shone mildly, apparently not as wild as it was in the summer. The warmth of the sunlight spread throughout the land, as if giving the people a soft cotton underwear that had been worn for some time to wrap them up warmly. Even when a cold breeze blew, they wouldn't feel the coldness at all.

It was perfectly warm in the sun, and a woman with black hair was sitting at the balcony in the courtyard. Although the windows were opened and she could enjoy fresh air, she looked rather miserable.

Since the balcony that wasn't large was installed with a solid security window, her movement was constrained in the house of which the door was locked. Here was the only place that she could look outside.

Apart from a maid, there was only He Ruize here. He had never left the house ever since she was captured and brought here. But she wasn't sure about the reason that he left the place today.

On the surface, he believed that she lost all memories and didn't give her an injection. However, the fact was that he almost wouldn't let her out of his sight for even a second, and the maid would follow her even when she went to the toilet.

For instance, when He Ruize wasn't around today, she thought that she could take a breath of fresh air or find a way to leave this place, yet He Ruize had locked her in the house.

The only window of the house was the balcony that was sealed, as if she could only escape if she turned herself into a butterfly.

She slowly closed her eyes and thought to herself. When she's not around, will Lin Xichen and Lin Ruixi look for her?

Will they miss her?

What are they doing now...

And will Zong Jinghao worry about her and look for her...

She would never know.

The door opened.

Lin Xinyan immediately opened her eyes and showed only a blank look, while her pain and uneasiness vanished.

She clenched her hands at her back and stared at the door.

He Ruize was wearing a black casual outfit, a cap and sunglasses. Once the door was opened, he took down his cap and sunglasses.

"Yan, I'm back." He put down his belongings in his hands on the table, closed the door and walked towards Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xinyan quietly stepped back and pretended to be unhappy as she said, "You didn't bring me with you when you went out and locked me in the house. You said you love me, yet why do I feel like I'm being held captive?"

He Ruize came up to hug her and said, "My poor girl, I was just protecting you. Since there are too many bad guys out there, I'm worried that you might get hurt. Shouldn't you be grateful that I care for you so much?"

When He Ruize was still talking, he pinched her nose and lowered his head to kiss her on her forehead...

Lin Xinyan's body was stiff. She wanted to push him away but was afraid that he might suspect she didn't lose her memories and gave her the injection because of it.

She could just be patient no matter how much she loathed him. So, she pretended to be shy, pushed him away gently and said, "I haven't had my lunch, and I'm hungry now."

She wasn't really hungry but was merely using it as an excuse for him to let her go.

He Ruize frowned as he checked the time and said, "It's almost two o'clock now. Why haven't you had your lunch?"

Lowering her head, Lin Xinyan quirked her lips and sneered, "Since you locked the door and the maid couldn't open it, how could I have my lunch?"

He Ruize totally forgot about it. In order to ensure that Lin Xinyan couldn't escape, he didn't trust anyone, including the maid whom he hired and paid handsomely. So, he was the only one who had the key for the room upstairs.

"Are you angry?" He Ruize lifted her chin so that she could look at him.

Blinking her eyes, Lin Xinyan took the chance to vent her dissatisfaction and said, "What do you think? You lock me up like a prisoner and don't provide food for me. Would you be angry if you were me?"

He Ruize apologized to her smilingly as he said, "It's my fault as I was careless. Punish me."

"I dare not do it." Lin Xinyan looked down.

"There's nothing you should be afraid of. Tell me, and I will fulfill your wish." He Ruize patted his chest and promised her.

She looked at him expectantly with her big innocent eyes and asked, "I wish to go out. Can you bring me with you?"

"Sure." He Ruize promised her right away, placed his arms around her shoulders and said, "Before going out, you'll have to eat. Let's go. What do you want to eat? I will ask the maid to prepare it for you."

Lin Xinyan was excited as she never thought that he would promise her so easily, and she might have the chance to escape. She said randomly, "Udon noodles."

He Ruize put his arms around her while walking downstairs, and said, "Aunt Hua, prepare a bowl of udon noodles."

"Sure." Aunt Hua who was wearing an apron was cleaning the television when she heard him. She immediately put down her cloth and went into the kitchen.

He Ruize grabbed Lin Xinyan by her waist and sat on the couch. Then, he lifted her hair to smell and kiss it. He was obsessed with her smell and face, so much so that whenever he was with her, he would always want to hug her, caress her hair, kiss her face and so on.

Lin Xinyan put up with it and tried to sound him out when she asked, "When are you bringing me out?"

"Tomorrow." He Ruize glanced at her when he was smelling her hair.

Lin Xinyan lowered her eyes when her eyelashes were slightly shivering. She couldn't believe that He Ruize would agree to her demand so soon and asked, "Really?"

"Yes." After taking a deep breath, He Ruize took her in his arms and said, "I went out just now to make arrangements for this. I will bring you and leave tomorrow."

He cut off his communication with everyone, and that's part of the plan.

Any communication might leave some traces. Whether Zong Jinghao had realized that the Lin Xinyan in his house was an impostor, he wouldn't take any chances that might expose Lin Xinyan's whereabouts.

All proper channels, whether bus tickets or flight tickets, would need their identifications and could easily expose their whereabouts under the real-name system. Therefore, he had prepared a car to leave B City, not using the highway but the country lane instead. After reaching a county in Chuan Province which was hilly, far from B City and with underdeveloped transportation, they could live there for some time.

When the situation became less tense, he would bring Lin Xinyan and leave the country so that no one would be able to find them.

By then, he could finally live with her together forever and have their own children in future.

He would have no regrets in his life.

Lin Xinyan was stunned. He wants to bring her and leave this place?

"I think it's not bad to stay here..."

“This isn’t our home.” He Ruize interrupted her.

Aunt Hua came up to them with a bowl of udon noodles and said, “The noodles are ready.”

“Put it on the table,” He Ruize said. Then, he took the chopsticks from Aunt Yu, handed them over to Lin Xinyan and said, “Eat it now, or else it won’t taste as good when it isn’t hot anymore.”

Lin Xinyan took the chopsticks from him and pretended to enjoy eating even though she didn’t feel like eating at all. After finished eating the noodles, she had a stomachache, as the noodles were as hard as rocks and could hardly be swallowed and digested.

“Are you feeling unwell?” He Ruize asked.

Holding her stomach, Lin Xinyan looked pale but didn’t say a word.

“Let me help you walk up the stairs to take a rest.” He Ruize helped her up.

As she looked very unwell, Aunt Yu suggested, “Should we get a doctor to check up on her?”

He Ruize gave her a sideways glance and warned, “Would I not know if she’s unwell? Do I need your reminder?”

No outsider should know anything in here, and he won’t allow any stranger to be present.

He won’t allow any accident to happen.

Aunt Yu immediately lowered her head when she realized that she talked too much.

Lin Xinyan knew herself well. She might just have indigestion since she wasn’t in a good mood.

When they were in the room, she lay on the bed and said, “Can I stay in the room alone?”

Since he didn’t get a doctor for her, He Ruize found it difficult to refuse her humble request and said, “Alright. Get some rest. I’ll come again later.”

Lin Xinyan closed her eyes firmly and didn’t want to say anything.

She curled up in her quilt and opened her eyes later until He Ruize locked the door.

She felt very sleepy and tired. Since He Ruize slept here while cuddling her last night, she almost didn’t fall asleep and didn’t dare close her eyes for the entire night. She was afraid that he would do anything to her once she fell asleep.

And now, even though she felt sleepy, she was troubled by her upset stomach.

Chapter 168

She lay on the bed for a long time and fell asleep unknowingly.

When she was still sleeping, she felt that there was a person hugging her from behind, kissing her on her neck and calling her name near her ear.

“Yan.” Lin Xinyan initially thought that it was a dream, yet the whisper suddenly woke her up. She immediately opened her eyes, turned around and saw He Ruize who was still staring at her obsessively and fervently.

Without a second thought, she threw back the quilt and got out of bed.

She retreated barefoot to the corner of the wall, and only stopped when she couldn't move backward anymore.

Stunned for a while, He Ruize stared at Lin Xinyan and said, “Why are you nervous?”

Pretended to be calm, Lin Xinyan dismissed it and said, “No, I wasn't nervous. It's just that when I was sleeping soundly, suddenly there's someone... I... I was just shocked.”

“It's me. There's no bad guy here. Come to bed and sleep.” He Ruize's upper body was naked when he waved at Lin Xinyan and said gently.

Lin Xinyan didn't move nor respond. She could hear the sound of gulping air into her dry throat. She was always on tenterhooks whenever she had to face He Ruize, as if the blood in her entire body was boiling in fear. Sweats streamed down smoothly from her back to her waist.

He Ruize stared her out and asked, as if trying to discover something or sound her out, “What's wrong? Are you afraid of me?”

Lin Xinyan shook her head and said, “No.” She turned around to glance at the balcony, and realized that night had fallen and only the light in the house was lit. She then said, “I've had enough sleep for the entire evening, and don't feel sleepy anymore. You can just go to bed.”

He Ruize threw back the quilt, got up from the bed and walked towards her. Lin Xinyan was nervous.

She screamed inside her heart. Don't come here. Don't come here.

He Ruize grabbed her by her slim waist and said, “I want to sleep with you.”

“But I'm not sleepy.” Lin Xinyan was nervous as she knew what He Ruize wanted from his expression.

The more she knew about it, the more frightened she was.

"I can't sleep too, and so we can do something interesting." Lin Xinyan's face looked slightly red as she had just woken up. He stared at her face with his fiery eyes and said, "Since we are lovers, you shouldn't refuse my request."

At this time, He Ruize wasn't as well-behaved as last night and forcefully took her into his arms. He then hugged her tightly, kissed her wildly and said, "Yan, I want you today, and I don't allow you to refuse me."

Lin Xinyan pushed her away frantically and said, "I don't want it. I don't want it. Let go of me now!"

"Why don't you want it?" He Ruize clasped her wriggling hands and looked at her ferociously.

Shivered, Lin Xinyan could only come up with an excuse after quite some time, and said, "I still have an upset stomach, and I'm not feeling well..."

"That's an excuse!" He Ruize interrupted her harshly and said, "Would it be that you didn't lose your memories after all?"

"I don't know what you are talking about." Lin Xinyan shook her head frantically and tried to wriggle free to escape from him.

But since men are physically stronger than women, she couldn't wriggle free.

He Ruize laughed with a rough voice and said sinisterly, "You don't know? I'll tell you then. You didn't forget anything but just pretended that you did, so that I won't give you an injection. You are thinking about escaping from here all the time, aren't you?"

"I'm not. I'm not." She looked at him beggingly and said while her lips were shivering, "Please let me go, will you? I'm really not feeling well..."

"I'll let you feel comfortable!" He Ruize was like a wild beast now and pushed Lin Xinyan onto the bed even though she resisted with all her might and begged him to stop. When he was frantically tearing apart her clothes that were obstacles to him, Lin Xinyan desperately resisted and said, "Please, let go of me!"

He Ruize didn't bother her. Perhaps because Lin Xinyan was reluctant to cooperate, his desire in his heart of hearts to conquer her was aroused. He was getting more presumptuous and rougher. All of a sudden, Lin Xinyan felt a breeze blowing in front of her chests as her clothes were torn apart frantically by He Ruize.

"Why do you act demure since you're not a virgin after all?!" He Ruize looked at her seductive body with his red eyes, laughed sinisterly and said, "I love you so much, and you should be able to feel it."

She was heartbroken as she could not wriggle free from him at all. As she fell in the depths of despair, she stopped resisting him. It wasn't because she gave up, but considering that if she didn't give up now, He Ruize would be even more insane and she would never have the chance to escape.

Since Lin Xinyan stopped resisting him, He Ruize thought that she gave up and was willing to cooperate with him. He gently caressed her face and said, "Since you are a normal woman, I know you want it too, right?"

Lin Xinyan remained silent and looked at everything in the house desperately. If she is raped by He Ruize today, she would rather die in honor than live in shame.

As this room had nothing but a bed, she couldn't even find a tool to kill herself.

He Ruize was carried away by his lust. He quickly took off his pants, without realizing what Lin Xinyan was up to. Lin Xinyan grabbed the chance when he was taking his pants off to push him away from her with all her might and rushed towards the door. She turned the knob vigorously, yet the door didn't move an inch and she couldn't open it at all.

"You can't run away." He Ruize stood calmly behind her and was merely wearing underwear. He was fair-skinned and slim, yet his usual elegance no longer existed.

She put her arms across her chests to cover her naked body. Slowly, she turned around to look at him, and finally laughed.

She used to think that it was a blessing for her to meet He Ruize, yet she knew only now that it was a curse.

She stared at the wall behind He Ruize and made up her mind.

Felt despair in her eyes, He Ruize panicked and said, "Yan..."

Lin Xinyan didn't want to hear another word from him as she was disgusted by him!

Lin Xinyan ran frantically towards the wall. He Ruize wanted to stop her, yet she was suddenly so strong and managed to push him away. Bang! She smashed her head on the wall, and everything fell silent.

She wanted to open her eyes, yet her eyelids were too heavy. Some hot liquid streamed down her forehead, and she felt partially unconscious.

Is she going to die? She thought to herself.

She didn't really want to part with her children as she hadn't made any arrangements for them. If she's not around anymore, will they be bullied? They don't have a father, and now even she's going to leave them.

It was extremely painful.

She hates to part with them.

The darkness in front of her eyes fell upon and completely flooded her. As she lost all of her consciousness, she collapsed and fell down like a landslide on a hill.

“Yan...” He Ruize rushed to hold her body that collapsed.

Her face was covered with blood and didn't look as elegant as before. He Ruize wiped away the blood on her face frantically and said, “Yan, Yan, don't scare me. Don't die. I...I won't force you anymore. Wake up.”

She didn't respond to him. Her body was like flesh without bones that lay gently in his arms.

He Ruize's hands were covered with blood as he shook her and said, “Wake up. Wake up. Lin Xinyan, wake up!”

But still, no one responded.

He Ruize took the quilt to wrap her body, carried her downstairs hurriedly and screamed, “Aunt Hua, Aunt Hua...”

Aunt Hua who had just lain on her bed got up as soon as she heard He Ruize screaming. She was shocked when she saw He Ruize carrying Lin Xinyan who was bleeding all over her face.

“What happened to her?” But she could soon make a rough guess when she noticed that He Ruize was almost naked.

He Ruize told her that Lin Xinyan was his girlfriend.

But she felt that He Ruize's love for her was rather perverted.

He doesn't love Lin Xinyan, but merely wants to possess her. If he really loves her, he will never hold her captive and restrict her freedom.

Shouldn't a man give a woman happiness and joy if he really loves her?

Also, she could tell that Lin Xinyan didn't love him.

“Go and dress up. I'll look after Ms. Lin.”

He Ruize was too panicked and forgot to dress up. He couldn't go to the hospital with such an outfit.

“Look after her.” He gently put Lin Xinyan on the couch, turned around and rushed up the stairs.

Chapter 169

“Wanyue Group” — on the wall behind the front desk were these big, gold-inlaid words. It was hard to ignore them as they looked simply magnificent.

“I’m sorry, you need an appointment to meet the President,” the receptionist said matter-of-factly.

Qin Ya stood anxiously at the front desk and begged, “I really need to see the President. I need to ask him something and it’s very urgent.”

Lin Xinyan hadn’t been to the shop for two days and was uncontactable. She had moved to Zong Jinghao’s villa, but Qin Ya didn’t know where the villa was and was a little worried. She wanted to ask Zong Jinghao why Lin Xinyan hadn’t been coming to the shop.

They had just opened for business, and many customers came especially for her. Her absence might be seen as a lack of sincerity.

Furthermore, Lin Xinyan was serious and enthusiastic about her work. She wouldn’t skip work without any notice.

If she had got in touch and said that she couldn’t make it to the store because she had something on, at least Qin Ya wouldn’t be so worried. The problem was, she couldn’t be contacted at all.

How could she not worry?

“I’m very sorry. I can’t let you pass without an appointment. If he were to waste his time meeting everyone who comes to him without an appointment, he wouldn’t need to work anymore.” The receptionist kept her grace, but her attitude was no longer gentle. She was annoyed by Qin Ya’s pestering.

“Can’t you bend the rules this once? Or, could you connect me to your President through the phone? I’ll just pass him a message, that’ll do.”

“No. You can wait at the lobby by all means and approach him when he comes down. If he’s willing to listen to you, you can talk to him all you want.

“Why are you so inflexible?”

“Sorry, it’s my job.”

Qin Ya drooped her head. The people in this big company were so unreasonable. All she wanted was to see Zong Jinghao.

“Hey, Ms. Qin.” Su Zhan came in idly through the door, twirling the car key in his hand.

Qin Ya couldn’t be bothered by him and turned and walked away.

“Hey.” He grabbed Qin Ya’s arm as she passed by. “I’m not a monster. There’s no need to shun me. We’re friends after all, so it doesn’t hurt to say ‘hello’. Aren’t you being a little rude now?”

Qin Ya frowned and shook him off. “It depends on who I’m dealing with. You’re all handsy the moment we met. People might mistake you for a pervert.”

Su Zhan raised his eyebrows and dusted his clean suit. He threw a sidelong glance at Qin Ya and said, “Watch your words. I can sue you for libel.”

Qin Ya’s expression darkened, and rebuked, “That’s crazy. You’re the one who approached me, and now you’re pointing the finger at me? What an eye-opener.”

Su Zhan didn’t mean what he said. He was just teasing her. Seeing how riled up she was, a wry smile appeared on his face.

“Looking for Jinghao?” He overheard her conversation with the receptionist as he stepped in.

Before Qin Ya could reply, he continued, “Fell in love with Jinghao?”

“What nonsense is that?” Qin Ya was flushed with anger. Zong Jinghao was indeed good-looking, mature and charming, but she knew very well he belonged to Lin Xinyan.

That thought never crossed her mind, and he actually teased her for that?

He’s a beast!

“Angry?” Su Zhan craned his neck to look at her.

Qin Ya barely resisted the urge to slap him. She glared angrily at him and hurried off.

Su Zhan curled his lips. He stood there with a know-it-all expression on his face. “You’re here to ask Jinghao about Ms. Lin?”

Su Zhan was at Shen Peichuan’s to discuss the matter of suing He Ruilin. He learnt from Shen Peichuan that Lin Xinyan had been uncontactable. He heard that Zong Jinghao was troubled over this matter, so he stopped by to visit his good friend.

Qin Ya stopped in her tracks. He knows about Lin Xinyan.

However, put off by his impudence, Qin Ya did not respond at once.

“As a friend, aren’t you concerned that Ms. Lin’s in trouble?” Su Zhan turned to look at Qin Ya, who was obviously hesitant.

Lin Xinyan’s in trouble? How can it be?

Qin Ya did not believe his words. If it came from someone else, she wouldn't have doubted it. She did not have a good impression of this man.

"Don't try to fool me. Everything's well with Ms. Lin. What grudge do you have against her to curse her like that?"

Su Zhan was at a loss for words.

She actually doubted his words?

"Am I really that lousy?"

"When are you not?" Qin Ya stared at him coldly. She wasn't going to waste any more breath on him.

Seeing that Qin Ya was angry, Su Zhan assumed a serious stance and explained, "Ms. Lin has been missing for two days without a trace. Nobody knows if she's still in B City. Believe me or not." That said, Su Zhan walked towards the front desk. He stood there and rested his hands on the reflective desk, and said to the receptionist, "In future, take the hint."

Su Zhan was not a frequent visitor, but his relationship with Zong Jinghao was well-known in the company. The receptionist had long taken notice of his interaction with Qin Ya.

Su Zhan knows her.

She must have had a reason to see Mr. Zong.

But she had never seen this woman before. Who is she?

Out of curiosity, she couldn't help but ask, "Who is she?"

Su Zhan raised his brows, "It's none of your business. Don't be a nosy parker and do your job."

The receptionist pursed her lips and replied dryly, "Got it. I won't ask."

"Way to go." Su Zhan smiled at her and shot her a flirtatious look.

The receptionist swallowed. Although Su Zhan wasn't as charming as Zong Jinghao, he was still above average.

More importantly, he had winked at her.

The receptionist swooned over Su Zhan, not realizing she was about to drool all over the place.

Su Zhan clicked his tongue in disdain.

Lin Xinyan's missing? Is that true?

Qin Ya's mind was in a whirl as she looked at Su Zhan. She was really worried about Lin Xinyan, so much that she was willing to overlook how much she loathed Su Zhan.

After all, she hadn't been able to get in touch with Lin Xinyan the last two days.

Su Zhan looked at her as if he was looking at a fool. "This isn't a joking matter. Why would I lie to you?"

"What do we do now?" Qin Ya was on the verge of tears. "What will happen to Xichen and Ruixi?"

Su Zhan was confused, "Who's Xichen and Ruixi?"

"Ms. Lin's children."

"Wait..." Su Zhan walked over and pulled her to a side. Lin Xinyan and Zong Jinghao were married for a short period of time, but they had the wedding in secret. Not many people were in the know; only a few close relations of Zong Jinghao knew about it.

And here, someone was telling him that Lin Xinyan had become a mother.

Who's the father of the children? Zong Jinghao?

Or...

After all, they had been separated for years. It might not be Zong Jinghao's.

Also, does Zong Jinghao know that Lin Xinyan had given birth?

"How old are the kids?"

"They're five this year, six by traditional age. They're a pair of twins. Why?" Qin Ya had her guard up seeing the wary look in Su Zhan's eyes. Why is he asking about that?

"Do you know Ms. Lin was once married?" Su Zhan asked.

"Yes."

Lin Xinyan hadn't told anyone about herself. She had not told Qin Ya about her short-lived marriage either. It was purely Qin Ya's own guess.

Lin Xinyan was not a promiscuous woman. She had been by her side for years and knew very well the kind of person Lin Xinyan was. She wouldn't have given birth to the kids if she wasn't married.

And from what she had observed, her ex-husband was Zong Jinghao. She had no idea why they were divorced, but she could tell that Zong Jinghao still had feelings for Lin Xinyan.

Su Zhan clicked his tongue, "So you know about it. Looks like you're pretty close with Ms. Lin. Do you know who their Daddy..."

"What are you trying to say?" Qin Ya gave a cold snort. She could tell that he was having doubts about Zong Jinghao being the father of the two kids.

"Ms. Lin is not a promiscuous woman. Don't be oversensitive and think the worst of others." Qin Ya was riled up by Su Zhan once again for doubting Lin Xinyan and the kids.

Lin Xinyan had raised the kids all by herself. Not once had Zong Jinghao done his duty as their father. And now, even his friend was doubting whether the kids were Zong Jinghao's. How could she not be angry?

Su Zhan looked at her. "You're angry again."

"I have nothing to say to you." Qin Ya did not want to deal with him at all. Out of courtesy, she still thanked him, "Thanks for letting me know about Ms. Lin."

She turned and walked away. Su Zhan caught up to her, "Wait."

Chapter 170

She turned and walked away. Su Zhan caught up to her, "Wait."

Qin Ya responded impatiently, "What?"

Su Zhan handed her a business card, "Call me if you need anything. If I have any news on my side, I'll head down to the shop to let you know. You'll have to take care of the shop for the time being."

Qin Ya raised her head and looked at Su Zhan. There was a tinge of seriousness on his face. She had just returned to the country and was unfamiliar with the people and places. She would have to rely on them to find Lin Xinyan, and she also had to know their progress at that.

She took the business card from Su Zhan. "Thank you. Ms. Lin has been good to me. I'll make sure to look at the matters at the shop while she's away."

Su Zhan nodded, and thought, Should I come up with a reason to give her a lift home?

"How did you get here? Need a lift?"

"I drove here." Qin Ya put away the business card, bade him goodbye and walked towards her car.

Su Zhan grabbed his hair and sighed, Why is it so difficult to chat with her?

Picking up girls wasn't that challenging for him in the past.

He shook his head, trying to shake off the unwarranted thoughts, and headed towards the elevator. He was about to step in when the elevator doors opened but stopped in his tracks when he saw who was inside.

"You?" His voice was cold, "What are you doing here?"

He Ruixing grinned, "That's none of your business, isn't it?"

The He family was past their prime. Nevertheless, a lawyer like him could not match up to their reputation and status.

Su Zhan frowned and shot him a cold glance as he walked into the elevator.

He Ruixing fixed his suit and strode out.

He paid no heed to Su Zhan.

Su Zhan was sure that Zong Jinghao was going to almost kill He Ruilin. He Ruixing couldn't have known that Zong Jinghao was the one behind his sister's lock up.

That begs the question – what's he doing here?

Is he going to clash head on with Zong Jinghao, or is he here to beg for leniency?

Before Su Zhan could make heads or tails, the elevator doors opened. The entire office seemed shrouded in a somber atmosphere as he walked past.

Were they plagued by the President's bad mood?

Though it wasn't cold, Su Zhan couldn't help but shrug.

He knocked at a door. Upon hearing "Come in", he pushed open the door.

The large office was quiet and cheerless. He would have thought it was empty if not for the person sitting behind the desk.

Su Zhan closed the door behind him. He stopped in front of the desk and asked, "What was He Ruixing doing here?"

Before Zong Jinghao could answer, he continued, "Looking for trouble?" However, he thought back He Ruixing's past actions and decided he wasn't that gutsy to declare a war against Zong Jinghao.

If He Ruixing were gutsy enough, the He Ruixing wouldn't have fallen into decline.

Zong Jinghao looked up and placed a pile of documents before Su Zhan.

Su Zhan flipped through the document. It was a Letter of Intent. Since they were in the business trade, the letter wasn't surprising; what was surprising was that it was signed by He Ruixing, and it involved a piece of He family's land.

The He family owed a few pieces of land in B City, which were handed down the family for generations. Although the mansion had been abandoned, the location was good.

"He wants to collaborate and build a shopping complex on this land?" Su Zhan was confused.

Instead of treating Zong Jinghao as his nemesis, he was actually offering a piece of land and asking to collaborate?

"I used to hear this saying about the business scene – you can be fierce competitors one minute and be on good terms the next minute for the sake of interests. I've finally seen it for myself today. Anyway, did you agree to it?"

"Why not?" Zong Jinghao stood up and walked to the French window, his tall shadow was cast on the floor.

He Ruixing had initiated this collaboration. If the He family were to interfere with He Ruilin's matter, he'd take them down in one fell swoop.

He had been making preparations ever since he knew that He Ruilin was involved in Lin Xinyan's disappearance. The He family was going to be his first target.

After all, He Ruilin was from the He family. Who knew if they'd come at him without any room for negotiation?

Now that He Ruixing had reached out to him, he could leave Shen Peichuan and Su Zhan to deal with He Ruilin, and he'd have time on his hand to look for Lin Xinyan.

Time was not on his side in his search for Lin Xinyan.

He couldn't waste any more time on the He family.

"That's some sacrifice you're making." Su Zhan scorned in disdain, "Are all wealthy families this cold and heartless?" He stole a glance at Zong Jinghao as he spoke.

Zong Jinghao's mother came from a well-to-do family too. It was a joint marriage of two powerful families back then, but there wasn't really any love to speak of between them.

Not long after she passed away, Zong Qifeng remarried.

It was something that had been bothering them.

Zong Jinghao shot him a sideways glance.

Su Zhan let out a dry cough. He shouldn't have mentioned that. He assumed a serious countenance, "Peichuan and I have it all planned out. You needn't worry yourself over it. Peichuan has been hard at work, but she's tight-lipped all right. She's not letting me in on Ms. Lin's whereabouts."

Shen Peichuan had tried every means.

Su Zhan thought, Can a woman's jealousy be so destructive?

He didn't know He Ruilin wasn't just jealous.

She believed Lin Xinyan had snatched everything away from her – including Zong Jinghao. She was indignant and resentful for it.

Buzz...

Zong Jinghao's phone rang. Su Zhan took a look at the phone on the desk and said, "It's Guan Jing."

He picked up the phone and passed it to Zong Jinghao.

Zong Jinghao took the phone and answered the call. "Mr. Zong..." Before Guan Jing could finish the sentence, the phone was snatched away from him.

It was 'Lin Xinyan', "Jinghao, where are you?"

Su Zhan stretched his neck as he tried to make out what the caller said.

Zong Jinghao shot him a cold glance and handed the phone over to him, "Why don't you answer it?"

Su Zhan gasped. He shook his head and said meekly, "You go ahead."

To prove that he wasn't intending on eavesdropping any longer, he took a step back, away from Zong Jinghao.

"When are you coming back? I miss you." On the other end of the call, 'Lin Xinyan' was standing around in the hotel room, drawing circles on the table. She sounded aggrieved, "Guan Jing's stopping me from seeing you. What's the matter with him?"

Zong Jinghao remained expressionless, his voice cold, "Put him on the phone."

'Lin Xinyan' thought Zong Jinghao was going to chide Guan Jing, and she couldn't help but feel proud of herself. She handed the phone to him and said, "Well, let me remind you that it won't do you any good to offend me."

Guan Jing stared at her. How could their personalities be so different even though they look the same?

Well, a doppelganger can't compare to the real thing.

He took the phone. "Mr. Zong."

"Got it." His expression turned serious after hearing what the other caller said.

'Lin Xinyan' thought he had been lectured by Zong Jinghao. She settled down on the sofa and said, "See? I told you. Jinghao cares about me. Be careful of how you treat me, or else I'll tell you when I see him."

Guan Jing put down the phone and said, "Go ahead. I'm not stopping you. Come with me now."

In fact, Guan Jing paid no heed to her words.

She was merely a doppelganger. She'd come to regret being all high and mighty.

'Lin Xinyan' was wild with joy at the thought of seeing Zong Jinghao. She forgot about the pain in her leg and stood up from the sofa at once. "Is he waiting for me?"

Guan Jing pursed his lips, "Mm."

"Had a nasty shock, didn't you? That'll teach you not to look down on me. Now you know where I stand in Zong Jinghao's heart. I bore two kids for him. I'm the mistress of the Zong family. A word from me and he'll send you packing." 'Lin Xinyan' was getting ahead of herself. Guan Jing had forbidden her from going out, and he had been rude to her.

Lin Yuhan had always been overbearing. Ever since she got together with Zong Jinghao, she has become more arrogant. Instead of treating her with respect, Guan Jing hadn't been friendly to her at all, and she was extremely unhappy about that.

However, her mind was telling her that time wasn't ripe; otherwise, she would have asked Zong Jinghao to fire Guan Jing right then.

Guan Jing watched as she threw her weight around and laughed, "Well, let's see about that."

'Lin Xinyan's expression froze. She secretly made up her mind that the first thing she'd do once she gained power was to give Guan Jing the sack!

“Help me out. Can’t you see I’ve hurt my leg? You work for Jinghao, don’t you know any better?”

Guan Jing didn’t want to waste his breath on her. He held out his arm for her to hold on to it.

They took the elevator to the hotel lobby. They walked through the lobby to the carpark outside the hotel, and before Guan Jing got in the car, ‘Lin Xinyan’ said sarcastically, “Do you have any idea where you stand?”

Guan Jing turned his head around and thought, What bone does she have to pick this time?

She glared at him. “Open the car door!”

Guan Jing’s eyes lingered on her face for a few seconds before opening the car door for her.

‘Lin Xinyan’ let out a cold snort and got in the car.

“How does a fool like you manage to become Jinghao’s assistant?”

Guan Jing clenched his teeth and smiled wryly.

Let’s see how arrogant you can get when we get there.

He started the engine.

In order to remain by Zong Jinghao’s side without arousing suspicion, ‘Lin Xinyan’ did a check on the people around Zong Jinghao. She knew a thing or two about them and Wanyue Group.

This isn’t the way to Wanyue.

She frowned, “Jinghao not in office? Where are you taking me?”

Guan Jing shot her a cold glance from the rear view mirror. “You’ll know when we get there.”

Not long after, the car stopped. ‘Lin Xinyan’ saw where they were and her heart tightened. She asked with a slight shudder, “Why did you bring me here?”

Chapter 171

“You’ll know when you enter.” Guan Jing ignored the panic in her eyes and went down the car.

However, “Lin Xinyan” did not move. Who would go to the police station casually?

“Guan Jing, stop messing with me. What’s your aim?”

“What would I dare to do to you? You’re Mr. Zong’s precious person. I still have a long life to live, I wouldn’t do anything dumb.” Guan Jing walked in front of her and looked at her. It was obvious that she was anxious but she was trying to hide it. He scoffed, “Didn’t you want to meet with Mr. Zong? Mr. Zong is inside. Why aren’t you going in? Did you do something guilty?”

“You— You’re the one who feels guilty.” “Lin Xinyan” said in a guilty tone.

“If you aren’t, then please enter.” To show her his “respect”, he politely gestured to her to enter.

“Lin Xinyan” stared at him for a few seconds then held her head high. “It’s best that you’re not lying to me or else I’ll be coming for you!” She raised her foot and started walking. “Where to?”

Guan Jing walked in front of her and guided her.

“Lin Xinyan” looked around. She had been here before. Shen Xiuqing had once been in here and she had come to visit her.

It had been Shen Xiuqing’s idea for her to escape with the money. She had told her, “Han, your dad is a heartless man. If he could abandon his child and wife back then, he can abandon us now.. I’m trapped here but you can go. If you continue to stay here, you’ll end up like Lin Xinyan. I’ll tell you the passcode to your dad’s safe. Take the money and go.”

Although Shen Xiuqing was living with Lin Guoan, she still kept a wary eye on him.

She had known that the man was heartless when he had sent Lin Xinyan and Zhuang Zijin away without hesitation back then. To the man, anything that benefited him was the most important thing.

He had married Zhuang Zijin for her dowries. When she was no longer useful, he had abandoned her without consideration of their time spent together.

She had been young back then and she could help attract the customers. Now, she was old and Lin Yuhan was not that successful. Lin Xinyan had married Zong Jinghao. If Lin Guoan wanted to turn to his first daughter, it would be disadvantageous for Lin Yuhan.

And that was why she came up with a plan for her daughter to escape.

“Lin Xinyan” tightened her hands. She felt upset when she thought about Shen Xiuqing. After all, she was her mother. She had loved her and wanted the best for her.

When she thought about it, she felt more determined to stay by Zong Jinghao. It was her mother’s effort for her to be here today. She could not let her mother down.

She could not fail!

At this moment, she had followed Guan Jing to the interrogation department. It was not the same room as the previous time. This room was much larger and there was a tempered glass in the middle, splitting the room into two. The inside was for interrogation, and the outside was for seating.

Guan Jing pushed open the door.

“Lin Xinyan” did not immediately walk in. Instead, she looked in to make sure that Zong Jinghao was inside before she stepped foot into the room.

Su Zhan pulled the chair for her, as if he had no idea she was not Lin Xinyan. He was enthusiastic and respectful. “Ms. Lin?”

He knew that she was a fake. Shen Peichuan had told him.

He was surprised when he found out. The techniques for plastic surgery were advanced, but it was unlikely to imitate another person completely. However, now that he looked at her, it was almost like he was looking at Lin Xinyan.

She must have done a full body surgery. Her figure must be an imitation of Lin Xinyan, or else she would not have been so slim. He could not look for any faults in the face either.

“What are you looking at?” “Lin Xinyan” frowned. “Did a flower grow on my face?”

Su Zhan laughed wildly. “Yes, and it looks better than a flower.”

“Lin Xinyan”’s heart skipped a beat. Why did she feel like he meant something else?

She leaned towards Zong Jinghao. “Why did you want me here? This is such a creepy place.”

Before Zong Jinghao could say anything, Su Zhan opened his mouth again. “Let you watch something.”

He pulled a chair over and sat beside her.

“Watch what?” “Lin Xinyan” turned around to look at him.

Su Zhan acted mysterious and said, “You’ll find out soon.”

Zong Jinghao had been silent the entire time. The ceiling light that shone from above covered his expression. She could not see him clearly, as if he was hiding behind a cloud of fog.

Soon, the room door opened again and three men entered. There were two tall men wearing black who followed Shen Peichuan in. The two men were holding a person with a black cover on their head. The person's feet were hovering above the ground.

"Lin Xinyan" stared at the person being brought in. This figure looked a lot like He Ruilin's.

She became nervous.

Soon, her guess was proven right. Shen Peichuan pulled off the cover on He Ruilin's head and revealed her face.

She had changed clothes and she could no longer see her injuries, but He Ruilin's face looked terrible.

"Do you know her?" Su Zhan leaned over.

"Lin Xinyan" shook her head then nodded it. "Yes, she's the one who kidnapped me."

"You might not know this, but our Jinghao hates something with a vengeance."

"What does he hate?" Unconsciously, "Lin Xinyan"'s voice tremored.

Su Zhan had an eerie smile on his face. "He hates being lied to."

"Lin Xinyan" trembled. "Really?"

"Yes. Look at He Ruilin. The last time she had lied to Jinghao that she lost her baby in the accident. The truth was that she had never been pregnant. The He family had to come out to beg on her behalf or else she would have been dead. This time, he would not let her go even if God himself came to earth to speak on her behalf."

"Lin Xinyan" grabbed onto Zong Jinghao's arm. "Jinghao, let's go. I don't want to see this. I'm scared."

Zong Jinghao frowned. Although he seemed absent-minded, there was a barely detectable hint of cruelty when he said, "I remember you were more fearless before this. Don't you want to see the punishment for the person who hurt you?"

"I don't. Nothing had happened to me." "Lin Xinyan" grabbed onto his arm and it wrinkled his suit.

Zong Jinghao's gaze looked down at her hand that was grabbing onto his arm. There was a coldness in his eyes that seemed to push everyone away.

Even "Lin Xinyan" had detected that coldness. She shrunk her hand away instinctively and clasped them, as if that was the only way she could protect herself.

Ah!

It was a wail that rang across the room.

“Lin Xinyan” turned to see that Shen Peichuan had pulled out one of He Ruilin’s fingernails. Fingernails were attached to flesh; it was tremendously painful to have it pulled out.

He Ruilin was thrown on the floor and her body twitched every once in a while. The bright red blood flowed from her fingertips onto the floor. The stream forming into a cruel but beautiful pattern.

She looked up slowly and stared at “Lin Xinyan”.

“Lin Xinyan” turned away. She did not dare to look at her bloodshot eyes. There was a panic rising in her, she was afraid that He Ruilin would not be able to withstand the torture and would reveal that she was not the real Lin Xinyan.

She did not want to look, but Shen Peichuan thought differently. He took the detached fingernail and placed it in front of her. “Ms. Lin, do you think it’s beautiful?”

The lone nail laid on the white metallic tray, covered in fresh blood.

It looked disgusting.

“Take it away.” “Lin Xinyan” shrunk into herself. She was afraid.

“It’s such a pretty thing. Why is Ms. Lin afraid of it?” Su Zhan agreed with him and reached out to turn her head towards the nail on the tray.

“I don’t want to look at it, I don’t want to look at it.” This place was terrifying. She wanted to leave.

It was obvious that “Lin Xinyan” was in shock.

Su Zhan deliberately leaned to her ear. “This is just the appetizer. There’s still some time before the main course. You should know it. Punishment always comes after doing bad deeds. Especially for those arrogant people who’re pretending that they’re someone else. The punishment for that is much worse than what He Ruilin is having right now.”

“That’s right. This is nothing. I can peel all the skin off without any tears.”

Shen Peichuan and Su Zhan played off each other’s words. Their words scared “Lin Xinyan” until her back was clammy and her legs were trembling. Her body was tense and her voice was rough as she said, “You— You—”

You’re inhumane.

She did not finish her sentence.

Su Zhan frowned. She could not even take this?

The main show of deterrence had not even started.

Zong Jinghao had wanted to hit two birds with one stone. He wanted “Lin Xinyan” to see the consequences of lying to him, and he wanted He Ruilin to see that Lin Yuhan was sitting safe and sound while she suffered.

Mental torture always worked better than physical torture.

Of course, his main aim was to find out where Lin Xinyan was from them.

Chapter 172

“You have to get used to it.” Su Zhan smiled and winked at Shen Peichuan. “Hurry and start your performance. Show Ms. Lin the wonders of the world.”

“Ms. Lin, if you really want to see the wonders of the world, you should come closer. It’s more exciting when you see it up close.”

“I don’t want to.” “Lin Xinyan” waved her hands in a panic while rejecting their touch.

It was not up for her to decide.

Su Zhan and Shen Peichuan looked at each other and pulled her up from the chair, disregarding her struggle. She had to go.

“Do you know who I am? How dare you do this to me?” “Lin Xinyan” struggled to break free. “Let go of me.”

“Of course we know who you are. And it’s because we know that’s why we’re doing this. We have to train your courage. Jinghao doesn’t need a cowardly woman to stand beside him.”

“Lin Xinyan” could not find any words to refute Su Zhan’s words.

She was dragged into the interrogation room. Su Zhan and Shen Peichuan deliberately threw her in front of He Ruilin. Her shoes were soaked with blood and when she wanted to retract her foot, He Ruilin grabbed onto her ankle. Although she looked weak, her grip was exceptionally strong.

“Let go of me, let go of me!” “Lin Xinyan” kicked her feet in panic. And her foot accidentally kicked into He Ruilin’s head.

He Ruilin blacked out for a second.

“How dare you kick me?” She bared her teeth, which was stained with blood. Her face was pale and she looked like a demon that climbed out of hell.

“I didn’t, I didn’t. I didn’t mean to do it. You were the one who grabbed onto me.” “Lin Xinyan” words were incoherent.

He Ruilin looked terrifying, as if she was no longer a live person.

On a side, Shen Peichuan kicked He Ruilin. “What’s wrong with Ms. Lin kicking you?”

“That’s right. Don’t you know who she is? Do you think that because you’re part of the He family, so we wouldn’t dare to do anything to you? Are you so sick of your life that you dared to touch Ms. Lin?” Su Zhan put on an arrogant look. “Did you think that if you had the He family as your support, we wouldn’t dare to do anything to you? I’m not exaggerating. If the He family dared to come and speak on your behalf, we’d annihilate your entire family.”

As he spoke, his gaze turned towards “Lin Xinyan”. “Am I right, Ms. Lin?”

“Lin Xinyan” did not dare to make a sound.

He Ruilin was part of the He family and here she was. She was not part of any powerful family. If they found out that she was not Lin Xinyan, then...

She did not dare to think further than this.

He Ruilin was silent as she sprawled on the floor from the kick.

Her entire body was in pain. That kick from Shen Peichuan almost ended her life.

She was disheveled and shamed. On the other hand, Lin Yuhan, a fraud, was gaining the trust and respect of Zong Jinghao’s most trusted friends.

She was furious, she was frustrated. Why did she get everything good?

She refused to accept this!

She retched.

The anger burned in her and she vomited a mouthful of blood on “Lin Xinyan”’s leg.

The warm liquid was like a warm hand that caressed her skin. It felt numb and ticklish. She screamed in shock.

“Go to hell! Go to hell!” “Lin Xinyan” deliberately kicked He Ruilin’s head, hoping to kill her.

The dead spilled no secrets.

She could not let He Ruilin live.

Never!

Shen Peichuan and Su Zhan watched as she kicked He Ruilin's head several times. Only when He Ruilin was about to pass out did they pull "Lin Xinyan" away.

"Let go of me! Let me hit her! She hurt me! She has to die! Quick, kill her! Quick—"

He Ruilin had been tortured for days here; even if she was not dead, she was on her way there. She could not defend herself. If Shen Peichuan and Su Zhan had been a few minutes late in pulling Lin Yuhan away, she could have died.

This woman wanted to kill her?

Perhaps it was her survival instincts that made her struggle before death. He Ruilin burst out, "You're not Lin Xinyan!"

"Lin Xinyan" froze for a second, then said coldly, "You're a dying woman and you're still talking nonsense. Die!"

"Lin Xinyan" pounced onto her but Su Zhan managed to stop her. "Why are you agitated? It's her mouth, she can say anything she wants. Furthermore, isn't it interesting? She's saying that you're not Lin Xinyan." Su Zhan leaned into her face and looked closely. He mocked, "Maybe this face was artificially made?"

"Lin Xinyan" had a chill run down her spine. "What are you talking about?"

"I'm just joking. Don't take my words seriously." Su Zhan smiled.

He Ruilin clenched her hands. She was afraid that Su Zhan would believe in Lin Yuhan's words. "She really isn't Lin Xinyan..."

And her voice trailed off.

She raised her head up with difficulty to look at the man sitting outside the glass wall quietly. It was as if he had everything in control.

And it was this moment that she realized his goal.

She had been in pain when Shen Peichuan pulled off her fingernails. And in the pain, she had forgotten how to think. How could she not know that Zong Jinghao had already realized that Lin Xinyan was a fake.

He just wanted the two to bite each other's head off by letting her come.

And Lin Yuhan's intention for her to die was true and honest.

She laughed, a bitter sound. "I've been with you for so long. How could I forget how you did things?"

Her tears flowed out of the corner of her eyes and blended into the puddle of blood on the floor.

"I'll tell you where Lin Xinyan is but there's a condition."

Zong Jinghao finally stood up from the chair and walked slowly over. It looked casual, but he was feeling agitated.

"Lin Xinyan" stood at the side, stunned. What— What— What was she talking about?

Su Zhan glanced at her pale face and scoffed.

"Lin Xinyan" was trembling in fright. Did He Ruilin sell her out from the start?

How else did Zong Jinghao find out that she was not Lin Xinyan?

After all, He Ruilin was the only one besides her who knew about it.

The anger made her clenched her fists and punched onto He Ruilin on the floor. She rode on her body and her hands crushed her neck. "Bitch, go to hell! Go to hell!"

Shen Peichuan kicked "Lin Xinyan" aside. "Are you planning to die now?"

He looked at the two men at the corner of the room. "Hold her back."

He could not let her mess around here. They had to find out where Lin Xinyan was.

He Ruilin looked dazed. Even her coughs were silent; only her body jerked.

Zong Jinghao frowned.

Shen Peichuan crouched down to pat her back lightly. "She won't die."

Although it had been torturous, she would not die. He knew how to control himself.

Zong Jinghao breathed a sigh of relief and forcefully opened her mouth. If she died, it would be disadvantageous to him.

"Tell me where Lin Xinyan is." Shen Peichuan supported her into a sitting position.

After a while, she collected herself and slowly looked up at "Lin Xinyan", who was being held back. She opened her mouth and her dry lips cracked. Her voice was weak as she said, "I can tell you, but I have a condition."

"Tell me what it is."

A bloodthirsty smile appeared on her face. "I want her to die!"

"Bitch, you're the one dying! Die now!" "Lin Xinyan" looked at Zong Jinghao and explained in a hurry, "Don't listen to her. I'm really Lin Xinyan, I really am. If you listened to her, you're stepping into her trap! Don't trust her words!"

"Seal her mouth!" Shen Peichuan reprimanded. Were they idiots?

The two men looked at each other. What were they there for them to seal her mouth with?

There was nothing around them. Finally, one of them sighed and sealed "Lin Xinyan"'s mouth with his own hand.

He Ruilin laughed, but her smile did not look pretty on her face. Instead, it looked creepy. She looked at Lin Yuhan. "Look at you. You only have a face similar to Lin Xinyan but without it, you're completely useless. Hao wouldn't keep you around."

Lin Yuhan widened her bloodshot eyes, and she looked like she wished she could pounce on He Ruilin and kill her on the spot.

He Ruilin ignored her gaze. Her words were spoken as she looked at Lin Yuhan, but she had meant for someone else to listen. "You don't know where my brother took Lin Xinyan, right? I have what Hao needs, but what do you have?"

Chapter 173

Lin Yuhan opened her eyes wide as she glared at He Ruilin. She looked as if she would rush forward to stab her if she had a knife in her hands.

"Let go of her." Zong Jinghao would not believe that Lin Yuhan did not know about Lin Xinyan's whereabouts just because He Ruilin had said so.

They were only cooperating for their own benefits. The trust between them was weak and it was easy to make them go against each other.

It was also not difficult for him to get information from them.

"Bitch! How would you know if I don't know?" Lin Yuhan roared. If it was not for someone holding her back, she would have swallowed He Ruilin whole.

It was just like what Zong Jinghao had thought. Their cooperation was formed purely for their benefits. Now that they were going against each other, they would not think for each other. If anything, they would want each other to die.

“Your brother had taken her away and I had followed him secretly. You’re dumb to think that I don’t know where she is. Did you think you’re the only one who has a backup plan? I do too!” Shen Xiuqing had died in this plan. Her only family had left her and now she was alone in this big world. How could she not become more cunning and prepare a backup plan for herself?”

Shen Peichuan and Su Zhan exchanged a look.

These two women had their own secret plans. Zong Jinghao’s plan to make them go against each other worked perfectly here.

Zong Jinghao bent his fingers but did not clench his hands tight. He said, “The one who tells me Lin Xinyan’s whereabouts will be the one who lives.”

“Me!”

“I’ll tell you!”

The two said at the same time then looked at each other, hoping that the other person would be the one to die.

“He Ruize brought Lin Xinyan to Shunbei Village. It’s not far from B City...”

Lin Yuhan’s words came out immediately as she tried to be faster than He Ruilin.

They had no trust in the face of danger. The relationship between them that was built on individual benefits collapsed instantly.

Zong Jinghao was already walking out when Lin Yuhan had yet to finish her sentence.

Su Zhan hurried to follow him. Shen Peichuan looked at the two men at the corner and instructed them, “Let go of her.”

“Won’t they fight?” It was obvious that the two could not be in the same space right now.

Shen Peichuan’s lips turned upwards. “It’s not up to me to decide who will live and who will die. Get some men and follow me.”

The two men understood Shen Peichuan’s words and let go of Lin Yuhan. They followed Shen Peichuan out of the interrogation room and locked the door behind them.

The moment Lin Yuhan had gotten free, she pounced on He Ruilin. “Bitch! Go to hell! Go to hell! How dare you betray me!”

He Ruilin was even more furious than her. “You idiot! Zong Jinghao was intentionally doing these to us! If you and I kept our mouth shut, we could have had a chance to survive! Do you think that you can live after you said it?”

Lin Yuhan was stunned for a moment but anger overtook her senses. She clamped her hands around He Ruilin's neck. "If you had not betrayed me, I could have still been by his side! It was because you, traitor! You're the one who betrayed me first, how dare you call me one?"

When a person was enraged, they had unlimited potential. The present was a good example. He Ruilin was severely injured and she could barely take a breath, yet she managed to overpower and pushed Lin Yuhan, who had been riding on her, off. While Lin Yuhan was down, He Ruilin sat on top of her, grabbed her hair, and shouted in her face, "I never betrayed you! He had always known that you were never Lin Xinyan!"

Lin Yuhan felt like her scalp was going to be torn off and she bared her teeth in pain. She shouted back, "Do you think I'll believe what you said? If you didn't tell him, how could he have known? It's not like he's a telepath that reads my mind!"

He Ruilin was stunned for a second. That's right, she could not even differentiate this face from Lin Xinyan's. How did Zong Jinghao realize it so quickly?

How much did he know about Lin Xinyan?

While she was spacing out, Lin Yuhan managed to gain the upper hand again. "Even if you didn't tell him earlier, but you had betrayed me just now and I heard it with my own ears."

Lin Yuhan grabbed onto her hair and smashed her head towards the floor. "Grab my hair again! Grab it! Hope you die from this, bitch!"

He Ruilin felt herself getting dazed from the knocking. The intense pain had turned and she felt like her brain was going to flow out of her head. She knocked hard on the floor to try to get someone to save her.

Unfortunately, there would be no one entering this place nor saving her today.

She wanted to defend herself, but she did not have the strength to.

"Bitch, go to hell!" Lin Yuhan was caught up in her anger; she did not care about whether He Ruilin would actually die or not. She only wanted revenge for her betrayal.

"Lin... Yuhan. If I die, don't think you can live..."

"Didn't you want to kill me? Didn't you want my life? If anyone's going to die, it'll be you!" Lin Yuhan smiled ferociously.

He Ruilin's vision was spinning and the figure in front of her was getting blurrier every second. She did not know if she was dying; she was barely holding on. Suddenly, she grabbed onto Lin Yuhan's hair and pulled her downwards with all her remaining strength. Lin Yuhan screamed in pain and He Ruilin took the opportunity to pull out her dress strap and wrap it around her neck. She pulled it tight.

This face was the same as Lin Xinyan, and so she placed all her hatred of Lin Xinyan on her.

Her eyes were bloodshot as she continued to tighten the pull.

“Aah—”

Lin Yuhan’s eyes rolled up and her tongue was extended out of her mouth. She opened her mouth to try to get help, but she could only force out some choking noises.

“You’re still a long way from killing me!”

He Ruilin was like a mad woman. “Go to hell! Lin Xinyan, Lin Yuhan, you should all just die! You can’t defeat me like this! Haha...”

Gradually, Lin Yuhan stopped struggling.

He Ruilin’s remaining willpower and strength left her body and she collapsed.

On the other side, Zong Jinghao had reached Shunbei Village, and following him were Su Zhan and Shen Peichuan with their men.

When they reached the village, Shen Peichuan instructed the men to surround the village. Shunbei Village was not a large place; there were only two rows of houses. Furthermore, the village was located in a remote area. Many villagers had left the place to seek a better life in the city. The village seemed empty, and there was barely anyone around.

“Search every house. There are so little houses around, I won’t believe that He Ruize could hide from us.” Su Zhan and Shen Peichuan were furious. They felt disgusted at He Ruilin and He Ruize’s actions.

Zong Jinghao did not bother with instructing the men. Instead, he walked on the muddy path as he searched each house personally. He only wanted to find and see her soon.

He wanted to be the one who found her.

He wanted her to see him first.

They searched for half the village, but there were no signs of her.

They stepped into a house made of bricks. Zong Jinghao and his men were making a commotion in the village. The owner of the house seemed to know that they were here to look for someone; the neighbors had told them why they were here.

The head of the village rushed over.

“Are you looking for a woman?” The one who spoke was a middle-aged woman. Her husband had gone out for work and she stayed in the village to take care of the elderly and

the young. Her daily routine was farming, so her skin was tanned dark. Villagers tend to not take care of the appearances, so it was obvious that this woman was a villager. "I saw a beautiful woman at Aunt Hua's balcony, but I've never seen her coming out into the village."

"Where?" Zong Jinghao was certain that the beautiful woman this villager was talking about was Lin Xinyan.

"Bring me over. I'll give you a hundred thousand if it's the right person." Su Zhan was tempted.

The woman swallowed as she looked at the men. They were wearing suits and she had only seen the cars that they drove on television. It looked expensive and they just offered her a hundred thousand."

She was tempted.

Her husband was the only breadwinner of the family and she only did some farming at home. The expenses at home were dependent on this meager pay. Furthermore, her family was the poorest in the village. Even Aunt Hua, a widow, was richer than her.

The woman became enthusiastic about the money. "Follow me, it's just right there. It's not far."

Shen Peichuan instructed the men to guard the exit then followed the woman to the end of the village.

A white double-story house soon appeared. Zong Jinghao looked up at the second floor balcony that the woman had mentioned. The wind was gently blowing at the curtains, but he did not see the figure that he missed.

The closer he got to the house, the more anxious he became.

Knock knock.

"Aunt Hua." The woman was hitting on the steel gate. "Aunt Hua, are you home? If you're home, open the door..."

Before the woman could finish her sentence, Su Zhan and Shen Peichuan had kicked the door open.

The woman was stunned. Were they gangsters?

They were violent.

"If you knock and shout like that, it'll scare the people inside away." Su Zhan glanced at the woman, seemingly dissatisfied with her knocking.

“She can’t, she can’t. This house has anti-theft windows. They can’t run away if they’re at home.” The woman hurriedly explained. She did not want to cross them.

They seemed like trouble people.

Zong Jinghao was the first to step into the house. The house was not big, and the place was clean. Like what the woman had said, the place was sealed off well. Other than the balcony at the second floor and the windows on the first floor, there were no other entrances. And if there were no entrances, there were no exits. Someone on the inside would have to exit through the door.

His fingers were slightly trembling. Was Lin Xinyan kept here?

The living room was simplistic and neat. The entire house was quiet. It was as if no one was there, or someone was hiding so well that they could hide their breathing sounds.

Shen Peichuan saw bloodstains on the couch and he frowned. Instead of telling anyone, he tried to block Zong Jinghao’s line of vision.

Su Zhan pushed him. “What are you trying to block?”

Shen Peichuan glared at him. “Who’s blocking?”

Internally, he was cursing at Su Zhan. This idiot had no idea how to read a situation. Why was he watching him instead of looking for her?

The commotion between the two managed to get Zong Jinghao’s attention. He glanced over and saw the dried bloodstains on the couch. His gaze darkened and it seemed like his eyes were now just a void.

Shen Peichuan was afraid that he would overthink. “This might be He Ruize’s, or Aunt Hua’s. It shouldn’t be Ms. Lin’s.”

Zong Jinghao did not have the patience to listen to his nonsense. He went straight up to the second floor. On his way up, he had seen another bloodstain on the stairs. It was just a small dot, yet he felt like his heart had fallen into the abyss. His footsteps turned quicker. There were only two rooms on the second floor. One was closed and the other was opened.

He Ruize had left in a hurry and did not close the door. The inside was still messy, he did not have the time to tidy up, he carried Lin Xinyan and left.

The bedsheet was torn and the bed was messy. The interior was simple and he realized that there were faint bloodstains on the wall. The dress on the chair was the one she was wearing before she went missing.

She had lived here.

Whose bloodstains were these?

What had happened here?

He did not dare to think any further.

Knock knock.

Su Zhan had ran up. "We caught that Aunt Hua..."

Chapter 174

Lin Xinyan's head was heavy. It seemed bumpy and she felt like she was lying in a car.

She gradually opened her eyes and her vision turned from blurry to clear. She saw where she was.

She was in a seven-seater car. The back seats had been placed down and it had become a large space, much like a bed that she was lying on top of. The windows had a layer of black film, so she could not see whether it was day or night. However, she felt that it should be the day because there were no flickering street lights.

She wanted to move but realized that her head was pounding and her hands could not move. She looked down to find out that her hands and legs were tied up.

He Ruize, who was driving, saw that she had woken up through the rearview mirror. "You woke up. Are you hungry?"

Lin Xinyan recalled what had happened and she did not want to talk to him. She closed her eyes again.

"Do you hate me?" He Ruize could see her expressions clearly through the rearview mirror.

Did she no longer want to talk to him?

"Yan, we're lovers. We'll eventually make love to each other. Why should you be like that? I feel upset that you're hurt." He did feel upset, but his want for her was stronger.

"Are you hungry?" He Ruize repeated his question.

Whatever He Ruize said, Lin Xinyan pretended that she could not hear him and did not answer him. She hated this man with a vengeance. She now knew what he was made of.

He Ruize knew that she was angry so he did not continue to say anything else. He only said, "Tell me when you're hungry."

He focused back on his driving.

Lin Xinyan's head was throbbing, as if there was someone drilling in her head. She did not know where He Ruize was driving to, but the road was bumpy and the wound on her head kept pounding along with each bump. Yet she never cried; she just suffered quietly.

To distract herself from the pain, she forced herself to space out and fall asleep. That way, she would not feel the pain.

The sun set and the sky darkened.

When she woke again, she did not know what time it was. She was no longer in the car. She was at a motel. The place was not spacious and the furnishing was simple. It looked like the kind of motel that did not need any identification, because Lin Xinyan realized the motel should be originally a house. The room was originally a part of the living room.

There was a mocking smile on her pale face.

He Ruize must have had it hard. To avoid detection, he was now living in these kinds of places.

As a member of the He family, he was born with a golden spoon. He had never experienced difficulties like this.

Her throat was dry and she wanted to drink some water. However, her hands and legs were still tied up. He Ruize was not around; he must have been afraid that she would escape.

Kacha. The door was pushed open and He Ruize walked in with things in his hands.

When he saw her awake, he asked, "You're awake. Are you hungry yet?"

He closed the door behind it and locked it. As if he was worried that the lock would not work properly, he turned the handle to make sure that the door was locked before he turned to place the things on the table.

"I'm thirsty." Her voice broke.

She did not know how long she had not spoken or how long she had not drunk anything. Right now, she was thirsty.

He Ruize untied the rope around her hands. He touched her thin, fair wrists that had been scratched red by the rope. "Is it painful?"

Lin Xinyan did not answer him. She just felt that he was a hypocrite. If he really did feel upset for her, he would not have treated her like this.

He Ruize untied the rope on her legs and supported her into a sitting position. "I'll get some water for you."

Lin Xinyan moved her sore wrist and looked at the bottle of water that He Ruize brought over. He was about to twist the cap open when Lin Xinyan said, "I'll open it myself."

He Ruize replied, "Doesn't your hand hurt?"

"No. I saw that you've bought food. Are you hungry? You should eat first."

He Ruize looked at her for a second before handing her the unopened bottle. When Lin Xinyan took the bottle, she made sure that the bottle had not been opened before she twisted the cap. She was fearful of He Ruize; she was afraid that he would try to drug her.

And so, she had to be extremely careful.

He Ruize stuffed two mouthfuls of food then handed Lin Xinyan hers. "Eat something."

Lin Xinyan was indeed hungry, but she did not reach out to take it.

He Ruize thought that she did not like the food, so he said, "This place is too remote, and there are no proper restaurants around. One more day, and we'll look for a better restaurant for better food. We'll rest for another night."

Lin Xinyan did not answer him. She reached out for the food and ate a few mouths to stop her hunger. She did not eat much. It was not because the food was terrible. Back when she was living with her mother and they were scraping by in life, she had tasted all kinds of food and went through all kinds of difficulties.

She did not dare to eat more, because this was given to her by He Ruize.

He had traumatized her. She was constantly afraid of him trying to hurt her.

She was afraid that he would drug her through the food.

"When you're done, lie down. I'll apply some medication for your wound."

Lin Xinyan placed down the food container and drank a sip of water. "I want to go to the bathroom."

She stood up after she had gotten He Ruize's permission. Only when she stood up, she realized that her legs were numb and her ankle was sore.

She bent down to massage her numb legs. He Ruize reached out, wanting to help her massage, but she instinctively moved backwards. Her leg knocked onto the side of the bed and she sat on it. She said hurriedly, "It's okay. It's not numb anymore."

Now that her legs had a little feeling, she stood up and went into the bathroom. She closed the door and locked it from her side. She breathed a sigh of relief after making sure that it was locked. She did not actually want to use the bathroom; she wanted to avoid He Ruize

applying medication for her. After applying medication, He Ruize would definitely tie her up again and it was uncomfortable.

She sat on the toilet bowl and rested while she massaged her numb and sore legs.

Only after when she felt more rested then did she stand up to flush the toilet bowl. It was to make sure that He Ruize thought she was actually using the bathroom. She washed her hands and walked out.

He Ruize was looking down at his phone. Lin Xinyan glanced at it; he was looking at the roads. When he heard her, he locked the screen and looked up at her. "Lie down."

Lin Xinyan sat at the side with fearful eyes.

"I won't do anything to you before you have recovered." He Ruize could sense her worries.

However, Lin Xinyan felt a chill run up her spine. That meant that when she recovered, he was going to treat her like how he did the last time.

She trembled and she wished that she could escape from him.

She slowly laid down and He Ruize pulled off the bandage on her head. There was a small wound on her forehead and she had been treated in the hospital for it. The doctor had said that head wounds bleed a lot, but her injury was minor.

However, it was still a head wound, so the doctor had advised her to rest more.

Lin Xinyan kept quiet despite that it was painful when He Ruize was applying medication on the wound. The only sign of her pain was the beads of sweat on her forehead.

"You can make sounds if it's painful."

"It's not."

Lin Xinyan closed her eyes.

A few minutes later, He Ruize had finished applying the medication for her. "I drive in the day, so I'd need to rest well at night..."

"Tie then." Lin Xinyan knew what he was going to say next.

He Ruize bent down to tie her legs first. "I'll tie it loose, so you'll be more comfortable."

How comfortable could it be to be tied up?

Lin Xinyan closed her eyes without saying anything as he tied her hands. She could only convince him to be less wary of her now, then she could get an opportunity to escape.

Knock knock.

There was a sudden knocking on the door.

He Ruize's expression changed as he stared at the door.

The door was knocked again and a man's voice accompanied it. "Hurry and open the door."

Chapter 175

"Who are you?" It was obvious that He Ruize was not planning to open the door because he did not know who was behind the door.

Lin Xinyan stared at the door as her heart beat faster and faster. Could it be that Zong Jinghao had found his way here?

She was filled with hope.

The man was determined. He loudly smacked onto the door a few more times. "Open the door or we'll break it."

He Ruize seemed to know who the men outside were. He cursed under his breath, "Why are they checking the rooms now?"

He turned around to cover Lin Xinyan with a blanket and instructed her. "Wait for me. No matter who it is, don't make a sound."

Lin Xinyan had heard the quiet curse that He Ruize made. She also knew that the man outside was not Zong Jinghao.

To be honest, she did not know if Zong Jinghao was looking for her.

She had too many uncertainties towards him.

After all, there were many walls between them.

All she could do was to hope for him.

She would not reveal her thoughts of escape in front of him before she could ensure her escape. She nodded obediently. "I will."

"Good girl." He Ruize patted her head then turned to open the door. The moment the door opened, the men outside stormed in, and behind them was a serious looking man in simple clothes. "You two..."

“Sir, don’t be mistaken. We’re from B City and the one on the bed is my mute girlfriend. She’s not feeling well.” As he spoke, He Ruize took out his identification card and under it was a stack of money around two thousand. He handed it to the police. “Please take a look.”

The police held onto He Ruize’s identification card and rubbed the stack with his fingers. He knew how much it was. Quietly, he placed it in his pocket and took a quick glance at the identification card. He told the men on the outside, “Alright, they’re not.”

The few men walked out of the small room. The leading police reminded him before he left the room, “Don’t stay in these kinds of motels. It’s not safe, you’ll be mistaken here.”

He Ruize sent him out and nodded. “Of course, of course.”

The man lowered his voice and told He Ruize, “I know your relationship with her isn’t of a prostitute and a client, because I know all the prostitutes in this area.”

He Ruize was unhappy with his straightforward words but he still had a smiling face on. After all, this was not his territory and he did not want to get into trouble. “I understand.”

He Ruize sent him off and closed the door. “The anti-pornography checks here...”

Before he finished his words, he realized that the person on the bed was missing and the window beside the bed was opened. His smile dropped from his face and he quickly walked over to look down the window. Under the window was a short ledge. It did not seem like it was an original design, it looked like it was furnished on.

Like what the policeman had said, these kinds of motel were places of prostitution and the police often checked in these places. For quick escapes, the windows for this motel had short ledges under them.

Although there was a short ledge for her to climb down, it was still a long way down. Lin Xinyan had twisted her ankle when she jumped down, she could not run very quickly.

He Ruize saw her running figure and he shouted in anger, “Lin Xinyan!”

His shout was like a fuel for Lin Xinyan as she ran faster when she heard it. She ignored the pain of her ankle. She just wanted to run faster so that He Ruize could not catch her.

She had escaped and He Ruize would definitely know that she had never lost her memories.

He already had no trust for her. She could not imagine what would happen to her if she was caught.

He Ruize rushed down the stairs and ran after her.

He could not let Lin Xinyan escape!

The place was small and it was dim as there were no streetlights on some roads. The paths were narrow and there were smells of burnt meat in the air.

Lin Xinyan ran into an alley. The alley had no lights in it and she could not see anything but she did not dare to stop. Her hands shoved away anything that blocked her way and she ran faster and faster.

“Lin Xinyan, you can’t escape.” A light flashed past her as she heard He Ruize’s voice.

He was nearby.

Lin Xinyan squashed down the panic and fear in her and kept running. She did not know what she had stepped on. She had been tied up by He Ruize so she had not been wearing any shoes. Being barefoot had its advantages, she could run silently. However, that also meant that she could step on something sharp.

She did not know what she had stepped on. She only knew it sent a shoot of pain up her leg.

She held onto the wall on the side for support, but she kept up her speed.

At the end of the alley she saw a bright light. She ran over, trying to stop it, but the light went past her quickly.

Her hope was blown out like the fire of a candle. He Ruize’s footsteps were getting closer every second. She looked around in panic, hoping to find somewhere she could hide.

“Yan.” His voice was getting closer. She could even see the light that He Ruize was shining with.

Unfortunately, she knew that she could only rely on herself to escape He Ruize’s grasp.

She pulled herself together and kept running despite the pain.

Out of the alley was a muddy road. Not too far away was a streetlight and it was bright there.

“Lin Xinyan, you lied to me!” She did not know when He Ruize had caught up.

Lin Xinyan turned her head and found He Ruize standing at the exit of the alley. The torchlight on his phone was turned on and it was shining onto her face. He had a terrifying look on him. “You think you can run from me?”

Lin Xinyan stood at the opposite side of the road and shouted back at him. “Don’t make me hate you!”

“Don’t you already hate me? You’ve already hated me, so I have nothing else left to do. Do you want to come to me like a good girl or should I catch you over?”

Lin Xinyan smiled as her dried lips cracked. “I’ll die before I go over by myself!”

She ran towards the light. She had realized that there was water there as the light had reflected off it.

When she neared it, she realized that her guess was right. It was a river.

“Lin Xinyan, are you crazy? You can’t swim!” He Ruize finally realized what her plan was.

Lin Xinyan looked back at him and her lips turned upwards. “And I know you can’t too.”

She jumped in without hesitation. Splash! The water went everywhere.

She would rather die than to be caught by He Ruize.

He Ruize could not swim either. If she was lucky, she might be able to escape.

“Crazy woman!” He Ruize ran to the side of the river. The current was strong and it looked deep. The sides of the river were filled with weeds. He wanted to jump, but he was traumatized by the drowning in his childhood, so he did not dare to make a move.

He Ruize clenched his hands. “No one can stop you from wanting to die!”

The water was deep and the river current was strong. Lin Xinyan could not swim and she had drunk a lot of water. She had seen once on the television that she should not breathe in the water. She would choke and die if her lungs were filled with water.

However, if she drank it, she might still be able to live. Even if the hope was slim, she could not give up.

Her children were waiting for her. She could not give up—

Chapter 176

“First time?”

A masculine voice lingered near the ears. It sounded casual, yet urgent.

The man paused for a moment. The warm chest on her back seemed like it was going to overheat. His cool lips kissed on her skin in quick moves. It was obvious that he wanted this woman now, but he was holding himself back. “You can still stop now before you regret this.”

“I’m not going to.”

The moment she finished her words, the man behind her held onto her waist and pressed onto her on the bed. In the dark, she could not see his face. She only knew that the man was

impatient and his body was boiling hot. It was there that magic was on his hands. Every spot of her skin that he touched felt like it was on fire.

She was afraid and she was nervous. She wanted to push him away but when she thought about her mother and brother in the hospital, she grabbed onto the bedsheet under her instead.

Suddenly, it was as if her body was torn apart. It was painful, physically and mentally. To stop herself from moaning shamefully under the man, she bit her lips and kept quiet.

The man was strong and there were a few times that she could not take it and wanted to push him away.

“No—”

Suddenly, Lin Xinyan woke up from her nightmare. Her eyes were widened and her eyes looked around the room before landing on a man’s eyes.

She was shocked.

She jerked into a sitting position and she sounded incoherent as she said, “Who— Who— Who are you?”

“Shouldn’t I be the one asking this?” The man’s voice was low. He had neat short hair, a pair of brown eyes and a beautiful smile. He stared at the tear tracks on Lin Xinyan’s face. “Did you have a nightmare?”

Lin Xinyan grabbed onto the blanket. It was an understatement to say that it was a nightmare.

She had not dreamt about that night for many years. The dream had been so realistic. It was everything she never wanted to recall. To have dreamt about it felt like someone had roughly tore away the blood clot on her old wound.

“You saved me?” She remembered suffocating in the water and losing her consciousness. She had no idea what happened afterwards.

“Yes. To be more accurate, I asked someone to save you.” The man held a faint smile on his face.

Yet it did not seem like a joyous smile.

It was only now then did Lin Xinyan realize that the man was in a wheelchair. He was wearing simple clothes and there was a blanket covering his legs.

The man’s gaze on Lin Xinyan deepened. He did not see disgust in her eyes, only shock, and that made him feel relaxed.

"I was coming home last night and saw a person jumping into the river. So I asked someone to save you." The man's voice was gentle. "Is someone trying to hurt you?"

If he had seen her jump into the river, he had also seen someone chasing after her.

Lin Xinyan did not reply to him. She shrunk into herself and frowned when she realized her foot was in pain.

The man sensed that Lin Xinyan was wary of him. He understood her wariness; after all, they were strangers. He did not insist on the question. "Don't worry, you won't be found by him here. The injury on your leg has been seen by a doctor. You'll be needing a long rest."

Lin Xinyan knew that her leg was injured. She was surprised that he had gotten someone to take a look at it. "Thank you."

"No need to thank me. It's normal for someone to help a person in need. Even if it was someone else that night, I'm sure they would do the same... After all, they'll be saving a beauty."

The man deliberately paused before teasing her.

Lin Xinyan knew that he was teasing her, but he was her savior, so she said nothing even if she had not liked his words.

"What is this place? Can I borrow your phone?" Now that she had escaped from He Ruize's grasps, she wanted to call Lin Xichen to tell him that she was safe. She did not know how Lin Xichen and Lin Ruixi were in the few days that she was missing.

The man's gaze landed on Lin Xinyan's wrist. On her thin wrist was a jade bangle. This bangle... He looked away and rejected her. "No. She'll be taking care of you from now on. If you need anything you can tell her."

He started to wheel out of the room. When he reached the door, he paused and turned to her. "What's your name?"

Lin Xinyan widened her eyes and said untruthfully, "Lin Yan."

She sensed that this man was not a simple man.

The man laughed. "Lin Yan? Yan? It sounds good. I'm Bai Yinning."

There were soft sounds from the wheelchair as he wheeled out of the room. Gradually, the sounds faded away. A girl who had been standing by the door walked in and greeted Lin Xinyan. "Hi, I'm Liu. You can tell me if you need anything."

Lin Xinyan shook her head. She needed nothing as of now. She did not trust this man. She felt as if she had escaped from one trap just to fall into another.

“What is this place? Who was that man?”

“This place is Baicheng. That was the young master.” Liu answered.

Lin Xinyan frowned. This reply gave her no answers. Just Baicheng?

Where was this place? She had never heard of this place.

“Don’t worry, our young master is a good person.” As if Liu had seen Lin Xinyan’s worries, she explained, “He just can’t walk, he’s not a bad person.”

The girl looked young and there was a look of admiration and shyness when she was talking about the young master.

Lin Xinyan guessed that she adored Young Master Bai.

“I want to sleep.” She had not had a good sleep ever since she was taken by He Ruize. She was exhausted. At the very least, the man did not seem like he was going to do anything to her yet.

She was too wary right now and everyone could guess what she was thinking about. She wanted to rest and clear her mind, then she could think of how to get contact with the outside world.

“Okay, call me if there’s anything.” Liu went out of the room and closed the door.

Lin Xinyan laid down. There were birds chirping outside, but it could not stop her sleepiness.

Her eyelashes fluttered then stopped. Soon, there were even breathing sounds.

After Liu had closed the door, she had not left immediately. She stood by the door and listened to the sounds inside the room. After making sure that Lin Xinyan had really fallen asleep, she turned to walk to the living room. In the living room, Bai Yinning was leaning against the window and his eyes were closed.

When he heard her footsteps, he asked, “What is she doing?”

“Sleeping.” Liu stood behind him.

She secretly glanced at the man who sat straight in the wheelchair. She felt that fate had been cruel to him. He was so kind. Why did fate have to take away his ability to walk?

“Give her everything she asks for.” Bai Yinning gently said.

Liu could not understand why, so she asked, “Young Master, do you know her? Why are you so nice to her after saving her?”

Bai Yinning looked out of the window. There was a tit on the branch that kept chirping. There were leaves that swayed in the wind. Eventually they would all fall to the ground.

Just like fate.

“It’s fate.” He answered quietly.

Fate? Liu did not think that it was a good explanation. Would it not also be fate that she had met with Young Master?

She had been sold to the Bai family at a young age and had taken care of him when she was mature enough. Was this also like the fate that he spoke of?

“Then is it fate between me and you?” Liu asked with a hopeful tone.

Bai Yinning turned his wheelchair to face the girl standing in the light. He had a faint smile as he said, “What is fate?”

Liu shook her head.

Bai Yinning waved his hand. “Go and do your things.”

Liu wanted to ask him to clarify what he meant by fate, but she did not dare to go against his words. She went away obediently.

Bai Yinning glanced at Lin Xinyan’s room. His gaze darkened and when he thought about the jade bangle on her wrist, his grip tightened.

Chapter 177

Aunt Hua had just returned from the hospital when she was caught by Shen Peichuan’s men and brought to her house.

“This is your house?” Su Zhan asked despite knowing that it was indeed her house. He just wanted to see if she was an honest person.

Aunt Hua looked at the people in the house and answered honestly, “Yes.”

Aunt Hua was a smart woman. He Ruize, who used to live here, did not look like an average person. This group looked even less like average people.

“Who had been living here?” Su Zhan asked.

“I don’t know him. He gave me some money to live here. There was also a woman with him.” Aunt Hua did not dare to lie to him.

When Zong Jinghao, who was sitting on the couch, heard her words, he closed his eyes and his expression turned dark.

Su Zhan looked at Zong Jinghao for a second before asking again, "Where are they now?"

"They left. That woman was injured. They went to check her injury in the hospital and they left after checking that they were fine."

One of Su Zhan's eyes twitched.

So Lin Xinyan really did get hurt.

He carefully looked at Zong Jinghao again. Shen Peichuan stood at a side and did not dare to make a sound.

The atmosphere became heavier and heavier and everyone in the living room felt like they were suffocating.

Zong Jinghao stood up and walked in front of Aunt Hua. He looked at her from above. "How did she get hurt?"

Aunt Hua could easily sense the anger from the man in front of her. She did not dare to reply to him. She only lowered her head as she trembled.

"Tell me!"

The volcano in him erupted and everyone had jumped in shock. Aunt Hua had kneeled down in fright and there was a loud sound as her knees came into contact with the floor. She gritted her teeth in pain and she stumbled with her words. "I— I don't know. I was downstairs at that time. Mr. He usually doesn't let me go upstairs."

As if realizing that Zong Jinghao was here for the woman, she said, "You're here for Ms. Lin, right? She was locked up on the second floor. She was injured on that day because Mr. He wanted to... wanted to..."

"What did he want to do?" Su Zhan and Shen Peichuan were impatient. Why could this woman not just tell them all at one?

"I don't know. I only know that Ms. Lin's clothes were torn and her head was bleeding. Mr. He was naked and I heard them arguing upstairs. Ms. Lin should be unwilling about it, that's why— that's why she did it."

Her words were vague, but everyone could understand what had happened.

No one dared to make a sound in the house as they secretly stared at Zong Jinghao.

His expression was gloomy and his face was twitching. He looked terrifying.

His voice was low and deep and there was a fire burning in his eyes. It looked as if he would kill her on the spot if Aunt Hua dared to lie to him. "Tell me, where is she now?"

"I don't know. I really don't know. He had taken her away after the hospital trip. I saw that he was checking the road on his phone, and it looked like he was going to Chuan Province. I'm really telling the truth; I wouldn't dare to lie to you. I know that Mr. He was lying to me. He said that Ms. Lin was his girlfriend but I realized that Ms. Lin did not love him at all. She would rather hurt herself to go against him. It's the truth. I only know as far as this."

Aunt Hua continued, "I only rented the house out for money. I've never done anything and I've told you everything. Please let me go."

"If it was like what she had said that they had gone to Chuan Province, then the men we had arranged by the borders would have found them out. If He Ruize was determined not to be found, he would not take the highway nor the plane. Nowadays, you had to show your identification card to take the train. The only way they could go there was by driving the old roads." Shen Peichuan analyzed.

"I think Peichuan's right. Maybe we can make it if we go now." Su Zhan followed up on Shen Peichuan's words.

Zong Jinghao's hands were clenched into fists and the veins on the back of his hands were visible. If it was not for his remaining rationality telling him that he should remain calm, he would have lost his composure and would not be able to arrange what to do next.

Su Zhan, stay here with Guan Jing. Shen Peichuan, follow me."

Su Zhan knew what his intention was. He had to settle with He Ruilin and Lin Yuhan, but he could not delay in finding Lin Xinyan. By asking him to stay here, he could do both things at once.

Furthermore, Shen Peichuan was calmer and quieter than Su Zhan. Zong Jinghao did not want to hear constant chattering by his ears right now.

When they left the house, the woman who had brought them here followed after them. She looked as if she wanted to say something.

Su Zhan looked at her and signed a cheque for her. Although they had not found her, she had been enthusiastic to help them and he could see that she was not living a wealthy life.

The woman rarely went into the city. She had never seen this. She hesitated before asking, "This is money?"

It was obviously just a piece of paper. Were they trying to cheat her because she was uneducated?

“You can change it in the bank for a hundred thousand.”

A hundred thousand.

The woman swallowed. Even if she sold everything at home and took out all their savings, they would only have eight thousand. A hundred thousand was a lot to her. She could not believe that the money had come so easily.

“You don’t want it?” Su Zhan frowned. This was the first time he was trying to be nice, but the receiving party was suspicious of his kindness.

“Of course I want it.” The woman hurriedly took it from his hands. She carefully held it in her hands, afraid that she would tear it and it would be useless in the bank.

Su Zhan drove away in his car. He did not go the same direction as Zong Jinghao did. He went to the police station to settle He Ruilin and Lin Yuhan’s matter.

Shen Peichuan went to arrange for the men and vehicles they needed while Zong Jinghao went back to the villa.

The car stopped in front of the villa. Instead of going down, he sat in the car and looked at the lights in the villa. Once in a while, he would hear Lin Ruixi’s soft, clear voice. It sounded like music to his ears.

His fear was like a large blanket that slowly wrapped around him until he could no longer breathe.

He was afraid that his carelessness, his lack of observance, his mistake, had let Lin Xinyan fall into a trap.

He let her become hurt, he let her...

He did not know how to face the two children.

He blamed himself for Lin Xinyan’s disappearance.

In the villa, the spacious living room was so quiet that every sound made an echo. Lin Ruixi was restless. She stepped onto the chair and wanted to climb onto the piano. Her leg pressed down on one of the keys and it made a loud sound. Lin Xichen frowned and walked over to her. “Ruixi, why are you being so mischievous?”

She was ungraceful climbing around.

Lin Ruixi pouted and pointed out the window. “If I stand here, I can see the outside. I want to see if Daddy’s back.”

Lin Xichen tensed. Daddy had gone to look for Mommy. He wondered how they were, and did Daddy manage to find her?

He was anxious.

He was worried that something had happened to Mommy.

“Wow, Xichen. Isn’t that Daddy’s car?” Lin Xichen shouted.

Lin Xichen followed his sister’s gaze to see a car on the porch. He held onto his sister.
“Come down quickly.”

Lin Ruixi blinked her eyes. “Why?”

“What why? If you’re not coming down then I’ll be going by myself. Then you’ll fall off.” Lin Xichen had a hint of impatience in his tone.

Zhuang Zijin walked over. “Xichen, why are you being so impatient?”

“No, I’m not. I’m just worried that she’ll fall. You’re here now, so watch over her.” After telling his grandma that, Lin Xichen rushed out of the door towards Zong Jinghao. He stood in front of the car window and his first question was, “Have you found my mommy?”

There was a moment of silence.

The heavy atmosphere slowly crept in between them.

“I’ve been too impatient. If you’ve found her, she would be with you now.” Lin Xichen tried his best to hide his disappointment, but he was still a child. His body trembled. “What do I do if I miss her?”

Zong Jinghao came out of the car to hug him tightly. His voice was rough as he said, “I’m sorry, it’s my fault that I couldn’t protect her... I miss her too.”

Chapter 178

Lin Xichen was sprawled in his arms and he could feel his trembling chest.

He reached out to hug him. Regardless if he loved Mommy, the anxiety and guilt he was feeling now were real.

“Let’s go look for her.” Zong Jinghao made the boy look at him. “Are you going?”

“I’m going.” Lin Xichen answered without hesitation

“What about Ruixi? If Mommy and I aren’t here, she’ll make a fuss.” Lin Xichen worriedly said.

“Daddy.”

Not sure when Lin Ruixi had seen Zong Jinghao, she ran out from the house towards him. She extended her plump fair arms and wrapped them around Zong Jinghao’s leg. “Daddy.” She looked up and pouted her pink lips. “Daddy, can you let go of Xichen and hug me instead?”

She blinked as she said, “Xichen is a big boy. He doesn’t need hugs. Hug me.”

Lin Xichen was speechless.

Zong Jinghao crouched down and pulled her into his arms. The little girl was wearing a pink dress today and she had her hair tied into a ponytail. There were loose strands of hair around her ears and on her forehead but her forehead was still visible. Her eyes were wide and innocent as she grabbed onto Zong Jinghao’s neck and rubbed his face with hers. “Daddy, you’re back. Why isn’t Mommy with you? I haven’t seen her for days. We’ve never been separated. I miss her.”

Zong Jinghao looked far away as he pressed the two little heads against his chest. He tried his best to say in a calm tone, “I’ll bring you two to look for her.”

“Really?” Lin Ruixi was excited. “Is Mommy playing hide and seek with us? Is that why we need to look for her?”

“Yes.”

“Wow, I’m so excited.” Lin Ruixi excitedly fidgeted in his arms but Lin Xichen was not as optimistic as her. “Being a child is nice.”

When Lin Ruixi heard his words, she turned around to glare at him. “You’re just older than me by a few minutes. You’re not much older. Even grandma said you were an extra.”

Lin Xichen frowned and his face scrunched up. “Grandma said you’re the one who was the extra.”

At this moment, Zhuang Zijin had walked out of the house wearing an apron. She placed her hands in front of her. “Come in, it’s time to eat.”

“Grandma, Xichen is the extra one, right?” To prove that she was the right one, Lin Ruixi hurried to ask her grandmother before Lin Xichen did.

As if she would be right if she was faster than him.

It was easy to see what this little girl was thinking about. She was much simpler than her brother, and she rarely overthought. Zhuang Zijin laughed and teased her, “You’re the extra one.”

Lin Ruixi became unhappy. She pouted. "Why isn't Xichen the extra one? He's so mean."

He stole her hugs from Daddy.

He was mean!

Zhuang Zijin looked at Zhuang Zijin before saying, "It was because Mommy only had one baby at the start, then found out that there was another. Wouldn't the one after be the extra one?"

Lin Ruixi did not want to admit defeat. "That should be Xichen. Xichen is the extra one."

"But Xichen was the first to come out..."

"I don't care, Xichen is the extra one!" Lin Ruixi insisted as she held tightly onto Zong Jinghao's neck. "Daddy, is Xichen the extra one?"

Zong Jinghao carried her up and patted her head. "The both of you are equally important."

"Let's go in and eat." Zhuang Zijin held Lin Xichen's hand.

"I was planning to bring them out. Lin Xinyan must miss them." Zong Jinghao took the opportunity to tell Zhuang Zijin that he was bringing the children out.

Zhuang Zijin answered, "Okay."

She sensed that there was something wrong in his words but thought that she was overthinking.

It seemed like the two children, especially Lin Ruixi, liked Zong Jinghao. Zhuang Zijin was glad if Zong Jinghao was willing to become a family with Lin Xinyan.

"When are you coming back?" Zhuang Zijin asked.

Zong Jinghao did not know when he could find her, so he said, "I don't have a specific time frame. I want to bring them around. We won't be contacted so we can enjoy ourselves better."

Zhuang Zijin nodded. "Alright, when are you leaving?"

"Tonight."

"That's quick."

"Yes." He gave no further explanations. He did not want to delay his time even more.

“Then you and the children should go and eat first. I’ll pack their clothes.” Zhuang Zijin took off her apron and went into the room.

Zong Jinghao brought the children to wash their hands. Lin Ruixi was clingier and she did not want to leave his arms. So Zong Jinghao carried her while she washed her hands and then brought her to the dining room. She sat on his lap.

Aunt Yu served the food and asked, “Young Mistress isn’t home yet?”

Aunt Yu’s title for her had changed again.

She felt that Lin Xinyan had given birth to Zong Jinghao’s two children, so she was now the Young Mistress of the Zong family.

Zong Jinghao was picking some vegetables for Lin Xichen as he quietly hummed in response.

He did not want to talk more about Lin Xinyan. The more he talked, the more likely others would suspect him.

Aunt Yu was the one who took care of him, so she was familiar with his personality. The way he had answered her meant that he did not want to talk about the matter, so she stopped talking.

“Daddy, eat.” Lin Ruixi scooped a piece of broccoli for Zong Jinghao.

The little girl blinked with hopeful eyes.

Zong Jinghao opened his mouth and ate the broccoli. Even if he had no appetite for food right now, he still chewed because Lin Ruixi was the one who gave him that.

“It’s tasty, right?” Lin Ruixi smiled happily. “My mommy cooks it better.”

Zong Jinghao’s expression froze. These two children are often mentioned about Lin Xinyan. It was obvious that they were very close to Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xichen looked at his sister and pursed his lips. He lowered his eyes as he ate a few mouthfuls before putting down the chopsticks. He also had no appetite for food while his mommy was still missing.

“I’m done. I’ll see if grandma is done packing.” He slid down the chair and walked towards the room.

“Xichen, you’re just eating a little?” Lin Ruixi looked at her brother. Although the two argued and fought sometimes, they still cared for each other.

“Xichen is full.” Lin Xichen smiled at his sister.

“Xichen, you’re not the extra one.” Lin Ruixi suddenly said to Lin Xichen.

Lin Xichen laughed.

Soon after dinner, Shen Peichuan had brought the men and cars over. He knew that Zong Jinghao was bringing the two children, so he had prepared a recreational vehicle so the children could rest in it. Other than the recreational vehicle, there were three off-road vehicles and seven men. They were all good with physical work and they were trusted men.

When Shen Peichuan saw Lin Xichen, he sighed, “He really looks like you. Look at those eyes and nose.”

“Then do I look like Daddy?” Lin Ruixi looked up at him and asked.

Shen Peichuan crouched to take a good look at the little girl. She was fair with bright eyes. When she blinked, her eyes were like twinkling stars. He reached out to pinch her cheeks, but before his fingers touched her face, his wrist was grabbed. He looked up and saw Zong Jinghao’s cold expression.

Shen Peichuan was stunned. “I just want to pinch her cheeks. You have a daughter, but you can’t be that stingy, right?”

Did playing with children not consist of pinching their cheeks, kissing, and hugging them?

He had not even started with the kissing and hugging yet.

Zong Jinghao swung his hand away. “You can’t touch her with your hands.”

Lin Ruixi was a girl and she kept being touched by others, especially men. He did not like it.

He carried his daughter and held onto his son’s hand. “If you’re done packing everything in the car, then let’s go.”

He walked towards the car.

Shen Peichuan remained crouched on the same spot with a stunned look. He lowered his head to look at his hand. His hand was not dirty, why was Zong Jinghao being so stingy?

He hurried to follow him. “Zong Jinghao, I need to talk to you.”

He was not a predator, why was he wary of him?

“You love your children, I understand. After all, you only had them when you’re old, but you can’t be this stingy...”

Zong Jinghao turned his head around. “What did you say? I only have them when I’m old?”

Was he old?

Shen Peichuan smacked his lips. "Not old."

Internally, he dissed him. He was already in his thirties nearing his forties, was that not old?

He walked over. "Why don't I have a son? Then let's engage our children?"

If you're not going to let me touch her, then I'm going to have a son that'll marry your daughter. Then she'll be his daughter-in-law. Shen Peichuan thought.

Haha.

Zong Jinghao's expression darkened.

Shen Peichuan reacted quickly. Before Zong Jinghao could do anything to him, he ran into the car.

Lin Ruixi blinked. "Daddy, what is engagement?"

Zong Jinghao did not know how to explain to her.

He patted his daughter's head and carried her into the car. "He's just talking nonsense."

Chapter 179

"Ms. Lin? Ms. Lin?"

In a daze, Lin Xinyan heard someone call her. She slowly opened her eyes and saw Liu standing at the side of her bed. When Liu saw her open her eyes, she smiled. "You're awake?"

Lin Xinyan moved to sit on the bed. She rubbed her eyes until she felt more awake, then asked, "What time is it?"

"It's twelve in the noon. You've slept the entire morning. Eat some food." Liu was respectful to her. She was someone that Young Master had asked her to take care of, naturally, she would do her job well.

"Could you pour a cup of water for me?" She was not hungry, but her throat was dry from sleeping so long.

"Okay." Liu left the room to get a cup of water.

Lin Xinyan watched her disappearing figure and pushed away the blankets to move down the bed. The injured leg was wrapped in bandages and the ankle was still red and swollen.

She reached out to press on it lightly. It was painful. She frowned as she realized that it would not be getting better in these few days.

She placed her weight on the uninjured leg and tried to stand up.

“Do you want to become a handicapped?” A low male voice came from the doorway.

Lin Xinyan raised her head to see the man in the wheelchair.

He wheeled himself into the room. “Your periosteum on your ankle has been hurt. If you keep stressing it out, it would not be able to heal in a few months. If it’s serious... Then you’ll end up like me.”

He deliberately raised his voice for the last sentence and mocked at himself, “It’s not fun to be in a wheelchair.”

Lin Xinyan sat back on the bed, “I’m just trying it.”

“Ms. Lin, your water.” Liu had brought the water in.

Lin Xinyan reached out for it and said, “Thank you.”

“You’re Young Master’s guest, I’d have to take care of you well.” Liu smiled as she looked at Bai Yinning.

There was someone else present, so she only dared to glance at him before looking away.

Lin Xinyan pretended that she did not see it. She raised her cup and drank a few sips to relieve her dry mouth.

“Ms. Lin, you should be hungry, right?” Liu placed a foldable table on the bed. “Your leg is injured, and you can’t walk, so Young Master told me to serve the food in the room.”

Lin Xinyan looked at Bai Yinning and said, “Thank you.”

Bai Yinning raised his eyebrow. “No need to thank me. It’s a fate that we have met in this big world. Just relax and get better. When you’ve recovered, I’ll send you back. Where is Ms. Lin from?”

“B City.” Lin Xinyan answered honestly.

At the same time, she felt odd. He did not allow her to make phone calls, yet he was telling her that he would send her back.

What was he planning?

“B City?” Bai Yinning rummaged on these two words. His gaze landed on Lin Xinyan’s jade bangle again. It was as if he had thought of something as he spaced out.

“Mr. Bai, what’s wrong?”

Bai Yinning returned to his senses, shook his head, and smiled. “Nothing, I just thought of something.” His gaze landed on Lin Xinyan’s face. “Am I old?”

Lin Xinyan was speechless.

She was stunned.

What did that mean?

“I’m just twenty-six, and you’re calling me Mister. It makes me sound like I’m in my thirties.” Before Lin Xinyan could reply to him, he continued, “You should call me Yinning.”

Lin Xinyan did not reply to him.

It did not seem appropriate to call him by his name. Were names not only for people who were close?

“I saved you and you don’t even want to call me by my name? Do you only want to call me as if I’m old?” His voice was stern, but there was no hint of reprimanding in his eyes.

Lin Xinyan lowered her eyes. “I just think that calling you by name is too intimate.”

“Why is it intimate? I’m not going to let you call me Mr. Bai. Are you planning to call me ‘hey’ or ‘you there’?”

Lin Xinyan laughed.

“Let me hear you call me.” Bai Yinning smiles.

His face was lively, and he looked expectant.

Lin Xinyan pursed her lips. He had saved her; it was just repaying his help by calling him by his name. She said, “Bai Yinning?”

“Take away the last name, Bai.”

Lin Xinyan could not help but complain in her head. He has a lot of requests, doesn’t he?

“Yinning.”

“Sounds good.”

He smiled happily.

Lin Xinyan wanted to diss him. How did this sound good?

However, he was her savior so she did not do it.

Liu heard Bai Yinning's laughter when she was bringing the food in. She could not help but look at Lin Xinyan. It was one thing that the Young Master was treating her exceptionally well, but now he was smiling so happily because of this woman. Who was this woman?

Who was she to her Young Master?

With questions swirling in her head, she placed the food on the table.

"I don't know what your preferences are. Tell me if you like something specific, and I'll request them for you." Bai Yinning said.

However, Lin Xinyan did not want to bother him that often. She had to return the favor, and she did not want to owe him too much. She was not a picky eater, so she did not hate any food in particular.

"I'm not picky. Anything is fine." Lin Xinyan smiled.

It was obvious that she was trying to keep a distance from him. Instead of getting angry, Bai Yinning said, "Alright, tell me if you need anything."

"Okay."

After eating, Lin Xinyan laid on the bed, bored. She looked out of the window as she wondered how she could contact Lin Xichen.

Why did Bai Yinning not lend her a phone?

What was he aiming for?

"This room." Liu's voice sounded outside the room. Soon, she walked in with two workers that were carrying a fish tank.

Liu instructed the workers to place it in front of the bed. "Put it here."

After the workers installed the fish tank and left, Lin Xinyan asked, "What is this for?"

"Young Master said you can't leave the bed, so you must be bored. He found some rare fish for you to look at so the time would go by quicker." Liu stood at the side of the bed as she said with an envious tone, "Young Master is treating you so well."

She had never seen Bai Yinning treating anyone that well, especially a woman.

Lin Xinyan looked at the fishes in the tank. There were three, and each of them looked unique with bright colors. She had never seen them in the aquarium. They looked rare and expensive.

However, she did not feel joyous. There was no such thing as a free lunch. His efforts in taking care of her made her feel uncomfortable.

“Ms. Lin, aren’t you happy?” Liu asked when she saw that there was no look of joy on Lin Xinyan’s face.

“No.” Lin Xinyan forced a smile.

“Ms. Lin, do you know Young Master?” Liu asked the question that she had been wondering.

Her time in the Bai family was not short, but she had never seen her nor heard about her. It did not seem right that he was treating her so nicely on their first meeting.

Lin Xinyan shook her head. “Why?”

“I just thought that the Young Master is treating you very well. If he wasn’t familiar with you, why was he being so nice to you after saving you?”

Lin Xinyan was confused about this as well.

She reached out to play with the fish’s tail and the fish swam away.

Although Lin Xinyan was also curious about Bai Yinning, she did not show it on her face. She just said with an indifferent tone, “Didn’t you say that the Young Master was a good person? He’s just helping out until the end.”

Liu still did not think that it was just because the Young Master was a good person. There should be another reason for him to be this nice.

“What do you think is the reason?” Lin Xinyan slowly looked up.

Liu could not find her words.

“Never mind.” Liu did not feel very happy with the lack of answer, so she turned and left.

Lin Xinyan took a piece of tissue to wipe the water from her hands. She pulled away the blankets and moved down the bed. She supported herself with the bedside table and put her weight onto her uninjured leg. She moved slowly towards the door.

The place was spacious. She was living on the first floor. Bai Yinning’s room was likely downstairs for convenience. She did not know where Liu had gone as the spacious living room was empty with no signs of anyone.

Lin Xinyan saw the phone on the side table beside the couch.

Her eyes were bright with hope. This was her only chance to contact the outside world. She looked around to make sure that no one was around before she made her way over holding onto the wall.

She managed to reach the living room and she used one hand to hold onto the couch while the other hand reached for the phone.

Chapter 180

“Tired.” Lin Ruixi’s hands were gripped tight onto Zong Jinghao’s shirt. She wanted to sleep but could not because the place was unfamiliar.

Her little body kept fidgeting in his arms.

Zong Jinghao pulled her closer and his large hands struck her back. He patiently coaxed her, “Good girl, Daddy will hold you while you sleep.”

Lin Ruixi buried her face into his chest. Daddy’s arms were so warm. She could feel him and his warmth through the fabric. “Daddy, will you still abandon Mommy and us? I don’t want to leave you. I want Daddy, Mommy, and Xichen to live together, like what the other kids have. There’s Mommy, Daddy, Grandma, Grandpa...”

The little girl’s voice trailed off until he could not hear it.

Zong Jinghao lowered his head. The little girl had buried her face in his arms, and the corners of her eyes were damp.

“I saw other kids’ being carried by their daddies, and their daddies pushed their swings for them. I’m envious...”

Since birth, she only had Mommy, Xichen, and Grandma. There was never a Daddy.

She was clingy to Zong Jinghao when she met him, because she was afraid that he would not want her again.

Then she would become a fatherless child again.

Zong Jinghao moved his body and held her head in his hands. He did not know if it was because it was stuffy or was it because of suffering she had for many years. Her eyes were red and there were beads of tears on her long eyelashes. He bent down to kiss the beads of tears away from her eyes. He said in a low voice, “No, I’ll never leave you from now on.”

His lips were warm and soft and the little girl closed her eyes instinctively. Daddy's breath was so close to her. He was hugging her and he was kissing her. She felt like she was the luckiest girl in the world.

She was easily satisfied. A simple kiss had melted her heart.

However, she did not know that her words had made this man agitate.

When Lin Xinyan was pregnant, he knew that it was him who had pushed her away and missed out all these years.

How could he compensate for the years he had missed?

"Boy, why aren't you at the back?" The recreational vehicle was spacious. Behind the driver's seat was a couch. Shen Peichuan was half lying on it while looking at the maps. Lin Xichen was sitting beside him and looking out the window. When he heard Shen Peichuan's words, he answered without turning his head, "I'm not sleepy, I don't want to go."

His sister was clinging onto Zong Jinghao. He did not want to see it; he did not feel comfortable to see it.

If Zong Jinghao really loves them, why did he abandon Mommy in the first place?

Now he was acting as if he was guilty. What did that mean?

"Mr. Shen, what kind of person is he?" Lin Xichen felt conflicted with his feelings towards Zong Jinghao. He wanted to be close to him, but he could not let go of the fact that he had abandoned Lin Xinyan back then.

Shen Peichuan was stunned by his question. He sat up and asked, "Who?"

Lin Xichen pointed to the back of the car and Shen Peichuan understood who he was talking about. He reached out to wrap his arm around his neck and pulled him into his arms. "Boy, that's your daddy, you're calling him 'he'?"

"Why should I call the person who abandoned me as Daddy?" Lin Xichen tilted his head up and he looked like an arrogant boy. However, he was envious of Lin Ruixi, who could easily call him Daddy.

He could not say it out easily.

He could not help but think about the abandonment. Not only did he abandon them, he abandoned his mommy. He could not forgive him that easily although he seemed good to them now.

Shen Peichuan looked at the little boy. It was obvious that he could not get over Zong Jinghao.

He reached out to ruffle his hair roughly. "Your dad must have not known that your mommy was pregnant back then. It was not his style to know about her children and still insisting on a divorce even if he didn't like her."

Lin Xichen's focus was not on Zong Jinghao being responsible, but that he had not liked her. Did he not like Mommy when they were married?

If he did not, why did they get married?

Were their brains not working?

"Does that mean that he had wasted Mommy's time?" Lin Xichen asked as he frowned.

If it was not for him, did that mean that Mommy could find someone that actually loved her?

Shen Peichuan reached out to flick his small nose. "What are you thinking about, boy? Don't worry that much about adult's things. You'll grow old quickly."

Lin Xichen pouted. "Mr. Shen, you're the one who'll get older first." He put up his fingers. "In another twenty years, you'll be entering old age while I'm at the peak of my youth."

After finishing his words, Lin Xichen ran off.

"Hey, you!" Shen Peichuan felt helpless. "Run slower, I won't chase after you. Your dad is an overprotective person."

Shen Peichuan still could not let go of the fact that Zong Jinghao had not let him touch Lin Ruixi.

The more he thought about it, the angrier he got.

What a selfish man!

It was just a daughter!

He could get children of his own.

Thinking of children, Lin Xinyan was good at having children. She had given birth to a pair of twins, a girl and a boy. They had taken after their parent's best points. The boy was smart and the girl was cute and soft. He would love to have these kinds of children.

All he could blame was that he did not have Zong Jinghao's luck.

Shen Peichuan sighed as he leaned back on the couch. He was about to look on the map again when Zong Jinghao walked out from the back of the car. He jerked up in surprise. "Where's your daughter?"

What he wanted to ask was “How could you leave her willingly? Didn’t you want to accompany your daughter?”

“She’s asleep.” He took Shen Peichuan’s phone and looked at the routes that he had planned out. He asked, “There’s only one way?”

“No, but I was thinking that he would be choosing the most remote route to avoid our men. There isn’t surveillance for remote roads, but the roads are not well-maintained, so he’ll be driving slower.”

“Send two men over to check out that route to see if they could find anything.” He could not go personally, as his children were still here.

“Yes.” Shen Peichuan said, “I’ve already sent someone.” As he said, he looked at the back of the car then leaned towards Zong Jinghao. “I think the boy has something against you.”

Did Zong Jinghao not know that Lin Xichen was feeling conflicted about him?

Of course he did.

“He blames me for divorcing Lin Xinyan.” Zong Jinghao’s eyes lowered. He was staring at the phone, but his thoughts were elsewhere.

Shen Peichuan looked at him with suggestive eyes. “Didn’t you dislike her at that time? How did you…” Get her pregnant?

He was not happy with the marriage at that time. Su Zhan and him had known about it. If the marriage was not arranged by his late mother, he would have never gone through it.

If he had not loved nor like her, and he had He Ruilin beside him, how did Lin Xinyan get pregnant?

Zong Jinghao looked at him. “Stop gossiping about my matters.”

He did not want to talk in detail about this matter. No one else needed to know about it other than him.

He was not going to announce it publicly and let everyone know that Lin Xinyan had his children before marriage.

Shen Peichuan was familiar with him. No one forced the words out of him if he did not want to willingly tell them.

He looked back at the phone and continued looking at the map. He wanted to see if there were better and more convenient routes that could get them there faster.

At the back, Lin Xichen was lying on the bed and turning around. He did not feel sleepy at all. He supported his head with one hand and reached out to squeeze his sleeping sister's nose with another. "Heartless girl. You called him daddy so quickly."

Lin Ruixi felt her nose ticklish. She turned her body and continued sleeping.

Lin Xichen felt bored. He turned to look at the ceiling light and mumbled, "When can we find Mommy?"

Suddenly, the smartwatch on his wrist rang. He raised his hand and there was an unfamiliar number on the screen. Could it be Mommy?

The moment he thought about it, he accepted the call.

He raised the smartwatch near his mouth and could not help but call out, "Mommy."

There was a woman's voice that came from the other end...