

## **CHAPTER 131.**

When He Ruilin woke up, she was completely undressed on the messy, spacious bed.

There was no one in sight.

She sat up and covered her naked body with the blanket. She recalled that she had gotten Zong Jinghao to come over with Lin Xinyan's video. She had actually wanted to use the video in exchange for him to let the He family go. However, before she could discuss this with him, they had started drinking.

Then she got drunk.

She remembered she was the one who took her clothes off.

There were only the two of them in the room at that time.

Did they sleep together last night?

She was not a naive child. She could feel what had happened to her.

A red blush crawled to her face.

Did Zong Jinghao really change his mind?

She nearly jumped in excitement.

She should not be wrong. Zong Jinghao must have made love to her last night.

She knew Zong Jinghao. She knew that he was nice to her because she was the woman of that night.

If only he had never known about her fake pregnancy and the accident, then he would never have hated her.

Now he made love to her. That meant that he was willing to be with her again.

She pulled the blankets away excitedly and wore some clothes.

She had to tell He Wenhui that Zong Jinghao was willing to be with her again. It meant that he would let the news go.

After changing into her clothes, she hurriedly left the hotel.

Her car stopped outside the He family estate. When she came down to her car, she saw Guan Jing's car nearby.

Guan Jing was here?

Guan Jing was one of Zong Jinghao's men.

It was someone Zong Jinghao trusted.

Was he here to tell her family that she was going to be with Zong Jinghao now?

The more she thought about it, the more excited she became. Her footsteps quickened.

She pushed open the door to find everyone from He family in the living room. He Wenhui was sitting with a livid look on his face. He Ruixing and He Ruize did not have happy expressions either. Xia Zhenyu was sitting at a side, sobbing silently.

He Ruilin did not sense that the heavy atmosphere was because of her.

She took a look at Guan Jing and smiled. "Did Hao ask you to come?"

Guan Jing looked away from her and said, "Yes."

He was once colleagues with He Ruilin, and he had a good impression of her. After she became a part of He family, she changed.

He did not know what she had done but he knew Zong Jinghao. She must have done something terrible for Zong Jinghao to leave her no room to maneuver for this matter.

As expected! He Ruilin nearly laughed in joy.

She walked in front of He Wenhui. "Dad..."

Slap!

The force of the smack made He Ruilin fall onto the ground. She sat on the ground in disbelief. She could not understand why He Ruilin would hit out of the blue.

She held onto her numbed face. "Dad, why did you hit me?"

"Why?" He Wenhui did not have time to breathe in between the incidents that kept happening. The news had yet to be resolved and now there was another incident that he had to deal with. He felt like he was going to get a heart attack from his continuous anger.

And she dared to ask him why he had hit her?

He trembled as he pointed to her. "How dare you ask why?"

"You need to have a reason to hit me! I'll never forgive you otherwise!" He Ruilin's tears streamed down as she looked at Xia Zhenyu.

Xia Zhenyu did not dare to say anything on her behalf.

Her gaze turned to He Ruize, whose eyes were red, but he had not said anything too.

In the He family, only Xia Zhenyu and He Ruize was nice to her.

Now that neither of them was saying anything on her behalf, she felt that something serious was going on.

"Hah."

Every word from He Wenhui got deeper and deeper. "I'm regretting that I did not strangle you to death when you were born. You? Not forgiving me?"

His vision was red. "Do I look like I need your forgiveness?"

He Ruilin shrank inwards. This was the first time she saw He Wenhui as ferocious as now.

She pounced towards Guan Jing and grabbed onto his arm. “Quick, tell me dad what you’re here for.”

Guan Jing’s expression did not change. “I’ve told him.”

“How could my dad be so angry if he knew that I’m with Zong Jinghao now?”

“When were you with Mr. Zong?” Guan Jing said in an indifferent tone.

Perhaps the He family did not know why He Ruilin was being like this, but he knew.

She had called out Zong Jinghao’s name constantly last night.

She had thought that the two men were Zong Jinghao.

“I was with Hao last night. He— He—”

“I think you’ve made a mistake.” Guan Jing interrupted her and threw a wet blanket over her thoughts. “Mr. Zong was not with you last night?”

“You’re lying! You’re lying!” He Ruilin’s tone was sharp. She stood up from the floor and pointed at Guan Jing. “What do you know?”

She recalled the moment when she leaned into Zong Jinghao’s arms and he did not push her away. She seemed to have forgotten the pain on her face as she smiled. “He loved me. We have been together since last night.”

“Enough!” He Ruize could not continue to listen to her lie to herself.

He walked over to grab onto her shoulders. He shouted at her, “Wake up! You’ve been set up!”

She looked at He Ruize, who was on the verge of a breakdown, with wide eyes. “How have I been set up? By who?”

“Why did I have a daughter as stupid as you?” He Wenhui had never felt a regret as strong as now. Why did he take her back in back then?”

If he had known that she would bring such disasters to the family, he would rather have her die outside than to enter the He family.

Guan Jing’s appearance was proof of Zong Jinghao’s attitude.

He Wenhui knew that the combination of the two incidents would be a disaster for the He family.

If they were not resolved well, the He family was going to come to an end.

He stood up, and said humbly, “Tell Zong Jinghao that I will give him a satisfying answer.”

Guan Jing nodded. “Of course. I will give him your words.”

He Wenhui walked him out of the door. Guan Jing waved. “You don’t need to send me all the way, Mr. He.”

Guan Jing left the He family estate.

After a moment, He Ruilin seemed to realize something. “It wasn’t Zong Jinghao who was with me last night?”

She was dumbfounded.

“He set me up?”

He Ruize momentarily closed his eyes. “What have you done to make him hate you this much? To ruin you like this?”

“I— I—” She started crying. “It was that night when we set Lin Xinyan up. I secretly installed video surveillance in the room and recorded—”

“No wonder Zong Jinghao had sent a video record of you over.”

“What video?” As if He Ruilin’s mind had exploded, her mind was filled with buzzing.

What video?

Was it the one from last night—

“What video?” He Ruixing pointed at the flash drive on the table. “Watch it yourself. Dad has grounded you at home to contemplate your actions. It would’ve been fine if you just didn’t contemplate, but you snuck out. It would’ve been fine if you just snuck out but you went to cross Zong Jinghao.”

His smile was mocking. “If he could be easily blackmailed or taken down by a video, he would not have survived until today.”

He Ruilin’s face was ghostly pale.

He Wenhui had lost his words in his anger.

It was obvious that He Ruilin had tried to threaten Zong Jinghao, but it failed and she was one-upped by him.

Who was to blame?

She only had herself to blame.

“The both of you come with me to meet him tomorrow.” If the news incident had some room to maneuver earlier, it was now at the end of its road.

His eyes were cloudy as he sat on the chair. “Ruize, Ruilin. You’ve caused trouble for the family. The He family can’t give up their reputation just for you. Don’t blame me. Blame yourselves for not doing better.”

“Dad, what do you mean? Are you giving up on us?” He Ruilin was in disbelief.

“It’s not dad who wants to give the two of you up. The two of you had wanted to dig your own graves.” He Ruixing followed up. “The two of you had never done anything for the family and yet you enjoy the honor and comfort that the

family had brought to you. Now, you have to do something for the family. After all, both of you were the ones that started this.”

## **CHAPTER 132.**

He Ruilin turned to look at He Ruixing and laughed gloomily. “You wish Ruize and I were dead so you can have the family fortune all to yourself, am I right?”

“You’re still trying to start something in the family at this time? Don’t you know how to reflect on your own actions?” He Wenhui did not want to get angry again, but he could not help himself when he heard her words.

He smacked onto the table and the ceiling seemed to tremble along. He stared at her as he panted. “You were the one who started this, you should be the one who ends this.”

He Wenhui had decided.

“Why?” He Ruilin did not want to admit defeat. She had always been thinking for the family. Her plans were not successful but that did not mean that she should have a death sentence.

“Dad, did you acknowledge me back then because I was Zong Jinghao’s man? Now that you have realized that I’m no longer useful, you’ve decided to burn this bridge?”

He Wenhui’s expression changed when she said his thoughts. “How could you think you were ever useful?”

He hesitated back then when He Ruize said that she was the long-lost daughter of He family. After all, she had been raised out of the family, and he did not feel anything for her.

In rich families, the wealth was portioned out.

Only after he realized that she had been with Zong Jinghao and Zong Jinghao seemed to like her, did he willingly acknowledge her and publicized her status.

Who knew that not only did she not contribute to the family, but she had also brought disasters to them.

Although He Ruize barely contributed at home, he had never brought troubles to the family.

Now, he was creating havocs along her side, and causing the whole He family to fall into misfortune.

“You know it well!” All He Ruilin felt was her heart breaking into pieces, and it no longer could be fixed. “When I came back to He family, I thought I finally had a family. I thought I finally had someone to protect me, but I didn’t feel any warmth from the family. When I am useful, you’re nice to me. When I’m not, I’m discarded away like a disposable chess piece. What do you think I am? Am I made of steel? Do you think I’ll never feel pain?”

Was the world of the rich only filled with heartless people who only saw the pros and cons?

“Do you think I don’t want to help the family?” She questioned them.

“Yes, I’m not skillful enough. I’m why the family is in quicksand right now. but— do you not feel a hint of hesitation when you’re letting me go?”

“I’m not letting you die. Your crimes are not enough for the death sentence. You just need to confess your actions. Why are you wasting your breath here?” He Ruixing sneered, “You said it yourself that I wanted to become the one with power at home. Take me out of the equation and ask yourselves, which one of you had ever done something good for the family? It’s just me taking care of our parents and the company.”

“It sounds great when you’re the one saying—”

“Stop it!” He Ruize cut off He Ruilin’s words. He walked in front of He Wenhui and knelt down.

He looked at his father and mother. With his hands on the floor, he bowed and knocked his head on the floor. He did not rise up as he said, “Mom, dad, this was all my fault. I’ll bear the responsibility alone.”

The entire living room fell into a silence.

Xia Zhenyu wiped the tears on her face and reached out to hold her son. She sobbed, “Don’t get down on your knees. You shouldn’t kneel so easily.”

They had grown up.

“You’re my parents, why shouldn’t I kneel to you? You gave birth to me but I have never been filial. Instead, I have brought disasters to the family. It’s my fault.” He Ruize did not get up. “You let me stay abroad and do everything I liked. You supported me financially, and I know that’s how you were loving me. I have disappointed you.”

He looked up at He Ruilin. “As for my sister, I am guilty. I was the one who had lost her. She had suffered. I’ll bear responsibility for her mistakes.”

“Are you sure?” Before He Wenhui spoke, He Ruixing had impatiently said, “You’re going to bear responsibility? Would Zong Jinghao accept it?”



“Ruixing won’t need to worry about that.” He Ruize did not know whether He Ruixing was keen on taking the family wealth all to himself, but he was still the eldest in the siblings and he was indeed capable.

He did not want to compete with him.

He looked at He Ruixing. “No matter what happened, Lin is still our younger sister. We came from the same womb and blood is thicker than water. Don’t be too stern with her. We can all see with our eyes the things you have done for the family. No one is going to compete with you.”

“No need for a gushing speech.” He Ruize turned his head. “You should bear the consequences of what you’ve done. I don’t need you to remind me about our little sister. As long as she acts like one, I will take care of her.”

“I don’t need your care.” He Ruilin kept her head high even when she was in deep trouble.

He Wenhui closed his eyes. It was as if he had grown decades older in one night. He looked at his younger son who kneeled by his feet. “This is not something you can bear by yourself—”

“I have a plan for me to take responsibility alone.” He Ruize had already thought of a plan.

All he needed was He Wenhui’s approval.

No matter how angry he was, he was still his son. He felt heartbroken by letting him go.

“Is this karma?” He Wenhui pounded on his chest.

Xia Zhenyu wiped her tears away and rubbed her husband’s back. “Take care of your health. It’s all my fault. I did not give birth to a good son.”

The atmosphere at home was heavy.

In the end, He Wenhui agreed with his plan. This had to be resolved, and someone had to take responsibility.

He was still worried. He asked He Ruize, “Do you really have a plan?”

“Yes.” He Ruize pursed his lips. Xia Zhenyu pulled him up. “Stand up.”

This time, He Ruize let her help him stand.

“Ruize.” He Ruilin knew that He Ruize genuinely treated her well. She started regretting forcing him in setting Lin Xinyan up and making him lose all opportunities to ever have her. “I’m sorry.”

“No need for apologies. We’re a family.” He Ruize did not regret his actions. Lin Xinyan had never loved him.

She would never have accepted him.

His actions then might not be able to win her heart, but he would have been able to win her body.

It was better than nothing.

He turned to go upstairs.

He Wenhui was tired.

“You’re all dismissed.”

At the villa.

Not long after Lin Xinyan was carried away, Lin Ruixi had woken up. She looked everywhere for her mother but she could not find her. She saw Zong Jinghao’s shirt on the couch and remembered what Aunt Yu had told her. Aunt Yu had told her that Zong Jinghao’s room was upstairs. She gave up looking for Lin Xinyan and ran upstairs to knock on his door.

She stood outside the door and looked into the room. It seemed like there was someone on the bed. “Dad, can I sleep with you tonight?”

Zong Jinghao did not answer her.

Her eyes reddened more and her tears were swirling in her eyes though they never fell. She looked miserable.

He looked behind him to see Lin Xinyan sticking her head out of the blanket. She looked at him with begging eyes, hoping that he could say yes to her daughter.

Zong Jinghao had no choice but to say yes. He was afraid that if he rejected her, Lin Xinyan would reject him in return.

He would bear with it for tonight!

He carried Lin Ruixi up in his arms. “I’ll hug you while you sleep tonight.”

And so, the romantic night that Zong Jinghao had hoped for turned into a family night.

They have had their marriage registration for seven years. They were lawful husband and wife, yet he had never touched his lawful wife.

I’m the most miserable husband in this world, he thought.

Lin Xinyan woke up early. She did not want Zhuang Zijin to realize that she had been sleeping upstairs.

She was preparing breakfast in the kitchen when she recalled her initiation to kiss Zong Jinghao last night. Her ears heated up and she regretted it terribly.

How could she have kissed him willingly?

“Impulse is the devil; impulse is the devil. You were too impulsive. You can’t just sell yourself because you want someone to love your daughter.”

“What are you mumbling to yourself about?”

Lin Xinyan jumped in surprise when she heard a sudden voice behind her. She turned around quickly.

### **CHAPTER 133.**

Aunt Yu was wearing an apron and about to prepare breakfast when she realized that Lin Xinyan had already started preparing. She was also mumbling to herself.

“No— No, it’s nothing.” Lin Xinyan looked away. She did not dare to look into Aunt Yu’s eyes. “Where are the eggs?”

“In the fridge.” Aunt Yu pulled open the fridge to find that the eggs were not there. She then realized they were beside the sink. “Isn’t it under your hands?”

“Huh?” When Lin Xinyan turned to look at the eggs, she suddenly recalled that she had taken them out. She had wanted to change the topic, but she had done so while looking like a fool. She gave an awkward smile. “I forgot about it.”

Aunt Yu returned her smile. She seemed to know what she was trying to hide, but she did not mention anything.

She walked over. “Let me help you. Tell me what the children like to eat, and I’ll make it for them.”

“They’re not picky.” Lin Xinyan was cracking the eggs. She was preparing to make steam egg custard. She had once stayed here for a few days so she knew what Aunt Yu tended to cook and that her dishes were generally well-balanced in nutrition.

She did not need to do extra preparations.

“It’s good that they’re not picky.” Aunt Yu said.

Picky children tended to be malnutrition in some ways.

“Yes.” Lin Xinyan answered with a smile.

The two prepared breakfast together. Perhaps it was because they knew each other, they cooperated well.

When it was seven, the quiet villa came alive.

Lin Xichen’s face was not as swollen as before. It was likely that he had been too bored cooped up in the room. After Zhuang Zijin had changed his clothes and washed his face, he ran to look for his sister in the living room.

He had fallen into a deep sleep last night and did not know when mommy and Ruixi had left him alone in the room.

He woke up with absolute disappointment.

He had also felt upset. He was still injured, why did mommy not bring him along when she left?

There was a look of unhappiness on his face as he sat angrily on the living room couch.

In comparison with Lin Xichen’s unhappiness, Lin Ruixi was overjoyed.

This was the first time she had slept in her dad’s arm. She had been too excited to sleep through the night. It was only when the sun was about to rise that she fell asleep. She was still asleep now, her face sunken into the pillow. Only half of her face was visible, and she had saliva drooling out of her slack mouth.

Zong Jinghao sat at the bedside and looked at her. He frowned in disgust. “She’s drooling.”

The little girl had no idea that her actions were frowned upon.

She was smiling, as if she was having a sweet dream. She opened her mouth and mumbled sweetly, “Dad.”

Zong Jinghao’s expression froze. He reached out to squeeze her cheeks. Perhaps it was ticklish, the little girl turned her head and he kept his hand. If only you really were my daughter, he thought.

However, this did not seem like a good topic to think further on. He stood up and went into the bathroom. He had returned home too late last night, then he was disrupted by this little

girl. He did not manage to shower before he slept, and now his clothes were sticking onto his skin.

Soon, there were sounds of water in the bathroom. Not long after, he came out with a towel around his waist.

The little girl on the bed continued to sleep peacefully.

He glanced at her then walked into his walk-in closet.

It was spacious. His clothes were all neatly arranged. There were no fancy colors, the colors were all dark.

The sound of the sliding door had woken up the little girl on the bed. She rubbed her eyes and realized that her dad was not with her. Her mouth turned downwards and she felt like crying.

She looked over to see the walk-in closet door was opened. She quietly climbed down the bed and ran over barefooted. She found her dad inside.

How lucky, dad did not leave her.

She leaned on the door frame and secretly watched him.

Zong Jinghao was standing in front of the mirror bucking his belt.

His suit pants wrapped around his slender legs.

His upper body was naked and his honey-colored muscles were coated with crystal-like water droplets. From her angle and with the dangling lights from above, Zong Jinghao's slender body made him look like an unruly noble.

He pulled the towel from aside to dry his hair and upper body, and it blocked the little girl's gaze.

Lin Ruixi blinked and sighed. Dad was handsome.

His body was amazing too.

When she thought about sleeping in his arms last night, her face turned red and her smile revealed her pearly white teeth.

She quietly turned around to climb back on the bed and continued sleeping.

So sleepy.

This was dad's bed. There was his smell on the bed. She wanted to lie on the bed for a little longer.

She buried her face into the blanket and inhaled the remnants of her dad's scent. She closed her eyes, thinking of her dad's warm arms, and went back into the dreamlands.

After changing, Zong Jinghao walked out to find the little girl still asleep on the bed. The only thing changed was that the blanket that was covering her was now under her.

He carried the little girl up and tucked her into the blanket. After making sure that she was not waking up yet, he went downstairs.

Aunt Yu was standing by the stairs and was about to call him for breakfast. When she saw him come down, she said to Lin Xinyan who was in the kitchen, "Let's eat."

Lin Xinyan replied and served breakfast onto the table.

Lin Xichen stared at the man who was coming down the stairs.

This heartless man was stealing his mommy.

He was angry! He was furious!

Zong Jinghao gave him a side-eye for having a terrible expression early in the morning.

"Does your face still hurt?"

"No!" Lin Xichen gave a cold snort. He climbed down the couch to follow Lin Xinyan to the dining table. He had to watch mommy today, he won't let her fall into Zong Jinghao's hands!

Lin Xinyan looked at her son who had been tailing her. "Sit here, we're having breakfast soon."

"You have to sit with me." Lin Xichen informed her.

"Alright." Lin Xinyan smiled at her son, realizing he was not happy. "Does your head still hurt?"

Lin Xichen wanted to say that it did not, but he saw Zong Jinghao walking over. He pounced into Lin Xinyan's arms and said, "It hurts, my head hurts."

Lin Xinyan carried him up. "Let me see."

"No need, just hug me." Lin Xichen hugged her neck tightly.

When Zong Jinghao saw it, he was speechless.

In the night it was Lin Ruixi, and in the day it was Lin Xichen. How could he live like this?

While eating, Lin Xichen sat in Lin Xinyan's lap. He wanted Lin Xinyan to feed him.

He used to scoff at this.

Only Lin Ruixi liked someone to feed her.

However, he enjoyed it now. Mommy was the best.

“Hasn’t Ruixi woke up yet?” Zhuang Zijin asked.

“She slept late last night.” Lin Xinyan said.

Zhuang Zijin nodded. She knew that Lin Ruixi was crying to look for Zong Jinghao last night.

Lin Xinyan’s phone on the table suddenly rang. It was Qin Ya, who had called to tell her that the shop was being renovating and that Mrs. William would be there by afternoon.

“I’ve booked the hotel. You can pick her up. She has the nine o’clock flight.”

“I understand.” Lin Xinyan ended the call

“I want to go to the bathroom.” Lin Xichen wanted to go to the bathroom.

“I’ll accompany you.”

“No need, no need.” Lin Xichen waved his hands in a panic. He wanted to poop. He did not want his mommy to come with him.

He knew how to wipe his butt.

After Lin Xichen left, Lin Xinyan lowered her head and continued eating her porridge.

“You’re going out today?” Zong Jinghao said to her. He sensed that she seemed to be avoiding him. Since her waking up in the morning, she had not initiated any talks with him.

She quietly hummed in response.

“Where to? I’ll send you.”

“No need, you can go straight to your company. I have a car.” Lin Xinyan rejected.

When she thought about her initiating the kiss yesterday, embarrassment flooded her senses.

She did not even dare to face him alone now.

The corner of Zong Jinghao’s eyes twitched. Was her car not the one that he gave her?

It felt like he had dug his own grave.

It was him trying to be nice to her. Why did it seem like it became an obstacle for him instead?

After breakfast, Lin Xinyan deliberately went out later than Zong Jinghao. She did not want to go out at the same time as him.

However, she realized that Zong Jinghao had not left when she went out the door. He had been leaning by the car and waiting for her.

She steeled herself and walked over. "Why haven't you left?"

Zong Jinghao did not answer her. "Are you avoiding me?"

Lin Xinyan denied, "No."

He looked at her for a second. "If it's a no, then come in the car."

She lowered her head and said quietly, "I don't think we're going the same direction."

Zong Jinghao realized her eyes were bright red. Was she shy?

What was she shy for?

Why was she feeling embarrassed?

Suddenly, he remembered the fact that she had initiated the kiss last night.

Zong Jinghao pulled her over with his arm around her waist and leaned to her. "The more you kiss, the less embarrassed you'll get."

Lin Xinyan could not find her words.

This man—

"Let's hurry and go." Lin Xinyan was regretful. She should have just gone into the car without saying anything. At least he would not have teased her.

Zong Jinghao smiled and let go of her, then he sat into the car.

When the car was at the junction, a black shadow suddenly rushed out in front of the car.



## **CHAPTER 134.**

Zong Jinghao stepped on the brakes in time and did not hit the person who appeared suddenly.

He Ruize stood at the front of the car and stared at Lin Xinyan for a moment. Sure enough, she and Zong Jinghao were together now.

Even if he concealed the truth that he found out in the past, he still failed to prevent her and Zong Jinghao from getting together.

He looked sad, "I want to talk to you."

He appeared too suddenly and Lin Xinyan was not prepared at all.

Up till now, Lin Xinyan had been avoiding this matter consciously, and she did not think or ask about it.

His appearance was telling her all that had happened was reality, and the big brother in her heart had changed.

He had become someone that she did not recognize.

And even feared.

"Get out of the way." Zong Jinghao's eyes were gloomy and his tone was cold. His attitude was so tough and sharp, as if he could shatter a piece of glass.

He Ruize did not back down. He stared at Lin Xinyan, "Yan, how many years have we known each other? I admit it's my fault this time. I am sorry that I did you wrong, but in all fairness, did I treat you well in the past?"

"When I first knew you, you were just a teenage girl. For the sake of your brother and mother, you were brave and strong, and so sensible that one would feel sorry for you. Do you still remember?"

Lin Xinyan clasped her hands tightly, held her breath, and did not move. Regarding the past, there was only sadness and pain. The death of her younger brother was a wound that could never heal.

"Later, you returned to China to get married. Do you know why I came back too? It was because of you." He smiled bitterly. "Then you divorced and got into a car accident. I took you away from here. Do you remember those dark days? During the painful time when you

tried to keep your two children, who was by your side? Who helped to take care of you and your mother?"

He recounted every bit that they shared during the time spent with her. He gave all these to her sincerely and he truly liked her.

Love that was not reciprocated would become hate eventually.

"Do you only have hatred for me, and there is no affection at all?"

"Stop talking." Lin Xinyan closed her eyes, and she could not deny what He Ruize said.

He did hurt her before. However, she could not deny that he gave sincerely and he was good to her in the past.

She trembled uncontrollably, "Just say what you want to say."

Now that they had come to this point, there was no retreat and they could not return to the past.

He said all these as he wanted her to return the favor.

The favor of him being kind to her in the past.

He Ruize smiled. He knew that once Lin Xinyan agreed to his request, everything between them would disappear into thin air.

But he had no other choice. There was no other way.

"Let the He family off."

Lin Xinyan frowned, what was this about?

"What do you mean?" Lin Xinyan was puzzled.

He Ruize looked at Zong Jinghao and sneered, "You don't know about this, but he knows."

Zong Jinghao's thoughts were submerged in He Ruize's words. Thinking about it carefully, although he was destined to be with Lin Xinyan, he had only heard of her past and had never taken part in it.

He always rejected learning about her past, what she had been through, and what kind of man she was once with.

But at this moment, he had the urge to know.

He leaned back and put his arm on the car window casually. He felt very disdainful of what He Ruize did, "He doesn't dare to take responsibility for what he did, and he wants to use this method to survive now?"

"I'm willing to take all the responsibilities. Let Lin and He family off. After all, Lin was intimate with you in the past, won't you feel ashamed treating her like this?"

He Ruize clenched his fists.

In his cognition, Zong Jinghao was not a good person. Even for the woman who was once in a relationship with him, he would not show any mercy.

Lin Xinyan was confused. What actually happened?

Why didn't she know anything?

Zong Jinghao sneered and did not respond to He Ruize's words.

His lack of mercy was because she had wiped out his affection for her again and again.

She crossed the bottom line this time.

There were some things that he could tolerate, and there were some things that he could not!

Lin Xinyan frowned and could not help asking, "What is going on?"

He Ruize showed her the headlines of City B News.

In order to clear her confusion, Lin Xinyan took out her mobile phone and browsed through the news of the past two days. All were about Lin Xichen's kidnapping that day.

All the blames and criticisms were directed at the He family, saying that they bullied others.

Lin Xinyan understood what happened instantly.

Lin Xichen said that day that Zong Jinghao had deliberately let them take him away.

It turned out to be a trap.

The reputation of the He family was damaged now. Hence, He Ruize came to her, hoping that she would ask Zong Jinghao to let the He family off.

Seriously, she did not expect Zong Jinghao to do this.

Her heart fluctuates.

"Yan-"

Lin Xinyan pushed the door to get out of the car. Zong Jinghao grabbed her hand and seemed to disagree with her getting out. Then Lin Xinyan smiled at him, "I'll just talk to him for a little while."

Zong Jinghao looked at her for two seconds, then he released her hand slowly.

Lin Xinyan got out of the car and walked to He Ruize. She looked at the familiar face that looked like it belonged to a stranger. She had known him for so long, but she did not understand his heart.

"Did you change? Or Have I never known you?" Unknowingly, her eyes flushed, "You must think I'm heartless. You treated me well and took care of me, yet I didn't accept you. Actually, I've thought about being with you, but your mother came to look for me. She thinks that we're unsuitable for each other and she doesn't want me to be with you. Your sister is also very hostile to me. Even if I accept you, we'll face a lot of hindrances."

There was a thin mist in her eyes, which was disappointment towards him, "I didn't tell you this to explain, but I don't want you to misunderstand that I am a heartless person with no sense of justice. Although we'll end up becoming strangers in the future, I hope that we can leave a good impression in each other's hearts. After all, we have existed in each other's world before."

He Ruize frowned and his heart was confused. His mother looked for her before?

"So, it isn't that you don't like me, but it's just because of my mother and sister—"

"No." Lin Xinyan interrupted him, "I don't like you. Without them, I'd be willing to try starting a relationship with you, so as to repay you for being kind to me. It's not like, let alone love."

She did not like him and she knew this very well.

With the expectation lost, and He Ruize felt sad.

"I promise you." Lin Xinyan made a decision.

After speaking, she turned around.

"Wait—" He Ruize called to her, "Do you still remember—"

"Stop talking." Lin Xinyan interrupted him because he was about to talk about the past again.

She did not want to listen to it anymore. Everything ended here and they would go their separate ways.

Initially, He Ruize wanted to tell her the truth out of impulse, but he calmed down after being interrupted. His eyes turned to Zong Jinghao, and the corners of his lips curled up, as if he was mocking and being sarcastic.

“Zong Jinghao, you don’t end up any better than me.” His own flesh and blood were right in front of him, but he didn’t know at all. Wasn’t it tragic?

Zong Jinghao could not be bothered with that and started the car.

When the car drove over there, He Ruize turned his body sideways, and when the car window passed by him, he said, “Don’t give in your heart stupidly. Don’t be blinded by what seems good now.”

Lin Xinyan turned to look at him.

What did he mean?

### **CHAPTER 135.**

She did not get an answer, and the car drove away.

He Ruize’s words planted a seed of doubt in Lin Xinyan’s heart nonetheless.

Don’t give your heart stupidly. Don’t be blinded by what seems good now.

These words clearly referred to Zong Jinghao.

Zong Jinghao understood her thoughts and sneered.

“What are you laughing at?” She frowned.

“Have you taken those words to heart?”

Lin Xinyan blinked without responding. Then after a while, she said, “No.”

She didn’t believe it at all. She somewhere felt that his words had a deep meaning though.

She thought deeply for a while, “Regarding the news, let’s forget it.”

“Have you thought through it carefully?”

Lin Xinyan turned her head and looked out of the car window. The scenery that passed by quickly was like the past which could not be relieved.

She said indifferently, "I have thought through it carefully."

"Okay."

As long as she had thought through it carefully, he would not interfere.

This is actually good. She could repay He Ruize's love and kindness once and for all.

The car suddenly became quiet and the two of them stopped talking. and the atmosphere became subtle.

In the middle of the car ride, Zong Jinghao answered a phone call from Guan Jing.

He told him that He Wenhui went to the company and was waiting for him.

Since Lin Xinyan had made a decision, it was natural that he needed to resolve the matter.

He would not pursue the matter regarding the news, but the matter involving the video had not been resolved.

He did not want the video of Lin Xinyan being undressed to be circulated.

The car stopped in front of the Wanyue Group's building. Zong Jinghao got out of the car and gave the car key to Lin Xinyan. He said, "Go back early."

Lin Xinyan took the key and nodded, "Okay."

As he walked into the building, Lin Xinyan sat in the driving seat, started the car and drove to the airport.

She looked down at the clock and there was still half an hour left which she could make it just in time.

When she was near the airport, she could see the planes taking off like seagulls flying over the sea and rushing into the blue sky.

She parked the car in the parking lot and walked to the airport's arrival hall.

The airport was always crowded with people no matter what time it was. There were reunions and farewells, with laughter and parting tears.

Lin Xinyan's eyes patrolled the crowd.

"Lin." Suddenly a familiar voice came from behind her. She turned around and saw Ellen beckoning to her. She was wearing a casual suit, white sneakers, sleeves folded around her arms, and a suitcase placed behind her.

Mrs. William was standing on the right side behind her, wearing an ivory suit and a complete set of sapphire jewelry. She looked classy and elegant.

Lin Xinyan smiled and walked over, "I'm late."

"Yes, we've been waiting for you for a long time." Ellen complained and looked behind her, "Did you come here alone? Didn't Lin Xichen come to pick me up?"

"He suffered from a slight injury and he did not want to leave the house. Also, he did not know that you were coming." Lin Xinyan did not know she was coming back either.

Ellen touched her shoulder. "Are you surprised that I am coming?"

"Yes." Lin Xinyan said frankly.

"It's because of helping you." She winked at Lin Xinyan, and Lin Xinyan understood instantly that Ellen came because Mrs. William was worried that she would be too busy in the country and sent Ellen to assist her.

Even if Mrs. William did not send someone over, Lin Xinyan would not be angry with her.

She owed her current achievements to Mrs. William who gave her the opportunities.

"Madam." Lin Xinyan had long regarded this woman as her relative.

Mrs. William smiled gracefully, "Let's go."

Lin Xinyan took the initiative to help with the luggage, "The car is outside."

Lin Xinyan placed the luggage in the car boot while Ellen helped Mrs. William to open the car door.

"Lin, why did you become generous after returning to Country Z?" Ellen checked the car's equipment and found them to be the most high-end type. Knowing that Lin Xinyan was very thrifty, how would she buy such a luxurious car?

"This isn't my car." Lin Xinyan said.

She had no extra money to buy a car like this.

Ellen felt like gossiping. She leaned over, and said intimately, "Then who owns this car? Don't talk, let me guess."

Ellen placed her hands on her cheeks and thought for a while, "Is it from a rich man?"

The color and configuration of this car were very masculine, so the person who lent her the car was definitely not a woman.

And the poor could not afford such a luxurious car.

Hence, in conclusion, her guess was a rich man who had a good relationship with Lin Xinyan and was willing to let her drive his car.

“Am I right?” Ellen asked triumphantly.

Lin Xinyan deliberately pretended not to hear, “What did you say?”

Ellen raised her voice at once, “Why are you pretending? You heard it. Did you pretend not to hear it deliberately? Why don’t you want to say? You didn’t get yourself a man so soon, did you?”

She guessed, “Could it be your son’s father—”

“Ellen, aren’t you tired after such a long flight? Can you be quiet for a while?” Mrs. William interrupted her.

Ellen did not know that Mrs. William probably guessed whose car it was. It was probably the man who kept rushing her to return to Country Z.

Ellen curled her lips and patted Lin Xinyan’s shoulder, “Okay, for Madam’s sake, I’ll let you go for now.”

“By the way, what’s the plan for today?” Ellen did not feel tired from the flight. Instead, she seemed very excited.

“Don’t you need to take a rest?” Lin Xinyan glanced at her.

“I’m not tired.” Ellen stretched and asked, “Where is Qin Ya? How come she isn’t here with you to pick us up?”

“She’s in the shop.”

“Oh. Then I’ll go there too and get familiar with the environment. Just take Madam to the hotel to rest.”

“Are you sure?” Lin Xinyan asked.

“Absolutely.”

Lin Xinyan turned and changed the direction of her car at the U-shaped intersection in front and drove towards the shop.

After sending Ellen to the store, she and Mrs. William also took a look at the store’s decoration, which was based on the style of the main store. The store was done up very well and there was no fault at all. Mrs. William was also very satisfied.



LEO was her life's work. Even for a branch, she did not allow any perfunctory.

After visiting the store, Lin Xinyan sent her to the hotel to rest.

"Does Country Z have dates that we need to pay attention to?" Mrs. William asked.

Lin Xinyan nodded, "Yes."

"Then we have to choose a good date to hold the opening ceremony and follow the local customs. After all, you're also a national of Country Z."

"I have checked for a suitable date, and the day after tomorrow is a good day. It's auspicious for moving to a new house, opening a business, and commencing construction or renovation works." She scheduled the renovation of the store accordingly so that the renovation would be completed before the date.

"It's great that you have made arrangements already." Mrs. William looked a little tired.

Lin Xinyan opened the door of the hotel room, put down the luggage, and poured a glass of water for Mrs. William, "Please drink some water, take a bath, and rest for a while. Then we'll have dinner together this evening."

"Well, go ahead."

There was a lot of planning and preparation to do for the opening ceremony, and there was not much time left. She had to get all the arrangements ready before the opening ceremony.

Lin Xinyan left the hotel and went to the store, to select the invitation designs and decoration of the venue.

From the time when she returned to Country Z till now, Lin Xinyan finally felt real at this moment.

Wanyue Group, Reception room.

"Regarding the video, you can rest assured. I'll never let it be circulated, and it'll be destroyed completely." He Wenhui came to talk with Zong Jinghao himself.

He Ruize went back and said that the matter involving the video was settled. They just needed to hold a press conference, and he would bear all the responsibilities.

It was impossible to clear everything. After all, the situation had become too adverse. The He family's reputation could not be restored if no one was punished.

He voluntarily admitted that he bullied Lin Xichen and was willing to accept punishment.

The police handed He Ruize a heavy sentence. He was sentenced to one year and six months of imprisonment for causing injury intentionally.

Normally, the sentence should not be so heavy. After all, Lin Xichen was not seriously injured. It was because the police faced strong pressure from the netizens and media, and the He family did not want to stir more trouble. A heavier sentence may also help to appease those who were concerned about this matter.

As such, the He family's reputation was restored. They did not bully others, and they were good law-abiding citizens. If they made a mistake, they would be punished, and they got a more severe punishment than ordinary people.

This could shut those people's mouths.

"Then regarding Lin's—" He Wen stopped talking though he seemed like he wanted to continue talking.

However, what he meant was very clear.

"I look at sincerity." Zong Jinghao said indifferently.

Judging the sincerity by these words only?

Did He Wenhui think he was a three-year-old child?

Sincerity was putting everything in the open, and not just saying the words.

He Wenhui placed the original video on the table, "There is no backup, and there is no softcopy, so you can rest assured. Although there's unhappiness between us this time, there's still friendship between the two families. How can I break my promise."

Zong Jinghao picked it up and looked at it for two seconds, "Don't worry, as long as the video doesn't appear, your daughter's video won't appear too."

"This—"

"Why? Can't you trust me?"

He Wenhui was stumped. If this was in Zong Jinghao's hands, didn't it mean that he would be threatened by him any time?

This feeling of being threatened by others was not good.

"Of course I believe you, but it concerns my daughter's reputation, so I have to be more careful and pay attention to it." He Wenhui looked like a loving father at this moment.

## CHAPTER 136.

In large wealthy families, familial affection was also mixed with interests. The worry was actually not so much about his daughter's reputation being affected; it was more about the He family's reputation being affected.

"For the sake of the friendship between the two families, and Lin's past relationship with you, please give her a chance to reform. After all-

He Wenhui did not say the rest. After all, he really ruined He Ruilin.

Thinking about how Zong Jinghao put them into such a plight so ruthlessly, He Wenhui's blood was boiling with anger. He wanted to strangle him to death, but he knew he could not.

It was not that he could not do it, but he was not powerful enough.

He felt that he went out for wool and came home shorn. It was all because his children were reckless and caused worries.

He still had to humble himself in front of the junior. It was so embarrassing for him.

Zong Jinghao was expressionless. His eyes were closed, and he pondered for a moment before opening his eyes slowly, "I don't want to hear about it in the future."

"What is that?"

"I had a relationship with your daughter?"

He Wenhui stiffened, but he had to agree. Hence, he said coldly, "I'll never mention this matter again in the future. Don't worry, I am a reasonable person. It is my two children who are disappointing and I can't blame others."

Knock knock-

At this time, someone knocked on the door of the reception room. Guan Jing pushed the door and walked in. Then he leaned over Zong Jinghao's ear and said, "Su Zhan and Yu Doudou are here."

Zong Jinghao did not look at He Wenhui and just instructed Guan Jing, "Give him the original video."

After speaking, he got up and left the reception room.

Wenhui was happy that the matter was settled.

In the past few days, he could not eat well, could not sleep, and he was exhausted. The weight had been lifted off his shoulders since the matter was resolved.

‘Wait a minute.’ He Wenhui obviously stopped putting up a pleasing appearance, but he did not come on strong either. He just expressed his dissatisfaction with this matter. ‘There was no feud between our two families. Lin was in the wrong, but what you did was too much. Life is often unpredictable; and who can guarantee that they can stay at the top all the time?’

Zong Jinghao turned around slowly, and his eyes were still. His indifferent and sharp facial features were gorgeous and expressionless, and the chill that was exuded from him made people shiver.

Ah.

He chuckled, ‘I’ll wait and see.’

After speaking, he continued to walk and leave the reception room.

There was silence for two seconds. Guan Jing put the original video on the table and looked up at He Wenhui, ‘Mr. He, life is unpredictable and you never know what will happen tomorrow or how strong your opponent is.’

He Wenhui frowned, ‘What do you mean?’

Guan Jing smiled, ‘I just think Chairman He’s earlier words were too incisive.’

‘Did I say something wrong?’ He Wenhui asked.

Wasn’t Zong Jinghao the one that was aggressive at first?

‘No.’ Guan Jing did not continue to talk to him. He made a gesture of invitation, ‘I’ll send you out.’

He Wenhui’s face looked grim. He flicked his sleeves and stood up.

Guan Jing just regarded that as he was not angry but knew in his heart that it was not unreasonable that the He family would go downhill. His two sons did not have the talent for doing business, and he was not much better either.

In the office of the company’s President, Su Zhan leaned leisurely on Zong Jinghao’s desk, turning the globe placed on the desk repeatedly. Then he seemed to feel bored and frowned. He shouted at the direction of the door. ‘Where did Zong Jinghao go? Did he go to the toilet and fall into the cesspool? And made me wait for so long—’

Before he finished speaking, the office door opened.

His voice was loud, and Zong Jinghao must have heard it.

He jumped off the table and laughed angrily, "I didn't say anything, and you didn't hear anything bad about you, did you?"

Zong Jinghao pushed him aside lightly, "Can't you have more self-respect?"

Su Zhan touched his handsome right cheek, "My face is still here."

Yu Doudou stood aside and did not dare to talk and felt that Su Zhan had subverted his perception of lawyers.

He had never seen such a funny lawyer.

Su Zhan straightened his face and deliberately changed the subject to help himself, "As for the car accident case, I have already written the complaint, when should I submit it?"

Yu Doudou's eyes widened too, awaiting to listen to Zong Jinghao's answer.

This was what he had always wanted to do, and now he could finally demand an explanation for his brother's death and get the person who harmed him punished.

He was a bit happy.

Zong Jinghao sat at the desk and said lightly, "There's no hurry."

He Wenhui seemed very angry and he might do something to disgust him someday. Hence, it was better to keep it at the moment.

Eh?

"Why is there no hurry? Six years have passed. The longer this case is, the more difficult it will be to reverse the case. Moreover, she tried to harm Ms. Lin at that time." Yu Doudou became anxious at once. What did he mean by not in a hurry?

Did he regret helping him?

Su Zhan and Zong Jinghao were buddies, and he understood him. He said he was in no hurry, not that he would not do this.

He touched Yu Doudou, "You get agitated so easily. In the court, wouldn't it be easy to irritate you with just a few words? It won't be good for you."

Yu Doudou stiffened his neck angrily, "I know, I just--"

"Don't want to wait anymore." Su Zhan said what Yu Doudou had in mind and patted him soothingly on the shoulder. "Jinghao isn't someone who breaks his promise. Since he said there's no hurry, this is definitely not a good time to expose it. We've waited for six years, it doesn't hurt to wait for a few more days, right?"

Yu Doudou was speechless and had to admit that Su Zhan was right.

A lawyer indeed had great eloquence.

“But this matter—”

“Don’t you trust me?” Su Zhan interrupted him.

“Nothing like this.” Yu Doudou drooped his head listlessly.

“Well, you go back first. I’ll let you know when we’ll submit the case.”

He was not capable enough and he could only rely on them.

The ball was in their court, so what could he do?

He had to wait even if he did not want to.

Yu Doudou had to go first.

After he left, Su Zhan glared at Zong Jinghao across the desk, “How was it, Bro?”

Zong Jinghao did not even look at him, and threw a file on the desk, “Enough of playing. Go back and see your grandma.”

“Can you chat happily?” Su Zhan was angry. When Zong Jinghao mentioned his grandma, he could not stay calm.

He was about the same age as Zong Jinghao, but he had a lively personality, and he still had not been married. His parents passed away when he was young, and he was brought up by his grandmother who hoped that he could get married soon and have a baby. Yet, he did not want to get married, and just wanted to play.

He lost enthusiasm for romantic relationships.

“You stood me up the last time, and you have to make it up for me.” Su Zhan took out his cell phone, “I’ll call Chuan and find a place for us to have a drink together. It’s been a long time since we got together.”

As he spoke, he dialed the number and made the call.

“What will you be doing? Jinghao is free today. Shall we have a gathering?”

Shen Peichuan was also busy. He was not from City B, and he stayed there after he graduated from university. He had put in a lot of efforts in order to get rooted in City B and build a career.

“It just happens that I don’t have a task today. Let me know the place and I’ll go and look for both of you.”

Su Zhan glanced at the clock, “Let’s have a meal at Juxian Villa, where there’s great scenery and the food is good.”

“You’ll make the arrangements.”

Basically, for their gatherings, Su Zhan would select a place and Zong Jinghao would pay.

There was no choice since Zong Jinghao was the richest among them.

Late in the evening, Shen Peichuan drove to Wanyue Group to look for Su Zhan and Zong Jinghao.

Each of them drove a car to Juxian Villa.

The cars drove into the parking lot. When Zong Jinghao got out of the car, he saw the car parked next to him. It was the one that he passed to Lin Xinyan earlier.

“Hey, Jinghao, isn’t this your car? Why is it here?”

Su Zhan also recognized the car at a glance.

## **CHAPTER 137.**

Zong Jinghao glanced inside, and he knew that Lin Xinyan was probably here too.

But Su Zhan’s heart was burning with the urge to gossip. Did Zong Jinghao lend his car to someone else?

“Is that a male or a female?” Su Zhan walked over and blinked at Zong Jinghao, “Aren’t you wooing your ex-wife? Why are you changing your taste in women again?”

“Get off my way!” Zong Jinghao gave him a sideways glance.

Shen Peichuan smiled, “You deserve it. You’ll be so childish even when you reach eighty years old.”

“You’re the one that’s childish.” Su Zhan stepped forward, threw himself on Shen Peichuan’s back, and put his arms around his neck, “Hey, have you seen his ex-wife?”

Shen Peichuan nodded honestly, “I have.”

Zong Jinghao got married six years ago. It was actually a secret marriage, and it was not the marriage that Zong Jinghao wanted. Hence, Zong Jinghao did not introduce Lin Xinyan to him. At that time, he was also very busy as he was newly promoted. Then Zong Jinghao got divorced shortly, so there was no chance for him to see her.

If Guan Jing did not ask him for help, he would not have the chance to meet her.

He heard from Guan Jing that Zong Jinghao seemed to care about this ex-wife again, but he also understood why.

It was probably because of the child.

He saw Lin Xichen who was five or six years old that day, and the timing also matched.

Entering Juxian Villa, there were pavilions surrounding the place. The winding corridor was decorated with red lanterns that spread out all the way to the lobby.

They were greeted by the receptionist once they entered.

“Are you Mr. Su?”

“Yeah.” Since Su Zhan was the one who made the reservation, it was natural that his name was recorded.

“Please follow me.” The receptionist walked ahead and led them to the private room.

The room was very spacious, and the tables and chairs were made of high-quality sandalwood and were meticulously carved with different patterns. Every part of the room exuded an atmosphere of traditional beauty.

The private rooms here were different from those outside. They were not single private rooms, but were like long corridors, separated by screens. Also, each screen had a different pattern.

The receptionist brought the menus to them and Su Zhan volunteered, “I’ll order the dishes since I’m expert at eating.”

Shen Peichuan laughed.

Su Zhan squinted at him, “What the hell are you laughing at?”

“You’re highly educated and you’re a lawyer. Why can’t you speak in a more civilized way?”



"I put on a serious front all the time at work. Yet, I'm not allowed to relax in my private space? Which of you feel more tired than me?"

"Get out of here." Shen Peichuan did not bother to talk to him. Su Zhan set up a law firm, and all the cases were assigned to the lawyers in the firm. How long had he not been in court in person?

How could he still have the face to say that he was tired?

Su Zhan cleared his throat, "Please speak in a more civilized way. Can't you see that there's someone here?"

He deliberately winked at Shen Peichuan to bring his attention to the receptionist.

"Crazy." Shen Peichuan did not bother about it.

Zong Jinghao seemed very quiet. He was sitting between the two of them, but it was like they did not exist. He was holding the phone in his hand, rubbing his fingers back and forth on the screen. He wanted to call Lin Xinyan and ask her if she was also here for dinner. However, he changed his mind after seeing the two men sitting on both sides.

After ordering the dishes, Su Zhan handed the menu to the receptionist and instructed, "Hurry up."

"Yes."

Here, the food was served quickly. All the food was served after thirty minutes.

Su Zhan opened a bottle of wine and poured the wine into the glasses, "It's so boring that every gathering is just the three of us."

"Who else do you want to invite? Fei?"

"Don't speak of something that shouldn't be mentioned." Su Zhan stared immediately.

Shen Peichuan smiled, "Haven't you let it go?"

Liu Feifei was Su Zhan's first love, and they dated during their university days. Su Zhan liked her very much, but they broke up later.

Till now, Su Zhan was still unwilling to reveal why they broke up.

They just knew this woman had become a taboo for him, and he did not allow others to talk about her. He had never been in love again. Though he had several women around him, he was never serious about them. All was just for fun.

"Which do you think comes first? Love or sex?" Su Zhan took a sip of the wine, and its spiciness made him frown, "Terrific."

“Shouldn’t this question be directed to you? You have experienced the most.” Shen Peichuan had a drink too.

Su Zhan raised Zong Jinghao’s chin, “We should ask him. Didn’t he and Bai Zhuwei become intimate because he couldn’t control himself at that time?”

Because of what happened that night, he had to be responsible and be in a romantic relationship with her. Then he broke up with her after being deceived once.

Was this sentimental? Or was it ruthless?

Zong Jinghao glanced at him, “Don’t you have something better to do?”

“There aren’t any outsiders here. Moreover, what I said is a fact. You took her virginity and then abandoned her. Don’t you think that you’re quite bad?” Su Zhan had drunk two glasses of wine and was talking rather loudly.

Behind the screen on the right, a few women were sitting there, and they were all taken aback when they heard the voices.

Ellen reacted very strongly, “Sure enough, men are all bad eggs.”

This place was chosen by Qin Ya who said that its ratings on the Internet were very good. In addition, the environment and food were also good. However, they did not expect that the so-called private rooms were separated by a screen only and they were not soundproof at all.

Lin Xinyan felt that the voice was a bit familiar. She moved back gently to see the people over the other side through the gap of the screen.

She only saw Su Zhan’s arm resting on Zong Jinghao’s shoulder, “Seriously, have you ever liked Bai Zhuwei, or is it because you felt responsible after having sex with her?”

Lin Xinyan held her breath. Inexplicably, she wanted to know the answer too.

Her fingers pressed hard on the carved pattern of the chair.

Zong Jinghao took a sip of the wine, “A little bit.”

He was never in love with Bai Zhuwei. It was true that he was in a relationship with her because he felt responsible after what happened that night. Although he was in a daze that night, he still could not forget the happiness and pleasure it brought to him.

He said he didn’t love her, yet he could not forget that night.

Hence, he said that he loved her a bit.

Su Zhan slapped his mouth, "That's to say, when sex comes first, it can evoke more feelings?"

After all, before Zong Jinghao slept with Bai Zhuwei, he did not like her. However, after having sex with her once, he liked her a little. Sex did improve affection and relationship, didn't it?

"The lawyer's logic is awesome." Shen Peichuan gave Su Zhan a thumbs up.

Su Zhan squinted at him, "Do you think everyone is like you who still remains a virgin even though you're already in your thirties?"

Shen Peichuan, "..."

He wanted to curse and swear!

On the screen's side, Lin Xinyan could not taste her food, and she did not know what was wrong with herself.

She just lost her appetite.

"Is it because the food here doesn't suit your taste?" Qin Ya asked.

Lin Xinyan stuffed a bite of the food in her mouth and said no, "The food here is delicious."

"It's the first time for me to eat such authentic Chinese food." Mrs. William was very satisfied with this dinner, "The environment is also very good and it has the style of Country Z. I like it."

"It's great that you are satisfied. This trip to Country Z definitely won't disappoint you." Qin Ya poured a glass of wine for Mrs. William.

"I'll stop drinking and I'm full already. It's time to go back." Although Mrs. William maintained good health, she was already old and had limited energy.

"We shall leave together." Ellen also felt tired. After getting off the plane, she went straight to the store without any rest, so she felt tired now and needed to rest.

"I'll send the both of you to the hotel." Lin Xinyan stood up and said.

"No, no." Ellen waved to her, "You have been busy in the store for the whole day, so it's time to go back and see your kids."

"Then I'll pass my car to you." Qin Ya gave Ellen her car key.

Ellen took the car key, supported Mrs. William, and left. The private room.

Lin Xinyan rubbed her face, "I'll go and pay the bill."

Qin Ya followed her, "Ms. Lin, it seems that you're in a bad mood."

Lin Xinyan denied, "Am I?"

"Yes, you were very happy all day, but I saw your expression changed during dinner."

"I'm happy." Lin Xinyan chuckled. Now that the store was about to open, she was very happy.

Qin Ya smiled.

Lin Xinyan's face fell, "Did my expression really show that I'm unhappy?"

Qin Ya nodded seriously.

Thinking about it carefully, why did I get upset suddenly?

Was it because she found out that Zong Jinghao had sex with He Ruilin, or was it because Zong Jinghao liked He Ruilin before?

She did not know, but she just felt unhappy.

Lin Xinyan took a deep breath to cheer herself up and walked to the front desk to pay.

"Private room, and total cost is 5800."

Lin Xinyan took out her credit card and handed it to the front desk. Suddenly she was enveloped by a long black shadow. Someone handed his card first, "Swipe this card instead."

### **CHAPTER 138.**

She turned her head and saw Zong Jinghao standing behind her. She could not see his expression clearly against the light and could only peep at the unclear outline of his face.

The front desk took the card in Zong Jinghao's hand, "Altogether, the total cost is 12,080."

"Oh, so the car was driven by Sister-in-law." Su Zhan boomed aside while Lin Xinyan lowered her head, put her card back, and asked softly, "Are you going back?"

Before Zong Jinghao could answer, Su Zhan took the lead, "What time is it now? Is it too early to go back? Besides-" He pointed to Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan, "You still owe me a toast for your wedding. Instead of choosing a date to make it up to me, let's do it today."

Zong Jinghao did not object. His eyes seemed to be covered with dust, and they looked elusive.

Lin Xinyan just felt embarrassed, especially at how Su Zhan addressed her. It sounded very awkward.

"I'm not going. You all can go." Lin Xinyan turned to leave and Zong Jinghao grabbed her wrist, "Wait for me."

Lin Xinyan wanted to break away from his hand, but he held it too tightly, and she could not break away.

At this time, the front desk had settled the bill and handed over the card and the invoice, "A total consumption cost of 12,080."

Zong Jinghao put them in his wallet and said lightly, "Let's go."

Su Zhan did not plan to let them go. He stopped in front of them, "If you don't buy me a drink today, I'll never let you go."

Su Zhan raised his head and looked as if he owned the path and the entire place.

Qin Ya who was standing behind, stepped back quietly and tried to leave. From the mirror reflection, Su Zhan could see the woman behind him trying to leave secretly.

Su Zhan saw that she came with Lin Xinyan just now, which meant that they knew each other. He turned around and grabbed her, "Don't go."

Qin Ya was startled and looked at him in horror.

"Don't be afraid. Are you my sister-in-law's friend?" Su Zhan grinned, and his white teeth were particularly dazzling in the light.

Qin Ya glanced at Lin Xinyan and nodded, "I'm Ms. Lin's assistant."

"Oh, what do you all do?"

"Fashion designers."

"Coincidentally, I want to order a set of tailored clothes."

“Well, we’ll open our store the day after tomorrow, and we welcome you to our store.” Qin Ya answered eloquently.

What?

Su Zhan blinked, “You all have set up a store, and it’ll open the day after tomorrow?”

Qin Ya nodded.

Su Zhan hugged Shen Peichuan who was watching the excitement at the side, and tugged at his neck, “Sister-in-law’s store is opening soon. We should definitely go there, and you must make time to go and give your support.”

“Yeah.” Shen Peichuan answered.

He felt that although Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan were divorced, they had children together. Their remarriage was just a matter of time. Judging from Zong Jinghao’s attitude, he seemed to care about her a lot.

Giving their support is a must. No matter what happened, they must make time to go there.

Su Zhan smiled, displaying his red lips and white teeth, “Sister-in-law, if you don’t make it up to us regarding the wedding toast, I won’t let you leave.”

He acted shamelessly.

Lin Xinyan frowned.

She looked at Zong Jinghao, hoping that he could reprimand his friend.

And he could stop him from continuing to make things difficult for her.

What wedding toast?

What was there to celebrate?

Zong Jinghao pretended not to see while holding her hand and playing with it.

He did not reject Su Zhan’s mention of wedding celebration.

When he married Lin Xinyan, there was nothing, and he did not introduce her to his good friends.

Inexplicably, he was pleased to hear Su Zhan call her Sister-in-law.

He did not want to introduce Lin Xinyan to them in the past because he was not interested in her.

That marriage was not what he wanted.

But it was different now. He wanted to keep this marriage and this woman.

Also, he was willing to give her official status openly.

Su Zhan and Shen Peichuan were his good friends.

It was good to let them know about her.

"If Sister-in-law is busy, please go first. Chuan and I can go drinking with this young lady." Su Zhan grabbed Qin Ya's arm and took her to leave with him.

"Ms. Lin." Qin Ya shouted at Lin Xinyan in a panic.

"Wait a minute." Lin Xinyan had no choice and was forced to agree.

"Let her go."

Su Zhan did it on purpose. The woman that Zong Jinghao admired probably would not have a very bad character. She definitely would not stay indifferent and watch her assistant being taken away.

It turned out that he was right.

He let go of Qin Ya.

She continuously stepped two steps back and pulled away from him.

It was as if Su Zhan was a terrifying monster.

"Let's go. I'll decide on the place, and I'll treat you all today." Su Zhan was in a good mood, and Shen Peichuan dampened the enthusiasm of him, "Oh, did the miser decide to be generous today?"

As long as Zong Jinghao was there, he never paid.

Su Zhan glared at him, "Don't embarrass me in front of beautiful women. I'm actually very generous."

Shen Peichuan smiled and got into his car.

"You'll get into my car." Su Zhan beckoned Qin Ya.

Qin Ya waved her hand quickly, "No, no, you all can go. I won't be joining."

"I won't bite. What are you afraid of?" Su Zhan smiled.

Qin Ya still refused, "I have something else to do."

She found an excuse casually.

After speaking, she turned around to leave. She told Lin Xinyan, "Ms. Lin, I'll leave first."

Lin Xinyan answered, "Be careful."

Qin Ya nodded, and when she walked to the side of the road, she realized that this place was rather remote with no taxis passing by. She usually came here by car and went back by driving.

Her car was given to Ellen. What should she do now?

"Let's go, there isn't a taxi for you here." Su Zhan parked the car beside her.

Qin Ya wanted to find Lin Xinyan, but she was already in Zong Jinghao's car.

"You don't want to disturb the couple, do you?"

"No."

"Come on, I'll send you there."

Qin Ya stood still for some time, "Um, it's okay."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes."

Qin Ya said with certainty.

She was not blind, and it was obvious that they were not ordinary people, and she would not dare to provoke such people easily.

Shen Peichuan looked very honest, but Su Zhan made people feel that he was a playboy.

He was such a glib talker, and she didn't want to have anything to do with such a person.

After being rejected several times, Su Zhan's enthusiasm was extinguished.

He wound up the window and looked at Qin Ya again.

This woman was so careful and that made her interesting.

He was not a bad guy.

Why must she be wary of him like he was a thief?



After the cars drove far away, Qin Ya had no choice but to call Ellen and ask her to pick her up.

The place was also chosen by Su Zhan, which was a high-end bar.

This was the time when the place got busy. The colorful nightlife had just begun.

The space on the second floor was spacious and had a good view. Standing upstairs, one could see the entire bar, especially the dance floor in the lobby on the first floor. Men, women, colorful lights, loud music and dance, and all were uninhibited.

Su Zhan stood in front of the railing on the second floor with a wine glass in his hand and dangled his legs, looking like an idling fool.

Shen Peichuan had long been accustomed to his behavior and did not feel that it was weird.

“Control yourself.” He reminded Su Zhan.

Lin Xinyan was here today.

Su Zhan was also surprised that he seemed to have gone too far, so he quickly sat down and put away his slouchy attitude, “Sister-in-law, I have introduced myself last time, so you should know me already?”

Lin Xinyan stretched out her hand to shift the hair that was blocking her ears, so as to hide her embarrassment for how he addressed her, “Yes, I know.”

“This is Shen Peichuan.” Su Zhan smiled, putting his arms on Shen Peichuan’s shoulders, “He has the same kind of relationship as Jinghao and me.”

Shen Peichuan elbowed him, “Don’t I have a mouth? Do I need you to speak for me?”

“I’m afraid that you can’t explain clearly. You always blushed when you talked to girls during your university days—pain—”

“Does it hurt? I don’t think so.” Shen Peichuan pressed hard on Su Zhan. He was fit and trained regularly, while Su Zhan was delicate. How could he withstand such a strong squeeze?

It was so painful that he frowned.

Lin Xinyan could tell that even though they fought around, they had a good relationship.

She went closer to Zong Jinghao and whispered, “I’ll go to the bathroom.”

Zong Jinghao let go of her hand and gave a faint hum.

Lin Xinyan got up and left. She followed the signs to find the location of the bathroom.

Unfortunately, just when she entered, someone came out and they bumped into each other at the door.

### **CHAPTER 139.**

He Ruilin obviously boozed as her face looked ruddy while alcohol could be smelled on her breaths.

When she noticed that the person who ran into her was Lin Xinyan, she startled for a few seconds and said laughingly, "Wow, what's a small world."

Lin Xinyan didn't want to have any argument with her. She wanted to walk sideways to avoid her, yet she didn't let her go and said, "Lin Xinyan, are you satisfied now? My brother went to jail. A man who has waited for you for 10 years went to jail."

Lin Xinyan looked rather calm. She didn't want to dig into it to find out who's really at fault.

Chickens always come home to roost.

If He Ruize didn't do those things to Lin Xichen and her, he won't end up like what he is now.

She didn't feel the satisfaction of revenge but was disconsolate instead.

"Are you delighted now?" Leaned against the door, He Ruilin squinted while looking at the flashes of white lights in the ceiling and said, "What is heartless to you?"

"Excuse me. We don't really know each other." Lin Xinyan walked sideways and entered the ladies' room.

He Ruilin didn't block her way this time. After Lin Xinyan washed and dried her hands, He Ruilin was still standing over there. She pretended that she didn't notice her and walked out of the ladies' room.

"I was... raped." He Ruilin looked at her from behind and said it when Lin Xinyan had just walked out of it.

Lin Xinyan didn't stop walking.

“Zong Jinghao instructed someone to do it.” She laughed and said, “I was with him for so long, and he really did care and love me in the past. But when he becomes heartless, he won’t have mercy on a woman even if he loved her before.”

She knew that Lin Xinyan heard her.

She quirked her lips and continued, “Do you think he treats you well?”

Lin Xinyan suddenly stopped and clenched her hands. Indeed, he treats her well now.

“Don’t be fooled by him. He is actually a heartless man who has been pretending to be nice. If you trust him fully, you will be me in future. And surely, other women will replace you, just like how you replaced me.”

“Do you think I’ll trust you? You are just trying to drive a wedge between us deliberately when you can’t have him.” Lin Xinyan didn’t trust her.

“Why would my brother take full responsibility for everything? Because of me.” He Ruilin’s heart wrenched as He Ruize was the only one who really cared for her. Xia Zhenyu treated her well too, yet she favored her son more than her.

“Zong Jinghao filmed it when I was being raped. If my brother doesn’t go to jail, he will leak the video to ruin my life.” He Ruilin said it to Lin Xinyan on purpose.

Lin Xinyan recalled the day when He Ruize rushed towards the front of the car and looked resolute. He wanted to bear the responsibility for everything because he did it for He Ruilin.

She trusted it after she recalled that He Ruize cared about He Ruilin very much.

She felt sick about it yet didn’t show it before He Ruilin.

“This is none of my business.”

She was disoriented even though she looked calm physically. She had never thought that Zong Jinghao would do such things.

For better or worse, she had been with He Ruilin before. How could he do that to him?

She felt distressed.

Zong Jinghao’s cruelty is far beyond her imagination.

How could he ruin a woman’s dignity?

How is he different from He Ruize?

His actions were even more abominable.

He Ruilin never thought that she would be so composed, and said, "Alright. I'll just wait and see what would happen to you."

Lin Xinyan didn't stop for long and continued walking.

"Do you still remember that you asked my brother to investigate a matter in Country A six years ago?"

Lin Xinyan surely knew about it. She did suspect at that time that the person was Zong Jinghao, but it turned out that it wasn't him.

She would totally give up if he proposed to divorce her again.

"My brother lied to you. The man who appeared that night wasn't from Country A."

Lin Xinyan didn't stop. It's obvious that she mentioned this to her on purpose.

As for her motive...

She isn't sure about it, yet the only thing that she's confident about is that He Ruilin would never be so kind-hearted to tell her the truth.

Perhaps everything that she said since the beginning was a lie to lure her into her trap.

Turned around slowly, she looked at He Ruilin and said, "Don't waste your time. I will neither fall into it nor trust you at all."

He Ruilin wasn't irritated by Lin Xinyan but laughed joyously instead. She then said, "I've been silly and failed many times. But I won't keep failing. One day I will succeed."

Lin Xinyan sneered, "God is watching us. Any evil and unscrupulous scheme will not work. Why do you hate me so much?"

He Ruilin sneered, "Why would I not hate you when you took my man away from me?"

Lin Xinyan was speechless. Her relationship with Zong Jinghao was merely based on an engagement made when they were both young.

Even after she was married to Zong Jinghao, she had never thought about ruining their relationship.

Instead, she framed and harmed her again and again.

"You did this to yourself. If you had faith in your relationship with him, why would you be worried about my presence?"

Lin Xinyan had touched a sore spot with He Ruilin. How would trust even exist when they didn't even love each other in the first place?

Zong Jinghao acknowledged her merely because he slept with her that night.

And the woman he slept with that night was her!

“Lin Xinyan, just wait and see. I’ll always give you a hard time as long as I’m alive!” Ruilin finally couldn’t laugh.

She looked particularly ferocious.

Lin Xinyan just laughed it off.

Such a thought didn’t just flash through He Ruilin’s mind. She had always wanted her dead ever since Zong Jinghao married her.

When she returned to the private room, she saw two empty bottles on the table. It appeared that the three of them drank a lot when she went to the ladies’ room.

“Ma’am, come here. I’ll toast you.” Su Zhan held his glass and stood up when he was Lin Xinyan entering the room.

He might not have an Asian glow, yet alcohol could be easily smelled when he talked.

“You’re drunk.” Lin Xinyan took a seat, yet she didn’t sit beside Zong Jinghao.

When they arrived, she could only sit beside Zong Jinghao as her hand was grabbed by him.

But she was indeed shocked after listening to what He Ruilin said.

He Ruilin had been with him before. No matter what she did in the past, how could he go after her with such a cruel means?

Dignity is crucial to a woman.

He treats her very well, yet how long would it sustain?

What if he’s bored of her and doesn’t find her attractive anymore?

Will he treat her like that too?

Lin Xinyan didn’t want to think about it further as she felt a chill of apprehension.

Why would everyone be so cruel?

Su Zhan was stunned. He felt that something changed as soon as Lin Xinyan walked into the room.

He soon found out what went wrong. Even though Lin Xinyan was reluctant to be here, she was still close to Zong Jinghao when they arrived.

But everything changed once Lin Xinyan went out for a while. With a darkened face, she didn't sit beside Zong Jinghao.

What really happened?

Su Zhan was lost.

Eyes lowered, Zong Jinghao surely felt that Lin Xinyan wanted to distance herself from him.

It was so depressing that Su Zhan didn't dare say anything.

He quietly sat back. Initially, he wanted to ask Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan to drink wedlock wine. Now, he dared not utter a word but merely hide behind Shen Peichuan.

Zong Jinghao looked graceful as he took the glass and drank his beer slowly. After a while, he said to all of them, "Dismiss now."

After putting his glass back on the desk, he stood up and came up to Lin Xinyan. He reached his hand out to her and said, "We should go home."

Lin Xinyan stood up but didn't put her hand on his.

Su Zhan gave a thumbs up to Lin Xinyan from behind. Lin Xinyan was awesome as she wasn't afraid to disrespect Zong Jinghao!

He must compliment the woman who dared to defy Zong Jinghao!

Zong Jinghao turned around and glanced at Su Zhan who was gloating at him.

Su Zhan was shocked and immediately explained, "I didn't see anything. I'm blind."

He closed his eyes.

It's better not to look at Zong Jinghao's embarrassing moment.

Su Zhan only put his hands down after Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan left.

"Pussy." Shen Peichuan gulped down his beer, stood up and said, "We can go home now."

Su Zhan immediately nodded and asked, "Did they quarrel? Weren't they looking fine just now? Why would everything suddenly change?"

"Who knows?" Shen Peichuan wasn't sure about it either.

Outside.

“Since you had some beer, I’ll drive.” Lin Xinyan said.

Zong Jinghao didn’t give her the car key but got into the driver’s seat and started the car.

Lin Xinyan stood beside the car but didn’t get in.

He turned over to look at Lin Xinyan and said, “What’s wrong? Are you worried that I can’t drive safely?”

“Nope.”

“Then, why don’t you get in?”

Lin Xinyan hesitated for a while before she opened the door and got into the car.

Zong Jinghao sped off.

He was driving rather fast, and the car wasn’t heading to their villa. Lin Xinyan frowned and asked, “Where are you bringing me to?”

#### **CHAPTER 140.**

Zong Jinghao didn’t reply to her.

Therefore, Lin Xinyan could not remain patient and didn’t say anything.

After a while, he pulled over at the hotel that she went to before.

Stood still, Lin Xinyan asked, “Why do you bring me here?”

Zong Jinghao opened the door at the passenger seat. He then grabbed her by her wrist to bring her out of the car and strode towards the lobby.

“What are you doing?” Lin Xinyan tried to wriggle free, yet his hand was just as strong as a clamp.

After taking the lift at the lobby, Zong Jinghao brought her to the door of a room.

She heard that the door unlocked.

“What do you really want to do? I’ve to go back. I’ve to look after Xi as he hasn’t recovered from his injury.”

Bang!

Before she could even finish speaking, Zong Jinghao dragged her into the room and locked the door.

Lin Xinyan was startled and anxious. She did see him getting angry before, but this was the first time that he was so infuriated.

The air in the room was particularly depressing. After quite some time, he said with a very low voice, “Tell me. What’s wrong with you?”

Leaned against the door, Lin Xinyan’s palms were sweating.

She didn’t say anything but merely stared him into the eye, as if trying to figure about whether cruelty was buried behind the handsome face.

“Why don’t you say anything?” His cold voice was stressing her out.

“I saw He Ruilin.” With hands hanging by her side, she clenched her fists while her palms were sweaty.

Zong Jinghao frowned and said, “So?”

Is this why she was angry?

“She told me something.”

Zong Jinghao remained silent and waited for her to continue speaking.

Lin Xinyan mustered up the courage to asked, “She said that you instructed someone to... rape her.”

She stared at him in the eye and asked, “Is it true?”

She hoped that he would answer no, and that he wasn’t such a heartless man.

He didn’t instruct anyone to rape her.

He wasn’t so wicked.

But Zong Jinghao’s answer disappointed her. “Yes.”

Her ears were ringing after hearing this. She was startled and couldn’t speak, as if her throat was stuffed with a huge cotton ball.



After quite some time, she recollected herself and said, "Why?"

"Why did you do that? Didn't you love her before? Why did you want to do that?" Lin Xinyan couldn't understand it.

She couldn't accept at all that he's such a man.

She's used to his kindness. Her heart slightly melted because of this man.

But she was caught off guard completely by his behavior.

"Are you mad at me just because of this?" Zong Jinghao's anger slowly subsided when he saw that she was petrified.

"Is this a small matter? Do you have a heart of stone?"

Zong Jinghao wanted to touch the hair that covered her forehead, yet Lin Xinyan turned over to avoid him.

"Don't touch me."

"Why are you so angry?" Zong Jinghao gently touched her nose and asked, "Why are you so mad?"

"I've never thought that you are such a heartless man." She blurted out what's on her mind.

She only realized how agitated she was after saying it.

It was very difficult for her to accept that he was such a man.

Staring at her face, Zong Jinghao only felt that she was attractive and sultry.

Even though she wasn't repelled by his intimacy now, she had never poured her heart out before him.

She had always been keeping her feelings to herself.

He caressed her face and stopped his finger on her eyebrow for quite some time. His slight smile slowly changed to a broad smile as he said, "Why wouldn't you want me to be a heartless man?"

Lin Xinyan anxiously averted his gaze. She couldn't remain composed as his words rippled through her mind.

Why wouldn't she hope that he is a heartless man?

Because she seems to care about him now.

Still smiling, he looked at her with an intense piercing gaze and said, "You are worried that I'll do that to you one day, right?"

Lin Xinyan remained silent, acquiesced to what he said.

Yes. She is afraid that he will treat her heartlessly one day.

"I'll never do that to you." Zong Jinghao took her into his arms.

Lin Xinyan instinctively wanted to wriggle free from him, yet her moving hands were grabbed by Zong Jinghao as soon as she wanted to escape. He merely used a little of his energy to constrain her.

"I won't do that to you!"

"How would I know?" Lin Xinyan had never been so sentimental before in front of him as she was so sacred.

Zong Jinghao clasped around her waist with his arm and pulled her close to him. He loosened her arms to let her punch him on his chests. Since she was too agitated, Zong Jinghao grabbed her arms again pretty soon as he was worried that she would hurt herself.

"Let go of me... hmm..."

Before she could finish her words, he held her head and kissed her. His forced kiss stopped her from speaking and left no space for her to breathe.

The sudden kiss was like a violent storm that caught her off guard. Their tongues touched and moved against each other gently and affectionately.

Her resistance was so powerless before him.

In the end, all emotions were buried by his deep kiss.

Her body melted completely into his embrace.

He kissed her forehead, eyebrows and the corner of her eyes, and said gently, "I don't know why I love you. I just do."

There is no reason at all.

If he really has to give one reason, that would be the particular sense of familiarity in her body that has always been tempting him strongly.

Unknowingly, tears rolled down her cheeks.

Zong Jinghao wiped away her tears and asked, "Why do you cry?"

She didn't know why, but felt particularly distressed.

She felt disturbed when she recalled Su Zhan mentioned that he slept with He Ruilin.

She shouldn't request anything from him since she was not a virgin herself. Nevertheless, she still felt disturbed by it.

Later, she heard that Zong Jinghao instructed someone to rape her. She couldn't withstand such a strong psychological impact.

Zong Jinghao held and caressed her back gently and said, "I've my own limits. There are things that I can do, and things that I can't. I'll have to pay the price if I do it."

Lin Xinyan closed her eyes and buried her feelings of helplessness and fear deep in her heart.

She asked bitterly, "What do you love me for? Don't you think you are being too impulsive?"

Looking at her affectionately, he quirked his lips, smiled slightly, and said, "I've never wanted something so badly in my life. Being feverish and impulsive sometimes could be interesting too."

Lin Xinyan didn't know what she should do to him. Should she leave?

He knew everyone that she cared about. It would be too unrealistic if she tried to sneakily escape from him.

Her fate was once again being thrown into disarray by him.

She never thought that she would return to this country where she had no wonderful memories at all.

But everything's changed because of him.

Is this her predestination?

Buzz...

The phone in her pocket suddenly vibrated. She wiped away tears on her face and checked her phone. It was Lin Xichen's number, and she answered the phone.

"Hello, Xi."

"Mommy, I'm not brother. I'm Ruixi. When are you coming home? Is daddy with you? When will daddy come home?" Lin Xinyan could feel her excitement in her soft voice over the phone.

“Daddy hasn’t come home the whole day, and I miss him very much.” Sitting with her legs crossed, Lin Ruixi sneakily called her using her brother’s smart watch when he wasn’t around.

“Mommy, is daddy going to abandon us?”

Clenched her phone tightly, Lin Xinyan looked at Zong Jinghao and replied, “...No.”

She tried to console her daughter.

“Is that true?” Her sense of excitement and joy could be obviously felt when she said, “Mommy, I’m so happy. I’m not a child without a father. I’ll have a daddy. Mommy, I’m really, really happy. No one will ever say again that my brother and I are bastards who have no father... Ruixi, who are you calling... No, give it to me...”

It was Lin Xichen’s voice. The phone call stopped abruptly after she heard some noise over the phone.

Lin Xinyan was still holding her phone to her ear, as what Lin Ruixi said just now touched her sore spot. Since she had to raise two kids alone, people would surely gossip about them by saying that she had children without getting married, or that she was an indecent woman.

Without exception, those were all negative gossips.

Lin Ruixi must have overheard it when people gossiped about them, or else she wouldn’t say such things.

She always thought that she had protected them very well, yet they were still hurt by words.

Zong Jinghao wrapped his arms around her shoulders and said, “Let’s go home.”

Lin Xinyan nodded. She can’t leave him now for her daughter.

If the day really comes, it will be her inevitable predestination.