

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 591

Zhou Chunchun did not wait for her mother to reply before she continued angrily, "He's a bad man!"

Patting her daughter's hand gently, Gu Huixin hushed her, "*Shh*. Let's not talk about that here. We have to save Yinning first."

Of course she knew Number Four was not a good person. Her brother was not an honorable man so there was no way his subordinate would be good.

No one with even a shred of decency in them would hang around Gu Bei.

Everyone knew the nightclub at Central Avenue belonged to Gu Bei. However, as Shen Peichuan thought, the Gu family was just too influential. Nobody dared to offend him even if they did not like him.

Gu Huixin and her sisters were all raised separately. Needless to say, they were not very close. While they did check in on each other every now and then, they were not as close as siblings who grew up together would be.

The only connection they had was that they were blood-related.

She did not know what the relationship was like between her other sisters and Gu Bei. She only knew that after this incident, she would cut off all ties with him. Since he did not care for her as a sibling, she did not need to give him the same courtesy.

She held her daughter's hand tightly and muttered, "Don't worry. After we rescue Yinning, I'll cut off all contact with them."

Zhou Chunchun nodded.

The two women got back inside the car. Number Four huddled in a corner of the third row, not daring to move at all. He could tell that they did not like him. Not wanting to anger them, he tried to make himself as inconspicuous as possible.

Gu Huixin dialed Gu Bei's number. "I've found him. Where do we meet?"

Gu Bei grinned at Bai Yinning, who was sitting across from him. "I'm in the villa near the Second Highway. Come over."

Hanging up, Gu Bei leaned back against the couch. He chuckled and stated, "You told me that you had no idea where Number Four was. Yet, your mother-in-law has managed to find him in a little over ten hours. Tell me, is she simply that amazing, or have you lied to me?"

Bai Yinning's expression was blank. He guessed that Gu Huixin must have tricked Zhou Chunchun into revealing that information. Otherwise, there was no way that she would have been able to find the man.

Truthfully, he had only wanted to help Lin Xinyan. He had not actually expected any repayment from her. Now that he knew Gu Huixin had been to Lin Xinyan's house, he wondered if the former had made things difficult for the latter.

He was the one in a tricky situation now, yet all he could think about was Lin Xinyan. He hoped that he had not brought trouble to her doorstep. At the same time, he was worried that Gu Huixin would find out something was wrong.

"Why don't you tell me why you'd wanted to hide Number Four?" Gu Bei did not know about the relationship between Bai Yinning, Lin Xinyan, and Zong Jinghao.

He only knew that Bai Yinning was his sister's son-in-law, a man who was slightly influential in Baicheng. *However, having power in Baicheng doesn't mean that he has influence everywhere. Here in B City, he is nothing!*

That was why Gu Bei was not the slightest bit afraid of him and had dared to kidnap him.

“I already told you. I didn’t hide him; he escaped himself. What could I have done?” Bai Yinning lied without even batting an eyelash.

Gu Bei scoffed. “So what, he jumped out of the car and escaped?”

“Maybe.”

“F\*\*\*ing bull\*\*\*\*! Are you saying that he’s crazy? Why would he run off when he obviously knows that someone is after him?”

Unfazed, Bai Yinning commented indifferently, “There’s always a possibility. Who knows, maybe he really does have a few loose screws?”

Infuriated, Gu Bei’s grip tightened on his cup as he scowled at Bai Yinning viciously. Several moments later, he spoke up again, “You can stop denying it now. Your mother-in-law is bringing him over here right now. We’ll find out soon enough whether he ran off himself or not.”

Bai Yinning’s facial muscles did not even twitch. “Even if he says that I lost him, does he have proof of that? Put another way, if he says that I wasn’t the one who lost him, would that actually be the truth?”

“Stop your yammering!” Gu Bei refused to talk to Bai Yinning further. *This man has a silver tongue. Somehow, he always manages to twist the facts to suit him.*

“I’ll get to the bottom of this!” he declared furiously.

“Go ahead and investigate to your heart’s content, Mr. Gu. I have to say though, you kidnapping me like that is really a slap in the face for your sister. You really don’t respect her at all, do you?”

“I asked her for help, didn’t I? However, not only did she not actually help me, rather, she had even lost that man! If he ends up in Zong Jinghao’s hands, she’ll never hear the end of it from me!” Gu Bei was a spoilt man. Old Master Gu had not been very young when he had finally gotten a son. Thus, he pampered his

son and treated him like the most precious of treasures. Since young, whatever Gu Bei had wanted, he would get. This had led to him becoming an incredibly spoilt adult who held no respect for anyone. Feeling thankful for what he had was an alien concept to him.

In his mind, anyone who was of use to him should be honored that he was using them.

Bai Yinning chuckled and announced, "Why don't we have a bet?"

"What bet?" Gu Bei shot him a sideways glance.

In an unhurried tone, Bai Yinning stated, "A bet to see who shall win in the end, you or Zong Jinghao?"

"It's definitely going to be me," Gu Bei boasted confidently. "He couldn't do anything to me, the last time we had a run-in with each other. This time is alike to the last. Till now, he still hasn't managed to find Number Four! What force is he going to use against me? Shen Peichuan? He's but a mere deputy chief. What sort of power can he have? The other one, a lawyer, is just as useless; all he has is money. Nevertheless, I'm not that powerless. Just look at all my older sisters! Every single one of their husbands is an influential person. My father also hasn't retired yet. That nightclub on Central Avenue? It's mine. No matter how strict the rules are, I'm still operating my business. Who dares to shut me down? Who dares to touch me?"

Bai Yinning patiently listened to the other man's tirade. When he was done, Bai Yinning's lips twitched into a faint smile. "I'd like to bet that Zong Jinghao will win."

Gu Bei was struck dumb by the words. A million curses rang out in his mind as he stared at the other man.

“What did you say?” He thought that he must have been hallucinating. “What does Zong Jinghao have? You’re betting that he wins? I don’t think you’ve been made aware of who’s the most powerful here in B City!”

“Does power determine who wins or loses?” Bai Yinning retorted.

Gu Bei roared with laughter as he lounged back against his seat. He found Bai Yinning words incredibly hilarious and stupid. “If not power, then what? Or are we supposed to engage with each other in a fistfight?”

Bai Yinning smiled but remained quiet. Gu Bei might have had the advantage in power but his intellect was nowhere near Zong Jinghao’s. He was also too overconfident and did not know how to use his resources properly.

He was not actually bad at manipulating the people around him. It was just that he had not thought about the people closest to him.

He did everything that he could to prevent Number Four from getting arrested because he did not want his men to feel discouraged. However, he completely disregarded his blood relation with Gu Huixin, his biological sister. He thought that since she was his family, he did not need to protect her at all. He believed that she was obligated to help him.

*He is terribly wrong, however. Humans are all the same, no matter who they are. Why should someone treat you kindly, seeing that you have failed to treat them the same?*

*Only if you treated someone sincerely would they give you the same courtesy. It was this fact that Gu Bei had neglected, especially when it came to his family.*

He knew how to win over the loyalties of his men but not his own family. To him, his family had the obligation to help if they could while he had no such obligations in return. This mindset was probably because of how he was raised.

On the other side of things, Gu Huixin knew about the villa that Gu Bei had mentioned. Once, after celebrating Old Master Gu's birthday at the old manor, she and her sisters had eaten dinner together at that villa.

Informing the chauffeur of the address, they headed for the city.

Zhou Chunchun was silent the entire journey, lost in her thoughts. Gu Huixin, who thought that she was worrying about Bai Yinning, consoled her, "Don't worry. Once we hand that man over, Yinning will be back with us."

Her daughter remained quiet as she mulled over Lin Xinyan's words. *That man hurt someone and he should be punished for it. Yet, now, we're setting him free. It's not right!*

"Mom, Dad used to tell me that kindness is beautiful. He said that being kind would make people like us more. Seeing as such, why are there still bad people in the world? Haven't their fathers ever told them to be kind?"

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Zhou Chunchun lived in a world where all fathers were the same. They were honorable men who would teach their children how to good people.

Gu Huixin sighed, wondering how to explain things to her daughter. *How can I tell her that not all fathers were like hers, kind and willing to love a child with all his heart? That not all men had as strong a sense of justice as him?*

*Because of Zhou Chunchun, we were unable to conceive a second child.*

Sometimes, she would ask her husband if he had any regrets. Every single time, Zhou Huaihou would reply, “Do we not have a child already?”

That one sentence would effectively silence any doubts that she was having.

*Take, for example, my own father.* Old Master Gu was a man who favored males over females. He was willing to keep having children until he had a son. The way he treated his only son and his six older daughters was also vastly different. It was almost like only his son was truly his child, for all that he cared for them.

Every single one of his daughters had been sent off to various relatives ever since they were born. Even now, after they were grown, he did not pay them much attention. *No, all his care and love has gone into his only son.*

“Chunchun, after we get Yinning back, both of you should head for Baicheng. Don’t ever come back.” Gu Huixin did not have any high expectations for her daughter. She only wished that Zhou Chunchun were safe and healthy. This was the only child that Gu Huixin had conceived, with her husband. Although they were unable to leave her a vast fortune, the wealth that they did have was still enough for her to live a comfortable life.

Gu Huixin had retired early and had a monthly pension now. However, she was still young enough to work. Once Zhou Chunchun and Bai Yinning left for Baicheng, she would get another job. It should not be too hard since she was highly educated.

“I’ll go wherever Yinning decides to,” Zhou Chunchun answered. *If he decides to stay, I’ll stay. If he wants to leave, I’ll go with him.*

“Ma’am, Miss, we’ve arrived.” The car stopped before the villa’s gates.

Gu Huixin ordered, “Go and knock on the door.”

The chauffeur cut off the engines and got out of the car, doing as he was ordered.

Soon, the gates swung open and the maid asked who they were. The chauffeur informed her of Gu Huixin’s identity, which she then relayed to Gu Bei.

Gu Bei glanced at Bai Yinning and chuckled. “Your mother-in-law seems to be quite fond of you.”

Bai Yinning kept silent. Truthfully, both Gu Huixin and Zhou Huaihou treated him like family.

Guilt welled in him and he felt apologetic toward Gu Huixin. This incident had definitely worsened her relationship with Gu Bei.

Sticking his hands in his pockets, Gu Bei strolled out of the villa. Gu Huixin had Zhou Chunchun stay in the car while she stepped out to meet her brother.

“Where is he?” The first thing out of his mouth was a question regarding the whereabouts of Number Four. He did not even bother to greet his own sister.



“Where’s Yinning?” Gu Huixin asked back upon realizing that Bai Yinning was nowhere to be seen.

Gu Bei snickered. “Honestly, how could you? Are there no other men in this world? How could you have gotten Chunchun a cripple for a husband?”

Gu Huixin’s expression hardened and she retorted, “You don’t have to worry yourself over that.”

“Are you actually mad at me? I was merely expressing my concern.” Gu Bei did not feel like he had said anything wrong. *Is Zhou Chunchun marrying a normal man not a good thing?*

“You might not have been raised by our parents but you’re still a part of the Gu family. It should have been really easy to match Chunchun with a normal man. I don’t get what all of you see in that cripple.”

“That’s our business and you don’t need to concern yourself with it. Where’s Yinning?” They had chosen Bai Yinning because he really did treat their daughter well. Besides, Zhou Chunchun liked him too.

Those two reasons were more important than anything else. If not for his bad legs, he would have been the perfect man to Gu Huixin.

There was a saying that mothers-in-law usually liked their sons-in-law, the more they interacted with them. Gu Huixin was one such example.

From where she was sitting in the car, Zhou Chunchun had heard everything that Gu Bei had said. Her hands were clenched into tight fists in her anger. She hated it when people called Bai Yinning a cripple.

Not wanting to waste any more time with her brother, Gu Huixin demanded, “Just take away your man and return Yinning to us.”

Gu Bei walked toward the car and reached out to pull open the door. At the same time, Number Four wanted to get out of the vehicle. His fingers had only just brushed against the handle when the door suddenly swung open. Caught off guard and slowed by his severe injuries, Number Four tumbled out of the car. He landed in a sprawl before Gu Bei's feet.

"Mr. Gu, you have to get revenge for me!" Number Four snagged the hem of Gu Bei's pants like it was a lifeline.

Gu Bei's brows were knitted deeply. He could hardly recognize Number Four. Su Zhan had not held back at all and even his face had not been spared. "How did you become like this?"

"I don't know how I ended up with Zong Jinghao and the others. They're not human, I tell you!" Number Four's body trembled upon remembering the suffering and beatings that he had been through. His heart was still quaking in fear when he continued, "I'm lucky to even be alive. I was so close to dying! I-I..."

With that, Number Four burst into tears.

Gu Bei's lips curled into disgust as he kicked at the bawling man. "You're a f\*\*\*ing man, act like one! What the hell is with the crying!"

Number Four instantly stopped crying, not daring to make a single peep.

Gu Bei was deeply troubled by Number Four's words. *How did he end up with Zong Jinghao? To think that I was just gloating earlier about how Zong Jinghao would never find him!*

The more he thought about it, the angrier he got. *All this happened because of this useless man!*

His expression was hard as he asked, "Were your injuries because of them?"

Number Four nodded, trying not to let the pain get to him. “They beat me up on purpose. They said that this was a show of power.”

He was not a complete idiot. At the very least, he knew what to say that would benefit him the most. He knew how to enrage Gu Bei so much that the other man would get revenge for him.

“What did you say?” Gu Bei snarled.

Number Four’s words had succeeded in provoking him. He hated being looked down upon by others.

For someone who had never lost, there was no way that he could accept this blatant taunt.

“Zong Jinghao said that you weren’t his match at all. That you would die by his hands sooner or later,” Number Four continued to incite his boss.

“Hmph! How dare he!” Gu Bei’s expression was stony. “Let’s see who dies by whose hands then!”

Number Four bowed his head as a sinister look gleamed in his eyes. He would pay them back for all the pain and suffering he had endured!

When Bai Yinning came out of the villa, Zhou Chunchun jumped out of the car and rushed to his side. “Yinning!”

“Are you okay?” She frantically searched him for injuries.

“I’m fine. Relax.” Bai Yinning grabbed her hands. “Were you afraid?”

Zhou Chunchun nodded honestly. “Of course I was! I was so scared that I couldn’t sleep. I kept wondering if you were okay.”

He stroked her face gently. "This is all my fault for making you worry. I won't do it again."

"C'mon, I'll push you. Let's go."

"You and Mom get inside the car first. I still have something to say to Gu Bei."

Zhou Chunchun hesitated, wondering what he had to say to an evil man like Gu Bei.

Patting her hand, he coaxed her, "Be good now."

Zhou Chunchun obediently hooked her arm through her mother's. "Mom, let's wait for him in the car."

Gu Huixin glanced at Bai Yinning. "This ends here."

She had already made up her mind about cutting off all ties with Gu Bei. However, that did not mean that she wanted them to actually become mortal enemies.

"I know. But he still has Gao Yuan. Don't worry, Mom, I'll handle this," Bai Yinning assured.

Due to his lame legs, he found it difficult to move around. That was why he needed someone with him at all times. Gao Yuan was like his shadow, an inseparable part of him.

After Gu Bei had kidnapped them, he had taken Gao Yuan away to another place.

At this, Gu Huixin was even more furious at Gu Bei. *Not only did he kidnap my son-in-law, rather, but he had also gone so far as to take his aide as well! How heartless of him!*

Her expression chilled before she followed her daughter into the car. She did not want to utter another word to Gu Bei.

Deep inside, she was utterly disappointed with this brother of hers.

Bai Yinning eyed Number Four, who was unable to get up off the ground due to his severe injuries. "He has been beaten up?"

"You're asking the obvious, aren't you? Why else would he be covered in blood?" Gu Bei snapped. *What an idiot!*

Little did he know, Bai Yinning was setting a trap for them.

Bai Yinning chuckled. "Of course I see the blood on him. I just wasn't sure if it was just a simple beating or maybe something more. If it was just a plain, old beating, then whatever. I'm just worried that he wasn't beaten up for nothing."

"What do you mean?" Number Four felt unease rise in him. *There's something off about his words...*

"Why are you getting all worked up? I was just worried that you would be unable to withstand the torture. You could've spilled something that might've caused harm Mr. Gu?"

"Stop trying to frame me!" Number Four cried out in panic. In truth, he had been interrogated by Shen Peichuan last night. He had had no choice but to spill everything that he had known about Gu Bei if he wanted to live.

Gu Bei narrowed his eyes and growled, "They interrogated you?"

Naturally, Number Four would not admit to that. He instantly denied it, crying, "No!"

Gu Bei's eyes sharpened as he stared at Number Four with a probing gaze.  
"Really?"

Bai Yinning had successfully planted a seed of suspicion in his mind.

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Number Four looked up at Bai Yinning, anger written all over his face. Anyone who wasn't blind would be able to see the look of ferocity in his eyes.

Number Four knew that owning up would mean certain death for himself, so he had no choice but to deny it until the end. "No, they didn't interrogate me at all. They beat me up because I was harassing that woman, who had turned out to be Su Zhan's girlfriend or something."

After Su Zhan finished beating him up, Number Four finally understood why he had exploded with rage. There was only one possible explanation for why Su Zhan cared about the girl so much— she was his girlfriend. That was probably why he thrashed Number Four within an inch of his life.

Number Four threw his arms around Gu Bei's leg. "You have to believe me. That crazy loser is trying to sow discord between us. Don't buy a single word he says."

Gu Bei bent down and tilted Number Four's chin upward. Narrowing his eyes, he asked, "Did they really not interrogate you?"

Number Four shook his head. "No, they didn't. Even if they had, I wouldn't have dared to tell them anything that could be used against you."

"Hmph! If you dare to betray me, I'll throw you into the sea, allowing the fishes to devour you!" Gu Bei spat bitterly. A shiver ran down Number Four's spine.

Bai Yinning gazed silently at them. He didn't seem perturbed that they had hit a sore spot of his. So many people had done it that he was quite used to it.

"I've handed the man over to you," Bai Yinning uttered slowly. "Mr. Gu, shouldn't you return my man to me as well?"

Gu Bei turned around to glance at him. Upon giving him an address, he ordered his subordinates to take Number Four to the hospital.

However, Bai Yinning didn't leave immediately. Instead, he asked, "Mr. Gu, you didn't harm my man, did you?"

Gu Bei stuck both of his hands into his trouser pockets and laughed shrilly. "He's simply a nobody! Who cares if I've harmed him or not? If he didn't try to talk back, I wouldn't have harmed him either."

They had been interrogating a man called Gao Yuan. Gu Bei had asked him where Number Four was, but Gao Yuan refused to answer him. When Gu Bei gave up and asked him if Bai Yinning and Zong Jinghao knew each other, Gao Yuan still refused to open his mouth, which infuriated Gu Bei to no end. In a fit of rage, he had beaten the man up.

Bai Yinning placed his hands on the armrests of his wheelchair as he brought his fingers together. Looking up at Gu Bei expressionlessly, he murmured quietly, "Gao Yuan is merely my aide. He doesn't know anything about our feud or my dealings with Zong Jinghao. How could you have harmed him in such a manner?"

Gu Bei walked over to him and shot him a once-over. His haughty gaze landed on Bai Yinning's paralyzed legs, upon which he burst into laughter. As quickly as it had appeared on his face, his smile soon vanished. "And what about it? Will you try to get revenge on me or something?"

"If you agree to apologize to Gao Yuan, I'll let this matter blow over." Bai Yinning ignored his mocking expression and replied.

"Haha! Who do you think you? Do you suppose that you have any right to order me to apologize to him?" Gu Bei's tone toward Bai Yinning was extremely condescending. Bai Yinning might have been a big shot back in Baicheng, but he was a nobody in B City.



He waved his subordinates out impatiently as they left with Number Four to head to the hospital.

A cold look flashed in Bai Yinning's eyes. He continued staring at Gu Bei without a word, before turning his wheelchair around and leaving.

He understood that none of his words would have swayed Gu Bei's decision. He had to make known the conviction of his words through his actions.

With the help of the chauffeur, Bai Yinning managed to get into the car. He ordered the chauffeur to drive him to the place where they had imprisoned Gao Yuan.

Bai Yinning didn't look very happy. Zhou Chunchun, who was seated next to him, took his hand as she attempted to soothe him. "We'll be okay. Let's head back to Baicheng tonight."

She didn't want to remain here any longer. She was afraid that something else was going to happen.

Bai Yinning smiled blandly as he extended a hand to caress her face. "Why are you so eager to leave? What about your parents? Won't you miss them if we leave?"

"If I miss them, I can just drop by B City to visit them whenever I like. They can come and visit me in Baicheng too." Zhou Chunchun felt a strange sense of foreboding. She wanted to leave this city as quickly as she could. "It's my mother's wish as well. She wants us to leave for Baicheng as soon as possible."

Bai Yinning turned to look at Mrs. Zhou.

"Hear me out, Yinning," Mrs. Zhou tried to reason with him. "This city is a lawless place. Take Chunchun and go back to Baicheng. I'll visit you guys with Chunchun's father when I come to miss the both of you."

After all, B City wasn't very far away from Baicheng. Besides, the transportation system was getting increasingly advanced, which would shorten the travelling time between the two cities.

"That isn't urgent now. I want to stay here and get closer to you guys first." Bai Yinning smiled, refusing to reveal his true thoughts to them.

Mrs. Zhou wondered if he was holding a grudge against them for this incident. Tremulously, she turned to her daughter and whispered, "Well, I must admit that we were the ones who had lost Gao Yuan in the first instance. He's right to feel angry at us. Now that everything is fine again, let's just pretend that nothing happened in the first place."

Mrs. Zhou did not dare to enquire about Bai Yinning and Zong Jinghao's relationship in front of her own daughter.

*If they hadn't known each other, why would Bai Yinning have handed Gu Bei's man over to Zong Jinghao?*

*On the other hand, if they did know each other, why did Zong Jinghao act so coldly towards Bai Yinning whenever they'd interacted with one another?*

Mrs. Zhou wondered what Bai Yinning and Zong Jinghao's true relationship was.

"I know that, Mom. I want to remain in B City not only because of Gu Bei but also because I want to spend more time with you and Dad, along with Chunchun. The both of you have but one daughter and you're allowing me to marry her. Hence, the least I can do is to pay my respects to you along with her!" Bai Yinning refused to leave B City. Gao Yuan had suffered a beating because of him, and he couldn't pretend as though nothing had happened before. Gu Bei had to apologize to Gao Yuan first.

Bai Yinning had injured both of his legs, but he was still at the helm of such a large company, retaining the respect of his subordinates. Albeit, he still remained

to be a very perceptive man—he knew that Mrs. Zhou harbored some suspicions of her own regarding his relationship with Zong Jinghao.

He continued to explain, “Zong Jinghao and I are friends, but we’d fallen out after I’d done something that he found rather reprehensible. I sent Gu Bei’s guy to him this time in order to make amends with him instead of allowing our friendship to go down the drain. However, I’d never thought that Gu Bei would kidnap me and order you to divulge Number Four’s location. I never expected this mess to happen.”

Truth be told, he didn’t care how honest his words had been. All he had to do, really, was to come up with an explanation that Mrs. Zhou would accept.

He had no intention of deceiving her, of course, but he couldn’t exactly tell her about what he felt toward Lin Xinyan. In the future, he swore to himself that he would try his best to forget his past with her, giving his whole heart to Zhou Chunchun.

Mrs. Zhou stared at him with a renewed understanding. “Ah, so that’s how it is! I suppose it’s unsurprising now, seeing that his attitude toward me had been so cold when I went over to ask him for Number Four.”

Bai Yinning didn’t respond. At that moment, the car pulled up in front of a newly-completed block of buildings. Gao Yuan had been locked up inside by Gu Bei.

Bai Yinning told Mrs. Zhou and Zhou Chunchun to wait in the car, while he headed into the building with the chauffeur.

Gu Bei had already called ahead to let Gao Yuan know that someone was coming to pick him up. He had left the building, leaving Gao Yuan tied up in there by himself.

Bai Yinning and the chauffeur walked into a room that had just been completed. However, the construction workers hadn’t put on concrete on the walls, so they

found themselves surrounded by bare red brick walls. The floor was littered with all sorts of construction tools, and it was amidst those construction tools that they found Gao Yuan.

Gao Yuan had been beaten very severely, but his face had been spared. The rest of his body was covered in scars. Evidently, the person who had been guarding him had simply left him for dead in the corner of the building.

The chauffeur ran over and started cutting away the ropes on his body. Gao Yuan opened his eyes slightly, weak as he greeted Bai Yinning. "Mr. Bai."

Bai Yinning asked worriedly, "Are you seriously injured?"

Gao Yuan couldn't stand up on his own accord. The chauffeur had to help him up and let him lean on him. Every movement sent a jolt of pain through Gao Yuan's body. However, he merely replied, "I'll live."

Bai Yinning uttered, "Let's go to the hospital."

The chauffeur helped him back to the car. Soon, Mrs. Zhou suggested, "Why don't you drop Chunchun and me off, a little further down the road?"

Bai Yinning replied, "Alright. I'll go with them to the hospital, then."

This was Mrs. Zhou's exact intention. She knew that Gao Yuan was going to the hospital and that it wouldn't do for Chunchun and herself to tag along.

"I'll go with Yinning to the hospital." Zhou Chunchun didn't want to go home with Mrs. Zhou. She preferred to spend her time remaining by Bai Yinning's side.

Bai Yinning didn't turn down her request.

However, Mrs. Zhou was against the idea of her daughter running wild outside. "Come home with Mom, won't you?"

Zhou Chunchun grabbed hold of Bai Yinning's hand and shook her head adamantly. "Mom, you can head home by yourself. I'll accompany Yinning to the hospital."

Seeing how resolute her daughter was, Mrs. Zhou couldn't bear to insist any more. Hence, she heaved a sigh and conceded, "Alright, then."

The chauffeur drove the car to a slightly more crowded street before letting Mrs. Zhou off the car.

After bidding goodbye to Mrs. Zhou, Bai Yinning instructed the chauffeur to take them all to the hospital. Gao Yuan was given a vigorous checkup by the doctors, who assured them that, despite his external injuries, he wasn't going to die.

Knowing that Gao Yuan was currently free from danger, Bai Yinning left the hospital, but not before paying for his medical bills at the front counter.

Yes, Bai Yinning didn't have much power in B City, but that didn't mean that he was going to endure having his men get beaten up by others.

Gao Yuan had remained a loyal retainer of his, for many years. In fact, he was like a close family member of Bai Yinning's. How could Bai Yinning do nothing after Gu Bei's men treated him like a dog?

After all, the enemy of one's enemy was one's friend.

By a stroke of luck, Zong Jinghao was Gu Bei's enemy. Perhaps, Bai Yinning thought, they could cooperate with one another to bring Gu Bei down.

Bai Yinning arrived at Wanyue Group, but he didn't find Zong Jinghao there.

At that moment, Zong Jinghao and Shen Peichuan arrived at a private club. They had been tipped off that Gu Bei was there.



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As they slipped quietly through the dimly lit corridors, Zong Jinghao asked uncertainly, "Are you sure that he's actually here?"

It was morning outside, but it was as dark as night, in the windowless rooms of the club. The only sources of light in the club were the fluorescent lights that lined the ceiling. However, it was eerily quiet.

Thankfully, the central air-conditioning was working, so they didn't feel hot at all as they made their way down the corridor.

Shen Peichuan confirmed it. "The person I'd sent to keep track of him has informed me that he is currently here."

At this moment, he paused for a bit. "I wish that he were knocked down and killed by a car the other day. Why did he have to live, throwing everything into chaos once again?"

Zong Jinghao shot him a sideways glance. This wasn't the composed Shen Peichuan that he normally knew.

Shen Peichuan laughed lightly. "I'd only said as such because I've gotten sick of him. Don't take it too seriously."

Zong Jinghao glanced away from him as he chose to remain silent.

Shen Peichuan knew that Gu Bei was here, but he didn't know which room he was in. "I'll go and ask someone if they know."

Zong Jinghao agreed. Hence, Shen Peichuan went to the front desk, inquiring about it. When he returned, he relayed forth, “He’s in Room 303 on the third floor. I’ve booked Room 302 for us— it’s right beside it.”

Seeing that this was a private club, there was a huge emphasis on ensuring the privacy of its clients. In addition to that, the club was only open to people who were close friends with the boss.

Zong Jinghao wasn’t very close to the boss, but Mr. Tang was his friend. Mr. Tang was rather close to the boss. On account of his relationship with Mr. Tang, the boss felt obligated to treat Zong Jinghao courteously as well. Upon hearing that Zong Jinghao had arrived, he ran out to greet him immediately.

“Tang informed me ahead of time that you were going to arrive. I didn’t know when you were going to arrive. Otherwise, I would have reserved a room for you.” The boss was a man named Luo. Everyone knew him as Luo the Third.

This was due to the reason that he was the third brother in his family. In actual fact, his birth name was Luo Hongde.

When Shen Peichuan headed off to inquire about Gu Bei, the staff at the front desk discreetly informed Luo the Third that Zong Jinghao had arrived. Hence, he had come out to receive them immediately.

“You’re too kind. I may have something else that I’ll need to trouble you with.” Zong Jinghao laughed softly. This was the tone that he used with his clients when he wanted to get something from them— polite enough that he didn’t offend them, but cool enough to always seem detached.

“If there’s anything else that you require, do let me know.” Luo the Third uttered, smiling. He seemed like a nice man on the outside, but his nickname gave him the air of a hooligan.

When they entered the room, Luo the Third gave them a more in-depth lesson about the club’s services. The club served all sorts of delicious food and alcohol.



It was very suitable for a gathering between friends. However, it stayed away from offering trashy services; the ones that defined many low-class clubs, such as sing-song girls.

Due to the privacy the club offered, Luo the Third's friends sometimes brought their girlfriends over for dinner here. The food served was all delicacies from different cuisines, and it was difficult to find the same dishes outside.

"What would the both of you like to order? I'll have someone send it up to you." Luo the Third offered, smiling.

Zong Jinghao swept a cool gaze around the room. "I've heard that Gu Bei is in the room beside us."

Luo the Third paused for a while before saying cheerily, "Yes, that's right."

"Are all your walls soundproof?"

"Yes, of course. The soundproofing here is quite remarkable— it works better than those at karaoke rooms." Luo the Third affirmed confidently.

Glancing at him, Shen Peichuan asked, "What if we'd like the people next door to hear our conversation?"

Luo the Third seemed a little confused. "Huh?"

*This is a very strange request indeed.*

*Why would they want their conversations to be overheard by others?*

"Are you pulling my leg?" Luo the Third asked uncertainly, wondering if Shen Peichuan was making a fool out of him.

“Do I look like someone who jokes?” Shen Peichuan asked, shooting a blank stare at Luo the Third.

Luo the Third was still left unconvinced. Hence, he turned around and looked at Zong Jinghao. “Well, I...”

Zong Jinghao cut him off. “Are we making things very difficult for you?”

Luo the Third shook his head immediately. Zong Jinghao’s words meant that they were being perfectly serious about this matter.

If they had asked him if they could eavesdrop on Gu Bei’s conversation with his guest, Luo the Third would have found it within the realms of reason. However, asking for their own conversation to be overheard was a rather odd request.

The people who visited his club regularly were usually his close friends. Naturally, he had no incentive to install eavesdropping devices within his rooms. This was unlike most other clubs, whose rooms came fitted with those so that the owners could hear of what was going on inside of them.

Sadly, this club didn’t have any of those.

Upon having pondered on this for a while, he asked, “As long as Gu Bei can hear the both of you speak, you’ll be alright with whatever method I use, won’t you?”

Zong Jinghao affirmed.

“Alright, then. I’ll handle this for you.” Luo the Third had an idea.

Shen Peichuan asked, “What’s your plan?”

“You want Gu Bei to overhear your conversation, don’t you? That won’t be too tough— I’ll just let slip to him that I heard the both of you talking in here...”

“Sure. Nevertheless, are you sure about that?” Shen Peichuan asked, smiling. “Do you have to embellish your account a little and tell him that you’d overheard us talking smack about him?”

Luo the Third had intended to do just that. Seeing how Shen Peichuan had guessed his thoughts, he laughed and uttered without a hint of embarrassment, “Well, what else can we do?”

Shen Peichuan wasn’t expressing his doubts about Luo the Third’s plan. After all, they had never gotten along with Gu Bei— he was simply curious about how Luo the Third had planned to handle him.

“Thank you for your help, then.” Shen Peichuan muttered simply.

Luo the Third gestured at the door. “Shall I go now?”

Shen Peichuan glanced at Zong Jinghao. “Now?”

Zong Jinghao had no wish to waste more time sitting idly about in the room. Thus, he nodded and told Luo the Third to proceed immediately. Luo the Third had someone deliver alcohol and a fruit platter to their room before leaving to trick Gu Bei.

The two men sat down on the sofa. Zong Jinghao changed the topic. “Have you seen the news?”

Shen Peichuan felt a little stunned, but he reacted almost immediately. “Do you mean the news about you and Xinyan?” he asked.

“That’s right.” Zong Jinghao poured a glass of wine.

“Do you mean to organize a wedding and announce that Xinyan is your wife to the public?” Shen Peichuan understood Zong Jinghao very well. *That was the implicit meaning in his words.*

Soon, he gave him his opinion on the matter. “I think that a wedding is quite necessary. Aside from the people who are close to you, the public has a very limited understanding of your private life. Recent events would have cast a larger spotlight on your family, and the public is speculating heavily on who your mysterious wife is. Some of their comments are downright horrible. While Xinyan might not mind it, the kids are still growing up. I don’t think it’s a good idea for them to read such comments.”

Zong Jinghao smiled as he chose to remain silent. Instead, he set the wine glass down in front of Shen Peichuan. It was quite amazing that Shen Peichuan had managed to figure out his intentions. *There has to be a reason for it.*

Shen Peichuan brought the glass of wine to his lips. “Do you mean that we’ll be able to attend your wedding soon?”

Zong Jinghao clinked his glass against Shen Peichuan’s as a silent admission of that fact. “Yes. What about you, then?”

Shen Peichuan was about to take a sip of wine, but Zong Jinghao’s words plunged him into confusion. “What do mean, what about me?”

“Are you going to live out the rest of your life by yourself?” Shen Peichuan was at the prime of his career, and he spent his days worrying about how his company was doing. On the other hand, he seemed to have no plans of getting married.

“Well, it just so happens that I haven’t met anyone suitable,” Shen Peichuan argued despondently. “Should I start going on blind dates? There are all sorts of online dating websites now. Maybe I’ll open an account with one of them and see if there’s anyone out there for me.”

Zong Jinghao looked at him in disbelief. *Could such websites even be trusted?*

“I think that you should just wait instead.” He didn’t think that anything good would come out of online dating.

If he met someone who had tricked him out of his money and chastity, Shen Peichuan would suffer quite a bit.

Shen Peichuan didn't reply. Instead, he changed the topic again and asked, "When are you going to hold the wedding, then? Where's the location set to be?"

Zong Jinghao had wanted to hold a destination wedding at Lin Xinyan's dream location. However, he thought of her current physical condition and their two children and decided that it would be better to hold the wedding in the country instead.

"The eighteenth of May." Zong Qifeng had gotten that date from a fortune-teller. It was an auspicious day to get married.

"Isn't that in a couple of weeks?" Shen Peichuan asked, shocked. *It is already May.*

The door of the room had been strategically left ajar. As the two of them chatted, they became increasingly aware of a quiet presence behind the door. However, they pretended not to notice it.

They knew exactly who was at the door, eavesdropping on their conversation.

Shen Peichuan spoke up first. Raising his voice slightly so that the eavesdropper could hear him, he said, "It's quite amazing, isn't it? That Number Four knows so many things about Gu Bei."

"What did you get out of him?" Zong Jinghao asked, reclining on the sofa.

Gu Bei, who was standing still by the door, listened with increasing intent.

Shen Peichuan put on a solemn expression. Putting on an extremely secretive expression, he uttered in an equally loud voice, "He said that a murder has happened in Gu Bei's nightclub before— apparently the victim was one of the bar's hostesses. When that happened, Gu Bei bribed the press to keep

everything hush-hush. Number Four has also told us where the girl's family home is located—I've already sent someone there to get her family members to testify against him in court."

Here, he paused and laughed. His voice laced with disbelief, he asked, "Number Four is one of Gu Bei's most trusted underlings. How could he have divulged everything to you at once, just because you'd given him a good beating? We sent Number Four back as our spy this time—I wonder if he'll be able to dig anything up, regarding Gu Bei's criminal past."

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Upon hearing this, Gu Bei was so furious that he was practically gnashing his teeth. Bai Yinning had already planted a seed of doubt in his mind regarding Number Four's allegiance. Shen Peichuan's words made him distrust Number Four even more.

Besides, Shen Peichuan had told Zong Jinghao of an incident that had really happened before. Two years ago, a new hostess had been assigned to wait on an important figure. Unfortunately, she had made him blow his top instead. In a fit of rage, Gu Bei had ordered his men to beat her up. His men had consisted mostly of large, beefy men, and they had beat her to death that night.

He had almost forgotten about that incident. Now that he was hearing about this from another person's mouth, he knew that one of his men had leaked his secrets.

Gu Bei turned to Luo the Third and uttered in a low voice, "Thanks for today."

With that, he turned and left the club in a huff.

Luo the Third smirked as he watched Gu Bei leave. He finally understood what was going on. Shen Peichuan and Zong Jinghao's play-acting had actually been convincing enough for Gu Bei.

To be fair, they weren't tricking Gu Bei at all. Number Four had, indeed, told them a few things about Gu Bei. However, he had only become one of Gu Bei's favorites recently and he was still in the dark about certain events that had happened in the past. Shen Peichuan was the one who had dug up this old incident. He was merely recounting it now to make Gu Bei believe that Number Four had betrayed him and confessed to everything.

According to Shen Peichuan's investigations, Number Four had a part to play in the hostess' death. Hence, he thought it perfectly fine to allow him to have a taste of his own medicine.

The information that Number Four had actually yielded was rather inconsequential, and none of them entailed Gu Bei's criminal past. Although Number Four was an easily frightened man, and pliant in the face of torture, he was clever enough to avoid telling them of the stuff that would be truly incriminating.

Gu Bei left the club and ordered his men to bring Number Four to the villa.

He headed back to the villa in a fury, only to find his men already there with Number Four.

Number Four could sense that something was wrong from the tense atmosphere. Carefully, he ventured, "Mr. Gu..."

Before he could finish speaking, Gu Bei curled his lips into a horrible smile and gave Number Four a painful kick. Number Four collapsed onto the floor immediately. He was still recovering from his injuries, and one kick from Gu Bei sent him sprawling onto the floor, grabbing his stomach and twisting in pain.

"Didn't you tell me that they didn't interrogate you?" Gu Bei bent down and grabbed his throat in a chokehold. "How dare you betray me?"

Number Four's eyes widened in horror. *Didn't Gu Bei believe my lie earlier? How did he suddenly find out about this?*

"You can't listen to what that loser says..."

*Smack!*

Another slap landed on Number Four's face. Gu Bei roared ferociously, "You have balls to argue with me when I'd heard it with my own ears, you wretch! I



knew it! How could they have given up such a good opportunity to interrogate you, handing you back to me unscathed? I see how it is now— you’ve betrayed me! You promised that you’d be a spy for them, didn’t you? Number Four, I’ve always treated you well. I never expected that you would bite the hand that feeds you one day!”

Gu Bei was fuming mad. He had pulled out all stops to rescue him, but Number Four had betrayed him instead. This feeling of betrayal brought on by a disloyal friend was worse than that brought on by a cheating girlfriend.

He wanted to strangle Number Four to death right now to alleviate the fury in his heart.

Number Four was shell-shocked. *I had told them a few things about Gu Bei, but they weren’t consequential information. Besides, since when have I ever agreed to be a spy for the other side?*

“There must a misunderstanding somewhere...”

“A misunderstanding?” Gu Bei was so angry that he delivered another two slaps across Number Four’s face. He used so much strength that he felt a tingling numbness in his hand. Number Four’s mouth was full of blood. His face, which had been bruised beyond recognition before, now swelled so much that he looked positively pig-like.

“I’m not deaf!” Gu Bei exclaimed, laughing cruelly. “Number Four, do you remember what I’d said?”

Number Four was so frightened that he was shaking like a leaf. Blood dripped from his mouth to his shirt, drenching the checkered blue fabric in bright red blood.

To plead for his life, Number Four threw his arms around Gu Bei’s leg and cried out, “Mr. Gu, you must believe me. I’d never betrayed you at all. If I really betrayed you, may the heavens strike me dead this instant!”

At that moment, a loud clap of thunder sounded outside.

Number Four and Gu Bei were both speechless.

“I guess even the heavens want you dead,” Gu Bei kicked his arms away and ordered his subordinates to take Number Four away. “Throw him into the sea and leave him to the fishes!”

“Mr. Gu, you have to believe me.” Number Four crawled over to him and hugged his leg again in desperation. Crying, he pleaded, “I’d never betrayed you. You have to believe me.”

Gu Bei gazed at Number Four and realized how much he resembled a dog at that moment. Scoffing, he snapped, “I’d like to believe you too, but one look at that useless face of yours tells me that I’d be a fool to believe that you’d never betrayed me.”

Number Four had no backbone whatsoever. Seeing how badly Bai Yinning’s men had tortured him, it was impossible that he hadn’t yielded up important information to them yet.

“What are you waiting for?” Gu Bei bellowed. A few of his subordinates dashed forward and yanked Number Four away.

“Please, believe me! I’d never betrayed you!” Number Four refused to admit it till the end. If he did, he would be digging his own grave.

However, no matter how hard he tried to convince Gu Bei, the man was dead certain that he had betrayed him.

Gu Bei wanted to make an example out of Number Four to allow his men to see how he would handle traitors and betrayers.

“I will never mistreat any of my men, but once you’ve betrayed me, I’ll make sure that you’ll die a horrible death!” Gu Bei raged angrily. Nobody would be able to save Number Four now.

Thoroughly frightened by now, the few subordinates picked Number Four up and started dragging him outside.

Number Four screamed and begged for mercy. Gu Bei was so annoyed by the racket he was making that he ordered his men to stuff a gag into his mouth. Afterward, they threw him into the boot of the car and drove to the beach in the countryside.

The subordinates in the car wondered if Gu Bei was merely trying to frighten Number Four and the rest of them. However, when they arrived at the beach, Gu Bei ordered them to fling Number Four into the ocean.

Although the subordinates didn’t particularly like Number Four, they were afraid that the same thing might happen to them one day. Immediately, they started pleading for mercy on his behalf.

A mustached man uttered, “Although he hasn’t helped you out much, he has helped you out with many assignments. Please spare him, Mr. Gu!”

Gu Bei scoffed and leaned against the bumper of the car. Crossing his hands over his chest, he exclaimed, “Since he has betrayed me, there’s only one outcome for him— death! The same goes for the rest of you. If any of you dares to betray me, I’ll make sure to kill you too. Anyone who dares to plead on his behalf can go down with him. I mean it!”

Everyone fell silent immediately. None of them dared to protest lest Gu Bei threw them into the sea as well.

“Well, why aren’t you moving?” Gu Bei asked sharply. “Shall I do it myself?”

The subordinates shivered slightly before lunging forward to grab Gu Bei, who was writhing madly in the boat. A gag had been placed in Number Four's mouth, but his ears weren't blocked. He heard everything that they had said, and fear soon filled his heart like never before.

He struggled desperately to escape, but the ropes binding him were far too tight. There was no way that he could free himself.

If anyone took a good look at his face right now, they would be able to see it contorted with fear.

Nobody could maintain their composure in the face of death.

After all, everyone had only one life to live. Once you died, there was no way you were returning from the dead.

Gu Bei's expression remained unchanged. He wasn't afraid of the consequences— if someone were to accuse him of murder, his father would be able to protect him. He could do whatever he wanted.

With a loud *splash*, Number Four fell into the water, causing huge ripples to rip across the surface. A few seconds later, the water's surface had returned to normal, as though nothing had happened at all.

The subordinates stood by the shore, looking rather grim. One of them ventured to ask, "Do sharks really eat people?"

"Are you an idiot? Of course, they don't. Humans are the most highly-ranked species in the animal kingdom."

"I think you're the idiot here. Who told you that sharks don't eat people?" One of the other subordinates retorted.

“Well, have you actually seen them eat a human?” The first subordinate felt a little miffed. *After all, humans ruled the world, while sharks were merely animals in the sea. How could they eat a person on the beach?*

“Have you never watched *Jaws*? Those sharks sure know how to eat people.” The other subordinate refused to back down. Both of them thought that they were right.

“That’s a movie, for goodness’s sake! Sharks don’t eat people in real life.”

“What bunch of fools! Why did I employ all of you in the first place?” Gu Bei felt a headache coming on. “Let’s go.”

With that, he turned around and headed back into the car. A loud *boom* of thunder sounded at that moment, and a flash of lightning streaked across the sky. It seemed as though it was going to start raining, at any given second.

Afraid that they were going to get caught in the rain, the subordinates hurried back to the car, completely forgetting about their argument.

Number Four didn’t have many friends. Upon gaining some influence, he had become more arrogant and had offended many people around him. Hence, nobody would genuinely plead for mercy on his behalf. The subordinates had only done so just now out of fear that they would suffer the same fate one day.

All of them swore to themselves that they would never betray Gu Bei. Otherwise, they would be fed to the fishes, too.

Back in the city, Lin Xinyan took her kids to the pet shop to get some supplies for Baymax. Afterward, Zong Yanxi insisted on going to the amusement park.

Lin Xinyan looked up at the sky and saw that it was about to rain. Seeing as such, she tried to coax her daughter. “Let’s go to the supermarket instead. I’ll buy you something delicious.”

Zong Yanxi thought on her words for a while. "Alright. I'll agree to that out of the goodness of my heart."

Lin Xinyan didn't know whether to laugh or to cry. Pinching her daughter's cheeks lightly, she scolded, "You were much cuter when you were younger, you know."

"The lady at the pet shop has said that I'm pretty! How can I not be cute?" Zong Yanxi felt a little upset.

Lin Xinyan explained to her patiently, "Cute and pretty mean different things."

"Get in the car, quickly." She hurried her kids back into the vehicle.

They left the pet shop and arrived at the supermarket.

Just as they entered the supermarket, the rain started pouring down from the heavens.

A wild storm was picking up outside.

Zong Yanxi gazed at the rain and admitted despondently, "It's good that we didn't go to the amusement park, after all. We would have gotten completely drenched if we had."

Lin Xinyan took her children's hands and walked down the aisles of the supermarket. Aunt Yu and the newly-hired maid followed along behind them. Bringing up the rear was the chauffeur.

Aunt Yu, who was pushing a shopping cart along, uttered, "We've run out of fruits at home."

They headed over to the fruits section and bought some in-season fruits. At this time of the year, fruits were aplenty, and the prices were rather cheap. Most importantly, they tasted fresh.

When they passed by the confectionary section, Zong Yanxi insisted on having a doughnut. She ran over to grab a plate as she carefully placed a doughnut onto it. As she picked the doughnut up with a pair of tongs, she peered through the glass and spotted a boy on the other side of the glass. When she got a clear look at his features, she gasped in surprise and exclaimed, "It's you!"

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 596

The boy looked up at the person who had just called him and saw a little girl standing on the opposite side of the glass. Zong Yanxi straightened up and stared directly at him. The boy took a good look at her face and realized that he had seen her before.

His mother had brought him here to meet his father. While the car was being serviced, he had seen her at the supermarket near the servicing center.

“Do you remember me?” Zong Yanxi asked, grinning broadly. It was rather strange, seeing how she managed to remember his face so clearly.

Today, she wore a red party dress with a frilly lace collar. Her hair had been done up in a ponytail, exposing her porcelain-pale cheeks. When she smiled, her eyes curved into twin crescents. She looked really pretty.

The boy didn't say anything but made a mental note of her face immediately.

Lin Xinyan walked over to them. “Yanxi, let's go.”

The boy glanced behind Lin Xinyan and saw an older woman wriggling her eyebrows at Aunt Yu. He quickly drew his gaze away from her and followed his father away.

Zong Yanxi stood rooted to her spot, blinking furiously. As the boy drew further and further away, she wondered gloomily why he couldn't be bothered to even greet her. *This is basic manners!*

*I had said hello to him, so why didn't he at least reply?*



“Oh, you’ve gotten something sweet again,” Lin Xinyan glanced disapprovingly at the doughnut on her daughter’s tray and frowned. “Having too much sugar is bad for your teeth.”

Zong Yanxi pouted. “Well, I like eating doughnuts. Besides, we don’t come to the supermarket every day. Why shouldn’t I stock up on some? When we get home, I’ll place them in the fridge so that I can have some every day.”

Lin Xinyan looked at her daughter helplessly. This girl was getting smarter by the day, and sometimes Lin Xinyan couldn’t outsmart her anymore.

“Mommy, please buy this for me.” Trying to appeal to her mother, Zong Yanxi tugged at her sleeves and pleaded cutely, “Pretty please with an icing on top?”

Lin Xinyan was left with no other choice. Sternly, she pressed forth, “Alright, but promise me that you’ll only have one per day. Don’t eat more than that.”

Zong Yanxi tried to bargain with her. “Two.”

“Then, that’s a no from me.”

Lin Xinyan turned around as she pretended to leave. Zong Yanxi immediately grabbed her sleeve again as she agreed reluctantly. “Alright, I’ll have only one each day! I’ll get the baker to put these in a bag for me.”

As soon as she spoke, Zong Yanxi dashed over to the cashier counter, as though she was afraid that Lin Xinyan would go back on her word.

Lin Xinyan smiled at her, looking a little hapless.

Zong Yanchen came over and took her hand. “Mommy, don’t you think that Yanxi has changed somehow?”

Lin Xinyan looked down at him and nodded in agreement. “Yes, she has changed. However, why do you sound sad about this?”

Zong Yanchen replied, “I don’t feel sad about it at all. However, your daughter used to be a very clingy girl in the past. That was because her father had just entered her life, and she didn’t feel secure in his love. Now that she knows that her father loves her unconditionally and will never run away, she’s starting to believe in his love. That’s why she has stopped being so clingy toward you.”

Lin Xinyan didn’t know what to think of her two children. In the past, her daughter had been the cute one, but she was starting to resemble her brother more, these days.

However, there was some meaning to her son’s words.

Lin Xinyan could sense her daughter’s change. Zong Yanxi had become brighter and more cheerful, as she seemed to be more talkative.

However, she thought, it was better for girls to be quiet and meek. Perhaps her daughter would get less boisterous once she grew older.

“Do you want anything?” Lin Xinyan turned to her son and asked. Although Zong Yanchen was very mature for his age, she didn’t want him to feel left out if she only bought something for his sister. *It wouldn’t be any good if he grows up thinking that I have been biased towards Zong Yanxi.*

“There’s nothing that I want on this floor,” Zong Yanchen replied.

“Why don’t we go to the third floor instead?” Lin Xinyan asked, reading his mind. She knew that Zong Yanchen didn’t want anything to eat. *On the contrary, he wanted to buy toys. More specifically, the toys that were sold on the third floor.*

Zong Yanchen realized that Lin Xinyan was teasing him. Giggling a little, he muttered, “Oh, how hateful.”

After getting Zong Yanxi's doughnuts, they went up to the third floor.

Zong Yanchen bought a chess set. Upon losing to his opponent back in Baicheng, he had refused to touch a single chess piece for a long time despite Zong Qifeng's coaxing. However, he finally thought things through, a few days earlier.

There were many challenges in life, but he had to learn how to overcome them. Only by doing so would he encounter character growth.

"When Daddy is free, I'll ask him to play a game with me." Zong Yanchen announced cheerfully.

Lin Xinyan patted her son's head and asked if there was anything else that he wanted. He shook his head, and they went downstairs to check out their items.

There were many people in the supermarket today. The line at the counter stretched out to a few meters long.

Aunt Yu offered, "Why don't you guys find a seat at a coffee shop? I'll pay the bill first."

Zong Yanxi had no wish to hang around aimlessly too. Thus, she grabbed Lin Xinyan's hand and urged, "Mommy, let's go there."

She jabbed a finger at a pastry shop that was nearby.

Lin Xinyan knew what her daughter was thinking. She was feeling a little peckish too, so she took her children by their hands and headed to the pastry shop.

Aunt Yu, who held on to the shopping cart, told the maid to follow after them. She was rather worried about the safety of a pregnant lady who was supervising two children by herself.

The pastry shop sold all sorts of fresh juices and coffees. Zong Yanxi ordered what she fancied before she kindly ordered two glasses of juice for the chauffeur and the maid.

They had left the house in the morning, and now, it was already noontime. Lin Xinyan ordered a few snacks and told the chauffeur and the maid to have some too. The chauffeur knew how friendly she was with her employees, so he sat down, looking rather nonplussed. However, the maid seemed a little more reluctant. "I'm not hungry," she protested.

Lin Xinyan smiled at her and explained, "We all live in the same house, and you help to take care of my kids. We're not strangers, so there's no need to behave like one. Come on, have a seat!"

Finding no reason to reject her, the maid was forced to sit down. It had barely been a few days since she had first arrived, but she could tell that these were very nice people.

Although they were fabulously wealthy, the mistress was kind and friendly. Besides, the maid took one look at the daughter and knew that she had seen her somewhere before.

However, they might have met in passing, so it was unlikely that Zong Yanxi would remember her. Besides, the maid's outer appearance had undergone a huge change.

Back then, her skin had been much darker. The girl probably wouldn't remember her.

As she gazed at Zong Yanxi, the maid wondered how it was possible for a person to be so cute.

It was quite astonishing how pretty she was.

Very quickly, Lin Xinyan made her way back to the table with a tray of snacks.

“Aunt Wang, try this.” Zong Yanxi scooped up a spoonful of milk pudding and placed it in the maid’s dessert bowl.

The maid was slightly over thirty years of age. Although she was a little older than Lin Xinyan, she was nowhere near Aunt Yu’s age.

Lin Xinyan treated her like a sister. Indeed, she regarded the maid as a close family member. After all, the maid had been hired to take care of her loved ones, so Lin Xinyan didn’t feel the need to treat her as an outsider.

The shop was very quiet, and the sofas were soft and perfectly cushiony. It was the perfect place to rest their feet, after a whole day of shopping.

The children ate very slowly, but the chauffeur and Aunt Wang finished their food quickly. Thus, they left the table and went to help Aunt Yu load the groceries into the car, telling her to go into the pastry shop to have a bite first.

After that, all of them left the supermarket and returned home.

Because of the snacks that they had at the pastry shop, nobody felt particularly hungry for lunch. Lin Xinyan asked Aunt Yu to prepare lunch a little later in the afternoon. Then, she headed upstairs and flopped into bed— it had been a long morning, and she was quite worn out.

Aunt Yu and Aunt Wang started putting the fruits into the fridge. They lay some aside and washed them for the kids to eat.

“I must say, Mrs. Zong has taken great care of her appearance,” Aunt Wang remarked. “She looks so much younger than her age, and she’s so kind to boot.”

Aunt Yu smiled. “She’s rather young to begin with.”

Lin Xinyan had gotten married when she was only eighteen. Hence, it was evident that she was still in the prime of her youth now.

Aunt Wang had thought that Lin Xinyan was already in her thirties. After all, her kids were already so big. *Even if she'd gotten married in her twenties, she would be thirty by now.*

However, Lin Xinyan looked like a college student.

*Ding dong!* The doorbell rang shrilly at that moment. Aunt Wang offered, "I'll go and open the door."

The groceries had already been packed away. Aunt Yu massaged her legs and decided to go and rest in her room. She then turned to Aunt Wang and said, "Alright, go on then."

Aunt Wang walked to the door and opened it. A delivery man was standing outside the door.

He asked, "Is there someone named Wang Xinhua here?"

Aunt Wang looked at him, feeling rather perturbed. "I am her. And you are..."

"I have a package for you. Please sign this as an acknowledgment of receipt." The delivery man handed her a small paper box.

Her name was written in broad strokes on the packaging.

"Who sent this to me?" Aunt Wang asked, confused.

"I'm only in charge of delivering this to you. I'm afraid that I don't know who has sent this. Sign here, please." The delivery man handed the delivery slip to her.

Aunt Wang scribbled her signature on the slip and took the paper box from him.

There was no one in the living room— everyone was resting in their rooms. She sat on the sofa and opened the box, only to find a stationery box in it. When she

took the lid off the stationery box, she found wads of cash in it— notes valuing at fifty and hundred filled the entire box.

A card had been placed on top of the pile of cash.

She opened it to find a greeting, written in her son's handwriting. It wrote, "I miss you, Mom. I'd chosen to live with Dad because I was afraid that I would be too much of a financial burden to you. Hence, I left with Dad to make things easier for you. When I grow up, Mom, I'll earn lots of money and get you to live with me in my big house."

Aunt Wang's eyes filled with tears. Both she and her husband were from the same village. In order to make a living, her husband had found a job in the city, while she remained at home to take care of their parents and the kids. After her in-laws passed away last year, she had brought her son to the city, intending to reunite with her husband. To her horror, he had already found another mistress while working there.

After his career had taken off, her husband started to despise having an old and plain village bumpkin for a wife.

They had gone to court over the custody of their son. Her husband had the money, and she knew that she was fighting a losing battle, due to her lack of financial capability in taking care of their son. However, desperate for a chance to keep her son with her, she decided to engage in a custody battle anyway.

Thankfully, the court sympathized with her as they decided to ask her son who he preferred to stay with instead.

Her son had uttered, "I'd like to live with my Dad."

Aunt Wang felt as though a part of her had died that day.

Nevertheless, she never thought that...





# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 597

Feeling thirsty, Lin Xinyan went downstairs to pour herself a glass of water. When she saw Aunt Wang sitting there and crying, she thought that Aunt Wang was still not used to her new job. Hence, she grabbed a piece of tissue paper and passed it to Aunt Wang. "What's wrong? Did something happen?"

Aunt Wang quickly tidied the items while saying, "I'm fine."

Yet, it was evident that she was not fine. Passing the piece of tissue paper to her again, Lin Xinyan urged, "Wipe your tears."

Standing there, Aunt Wang grabbed the tissue paper and dried her tears that were streaming down her cheeks.

Pouring out two glasses of water, Lin Xinyan handed one of them to her. "Can you tell me why you're crying? If there's anything that you still can't get used to, you can always tell me."

"No, I'm happy here." Her head drooped. "I just miss my son."

Noticing that she was clutching a pencil case, Lin Xinyan understood how Aunt Wang was feeling. After all, she knew how it felt to be a mother, missing her children. *Earlier, Aunt Wang mentioned that her ex-husband, whom she has divorced, has custody over her son. Even so, as his mother, she has the right to visit him.* "If you miss him, you can visit him. If your ex-husband refuses to allow your visit, I can hire a lawyer for you."

As a mother, Lin Xinyan understood Aunt Wang's emotions. Pitying her, she desired to offer her help in any way possible.

“There’s no need for that.” Although she had the right to visit her son, she only had the chance to do so once a month. It was not a lot, but she did not want to trouble others either.

“It’s already past noon. Are you hungry?” asked Aunt Wang after calming down.

Gulping down the glass of water, Lin Xinyan soon placed it down. “You can cook now.”

She would probably be hungry by the time Aunt Wang finished cooking.

Usually, Aunt Yu was responsible for the meals. However, Aunt Wang offered, “I’ll cook lunch today to let Aunt Yu rest for a while.”

She had already gotten used to her new job here. Everyone was nice to interact with and Aunt Yu took very good care of her.

Lin Xinyan agreed.

As she could not fall asleep anymore, she planned to chat with Qin Ya in her room. Before she left, she reminded Aunt Wang again, “Tell me if you need any help.”

She had no alternative motives— all she wanted to do was simply help Aunt Wang.

Aunt Wang replied, “Okay. Thank you!”

“You’re welcome,” uttered Lin Xinyan with a smile before turning around and heading to Qin Ya’s room.

On the other side, the two men who left the club got into the car. Shen Peichuan, who was driving the car, stopped at the entrance of Wanyue Group.

His sharp eyes spotting the car parked at the entrance, Shen Peichuan remarked, "Isn't this Bai Yinning's car?"

Zong Jinghao glanced over too. Indeed, Bai Yinning's car was parked outside the building.

"Why is he here?" Resting his arm against the car window, an intrigued expression crossed his face.

After all, Bai Yinning knew clearer than anyone else how unwelcome he was here. Yet, he still came, blatantly looking for trouble. It was quite rare of him to act as such.

Zong Jinghao had initially planned to enter the building. However, upon discovering that Bai Yinning was there too, he called Guan Jing and told him to drive out.

Peering at Zong Jinghao, Shen Peichuan laughed and exclaimed, "Don't be so petty! Since he's here, just send him a wedding invitation. Let him attend your wedding so that he can give up on any lingering thoughts that he has."

Zong Jinghao ignored him.

Guan Jing parked his car behind Shen Peichuan's. Upon alighting the car, he passed the keys to Zong Jinghao. "A certain Mr. Bai has come to visit you. He's been waiting for two hours."

Grabbing the keys, Zong Jinghao uttered dismissively, "Just tell him that I'm not there."

With that, he got into the other car, started the engine, and left.

"Isn't your boss rather petty?" Glancing at the car that was currently speeding away, Shen Peichuan chuckled and asked Guan Jing.

Guan Jing shot him a knowing glance. *You know him better than me.* "Why are you asking me that question? Are you serious?"

*Both of you are so close that you'll probably be able to sleep on the same bed. Don't you understand Zong Jinghao's temper better than I do?*

Yet, he did not articulate his thoughts. Waving his hand dismissively, he announced, "I'm leaving." After all, he was a busy man.

Shen Peichuan did not waste any more time either. While driving back to the club, he received a video from his subordinate.

He had been ordering his men to follow Gu Bei. Today, he even instructed them to record his every action.

The video that his subordinate sent featured Number Four, who worked for Gu Bei. Satisfied with the video's high quality, he messaged his subordinate, telling him that he did not need to monitor Gu Bei anymore.

There was a low chance of success if he intended to defeat Gu Bei through the previous cases. Furthermore, it was difficult to find evidence for them. Hence, he could only use the recent cases to take Gu Bei down.

*This video is sufficient, in proving that he was the mastermind behind the murder.*

However, his father simply wielded too much authority. Even if the truth got exposed, he had the power to suppress it. For now, all Shen Peichuan could do was to wait for the right timing and continue digging out his recent crimes.

Once the perfect opportunity arose, they would act.

Shen Peichuan had just arrived at the police station when Captain Song's subordinate, Wang, informed that Captain Song wanted to meet him.

Putting his work aside temporarily, he immediately headed to Captain Song's office and knocked on the door.

A voice allowing him to enter rang out from inside. When Shen Peichuan pushed the door open and walked in, he saw that Captain Song was still on the phone. He gestured for Shen Peichuan to remain silent and take a seat first.

Shen Peichuan sat on a couch in the lounge area.

After a while, Captain Song finished his call. He placed the phone down, walked over, and asked, "Are you free in the afternoon?"

Shen Peichuan nodded. "Yes. Why? Do you want me to treat you to a meal?"

Captain Song waved his hands dismissively and offered generously, "I'll treat you."

"Sure, then." Naturally, he would be happy that someone was treating him to a meal.

Taking his cap off, Captain Song stretched his body. "Where's your girlfriend? Bring her along and let's head to my house today."

Shen Peichuan thought that Captain Song was celebrating too early in advance. *Girlfriend? I don't even have one yet.*

"Well, I'll probably be going alone," relayed Shen Peichuan with a chuckle.

Captain Song immediately ordered, "No, there must be two of you attending. I'll leave first. Come later with your girlfriend. It's not your first time coming to my house either, so you know my address. Don't be late!"

Before Shen Peichuan could come up with an excuse to refuse the offer, Captain Song grabbed his cap and left.

Shen Peichuan was rendered speechless.

*He's putting me in such a tight spot!*

Scratching his head, he found that he was now placed in a massive dilemma. Not only was Captain Song tremendously helpful in his career, rather, but he had also taken special care of him. Hence, he must not have shown disrespect to Captain Song by rejecting his offer.

After much deliberation, he found that he could only ask Sang Yu to do him this favor.

He glanced at the clock. There was still time, so he did not directly look for Sang Yu. Instead, he instructed a female subordinate to find her.

That previous incident still left him with lingering unease. If it were not for Captain Song, he would never have looked for Sang Yu no matter what the circumstance.

Seeing what had happened the previous time, all of his colleagues were certain that Sang Yu was his girlfriend. After all, they kissed in front of everyone, which almost proved that they were dating.

Furthermore, everyone was well aware of Shen Peichuan's character. He was not a frivolous playboy, so he would only do something like that to his girlfriend.

Similarly, Sang Yu did not dare to look for Shen Peichuan so casually anymore, afraid that she would cause him unnecessary trouble.

Truthfully, she had taken a liking to Shen Peichuan. As a righteous, mature, and calm man, he emanated a unique charisma. For a girl like her, who came from such a family, he gave her a sense of security.

Now that he suddenly asked for someone to look for her, Sang Yu followed without any hesitation.

The female subordinate brought Sang Yu to the police station. It was only when she was walking to Shen Peichuan's office that she remembered to ask, "Why is he looking for me?"

Glancing at her, the female subordinate replied with a smile, "I don't know the reason either. Ask him yourself when you enter his office."

Soon, they arrived at Shen Peichuan's office. She left Sang Yu there and relayed forth, "He's right inside. Head in yourself. I'll take my leave first."

With that, she turned around and left, leaving Sang Yu standing at the entrance.

After some hesitation, she knocked on the door, which was quickly opened from within.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 598

When Sang Yu saw Shen Peichuan opening the door, she felt a little nervous. “Why did you ask me to come?”

Due to the previous incident, she was extremely worried that she would cause him more trouble again.

Shen Peichuan moved to the side. “Come in first and we’ll talk.”

The strap of her backpack slipped down her shoulder. Pulling it back up again, she strode into the office.

Shen Peichuan asked, “Are you thirsty?”

Sang Yu shook her head. “No.”

Pursing his lips, he revealed, “I’ve invited you here to ask you for a favor.”

“Just tell me what it is. As long as I can help, I’ll definitely agree.” She still felt guilty for what had happened previously. After all, she was the one who troubled him.

Seeing how courteous Sang Yu was, Shen Peichuan felt slightly embarrassed. “Don’t be so polite. Well, it’s not a big deal either. My superior invited me for a meal at his place and requested for me to bring you along. He’s Captain Song, whom you’ve met the previous time. He thinks that we’re a couple. He’s instructed me to come without even giving me a chance to explain. As he’s my benefactor, I can’t refuse his invitation. That’s why I’ve asked you to come.”

Sang Yu felt a bit disappointed. *So he didn’t look for me out of his own accord. Instead, he has only remembered me because of a situation that he can’t avoid.*



*Has he forgotten about me already?*

“If it was not for your superior, would you have forgotten about me long ago?” asked Sang Yu in a joking tone.

Shen Peichuan denied it, saying, “I won’t forget about you. You’re like a cute little sister to me.”

He could never bear to begin a relationship with Sang Yu, regardless of what Su Zhan said about it. No matter what others thought, he would never do something like that.

She was too young.

He could not bring himself to make her his girlfriend. If he walked with such a young girl on the streets, he was afraid that others would discuss them behind his back.

Shen Peichuan was still a conservative and traditional man.

Sang Yu instantly understood what Shen Peichuan meant. *Is he treating me as his little sister?*

She had barely even graduated from college, nor did she have a good job. Naturally, she did not deserve him. However, if she had more time, she would become a woman worthy enough to stay by his side.

She laughed. “Sure. I’m always down to help you out. It’s almost noontime now. Shall we go?”

Shen Peichuan agreed. Wearing a smart police uniform, he placed a cap over his head and said, “Let’s go.”

“If I had known that I was going to meet someone with you, I would’ve dressed up and changed into a nicer set of clothes,” mulled Sang Yu.

Closing the door, Shen Peichuan sized her up. She was wearing black wide-legged pants and a body-hugging white shirt with a V-shaped neckline, emphasizing her curvaceous figure. With her white sneakers and backpack, she looked so simple, youthful, and lively.

“You look good now.”

Sang Yu lowered her head and glanced at herself. Unable to see his point, she smiled and rebuked, “Are you lying to me on purpose?”

Shen Peichuan pressed a button on his car keys. His car headlights flashed, signaling that it had been unlocked. Pulling the door beside the driver’s seat open, he turned around and uttered to Sang Yu, “I’m not lying to you. You look really pretty. Come on, get into the car.”

Sang Yu grinned. She bent down, entered the car, and buckled her seat belt. On the other side, Shen Peichuan sat on the driver’s seat and started the engine.

“If you treat me as your little sister, do I have to start calling you my elder brother?” asked Sang Yu with a smile.

Shen Peichuan laughed. “Sure, if you’d want to.”

“No, I don’t. I think that you’re trying to make yourself sound younger on purpose.”

Shen Peichuan was at a loss for words.

*I’m not. I know very well how old I am. I’ve never even thought of pretending to be young.*

“With your age, you can be my uncle already. Yet, you want me to treat you like my elder brother? You’re trying to make yourself sound younger, right?” teased Sang Yu.

Shen Peichuan coughed lightly and replied, “That’s not what I meant. Why don’t you address me as your uncle, then?”

Sang Yu tried to suppress her laughter even more.

*He’s so cute when he’s being teased!*

Feeling uneasy, Shen Peichuan asked, “Did I say something wrong?”

Sang Yu shook her head. “No.”

“Then, why are you laughing?” For some reason, he felt that something was amiss.

“You’re too naïve,” remarked Sang Yu.

It was Shen Peichuan’s turn to laugh. “You’re calling an old man naïve. Do you think that it’s an appropriate adjective?”

“It suits you a lot. Naivety has nothing to do with one’s age,” replied Sang Yu seriously. She thought that Sang Yu was really naïve when it came to relationships. His reaction was rather slow. It was as if he was obtuse to anything romantic. Nonetheless, he was still so likable.

She did not like men who knew their way with words. Instead, she preferred men like Shen Peichuan who were quite slow-witted, shy, and not glib talkers. She thought that men, who always uttered sweet nothings, were unreliable.

Shen Peichuan did not rebuke her either. *If she says that I’m naïve, I’ll just let it be.*

By then, the car had already stopped in the neighborhood beside the governmental building. Shen Peichuan alighted first while Sang Yu followed soon followed suit.

“You don’t have to be so nervous. We’re just here for a casual meal,” assured Shen Peichuan.

Sang Yu nodded. Nevertheless, she still felt quite anxious. After all, she was meeting a high-ranking official. He was quite terrifying when he had gotten enraged the previous time.

“He’s a really nice guy and he won’t place you in a tight spot. Don’t worry.” Noticing Sang Yu’s anxiety, Shen Peichuan was swift to console her.

Sang Yu nodded, while Shen Peichuan informed the guards on who they were visiting.

He had come here before. However, as the neighborhood prohibited outsiders from entering easily, the guard still called Captain Song to seek confirmation before opening the gates.

At that moment, another car stopped at the entrance. As Bai Yinning did not manage to catch Zong Jinghao at the office, he decided to return first. Unexpectedly, he met Shen Peichuan at the entrance.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 599

“You have a friend staying here, Captain Shen?” As Bai Yinning spoke, his gaze landed on Sang Yu. He asked with a smile, “And who is this lady?”

Although Shen Peichuan’s attitude towards Bai Yinning was ambivalent, he did not like or despise him. Rather, he thought that it was not right for him to keep pining for a married woman.

It was quite immoral of him.

“I should be asking you that question, Mr. Bai.” Shen Peichuan knew of the backgrounds of the people who were qualified to stay in such a neighborhood.

Although Bai Yinning was rather influential in Baicheng, he paled in contrast, when compared to the many powerful figures in B City.

If he knew someone staying in this neighborhood, it meant that he had some special acquaintances.

However, Shen Peichuan understood quickly. Glancing at Zhou Chunchun, he uttered with a smile, “Mr. Bai, you’ve got some good tricks up your sleeve, huh?”

Although Zhou Chunchun was not very intelligent, her family background was very powerful. It was quite impressive that Bai Yinning had managed to wed her.

Instead of dwelling on such meaningless topics with him, Bai Yinning asked seriously, “Can I speak to you in private, Captain Shen?”

As he was unaware that Shen Peichuan was already the deputy chief, he continued to address him as Captain Shen.

“What is there to talk about?” Shen Peichuan did not intend to try to make things difficult for him. However, due to his relationship with Zong Jinghao, it was better to refrain from getting too close to that man or being involved with him.

“I still have plans, so I’ll take my leave first.” With that said, he turned around and called out to Sang Yu, “Let’s go.”

“Captain Shen, is there a grudge between us?” Bai Yinning frowned. *Should I be condemned just for liking someone?*

Shen Peichuan glanced at him. “No, but I only make friends with honest men. I don’t have a good impression of people who continuously desire someone else’s wife.”

With that, he left with Sang Yu.

Bai Yinning was unaware of how to reprehend him. He knew that it was not right, but it was impossible to control one’s feelings, right?

If his emotions could be controlled by his rational faculties— if he could stop liking a person at will— he would have done that a long time ago. However, despite repeatedly reminding himself that this was not right and that he should just give up on her, his feelings still existed.

*I have already tried my best to stop thinking about her, or much less creating any opportunities to meet. What else am I expected to do?*

“Some people hide away because of love. Yet, the only thing they can evade is the person’s physical presence. They can never escape the love that exists forever within their hearts. Yinning, this isn’t your fault,” consoled Zhou Chunchun as she hugged his shoulders. “It’s just like how I can’t control my love for you. If love can be given up so easily, it won’t be so precious anymore.”

Grabbing her hand, Bai Yinning uttered admittedly with a smile, “I’m actually very lucky already.”

*God has sent you to me.*

*You are the luckiest thing that has happened to me throughout my lifetime.*

She was innocent, kind, and understanding toward the sense of helplessness that he faced.

He had once imagined how things would have turned out if he had never met Lin Xinyan. However, the past could never be reversed, just like his love, that could not be altered.

“Perhaps, Daddy can help us.” Zhou Chunchun knew that he wanted to seek justice for Gao Yuan.

Bai Yinning shook his head. He knew that Zhou Huaihou disliked the Gu family and did not want anything to do with them. After all, Mrs. Zhou was related to the Gu family.

*I must not force the Zhou family into such a tight spot.*

“Don’t tell your father about this. I’ll resolve this on my own,” Bai Yinning reminded Zhou Chunchun.

“Nonetheless, Gao Yuan’s in the hospital and there’s no one by your side...”

“You must believe in me.” Bai Yinning patted her reassuringly. “Let’s go home.”

Zhou Chunchun cast her gaze downwards as she was left with no choice but to follow his instructions, wheeling him back.

On the other side, Shen Peichuan and Sang Yu arrived at Captain Song’s house. He pressed the doorbell, while Sang Yu clasped her hands together nervously. Because she was visiting a stranger’s home, and the person had such a special background, she inevitably felt uneasy.

Shen Peichuan patted her shoulders. "We'll leave after the meal. The family's really easy to get along with, so you don't have to be so nervous."

Sang Yu squeezed out a smile. "It's my first time visiting, so It's only natural that I'm nervous."

With a click, the door opened. It was Captain Song's wife who greeted them, whom Shen Peichuan referred to as Mrs. Song.

Mrs. Song's bright smile froze on her face when her gaze landed on Sang Yu. "Who is this?"

"My... girlfriend." Shen Peichuan found it too much of a hassle to explain himself. If he denied that Sang Yu was his girlfriend, Captain Song would reprimand him again. To avoid any trouble, he had no choice but to say that.

By now, the smile on Mrs. Song's face had disappeared completely.

"Mom, why aren't you letting the guests in yet?" Song Yaxin walked over. When she saw Shen Peichuan, she ushered with a smile, "Come on in."

Song Yaxin was Captain Song's daughter, so Shen Peichuan was also familiar with her. Thus, he replied, "Oh, you're here too."

With an apron tied around her waist, holding a piece of ginger in her hands, she laughed and pronounced, "Of course. This used to be my home and it's still my home now."

This was her home previously. After her marriage, she left, but now that she was divorced, she moved back in again.

Song Yaxin was of a similar age to Shen Peichuan. A few years ago, the main reason that Captain Song invited Shen Peichuan over for a meal at his house was to set them up on a blind date. After all, Captain Song had high hopes for Shen Peichuan.



He thought that Shen Peichuan would be certain to take good care of his daughter if she married him. However, she refused and insisted on marrying a Ph.D. student who had just returned from his studies overseas.

Yet, as he had cheated on her, they recently got a divorce.

Suddenly remembering Shen Peichuan, Mrs. Song began to pester Captain Song to invite Shen Peichuan over for a meal, intending to matchmake her daughter with him.

Left with no other choice, Captain Song could only invite Shen Peichuan to his house. Yet, he knew all too well that his daughter and Shen Peichuan were unfated to be with each other. *If they were, they would have become a couple a long time ago, instead of dragging it up till now.*

Furthermore, since his daughter had a marriage, while Shen Peichuan was still single, both of them were increasingly unsuited for each other. He cared deeply for Shen Peichuan, so he did not want to make things difficult for him either.

Hence, he deliberately asked Shen Peichuan to bring his girlfriend over, so that his wife would completely give up.

“Come in.” Mrs. Song stepped aside. Initially, when she was still in high spirits, she prepared a lot of good food to welcome him. Now that her plan had gone down the drain, she felt extremely upset.

When Song Yaxin saw Sang Yu, she smiled. “Oh, you’ve gotten yourself a girlfriend now?”

Shooting her a smile in return, Shen Peichuan replied, “Yes.”

“I thought that you’d remain single forever. After all, your personality is rather dull.” Song Yaxin spoke to Shen Peichuan intimately. Rather than acting distant, she acted as though they were family.



# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 600

Merely smiling, Shen Peichuan chose not to respond to her. He was at a loss for how to rebuke her, similar to how he had been, earlier, when Su Zhan had teased him for being obtuse.

“Come over and take a seat.” Captain Song was reading the newspapers on the couch. When he saw them enter, he placed the newspapers down.

Shen Peichuan walked over, while Sang Yu followed obediently behind him.

“Peichuan, take a seat. Lunch will be ready soon,” urged Song Yaxin with a smile.

Shen Peichuan nodded. “Thank you for your effort.”

Song Yaxin joked, “If you think that it’s hard on me, you can help me.”

“Don’t think of me as a hassle then.” Shen Peichuan stood up as though he had actually planned to help her. However, Song Yaxin soon waved her hands quickly and clarified, “I was merely joking. Don’t take it too seriously! Just remain seated.”

With that, she spun around and entered the kitchen.

Standing at the side, Mrs. Song shot a couple of glances at Sang Yu. Feeling upset, she headed into the kitchen. She initially planned to matchmake Shen Peichuan with her daughter, but he unexpectedly brought a girlfriend along. Naturally, she felt very unhappy.

Seeing that her daughter was still chopping the vegetables, she snatched the knife away from her. “Go out and accompany the guests. I can cope alone here.”

“They’re not outsiders, anyway. Dad’s there too.” Song Yaxin did not understand her mother’s intentions.

It was not true that she was completely oblivious. However, as she was also surprised that Shen Peichuan had brought a girl over, she was at a momentary loss for what to do.

Her mother sighed. “When your father asked you to marry Shen Peichuan, you refused. Look at him now. He’s already the deputy chief. For these few years, he hasn’t gotten in a lot of relationships too.”

“Mom.” Song Yaxin did not want to hear her mother nag. “Let bygones be bygones. Don’t talk about them anymore, okay?”

*There is no point in regretting right now.*

Mrs. Song sighed as she walked over to help her daughter. “I wonder when he got a girlfriend.”

Song Yaxin remained silent. After the oil in the wok was heated, she placed the sliced ginger into the wok and fried it until it was fragrant. Then, she added in the peppercorns, the spices, and the chopped chicken.

While the oil sizzled, the fragrance of the ingredients emerged right away.

“Shen Peichuan managed to rise to his rank because of your father’s help.” The more Mrs. Song thought about it, the more upset she became. “That girl looks too young. She doesn’t seem compatible with Shen Peichuan at all.”

“Mom, what are you trying to say?” Song Yaxin glanced at her mother exasperatedly. “We should be happy that such a dull man like him has managed to find himself a girlfriend. Why do you look so upset?”

“You should be the one sitting beside him. Don’t you regret it at all?” Mrs. Song thought that her daughter had seemed rather emotionless.

Song Yaxin blindly chose the wrong man to marry. Yet, although Shen Peichuan had a girlfriend, she seemed as though she was not affected at all.

“What’s the point of regretting it? I’ve already missed the opportunity.” Song Yaxin pouted. “Can you please stop harping on it?”

Mrs. Song was swift to agree to it. “Well, there are a lot of big fishes in the ocean. Furthermore, since you’re still young and childless, it’s not difficult to find yourself a good man. It’s not like Shen Peichuan’s the only man left in this world.”

Pursing her lips, Song Yaxin did not respond.

When Mrs. Song turned around to leave, Song Yaxin called after her. “Mom, where are you going?”

“I’m going to bring them some water,” replied Mrs. Song.

“I’ll go instead. Keep an eye on the food in the wok.” Song Yaxin placed the spatula down.

Thinking that the youngsters probably had more in common to talk about, Mrs. Song returned and took the wok of spicy chicken from her daughter. She asked, “Did you add the condiments in?”

“Yeah, I did.” Upon washing her hands, Song Yaxin poured three cups of fresh fruit juice and brought them out. She placed them in front of the guests, left the empty tray on the table, and sat down on the single sofa beside Sang Yu. “You look quite young. You must be younger than Peichuan, right?”

Sang Yu replied, “Yes.”

“Where do you work?” Song Yaxin grabbed a grape from the fruit plate and stuffed it into her mouth.

Thinking that it was not a big deal, Sang Yu honestly answered, "I'm still a freshman in college."

Song Yaxin was taken aback. Although Sang Yu looked young, she did not expect her to still be a college freshman. Glancing at Shen Peichuan, she soon teased, "So, you like younger girls, huh? I even thought that you didn't like women."

Shen Peichuan squeezed out a dry smile. "I'm a normal man, after all."

Song Yaxin nodded. "You're right. You're not a lustless monk, anyway."

In the past, she disliked the fact that he was too boring and unromantic. There was no fun in dating a man like him. However, after her failed marriage, she realized that a man like him was more reliable. Compared to those glib talkers who spoke sweet nothings, a man with his personality was more trustworthy.

Mrs. Song asked her if she regretted it. Of course she did.

After all, what she deemed as flaws in the past had now become strengths.

"Bring your girlfriend over more often when you guys are free. Oh, right. What's her name?" asked Song Yaxin with a smile.

Shen Peichuan glanced at Sang Yu and replied, "Sang Yu."

Sang Yu remained there, seated quietly.

"Everyone, let's go to the dinner table. The food is ready," announced Mrs. Song at the dining room's entrance.

Captain Song stood up first. "Okay. Let's talk over lunch."

Everyone headed toward the dining room, while Shen Peichuan kept a reassuring hand on Sang Yu's waist. Afraid that she would feel uncomfortable in this unfamiliar setting, he took greater care of her feelings.

Glancing up at him, Sang Yu's lips curved into a small smile.

Although he was a very quiet and solemn person, his occasional acts of consideration made her feel touched and secure.

Song Yaxin glanced at them briefly before averting her gaze.

*This man should've belonged to me in the past. All of his affection should be mine too. Now that he belongs to another woman, I can't help but feel upset.*

Having calmed down, Mrs. Song flashed a grin at Sang Yu and told her to drop the formalities. "Just treat this as your house."

Smiling, Sang Yu agreed.

Captain Song instructed his daughter to bring a bottle of wine over. "Have a drink with me."

However, Shen Peichuan refused, "I drove here. I'll drink with you next time."

"You can drink with my Dad. I'll drive both of you back later." When Song Yaxin poured some wine for Shen Peichuan, she deliberately bent down and whispered in his ear, "I just got divorced, so he's unhappy. Just drink with him."

Leaning closely to Shen Peichuan, Song Yaxin made it seem as though were quite affectionate with each other. Moving aside, Shen Peichuan agreed, "Then, I'll have a bit of wine."

Song Yaxin's body stiffened. She felt unused to Shen Peichuan's distant attitude. Concurrently, she felt rather disappointed that he was acting in such a cold

manner to her. Nonetheless, she soon regained her composure. Acting as though nothing happened, she glanced at Sang Yu with a smile. "Do you drink?"

Sang Yu noticed Song Yaxin's earlier actions. Her hands, which were hidden under the table, clenched uncontrollably. *It's evident that she's deliberately trying to get closer to Shen Peichuan. Perhaps, this is a woman's sixth sense.*

She shook her head. "I don't drink." Then, she turned towards Shen Peichuan and reminded him affectionately, "You should drink lesser too. You still need to send me to school in the afternoon."

"I can send you there." Before Shen Peichuan could respond, Song Yaxin interjected.

However, Sang Yu refused politely, "You don't have to trouble yourself. Actually, as I'm usually quite busy, I'd like to spend more time with Peichuan."

She could not stand Song Yaxin deliberately trying to get close to Shen Peichuan, even going as far as to acting so affectionately towards him right in front of her. *Song Yaxin is definitely up to no good.*

*If I were Shen Peichuan's actual girlfriend, I'd certainly misunderstand the situation.*

Fortunately, as she was not Shen Peichuan's real girlfriend, she could confront the situation objectively and calmly.

Only then could she analyze Song Yaxin's actions completely. This was not Shen Peichuan's fault; rather, this woman was attempting to get closer to him, trying to create a misunderstanding on purpose.

*If she were truly happy for Shen Peichuan, she would keep her distance from him, seeing as she's already aware that he has a girlfriend.*



Captain Song chuckled loudly. "Then, let's not drink today. I'll drink more at your wedding ceremony the next time."

Song Yaxin poured a glass of wine for herself before placing the bottle down. Speaking in an indifferent tone, she remarked, "Many couples break up after a while. Sometimes, it's due to a clash in personalities, different lifestyle habits, or even their age gap. No one knows what'll happen before the very last moment arrives." It almost sounded as if she was addressing a certain someone.

Naturally, Shen Peichuan understood her implicit meaning. An awkward expression crossed his face, as he thought that her words were meant for him.

"I invited Peichuan over for lunch because I was in a good mood. What are you talking about? Don't affect others with your bad mood. If you're not hungry, don't eat and stay in your room first." Captain Song chided his daughter. "Don't say something that'll ruin the mood."

"Dad, am I your daughter? How can you chase me away?" Song Yaxin bit her lips. "Forget it, I'm not eating."

With that, she stood up and scanned the rest. "I'm sorry, I'm in a bad mood. Please excuse me if I'd said anything upsetting."

"We don't mind. Please, sit down and eat." Although Shen Peichuan felt uncomfortable, he did not display it openly. After all, he would only voice out his thoughts, out of his respect for Captain Song.

Captain Song's expression looked solemn. "Sit down."

Song Yaxin walked over and hugged her father's neck. "I'm in a bad mood because of my divorce, so I'd said something inappropriate. Please don't mind me. Peichuan isn't even angry with me, so why are you upset?"

Captain Song tugged her hands away. "Stop trying to trick me. If today's guest wasn't Peichuan, they would've been upset."

“I know. This won’t happen again.” Song Yaxin returned to her seat. Peering at Shen Peichuan, she flashed him an apologetic grin and asked, “Were you bothered?”