

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 701

Guan Jing shut the door behind him when he exited the office. The color drained from his face when he saw the number on the note.

He did not need to investigate to guess who was behind it.

“Mr. Guan,” hailed the secretary as she walked out of the pantry.

Guan Jing was jolted out of his senses as he was unaware of anyone’s presence.

“Don’t jump out of nowhere like that!”

“You’re the one who’s jumping out of nowhere. What are you so engrossed with?” asked the secretary as she eyed the piece of paper he had in his hand.

He responded by shielding it from view. “It’s none of your business. Get back to work.”

She shot him a look. “Not like I’m that interested. From the looks of it, I’d figure it’s nothing good.”

Guan Jing held a hand to his face. “Do I look terrible?”

The woman gave him the cold shoulder and took her mug back to her desk.

Neither did he press her for an answer as he turned in the direction of the elevator. After he looked over his shoulder to check his surroundings, he darted into the stairwell, pulled out his phone, and made a call.

His face darkened when no one picked up initially. So he kept at it.

The line got through on the third attempt.

Guan Jing demanded in an aggravated tone, "What exactly do you want from me?"

"Why are you being so scary? My phone wasn't with me; I'm swimming now." Wrapped in a white towel, Gu Huiyuan stroked her thigh as she lazed on the lounge chair.

Guan Jing gritted his teeth. "Do you realize what you've done?"

She cackled, "I really have no idea, unless you are referring to the messages that were sent to your boss's wife. So I confess that it was me. What are you going to do about that?"

"Stop this!"

"That could be arranged. Get your boss to meet me at the Grand Hyatt and I'll consider your request..."

"Not a chance!" Guan Jing cut her off before she could finish.

Gu Huiyuan primped her hair. "If you won't do that then you'll have to help me keep tabs on your boss's daily movements. With his wife so far along, I don't know how she'll react if I were to keep texting her..."

"Enough!" Guan Jing bellowed. "What is it that you really want?"

"What do I want?" She sneered before she said coldly, "He killed my father and put my brother behind bars. What do you think I want?"

"They got exactly what they deserved!"

“Guan Jing, Guan Jing. Are you thinking of dumping me right after you’ve zipped up your pants?”

“You set me up...”

“Take it whichever way you like. The thing is, we slept together and I have evidence of it. The footage of you taken in the buff featured only your face. If I were to market it to some porn site or news outlet, not only could I fetch a pretty penny for it, I think I could also make you very famous as well...”

“Gu Huiyuan!” Guan Jing’s face turned pallid as he fought the violent urge to strangle this woman.

When he was out drinking, he had never thought his drink would be spiked and that he would end up sleeping with her. If that was not bad enough, she also took lewd photos and videos with which to threaten him.

She was going to entrap Zong Jinghao himself, but when she could not find the opportunity to do so, she targeted the people closest to him instead.

Gu Huiyuan considered Su Zhan as an alternative but decided against it as she observed that neither were convenient marks and not easy to manipulate.

In the end, she set her sights on Guan Jing.

Guan Jing softened his tone, “Let’s meet up.”

Gu Huiyuan jested in response, “Why? Are you missing me already?”

His fingers tightened around the phone inside his palm. “Quit yapping. At the same bar as last time.”

“Will do,” she replied.

After he hung up, he peeked out from behind the door of the stairwell to make sure he was in the clear before he rode the elevator downstairs. Guan Jing hopped in his car and raced to the agreed meeting place.

Gu Huiyuan was already there by the time he arrived.

Dressed in a black slip dress, she was sitting cross-legged in a prominent seating area. Guan Jing hurried over and grabbed her by the wrist before pulling her into a private room.

Gu Huiyuan placed a hand on his chest and cooed, “Such impatience…”

“Have a little self-respect,” Guan Jing replied dourly.

“I didn’t take Mr. Guan for a gentleman; you were such an animal in bed,” She laughed.

Guan Jing clenched his fists. “Tell me, what will it take to have those materials destroyed?”

Gu Huiyuan withdrew her hand and went to settle herself on the couch. She then bent over to pour herself a glass of wine from the table. The woman elegantly swirled the liquid inside as she held the vessel between her fingers. “Do you figure that I’m short of cash, or lacking a man?”

Guan Jing’s eyes were silently transfixed on her in a deathly stare.

It was said that the most beautiful creatures in nature tend to be the deadliest. That certainly held true for the venomous woman before him—a single encounter would be debilitating, if not fatal.

“My wish is simple: to punish those who have destroyed my family.” Gu Huiyuan raised her head sharply into a piercing glare. “Mr. Guan, what would you do if your father is killed and your brother is imprisoned? Would you act as if nothing had happened?”

“Your father and brother would have been left well alone if they were decent men, and your brother could have had a good life if he went abroad and stayed away. But he chose otherwise. Nobody could have saved them from themselves. Are you avenging them? What could you do as a woman besides putting yourself out?”

Guan Jing attempted to persuade Gu Huiyuan. “Let it go and get on with your life. Why ruin yourself on their account? I’m sure you understand that you are no match for my boss. You know how ruthless he could get should he discover that you are plotting against him.”

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 702

Gu Huiyuan was unperturbed as she casually got up and approached Guan Jing. She then reached out and grabbed him by the tie around his neck and said, "I'm sure of that as well. But don't I have you? Someone close to him?"

Guan Jing glanced down at her raised hand and sneered, "What makes you think I will help you?"

Her fingers slithered upwards to prop his chin and he felt her breath on him. "Who would you help if you wouldn't help your girl?"

"Ha!" He pinched her by the cheek. "What is this? Are you throwing yourself at me? You are not fit to be my woman!"

Gu Huiyuan was unflappable. She smiled and said, "Me throwing myself at you, or you coming onto me —it's academic. The thing is, we hooked up. I hope you weren't thinking that you are just going to walk away from this. Do I have blown things up by reporting you for sexual assault?"

Guan Jing's eye narrowed.

"Not like this." She then raised one leg and brushed the inside of it against his side. "I like a man with a soft touch."

He responded to her overtures with silence.

"Restrain yourself, you shameless woman!" Guan Jing yelled as he repelled her.

She stumbled and clipped her knee against the corner of the table. As she nursed her wound, she said, "Don't push your luck, Guan Jing."

“You’re the one who’s pushing your luck. Do you think I have to do your bidding just because we’ve slept together? It’s just a few photographs. I couldn’t care less who you want to send them to. As for the footage, you could send it to whichever media outlet you like. I, Guan Jing, am not going to allow myself to be held to ransom by any woman!”

He slammed the door on the way out.

Gu Huiyuan’s fingers tightened around themselves as she sat staring at the entry point that Guan Jing had left shut in her face.

Undeterred, she pulled out her phone to call him.

Guan Jing was driving when his cellphone rang. When he saw that it came from Gu Huiyuan, he ignored it and tossed the phone aside.

She then messaged him instead.

The tone representing incoming messages chimed as soon as the ringing died down. Guan Jing reached over and held the phone in his hand. *Are you really going to forsake your own future?*

He pulled over and replied. *What future have I to look forward to after getting mixed up with the likes of you?*

Gu Huiyuan persisted. *Are you really going to ruin your reputation on the account of your boss?*

*What would my reputation be now if not already ruined, Gu Huiyuan?*

She bit her lip and tried his number again. Guan Jing picked it up this time. “What else do you want?”

Gu Huiyuan asked, “Are you really prepared to throw away your future?”

“Yes,” was his resolute reply.

“Are you a dog? Why are you being so loyal? A paycheck? If you help me, I could help you become your own boss. With your talent and my...”

“Do you think everyone else is unfeeling and unscrupulous like you and your family, Gu Huiyuan? I can’t help you, and I won’t.”

She squeezed the phone in her hand in silence.

Guan Jing then asked, “Why have you gone quiet?”

“...I don’t know what else to say,” she replied.

She had no retort for Guan Jing. Her father and brother got their just desserts but as a daughter and elder sister, she could not allow herself to stand idly by.

“For the last time, are you going to help me?” she demanded.

Guan Jing stood firm. “I’m no traitor.”

“Have it your way. You’ll regret this.” With that, Gu Huiyuan ended the call.

Guan Jing stared at the screen display as the disconnect tone cycled in the background. He swiped it off and tossed the phone aside. Guan Jing buried his face with his hands on the steering wheels.

He spent some time thinking things through and finally came away with some profound insights and a renewed sense of resolve.

Guan Jing restarted the engine and sped back to the office.

After parking the car, he made his way to the elevator. When it arrived on the office floor, Guan Jing went straight for Zong Jinghao’s office.



He was about to knock on the door when the secretary said, “Mr. Zong isn’t around.”

Guan Jing turned to her and asked, “Where did he go?”

“I’m not sure. It wasn’t on his schedule,” she said.

*If it isn’t on his schedule, it must be something personal and she wouldn’t know.*

Guan Jing’s brows knotted.

“Do you have something important that you would like to convey?” She asked as she noticed how tense he was.

Guan Jing said nothing before he went back to his own office.

Guan Jing’s spacious and splendidly decorated office sat diagonally across from Zong Jinghao’s. Guan Jing ran his palm over the top of his desk. Despite what Gu Huiyuan said, he felt proud of what he had accomplished to date. It was only with the trust and responsibility vested in him by Zong Jinghao that he was able to get where he was today.

*How could a man live without a conscience?*

He could never bring himself to help Gu Huiyuan harm Zong Jinghao.

Guan Jing could tell that Zong Jinghao really cared about Lin Xinyan.

*How could I be so ungrateful as to incite them against each other?*

He took out his phone, sifted through his contacts for Zong Jinghao’s number, and called him.

Zong Jinghao was accompanying Lin Xinyan as she had to undergo a regular check-up this month. The fetus' thumping heartbeat was clearly audible through the ultrasound.

He stood by Lin Xinyan's side. Holding her hand, his heart stirred as he listened to those sounds. Inferring from the vigor of the pulses, he sensed his baby's vigor and imagined how lively child it would grow up to be.

Zong Jinghao was so moved that he subconsciously intensified his grip on Lin Xinyan's hand.

Lin Xinyan felt a little pain and a lot of sweat between their palms but she did not complain. When she had Zong Yanxi and Zong Yanchen, their father did not have the opportunity to experience this. Now that he could finally do so, his excitement was understandable.

At this moment, the cellphone in Zong Jinghao's pocket rang.

When he pulled it out and saw that it was Guan Jing, he rejected the call. Zong Jinghao then leaned close and whispered in Lin Xinyan's ear, "I'm going out to return this."

She nodded. "You go on ahead."

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 703

Zong Jinghao left the examination room and walked to the end of the corridor outside with cellphone in hand. Guan Jing took very little time to pick up.

“What do you have for me?” Zong Jinghao asked.

“I’ve completed the investigation.”

“Who was it?”

“Gu Bei’s sister, Gu Huiyuan,” Guan Jing replied.

Zong Jinghao raised an eyebrow but did not seem too surprised.

“Are you busy right now, Mr. Zong? I’ll like to meet in person.” Guan Jing stood by the window as he surveyed the view outside.

“For what purpose?”

Guan Jing insisted, “It would be better if we spoke directly.”

Zong Jinghao glanced at the watch on his wrist, “I’ll be available tonight.”

“In that case, let’s meet in my office,” Guan Jing replied.

Zong Jinghao sensed that his subordinate’s tone was a little off. “I’ll be over at seven.”

With that, the call concluded.

Zong Jinghao lingered in the corridor with various thoughts racing through his mind. He wondered what was Guan Jing's intention.

To him, Guan Jing's behavior was suspicious.

In the examination room.

Lin Xinyan lowered her head to ask, "How is he doing, doctor?"

The doctor nodded. "The child is developing well in every aspect, except that..."

"Except what?" The doctor's pause made Lin Xinyan sit up.

"Let's wait for Mr. Zong to return. I'll explain it in greater detail, so you may both be able to make an informed decision." The doctor's tone was solemn.

Lin Xinyan's eyes widened as she observed the doctor's body language. She tugged at his sleeve. "Can't you tell me first? I can't rest easy if you don't."

When the doctor saw how nervous she was, he exhaled, "Did the previous doctor caution you against bearing any more children after your last birth?"

She nodded and acknowledged that the previous attending doctor did advise as much and remarked that her body had been strained.

"You are not suited for carrying another fetus to full term as your uterine wall has become thinner since your last birth. It wasn't noticeable earlier on but as your pregnancy advanced, the increased volume of amniotic fluid and rapid growth of the fetus have placed exponentially greater pressure in your uterus. That could be life-threatening for you. Since we are in the twenty-eighth week, I would recommend that you induce labor in the thirtieth week, or latest by the thirty-second week. Alternatively, you could also opt for birth by cesarian section."

Lin Xinyan was apprehensive. "I... I've never experienced any discomfort..."

The doctor replied sternly, "You would have breached the threshold by the time you experience the symptoms. You don't have to worry too much about the child's survivability given the advances in medical care. As he's been coming along well so far, there should be no problems."

Lin Xinyan mood was conflicted as she considered that the child would still be premature at thirty weeks.

"Doctor, I'd like to discuss this with my husband." Lin Xinyan was uncertain how Zong Jinghao would receive this news.

The doctor nodded. "Please go ahead. But remember that you have to come to a decision as soon as possible because we are already at week twenty-eight."

Lin Xinyan nodded. "Yes, we will..."

"We will what?" Zong Jinghao overheard Lin Xinyan's last statement when he reentered.

Lin Xinyan smiled. "It's nothing." She held her belly as she tried to stand and Zong Jinghao came over to support her. He asked, "How did it go?"

His wife nodded. "Everything is going well."

Zong Jinghao cast a questioning look at the doctor.

The doctor exchanged a glance with Lin Xinyan before reaching up to adjust his own glasses. "The baby is very healthy."

Zong Jinghao eyes narrowed as he thought the doctor's body language was stiff. But he did not probe any further in the presence of Lin Xinyan.

Zong Jinghao put an arm around his wife's waist and said, "Come on. Let's be going."

He picked up the blue bag containing the medical reports and helped Lin Xinyan out of the examination room.

After he walked her to the car and buckled her in, Zong Jinghao said, "Wait here. I have to visit the men's."

Lin Xinyan leaned back into the headrest and nodded slightly.

Instead of the restroom, Zong Jinghao went back to the outpatient department to look for Lin Xinyan's attending doctor.

Though Lin Xinyan did well to hide it, he could sense that she was not as relaxed as when they first arrived.

As the doctor did not seem too forthcoming either, Zong Jinghao decided to seek clarification in order to set his own mind at ease.

The doctor was surprised to see that he had turned back.

"What was the conclusion of my wife's checkup?" Zong Jinghao went straight for the jugular.

"The child is fine. Better than fine, in fact. It's just that your wife's body..."

"What about her body?"

Zong Jinghao was so anxious that he kept interrupting.

The doctor brought up the records for Lin Xinyan's ultrasound scans and circled the mouse cursor around the readings on the thickness of her uterine walls.

"These were carried over from her last pregnancy. As she experienced damage to the uterus, the walls have become much thinner than average. As the pregnancy advances and the volume of amniotic fluid increases, there is a

tremendous build-up of vaginal pressure. I've advised your wife to opt for induced labor before the thirtieth week to reduce the risk of uterine rupture."

Zong Jinghao jaw dropped in disbelief. "Nothing was mentioned in our early checkups."

"The symptoms are not discernable in the early stages." The doctor paused momentarily before he continued, "I've explained this to Mrs. Zong. She said that she would discuss it with you in private."

Zong Jinghao asked in a low voice. "Is there anything we could do?"

The doctor shook his head. "The fetus will continue to grow in the next few months, which means the pressure within the uterus will also increase..."

"What will happen if the child is delivered prematurely?" Zong Jinghao understood what he was told but still had his reservations.

"There will definitely be a knock-on effect, but given the quality of medical care available and the progress of the fetus's development, I would put its survivability at above eighty percent," the doctor stated.

"Eighty percent?" Zong Jinghao did not find these odds to be assuring.

*But Xinyan's health takes priority.* He thought as he turned to leave the hospital.

Zong Jinghao was determined to seek expert opinion on this subject matter before coming to a decision.

He acted normally when he got back to the car and asked if Lin Xinyan waited long. She merely shook her head and said no.

"Let's head home."

Zong Jinghao then turned the ignition.

Lin Xinyan felt restless after he heard the doctor's words and did not feel like talking, so she kept his lids shut and pretended to nap.

When he peeked at Lin Xinyan, he saw that she had her lips held tight. He could empathize with how she must be feeling right now.

As he was a father and also a husband, he would not want to see harm come to either his own child or his wife.

His heart felt heavy.

Lin Xinyan opened her eyes when Zong Jinghao reached out to hold her hand. He then said, "Go ahead and rest if you are tired. I'll wake you up when we reach home."

She nodded before she reclosed her lids.

Some time passed before the car arrived at the villa. As Zong Jinghao was about to turn into the courtyard, he saw someone standing by the entrance.



# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 704

As the car drew closer to the person and Zong Jinghao was able to recognize who it was, he roused Lin Xinyan. "Peichuan is here."

Lin Xinyan reacted right away as she had been awake all the while. She opened her eyes and looked towards the entrance. With Shen Peichuan was a young woman carrying a backpack.

Lin Xinyan assumed that this must be Sang Yu.

Zong Jinghao pulled over quickly on the driveway. Lin Xinyan then unbuckled herself and stepped out.

Shen Peichuan approached her with Sang Yu. "Xinyan."

Lin Xinyan smiled warmly. "When did you get back?"

Shen Peichuan replied, "We just got off the coach."

He went on to introduce Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan to Sang Yu. "Just follow my lead."

Sang Yu had seen Zong Jinghao before but she was meeting Lin Xinyan for the first time. She learned from Shen Peichuan that Lin Xinyan was young. Now that she had seen her in the flesh, she thought that Lin Xinyan was not only youthful but also very pretty.

"Pleased to meet you," Sang Yu greeted.

Considering that the affair between Shen Peichuan and Song Yaxin was yet to be settled, she did not feel comfortable calling her “Xinyan”.

Lin Xinyan smiled. “It must have been a long trip. Let’s go inside the house.”

Shen Peichuan denied their weariness. “I have another matter that I may need to trouble you with on this visit.”

When Lin Xinyan heard that, she glanced at Zong Jinghao beside her before turning back to glance at Shen Peichuan. “If there’s anything you feel that we could help with, just ask away.”

She felt that it was only right to offer help, given what Shen Peichuan had done for them.

“I have to make a trip to the station and then settle some things at the Songs, so I was wondering if I could have Sang Yu stay with you for a couple of days while I sort out her schooling matters.”

Sang Yu had quit studying previously. Now that she wanted to resume her studies, there were some administrative processes with the school that needed to be attended to.

Lin Xinyan agreed right away. Shen Peichuan must have trusted them enough to keep Sang Yu with them.

Lin Xinyan could not say no to that.

“Let’s go inside first,” Lin Xinyan said with a smile.

Shen Peichuan nodded.

Zong Jinghao was silent as he gripped Lin Xinyan’s hand. He actually did not want to host visitors, let alone strangers, during this time. Still vexed about Lin

Xinyan's situation, he had hoped for some quiet time at home, but he and his wife were indebted to Shen Peichuan who had almost lost his life on his account. Furthermore, Shen Peichuan was someone who seldom asked for favors, so Zong Jinghao could not bring himself to refuse the former.

Zong Jinghao was mostly just worried about Lin Xinyan. Despite all her troubles, she still had to put on a cheery disposition to pander to others.

That did not make him feel good at all.

As the four of them pushed through the door, they were greeted by the sight of a living room filled with toys. Two children were playing, accompanied by two elders. It was a cozy scene.

"Yanxi." Lin Xinyan called out to her daughter. Although the little girl was no longer clingy, she was not chatty like before. When Zong Yanxi looked at her mother and saw Shen Peichuan, she put down her toy wok and scooted over. The little girl then stopped close to where Shen Peichuan was.

Seeing Shen Peichuan brought back some traumatic memories, and that led Zong Yanxi to start bawling.

Her sudden outburst caught everyone off guard. Lin Xinyan went up to comfort her daughter. "There, there. Mommy's here."

As she rubbed her daughter's back, Lin Xinyan's heart tightened.

Zong Yanxi would not stop crying, no matter what anyone tried.

Lin Xinyan kept wiping at Zong Yanxi's tears. Her eyes reddened when she saw how distressed her daughter was. The mother desperately smothered that little face with kisses in an attempt to soothe her tormented soul with her own love.

Zong Jinghao knew how Lin Xinyan must be struggling inside, so he took their daughter from her and cradled the child in his arms.

As he reached out to dry Zong Yanxi's tears, the little girl suddenly turned to greet Shen Peichuan. "Uncle Shen."

Having braved the same ordeal together, the sight of him triggered memories she would rather forget. Those heart-stopping scenes replayed vividly from the recesses of her mind.

Shen Peichuan approached and patted her on the head. "It's over and we're fine now, Yanxi. You don't have to be afraid anymore."

Zong Yanxi blinked beads of tears and sniveled. "Really?"

"Really." Shen Peichuan affirmed. "If you keep this up, you won't look pretty anymore."

Zong Yanxi's shoulders were still shaking when she rubbed her eyes. She pointed to Sang Yu and asked hoarsely, "Who is this?"

Shen Peichuan looked briefly at Sang Yu before he replied, "I was about to introduce her to you. She is my girlfriend, Sang Yu."

Zong Jinghao was a little confused. "Haven't you introduced a girlfriend to us before? Is this a new one?"

Shen Peichuan was dumbstruck.

Sang Yu seemed embarrassed, too, as she stood beside him.

The air was still for a moment before Lin Xinyan said to her daughter, "This is the lady Uncle Shen really fancies."

Zong Yanxi blinked as she snuggled against Zong Jinghao. "Daddy, their relationship is so confusing."

Zong Jinghao felt relieved.

He ran his thumb across the underside of his daughter's teary eye. Although he did not voice his concerns, he was deeply worried that the bad experience might have left a scar on Zong Yanxi's psyche. Zong Jinghao did not expect that Shen Peichuan's presence would expedite her recovery.

Had he known, he would have invited Shen Peichuan over much earlier.

Lin Xinyan introduced Sang Yu to Zong Qifeng and the others. "This is Shen Peichuan's girlfriend."

Sang Yu bowed politely. Lin Xinyan said, "Make yourself at home."

As she pursed her lips, Sang Yu replied, "Thank you."

"You are welcome. As Peichuan is close to us, we are very happy to have you here."

Lin Xinyan smiled graciously.

Sang Yu looked at Lin Xinyan and thought how wonderful she looked when she smiled. She found Lin Xinyan to be very amiable without any air of arrogance. It was something she did not expect of a very wealthy person, and that left Sang Yu vastly impressed.

Sang Yu felt more at ease now. She had been worried that Lin Xinyan would be hard to get along with, or might even despise her.

She did not expect Lin Xinyan to be so congenial.

"Aunt Yu," Lin Xinyan called out, "Please tidy up the room Qin Ya previously stayed in."

Aunt Yu replied, "Understood."

There was not much tidying that needed to be done as the sheets had already been changed. Only the toiletries in the bathroom needed to be replenished.

Seeing there was still some time, Shen Peichuan wanted to step out. He said to Lin Xinyan, "Xinyan, I'll be taking my leave. Please take care of Sang Yu. I'm worried that the matter at the Song family would take a while to resolve, so it would not be a good idea for Sang Yu to be seen there. I can't have her staying elsewhere, so..."

"I get you."

Lin Xinyan understood that Shen Peichuan was concerned that Song Yaxin might not be amenable to parting ways with him, so it might prove quite problematic if Song Yaxin became aware of his relationship with Sang Yu.

Shen Peichuan had thought right.

If Song Yaxin saw Sang Yu being brought home by Shen Peichuan, all hell would break loose.

It was the right call by Shen Peichuan to settle Sang Yu with the Zongs.

Sang Yu nodded. "You go on ahead; do what you have to do."

Shen Peichuan exchanged pleasantries with Zong Qifeng before he left. After Aunt Yu was done with the room, Lin Xinyan brought Sang Yu over. "You'll be staying here. It used to be occupied by a friend of mine. Should you need anything else, feel free to let either Aunt Yu or me know. You must be tired from the long drive. Rest up for a while. We'll let you know when dinner is served."

Sang Yu gripped her sleeves tightly. Even though Lin Xinyan was very hospitable, she was still in an unfamiliar environment. The place was sublimely

done up and the guest room itself was fitted with its own washroom. The opulence of the family made Sang Yu feel a little self-conscious and maladjusted.

“I’m so sorry to impose,” Sang Yu said. She felt bad to have a heavily pregnant Lin Xinyan on her feet tending to her.

“It’s alright. Make yourself comfortable. Peichuan will make alternate arrangements for you in time.”

Lin Xinyan trusted that Shen Peichuan had a plan, as he would not have Sang Yu brought here otherwise.

Sang Yu nodded.

After leaving Sang Yu behind, Lin Xinyan went back to the living room. Cheng Yuwen came up to her and asked quietly. “How old is this girl?”

Lin Xinyan was not sure, so she assumed that Sang Yu was a freshman.

Cheng Yuwen smiled as though she thought Sang Yu a little young.

By comparison, Zong Qifeng was not particularly curious about Sang Yu. He was just glad to see Shen Peichuan unscathed and in a stable relationship. As happy as he was for Shen Peichuan, his focus was on his own grandchildren. He took Zong Yanxi over from his son. “Come, let us continue to play house.”

Zong Yanxi sniffled and nodded, her face still wet with tears. “Okay.”

Zong Jinghao was glad there was someone to look after his daughter. He and left her to his father and helped Lin Xinyan upstairs.

He closed the door behind him before settling his wife down by the side of the bed. “We need to talk.”

“What about?” Lin Xinyan raised her head and asked.



# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 705

Zong Jinghao sat down beside her. He took her hand and placed it gently inside his palm. “I found out who had been sending those messages.”

“Is it the same person who sent me those things the last time?” Though she asked, she was certain that it must have been someone close to the Gu family—someone who was determined to get back at them for landing Gu Bei in prison.

Zong Jinghao nodded.

He remained restless from his conversation with the doctor. Reaching out and feeling her belly, he gently cooed, “Yan...”

“Huh?” Lin Xinyan looked at Zong Jinghao’s clean and defined features. His face was so close that she could even make out the fine hair on it.

Zong Jinghao leaned in to give her a peck on the cheeks. He was relaxed. “It’s nothing. I just wanted to call you that. I’ll have to go out for a while later. I’m not sure when I’ll be back, so don’t wait up.”

Lin Xinyan did not probe. She simply nodded.

Zong Jinghao chose to let her rest in the room as it was too noisy downstairs. Lin Xinyan smiled and urged him along. “Go on. Surely you aren’t thinking that I couldn’t take care of myself?”

She was not a kid anymore.

Zong Jinghao pinched her face playfully. “Aren’t you forgetting to tell me something?”

Lin Xinyan's chest tightened as she wanted to deny it, but she nodded and smiled instead. "What do you want me to tell you?"

Zong Jinghao looked at her intently for a while and finally decided against forcing the issue. He wanted her to have some time to her own thoughts. In the meantime, he would seek out specialists to examine her. If there were no other alternatives, the child would have to be delivered prematurely as he would not want to risk endangering his wife.

If he had to choose between the child and Lin Xinyan, he would prioritize the mother. Without her, how could he have children? Moreover, she was in this position precisely because she had borne him children.

He hooked her towards him with a bend of his elbow and planted a kiss on her lips. "Gotta go."

The corner of Lin Xinyan's lips raised slightly. "Alright."

She held her smile as she watched her husband exit, closing the door behind him.

Lin Xinyan's expression gradually faded as the sound of his footsteps disappeared downstairs. As a mother, she had to place the well-being of the little life in her belly first.

Just like when she did everything to preserve her twins, Zong Yanchen and Zong Yanxi.

She would likewise protect and love this unborn child and look forward to its arrival.

Lin Xinyan wanted to give the baby the healthiest body possible. To deliver the child two months before its due date posed certain risks.

*What if...*

*...the baby turns out to be mentally deficient, or its legs come out deformed?*  
There could be many possibilities.

Lin Xinyan refused to roll the dice on it, so she was reluctant to share with Zong Jinghao what the doctor told her.

She lay down, still unsettled.

Although she was tired, there was nothing she could do to ease her own mind.

Lin Xinyan massaged her own temples in a bid to calm herself.

Zong Jinghao was in a more trying position as he had to choose between his child on the one side and his spouse on the other.

To deliver the child prematurely would harm the child, and to carry the pregnancy to term would be a risk on Lin Xinyan's life.

There was little to choose between the options; he was stuck between a rock and a hard place.

By the time Zong Jinghao arrived at the office, many employees were still working. The lights that enveloped the space made it look like daytime.

His secretary was about to leave for the day. She approached him with a greeting when she saw him come out of the elevator. "Why are you returning at this time, Mr. Zong?"

Zong Jinghao nodded before asking, "Is Guan Jing around?"

"He's in his office. Not sure what's up with him. He's been cooped up inside since coming back before noon." The secretary had never seen Guan Jing so low in spirits. He even avoided contact with her the whole day.

Guan Jing would normally be seen out and about.

He was known to be the second busiest man in the company, after Zong Jinghao.

Zong Jinghao acknowledged her before making his way towards Guan Jing's office. He pushed his way past the door and walked inside.

Guan Jing was on the phone and unaware of anyone coming up behind him.

“Send them to whoever you like. I've told you that I don't care!”

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 706

Gu Huiyuan reacted with incredulity that Guan Jing was willing to forsake his own career and reputation. She had previously thought that he was only acting on impulse.

“Stop being so obstinate, Guan Jing! Don’t you think that I wouldn’t dare!”

Guan Jing scoffed, “Why can’t I be, seeing how you have pushed me to the brink? I can only be obstinate in order to defend this last shred of honor I’m left with.”

“You...”

Gu Huiyuan was flustered.

“I neither want to see you nor speak to you. Go on and do as you wish, and don’t ever call me again!”

With that, Guan Jing ended the call. He thought it inadequate as he fumed, so he proceeded to turn his phone off. Guan Jing breathed heavily as he muttered to himself, “Damn this rich girl! Despicable!”

Zong Jinghao asked calmly, “Who was it that pissed you off?”

When Guan Jing saw Zong Jinghao at his door, he froze.

“Zong... Mr. Zong, when did you get here?” Guan Jing stammered.

Zong Jinghao loosened the tie around his neck and pulled up the chair across the table from Guan Jing. “Not that long ago. I didn’t overhear too much.”

Guan Jing brought himself closer to Zong Jinghao. "I've broken up with my girlfriend..."

"Since when have you got a girlfriend?" Zong Jinghao asked in astonishment.

"We haven't been together that long." Guan Jing was reluctant to discuss this. He felt embarrassed for a grown man like himself to become the target of sextortion. If word were to spread, he would not be able to look anyone in the eye again.

"Mr. Zong." Guan Jing recollected himself and put on a solemn face as he placed his resignation letter on the desk before Zong Jinghao. "Thank you for placing your trust in me and giving me so many opportunities. I wish to take a break..."

"Are you headhunted?" Zong Jinghao took one glance at the letter but left it where it was.

"No. Really, I just wish to take a hiatus..."

"But you told me that you only wish to make more money?" Zong Jinghao scrutinized Guan Jing in a way that made him feel uncomfortable. Guan Jing tried to avoid eye contact. "There's no one. I just want to rest."

"I've heard that the Fuyuan Group has promised you the position of vice president?" Zong Jinghao probed as he swiveled his chair to face Guan Jing.

*Men of talent would naturally be poached.*

"That was several months ago. How did you know?" It was true that such an offer was extended to him but Guan Jing was never tempted. He understood where his own future lay.

Guan Jing then chuckled at himself, "I think I've just asked a silly question."

If Zong Jinghao did not know that his subordinate was being poached, he might as well stop being the boss.

Wanyue Group would not have come so far as it did if Zong Jinghao could not keep tabs on such things.

Zong Jinghao decided to cut to the chase. “Just tell me your real reasons. If you have some thoughts about me, feel free to bring them up.”

Guan Jing shook his head vigorously. There was nothing he could complain about in terms of his treatment at the company.

“Truly, my reasons are personal. I’m really sorry for the trouble I’ve caused, Mr. Zong.”

Zong Jinghao narrowed his eyes. “How long have you been following me, Guan Jing?”

Guan Jing’s reply was prompt. “Eight years.”

Zong Jinghao got to his feet. “Come back to me after you’ve thought this through carefully.”

Zong Jinghao then walked out, leaving Guan Jing stranded. Guan Jing felt deeply ashamed of himself for the problems he has created through his own carelessness.

What he had not counted on was Gu Huiyuan trying to instrumentalize him.

After Zong Jinghao left Guan Jing, he did not leave the building but went straight into his own office.

It was clear to him that Guan Jing was hiding something from him.

This was cause for vexation for Zong Jinghao. With his hands full dealing with Lin Xinyan's situation, he just had no time to dabble in work matters. Guan Jing's resignation could not have come at a worse possible moment.



# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 707

Zong Jinghao tapped his knuckle against his forehead. He knew something was up with Guan Jing but he had no time to look into it. His wife was already in the third trimester and the attending doctor suggested that she should look to deliver the baby within the next two weeks. Zong Jinghao was racing against the clock to have Lin Xinyan examined by a better doctor before that.

He picked up the landline at his office and made a call.

Though the hospital Lin Xinyan visited was already considered the best in the country, Zong Jinghao still felt worried. He could not afford to be negligent, because his wife and child were too important to him.

He requested to meet with Mr. Wang, the head of the hospital.

And Mr. Wang agreed to see him.

Zong Jinghao walked out of the office with his cellphone after he ended the call. He loosened his collar with one hand as he searched through his contact list with the other. He made his representative at the overseas branch of his company to help ask around for capable doctors around the world. It was not that he did not trust local doctors; he just wanted a second opinion.

When he reached his representative, he explained Lin Xinyan's situation.

"I'll send the information over."

Upon hearing that, Zong Jinghao ended the call.

He then pressed for the elevator. As he was waiting, Guan Jing came up to him.

“Mr. Zong.”

Zong Jinghao looked at him. “Are you in such a hurry to leave?”

“No...”

“Let me know when you’ve made up your mind.” The elevator doors opened and Zong Jinghao walked in.

Guan Jing stood where he was with his head bowed. He wanted to come clean with Zong Jinghao, but he was a man, after all, and he wanted to maintain his dignity.

He could not possibly admit to having slept with Gu Huiyuan. Or to confess to being threatened by her using his intimate photos.

He felt that that was something that could only happen to women.

But it so happened that Gu Huiyuan decided to pull that on him.

He tore at his hair in frustration as he still could not bring himself to tell Zong Jinghao everything.

*What an utter disgrace!*

Upon leaving the building, Zong Jinghao went into his car and drove out of the car park. He hit the main road shortly and cruised through the bustling downtown area filled with towering skyscrapers and dazzling neon lights. The city looked much grander than it did during the day.

Zong Jinghao drove straight home.

As he stepped out of his car and was about to enter the house, he spotted someone seated on the lounge chair by the lawn. It was Lin Xinyan.

Zong Jinghao made his way towards her.

She heard him approach but did not turn around. "Back already?"

Zong Jinghao grunted and went over to sit by her.

Lin Xinyan leaned over and rested her head on his shoulder as she watched the stars above.

After what seemed like ages, she spoke up. "I remember vividly being in pain day and night when I had Yanchen and Yanxi. My postpartum diaper had to be swapped out regularly because I could not stop bleeding. My heart ached when I saw those two tiny purplish newborns for the first time. I was shocked and afraid, as it was just the three of us. Without any relatives to lean on, I welcomed them into this world by myself. They were twins and smaller than other children; Yanxi was especially weak. They were dearest to me and I tried my best to give them everything in the absence of a father. No matter what, I hope that you will always place them above everything else, like I do.

Lin Xinyan knew that she could not withhold the truth about her physical condition for long. She was indirectly emphasizing to Zong Jinghao how important her children were to her.

Be it Zong Yanchen, Zong Yanxi, or the unborn child inside of her, they were all the same in her eyes.

She would have given her life for her twins just as she would give her life for this child.

Zong Jinghao's back stiffened. He held his wife by the shoulder, brought her close, and kissed the top of her head. He fully understood what she meant.

*However...*

Lin Xinyan spoke in a low voice in his arms, “The doctor said we need to deliver the baby ahead of schedule. But that comes with certain risks for the child...”

She had to come clean with Zong Jinghao eventually, so she did.

“Your body is more important...”

“Haven’t you understood anything that I’m telling you?”

Lin Xinyan withdrew from Zong Jinghao. Everything she said was to stress how important the child was to her.

“I understand.” Zong Jinghao looked at her. “I feel the same way about the baby as you do.”

If he had to make a choice, he would definitely choose to protect the mother.  
*Without the mother, there would be no child.*

Lin Xinyan’s voice trembled; she spoke weakly and helplessly. “You still don’t get it. A baby delivered prematurely at thirty weeks faces many unknown risks. I would rather risk myself.”

“Lin Xinyan!” Zong Jinghao shook her with agitation by the shoulders. His pain was evident in his eyes. “It’s not a given. There’s a ninety percent chance that the baby would be born healthy.”

He inflated the estimates given by the doctor in the hope that Lin Xinyan would be more convinced.

A tear that welled up in Lin Xinyan’s eye ran down her cheeks and into the corner of her lips. It left a salty taste in her mouth.

“Why must I be pregnant?” She was unable to accept Zong Jinghao’s seemingly blasé attitude.

That ten percent probability was still a concern for her.

What if they were to hit upon this ten percent?

Zong Jinghao held her trembling and fragile body tightly. “I didn’t know that your body is not strong enough to bear children. Had I known, I would never have allowed it.”

He gently rubbed her back and comforted her, “I’m already working on something. Do you trust me?”

“I don’t feel secure about this.” Lin Xinyan choked up.

“I know.” Zong Jinghao enveloped her within his embrace. He, too, could not be at peace with this. Lin Xinyan was the mother, and he the father. Neither of them felt at ease.

But as a man, if he were to lose his composure, who would be there to handle what was to

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 708

“We still have some time. I will find other renowned specialists to examine you and make sure that you have a safe delivery. Don’t be so worried.”

Zong Jinghao rubbed her back gently in a comforting manner.

Lin Xinyan closed her eyes gradually. She was still dazed.

“Be good and leave everything to me.” Zong Jinghao planted a kiss on her forehead and asked tenderly, “Are you sleepy?”

Lin Xinyan shook her head and asked him, “Have you eaten? Shall I ask Mom to leave some food for you?”

“I have eaten.”

Actually, he had not taken his dinner, but he did not have any appetite now.

“Then why don’t you accompany me for a walk?” Lin Xinyan did not wish to return to the room. *It’s too suffocating.*

Zong Jinghao agreed readily and held her hands as they strolled along the roadside; a cool night breeze caressed their skin.

Lin Xinyan slipped her arms into his and asked, “Will you stay at home tomorrow morning?”

Zong Jinghao looked at her in surprise.

Smiling, she reminded him, “It’s the first of September tomorrow.”

*Oh yes! How can I forget about it? I have already missed the opportunity to witness the birth of the kids; there is no way that I will miss their first day of primary school!*

“Don’t we need to prepare anything for their first day of school?” Suddenly, Zong Jinghao felt excited. *My kids will be starting primary school!*

Lin Xinyan cast a disdainful glance at him. “It will be too late if I count on you for the preparations.”

Zong Jinghao was speechless.

*So she has prepared everything already.*

Meanwhile in the Song family.

After dropping by at the police station, Shen Peichuan headed to the Song family house immediately to settle the matter with Song Yaxin.

The entire Song family was shocked to see him. After a long while, Captain Song was the first to recover himself, and he chided Mrs. Song, “Why are you standing at the doorway? Hurry up and let him in!”

Upon hearing Captain Song’s voice, Mrs. Song was jolted back to her senses and quickly invited Shen Peichuan into the house.

“Peichuan, you are finally back. Do you know how worried Yaxin has been during the time you have gone missing? She could neither eat nor sleep well. Look at her. She has become so skinny now because of the worrying.”

Mrs. Song was anxious to put in a good word for her daughter before Shen Peichuan.

But Song Yaxin was still in shock over Shen Peichuan's sudden return. She only managed to utter "Peichuan" as she continued to stare at him in a daze.

Shen Peichuan maintained a composed demeanor and apologized politely, "I am sorry to have made you worry."

"It's fine. I'm so relieved that you're back alive. Do you know how much I cried during the days when you were missing? Even though you and Yaxin are not married yet, I have treated you as my son-in-law long ago. I'm so glad you're home safely." Mrs. Song pulled Shen Peichuan's hand. "Quickly sit down. Have you eaten? Let me make you dinner."

*Yaxin's future is secured that now Shen Peichuan is back!* With that thought in mind, Mrs. Song showered Shen Peichuan with attention.

"It's not necessary. I'm not hungry."

"I should still cook some dinner for you."

"It's really not necessary," Shen Peichuan said firmly.

Captain Song could not stand his wife's hypocrisy any longer and ordered her in a solemn tone, "Keep quiet!"

*Since when has she cried over Shen Peichuan's disappearance? All this while, she has been trying to convince our daughter to forget about him and see someone new.*

He sighed deeply and asked, "Peichuan, what happened? Why did you go missing for so long?"

Shen Peichuan told them everything about his near-death experience, but he purposely left Sang Yu out of the picture.



Captain Song sighed. "It's good that you are safe now."

"Sorry for making you worry."

"It's fine so long as you're back, safe and sound." Song Yaxin disregarded her parents and ran over to hug him.

Shen Peichuan stiffened. "Yaxin."

He tried to push her away but to no avail. Instead, her arms tightened around his body as she said, "Do you know how terrible I have felt for the last few days? I was on the verge of a breakdown! Thank god you have returned!"

Giving up, Shen Peichuan dropped his hands down to his sides and said, "I'm sorry that you have to worry about me. Can you please get off me first?"

But his words made Song Yaxin tighten her embrace. "No, I don't want to let go of you. I'm afraid you will disappear again once I let go."

Shen Peichuan was placed in a predicament by Song Yaxin's behavior.

"Yaxin, there is something I want to tell you." He was a decisive man and wanted to make things clear to her once and for all.

Song Yaxin raised her head to look at him. "What do you want to tell me? Are you proposing to me?"

"No. Yaxin, let's break up," Shen Peichuan said honestly.

Song Yaxin's face darkened immediately, and so did Mrs. Song's. The latter exclaimed in agitation, "Shen Peichuan, do you know what you are saying?"

Shen Peichuan stood up and bowed to her and Captain Song. "I'm sorry, but I can't be together with Yaxin."

Captain Song was not surprised by Shen Peichuan's decision. He had known right from the start that Shen Peichuan did not like his daughter and had only agreed to date her because of him.

"What's the use of your apology? How can you break your promise? You have promised to be together with Yaxin. Have you lost your conscience?" Mrs. Song hollered.

Shen Peichuan apologized repeatedly. *After all, I have gone back on my word indeed.*

"You can't just dump our daughter after agreeing to be together with her..."

"Enough!" Captain Song interrupted his wife as he was irritated with her incessant ranting. Although he was aware of Shen Peichuan's lack of feelings towards his daughter, he did not expect him to break up with her so abruptly. Thus, he demanded an explanation from him. "Tell me. What happened?"

Song Yaxin stared at Shen Peichuan. "Is there another woman?"

*I know him well. He is a responsible man and has even introduced me to his friends and family immediately after accepting me as his girlfriend. He will not suggest a breakup if not for another woman. And he must love that woman a lot.*

"Tell me who she is!" Song Yaxin clenched her fists tightly.

But Shen Peichuan merely replied, "I'm sorry."

"What's the use of apologizing? Can it make my daughter feel better? Shen Peichuan, let me warn you: I will never agree to you dumping my daughter. You heartless creature! To think that we have been so worried about you when you went missing! I can't believe you're suggesting to break up with Yaxin immediately upon your return! Are you even fit to be human?"

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 709

Mrs. Song was so incensed that she might bash up Shen Peichuan anytime.

Embarrassed by his wife's shrewish behavior, Captain Song could feel a headache in the making.

Finally, he said sternly, "Enough! Let's listen to what Peichuan has to say."

Thus, Shen Peichuan admitted outrightly, "I realize that I don't like Yaxin, so..."

"Shen Peichuan, what do you mean? You have promised to be together with my daughter. How dare you claim that you don't like her now!" Mrs. Song tugged at Shen Peichuan's hand as her face flushed with anger. "What do you take my daughter for? Something that you can dump anytime? Shen Peichuan, don't you forget that you'd still be nothing today if not for Yaxin's father!"

Captain Song rubbed his forehead vigorously, feeling ashamed of his wife.

"He is where he is because he is capable!" Captain Song pulled his wife away from Shen Peichuan. "Get back into the room! We don't need you around here!"

Mrs. Song stared at her husband for a second before bawling out loudly, "Are you mad? Yaxin is your daughter! Why are you helping him instead? Shouldn't you stand up for your daughter instead of helping the man who has dumped her?"

"Shut up!"

But Mrs. Song ignored her husband and carried on. To her, Shen Peichuan was undoubtedly the sinner who had done them wrong. *It is all because of my husband that he can rise to the position of deputy chief at such a young age!*

“Shen Peichuan, let me tell you! Don’t you think you can dump my daughter so easily! You must be responsible for her! You have made us a promise, so there’s no way will we allow you to abandon her!” Mrs. Song screamed as she pointed her finger at Shen Peichuan.

On the other hand, Captain Song could not take it any longer and said to Shen Peichuan, “You go back first. Everyone is too agitated now and there is no way we can talk things out peacefully. Let’s talk again when everyone has calmed down.”

Shen Peichuan had intended to make things clear with the Song family today, but it was apparent that it was out of the question now. *Mrs. Song is too worked up today to discuss peacefully.* Hence, he nodded. “Captain Song, I’m so sorry.”

He apologized from the bottom of his heart, feeling that he had done Captain Song wrong.

But Captain Song waved his hand dismissively, not wishing to hear his apology anymore.

“Let’s take a walk. We should talk things out amongst ourselves instead of causing my parents to be worried and upset.” Song Yaxin stood up and walked to Shen Peichuan’s side. “Let’s go.”

“Yaxin, you mustn’t be soft-hearted! He has made you a promise, so he cannot break it!” Mrs. Song reminded her daughter, worried that she might agree to the breakup on impulse.

*Where else could she find another man so compatible with her?*

“I will settle my own relationship matters,” Song Yaxin told her mother.

With that, she pulled Shen Peichuan’s hand and left home. Only when they reached downstairs did she let go of his hand. “Are you happy now that you have caused turmoil in my house?”

She clenched her fists tightly. *How can I not know that Shen Peichuan does not like me? But I'm confident of making him fall in love with me one day!*

But Shen Peichuan merely replied, "I'm sorry."

Song Yaxin hollered suddenly, "I don't need your apology!"

At this moment, a neighbor happened to pass by them and asked in a concerned tone, "Are you guys quarreling?"

Song Yaxin put on a bright smile immediately, slipped her arm into Shen Peichuan's, and turned to face her neighbor. "No, we are just fooling around."

The neighbor smiled. "Young people just like to fool around. I've heard from your mother that you are dating now. When do you intend to get married?"

Song Yaxin cast a glance at Shen Peichuan before replying, "We are not considering that at the moment."

"You are not getting younger anymore, so hurry up. Get married and have a baby soon. I'm going to pick up my kid from school now, goodbye!"

Song Yaxin waved goodbye to her neighbor before pulling Shen Peichuan to an isolated spot to continue their talk.

"Shen Peichuan, you must give me a reason for breaking up with me. You have seen for yourself. The entire neighborhood knows that we are dating. What will they think of me after learning about the breakup? I don't think you are such an irresponsible man, are you?"

But Shen Peichuan remained resolute. "How do you want me to make amends to you?"

"What if I don't agree to the breakup?" Song Yaxin refused to back down, too.

Frowning, Shen Peichuan said, "Please don't be like this."

Song Yaxin scoffed. "So what if I behave in this way? You want to dump me. Don't you think I have the right not to agree to the breakup?"

"Yaxin, I don't want to lay all my cards on the table out of consideration for Captain Song. Let us break up on good terms," said Shen Peichuan in a frosty manner.

Song Yaxin was stunned for a moment. She then asked, "What do you mean?"

"Nothing. I don't like you, so let's break up. Nothing good will come out of our relationship if we continue being together." Shen Peichuan was still adamant about not exposing her for Captain Song's sake.

*After all, Captain Song did not make things difficult for me just now. I'm not an ungrateful person, either. Hopefully, Song Yaxin and I can end things on a good note.*

*Song Yaxin was confused. It's impossible that he has discovered the truth because I have wiped away all the evidence.*

"Are you planning on slandering me just to dump me?" Song Yaxin insisted, refusing to believe that Shen Peichuan had learned of the truth behind her divorce.

Shen Peichuan stared at her coldly. "I will give you one more day to consider your decision. It's beneficial for both of us to break up amicably. I hold Captain Song in high regard and do not wish to embarrass him."

With that, Shen Peichuan turned around and headed toward his car.

Clenching her fists tightly, Song Yaxin trembled in anger as she bellowed, "Shen Peichuan!"



# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 710

Shen Peichuan simply ignored her and drove away in his car, leaving Song Yaxin behind as she stamped her feet in rage.

*It's apparent that he has learned of the truth but doesn't want to expose me for the sake of my father.*

Biting her lip, she had no choice but to watch the car drive away.

*I cannot chase after him. What if he has evidence of the truth behind my divorce? It is my dark past that I cannot risk him disclosing! But I must find out what has made him change his mind! How can his character change so drastically after one incident?*

With that, she returned home in a bad mood.

Meanwhile, in C City.

Qin Ya was still working while Su Zhan rested his head on the table. Staring at her, he asked, "Are you hungry? Shall I get supper for you?"

"Haven't you just taken your dinner?" She replied while studying the clothing designs on her computer screen, trying to figure out which colors best suited them.

Su Zhan smiled. "I'm only worried about you."

"Can you please be quiet? You are like a fly that's buzzing around my ears." Qin Ya shot him a glare. "Get out if you can't stop talking."



Su Zhan went over to her side and squatted down beside her. “Okay, I will stop talking. But let me massage your legs for you.”

Letting go of the computer mouse in her hand, Qin Ya turned around to face him. “Shouldn’t you go home now? Why are you so free every day? Is your law firm about to close down?”

Su Zhan continued massaging her legs while raising his head to smile at her impishly. “You can support me if the law firm closes down.”

Qin Ya raised her legs and put them on his lap before leaning closer towards him. “I don’t like useless men.”

Su Zhan was speechless.

“Don’t worry. I won’t let you sleep on the streets.”

“Wait a minute. Have I agreed to be together with you?”

Su Zhan blinked and looked at her with feigned aggrievement. “How can you go back on your word?”

“What have I promised you?” Qin Ya crossed her legs elegantly and looked at him coldly.

“You promised to give me a chance!” Su Zhan leaped forward to hug her, burying his head in her chest. “Don’t you think of shaking me off!”

Qin Ya tried to push him away. “Get up!”

“No way!” Su Zhan refused to let go. “Let’s register our marriage.”

Qin Ya's eyes clouded over as her heart thumped furiously. But outwardly, she maintained composure as she replied, "I have fallen for your trick last time. There's no way I'll fall for the same trick again!"

"Okay, fine. We won't register our marriage now, but there's also no way I'll let you go!" Su Zhan took a whiff of her scent as his arms tightened around her.

Qin Ya frowned. "Look at you now. Can you be more serious and behave like a man?"

But Su Zhan did not care. "You should know best if I'm a man or not."

Qin Ya was at a loss for words.

"I will get angry if you refuse to let go of me." Qin Ya pretended to be annoyed.

Su Zhan let go of her reluctantly while grumbling in an aggrieved tone, "Can you stop threatening me?"

"You can defy me. I don't expect you to listen to me every time," replied Qin Ya nonchalantly as she turned her gaze back to the computer screen and continued working.

Su Zhan was troubled. *Why is she ignoring me when she has asked me to come over?* "You are too much."

Qin Ya pursed her lips together. "Well, you can give up if you can't take it any longer."

Before she could finish her sentence, Su Zhan grabbed hold of her shoulders suddenly and turned her around to face him. He then planted his lips onto hers.

Qin Ya knitted her brows in pain as her back was pinned against the edge of the table. But she did not push him away and simply lowered her gaze to see that indignant expression on his face.

“Don’t ever say such words again. I’ll be sad,” Su Zhan said solemnly, his face only inches from hers.

Qin Ya caressed his face. “You have also hurt me badly before.”

Su Zhan bowed his head in shame. “Can you please not bring up this matter again?”

Qin Ya swept his hair off his face. “You have hurt me badly last time. Can’t I hurt you now?”

Su Zhan was speechless.

“Ya, I’m serious. Why don’t I move to this city? I can stay by your side and need not shuttle back and forth.” He asked as he rested his head on her shoulder.

Qin Ya stared blankly at the ceiling as she replied in a calm tone, “Let’s discuss this next time.”

*I don’t even know if our relationship will come to fruition.*

*Su Zhan is brought up by his grandma, and he is the only descendant of the Su family. There will be no one to carry on the Su family name if he is together with me. Can his grandma accept me if she knows I can’t have children?*

Qin Ya had stayed with the Su family for a brief period before and was well aware of his grandma’s desire to have a great-grandchild.

At this moment, Su Zhan’s phone rang, but he ignored it as he did not wish to pick up the call.

Qin Ya nudged him. "Your phone is ringing."

Su Zhan buried his face in her shoulder and said gloomily, "I know, but I don't want to pick up the call."

"What if there is an urgent matter? Pick it up now." Qin Ya put her hands into his pocket and passed the phone to him.

Left without a choice, Su Zhan took the phone from her and glanced at the phone screen. *It's from home.*

He picked up the call.

A maid shouted anxiously from the other side of the phone, "Mr. Su! Something terrible has happened! Grandma Su has suffered a fall accidentally!"

Su Zhan sat up immediately. "What happened?"

"I was hanging clothes when Grandma Su felt thirsty and stretched over to take a glass of water from her bedside table. She then fell from the bed by accident."

"Call for an ambulance. I will send people over immediately."

"Sure, I'll get on it."

After hanging up, he called Shen Peichuan immediately. He had gotten Shen Peichuan's new phone number as the latter had sent him a message from his new phone.

Shen Peichuan was driving toward the villa when he received Su Zhan's call.

"Hello."

“Peichuan, my grandma has fallen from her bed. I won’t be able to return so soon. Could you please help to drop by my place to take a look? I will make my way over now.” Su Zhan said anxiously.

“I understand. Don’t worry. I am going over now and will update you about her situation.”

After hanging up the phone, Shen Peichuan turned his car around and headed in the direction of Su Zhan’s house.

Lin Xinyan, who was strolling along the road with Zong Jinghao, caught sight of Shen Peichuan’s car.

“I think that is Shen Peichuan’s car.”

Zong Jinghao looked up, but the car was already gone.

Lin Xinyan frowned. “Why is he leaving again? Hasn’t he made things clear to Song Yaxin?”

Zong Jinghao patted the back of her hand. “Stop worrying over everything.”

*But Lin Xinyan was already thinking to herself. Song Yaxin is no simple woman. She has no qualms accusing her ex-husband of committing adultery when she was the one cheating on him instead. I bet she doesn’t really love Shen Peichuan. She probably thinks that he is a good catch given his bachelor status, upright character, and bright future. That must be the reason why she throws herself at him!*

“Let’s go home.” Zong Jinghao wrapped his hand around her waist. “Are you tired?”

Even though Lin Xinyan said no, they returned home.

Loud wails and the sight of a messy living room greeted them when they opened the door.