

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 781

She stared dumbfounded at the information flashing up right in front of her eyes. It was indeed an ingredient that was claimed to have health benefits in Chinese medicinal terms. However...

It was human placenta.

Qin Ya couldn't accept that she had been consuming such a thing.

Her stomach churned at the sight of the bowl in her hands. Aware of what the soup contained, she felt increasingly nauseous.

Grandma Su urged on, "Drink it up quickly, Ya. The doctor has said that your body's weak. This soup is best for you. Eat up the meat inside as well..."

Ugh... Qin Ya pressed a hand over her mouth.

The stench from the bowl was unbearable. She only felt worse remembering what she read and saw about the ingredient.

Before Grandma Su could continue speaking, Qin Ya couldn't restrain herself anymore. She quickly placed the bowl down on the table and ran to the bathroom. She threw up all the food she had eaten earlier.

Su Zhan ran after her and soothed her back as she vomited. "Is it really that difficult to drink the soup?"

He had no idea what was in the concoction that Qin Ya was made to drink every day. Upon seeing how sick it made her feel each time, he couldn't help worrying about her.

Qin Ya rinsed her mouth. Steadying herself at the sink, she slowly looked up at him. "Su Zhan."

"I'm here. What is it?" He continued patting her back lightly, hoping to relieve her pain.

"I'm afraid I can't go on like this longer... You have to be ready for this," she said with a shaky voice.

She was on the verge of breaking down. Being forced to drink that sickening concoction had been pushing her beyond her limits.

"I've been tolerating it as much as I can. I'm already at my limit; you both have to understand..."

"I know." Su Zhan gently wiped her mouth. Qin Ya looked away. "That soup... I really can't drink it," she muttered weakly.

Su Zhan's hand froze for a second. He slowly retracted his fingers.

"Alright. You back to the room first; I'll talk it out with grandma." He sighed with a heavy heart.

Qin Ya brushed past him as she stumbled towards the bedroom.

"Ya..." Grandma Su called after her.

"Grandma."

Su Zhan interrupted the woman before she could stop Qin Ya. He walked over and began pushing her wheelchair towards her room. "Throw the soup away," he called out to Chen Xue as he wheeled his grandmother on.

Grandma Su widened her eyes. “How dare you! Do you have any idea how difficult it was for me to get my hands on that thing?” she protested as she struggled to turn around in her seat.

The ingredient for the soup had been extremely pricey. On top of that, she wouldn’t have been able to acquire it elsewhere if it weren’t for an insider who had helped pull the strings.

Chen Xue stood conflicted as she watched them. “Should I throw it... Or should I not?”

“No! You cannot throw it away!”

Grandma Su raised her voice.

Su Zhan held fast to his stance this time. “Listen to me. Throw it away,” he insisted to Chen Xue.

Grandma Su trembled with anger. “What do you think you are doing?” she shouted.

Su Zhan ignored her words. He wheeled her into her room and closed the door behind them.

“She’s not willing to drink it, is she?” she continued shouting angrily.

“Grandma, listen to me,” Su Zhan finally spoke. “What did you use in that soup you’ve been giving to Ya?”

While he didn’t know what was in the soup, it indeed smelled foul. Beyond that, it’s odd that Qin Ya felt so repulsed by it to such an extent. There must have been something fishy about the concoction itself.

“I... I paid a huge sum for this. I got someone to help me get those placentas from the hospital...” she started hesitantly.

Su Zhan couldn't believe his ears. “What did you just say?” He stared at her with eyes widened so much as if they were about to fall out of their sockets.

“It wasn't easy at all to get my hands on them!” she exclaimed. She didn't think there was anything wrong with that. She'd only wanted to improve Qin Ya's health for the sake of her future grandchild.

Besides, the hospital was the only place she could obtain human placentas from. There were people who secretly preserved them after labor instead of letting the hospital staff get rid of them. They could be sold at a high price to those who needed them.

Of course, such trade was illegal. These things weren't necessarily available even if one had a lot of money. One had to go through specific channels in order to procure them.

Human placentas... Su Zhan felt as if his mind were about to explode. How could his grandmother go to such lengths to do something so crazy?

“Grandma, would you yourself be able to eat the same thing you gave to Ya?”

“I... I have no need for such supplements myself,” Grandma Su defended.

Su Zhan took a deep breath. His chest burned. Fearing that he might explode at any moment, he suppressed his raging emotions with all his might. “Such a thing... Even someone like me won't be able to eat it, let alone Qin Ya.”

He fell to his knees as he spoke and, tears welled up in his eyes. He placed his hands on Grandma Su's lap and looked up at her. “Grandma... Ya has already agreed to go for surrogacy. What else do you want from her? Do you understand how painful it is for me to be stuck in between you and the woman I love all the time? I don't one any of you to get hurt! Do you intend to continue making us

suffer like this until we end up separating again? We've been going along with your wishes all this while. Can't you be a little more considerate on our behalf?"

"Su... Su Zhan..." Grandma Su stared with her mouth agape.

"Grandma, can you please stop doing this? Please! I beg you!" Su Zhan covered his face in despair.

Grandma Su looked at him as her eyes began to tear up. She couldn't understand his pleas. She meant well towards Su Zhan and Qin Ya; why was she being misunderstood like this?

Why are they so upset when I'm only trying to be kind?

She felt wronged.

"I won't do anything more from now on then. Are you happy with that?" she replied with a trembling voice as she looked away.

Su Zhan crumbled onto the floor. He stared at the air blankly, not uttering a single word.

Moments later, he finally regained his sanity. He stood up quietly, walked out of the room, and closed the door behind him.

He dragged his feet back to his room. Qin Ya was sitting on the bed, waiting in their room the entire time. She had no idea how the discussion between Su Zhan and Grandma Su went.

"Grandma has promised that she won't be giving that soup to you anymore," he said as he walked towards her. "I'm sorry, Ya. It's been tough for you."

He recognized that Qin Ya had been understanding. She never pestered him to do anything that would put him in a difficult position between her and grandma.

The more tolerant she was, the more ashamed he felt.

He slumped onto the bed. "You know... I feel incredibly useless. I don't want you to suffer at all, yet I can't do much on my end to help... I feel unworthy. It sucks." He bent over and rested his elbows on his knees so that Qin Ya couldn't see his face.

"I understand. That's why I don't blame you," Qin Ya replied plainly.

"I know you don't. But I can't forgive myself. If only I could be a little more heartless and determined..."

"In what way? Like abandoning your grandma who raised you?"

Su Zhan let out a resentful chuckle. "Maybe."

Qin Ya landed a smack on his head. "What are you babbling about? If you're the kind of person who'd do such a cruel thing to your own family, I wouldn't have liked you to begin with!" She softened her tone a little as she added, "There's a reason why I've decided that I can entrust the rest of my life in your hands."

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 782

Su Zhan rested his head on her lap and gazed out of the window.

Qin Ya caressed his hair. "What are you thinking about?"

After a long silence, Su Zhan replied, "I had a dream a few days ago."

"What was it about?" asked Qin Ya.

It was a dream about Qin Ya leaving him. After jolting awake, he remained awake the entire night.

He answered, "It was about you."

"What about me?" Qin Ya urged.

I wonder what I was like in his dream.

"You'd said that you'll spend the rest of your life with me," Su Zhan revealed, looking at her.

Qin Ya was speechless.

"Is that the only thing that you think about all day?"

After that, Grandma Su stopped asking Chen Xue to cook soup.

Qin Ya would head to the hospital every day to get injected and examined.

Meanwhile, Lin Xinyan went online to google about the egg retrieval process.

A woman had limited eggs.

According to Qin Ya's situation, her current eggs wouldn't be enough. Later on, she'd need to rely on medication so that her egg follicles would mature faster and get released.

It was common knowledge that all women would release only one egg, each month. Hence, there would only be a maximum of twelve eggs every year. As multiple eggs would be retrieved through the procedure after being stimulated, the patient's body would suffer from the abnormal process.

Lin Xinyan was reading a case online. A woman had retrieved over sixty eggs from her ovaries to produce an IVF baby. She did the procedure twelve times and got injected over a thousand times. During her last pregnancy, her baby's heart stopped beating, while it was merely four weeks old. She was forced to abort the baby.

One could imagine how heartbroken the pregnant lady was.

Such a blow was almost too much to handle.

If it went well, one might succeed after one or two tries.

However, there were cases where couples had to give up, upon failing continuously.

She scrolled down along the screen.

"What are you reading?" Sang Yu asked with a smile.

Lin Xinyan looked up. "Why are you here?"

Sang Yu sat on the edge of her bed and replied, "Peichuan is away on a business trip. I got bored, so I came to visit you."

"Business trip?" Lin Xinyan was surprised to hear that.

"He told me that he's getting a promotion. But before that, he needs to work outstation for two months. Upon his return, he'll get promoted to be the chief."

Shen Peichuan told her to keep this a secret, so she only told Lin Xinyan about it.

She knew that she should have to be careful of her words because of Shen Peichuan's current status.

His superior had that intention, but it was not an official announcement.

However, Lin Xinyan was a close confidant of hers.

Lin Xinyan immediately understood. "He's getting trained."

Sang Yu answered, "I'm not sure."

She glanced at the tablet in Lin Xinyan's hand and noticed the article that the latter was reading. Looking up, she inquired, "Why are you reading this?"

They have three kids. Don't tell me...

Soon, Sang Yu realized that Lin Xinyan wasn't reading this for herself. Rather, she was trying to get more information about IVF as Qin Ya was trying to get an IVF baby.

Sang Yu sighed. *Qin Ya will suffer through a lot.*

Lin Xinyan dimmed the screen and placed her tablet on the desk. "Why are you sighing? You and Peichuan are doing well."

Sang Yu lowered her head shyly. "Yes, we are."

"Peichuan is a great man and he's perfect as a lifelong partner. You'll need to take good care of him." Lin Xinyan chuckled and uttered.

"Of course," replied Sang Yu.

She knew that Shen Peichuan was a reliable man.

"Mommy!" a little girl yelled.

Lin Xinyan glanced at the entrance. Soon, a wild Zong Yanxi rushed in and propped herself on the bed before greeting Sang Yu. "Hello!"

Sang Yu patted her head affectionately.

I wonder who has tied her hair? It's pretty and makes her look like a little princess.

"Mommy, we saw our brother. Why doesn't he look like Yanchen and me?" Zong Yanxi tried to recall the baby's features in her mind. *The baby is tiny and red. He's also wrinkly and ugly!*

"Mommy, did the doctor give us the wrong baby?" Zong Yanxi asked. As everyone in the family was good-looking, she thought that the baby should have been adorable as well.

"Why have you said as such?" Lin Xinyan asked.

"It's because he's ugly!"

Her answer left Lin Xinyan at a loss for words.

Sang Yu giggled, utterly amused.

“He’s still a baby. You’re pretty, so he won’t be ugly.” Sang Yu explained.

“Really?” Zong Yanxi remained doubtful.

“You looked exactly like he did when you were born,” Lin Xinyan revealed.

Zong Yanxi fell silent.

I’m not ugly. I’m my teachers’ favorite at school!

“Mommy, hold me.” Zong Yanxi climbed onto the bed and begged. Her mommy hadn’t held her for quite some time.

Lin Xinyan refused at once.

Her chest had hurt so much that she couldn’t bear to hold her daughter.

“Be good. I’ll hold you when I get back home.”

Zong Yanxi pouted and blinked sadly. “Mommy, are you going to abandon me and Yanchen after giving birth to our little brother?”

“Mhm, I don’t want you anymore. Your imagination is too wild.” Lin Xinyan pinched her cheeks.

“Mommy, that hurts!” Zong Yanxi complained.

Truthfully, it didn’t hurt at all. She was merely pretending to yell out loud.

Sang Yu picked her up. “Let’s have fun outside. Your mommy needs to rest.”

Zong Yanxi wrapped her arms around Sang Yu’s neck and asked innocently, “Will you have a baby with Uncle Shen?”

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 783

The little girl's question was too sudden. Sang Yu was at a loss for words. "Er, not in the near future."

I have two years to go before I graduate. We haven't even consummated our marriage yet. I finished my period a few days ago, but Shen Peichuan had forgotten all about it. I can't tell him that my period is gone, can I?

Outside, Aunt Yu had arrived to visit Lin Xinyan and the baby.

She was talking to Zhuang Zijin. "Let's take shifts. You can take care of the kids at home while I'll take care of Mrs. Zong here."

Zhuang Zijin chuckled. "Are the kids naughty?"

Aunt Yu shook her head. "No, I'm just worried about you. You should take a break at home instead of coming to the hospital every day. The kids are old enough to be obedient. Don't worry. It must be tiring for you."

"Thank you. But I want to take care of my daughter myself," Zhuang Zijin replied and patted Aunt Yu's shoulder.

"Grandma!" Zong Yanxi struggled out of Sang Yu's arms and ran to Zhuang Zijin, while Zong Yanchen scoffed at her.

My sister will always be this childish, huh?

"Sang Yu, have a seat." Upon picking Zong Yanxi up, Zhuang Zijin waved to Sang Yu.

“What a pretty girl. Peichuan is lucky to have her,” praised Aunt Yu. Sang Yu might have been a young girl who had grown up in a broken family, but she was pretty, smart, and sensible. That was enough.

A month later, Lin Xinyan was discharged from the hospital.

The baby was brought home too. After a month, he had fattened up and had grown some hair. If someone picked him up, he would be quick to fixate his gaze on that person. Everyone adored him.

Zong Yanxi was initially afraid that her parents would stop loving her after the birth of her little brother. As it turned out, she was the one who adored her little brother the most. Every day, the first thing she did after coming back home from school was to rush upstairs to see her little brother.

If anyone teased her about taking her little brother away, she would push that person out of the door.

With the baby’s arrival, the house was lively once more.

Lin Xinyan had finally ended her confinement period after one month, but Qin Ya had been suffering throughout the past month.

Upon taking medication and shots for the past month, the doctor found three matured eggs ready for retrieval. It was a painful process. A long needle would be stuck into a woman’s private part to find the exact location of the eggs before taking them out.

Normally, an anesthetic would be given to the patient before the egg retrieval procedure, but for patients like her with less dominant follicles, the anesthetic would affect the success rate of IVF. Besides, the procedure itself was harmful to the patient.

After the surgery ended, Qin Ya was so frail and pale she couldn’t even utter a word.

When Su Zhan entered her ward and tried to talk to her, she didn't even realize he was there as she stared at the ceiling wordlessly.

Upon hearing that the egg retrieval process was successful, Grandma Su told Chen Xue to bring her to the doctor.

Su Zhan remained in the ward to accompany Qin Ya.

He wanted to give her a hug, but her arm had been injected so many times that there were bruises all over it.

"It must hurt a lot." Su Zhan's eyes reddened. "I wish that I could've taken some of your pain."

"I'm thirsty," Qin Ya croaked abruptly.

Sweat was pouring down her face by the end of her surgery, so her entire mouth was dry, as though it was the Sahara desert.

She could feel her belly throbbing with pain, but she couldn't move an inch. Even bending her legs was terribly painful. She had no choice but to lie in bed.

"I'll get you some water." Su Zhan stood up immediately and got her a cup of water. He was afraid that Qin Ya couldn't get up, so he got her a straw, too. Upon placing the straw in the cup, he raised the cup to her lips. "Part your lips."

Qin Ya's pupils moved slightly. Su Zhan waited patiently until she was looking at him. He repeated gently, "Here's the water. Open your mouth."

She sucked on the straw greedily. When the cup was empty, Su Zhan asked, "Do you want more?"

Qin Ya shook her head.

He placed the cup down. “Does it hurt?”

“No,” uttered Qin Ya.

“You’re lying to me. Look at how pale you are! You couldn’t receive anesthetization during the procedure. It must hurt terribly as the needle had pierced your skin.”

The corners of Qin Ya’s lips curled up. “What else can I do?”

Su Zhan offered. “Is there anything that you’d like to eat? I’ll get some food for you.”

“Buy something sweet.” *Anything sweet will do. Sugary foods make people happy, right? I want to eat something sweet now.*

“Okay, I’ll go now.” Su Zhan was about to leave when he realized that he couldn’t leave her alone. “I’ll ask someone to deliver—”

Before he could finish, Chen Xue arrived with Grandma Su. “Deliver what?”

Su Zhan didn’t even spare her a glance as he replied, “Something.”

“That will be too slow. You should head out and buy it yourself.” The old lady gazed at Qin Ya with concern. “Ya, you’ve suffered too much.”

Qin Ya forced out a smile. “It was a necessary procedure.”

“Su Zhan, you should go and buy the stuff that you’ll need now. Xue and I shall be here.”

Su Zhan stood rooted to the spot as he lowered his head. “I’ll ask someone to deliver the stuff.”

Grandma Su flew into a fit of rage. “Su Zhan, what is this? Do you think that I’ll torture your wife?”

“No—”

“Then what is it?” the old lady demanded.

Qin Ya turned her head slightly and closed her eyes. She uttered weakly, “Su Zhan, I don’t want it anymore. I want to take a nap now.”

“What does she want you to buy?” Grandma Su inquired.

Su Zhan tucked Qin Ya in and urged, “Grandma, let’s go out so that she can rest.”

Grandma Su was utterly furious. “You haven’t answered my question!”

“What do you want me to answer?” *My grandma is turning into a stranger.*

“Fine. Anyway, you don’t respect me anymore.” She called out, “Xue, bring me home.”

Right then, the doorbell rang.

“Who is it? I’ll open the door.” Chen Xue walked toward the door.

It was a delivery man.

The delivery man wearing a helmet raised the lunchbox in his hand. “Is there a Ms. Qin Ya here?”

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 784

“Yes, she’s here. What is this?” Chen Xue glanced at the lunchbox.

The delivery man replied, “Oh, I’ll need her to sign the delivery note.”

Su Zhan came over and offered, “Let me sign it.”

The delivery man handed him the lunchbox and the delivery note. Upon signing the note, Su Zhan took the box and questioned, “Who sent this?”

“I don’t know about that,” admitted the delivery man, taking his leave.

Su Zhan brought the lunchbox in and placed it on the table before opening it.

Qin Ya turned over slowly. “What is this?”

“Food.” Upon opening the box, Su Zhan took everything out. There were some delicate desserts in the box which were prepared and wrapped up nicely.

“Desserts. You’d wanted some sweet stuff, right? Here.” Su Zhan was delighted. The desserts were delivered right when Qin Ya had wanted to eat sweet stuff. He had no idea as to who delivered it, but it didn’t matter to him.

Su Zhan took out two yummy looking desserts.

Qin Ya didn’t take her pick. Instead, she asked, “Who sent these?”

“The delivery man had no idea either. Did Xinyan send these because she had known about your surgery today?” Su Zhan made a guess. It should be someone they know.

Qin Ya's lashes fluttered, but Lin Xinyan was the only one who she could think of. She had lost her appetite because of Grandma Su, so she replied, "I don't feel like eating now. I'm going to take a nap."

Su Zhan understood her intentions immediately. "Okay. I'll wait for you outside."

Grandma Su had already left with Chen Xue.

Su Zhan closed the door and waited outside the ward.

Qin Ya was exhausted. She was about to fall asleep when her phone beeped with a notification. She didn't move or take her phone. After a while, her phone beeped again. Hesitating, she reached out for her phone. The sender of those texts was Shao Yun.

The first text was a GIF of a shocked dog. The next text read: *Have you received my gift?*

Qin Ya replied: *What gift?*

The desserts. You texted me a few days ago and told me about your surgery. I've heard that it was a hard one, so I bought some desserts for you to cheer you up. Didn't you receive them?

Qin Ya glanced at the pretty desserts on the table as her heart warmed up. She was easily touched, as the man was showing her his concern when she weak and frail.

Her lips curled up as she replied: *Yes, I've received them.*

Shao Yun asked in response: *Are they sweet?*

Her reply was swift: *Yes.*

She added: *Very sweet.*

Shao Yun sent a crying emoji with the text: *Being pretty isn't my fault.*

Qin Ya chuckled while staring at her phone's screen.

Shao Yun sent another text: *I was bitten by a dog.*

Qin Ya hurriedly typed out her response: *Are you alright?*

Shao Yun: *I'm fine. I bit the dog until it died.*

Qin Ya: ...

Shao Yun: *Ha! Am I fiercer than the dog?*

Qin Ya smiled, amused at his antics.

Shao Yun sent her a reassuring text in return: *Rest well. Don't feel stressed out. It's the 21st century, so it's fine not to have kids. Look, plenty of celebrities don't have kids. Don't feel pressured, okay?*

Qin Ya covered her mouth as tears welled up in her eyes. She sniffled and responded: *Okay.*

Shao Yun: *Remember the suit you'd designed for the lady previously? She came to our shop yesterday and asked for you. I told her that you were busy. Your work had been acknowledged. You're the best!*

Qin Ya stared at the screen silently.

Soon, Shao Yun sent another text: *Rest well. You can talk to me if you need me. I'll always be free.*

Qin Ya: *Sure.*

Her mind went blank for a few minutes before she finally set her phone down.

Meanwhile, Zong Jinghao was heading home after finishing his work. He had to cancel two appointments.

Yanxi and Yanchen were at school, while the adults at home kept hovering around the newborn baby.

Aunt Yu adored the little boy.

Even Zong Qifeng showered his affection on him. As he hadn't participated in Yanchen and Yanxi's childhood, he was trying to make up for it.

The baby spent most of the day sleeping, but Aunt Yu loved to pick him up. Every time she did that, Zong Qifeng would say, "You should go and prepare his milk. Let me hold him."

As his older grandchildren were at school, he wanted to take care of the baby.

Aunt Yu was upset as she handed the child to him.

The baby is asleep! How can he drink milk? Evidently, this old man wants to hold him.

Zhuang Zijin told Lin Xinyan, "To think about it, I pity Yanchen and Yanxi. I had to take care of them alone and I didn't even have time to hold them in my arms. They had always been on their own beds."

She had to wash the diapers and baby clothes after the twins had fallen asleep. Sometimes, both of them would wake up at the same time and wail. She had to hold them both to soothe them.

However, this baby was lucky because everyone doted on him.

Lin Xinyan held her mother's hand. "Mom, thank you for bringing the twins up."

"I'm your mom. You don't have to be so polite about this."

Lin Xinyan grinned and took her bag. "I'm leaving now."

As Qin Ya would be going to the hospital today, she had decided to visit her. Qin Ya had no other relatives in this country, so Lin Xinyan was her only relative here.

Zhuang Zijin reminded her. "You've just ended your confinement period. Be careful."

Lin Xinyan nodded.

When she exited the house, her driver was already waiting for her. He opened the door for her to enter the car.

Not long after she had left, the door to the villa opened. Zhuang Zijin was folding the baby clothes that she had just washed. As she thought that it was Lin Xinyan who had returned after forgetting something, she spun around and asked, "Did you forget something—"

Before she could finish, she spotted Zong Jinghao and stopped. "You're back?"

Zong Jinghao replied, "Yes."

"You're back early today," commented Zhuang Zijin.

"I have not been that busy recently," he answered before he headed over to Zong Qifeng, who was holding his grandson near the window.

Reaching out, he said, "Let me hold him."

Zong Qifeng merely looked at him and asked, "Have you washed your hands yet?"

Zong Jinghao was speechless.

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 785

22/06/2021 by [Novel Heart](#)

He went to the bathroom to wash his hands using soap before taking off his blazer. When he came back, Zong Qifeng asked, “Are you that free? Why are you back so early?”

Zong Jinghao was at a loss for words once again.

“Take a break.”

Hence, Zong Jinghao sat there and watched, as his father played with his son.

Zhuang Zijin placed the folded clothes on the sofa. “Did you come back early to see your son?”

“Upon finding out the twins were mine, I was so excited. Hence, I’m terribly excited now too,” Zong Jinghao told her.

The little baby is my son.

After the baby was born, he was sent to the neonatal department. Zong Jinghao had to change into a new set of clothing before visiting the newborn baby. The tiny baby was in an incubator. His entire body was green like a huge rat. The medical equipment was hooked to him to record his vitals. It was a miracle that he had managed to survive and recover that swiftly.

It was amazing.

He was an atheist, but the moment he saw his son, he couldn’t help but thank the heavens for allowing his son to arrive in this world safely.

If his son had died, he would blame himself for the rest of his life.

After all, he had signed the consent form to save the adult instead of the baby.

“Where’s Yan?”

He hadn’t seen her upon his return, back home.

“She went to visit Ya,” explained Zhuang Zijin with a sigh. She pitied Qin Ya for what she had to go through.

“Look, he’s smiling!” Suddenly, Zong Qifeng exclaimed.

The baby’s eyes were shut. He was clearly asleep, but his tiny lips were curved up.

Aunt Yu rushed over at once.

Unfortunately, when she arrived, the baby was no longer smiling. Aunt Yu was about to express her dissatisfaction when the baby smiled once again.

“Oh, how adorable! He must be dreaming about something good. You’re so happy, huh? Are you dreaming about your wife?”

Zhuang Zijin was about to head upstairs with the folded clothes when she heard that. “He’s still a baby.”

“Twenty years later, he’ll be a handsome lad. He’ll have a girlfriend by then,” responded Aunt Yu.

Zhuang Zijin chuckled. *That’s still a long way to go.*

Aunt Yu bemoaned, “I wonder if I’ll get to see that.”

“You’ll live till a hundred years old,” uttered Zhuang Zijin.

Aunt Yu grinned at her words.

That night, after Zong Yanchen and Zong Yanxi returned from school, the latter claimed her baby brother for herself again. She laid beside his bed, poking his cheek and patting his head while saying, “This is my little brother.”

A calm Zong Yanchen sat beside her with his hands folded. “Daddy, what does it feel like to be a father?”

Zong Jinghao responded coolly, “This isn’t my first time. I’ve already gotten used to it.”

“What about you? How does it feel like to be a brother?” he added.

Zong Yanchen’s reply was cool. “This isn’t my first time. I’ve gotten used to it.”

It rendered Zong Jinghao speechless.

That night, Lin Xinyan didn’t join them for dinner. Zong Qifeng monitored the kids as they did their homework.

Aunt Yu wanted to hold the baby, so Zhuang Zijin was in charge of washing the dishes.

The baby sucked on his milk bottle vigorously. He had finished twenty milliliters of milk in little to no time at all.

Aunt Yu put the bottle away and wiped the baby’s mouth. Upon finishing his milk, the baby fell asleep.

“Oh, you’re like a little piglet who falls asleep after eating.”

Zhuang Zijin came over to take the milk bottle away for cleaning and sterilization. She heard Aunt Yu's comment and laughed. "He's just a baby. He only eats and sleeps so he can grow up."

Aunt Yu chuckled. "Who does he resemble?"

"Jinghao," Zhuang Zijin replied.

"I think he that he resembles Mrs. Zong. If a son looks like his mother, he's blessed," Aunt Yu declared.

"He'll be blessed no matter who he resembles. Look, all of us dote on him. Besides, I think he'll be a handsome boy if he resembles Jinghao," returned Zhuang Zijin with a smile.

There was a saying that mothers-in-law usually liked their sons-in-law the more they interacted with them. Indeed, Zhuang Zijin thought that her son-in-law, Zong Jinghao, was nothing short of perfect.

"Hey, aren't you Mrs. Zong's mother? Isn't she pretty?" Aunt Yu exclaimed. *How can she belittle her own daughter?*

Zhuang Zijin wasn't belittling her own daughter. Rather, she thought that it would be strange for her grandson to look like her daughter. Hence, she hoped that the baby would take after Zong Jinghao's manly looks.

"No matter who he resembles, he won't be an ugly baby," concluded Aunt Yu.

Zhuang Zijin nodded in agreement before leaving with the empty milk bottle.

At night, Lin Xinyan would take care of the baby herself. Zhuang Zijin had offered to help, but she insisted on taking care of the baby for now.

When it was bedtime, Aunt Yu brought the baby upstairs.

Zong Jinghao was alone in his room. He had taken a shower and had changed into his pajamas. Sitting beside the window, he flipped through a document in his hand.

His legs were crossed elegantly. Half of his handsome profile was in the dark, while the other half was visible under the light.

Aunt Yu placed the sleeping baby in the bed and asked gently, "Mrs. Zong isn't back yet?"

"She'll be back later." Lin Xinyan had called earlier to inform him that she would be staying with Qin Ya because no one was with her.

Heading out, Aunt Yu closed the door behind her.

After a while, the baby began to sob.