

“Cheng-Cheng, what’s wrong?”

“Why are you even more excited than I am?”

“Have you been subdued by his power and authority?”

“Well, I am not surprised. Since ancient times, women have always loved great men. After this fight, Mr. Chu’s name will spread throughout Jiangdong. From now on, no one will be able to rival his influence in Jiangdong.”

“If you can become his wife, then surely you will be the most fortunate woman in the world?”

When she looked at Qiu Mu-Cheng, who was shaking all over with agitation, Su Qian could not help but exclaim feelingly.

As she said this, Su Qian continued to stare dazedly at the slim back view of the young man who was being surrounded by the leaders of Jiangdong. Just then, both infatuation and longing could be seen on her exquisite face.

“Cheng-Cheng, I really want to squeeze to

the front and see what this Mr. Chu looks like.”

“Look at how slim his body is. He also has a tall and straight figure. So even though we can only faintly see his back view, I can guarantee that he looks good from the front too.”

“Do you know how to judge a man’s attractiveness? His disposition is weighted at seventy percent of the score, his figure at twenty percent and his looks take up the final ten percent.”

“Just by looking at his back view and disposition, I can tell you that he has at least scored ninety points out of a hundred.”

“Arrgh~”

“But I really want to go to the front and look at Mr. Chu’s face~”

“This is all my stupid brother’s fault! He was the one who gave us tickets for the very back row!”

“I am so mad at him~”

Su Qian kept on complaining. She was almost driven to a state of frenzy by her regret and anger.

This Mount Tai Hall was enormous. And the girls' seats were at the corner of the very last row at the back. That was why, from the very beginning to the end, Su Qian and Qiu Mu-Cheng could only see a blurred figure of this Mr. Chu. They could not even see what brand of clothes he was wearing, let alone his face.

However, while Su Qian was still complaining, something unexpected happened. Qiu Mu-Cheng, who had been trembling all over, suddenly stood up for some unknown reason. And then she started running recklessly toward the stone platform at the center of the hall.

“Cheng-Cheng?”

“What on earth are you doing?”

“Are you crazy?”

“I was talking nonsense earlier! Are you really going to run up there?”

Su Qian was nearly scared witless when

she saw what her friend was doing.

She had always thought that Qiu Mu-Cheng was a mature and reserved girl. The latter would never chase after celebrities like one of those star-struck fans. Even if a popular TV idol were to appear before Qiu Mu-Cheng, Su Qian was confident that her friend would not even glance at him or be affected in the slightest.

But today, Qiu Mu-Cheng's action had exceeded her expectation.

Su Qian had only casually talked about wanting to look at Mr. Chu's face, so she had not imagined that her friend would actually run to the front to look at the man's face.

At that moment, Su Qian had been scared witless.

What kind of place was this?

It was where all the VIPs were gathered together.

Master Li Er and Master Lei San were also here.

Each and everyone of them was an overlord who controlled his own territory.

And even though Su Qian's father was also a big shot, she knew her own limits. She knew that, even with her family background, there was no way she could afford to offend any of the VIPs here.

If even she could not afford to offend them, then Qiu Mu-Cheng most definitely could not.

"Cheng-Cheng, you come back right now!"

"Don't go~"

"We can't afford to offend these people!"

"You might even invite destruction upon our families~"

Su Qian stood up and tried to pull back her friend, but it was of no avail. Something had come over Qiu Mu-Cheng. She flung away Su Qian's hand and continued to run forward recklessly.

From the beginning to the end, her beautiful eyes had never moved away from the slim figure at the center of the hall.

She could not explain why but, even though she could not see his face clearly, Qiu Mu-Cheng had felt an impulse rise up within her the moment this person stood up from among the crowd.

Right now, Qiu Mu-Cheng could no longer suppress the impulse. So without a care for the consequences, she continued to run forward.

She wanted to see.

She had to see.

Was this “Mr. Chu” Ye Fan or not?

“Mm?”

“Where did this crazy woman come from?”

“Damn! You stepped on my foot, you bitch~”

“My Coke! You knocked over my Coke~”

“Are you crazy?”

Along the way, the sound of scoldings from the surrounding crowd drifted to her ears. But she pretended not to hear

anything.

Nobody could stand in her way and nobody could halt her advance. Her reddened eyes were resolute as she stared fixedly at the back of the person standing at the front. Inwardly, she kept on screaming over and over again.

Ye Fan, is that you?

Are you really Mr. Chu?

Nobody could understand how Qiu Mu-Cheng was feeling right now. She did not even dare to imagine that Ye Fan could actually be Mr. Chu. The former was the submissive and oft-bullied live-in son-in-law of the Qiu family, while the latter was standing at the peak of the power structure in Jiangdong and currently receiving adulation from all the leaders in the province.

But, they looked too alike.

Their back views, their contours and even their hair styles looked so alike. The only things Mr. Chu did not have in common with Ye Fan were probably his clothes and indomitable presence.

However, when Qiu Mu-Cheng reached the front row, she was stopped by the security guards.

“Let me go! You people, let me go~”

“Ye Fan, Ye Fan~ You bastard!”

“Turn around and look at me~”

“Ye Fan~”

But Qiu Mu-Cheng’s voice was quickly submerged by the hubdub from the surrounding crowd.

“Mm?”

At the front, Ye Fan, who had been preparing to leave with Chen Ao and company, suddenly stopped in his tracks.

Chen Ao and company were confused, so they turned to look at him and asked respectfully: “Mr. Chu, what’s wrong?”

“I thought I heard someone calling for me?” Ye Fan turned his head and looked around.

Immediately afterward, a waft of perfume

drifted over to him and the graceful figure of a beautiful girl leapt into Ye Fan's arms.

"Fan, you are awesome~"

"I knew it! My Fan is the world's strongest."

Chen Nan grabbed onto Ye Fan's arm and spoke excitedly. She looked as happy as a sparrow in summer.

"Nan-Nan, don't be rude to Mr. Chu!"

"You are so ill-mannered~"

Chen Ao, who was standing nearby, started to coldly rebuke his daughter.

But Ye Fan waved his hand dismissively and said: "Nan-Nan is just like a sister to me. Siblings should not be acting reserved toward each other."

Afterward, Ye Fan looked at Chen Nan and shook his head with a smile: "So you were the one who was shouting for me."

"Let us leave together," Ye Fan said softly.

And the group went into the reception lounge at the hall.

“Let me go! You people, let me go~”

Meanwhile, Qiu Mu-Cheng was still struggling and trying her best to push away the security guards.

“Miss, this is a private area and entry is prohibited. Please cooperate with us.”

But Qiu Mu-Cheng simply turned a deaf ear to whatever the guard said.

In the end, she opened her mouth and bit down on his hand.

“Arrgh~”

As he screamed in pain, he retracted his arm and Qiu Mu-Cheng took the opportunity to dash past the guard. And then she started running again.

Her eyes were red and there was a stubborn look on her exquisite face. As she ran, she yelled toward the front:

“Ye Fan, is that you?”

Chapter 153 Ye Fan, Is That You?



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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But Qiu Mu-Cheng was left disappointed.

After she had dashed past the guards, the place where Mr. Chu had been standing was already empty.

So, in the end, she did not get the chance to look at Mr. Chu's face. Afterward, more guards arrived at the scene and restrained her once again.

The reception lounge.

Ye Fan was seated calmly, while Chen Nan was beside him to keep him company.

Chen Ao, Li Er and the other leaders were all present.

Apart from the sound of the cold wind blowing outside the window, the room was completely quiet.

Meanwhile, Zhao Wu-Ji was standing in front of the assembled Jiangdong leaders with his head bowed. His expensive suit was still speckled with Wu He-Rong's blood.

After the latter's corpse had been kicked off the platform by Ye Fan, the blood had

gotten onto Zhao Wu-Ji's suit.

Undoubtedly, Ye Fan's majestic might had already scared Zhao Wu-Ji witless.

At this moment, as he stood in the room, he was shaking all over. There was no trace left of the arrogance he had shown Ye Fan when the latter had just arrived at Anning County.

"You old bastard! Get on your knees now!"

Li Er sneered, walked forward and kicked Zhao Wu-Ji to the floor.

"Li Er! How dare you kick me? I am the number one..."

"Go screw your number one!"

Before Zhao Wu-Ji could finish his sentence, Li Er slapped him so hard in the face that it went crooked.

"Do you still think this is the old Jiangdong?"

"This new Jiangdong only has one master and that is Mr. Chu."

“You can only be the number one tycoon if Mr. Chu recognizes you as such. If he disapproves, then you are nothing!”

As he spoke, Li Er slapped Zhao Wu-Ji again. This time, the left side of the latter’s face went crooked.

“Damn it! This feels good!”

It looked like Li Er was getting addicted to slapping Zhao Wu-Ji. Just then, he was furiously smacking the former number one tycoon with both his left and right hands.

In the past, Zhao Wu-Ji had wielded enormous influence as the number one tycoon of Jiangdong. And Li Er had often suffered disadvantages at his hands. One year, the two had gotten into a dispute, and Zhao Wu-Ji had retaliated by ordering his underling to slap Li Er in the face.

“Zhao Wu-Ji, when you slapped me back then, I put up with it.”

“Because I knew, one day, I would be able to repay the favor many times over.”

“And now, I have done it!”

Li Er laughed sinisterly and kicked Zhao Wu-Ji to the floor again.

Meanwhile, the latter's underlings were just standing around as they witnessed the beating of their employer. Their hearts were filled with terror and none of them dared to speak a single word.

After all, Ye Fan was just watching nearby.

They had already seen Ye Fan's ruthlessness for themselves. So there was no way they would dare to do anything rash in front of him.

In the end, Zhao Wu-Ji decided to submit to his captors. He went down on his knees and apologized to Ye Fan in a panic.

"Mr... Mr. Chu, I was ignorant and have failed to recognize your greatness. I hope you will be magnanimous and forgive me this once."

"In future, I, Zhao Wu-Ji, will follow your every bidding."

Zhao Wu-Ji's piteous voice resounded through the room.

However, instead of replying, Ye Fan peeled a grape and handed it to Chen Nan.

“Thank you, Fan~” Chen Nan giggled and her lips curved into a crescent shape.

Li Er was torn by anguish when he saw this.

Chen Ao, you wily old fox! But I have to hand it to you. Using a beautiful woman to get close to Mr. Chu is a smart move.

And he regretted not bringing his sister along. If he had done so, then he could have followed Chen Ao’s strategy and used his sister to get closer to Ye Fan.

“Mr... Mr. Chu, please say something?”

Zhao Wu-Ji was almost ready to cry. He felt like he was a convict awaiting sentencing. The feeling of waiting for something unknown to happen was one of the most terrifying experiences in the world.

After a long while, Ye Fan shook his head with a smile.

“Follow my every bidding?”

“Are you more loyal than Li Er?!”

“Are you more resourceful than Chen Ao?!”

“Is your family and background more powerful than Lei San’s?!”

“There are so many capable people in Jiangdong and I have subordinates who are more capable than you. So tell me. Why would I want to keep you around?!”

In a voice as cold as ice, Ye Fan unleashed a series of questions on Zhao Wu-Ji. When he spoke, the air of authority he exuded towered high into the heavens and his forceful words shook through the room, resonating with all who heard him.

Zhao Wu-Ji paled immediately and panic filled his eyes.

“Mr. Chu, please don’t~” he pleaded as he kowtowed over and over again.

“I will give you money! I will give you half of my fortune! As long as you spare my life~”

Zhao Wu-Ji kowtowed in a panic and pleaded piteously. But Ye Fan had no intention of letting the former number one

tycoon off the hook.

“Half of your fortune?” the young man sneered.

“What a joke.”

“Do you think you have the right to negotiate with me right now?”

Ye Fan retorted with a question and continued to shout coldly: “Zhao Wu-Ji, you should never have provoked me.”

“Chen Ao, where is the coffin Mr. Zhao gave me earlier?”

“When it gets here, go break his legs and throw him into the coffin. Afterward, send him out of Jiangdong.”

“After today, there will be no Zhao Wu-Ji in this province.”

Ye Fan’s words were like a death sentence to Zhao Wu-Ji.

The latter went into a state of despair immediately and started pleading piteously. But there was no way Chen Ao and company would give Zhao Wu-Ji a

chance to get away.

“Take him away!”

Chen Ao barked an order in a cold voice that was completely devoid of pity. An instant later, his underlings dragged the former number one tycoon out of the room.

As the saying goes, winners become kings while the losers become bandits. Since ancient times, power struggles had always been brutal.

Today, with Ye Fan’s backing, Chen Ao had emerged victorious in this power struggle. But the latter had no doubt that, if their situations were reversed, his plight would be even more piteous than Zhao Wu-Ji’s.

After they had removed the former number one tycoon from the room, Ye Fan exhorted Li Er, Chen Ao and Lei San to pay a visit to the major western cities of Jiangdong tomorrow. Once there, their task was to take over the properties that had been previously held by Zhao Wu-Ji.

“Do it in my name.”

“I will be interested to see if there is anyone in Jiangdong who has the guts to oppose me?!!”

Ye Fan’s words were awe-inspiring and the whole room was filled with his soul-stirring presence.

Li Er and company agreed to do so immediately. And they promised that they would definitely do a good job.

In the past, under the leadership of Zhao Wu-Ji, the eight cities of western Jiangdong had always rivaled and opposed the Eastern Faction led by Chen Ao.

Since Zhao Wu-Ji had been chased out of Jiangdong by Ye Fan, there was nobody left to lead the Western Faction. Now that they had Ye Fan’s backing, it would be the easiest thing in the world for Chen Ao and company to move in and subdue Zhao Wu-Ji’s former underlings.

“Mr. Chu, I have brought these ignorant bastards here.”

“Quick, get on your knees!”

Ye Fan was about to leave and return to Yunzhou after he had settled the matter involving Zhao Wu-Ji but, at this moment, Jin Bao and Yin Bao suddenly pushed open the door and kicked three persons into the room.

“Mr... Mr. Chu, we... we were wrong. We... we were really wrong~”

One of them was none other than Liu Jia-Wei, the person who had coveted Chen Nan and set Ye Fan in a trap. The other two members of the group were Wang Yu and his niece, Li Xiao-Hong.

When they saw Ye Fan, Wang Yu and Liu Jia-Wei scared witless. They fell on their knees right away and started begging for mercy.

When Chen Nan saw this, she stepped forward to look at Wang Yu and company.

“Uncle Wang. Young Master Liu. Didn’t I tell you earlier? My Fan is definitely not a poor person. He is somebody you cannot afford to offend,” she said with a smile.

“You didn’t believe me then. You even said my Fan was a loser from the countryside

and a piece of trash.”

“Now, do you believe me?”

Chen Nan’s words were filled with playfulness.

“I do! I believe you now!”

“We have behaved like snobs and failed to watch our tongues. Please, I am begging you. Mr. Chu. Madam Chu. Please spare us this once for Xiao-Hong’s sake?”

Wang Yu had already started crying; his tears and snot were freely mingling together on his face.

And Liu Jia-Wei had already turned as white as sheet.

Until now did the pair finally realize just what kind of VIP they had offended.

And the regret in their hearts was replaced by panic.

As for Li Xiao-Hong, she was also kneeling on the floor alongside her uncle and Liu Jia-Wei. Her head was bowed and she did not dare to speak a single word.

Earlier, Jin Bao and Yin Bao had heard about Liu Jia-Wei's rudeness from Chen Nan. So the duo had volunteered to go capture and bring the reckless offenders here.

Because they had found Li Xiao-Hong together with Wang Yu, Jin Bao and Yin Bao had also brought her along.

"Please do get up."

Ye Fan smiled, walked over to where Li Xiao-Hong was and gently helped her up.

"Thank you, Mr. Chu. Thank you, Mr. Chu~" Wang Yu and Liu Jia-Wei thought that Ye Fan was speaking to them; they felt relieved as if they had been pardoned and started to stand up.

Right away, Jin Bao kicked one of the ignorant fools while Yin Bao kicked the other.

"Did we say you could stand?"

"Get on your knees!"

"I~I~" Liu Jia-Wei and Wang Yu burst into tears. They went down on their knees,

completely overwhelmed with panic.

Fortunately, on account of Li Xiao-Hong, Ye Fan did not give them too hard a time and only gave them warnings.

When they were leaving, Ye Fan specially singled out Liu Jia-Wei and shouted after him: "Young Master Liu, remember. The Eiffel Tower is in France and penguins are found in the South Pole. If you can't remember these facts, then please do not try to show off in future."

"Isn't it better to be a person who is peaceful, kind and who always has a smile on his face?"

Ye Fan sat on the sofa with a faint smile on his delicate face. At this moment, he looked just like a completely harmless youth.

But everyone present knew what sort of majesty this ordinary-looking young man was hiding behind his delicate features.

Since all matters had been resolved, Ye Fan started to prepare to return to Yunzhou.

“Mr. Chu, are you in a hurry?”

“Since you are already at the foot of Mount Tai, how about letting Nan-Nan accompany you sightseeing for a couple of days before you leave?” Chen Ao said with a smile.

Ye Fan shook his head and replied: “No. That woman back home is still angry with me. I have to get back soon and placate her.”

Ye Fan smiled helplessly. And when the surrounding people heard this, they giggled in response. They had not imagined that the Mr. Chu who dominated over Jiangdong would turn out to be such a family-oriented man.

However, just then, someone came in from outside the room.

“Mr. Chu, just now a crazy woman in the hall kicked up a fuss and insisted on seeing your face.”

“I am afraid she would cause you offence so I had her restrained. She is awaiting your judgement right now.”

Chapter 154 A Good Family-oriented Man



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Jin Bao and Yin Bao spoke respectfully to Ye Fan, and both of them looked eager to get credit for the work they had done.

When Chen Nan heard this, she smiled broadly at Ye Fan.

“Fan, at a crucial moment, you have single-handedly turned the tide of defeat at today’s tournament.”

“At that moment, your heroic bearing and kingly spirit must have mesmerized countless young ladies among the spectators.”

“To think, you already have a fan girl chasing after you so soon after the fight. I bet she will want to get your autograph later on. Maybe she will even throw herself at you?”

“Since Mu-Cheng is not around, you should not take the opportunity to misbehave. Otherwise, I will tell your wife about it. And then she will make you kneel on a washing board.”

Chen Nan spoke as if she was narrating a joke. And her eyes, that were nearly curved into two crescent shapes, were brimming

with laughter.

Well, that was the truth. In the eyes of many people, Ye Fan had already become synonymous with the power structure in Jiangdong. Not only did he have peerless majesty, he was also standing at the peak of the power structure in the province. And after the duel with Wu He-Rong, he had gained renown throughout Jiangdong at a very young age.

Who knew just how many girls would be willing to offer themselves to such a promising young man like him? Who knew just how many girls out there were yearning to become his wife?

One could only imagine just how many temptations would appear around Ye Fan from now on.

Chen Nan was genuinely worried for Qiu Mu-Cheng. She was worried that Ye Fan, who was like a big brother to her, would succumb to the charms of another woman.

“You little girl~”

When he heard that Chen Nan was

planning to tell on him to his wife, Ye Fan laughed a forced laugh and scratched the girl's nose dotingly.

"Alright alright alright. You are really scary, you know?"

"I will not be meeting this fan girl."

"But let us be clear on something. You must not badmouth me in front of Mu-Cheng, okay?"

"She is still mad at me. If you sow discord between us now, then the shit will definitely hit the fan."

Ye Fan laughed forcedly. At this moment, he looked just like a suffering husband who was being bullied by a domineering wife. Before he left, he instructed Jin Bao and Yin Bao to let the fan girl go.

"Just tell her I am busy. And that perhaps we can meet each other some day if we are fated to do so."

"Remember, don't make things difficult for her."

After leaving his instruction, Ye Fan

followed Chen Ao and company through the VIP passageway and left the Mount Tai Hall.

Meanwhile, back at the hall, Qiu Mu-Cheng was still kicking up a fuss about wanting to meet Mr. Chu.

“Miss, Mr. Chu has already left. I am afraid you will not be able to see him.”

“Before leaving, Mr. Chu left you a message. He said you can meet him some day in the future if you are fated to do so.”

From the front, the security guard’s regretful voice drifted to her ears.

What?

“He... he has already left?” Qiu Mu-Cheng was immediately rooted to the spot. And then she stopped struggling as disappointment filled her heart.

In the end, she had failed to meet Mr. Chu. And so, that seed of doubt continued to remain in the deepest recess of her mind.

At this moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng suddenly recalled the resonating words that Ye Fan

had spoken that night at Yunwu Lake.

“One of these days, you will understand that I have achieved everything through my own efforts and no one else's.”

“Ye Fan, are you really Mr. Chu?”

“If that is true, then you really do have what it takes to say those words.” Qiu Mu-Cheng’s eyes reddened as she murmured inwardly to herself.

At this moment, Su Qian had already caught up to her friend. When she saw that Qiu Mu-Cheng was unharmed, she heaved a sigh of relief.

“Sir, this is my friend. She has admired Mr. Chu for a long time. That was why she did such a rash thing earlier.”

“If she has offended you, please forgive her. Haha, please forgive her~”

After Su Qian had arrived at the scene, she started to persistently apologize to the security guards. She even gave them some money and asked that they let Qiu Mu-Cheng go.

“Mm, you are better at dealing with people than your friend.”

“Next time, look after your friend properly. There are proper ways to support your idol, you know?”

“After this fight, Mr. Chu has gained renown and become the master of Jiangdong. God knows how many admirers he has right now. If everyone behaves as rashly as you girls, then wouldn't it become a disaster?”

“This time, it was all thanks to me for blocking your friend. Otherwise, if she had caused offence to Mr. Chu, you two would have to die many times over to atone for the crime.”

“Now, aren't you going to leave?”

After saying his piece, the security guard released Qiu Mu-Cheng and let the two girls leave.

“Cheng-Cheng, what happened to you just now?”

“Did you go crazy?”

“Mr. Chu is now the master of Jiangdong. He is a VIP on the same level as the governor of a province. How could you just run toward him like that? Were you tired of living?”

“Even if you really want to marry and offer yourself to him, you still shouldn’t risk your life to do so.”

“I really don’t know what is going through your head.”

“What happened to your calm and collected nature? Why did you act so rashly?”

A BMW was speeding toward the motel along the road. At this moment, Su Qian and Qiu Mu-Cheng had both returned to the former’s car. Su Qian shivered a little when she recalled what had happened back at the hall, and she could not help but rebuke Qiu Mu-Cheng for her recklessness.

Along the way, Qiu Mu-Cheng did not speak a single word. She was lost in a daze and it was as if she had many troubles on her mind.

When Su Qian saw this, she was nearly rendered speechless.

“Mu-Cheng, what is wrong with you? Say something.”

Su Qian could not stop herself from questioning her friend. Finally, after a long wait, Qiu Mu-Cheng whispered in reply: “Qian-Qian, I think I saw Ye Fan.”

“Mm?”

“Ye Fan? That live-in son-in-law? That country bumpkin?”

“Don’t tell me he followed you all the way to Anning County? Did he cry and beg you to take him back?”

“Damn it! He is such a stalker!”

“Tell me. Where is he now? I will go meet that country bumpkin and make sure he gives up on you. We can’t let him continue to pester you.”

When Su Qian heard that Ye Fan had followed them to Anning County, she blew her top immediately. As she drove, she kept on scolding Ye Fan for being

shameless.

However, what Qiu Mu-Cheng told her next caused her to be taken aback.

“Qian-Qian, maybe the Mr. Chu we saw at the hall today was Ye Fan.”

Screech~

Su Qian suddenly stepped on the brakes and the tires scratched against the ground to produce an ear-piercing screech.

The powerful force of inertia caused the BMW to spin in a circle and, finally, it stopped horizontally in the middle of the road.

“Cheng-Cheng, what are you saying?”

“You are telling me that country bumpkin is Mr. Chu?”

Su Qian opened her eyes wide, as if she had seen a ghost.

“Damn!”

“Stop messing around!”

“If you have told me that your brother-in-law, Chu Wen-Fei, was the super cool Mr. Chu who saved the day at the hall, I might have believed you a little.”

“But you are actually telling me that the live-in son-in-law is Mr. Chu?”

“I think you have gone crazy.”

“You know very well what your useless husband is capable of. He is just a country bumpkin so how could he be Mr. Chu?”

Su Qian exclaimed involuntarily. She did not believe the nonsense Qiu Mu-Cheng had just said.

“Also, although we did not manage to see Mr. Chu’s face today, do you really think a country bumpkin could have such a heroic bearing and kingly spirit?”

“Cheng-Cheng, I will just ask you this. Do you think that useless husband of yours has the courage and spirit to stand in front of all the leaders of Jiangdong and declare assertively: ‘From this day onward, I will be the master of Jiangdong?’”

Su Qian shook her head. She thought that

her BFF was beyond help already.

“Cheng-Cheng, I have brought you here to ease your mind. I want you to step out of the shadow of your failed marriage. But why did you get yourself bogged down further into this sham of a marriage?”

“Now you keep seeing that useless husband of yours wherever you look.”

“I let it slide when you said my idol looked like that country bumpkin, but how could you say that the master of Jiangdong look like him as well?”

“They are as different as heaven and earth! How could you even think that?”

“You are completely hopeless.”

Su Qian cradled her forehead in her hands as helplessness filled her eyes.

Chapter 155 You Are Completely Hopeless



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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In the face of Su Qian's rebuke, Qiu Mu-Cheng remained quiet and allowed her friend free reign.

Indeed, just like what her friend had said, it was possible to find a hundred, or a thousand, reasons to convince her that Ye Fan was not Mr. Chu.

After all, the two of them were too different.

One of them had been born to a poor family in the countryside and was the live-in son-in-law of the Qiu family. While the other was peerlessly majestic and renowned throughout Jiangdong.

The difference between them was like the difference between a beggar and an emperor. If she had not seen Mr. Chu with her own eyes, Qiu Mu-Cheng would not even dare think about it.

But, last night, she had been very sure that Mr. Chu was her husband the moment she saw his back view.

Although they had never shared a bed together or even a kiss but, still, they had spent the last three years together. So Ye

Fan's figure had been firmly etched into her memory.

They look too alike!

If it were not for the fact that she had never seen Ye Fan wear those clothes, she would have been almost a hundred percent sure that Mr. Chu was Ye Fan.

But now, she only had one reason why she believed that Mr. Chu was Ye Fan. Her feeling was telling her so.

However, this reason was too weak to convince herself, let alone others.

Therefore Qiu Mu-Cheng did not refute Su Qian's suspicions; she had nothing to refute her with anyway.

"Damn!"

"Mu-Cheng, don't tell me you actually think that Mr. Chu is Ye Fan?"

"I have to hand it to you."

"If you really do not believe me, why don't you just give your husband a call?"

“Ask him if he is in Yunzhou or Anning County?” Su Qian challenged. She was flabbergasted by her friend’s naivety.

Qiu Mu-Cheng hesitated for a long moment. Perhaps she really did have it in mind to pick up her phone and give Ye Fan a call to prove her feelings right.

But for a long while after she had found Ye Fan’s number, she could not muster up the courage to make the call.

If it turned out that she had really been overthinking things, then things would still be fine. They could still continue to live like they had been.

But if Ye Fan turned out to be Mr. Chu, then how was she supposed to face him?

At that time, her life with Ye Fan would be turned upside down.

Perhaps she might not even be able to find the courage to talk to him.

All of a sudden, Qiu Mu-Cheng started to hesitate.

“Ah! Damn it!”

“What are you hesitating for? Quick, call him.”

Su Qian was almost rendered speechless. She had not imagined that a decisive and wise woman like Qiu Mu-Cheng would become such an irresolute and mawkish girl after her marriage to Ye Fan.

Finally, Su Qian got so angry that she snatched away her friend's phone and made the call on the latter's behalf.

Soon, the call connected. / Soon, someone's voice drifted through from the other end of the line.

“Sorry, the number you have dialled is busy. Please try again later!”

Shit!

Su Qian let out a string of expletives. She had not expected that Ye Fan would be using his phone at this time.

“Ye Fan, you piece of trash! Where did you go?”

“Are you trying to starve us to death?”

“Come back right now and make us some food!”

“What a piece of trash.”

“Now, you can't even cook. Does our family have any more reason to keep you around?”

Han Li's shrill scolding voice could be heard coming from the phone.

Ye Fan had usually been the one responsible for cooking meals and household chores. But for the past few days, he had not been around and Qiu Mu-Cheng had taken over the tasks.

Han Li and her husband, on the other hand, had not bothered to help out around the house at all.

According to Han Li, since she had already fulfilled her duty by raising her daughter to adulthood, it was only right for the younger generation to repay her kindness now. So, both Han Li and her husband had no qualms about letting Ye Fan (and Qiu Mu-Cheng) take care of them.

“Mom, I will be back soon.”

“Don't be angry. I will be reaching home soon.”

Ye Fan responded to Han Li's rudeness with politeness and tried to placate her with smiles. Afterward, he ended the call.

But right after he had ended one call, another came in. This time, the caller was Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Ye Fan's expression turned apprehensive when he saw the caller ID.

Since their quarrel that night, this was Qiu Mu-Cheng's first time calling him.

Ye Fan hesitated briefly before answering.

“Where are you now?”

Qiu Mu-Cheng's chilly voice drifted through from the other end of the line. There was no hint of any emotion mixed in it and she sounded just as she had before.

Ye Fan rejoiced immediately when he heard this.

“Mu-Cheng, you are not mad at me anymore?”

“I didn’t mean to lie to you before. I had my own circumstances. I promise. That would be the first and last time I lied to you. I will never tell you another lie again.”

Inside the car, Ye Fan was putting on an air of servility as he fawned on his wife. When Chen Nan and Li Er saw this, they could not help but giggle to themselves.

They had not imagined that Mr. Chu, who had just displayed his peerless might earlier, would behave in such a manner.

“As the saying goes, there is always one thing to overcome another~” Li Er shook his head with a laugh.

“I am asking you. Where are you right now?” Qiu Mu-Cheng ignored Ye Fan’s words and her emotionless voice continued to ring out from the phone.

Ye Fan was taken aback for a moment.

Maybe Mu-Cheng has grown anxious while waiting for me at home? Maybe that is why she keeps asking me for my

whereabouts?

“Haha, Mu-Cheng, I am buying ingredients at a market near our neighborhood. You just wait. I will be home soon to cook for you and your mom.”

“Let’s end the call now. We can chat when I get home.”

Ye Fan was afraid that he might give something away if he continued the conversation, so he quickly ended the call.

Meanwhile, Chen Nan was completely fascinated when she saw how Ye Fan had told a lie without feeling the slightest bit of shame.

“Fan, didn’t you promise to never lie to Mu-Cheng again? So why did you tell another lie just now?”

“Mu-Cheng might get even angrier at you when she finds out, you know?” Chen Nan said angrily, as if she was righting a wrong for Qiu Mu-Cheng.

But Ye Fan laughed heartily when he heard this. “Nan-Nan, you don’t understand. This is the wisdom of men. It is a vital skill for

any family-oriented man. It can help to reduce the number of domestic conflicts.”

“Look. If Mu-Cheng finds out that I am miles away from Yunzhou and sitting beside a beauty, she will surely blow her top.”

“Li Er, you should learn from me as well.”

Ye Fan had a smug look on his face as he imparted his experiences of being a live-in son-in-law to Chen Nan and Li Er. However, while he was talking, the car he was traveling in came to a sudden stop.

“Mm? What’s wrong? Why did we stop?”

“I am in a hurry, you know?” Ye Fan was getting anxious.

“Mr. Chu, Mr. Chen’s vehicle is in front of ours and it has stopped. I think he has something to tell you,” the driver explained.

Just as expected, the black Mayback in front of Ye Fan’s car had come to a stop. And after getting down from his car, Chen Ao walked over to where Ye Fan was.

“Mr. Chu, I have just received a call from

the mayor of Jingzhou. He said he was hoping to meet you tonight and, to do his duty as a host, he would like to invite you to a banquet at his residence. What do you think?”

Anning County was part of Jingzhou City. Since the Mount Tai Tournament had been such a huge event, the mayor of Jingzhou had naturally heard about it. The news about Jiangdong’s new master had prompted the mayor, Zhou Hai-Feng, to call Chen Ao immediately. And he had asked Chen Ao to introduce him to Mr. Chu tonight.

After all, even a mayor was not omnipotent. If he wanted his city to be peaceful, he would need to rely on the support of the underworld bosses like Chen Ao and Lei San. It was obvious that Zhou Hai-Feng wanted to use the banquet as an opportunity to win over Ye Fan’s support.

“Screw the banquet?!”

“Tell him I can’t spare the time!”

“Damn it! I am in a hurry to get back home to cook for my wife! If I am late, my wife

will get mad at me! How am I going to find the time to have dinner with him?”

“What are you still standing around for? Quick, get the car moving!”

“Full speed ahead! If you get tickets, I will take care of them!”

Ye Fan started cursing and, finally, he turned to scream angrily at the driver.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The car ferrying Ye Fan had already left, leaving only Chen Ao behind. As the latter stood stock still in the windy rain, the corner of his eye kept twitching uncontrollably.

Just a moment ago, the mayor had taken the initiative to invite Mr. Chu to a meeting.

If the invitee had been any other person, he would have felt greatly honored and agitated.

But who would have thought that Mr. Chu would turn down the invitation by claiming that he could not spare the time?

And the reason he had given was that he needed to go home to cook for his wife.

“Screw this!”

“Mr. Chu, can you be anymore awesome?!!”

At that moment, Chen Ao had been completely mesmerized by Ye Fan’s response.

So, to him, the mayor’s invitation was less important than making a meal for his

wife?

In the end, Chen Ao could only laugh a forced laugh and exclaim that Mr. Chu was very awesome indeed. Afterward, he tried to think of a way to tactfully convey Ye Fan's message to the mayor.

In the car.

Both Li Er and Chen Nan had agonized expressions on their faces.

"Mr. Chu, that was an invitation from Mayor Zhou. Is it really alright to turn him down and not give him face?" Li Er spoke softly, as he tried to persuade Ye Fan to change his mind.

But Ye Fan did not care. "What's wrong with turning him down? Can this Mayor Zhou sleep with me or bear my children?"

"Since he can't do any of that, why should I use my going-home time to attend his banquet?"

"Moreover, we will owe him favors if we accept anything from him. There must be an ulterior motive behind his sudden invitation. I will only be causing myself

trouble if I attend his banquet. So it is better not to go. That way, I will be able to enjoy some peace and quiet," Ye Fan said indifferently.

Obviously, he had not turned down the invitation earlier just because he had wanted to go home in a hurry. Ye Fan had considered other factors as well.

When Li Er and Chen Nan heard what Ye Fan had just said, they nodded to themselves and their admiration for him grew even greater.

Sometimes, Li Er wondered if the young man before him was truly just a youth in his early twenties. Many old people who had experienced the vicissitudes of life would not be able to hold a candle to the way Ye Fan thought about things.

Boom~

As the vehicle zoomed on its way toward faraway Yunzhou, the wheels spun against the road while beams of orange headlights tore across the canopy of the sky.

And the sound of the car's engine that sounded like the roar of wild beasts

resounded throughout the land.

If a traffic police were to use a radar detector to clock its speed, he would have found that the speeding vehicle was going at a speed of a hundred and eighty miles per hour. And it was still accelerating.

“Whoa!”

“Has this car gone mad?”

“Are they in a hurry to die?”

The quavering voices of the passersby drifted to the ears of the passengers.

At the other end of the line, Qiu Mu-Cheng had just ended her call with Ye Fan.

“What do you think now, Cheng-Cheng? Have you resigned yourself to the truth?”

“I have already told you. Ye Fan and Mr. Chu are two completely different persons.”

“Moreover, no matter how awesome Ye Fan is, his surname is Ye so he would be Mr. Ye, rather than Mr. Chu.”

Inside the white BMW, Su Qian was

shaking her head as she spoke to her friend.

Ye Fan had already said that he was buying ingredients at the market near his neighborhood. That indirectly proved that Ye Fan was not in Anning County, and it also dismissed Qiu Mu-Cheng's earlier conjecture as a cock-and-bull story.

"Yes, I have resigned myself to the truth."

However, to Su Qian's surprise, Qiu Mu-Cheng was smiling instead of feeling despondent after finding out the truth. It was a smile of relief; as if she had just shrugged off a heavy burden.

She looked like a little bird who was soaring in the sky after breaking free of her chains. All the feelings of depression she had been feeling had disappeared.

"Cheng-Cheng, why do I feel that you are feeling happy?"

"Don't you want your useless husband to be somebody important?"

"Don't you want Ye Fan to be Mr. Chu?"

“You should be feeling dejected right now. So why are you smiling?”

“I don’t get you at all,” Su Qian said in confusion.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng shook her head and said: “Actually, it is also good to maintain the status quo.”

“I rather have a mediocre life that is cozy.”

“At least, he is still Ye Fan.”

Still the same Ye Fan who had always treated her nicely.

“Qian-Qian, let us get back to Yunzhou.”

“I have been away for a day, and I am getting worried about the state of affairs at the office.”

Just then, Qiu Mu-Cheng had shrugged off her depression and was once again in good spirits.

Clearly, although this Mount Tai trip had been a short one, its effect was still remarkable.

Su Qian had found a new love and Qiu Mu-Cheng had also regained enough spirits to return to work the next day.

As for Ye Fan, he got home too late and received a tongue-lashing from his in-laws.

But he was already used to that. He was surprised, however, to find that Qiu Mu-Cheng was not home.

Spurred by his worry, Ye Fan sent a text message to her and asked her where she was.

Qiu Mu-Cheng replied that she was doing overtime at the office.

Naturally, a proud woman like Qiu Mu-Cheng would not want her significant other to find out that she had gone on a trip to relieve her worries after quarreling with him.

The next day, as soon as dawn broke, Ye Fan left home after completing his chores.

He had arranged to meet Xu Lei to discuss matters relating to Mufan Real Estates.

When Xu Lei arrived at the bank of Yunwu

Lake, it was already nearly noon.

“Mm?”

“Miss Xu, what’s wrong? Why do you look so pale?”

Ye Fan was slightly taken aback when he saw how Xu Lei was looking today.

In his impression, Xu Lei had always been a proud, confident and an exquisitely elegant woman. But today, she appeared to be in low spirits and her make-up was not as exquisite as before. She also looked sickly pale, like a pearl that had lost its luster.

Xu Lei smiled and said: “It’s nothing.”

“First of all, let me congratulate you. Master of Jiangdong, Mr. Chu.”

Naturally, Xu Lei knew all about what had happened at the Mount Tai Hall.

Ye Fan also responded with a smile.

“Miss Xu, you are well-informed indeed. It was just last night but you have heard about it already.”

Xu Lei replied: “Mr. Chu, you are already renowned throughout the whole of Jiangdong. It would be difficult to not hear anything about you.”

“So you wish to see me to talk about the setting up of the new company?”

“Don’t worry. Everything is already settled.”

“Even the letter of appointment has been prepared. We are just waiting for a certain someone to assume the position and take control of the company,” Xu Lei said softly.

For some reason, Ye Fan felt that Xu Lei had a lot of worries on her mind today.

“Mm. Thank you, Miss Xu.”

“It is not a big deal. I merely did what I could. If there is nothing else, I will leave now.”

Xu Lei did not want to loiter. After turning her back, she prepared to leave.

“Miss Xu~” All of a sudden, Ye Fan shouted after her. Xu Lei stopped walking and turned back to look at him.

“Miss Xu, during this time, you have been very helpful. So if you have encountered any trouble and need my help, please do not hesitate to ask.”

“We are friends after all. Don’t keep everything to yourself,” Ye Fan said heavily.

Xu Lei looked directly at Ye Fan and asked: “Tell me something. If you help, what identity are you going to use?”

“Mm?” Ye Fan did not understand her question.

Xu Lei continued. “Will you be the scion of the Chu family? Or Mr. Chu of Jiangdong?”

When Ye Fan heard this, a heavy look came over his face.

“Miss Xu, I think I have to tell you this once again. The name I have now is Ye Fan.”

“I do not feel honored to be a scion of the Chu family.”

The place suddenly went quiet and only a gentle breeze lingered behind.

After a brief moment, Xu Lei shook her

head and smiled: "I really envy you. You can cut your ties with your family just like that."

"But I was born to my family and raised by them. They have left too many marks on me. Perhaps, from the very beginning, I was never the master of my destiny."

"Ye Fan, it has been my honor to know you."

After she had finished speaking, Xu Lei turned and left.

At that moment, Ye Fan could only see her peerlessly beautiful and graceful figure in the distance.

But she looked so very lonely, even as the warm sunlight cast itself on her body.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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When she turned her back to Ye Fan, two trails of tears were streaming quietly down her cheeks. But nobody could see her crying.

Perhaps Ye Fan did see. But Xu Lei did not seem to want to talk about it, so he did not ask any more questions.

After all, everyone had their own lives. They all had their own share of joys and sorrows to go through. Moreover, he and Xu Lei were just casual acquaintances, so he felt that he had no right to interfere in her life.

The only thing he could do was to remember her effort toward helping him and his wife. In the future, he would repay the favor if an opportunity presented itself.

Soon after Xu Lei's departure, Ye Fan also left Yunwu Lake.

Meanwhile, Qiu Mu-Cheng and Su Qian had already returned to Yunzhou. And being the workaholic that she was, Qiu Mu-Cheng did not choose to go home upon her return. Instead, she told Su Qian to send her to her office without delay.

“Cheng-Cheng, I have to hand it to you.”

“I think your grandfather should really give you a Model Worker Medal.”

“You are going to work even though you have just returned. Can’t you rest at home for a day before returning to your office?”

Su Qian was almost rendered speechless; more and more she admired her BFF’s work ethics.

Anyway, she knew that she would not be able to do the same. Su Qian could eat and play around well enough, but she could not do work that taxed the mind and body.

In her mind, life was too short to spend on work. She would rather use the time to eat and play around.

Su Qian shook her head with a sigh. Afterward, she stopped trying to persuade Qiu Mu-Cheng and simply drove away after dropping off the latter at her office.

This Mount Tai trip had made her forget the harmonica player. Now she had a new target.

“Brother, that was all your fault. You gave me two lousy tickets. Our seats were at the very last row. That was why I couldn’t see what my idol looked like.”

“I don’t care. You have to find Mr. Chu for me. And introduce him to me.”

“I will only marry Mr. Chu and no one else.”

“I don’t care, I don’t care~”

In the car, Su Qian was on the phone with her brother and acting like a spoiled child.

But it was probably beyond her imagination to think that both Mr. Chu and the harmonica player were the same person all along.

Sometimes, the world is a small place.

You can part company with someone and then, a moment later, he may appear before you at another place and with another identity. Just like how it happened with Su Qian and the idol she was crushing on.

But who knew just what sort of expression Su Qian would have, if she were to find out

the true identity of the idol she was crushing on.

Of course, that was a story to be told later.

Meanwhile, Qiu Mu-Cheng had already gone up to her office. But once there, she found that some things had changed. For example, somebody had removed the two pots of asparagus fern that had used to stand at the entrance of the office. She had asked her assistant, Li Fei-Fei, to buy them for her. Now, standing in their place, were two pots of towering cinnamon trees.

Even the red doormat with the Chinese characters for “Blooming Fortune” had been replaced. She had bought it and placed it at the entrance herself. All traces of her that had existed before the Mount Tai trip had been erased. For a moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng thought that she had gone to the wrong office.

She even went outside to look at the door plate.

No, she was at the right address. 298 Tongan Road, Qiushui Logistics.

And so, with a heart heavy with confusion,

Qiu Mu-Cheng walked into the office. But along the way, the colleagues who had hitherto greeted her with respect and smiles were all shocked to see her. All of them bowed their heads to avoid looking at her and then hurried away to somewhere far away.

It was as if they were avoiding the plague.

Qiu Mu-Cheng took note of their abnormal behavior and grew even more confused. A deep frown appeared on her face.

“Ah?”

“Miss Qiu, you...you are back?”

Just then, a clerk in an OL outfit happened to pass by. She was also shocked to see Qiu Mu-Cheng and immediately questioned the latter. This clerk was Qiu Mu-Cheng’s former assistant, Li Fei-Fei.

In Qiushui Logisitcs, Qiu Mu-Cheng trusted three persons the most.

Li Fei-Fei was one of them. The other two were employees who had been promoted to their current positions by Qiu Mu-Cheng. One was called Du Juan and the other was

called Zhang Heng.

The trio had always been working under Qiu Mu-Cheng.

In the past, Qiu Mu-Cheng had been a group leader in the sales department. And everyone knew, the sales department was the most taxing department to work in. At that time, Qiu Mu-Ying had bullied her cousin by giving the latter sales targets that were several times higher than those of the other groups. Also, during those times when Qiu Mu-Cheng's group had failed to reach their target, their salaries would get cut.

During all those years, if the trio had not been working hard alongside her, Qiu Mu-Cheng would not have been able to make it through her cousin's bullying and get to her current position.

Now that Qiu Mu-Cheng had been promoted by Master Qiu and put fully in charge of the partnership with Hongqi Group, she had a lot more power than before. So she had transferred the trio to work under her before going on the trip to Mount Tai.

Since her trusted subordinate was right in front of her, Qiu Mu-Cheng naturally approached her to find out what had happened at the office.

“What happened to the two pots of asparagus fern I bought?”

“And where are Du Juan and Zhang Heng?” she asked with a frown.

“Well...” Li Fei-Fei had an agonized look on her face and she seemed hesitant to speak to her superior.

At this moment, someone behind her shouted at Li Fei-Fei to hurry up.

“Li Fei-Fei, what are you standing around for? The general manager wants the documents right now. Do you want to go scrub the toilets like Du Juan?”

When Li Fei-Fei heard this, she hurriedly bowed and apologized: “Yes, ma’am, I will go right now. The documents will get there right away.”

When she spoke, her tone was servile and filled with panic.

Afterward, Li Fei-Fei ignored Qiu Mu-Cheng and turned around to leave.

“Fei-Fei, what is going on here?”

“Where is Du Juan?”

“Also, what was that about scrubbing toilet?”

Qiu Mu-Cheng frowned and shouted at Li Fei-Fei to stop.

The petite figure halted in her steps. Li Fei-Fei kept her head bowed as she stood with her back toward Qiu Mu-Cheng. Her eyes reddened slightly as her low voice slowly rang out.

“Miss Qiu, stop asking. Please do not ask me again.”

“The company has changed. Everything has changed.”

“You should not have left~”

“Also, Miss Qiu, this will be the last time I am calling you Miss Qiu. From now onward, I am no longer your personal assistant. I am already working for Qiu Mu-

Ying as her personal assistant.”

“Let us pretend not to know each other from now on.”

Li Fei-Fei bowed her head and bit down hard on her lips.

She had already made up her mind the moment she had spoken these words.

In the end, she ignored Qiu Mu-Cheng and left the scene without turning back.

“Fei-Fei, what is going on?”

“Stop right there! I am ordering you to stop right now! Explain things clearly to me~”

Qiu Mu-Cheng continued to shout and there was a hint of anger in her cold voice.

But Li Fei-Fei turned a deaf ear to the shouting and, soon, she was out of sight.

“Heh~”

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, you really do know how to put on airs.”

“You were giving out orders?”

“Do you think this Qiushui Logistics is still the same Qiushui Logistics as before? It has changed since you went away!”

“Do you still think you are the project manager?”

“You are just an outcast now! So how dare you throw your weight around here?”

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, let me tell you the truth. Qiushui Logistics has changed hands!”

“The person in charge of the project department now is my cousin, Qiu Mu-Ying.”

“As for you, you are nothing!”

Wang Xiu-E crossed her arms and sneered. When she looked at Qiu Mu-Cheng, her eyes were filled with disdain and mockery.

She was Qiu Mu-Ying’s maternal cousin. After she had dropped out of school, she had been freeloading at the company alongside her cousin. And the two girls had conspired together and committed plenty of unsavory deeds at Qiushui Logistics. But because Qiu Mu-Ying was

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Master Qiu's favorite granddaughter, she never had to pay for any of her misdeeds.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Get out of my way!”

Naturally, Qiu Mu-Cheng turned a deaf ear to Wang Xiu-E’s ridicule.

She gave a cold retort, pushed the latter aside and walked toward her office.

However, when Qiu Mu-Cheng pushed open the door, she discovered that the décor had changed completely.

There was a new set of sofa and the room had been laid with a brand new carpet. Her old office desk and chair were also gone. Standing in their place were a handcrafted redwood table and an expensive ergonomic chair.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was shocked by the extravagance in front of her.

As for the place where she had used to sit, it had already been occupied.

By a couple! A man and woman!

“Are you blind?”

“Do you not know how to knock?”

“Do you still want this job? If you want to quit, you can get lost right now!”

At this moment, Qiu Mu-Ying was in the throes of rage. Her husband, Chu Wen-Fei, was looking unhappy as he adjusted his clothes that had fallen into disarray.

Earlier, Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband had been making out in the office. But she had not imagined that she would be so rudely interrupted. She had only just sat down on Chu Wen-Fei’s thigh and their lips had only just barely touched, when the door was rudely thrust open.

Naturally, Qiu Mu-Ying was angry after her fun time had been interrupted. She did not feel the slightest bit of shame about using work hours to make out.

“Qiu Mu-Ying, the office is not your home!”

“Let me give you a word of advice. Don’t push your luck too far.”

“Otherwise, I shall ignore the fact that we are cousins and report to grandfather.”

Qiu Mu-Cheng had a cold expression on her pretty face as she lashed out at the

shameless couple who were indecently dressed.

Clearly, Qiu Mu-Cheng had not imagined that Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband would be so bold as to make out with each other at her desk during work hours.

“Heh?”

“Oh, so it is you?”

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, I didn’t think you would have the nerve to come back here?”

Qiu Mu-Ying burst out laughing the moment she saw her cousin. Meanwhile, her eyes were filled with disdain and mockery.

“Get out of my way!”

“Go home if you want to make out! Don’t bother me when I am working!”

“Zhang Heng! Get them out of my office now!”

Qiu Mu-Cheng could not be bothered to argue any more with the shameless couple.

She knew that it would be useless to say anything more. Right now, Qiu Mu-Ying and Chu Wen-Fei were Master Qiu's favorites and, since they had the old man's backing, there was nothing Qiu Mu-Cheng could do to them.

She could only call for Zhang Heng to throw them out of her office.

However, a whole ten seconds passed by but, still, nobody answered her summon.

"Mm?"

"Zhang Heng, did you not hear me? I am calling for you!"

Qiu Mu-Cheng was upset and, once again, she called for Zhang Heng with a frown on her face.

As one of Qiu Mu-Cheng's trusted subordinates, his office was just right next to hers. Usually, he would answer her summons without delay.

But today, he had failed to appear after such a long wait. Naturally, Qiu Mu-Cheng was upset by this.

And when Qiu Mu-Ying saw this, she broke out in a smile.

She crossed her arms, sat down behind the desk and smiled at her cousin.

“Zhang Heng? Oh, you mean the head of department who used to occupy the office next door? That Zhang Heng? He is standing guard outside the building right now. Did you not see him when you came?”

What?

Qiu Mu-Ying’s words shocked her cousin. And Qiu Mu-Cheng’s expression turned even colder.

“Qiu Mu-Ying, do you think I will believe your nonsense?”

“Zhang Heng is a veteran of our company. There is no way Uncle Guang will make him work as a security guard.”

Personnel placement is fundamental to the development of a company. And at Qiushui Logistics, Qiu Mu-Cheng’s uncle, Qiu Guang, was the person in charge of human resources.

“You don’t believe me?”

“If you don’t believe me, you can go ask your trusted lackey, Du Juan.”

“I may lie to you, but Du Juan would not lie to you, right? She is like a sister to you after all.”

Qiu Mu-Ying continued to speak sarcastically to her cousin.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng simply ignored her and started calling out for Du Juan.

However, half a minute passed by and, still, nobody answered her summon.

“Oh, Mu-Cheng, I nearly forgot. Your good friend, Du Juan, has already been transferred to the janitorial department. She is now in charge of daily cleaning duties at our company. At this time of the day, she should be out there scrubbing the bowls in some toilet.”

“Hahaha~”

Qiu Mu-Ying spoke in a voice dripping with sarcasm and, beside her, Chu Wen-Fei’s face was full of mocking laughter.

Just then, the husband and wife duo was looking at Qiu Mu-Cheng as if she was an object of ridicule.

They were doing this on purpose; they wanted to embarrass her.

“What rubbish!”

“Du Juan and Zhang Heng are both capable veterans of the company.”

“There is no way Uncle Guang would let you do as you please with them!”

Even till the very last moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng was determined not to yield to her opponents.

“Miss Qiu, here are the documents you asked for.”

Just then, Li Fei-Fei entered the room.

“Fei-Fei, you came at the right time. I was just talking about your two former colleagues. One of them is a security guard now and the other is scrubbing toilet bowls. But Miss Qiu does not believe me. Since it is like that, please tell her if what I said was the truth. Also, please tell your

former boss who is running the project department now. Tell her who is in charge of the partnership with the Hongqi Group. And tell her who you are working for now.”

When she saw Li Fei-Fei, Qiu Mu-Ying broke into a smile. Li Fei-Fei was not only her cousin’s former subordinate, but the person the latter had trusted the most. So hearing the cruel truth from Li Fei-Fei would definitely crush Qiu Mu-Cheng’s spirit. It was too easy.

And just as expected, when Li Fei-Fei told Qiu Mu-Cheng about the personnel transfers that had taken place over the past couple of days, the latter’s peerlessly beautiful face turned pale right away.

“Mu-Cheng, did you hear what she just said?”

“I am now the person in charge of the partnership with Hongqi Group.”

“Also, just yesterday, my husband and I invited a manager from Hongqi Group to dinner. Mr. Liu is the person in charge of the partnership with our company and also a business friend of my father-in-law. With this connection between us, I will be able

to work very well with them.”

“As for you, Qiu Mu-Cheng, there is no longer a place for you at Qiushui Logistics!”

Qiu Mu-Ying spoke smugly and looked mockingly at her cousin with the eyes of a victor.

“Oh yeah, Mu-Cheng. I have to thank you for the proposal that you wrote a while ago. Grandfather was very pleased with it and even praised me at the family meeting yesterday.”

“You~~”

“Shameless!”

While Qiu Mu-Ying was speaking, Qiu Mu-Cheng’s face was turning increasingly pale. Finally, when she heard that Qiu Mu-Ying had stolen the proposal she had worked so hard on for several days and taken credit for it in front of their grandfather, Qiu Mu-Cheng got so worked up that she trembled all over and nearly fell over as she staggered on her feet.

“Fei-Fei, well done. Well done indeed.”

“Was that your proof of allegiance?”

“Fei-Fei, I don’t blame you. I only blame myself for being blind and trusting a backstabber like you~”

Qiu Mu-Cheng looked ready to cry. Just then, she was feeling so angry and aggrieved that her whole body was trembling.

She had not imagined that the person she had trusted the most would betray her.

Even more so, she had not expected that, within the span of just a few days, her grandfather would once again remove her from her position and reject all her hard work.

For so many days, she had worked so hard and given so much. But the result of her labor was in Qiu Mu-Ying’s hands now.

At that moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng felt that her life had been a huge failure.

She could not understand, could not figure out, just what had she done wrong?

Why had her grandfather made things

difficult for her again and again?

Was it because she was not as good at flattery as Qiu Mu-Ying?

Was it because her husband was a powerless weakling from a poor family?

At this moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng's heart was filled with grievances.

As her eyes reddened with tears, she turned around and ran away.

She was not going to take this lying down. Never! She had to go look for her grandfather and get an explanation for all this.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Qiu Mu-Cheng's eyes were red with tears as she ran down the street.

She was being overwhelmed with feelings of grievance and she wanted to give vent to these feelings. She also had numerous doubts in her mind that needed answering.

She had to ask her grandfather what she had done wrong exactly. She had to know why he was targeting her.

When Qiu Mu-Cheng reached the Qiu's family house, her grandfather was feeding his bird in the courtyard.

After spotting her grandfather, Qiu Mu-Cheng's eyes reddened and she asked directly: "Grandfather, why? Why did you do that?"

"Just a few days ago, you said you were going to let me be fully in charge of this project. So why did you suddenly take away my authority?"

"Or perhaps, you people have planned to do this all along?"

"You pretended to let me take charge of the project. And immediately after you

have received the fund from Hongqi Group, you people kicked me aside and let Qiu Mu-Ying take over my work?”

Qiu Mu-Cheng raised her voice at Master Qiu and her angry voice resounded through the family house.

But Master Qiu acted as if he had not heard her. He continued to trim the plants in the courtyard and feed the birds in the cage. The old man completely ignored what she was saying.

“Grandfather, say something.”

“Why are you playing favorites?”

“Is Qiu Mu-Ying your only granddaughter?”

“Am I not your granddaughter too?”

“Does the blood of the Qiu family not flow in my body?”

“Why, why are you people treating me like this?”

“Not only did you remove me from my post, you also made things difficult for my subordinates. You sent them to guard the

door and scrub toilet bowls!”

“Am I that detestable? Do you hate me so much? Does everyone in our family hate me?”

Qiu Mu-Cheng spoke piteously as the tears rolled down her cheeks.

She looked so sorrowful that it was heartbreaking to look at her.

However, Master Qiu remained unmoved. Since Qiu Mu-Cheng’s arrival, he had not even taken one look at her. His face remained expressionless as he continued to trim the plants in the courtyard.

Just like that, Master Qiu ignored Qiu Mu-Cheng for an entire day.

And when evening time came, the other Qius who had gotten off work started to return to the family house. It was then when Master Qiu summoned everyone to the hall for a meeting.

“You come with me too,” Master Qiu said coldly.

Master Qiu clasped his hands behind him,

turned his back on Qiu Mu-Cheng and walked toward the house.

Meanwhile, the other Qius had already gathered in the hall.

Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband had already returned from the office. When the husband and wife duo saw how haggard Qiu Mu-Cheng was looking, they felt very smug and looked gleefully at her from their seats.

Qiu Guang and Qiu Luo were also present. When they saw Qiu Mu-Cheng, their gazes turned cold and unhappy.

“Dad, why did you call for a meeting?”

“What is the hurry?”

“Mm?”

“Mu-Cheng, you are here as well. I haven’t seen you for a few days already. You silly girl. Why didn’t you tell me you are back?”

At this moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng’s parents were hurriedly running into the hall from outside.

Chapter 160 Kneel Down!

Her parents had low status in the family, so they were not usually invited to family meetings. But, today, things were out of the ordinary, so they were feeling a bit unsure.

“Kneel down!”

But the moment Qiu Lei and Han Li arrived, Master Qiu, who was seated in the seat of honor, suddenly let out a roar. Qiu Lei was so frightened that he turned pale and trembled all over.

“Dad, what... what is the matter?”

Qiu Lei was overwhelmed with fright and he looked at his father with a face full of panic. He had absolutely no idea what he had done wrong.

“You bastard! I told you to kneel down!”

Master Qiu slapped the table and shouted again.

Qiu Lei did not dare to say another word and, in the end, he went down on his knees.

“And you too, Qiu Mu-Cheng. You get down

on your knees too!”

Master Qiu let out another roar and, this time, his overwhelming anger was directed at Qiu Mu-Cheng.

But she was just as mystified as her father. She had only just returned today and had no idea what she had done to provoke her grandfather.

“Grandfather, I don’t understand.”

“If you do not have a good reason, I will never kneel!” Qiu Mu-Cheng was already in a bad mood over what had happened at the office and, yet, her grandfather was now indiscriminately telling her to kneel down. Obviously, she was not going to be convinced by such unreasonableness.

“Fine~”

“You want a reason? I will give you a reason.”

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, let me ask you. Hongqi Group is such a large company so why would they suddenly choose to work with a small company like Qiushui Logisitcs? Why would they sign a contract that is so

advantageous to us? They are practically giving away their money!”

“Let me ask you one more time. Why did Hongqi Group insist on working with you and no one else?”

“And that day, at Belle’s Cafe, why was Ye Fan behaving so intimately with Xu Lei, the number one tycoon of our city? He is just a live-in son-in-law, a pauper from the countryside and a useless nobody!”

“If you can give me a convincing reason to explain the three points I just mentioned, I will right the wrong you have suffered! Not only will I not make you kneel, but our whole family will kneel to you in apology!”

Within the hall, Master Qiu was seething in rage and his demeanor was overbearing to the extreme as he asked the three questions one after another. And while the words of anger forcefully reverberated through the room, they resonated with all who heard them.

“|~”

Qiu Mu-Cheng was immediately taken aback. In the face of these questions, she

could only open her mouth silently. She had no idea what explanation to give. After all, she herself was also searching for the answers to these three questions.

Since she herself did not understand what was going on, how was she going to explain things to her grandfather?

“Say something. Weren’t you feeling so wronged just a moment ago?”

“So why aren’t you saying anything now that I am giving you a chance to speak?”

Master Qiu asked angrily.

Qiu Lei and Han Li were also urging their daughter to give an explanation and not hide anything from them.

“You stupid girl! Quick, say something. If you anger your grandfather, our whole family will be in trouble,” Han Li scolded.

Qiu Mu-Cheng bowed her head and said softly: “Hongqi Group gave us the partnership contract because Miss Xu owed Ye Fan a favor. So she chose to return the favor in the form of a business partnership. As for the meeting at the cafe,

I think Xu Lei simply wanted to thank Ye Fan for the favor.”

“What the... Returning a favor?”

“Mu-Cheng, do you think our grandfather is just a three-year-old kid? Ye Fan is just a poor loser from the countryside. What sort of favor could he possibly do for the top tycoon of Yunzhou?”

“Do you actually believe the lie you just made up?” Qiu Mu-Ying sneered as she fanned the flames of discord.

And just as expected, Master Qiu went close to losing his patience completely. When he spoke, his low voice was filled with suppressed anger.

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, I will give you another chance. You had better tell me the truth this time.”

“Otherwise, don’t blame me for kicking you out of the family!”

What?

“Dad, please don’t!”

“Mu-Cheng is young and ignorant. Please do not take offense with her.”

“I will make her tell the truth right now!”

When Han Li heard that Master Qiu was going to kick her daughter out of the family, she went into a panic immediately.

Right now, Qiu Mu-Cheng was the only person supporting her and her husband. If she got kicked out of the family business, who would support them in future?

“Mu-Cheng, quick, tell him the truth.”

“Don’t lie to your grandfather!”

“Your grandfather has gone through the vicissitudes of life. He has a good grasp of worldly matters and is very experienced in dealing with people. Your lies will not work on him.”

“Quick, tell him what is the real reason!”

“Are you trying to drive us to our deaths?”
Han Li panickedly tried to persuade her daughter to tell the truth.

She had gotten so anxious that she was

Chapter 160 Kneel Down!

ready to burst into tears.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Qiu Mu-Cheng's eyes reddened in the face of her parents' loud questioning, but she continued to stick to her guns.

"Mom, I didn't lie to grandfather. Miss Xu was really only repaying Ye Fan's favor."

"What a pack of nonsense!"

"Qiu Mu-Cheng, back then, the reason why I made you marry that useless man was to punish you. I wanted you to reflect on your mistake and turn over a new leaf."

"But I did not expect that, after these three years, not only did you not show the slightest bit of improvement, but you have also learned to lie from that piece of trash. You have learned to fool others! You have become vain and shameless!"

Master Qiu's words were rather harsh and, when she heard them, Qiu Mu-Cheng was taken aback right away. Her eyes reddened as she stared in disbelief at her grandfather.

"Grandfather, why did you say that about me?"

"I don't know what I have done to make

you describe me with such malicious words?”

“Can you tell me what I have done wrong exactly?”

Qiu Mu-Cheng was filled with confusion. She lifted her head to stare at Master Qiu.

When the old man saw this, he grew even angrier.

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, you are still refusing to tell the truth, even now?”

“Do you really think I won’t find out if you say nothing?”

“Let me ask you. Did you tell that useless husband of yours to seduce Miss Xu? Did you tell him to become Miss Xu’s servant? Did you tell him to sacrifice his dignity and body in order to become Miss Xu’s gigolo? Is that the reason why she is doing you two favors?”

“Did you and your husband use such a dirty method to get us the loan contract and the partnership deal with Hongqi Group?”

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, Qiu Mu-Cheng. You were such an innocent and kind-hearted girl back then. I did not think that you would become such a shameless woman.”

“In order to achieve your goals, you have resorted to unscrupulous means. You have even sacrificed your own husband.”

“You may be fine with being shameless, but I, Qiu Zheng-Lun, and the rest of the Qiu family still care about our reputation.”

“I, Qiu Zheng-Lun, have always been an upright man. I gave the names Guang, Ming, Lei and Luo to my four sons. Together, their names form the word for ‘Upright.’”

“I don’t wish for great wealth for our family. But I do want us all to be upright people.”

“But you, how could you do something that brings shame upon our family? How do you expect me to forgive you for what you did?”

Clearly, Master Qiu had blown his top. His angry words rang out sonorously and resounded through the entire hall.

When he reached the end of his speech, Master Qiu's whole body was trembling with rage. In the next moment, the old man slapped the table and jumped to his feet. And with eyes that had turned red with rage, he glared straight at his granddaughter.

What?

Han Li and Qiu Lei were stunned when they heard this. In their eyes, both shock and fascination could be seen.

"Mu-Cheng, is your grandfather telling the truth?"

"Did you really tell your useless husband to sleep with another woman just so you could get the contract with Hongqi Group?"

"Good heavens! How could you do something so shameless?"

"Mu-Cheng, say something!"

Clearly, both Han Li and Qiu Lei were overwhelmed with shock. Just then, they were angrily peppering their daughter with questions.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng kept shaking her head and said aggrievedly: “Mom, I didn’t. I really didn’t.”

“I did not force Ye Fan to do anything.”

“And I most certainly did not do anything to bring shame on our family. Mom, dad and grandfather. Please believe me~”

Qiu Mu-Cheng kept on explaining herself and, meanwhile, tears had started to form in her reddened eyes.

However, at this moment, Qiu Mu-Ying responded to her cousin’s explanations with a sneer. She walked forward and faced Qiu Mu-Cheng.

“Mu-Cheng, stop pretending to be pitiful to make us feel sorry for you.”

“Everyone here knows what is going on.”

“That day, I personally witnessed Ye Fan and Miss Xu behaving intimately with each other at Belle’s Cafe.”

“Of course, maybe I am overthinking things.”

“In that case, how about you give us a believable explanation?”

“If you did not rely on your useless husband to seduce Miss Xu, then tell us how did you two manage to get Hongqi Group to agree to a partnership?”

“Tell us!”

Qiu Mu-Ying crossed her arms and gleefully questioned her cousin.

When she heard this, Qiu Mu-Cheng finally understood what had happened.

“It was you! Qiu Mu-Ying, it was you!”

“You confused grandfather with lies, fed him with nonsense and drove a wedge between him and me.”

“How could you do this?”

“How could you be so shameless?”

“How could you be so ruthless!”

Now, Qiu Mu-Cheng finally understood why her grandfather’s attitude toward her had taken a hundred-and-eighty-degree change

after the Mount Tai trip. And why everyone had been looking at her as if she was a joke.

The culprit was Qiu Mu-Ying. She had been carrying tales to Master Qiu. She had made up the story about how Qiu Mu-Cheng had used Ye Fan to seduce Miss Xu for the partnership contract.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng had not imagined that her blood-related cousin would treat her so viciously.

Caught in the throes of rage, Qiu Mu-Cheng lashed out at her cousin with one question after another.

“Grandfather, look at Mu-Cheng. She is in the wrong but, instead of repenting, she is blaming me instead.” Qiu Mu-Ying was continuing to fan the flames of discord.

Master Qiu got so worked up that he slapped the table again. And then he rebuked Qiu Mu-Cheng angrily.

“Can you stop making a scene here?”

“Quick, get down on your knees!”

“You are still unrepentant even now. Do you really want to force me to kick you out of the family?”

Piak~

At this moment, Han Li walked over to slap Qiu Mu-Cheng in the face.

“You wretched daughter! How dare you do such a thing behind our backs?”

“Quick, get down on your knees and apologize to your grandfather!”

“Do you really want to get kicked out of the family?”

Han Li’s voice was shaking as she scolded her daughter.

What she was most worried about was whether her daughter would get kicked out of the family or not. If Qiu Mu-Cheng lost her job at Qiushui Logistics, who would support their family henceforth?

“Dad, Mu-Cheng is young and ignorant. And she didn’t do all this just for herself. She did all that for the company and our family.”

“Her merits should offset her faults. Dad, please forgive her just this once?”

Han Li and Qiu Lei kept on pleading for mercy.

“Grandfather, you must not forgive her~”

“Mu-Cheng’s behavior has offended public decency. If you let her remain in the family, will we still be able to hold our heads high up in Yunzhou if this matter gets exposed to the public in the future?”

“Yes, dad. This Qiu Mu-Cheng has caused trouble numerous times already. How can we keep this jinx in our family?”

“Kick her out of the family!”

“Tell her to get lost!”

All of a sudden, the Qius in the hall started to condemn Qiu Mu-Cheng. Faced with the multitude of accusations from everyone, she looked so forlorn, as if she had been abandoned by the world.

After a long moment of silence, Master Qiu finally let out a sigh and waved a hand to shut everyone up. And then he looked at

his granddaughter.

“Mu-Cheng, no matter what you have done, you are still my granddaughter.”

“I will give you another chance. Divorce that country bumpkin and cut all ties with him.”

“If you do this, then even if the scandal gets exposed, it will have nothing to do with our family.”

“As for Hongqi Group, we have already signed the contract. So even if Ye Fan wants to cause trouble for us, it is already too late.”

“Besides, Liu Bin, the manager at Hongqi Group, is a friend of Wen-Fei’s father. With this connection, we no longer have any use for Ye Fan. He is just a burden now. You should divorce him as soon as possible.”

Chapter 161 Go Get a Divorce



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Also, that Mr. Liu Bin is not a bad catch either. The timing is right because he has just gotten a divorce. Earlier, your cousin said he got interested in you after seeing your photo. He said he does not mind your past.”

“After you divorce Ye Fan, I will let you marry Mr. Liu Bin.”

“He holds a high position within Hongqi Group. You will lose nothing by marrying him.”

Master Qiu had already thought of everything.

Although Qiu Mu-Cheng and Ye Fan had done something so despicable, the Qius could still get away from the whole mess without suffering much damage to their reputation. They just had to shift all the blame onto Ye Fan and cut off all ties with him. If they did all that, their family would not be greatly affected if the scandal got exposed.

In any case, Hongqi Group had already signed the partnership contract and sent them the fund. That meant Ye Fan had already outlived his purpose.

Moreover, if Qiu Mu-Cheng married Mr. Liu Bin after her divorce, then the person-in-charge of the partnership at Hongqi Group would be the son-in-law of Qiushui Logistics. And when once that was the case, the Qius would not have to worry about Hongqi Group withdrawing their investments in the future.

It had to be said that Master Qiu was an experienced schemer indeed.

He had considered all possible angles as he made his plans.

Qiushui Logistics had now found a powerful backer in Hongqi Group, and also a way to remove themselves from the scandal involving Ye Fan. Even Qiu Mu-Ying had to inwardly admire her grandfather. As the saying goes, the older a person, the more experienced he is.

But that Liu Bin was a middle-aged man in his fifties. If Qiu Mu-Cheng married such a man, she would not be able to lift up her head high in future.

And Qiu Mu-Ying immediately felt happier when her thoughts reached this point.

“Mu-Cheng, look how nice grandfather is to you.”

“Not only is he not calling to account your misdeeds, he has also found you a new home.”

“Mr. Liu is quite a capable man. He is a project manager at Hongqi Group. And he is not too old either. He is only in his early fifties. You have got yourself a great bargain. That guy is a more than sufficient match for you. Quick, thank grandfather for his wise decision.”

Qiu Mu-Ying laughed sarcastically. Even a fool could see that she was humiliating Qiu Mu-Cheng and her family.

After all, Qiu Lei himself was only in his forties. So that meant that not only had Liu Bin already been married, he was also older than Qiu Mu-Cheng’s father. This pairing with Liu Bin was no better than Qiu Mu-Cheng’s marriage to Ye Fan; it would only bring shame upon their family.

But they had no choice.

Perhaps, this was their daughter’s fate.

Han Li and Qiu Lei sighed in resignation.

Master Qiu's authority within the family was absolute. Nobody could go against him. This was even more true for Qiu Lei and Han Li, who both had low status in the family.

Just then, Master Qiu tossed a document over to Qiu Mu-Cheng.

"This is the divorce agreement for you and Ye Fan. Sign it."

"I will send somebody to discuss this with Ye Fan."

"After today, it is best if you two do not meet again."

"One more thing. Mu-Ying, you give Mr. Liu a call in a while. Tell him Mu-Cheng is already back and wants to have dinner with him."

"If he has no objection to this marriage, then tell him to marry Mu-Cheng as soon as possible."

Master Qiu spoke heavily in an authoritative tone that brooked no

discussion. And not once did he ask Qiu Mu-Cheng for her opinion.

As if it was the most natural thing in the world for him to decide how Qiu Mu-Cheng should live her life.

But, at this moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng suddenly burst out laughing. It was a laughter filled with self-deprecation.

“Mm?”

“What are you laughing at?”

Master Qiu frowned unhappily.

And Qiu Mu-Cheng replied: “Grandfather, don’t you think you have gone overboard?”

“I am not just talking about the way you treat me, but also the way you are treating Ye Fan.”

“Ye Fan was the one who single-handedly got us the partnership contract with Hongqi Group. But he did not take credit for the work, nor did he boast about his achievement to anyone. He has only been quietly supporting me, and our family, from the background.”

“And yet, you are abandoning him after making use of him. Now that the partnership is a done deal, you want to cut all ties with him. You only want to reap the benefits he has provided, and have no intention of thanking him or repaying the favor.”

“Grandfather, is this the ‘uprightness’ you were talking about? You talked about being open and aboveboard earlier. Is this it?”

“Mu-Cheng, have you gone mad? Shut your mouth right now!” When they saw their daughter talking back to Master Qiu for Ye Fan’s sake, both Han Li and Qiu Lei were frightened out of their wits. And they hurriedly urged her to stop talking at once.

However, the old man waved his hand and said: “You two don’t interrupt. Let her talk. I want to find out just how many things she has left unsaid.”

Master Qiu’s expression was as sombre as a graveyard, and the Qius knew that he was on the verge of blowing his top.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng continued speaking, even as her eyes reddened with tears.

She was not going to shut up. She was going to speak up about all the bitterness and grievances she had gone through over the years.

“Grandfather, I am your granddaughter too. And no matter how useless Ye Fan is, he is still my husband. We are not asking you to favor us, but we are hoping that you will give us justice.”

“Grandfather, I would like to ask you one thing. Why do you believe everything that Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband say? And why are you refusing to believe anything I say? Why do you only believe their side of the story?”

“I swear. I did not force Ye Fan to do anything. And he will not do anything disloyal to me anyway. I believe in him.”

“Also, I will not divorce Ye Fan.”

“And if we ever get a divorce, it will be my decision. Not yours.”

“And even if I get a divorce, I will never marry an old man in his fifties.”

“I am not such a deplorable woman that I

would do such a thing!”

“I am already an adult and I have the right to decide how to live my life.”

“And nobody has the right to interfere. Not even you, grandfather!”

There was a look of firm resolution in Qiu Mu-Cheng’s eyes. When she spoke, each and every one of her words resonated with her listeners and resounded through the hall!

When Master Qiu heard her, he nearly went mad with fury.

“How dare you, Qiu Mu-Cheng! I will ask you one last time. Will you divorce Ye Fan or not? Are you going to sign this divorce agreement?”

Master Qiu’s words of anger reverberated through the surrounding.

“Sign, yes she will sign. Dad, don’t get angry. I will make Mu-Cheng sign the agreement.”

Han Li spoke hurriedly and urged her daughter to sign the agreement. In the end,

she picked up the pen and signed the agreement on her daughter's behalf.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng only smiled tearfully. She did not speak a single word. In the end, she picked up the divorce agreement and tore it to pieces in front of everybody.

She was using the most direct method to send the strongest response to Master Qiu and the Qiu family!

“Well done~”

“Well done indeed.”

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, you wretched girl! Get out! Get out of our house!”

“From today onward, you will no longer be a part of the Qiu family.”

“I, Qiu Zheng-Lun, will no longer recognize you as my granddaughter~”

Master Qiu stood up and started lashing out at Qiu Mu-Cheng. He was in the throes of rage and his voice was shaking while he spoke.

“She does not know what is good for her.”

“A wretch like her should have gotten kicked out a long time ago!”

.....

“She is truly wallowing in degeneration! Completely hopeless!”

“Get out of our family!”

.....

“And don’t ever come back~”

After Master Qiu had spoken, Wang Qiao-Yu and company followed suit and started lashing out viciously at Qiu Mu-Cheng.

At this moment, everyone was scolding her, insulting her and telling her to leave.

Even her own parents were calling her a hopeless case. They could not believe that she would go against the family for the sake of a useless man like Ye Fan!

Condemnations flew at her from all sides. At that moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng felt as if the whole world had abandoned her.

There were clearly plenty of people in the

room, but she felt like she was the only person left in the world.

Like a cat curled up by itself in an old alley, she felt so lonely and miserable.

Boom~

But, at this moment, the gate to the Qiu's family house was suddenly pushed open.

The cold wind outside blew through the opening and swept through the hall.

At that moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng turned around to look toward the opening with a pair of teary eyes. It was as if she could sense something or someone.

In front of the gate, the moonlight flowed down like water and cast a mass of bright spots on the ground. Under the bright and clear moon, a slim and upright figure was striding resolutely into the house.

At that moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng was suddenly taken aback.

It felt as if a ray of light had tore through the canopy of the sky and banished the darkness!

Chapter 162 Like a Ray of Light in the Darkness

It was as if she was seeing Mr. Chu again; the person who had received renown and reverence throughout Jiangdong after turning the tide of defeat during their most hopeless moment at Mount Tai Hall.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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While Qiu Mu-Cheng was lost in a daze, that figure had already entered the hall. Just then, he was standing right in front of her.

While standing thusly, he ignored the gazes from the surrounding Qius and the tongue-lashing from Master Qiu. And as everyone was looking at him, he stretched out a hand toward Qiu Mu-Cheng.

“Ye... Ye Fan?”

At the moment when Qiu Mu-Cheng held Ye Fan’s hand, she felt like she had the whole world in her palm.

The feelings of panic and desolation that had been tormenting her vanished all of a sudden.

She felt like a boat that had sailed into a safe harbour, or a piece of floating duckweed that had found support to lean against.

Qiu Mu-Cheng did not understand why but, the moment Ye Fan had appeared, she immediately felt calmer. As if she had found herself a safe harbour.

“Mu-Cheng, I am sorry. I came late.”

The softly spoken words were filled with guilt and self-reproach.

Ye Fan then pulled Qiu Mu-Cheng beside him and looked at her piteously tearful face. At that moment, Ye Fan’s eyes were filled with ruth and he could feel his heart breaking.

He had not imagined that his act of kindness would eventually bring his wife so much trouble and humiliation. Perhaps, back then, it had been a mistake to persuade Qiu Mu-Cheng to stay with this pedantic family.

“Asshole!”

“You useless piece of trash! Let my daughter go!”

“How dare you hold my daughter’s hand?”

When Han Li saw this, she blew her top right away. She could not help but feel that her daughter had been sullied by a country bumpkin.

When the Qius saw Ye Fan, all of them flew

into a rage.

“Ye Fan, you piece of trash! How dare you come here?”

“You and your wife are truly shameless!”

“You do not know what shame is.”

“After doing something so shameless, how could you feel no shame?” Qiu Mu-Ying sneered as she crossed her arms. When she looked at her cousin, her eyes were filled with mockery and disdain.

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, Qiu Mu-Cheng. Ye Fan is just a piece of trash, so it is not such a big deal when he acts shamelessly.”

“But how could a woman like you also do something so shameless!”

“On top of being unrepentant after doing something so immoral, you actually dared to talk back to grandfather. And now, you are flirting with this piece of trash in front of all of us.”

“You have completely shamed our family by behaving so shamelessly!”

Piak~

It happened right after she had finished speaking. Ye Fan, who had been consoling his wife, suddenly appeared in front of Qiu Mu-Ying and slapped her hard in the face.

What?

The Qius were all taken aback when they saw this.

Who would have thought that a submissive piece of trash like Ye Fan would actually have the guts to hit someone?

Has he gone mad?

Perhaps he no longer wants to have anything to do with our family?

All the Qius were reeling in shock.

As for Qiu Mu-Ying, she was cradling her face and glaring at Ye Fan in disbelief. Finally, she snapped and started to lash out at Ye Fan like a madwoman.

“You low-born country bumpkin! How dare you hit me?”

“I hereby declare. You are finished.”

“Not only you, but that bitch Qiu Mu-Cheng as well! I declare! You are both finished~”

Piak~

In the midst of Qiu Mu-Ying’s screaming, Ye Fan threw another slap at her and it hit her so hard that she was sent sprawling to the floor. At the same time, Ye Fan’s voice resounded sinisterly through the hall.

“You may insult me, but not my wife!”

“Apologize!”

“Apologize to Mu-Cheng right now.”

“Immediately!”

Ye Fan’s tone was as sombre as a graveyard and, just then, he was giving the impression of being a man-eating wolf. The Qius in the hall could not help but shiver involuntarily.

“Shit!”

“You country bumpkin! How dare you hit my wife?”

“You want an apology? Well, you can shove it where the sun doesn’t shine!”

“You shameless couple! Do you think you have the right to demand an apology from my wife?!”

Chu Wen-Fei blew his top when he saw his wife getting assaulted, and he rushed forward with the intention to beat up Ye Fan.

Piak~

Ye Fan threw yet another slap.

Before Chu Wen-Fei had time to react, he was slapped so hard that he was sent sprawling to the floor, where he laid bleeding.

“You insulted Mu-Cheng too! You apologize as well!”

“Now!”

“Right away!”

Ye Fan’s words were cold and cut at Chu Wen-Fei like knives.

“Damn it!”

“How dare you hit me?”

“You are finished~”

Piak~

Another slap.

“Apologize!” Ye Fan said coldly.

“You bastard! Even my father does not dare to hit me like this!”

“You are finished! Not just you, but that bitch too~”

Piak~

“Apologize!”

Ye Fan’s face was expressionless as he threw yet another slap.

“Shit!”

“You dare?”

Piak~

“Apologize!”

“You bastard! Don’t think~”

Piak~

“Apologize!”

.....

Ye Fan turned a deaf ear to the threats uttered by Chu Wen-Fei and Qiu Mu-Ying. His face remained expressionless as he continued to throw slap after slap. In the end, both husband and wife were so badly beaten that they burst into tears. Their faces had swelled up so badly that they now looked like a couple of pufferfish and, in the meantime, tears were streaming uncontrollably from their eyes.

At the beginning, the other Qius in the hall had been lashing out at Ye Fan. Even Master Qiu had called him a bastard and told him to stop.

But Ye Fan had completely ignored all of them and he continued to throw slap after slap. The crisp piak-piak sound rang out like rapid drumbeats and reverberated through the hall.

Everyone in the hall was shocked by his ruthlessness.

Everyone had been left dumbfounded!

Is this still Ye Fan?

Is he still a useless piece of trash?

Is he still the same submissive live-in son-in-law?

Where did he get the courage to thrash Mu-Ying and Wen-Fei in front of all of us?

In the end, the assembled Qius could only look on helplessly with faces pale with panic. Although many family members had gathered for the meeting, not a single one of them dared to speak up again, let alone step forward to stop Ye Fan.

His presence was just too powerful; it felt as overwhelming as the deep sea. And his ruthlessness had frightened everyone present.

Finally, Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband lost their resolve and surrendered. With tears streaming down their badly swollen faces, they made their apologies to Qiu Mu-

Cheng.

Only then did Ye Fan stop slapping them.

“Mu-Cheng, let’s go.”

At this moment, the hall was completely silent. Clearly, the assembled Qius had not recovered from their shock yet.

Meanwhile, Ye Fan held Qiu Mu-Cheng’s hand in his and prepared to take her away.

“Mm.” Qiu Mu-Cheng did not reject his gesture and nodded her head.

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, you had better think twice about this. Are you sure you want to leave with this country bumpkin?”

“He is traitorous person who shows no respect toward his elders. If you do not divorce him today, then I will kick you out of the family. From today onward, you will lose the right to call yourself a Qiu and shall never again receive a single cent from us!”

Master Qiu’s sombre and angry voice rang out once again in the hall.

However, faced with her grandfather's threat, Qiu Mu-Cheng simply laughed a self-deprecating laugh. She did not even turn around. Just like that, with her back facing the old man, she smiled coldly and said: "In the past, I regarded you as my grandfather. And treated the family as my spiritual haven. I saw all of you here as my family members. That was why I have been working hard to prove myself and receive your approval. I worked hard because I wanted to have a place in the family."

"But what did I get in return?"

"Qiu Mu-Ying has subjected me to all sorts of humiliation and framed me countless times. I would like to ask my uncles and aunties who are seated here tonight a question. Has any of you ever spoken up for me?"

"All of you would rather believe Qiu Mu-Ying's one-sided stories than listen to my explanations. Everyone here has condemned me and lashed out at me."

"I am tired. I no longer want to play your games."

“I just had an epiphany. I can do without relatives like you.”

“I do not have to deal with relatives like you!”

Qiu Mu-Cheng’s words resonated with her listeners and resounded through the hall. Everyone’s expression changed.

“Ye Fan, take me away from this place. I would rather till the field with you than stay here.”

Qiu Mu-Cheng’s lifted her teary face and gave herself completely to the man standing before her.

At this moment, she was rejoicing. Because in her darkest moment, someone was there for her to lean on.

As he looked at the peerlessly beautiful woman before him, Ye Fan smiled lightly and brushed away her tears. After a long moment, he said a single “Alright.”

Soon, the two of them started walking toward the gate.

“Well done, well done and bloody well

done~”

“Well done indeed!” Master Qiu smiled angrily and screamed in rage.

“Pass down my order. From today onward, remove Qiu Mu-Cheng from all of her duties at the company. I want her name to be completely erased.”

“She no longer exists in our family or Qiushui Logistics!”

“Also, she is no longer allowed to draw pay from the company!”

“If anyone in our family dares to provide her with support, he will also be removed from the company and kicked out of our family!”

“Since she wants to follow that country bumpkin, then we shall let her do so. Maybe they can go till the fields together in the countryside?”

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, you are nothing without Qiushui Logistics and the Qiu family.”

“Yunzhou may be a huge place, but you will never find a place to shelter you!”

Master Qiu's words of anger resounded through the surrounding. Clearly, he was in the throes of rage.

However, no one knew that, out on the street, several luxury cars were speeding toward the Qiu's family house.

The car at the very front was a million-yuan Porsche Panamera and the other cars in the convoy were all Audi A6Ls.

All the cars were fresh from the dealership. They did not even have license plates!

"Everyone, look sharp. Mufan Real Estates has just been established and this is our first time meeting Miss Qiu. Our disposition has to look good to her. We must leave a good impression!" Inside the car, a suited man spoke heavily.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Mu-Cheng, have you gone mad?”

“How can you walk away with this piece of trash?”

“How are you going to survive after you leave the Qiu family?”

“How are you going to be able to support us?”

“Do you expect us to starve together with you?”

“Damn it! You have really gone insane!”

Within the family hall, Master Qiu was not the only person angered by Qiu Mu-Cheng's decision to leave with Ye Fan. Both Han Li and Qiu Lei were also lashing out madly at their daughter.

They had not imagined that their daughter would rather get kicked out of the family and lose her job at the company than divorce Ye Fan.

What was even more incredulous to the couple was the fact that not only had their daughter left willingly with Ye Fan, she had also stupidly declared that she would

rather till the field in the countryside with him than remain with the Qiu family.

“You may be willing to go till the field in the countryside, but we don’t want to!”

“We will not be able to withstand that sort of torture!”

“Can you really bear to make us suffer?”

“How can you be so unfilial?”

“You do not have my permission to leave with this piece of trash! You come back right now!”

Han Li and Qiu Lei were both rebuking their daughter angrily.

At this moment, the Qius who had assembled in the hall were looking on as Qiu Mu-Cheng and her parents made fools of themselves.

“This Qiu Mu-Cheng is completely beyond hope.”

“Because of a piece of trash like him, she is even willing to go be a farmer in the countryside?”

“Oh well. Without protection from our family, besides farm work in the countryside, what else can they do?”

“I think they can only go beg in the streets.”

Wang Qiao-Yu was delighting in Qiu Mu-Cheng's and her family's misfortune. As she watched the skit unfold before her, she felt thoroughly satisfied.

Some time ago, Wang Qiao-Yu and her family had made fools of themselves when they invited their relatives to dinner at the Yunjing Hotel. Wang Qiao-Yu could still remember the mocking that had come from Han Li and Qiu Lei.

But now, the wheel of fortune had turned against them.

From today onward, Qiu Mu-Cheng and her family would become the laughing stocks of the Qiu family.

But that was not an accurate statement. From today onward, they would no longer be members of the Qiu family.

“Qiu Mu-Cheng does not know what is good for her. She is asking for trouble for

herself, so she has no right to blame us.”

“I think this is the first time I have seen that idiot go against the family head for the sake of her country bumpkin?”

“And she even said she would rather go till the field than stay with us. What an idiot.”

“The old man values his reputation the most. He is definitely mad at her right now!”

Qiu Mu-Ying’s and Chu Wen-Fei’s faces had swollen up like a couple of pufferfish but, inwardly, they were feeling rather satisfied.

A long-time mortal malady had finally been removed.

“Qiu Mu-Cheng, Qiu Mu-Cheng, this is what you get for going against me.”

“After you are gone, I, Qiu Mu-Ying, will become the general manager of Qiushui Logistics. The reins of power will fall into my hands and the money will come rolling in. Maybe, one day, Qiushui Logistics will fall into my lap and become the personal property of my husband and myself.”

“As for you, you will become a lowly countryside woman and spend your days engaging in backbending labor. You have already lost the right to become my opponent. For the rest of your life, you can only look up to me.”

Besides Qiu Mu-Ying’s family, Jiang Hong, Qiu Guang and the other Qius were all sneering disdainfully as they watched Qiu Mu-Cheng and her family make fools of themselves.

It was clear what they were all thinking. Now that they were no longer members of the Qiu family, Qiu Mu-Cheng and her parents would become homeless and penniless. They would most definitely suffer a most tragic ending.

“Well, they deserve it!”

“How dare they go against the family head?”

“This Qiu Mu-Cheng has become strong enough to leave the nest.”

“A traitorous person like her deserves to be kicked out of the family.”

“Whether she lives or dies, it is no longer our concern.”

Qiu Guang’s face was expressionless as he snorted heavily.

Meanwhile, Qiu Mu-Cheng’s second aunt, Jiang Hong, was sneering without restraint.

“They are completely useless, but they behave like arrogant bastards in their daily lives.”

“Let us see how they are going to survive from now on, without any protection from our family.”

“I only hope that, when they go around begging in the streets, they will refrain from telling others that their family name is Qiu.”

All the Qius in the house looked on coldly with mocking smiles on their faces.

And when they saw Han Li and Qiu Lei pathetically scolding their daughter for acting like an idiot, they could not help but feel an ambiguous feeling of pleasantness.

That was just the sort of thing they liked to watch.

It felt like they were watching a skit.

After all, Qiu Lei and his family had always been the most useless among the Qius, and their relatives had always looked down on them.

Qiu Lei was mediocre and useless, and his only daughter had married a piece of trash.

Who would give a damn about a family like theirs?

So naturally, no one was going to speak up for Qiu Mu-Cheng's family, now that they had come to such a tragic end. Everyone was looking on coldly and some of them even had gleeful looks in their eyes.

"Dad, you can't be so heartless~"

"Mu-Cheng is your granddaughter. You can't kick her out."

"We will lose our only source of income. Dad, do you really want to starve us to death?"

At this moment, Qiu Lei went down on his knees and started begging his father for mercy.

But Master Qiu kicked his son to the side and said: "So what if you starve to death?"

"This is happening because you raised such a 'good' daughter. She was the one who chose to leave the family."

"I gave her a chance, but what did she do?"

"Not only did she talk back to me, but she also talked back to the whole family."

"She has backbone, doesn't she? And she is a capable person, right? Didn't she say she wanted to leave the family? Then it is only right that she leaves!"

"I want to see what she can make of herself without the support of our family!"

Master Qiu's was in the throes of rage and his whole body was shivering with anger.

Clearly, Qiu Mu-Cheng's words had completely enraged the old man.

"Our family has fed you, clothed you and

raised all of you useless bastards for several decades.”

“But in the end, your daughter bit the hand that fed her!”

“I have never imagined that our family would end up raising a bunch of ingrates like you people!”

Master Qiu’s lashed out angrily and his voice resounded through the hall like muffled thunder.

But although Master Qiu talked about what their family had done for Qiu Mu-Cheng, he did not say a word about her contributions to the family.

Yes, all these years, Qiu Mu-Cheng had been getting her salaries from the family. But she had gotten them through her own hard work. She had deserved every single cent she received.

Also, without her, the Qius would never have gotten their business license approved so speedily. Without Qiu Mu-Cheng, they would never have gotten the chance to work with Hongqi Group and getting the loan approved would have been

an impossible feat.

However, Qiu Mu-Cheng did not mention any of her contributions. She did not want to.

There was no meaning in doing so. After all, she had already decided not to remain in the Qiu family. So if they wanted to slander her, they were free to do so.

They were free to call her an ingrate or accuse her of being shameless. She had no control over what others thought of her. The only thing she could do was to make sure that she had a clear conscience!

Before leaving, Qiu Mu-Cheng turned around and looked at Master Qiu with her reddened eyes. And then her gaze swept around the room to encompass the other Qius. All of a sudden, her voice resounded through the hall. Although she was choking as she spoke, her tone was firm.

“Grandfather. Uncles and aunties. No matter what you think of me, my conscience remains clear! I have done no wrong against the family!”

“I don't owe the family anything. And I

most definitely do not owe any of you anything~”

Her words were clear and they resonated with her listeners as they reverberated in their ears.

Qiu Mu-Cheng then turned around right away and left with Ye Fan.

Behind her, the Qius started lashing out at her.

“You have a clear conscience, do you? You think you don’t owe us anything, do you~”

“Since it is like that, you get the hell out of here right now!”

“Don’t ever come back~”

“Even if you and your family are starving in the streets, you will not receive even one mouthful of rice from us!”

“Get lost~”

Within the hall, the ear-piercing sound of their scolding voices reverberated endlessly.

However, at this moment, the gate to the Qiu's family house was pushed open.

Whoosh~

All of a sudden, several luxury cars stopped in front of the house.

Immediately afterward, a group of well-suited and tie-wearing business elites entered the gate in an orderly fashion.

Together, they looked like a torrent of black floodwater as they marched into the courtyard. As the Qius looked on in shock, the new arrivals stepped forward.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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With their dignified clothes and powerful presence, each and everyone of them exuded a boundlessly majestic aura.

Both the appearance and demeanor of the new arrivals highlighted the fact that they were not ordinary people.

That was why the entire family hall was quiet right now. At the moment of their arrival, the overwhelming presence exuded by the suited men had shocked every single Qiu in the house.

In the end, Qiu Guang was the first Qiu to recover his wits. He approached the well-suited gentleman with the extraordinary bearing and asked confusedly.

“You... You are?”

“May I know if this is the Qiu residence?”
The person speaking was a middle-aged man with a bouquet of flowers in his hand.

“Yes, this is the Qiu residence,” Qiu Guang replied. But his eyes were still filled with confusion. He had no idea why these people had suddenly come to visit his family.

“Then may I know which one of you is President Qiu? Miss Qiu?” The middle-aged man asked another question.

“President Qiu? Miss Qiu?” Qiu Guang was taken aback for a moment.

There were plenty of presidents and general managers named Qiu in the courtyard. And as Qiu Guang went about his daily business at the company, his employees would also call him “President.”

But when he heard the visitor mention “Miss Qiu,” Qiu Guang realized that they were probably looking for Qiu Mu-Ying.

“Ying-Ying, quick, come over here. They are here for you,” Qiu Guang shouted.

“Mm? They are looking for me?” Qiu Mu-Ying’s face was still swollen and, when she heard what her uncle had just said, she was immediately surprised.

She did not remember making any appointments for tonight.

But, in the end, she went forward to find out what was going on.

“You are?”

When she saw the group of suited men in the courtyard, Qiu Mu-Ying could not help feeling confused.

“Haha, you are the company president, Miss Qiu?”

“I have heard that our president, Miss Qiu, is a woman whose beauty puts the flowers to shame and outshines the moon. Today, I can see that ...”

The middle-aged man initiated the small talk before he even had a chance to take a good look at Qiu Mu-Ying.

However, as he got closer, he saw Qiu Mu-Ying’s badly swollen face and the words died in his mouth. In the end, he chuckled embarrassedly and whispered to himself: “As expected, the distance between fact and fiction is great indeed~”

However, the middle-aged man kept the smile on his face and, in a respectful manner, presented the bouquet to Qiu Mu-Ying.

“Miss Qiu, it is great to finally meet you. I

hope you will take care of me from now on.”

“My name is Zhang Xiao-Song. I used to work at Yunhai Group. From today onward, I will be Miss Qiu’s subordinate.”

“From today onward, I will devote all my efforts to assist Miss Qui in leading our company to even greater heights!”

Zhao Xiao-Song was all smiles as his reverential words rang out in the night.

At the same time, he also extended a hand-shake to Qiu Mu-Ying as a sign of respect.

“What... What did you just say?”

“You... You are Zhang Xiao-Song?”

“The CEO of Yunhai Group?”

“That famous business manager?”

“Weren’t you voted one of the Top Ten Annual Economic Figures of Yunzhou last year?”

However, after Zhang Xiao-Song had

introduced himself, Qiu Guang and company were all greatly surprised.

“What Zhang Xiao-Song? Is he somebody awesome?” Wang Qiao-Yu asked Qiu Guang confusedly.

“Of course he is! He is a legendary figure in Yunzhou’s business world.”

“In the past, Yunhai Group was just a state-owned enterprise under the governance of Yunzhou City. At that time, it was on the brink of bankruptcy.”

“But afterward, Yunzhou City hired the professional business manager, Zhang Xiao-Song, to be the president of Yunhai Group. He was entrusted with the mission at such a critical and difficult moment. Back then, Yunhai Group was saddled with debts and facing problems from within and without. I heard the city’s Finance Department only gave Zhang Xiao-Song a hundred thousand to do his job!”

“Nobody thought well of a company that was on the brink of bankruptcy. Even the city government had abandoned them. The city was ready to go for broke. Otherwise, they wouldn’t have given Zhang Xiao-Song

only a hundred thousand for his start-up fund.”

“However, using only a year and a hundred thousand, Zhang Xiao-Song managed to bring the company back from the brink of collapse.”

“It took him only two years to make the company profitable and three years to repay all its debts.”

“Today, he is a major pillar of Yunzhou City’s economy.”

“That year, Zhao Xiao-Song gained renown throughout Yunzhou’s business world.”

“He was lauded as the number one of the Top Ten Annual Economic Figures, the leader of Yunzhou’s business world, a renowned entrepreneur of Yunzhou and one of the Top Ten Most Distinguished Professional Managers of Jiangdong~”

Qiu Guang kept on talking until his face turned red with agitation.

Zhang Xiao-Song might not be well-known among the ordinary folks, but he enjoyed much renown within Yunzhou’s business

circles.

Even the president of a small enterprise like Qiu Guang had heard of his name. The oldest Qiu brother would even watch interviews of and read books authored by Zhang Xiao-Song in order to learn about enterprise management.

But Qiu Guang had never imagined that an awesome professional manager like Zhang Xiao-Song would be willing to come work for Qiushui Logistics.

“Hahaha~”

“Mu-Ying is awesome!”

“She actually managed to recruit such a talented person to work for us?”

“It looks like I made the right decision when I handed the reins of power over to you, instead of that unfilial girl, Qiu Mu-Cheng.”

“Father, now that we have such a talented man working for us, you can just stay home and wait for the money to come rolling in!”

“Haha~”

Clearly, all the Qius were in a state of great excitement.

The anger that had been aroused by Qiu Mu-Cheng’s defiance vanished from Master Qiu, and a broad smile appeared on his face.

“It is good that Mu-Ying shows such promise.”

“A person of true worth attracts attention without bragging. Mu-Ying can get a talent like Zhao Xiao-Song to work for her because she is young and capable.”

“Mu-Ying, with you around, we can make Qiushui great again!”

“Our company’s future is promising because you are with us!”

“I am proud to have a granddaughter like you.”

Master Qiu praised Qiu Mu-Ying ceaselessly.

And the other Qius followed suit as well.

“That’s right, Mu-Ying. As your uncle, I am also proud of you~”

“As your auntie, I am proud of you as well!”

“When our company rises to greater heights, you will receive the greatest credit~”

Every single Qiu was overjoyed. After they had heard about Zhang Xiao-Song’s achievements, they could almost see all the money that would soon come rolling in.

Wang Qiao-Yu was especially overjoyed. She had not imagined that her own daughter would be so awesome.

So awesome that even one of Yunzhou City’s Top Ten Annual Economic Figures had come to work for her.

Meanwhile, Qiu Mu-Ying was also overwhelmed with surprise.

Not only her relatives, but Qiu Mu-Ying herself had also not imagined that she would be so awesome as to attract so many talents to come work for her.

“Ying-Ying, what are you standing there for? Mr. Zhang is offering you flowers. Quick, go forward and receive them. You are the boss after all.”

Chu Wen-Fei stepped forward, gave his wife a hug and smiled.

Only then did Qiu Mu-Ying recover her wits. She hurriedly received the bouquet and put on the airs of a boss.

“Mm. Your name is Xiao-Song, right? Don’t worry. I will entrust you with important responsibilities. Once you start working for me, you only need to do a good job. You don’t have to worry about your pay or perks.”

Qiu Mu-Ying was really putting on airs. She even called Zhang Xiao-Song by his given name, as if she herself was one of the top honchos in the business world. In the end, when she took the bouquet from Zhang Xiao-Song’s hands, a prideful look came over her face.

“Haha~”

“Mu-Ying is awesome.”

“I think Mu-Ying should hold the position of number one in Qiushui Logistics.”

“What a promising girl. Compare to Mu-Ying, that Qiu Mu-Cheng is just a pile of shit~” Jiang Hong and company smiled as they flattered Qiu Mu-Ying. Everyone was looking at her favorably.

At this moment, Qiu Mu-Ying was in high spirits. She felt as if she had just reached the peak of her life. As she smiled, she turned to look at the disappointed-looking and haggard Qiu Mu-Cheng.

“Mu-Cheng, what do you think?” she said with an arrogant smirk on her face.

“I, Qiu Mu-Ying, am doing well in both my domestic life and my career. As for you, can you compete with me in either arena?”

“After today, you are destined to be stepped on by me for the rest of your life.”

Qiu Mu-Ying’s smug voice resounded through the courtyard.

Qiu Mu-Cheng’s pretty faced turned pale and she hung her head with a look of disappointment.

Both Han Li and Qiu Lei were also looking sad. Inwardly, they were overwhelmed with anxiety.

But at this moment, Zhang Xiao-Song, who had just respectfully handed over the bouquet of flowers, suddenly looked taken aback.

“Mm? Your name is Qiu Mu-Ying?”

Just then, somebody poked him from behind and said: “Mr. Zhang, I just looked at the photo. It looks like the one standing there is the ‘Miss Qiu’ we are looking for.”

“Shit!”

“Why didn’t you tell me earlier?!”

“I actually identified the wrong person!”

An enraged look came over Zhang Xiao-Song’s face. A moment later, he snatched the bouquet away from Qiu Mu-Ying, turned around and jogged toward where Ye Fan and Qiu Mu-Cheng were standing.

Chapter 165 Am I That Awesome?



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“What?”

“You have made a mistake?”

All the Qius were taken aback when they saw the scene unfolding before them.

What is going on?

Qiu Mu-Ying was also taken aback. And the arrogance on her face was replaced by a look of confusion.

At this moment, Zhang Xiao-Song was undoubtedly preparing to take away the bouquet from Qiu Mu-Ying’s hands so that he could present it to Qiu Mu-Cheng.

The suited men had prepared the bouquet as a gift for their boss. Now that it had gotten into the wrong hands, it was only natural for them to want to take it back.

However, in the next moment, Zhang Xiao-Song was rendered speechless. Even though he was exerting his strength, he found that he could not pry the bouquet from Qiu Mu-Ying’s grip.

“Hey lady, please let go!”

But she refused adamantly.

“These are my flowers! Why should I let go?”

Zhang Xiao-Song was gobsmacked by her response.

“Ma’am, we were the ones who bought the flowers. When did they become yours?”

“But you have already given them to me! Now they are mine!”

Damn it!

Zhang Xiao-Song was completely fascinated by her logic.

How could such a shameless woman exist on earth?

Fortunately for him, he had made a mistake. If this unreasonable woman were really his boss, then it would be a tragedy for him.

“Miss, I have just told you that we have made a mistake. These flowers are not for you,” Zhang Xiao-Song explained again.

But Qiu Mu-Ying would not listen to reason. She continued to maintain her death grip on the bouquet.

Zhao Xiao-Song was obviously angered by her unreasonableness. In the end, he gave up on trying to gain her cooperation and forcibly snatched back the bouquet.

Afterward, while ignoring Qiu Mu-Ying who was fuming in exasperation, he took the bouquet and walked over to where Qiu Mu-Cheng was standing.

This time, he acted more prudently.

“May I know if you are Miss Qiu Mu-Cheng?”

Qiu Mu-Cheng nodded and looked confusedly at the men standing in front of her.

She knew who Zhang Xiao-Song was. But she had no idea what sort of connection she had with him, or why he wanted to meet her. She was just an ordinary woman after all and he was a successful business elite.

When Qiu Mu-Cheng nodded her head,

Zhang Xiao-Song heaved a sigh of relief.

“Now I have met the right one.”

Zhang Xiao-Song laughed and, after he had finished speaking, a serious look came over his face. He took out a document from his briefcase and declared solemnly to Qiu Mu-Cheng: “Miss Qiu, after deliberation by the board of directors, you shall be appointed as the first executive president of Mufan Real Estates.”

“This is your appointment letter.”

“Please accept our appointment and take up the position of executive president. We need you to take charge of the company!”

Zhang Xiao-Song presented the bouquet to Qiu Mu-Cheng as he recited his lines.

And his respectful words rang out quietly within the family hall.

And after Zhang Xiao-Song had spoken, the other suited men all walked forward to pay their respects to Qiu Mu-Cheng.

“I am the company’s financial director, Xia Dong-Hai. I have come to pay my respects

to you.”

“Miss Qiu, please accept our appointment and take charge of the company as our executive president!”

What?

“Xia Dong-Hai?”

“Isn’t he the vice president of Feifan Entertainment Group?”

“The representative of the Top Ten Outstanding Young Entrepreneurs of Yunzhou City?”

“One of the Annual Economic Figures of Yunzhou City?!!”

“Good heavens!”

“He is also here!”

When the Qius heard Xia Dong-Hai’s name, they were once again surprised.

Like a rock dropping into the ocean, Zhang Xiao-Song’s and Xia Dong-Hai’s actions created waves among the other suited men.

One after another, they bowed at the waist and paid their respects to Qiu Mu-Cheng.

“I am the HR director, Wang Si-Hai~”

.....

“I am the operations director, Xu Da-Lu~”

“We are here to pay our respects to Miss Qiu!”

“Please accept our appointment and take charge of the company as our executive president!”

.....

“Miss Qiu, please become our executive president and take charge of the company!”

.....

“Miss Qiu, please take charge of the company!”

.....

Within the courtyard, under the moonlight, Zhang Xiao-Song, Xia Dong-Hai and

company were all paying their respects to and pleading with Qiu Mu-Cheng.

The reverential words were spoken in unison and the sound of their respectful voices reverberated through the heavens!

It was as if the generals of the armed forces were all paying their respects to their sovereign and pleading with her to assume overall control.

Their voices coalesced into a stream and resounded through the entire courtyard.

When they saw this, Qiu Mu-Ying was dumbstruck and a dazed look came over Chu Wen-Fei's face.

Qiu Mu-Cheng's eyes were wide opened while Wang Qiao-Yu had a look of disbelief on her face.

Even Master Qiu was glaring with wide open eyes as he trembled all over.

At this moment, the entire house was as silent as a tomb.

All sound had vanished. The voices ridiculing Qiu Mu-Cheng and sucking up to

Qiu Mu-Ying had vanished all of a sudden.

Within the hall, the Qius were standing stock still as they reeled in shock. At this moment, a tempestuous storm was raging in their minds.

“What... What...”

“How is this possible?”

“How could it be her?”

“This is impossible!”

As they looked at Qiu Mu-Cheng, who was receiving homage from the likes of Zhang Xiao-Song and Xia Dong-Hai, the Qius were nearly driven mad with frenzy.

They had not imagined that the company president nominated by the business elites was not Qiu Mu-Ying, but her cousin who had just been kicked out of the family.

At first, the Qius had assumed that Qiu Mu-Cheng would definitely suffer a tragic end after getting kicked out of the family, losing their protection and her position within Qiushui Logistics. They had thought that she would probably end up starving

due to poverty. Perhaps she might even end up being a farmer's wife in the countryside.

But Master Qiu and the other had not imagined that, right after they had kicked her out of the family and company, a whole bunch of business elites would come pay their respects to her and invite her to be their company president.

An executive president! This position was much higher than Qiu Mu-Cheng's previous position at Qiushui Logistics. Even Qiu Mu-Ying's current position at the company paled in comparison to her cousin's new position.

The Qius felt like somebody had just slapped them hard in their faces.

Just then, Master Qiu's face was flushed bright red and he was looking as if he had just swallowed a bug.

As for those Qius who had just been mocking Qiu Mu-Cheng, their attitudes toward her suddenly changed for the better. On their faces, one could see expressions of shock and envy.

“A company president?”

“How much is her monthly salary?”

“And she even has a professional manager like Zhang Xiao-Song working for her?”

“This means Qiu Mu-Cheng is going to become filthy rich in the future?”

“Wow! Qiu Lei’s family is totally awesome?!!”

Many among the assembled Qius exclaimed feelingly.

As for Wang Qiao-Yu, she had a terrible and sombre expression on her face.

The Qius had originally gathered to see the tragic ending of Qiu Mu-Cheng. But Wang Qiao-Yu and her family had not expected that the tables would suddenly turn for Qiu Mu-Cheng. Instead of the expected tragic ending, she had suddenly become the president of a company, a position that was much higher than Qiu Mu-Ying’s current position.

Wang Qiao-Yu could not bear to accept this ending!

“Is this Zhang Xiao-Song an idiot?”

“Instead of my daughter, he actually appointed a trash like Qiu Mu-Cheng to be the company’s president?”

“They will lose all their money sooner or later!” Wang Qiao-Yu scolded angrily.

But Qiu Guang shook his head and said heavily: “Zhang Xiao-Song is a renowned professional manager. There is no way he is a bad judge of character.”

“But I have to wonder. Does Qiu Mu-Cheng have any strengths that we haven’t discovered? Even business elites like Zhang Xiao-Song and Xia Dong-Hai are willing to go work for her.”

“Perhaps we are the ones who are blind. Have we chased away a business prodigy?”

At this moment, Qiu Guang was filled with regret. Perhaps they had made a mistake when they kicked Qiu Mu-Cheng out of the family.

Chapter 166 Miss Qiu, Please Take Charge of the Situation!



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All the Qius' faces were pale. Everyone was shocked speechless and there was no trace left of the arrogance they had displayed earlier.

As for Master Qiu, he had a most terrible expression on his face. Inwardly, he was being overwhelmed with shock.

Finally, he turned to look at Qiu Mu-Cheng, who was just then receiving homage from the business elites. A wretched smile appeared on his face.

"No wonder. No wonder you showed no fear when you talked back to me just now!"

"No wonder you remained unmoved when we kicked you out of the family!"

"No wonder you dared to challenge me, your uncle and everyone else in the family!"

"Qiu Mu-Cheng, Qiu Mu-Cheng. So they are your backers?"

The old man had a grieved expression on his face as he laughed a self-deprecating laugh.

Perhaps it was due to anger or maybe it was shock, but Master Qiu's was trembling all over.

And as the Qius were rendered speechless by shock, Qiu Mu-Cheng was standing in a daze by the gate.

Her eyes were filled with panic as she looked at the business elites who were paying their respects to her and pleading with her to take charge of the company.

Until now, she was still reeling from the shock she had received earlier. Her mind was completely blank.

At this moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng could not help but feel that she was in a dream.

She could not figure out why business elites like Zhang Xiao-Song would want to come work for her.

But more than that, she could not figure out why they suddenly wanted her to be the president of their company.

If it were not for the fact that she had seen Zhang Xiao-Song on TV before, she would have thought that these men were actors

hired by Ye Fan to make her happy.

“Miss Qiu, please do not turn down the appointment?”

“We sincerely want you to take charge of our company.”

“As for your salary and perks, you have nothing to worry about. We will treat you a hundred times, no, a thousand times better than how you were treated at Qiushui Logistics.”

“Your salary will be more than ten times higher than what the chairman of Quishui Logistics is earning right now!”

“Also, we will give you a personal car. It is the latest Porsche Panamera model. But this will only your temporary car.”

“Once things start getting on track at the company, we will even consider getting you a Maybach VS680! The number one tycoon of Great China, Ma Yun, is also driving this model!”

“That way, we can showcase your high status~”

Zhang Xiao-Song and company were still trying to persuade Qiu Mu-Cheng to join their company.

Meanwhile, the Qius were all dumbstruck.

Her salary will be ten times higher than Qiu Guang's?

Her personal car will be a million-yuan Porsche?

And that is only temporary!

In the future, she will be getting the same Maybach model that Ma Yun is driving?

Heavens!

How much will all that cost?

Several dozen million?!

"Damn this all to hell!"

When they heard this, Jiang Hong and the other Qius went into a state of frenzy.

They simply could not imagine owning a car that cost several dozen million.

Last year, somebody had tried to acquire Qiushui Logistics. But he had only offered twenty million. Now that Qiushui was not performing as well as before, it would be appraised at a lower value.

In other words, the car Qiu Mu-Cheng would be driving in the future would be worth as much as Qiushui Logistics.

“She is just showing off!” Wang Qiao-Yu was feeling rather unpleasant. With a pale face, she rebuked Qiu Mu-Cheng under her breath.

But her words were as weak as her voice was soft.

Not only her, but the other Qius were feeling unpleasant as well. Everyone was looking as if they had just swallowed a bug.

A few minutes ago, the Qius had been looking down on Qiu Mu-Cheng as if she was a nobody. They had seen her as a laughing stock, someone to be trampled on and an object of their disdain.

But who would have thought that she would rise meteorically to the top just like

that. Also, business elites from all over the place had come to offer their services to her. In the twinkling of an eye, Qiu Mu-Cheng had transformed into an existence whom the Qius could only look up to.

Qiu Mu-Cheng's reversal of fortune had created a huge contrast between her former self and who she was right now. Undoubtedly, the people who had once looked down on her were feeling terrible and disappointed.

Perhaps, this was human nature.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was somebody they had all despised in the past. So now that she was soaring high above them, the Qius were assailed by indescribable feelings of jealousy and disappointment.

"Mu-Cheng, what are you standing there for?"

"Quick! Sign your name on the appointment letter!"

"Hahaha~"

"The gods are protecting our family!"

“We are not fated to die yet!”

“A million-yuan luxury car and an annual salary that is ten times higher than what the chairman of Qiushui Logistics is getting?”

“How much money is that?”

“Haha~”

“All along, everyone has been bullying our family. But today, the tables are turned!”

“From now on, we will no longer be subjected to the moods of a certain someone.”

After listening to what Zhang Xiao-Song had to say, both Han Li and Qiu Lei were overwhelmed with excitement.

The couple stood up from the floor immediately. They no longer needed to pretend to be pitiable and plead for forgiveness. The servile looks on their faces vanished at once and, as they looked around at their relatives, their eyes were smiling pleasantly.

“Hmph! You really think our Mu-Cheng will

be finished once she leaves the family?”
Han Li snorted coldly.

“You want Mu-Cheng to leave? Well, do you actually think we want to stay?”

“Let me tell you this. Our Mu-Cheng is a gem that will shine wherever she goes!”

“Even without the Qiu family, we shall never fall on dire times! We will only do better than ever!”

“What kind of shitty family is this? It is better for us to leave such a family!”

A moment ago, Han Li had been worrying that her daughter would be left without a place to settle and become destitute after leaving the Qiu family. If that were to happen, then she and her husband would have to suffer hardships as well. That was why they had pleaded so abjectly with Master Qiu for forgiveness.

But now, Qiu Mu-Cheng had found herself a better place, there was no reason for them to go around begging anymore.

It was better for them to leave the Qius. That way, there would be nothing left to

fetter them. Their daughter could make decisions about her marriage without interference from Master Qiu and they could go find a wealthy young man to be her husband. From now onward, they would be making their way to the pinnacle of life.

The more Han Li thought about her future, the brighter it seemed. And so, she no longer held back when she scolded her relatives. All the Qius turned red with anger, but they could not say a word in return.

Perhaps this was what they were talking about when they said, "A wicked person will be harassed by another of like ilk."

However, even though her parents were persuading her, Qiu Mu-Cheng continued to hesitate. Her eyes were filled with panic and, even now, she dared not believe what was happening was real. Even more so, she dared not sign her name on the appointment letter.

After all, everything had happened too suddenly. At this moment, Qiu Mu-Cheng was still unable to accept what was happening to her.

In the end, it was Ye Fan who stepped up to the plate. He took the appointment letter and read through it. After a while, he looked at his wife and smiled lightly.

“Mu-Cheng, there is nothing wrong with this contract. The perks are good too. Mr. Zhang and the others are sincere in wanting you to take charge of their company. You shouldn’t turn them down. Go on, sign your name here.”

“Haven’t you always wanted a chance to realize your ambition?”

“Haven’t you always wanted a stage to exhibit your talent?”

“Your chance has come.”

“So why would you want to turn down this opportunity?”

Ye Fan’s soft voice acted like a charm on Qiu Mu-Cheng. As she looked at the man who was coolly smiling at her, the panic she had been feeling dissipated and she gradually calmed down.

Finally, Qiu Mu-Cheng nodded her head. And as everyone looked on, she accepted

the appointment from Mufan Real Estates.

On the way home, when she recalled the earlier events of the evening, she still felt that it had all been a dream.

She had thought that tonight would be the darkest moment of her life. But who would have thought that, halfway through, the tables would turn in her favor. In the end, she had had her proudest moment in so many years in front of the other Qius.

But she definitely did not know Zhang Xiao-Song and company. So why would they come look for her?

“Ye Fan, tell me honestly. What is going on?”

Qiu Mu-Cheng was filled with confusion. In the end, she turned to look at Ye Fan.



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