

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 809

Click. Just then, the door swung open and Zong Qifeng entered with the kids. Zong Yanxi was holding a string that led up to a balloon twisted in the shape of a butterfly. As she ran over, the butterfly bobbed in the air, looking like it was flapping its wings.

She immediately asked, "Where's my little brother?"

She wanted to give him the balloon.

Zong Yanchen crossed his arms before his chest. *He's a boy. He won't like something as girly as a butterfly!*

Zhuang Zijin exited the room and said, "The baby's asleep. Don't go bothering him now."

The little girl pouted before throwing herself at Zong Jinghao. She cried out sweetly, "Daddy!"

Zong Jinghao lifted her into his lap, tucking her wind-mussed hair back behind her ears. His voice was soft as he asked, "What did you do today?"

Zong Yanxi proceeded to recount all the places they had been to him.

Zong Qifeng greeted Shen Peichuan before he headed back to his room. He was getting on in the years now and bringing two energetic kids around the whole day had exhausted him.

Zong Yanchen sat down off to the side. His back was ramrod straight, making him appear more mature than his actual age. He was staring at his sister cuddling in their father's embrace.

Shen Peichuan patted the little boy's head. "I realize you've been growing quieter and quieter."

Zong Yanchen's voice was indifferent as he replied, "How else am I supposed to act? Am I supposed to be like Yanxi and let Daddy put me in his lap? I'm a big boy now! I'm not doing something so humiliating!"

Shen Peichuan snickered at his words.

Zong Yanxi glared at her brother and huffed. "Yanchen, you're just jealous that Daddy's hugging me and not you, right?"

"Hah! As if I'm that childish!" With that said, the little boy slipped off the couch and headed deeper into the house.

A grin tugged at Shen Peichuan's lips as he looked at Zong Jinghao. "Yanchen is becoming more and more like you."

"I'm like Daddy too!" Zong Yanxi threw her arms around her father's neck and asked, "Daddy, am I like you?"

Pinching her cheeks, Zong Jinghao answered in the affirmative.

Truthfully, Zong Yanxi and Zong Yanchen both looked a lot like him. Their newest child, however, was more similar in appearance to Lin Xinyan.

"I wanna go see my little brother!" Zong Yanxi squirmed off her father's lap.

"Try to keep it down. Don't wake him, okay?" Zong Jinghao reminded.

"I will!" The little girl ran off with her butterfly balloon floating along behind her.

Half an hour later, it was time for dinner.

Sang Yu was helping Aunt Yu place the finished dishes on the table while Lin Xinyan was in the kitchen. Since the baby was already asleep, Zhuang Zijin was also able to chip in. Not being needed in the kitchen anymore, Lin Xinyan washed her hands and made her way to Zong Qifeng's room. She raised a hand to knock when she noticed the door was ajar.

Through the large crack in the door, she could vaguely see Zong Qifeng standing on the balcony. The man seemed to be coughing.

The sliding door was shut tight, almost like he was afraid someone would hear him coughing.

Lin Xinyan rapped on the room door, catching his attention. He immediately came in from the balcony.

“Dad, are you sick?” she asked in concern. She noted the wan look on his face.

He froze briefly before hurriedly waving his hand. “I’m fine. It’s just a cold.”

She nodded and offered, “We have some medicine in the house. I’ll bring some for you later.”

“I’ve already bought some.”

Worry still gnawed at her insides so she suggested, “Maybe you should go to the hospital?” Zong Qifeng was not exactly young anymore. She also noticed how he rarely picked up the baby nowadays. He used to be nearly inseparable from the baby.

“It’s just a small cold. I’m fine, really. Don’t worry so much.”

Pursing her lips, she decided to let the matter go. “Come out then. It’s time for dinner.”

Zong Qifeng nodded.

Back in the dining room, the women had finished setting up the table. Zong Qifeng washed his hands before sitting down at the head of the table.

With Sang Yu and Shen Peichuan present, the table was noticeably crowded.

Tonight’s dinner was a veritable feast. It was the right season for most seafood so there were a lot of seafood dishes on the table.

Lin Xinyan was peeling prawns for the kids when Zong Yanchen spoke up, “Mommy, you should eat. I can peel them myself.”

Zong Yanxi chimed in, "I wanna peel prawns myself too!"

Thus, Lin Xinyan placed the peeled prawn on Zong Jinghao's plate. The kids took a prawn each and got to work.

Zong Yanxi ate the first one she peeled and continued when she found it delicious. When she was done with a second one, she hopped off her chair and ran over to Zong Qifeng. She lifted the prawn up toward him.

Warmth shone in the old man's eyes as he said, "Looks like I was right to pamper you."

The little girl giggled and turned to say, "Grandma, don't be jealous. I'll peel one for you right away!"

Zhuang Zijin smiled and teased, "And here I was wondering if you had forgotten me. My sweet granddaughter, you're such a good girl for not forgetting about me!"

Zong Yanchen was silent as he put the first prawn he had peeled in Lin Xinyan's plate. Then, he placed the second one on his grandmother's plate.

Lin Xinyan stroked her son's head gently before she moved the prawn back to his plate. "You're a growing boy so you should eat more."

"Yanchen is definitely going to be very tall," Sang Yu commented. "Other kids his age aren't as tall as him."

Lin Xinyan had to agree. Her son had taken after his father in stature.

Now that Sang Yu had spoken up, Lin Xinyan found her gaze drifting over to where she was. She glanced between Sang Yu and Shen Peichuan thoughtfully. Although the couple was sitting next to each other, the air they gave off seemed to be slightly awkward.

By now, she had an idea of what sort of man Shen Peichuan was. She deliberately questioned Sang Yu, "Sang Yu, are there a lot of guys in your university?"

Shen Peichuan's head subconsciously tilted to look at Sang Yu.

Sang Yu nodded. "Quite a lot."

“Are any of them handsome?” Lin Xinyan prodded.

This time, it was Zong Jinghao who turned his head to stare at Lin Xinyan. His thoughts were written all over his face.

Is having me as your husband not enough? Why are you asking whether Sang Yu’s university has handsome men? What are you trying to do?

“Do you have any handsome and wealthy guys wooing you?” Lin Xinyan shot Sang Yu a meaningful glance.

At first, Sang Yu was bewildered by the other woman’s words. Then, it suddenly clicked in her brain. “Yeah.”

Reaching to touch the necklace on her neck, she continued, “This necklace was gifted to me by someone incredibly handsome and wealthy.”

With that said, she deliberately turned to show it to Shen Peichuan. “Peichuan, do you think it looks nice?”

Shen Peichuan was struck speechless.

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The comical look on Shen Peichuan's face had Lin Xinyan hiding her smile behind a hand.

Shen Peichuan's gaze bounced between Sang Yu's face and the necklace around her neck. He had honestly not noticed she was wearing it. In fact, she had never had the habit of wearing such an accessory. She was constantly surrounded by men around her age in university while he had been busy outstation the past two months. Panic crested in him at the thought.

But with so many other people around, he was not comfortable bringing this issue up. Steeling himself, he said, "You're not allowed to accept other people's gifts."

Sang Yu took a bite of some vegetables, chewing slowly before swallowing. "It was a wedding gift. I couldn't exactly refuse."

Shen Peichuan's expression darkened. "You're obviously married and yet they still got you that?"

She nodded.

He pursed his lips and said in a tight voice, "Return it. Just tell me what you like and I'll buy it for you."

Sang Yu could not stop a bubble of laughter from escaping her. "You really want me to return this to Xinyan?"

Once again, Shen Peichuan was rendered speechless.

He shifted his gaze over to Lin Xinyan, who stared back at him steadily.

“That’s right, I gave it to her. I deliberately said all that so you’ll feel threatened. Sang Yu is still young and very beautiful, so a lot of men will definitely want to court her. That’s why you have to pay more attention to her. Don’t think that you can ignore her just because you’ve already gotten your marriage certificate.”

“I didn’t ignore her,” Shen Peichuan replied in an aggrieved tone. He loved Sang Yu from the bottom of his heart and was sincere in every interaction with her.

Taking in the lost look on her husband’s face, Sang Yu grabbed his hand from under the table. She had been so angry at him for not contacting her and being distant recently. But seeing him at a loss now caused her heart to soften.

Shen Peichuan squeezed her hand tightly, a layer of sweat breaking out on his palm.

After dinner, it was time for Shen Peichuan and Sang Yu to return home.

Sang Yu was sitting in the passenger seat while Shen Peichuan drove. Silence curled around them as they both kept quiet.

Fiddling with her safety belt, Sang Yu broke the silence, “Don’t you have anything to say to me?”

It was not that Shen Peichuan had nothing to say but that he had too many things to say. He did not know where to even begin.

Sang Yu sighed. “The day you left... I woke up and you were already gone. You didn’t even call me and only sent me a message once. And... You know what, forget it.”

There was no point in bringing all this up now.

Shen Peichuan stopped the car by the roadside. After several seconds of thought, he answered, “I was really busy those few days.”

She bowed her head as she muttered, “But you rarely contacted me even after those first few days. Is it really so hard to send me a message asking how I was doing and that you missed me?”

“Sometimes I only get home when it’s already very late. I was worried you would be resting...”

"Every single day, I stayed up late waiting for you to contact me." She lifted her head to stare at him. Unknowingly, tears sparkled in her eyes.

Shen Peichuan panicked when he saw that she was about to cry. "Sang Yu, I'm so sorry."

Sang Yu dabbed at the corner of her eyes. "Forget it."

She already knew what sort of man he was before they got together. In the end, she had nobody to blame but herself for this.

"Let's go home."

She faced forward resolutely.

Inwardly blaming himself for making her cry, he reached out to wipe her tears away. "I'm sorry for neglecting you. I'll definitely call you whenever I have time in the future..."

Turning back to him, she threw her arms around his neck and buried her face into his neck. She choked out, "It's not that I purposely want to get angry at you. It's just that you didn't contact me! I couldn't help myself! I thought you didn't love me anymore, that you didn't care for me and miss me at all! We were only intimate that once... I just want you to pay more attention to me..."

He drew her into a tight embrace while stroking her back comfortingly. "I did miss you. I really, really missed you and I do love you."

"Then why didn't you call me?" she demanded.

Not having a good answer to that, he promised instead, "I won't do that again."

She sniffled. "You'll call me in the future?"

He nodded. "I will. So please, don't cry anymore."

Swiping the tears off her cheeks, she urged, "Let's go."

Shen Peichuan let her go but did not immediately start the engines again. He was silent for several moments before he finally said, "I know I was wrong."

She was still young. He had left her alone after making her a true woman and left her hanging adrift without contacting her. He could understand how upset and sad she must have been.

"Next time, tell me if you're feeling unhappy, okay? I might not realize anything's wrong but believe me, I do love you." A steady and capable man at work, Shen Peichuan found himself at a loss when it came to her.

"Okay, I got it."

Expecting him to notice when something's wrong is too much to ask of him. He's not very good when it comes to matters of the heart.

"Let's go home," she repeated. Finally, he turned on the engine and they continued on their way home.

A while later, he parked the car in the parking lot of their neighborhood. It was only after they exited the vehicle that he suddenly asked, "You said you had a lot of classes and had to stay at the dorm. Is that because you were angry at me?"

She gave an exasperated laugh. "You only realize that now?"

Shen Peichuan was speechless.

Hooking her arm through the crook of his elbow, she sighed, "Oh well. I guess I better get used to that."

He's such a typically obtuse man. Well, I chose this man so I have no choice but to see this through. I just have to be more straightforward from now on! It's my own fault for falling in love with a man like him.

They entered the elevator and Shen Peichuan pressed the button for their floor. Since there was no one else in the elevator, Sang Yu stood up on her tiptoes and kissed him. "Do you want me?"

His Adam's apple bobbed as he swallowed. If he were to be honest right now, the answer would definitely be yes.

As they say, absence makes the heart grow fonder. For a thirty-year-old man like him who had only recently lost his virginity, it was not hard to imagine the depth of his wants.

Hooking his arms around her waist, he pulled her to him in an embrace. He then caressed her head.

Ding. The elevator stopped on their floor and they stepped out.