

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 951

During the journey from the police station to the prison, Nan Cheng asked, "Chief Wu, are you really in the dark about this?"

He was incredulous. Why did she go missing all of a sudden?

She had been relying on Jiang Mohan all along, so no one else could've helped her except for him and me.

Is it really that easy to escape from a prison?

He started to suspect that Chief Wu was the one who allowed her to escape.

Meanwhile, Chief Wu remained silent because he didn't need to give an explanation anyway.

After all, a missing inmate was totally unexpected for him as well. He was even more anxious than Nan Cheng to find out what happened.

A while later, they arrived at their destination. Chief Wu put on a facade as he asked the warden to bring out one of the inmates because he wanted to question her.

When the warden heard her name, he said, "This inmate is sick, so she's receiving treatment in the hospital." Nan Cheng immediately asked Chief Wu, "Don't tell me you don't know about this?"

"I don't!" Affairs like this needed Chief Wu's permission, but he never saw the relevant documentation!

Besides that, what sickness does she have to warrant a visit to a hospital outside of the prison?

He avoided Nan Cheng's gaze as he commanded the warden coldly, "Bring me there now."

"Alright." The warden sensed that something was amiss.

The three of them left together as the warden asked during their journey to the hospital, "Chief Wu, don't you know what happened?"

Chief Wu squinted, "What do you mean?"

"We kept a close eye on her as per your instructions, but the reason why she managed to leave the prison was because Wang gave her permission. We thought that he was there on your behalf."

Chief Wu furrowed his brows instantly. Some time ago, Wang tried to bail out one of his relatives who committed a crime, but Chief Wu denied his request because the nature of the crime was too heinous.

Wang then brought the same matter up a few more times and angered Chief Wu. Chief Wu reprimanded him harshly, "As enforcers of the law, we must be a good example and punish those who are a menace to society. Your relative is involved in this, but rules are rules, so they should be punished accordingly without exception."

After the lecture, Wang didn't bring up the issue again and behaved himself.

Don't tell me he was just pretending to listen to my advice?

Chief Wu's expression darkened.

They arrived at the hospital in no time. The warden brought them to the special ward where inmates stayed. Even though the inmates were qualified to stay in an external hospital due to the severity of their illnesses, two policemen were still required to stand guard to prevent them from escaping. The warden made sure all the procedures were done accordingly, and he even came by yesterday to personally make sure everything was in order.

When they reached the ward, they saw that there wasn't anyone there. The warden asked around and heard that the patient was undergoing some tests, so they all headed to the examination room. They then asked the nurse which examination room was Ling Wei in.

The nurse looked around and said that she was in the ultrasound room. Nan Cheng followed up with another question, "What illness is she having?"

"I'm not too sure." Ultrasound was used to make an accurate diagnosis, so the nurse only knew that the patient was due for an ultrasound test without details of the illness.

"Let's go." Chief Wu instructed. Our main priority is to find her.

I'm pretty sure that Ling Wei isn't even sick.

After they reached the ultrasound room, they breathed a sigh of relief because they saw two policemen standing guard at the door. Thank God they're still there. Probably nothing bad happened.

"When did she go in? Are they still not done yet?" The warden asked.

One of the policemen answered, "She already went in for quite a while. She should be coming out soon."

At that moment, Wang strolled towards them with a snack in his hands. When he saw Chief Wu, he immediately dropped what he was holding and tried to leave, but Nan Cheng caught hold of him.

Wang was panicking, so he stuttered, "C-Chief Wu..."

Chief Wu ignored his stammering and glared him coldly.

"Next." The doctor inside called for the next patient, but no one heeded the call.

Nan Cheng threw Wang onto the ground and stepped into the examination room. The only people he saw was the two doctors in charge of carrying out the examination.

The warden stepped in as well and asked, "Where's the patient?"

"She said she wanted to use the restroom, but she hasn't come back yet." She didn't show up, so they wanted to call the next patient.

"Seal all the exits now," Chief Wu commanded.

The warden paced around as he made some calls while Nan Cheng hurried off.

According to what the doctors said, she must've taken off not too long ago.

However, they couldn't find her after three hours of searching.

The two policemen who were standing guard and Wang were brought into the interrogation room.

"According to our rules, at least one person must stay by the inmate's side at all times when dispatched to a hospital. Don't you know the rules? Why did you both stand outside instead?"

The two policemen looked at Wang and replied, "He said that you instructed him that there was no need for us to escort her."

Wang knew that he had been caught red-handed, so he slumped onto the floor.

Wang had served under Chief Wu for a long time, so Chief Wu actually trusted him. He never expected something like this to happen, so he was disappointed beyond belief.

"What the hell happened?" Captain Song's face turned ashen with anger. He had to take responsibility as well because after all, he was the one who promoted Wang.

Sigh. I'm such a bad judge of character.

"Would I be exonerated if I told you?" Wang was somber because he too didn't expect Ling Wei to escape.

"We'll punish you even more if you don't say anything!" Chief Wu hissed, "Do you know where she went or not?"

"I really don't know." Wang let out a self-deprecating laugh. "There's no point in me hiding anything from you at this point anyway."

He was already in hot water, so why should he even defend her now?

"Let's just hope we can find her. In fact, you jolly well pray that we do!" Chief Wu asked someone, "Lock him up!"

He then turned towards the two policemen, "I'll give you a chance to redeem yourselves. Go and search for her."

Both of them nodded in agreement.

After a fruitless day of searching spent with the police, Nan Cheng returned to the hospital at night.

When he reached the door, he heard someone talking inside. From the gap of the slightly ajar door, he saw Qiu Mingyan and Jiang Jun, who was in a wheelchair.

They finally arrived after two days of finding out that Jiang Mohan had been involved in an accident.

If they genuinely cared for him, they would've showed up long ago. After all, the news that Hengkang suffered billions in losses due to Xinhai Investment being a shell company and resulting in Jiang Mohan being in a traffic accident had already spread like wildfire.

At least, that was the media's interpretation of the event.

Only the ones directly involved in the accident knew what actually happened.

"We must have someone running the company now that you're like this. Let Youqian take over. After all, he's family, right? He should be better than those outsiders." Jiang Jun 'subtly' hinted. Currently, Nan Cheng was the one Jiang Mohan trusted the most and he helped him take care of the company's affairs.

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The moment Jiang Jun finished his sentence, Qiu Mingyan chimed in, "That's right. Mohan, Youqian is related to you, so he definitely wants the best for you, unlike the others."

Jiang Mohan glared at the couple coldly in return. They didn't show any concern about my injuries and they dared to say that they want the best for me?

He scoffed, "So are you here because you genuinely care about me? Are you sure you're not here because of your son?"

Jiang Jun was about to lose his composure when Qiu Mingyan stopped him. She was afraid that he might get into an argument with Jiang Mohan again, so she spoke first, "We genuinely care about you. We already saw the news; if you had someone trustworthy around you, you definitely wouldn't have lost all that money."

Qiu Mingyan couldn't sleep at night when she saw the news. A few billion in losses! I can't even spend that much money in my entire lifetime, yet it's gone just like that.

I feel so bad about it.

That fact cemented her desire to send her son into Hengkang to obtain half of the assets.

On the other hand, Jiang Mohan didn't want to waste his time anymore. "Did you know that your son stirred up trouble in my company? Was he discharged from the mental health center?"

"He's still your brother, so why are you..."

"Did he see me as his brother when he came to stir up trouble?" Jiang Mohan fired back at Jiang Jun.

Jiang Jun was speechless, so Qiu Mingyan tried to explain, "He didn't mean any harm..."

However, Qiu Mingyan was forced to swallow the rest of her words when she met Jiang Mohan's frigid gaze.

"Go back. I'm tired." Jiang Mohan chased them off because he didn't want to get into an argument with them.

"We heard you injured your legs. You should have someone you can trust in the company, and there's no one better than Youqian. Mohan, both you and Youqian are my sons, so I love you both just the same." In fact, Jiang Jun was biased towards his younger son as he tried his best to convince Jiang Mohan. "No matter what, he's still your brother. You sent him to the mental health center, so things should be even between you two, right?"

Jiang Mohan was on the verge of flying into a rage. In the past, he could've just left if he didn't want to hear them anymore, but he was unable to do that now that his legs were injured. He ran out of patience.

They're here to 'visit' me, but they didn't even ask about my injuries. Instead, they keep harping about Youqian.

Family? Brother? Father?

What a joke.

"Youqian is your brother while Nan Cheng isn't related to you. You should know that blood runs thicker than water."

"Even though Nan Cheng isn't related to me, he has been staying by my side since the accident. On the flip side, where is my so-called family?" Jiang Mohan asked calmly.

He wasn't agitated because he knew them all too well. He didn't want to spend any more time arguing with them.

Unfortunately, they keep latching onto me like leeches.

"Mohan..."

"President Jiang." Nan Cheng only stepped in at this moment. Jiang Jun was interrupted, so he stared at Nan Cheng coldly and asked, "What's the deal here? Why didn't you knock?"

Nan Cheng replied, "The door wasn't closed fully."

"Even if the door wasn't closed fully, you should show some manners and knock before you come in. I'm talking to my son right now, yet you interrupted us..."

"I allowed him to come in without knocking. Any issue with that?" Jiang Mohan had lost his patience. "Nan Cheng, send them off."

"Mohan..."

"If you say one more word, I'll donate all my assets and leave nothing for Jiang Youqian." Jiang Mohan wanted to disengage from the conversation, yet Jiang Jun and Qiu Mingyan kept coveting his fortune and kept convincing him to admit Jiang Youqian into his company. They keep bringing up the fact that we're family, but since when did that matter to them?

They kept rubbing the fact that Jiang Youqian is my brother to my face, but did they ever scold him for stirring up trouble at my company and ruining my reputation? Did they tell him that Jiang Mohan is his brother, so he should show me some respect?

They are such manipulative hypocrites.

Family means nothing to them!

Jiang Mohan was extremely sure about that.

"You better not disturb me anymore. If you piss me off, I won't pay for your medical bills again," Jiang Mohan declared ruthlessly.

Jiang Jun's expression turned dark at that. He was old and he didn't have any savings, so there was no way he could survive if Jiang Mohan didn't give him any money for his living expenses and medical fees.

Ever since he married Qiu Mingyan, he never worked; he only stayed at his home.

They relied entirely on Jiang Mohan's money to survive. The surplus they had from paying off their medical bills was used as living expenses.

The reason why they were so desperate for Jiang Youqian to enter the company and obtain the company's shares was to gain financial freedom from Jiang Mohan.

"I'm your father!" Jiang Jun howled.

"I don't have a choice." If he had a choice, he never would've picked him as a father.

"Just leave." Nan Cheng pushed Jiang Jun's wheelchair.

Jiang Jun bellowed in rage, "Get lost!"

Nan Cheng didn't lose his temper as he forcefully wheeled him out of the room.

"Nan Cheng, go to hell!" Jiang Jun was so furious he slammed the wheelchair's handle. However, no matter how livid he was, he had no choice but to leave the room because he was physically challenged.

Without Jiang Jun's company, Qiu Mingyan didn't dare to say anything anymore. She left shortly afterward.

"Please forgive me. President Jiang needs a quiet environment to rest, so you shouldn't come to visit anymore." Nan Cheng ignored Jiang Jun's anger completely.

"W-Who do you think you are?!" Jiang Jun pointed at him with a finger trembling in rage.

Nan Cheng nodded nonchalantly in response and left.

Qiu Mingyan pushed the wheelchair and glared at Nan Cheng. "He has gone too far. How dare he treat you like this."

She then changed her target quickly, "Naturally, he dared to sass you because he has Jiang Mohan's support! Your son really is ungrateful."

Jiang Jun was livid, to begin with, so he was even more furious now after Qiu Mingyan's comments.

"No matter what, he's still your son. The way he treated you shows that he really doesn't respect you as a father." Qiu Mingyan continued to fan the flames.

Jiang Jun bellowed, "Stop talking!"

Qiu Mingyan immediately shut up. If Jiang Jun dies, Jiang Mohan definitely wouldn't give me a single penny.

She pouted and wheeled Jiang Jun while she mumbled once again, "Your son is too rebellious. You need to be more strict to him."

He turned around and stared at her. Am I not strict enough?

"Don't talk about this ever again."

I've had enough!

Jiang Mohan doesn't even respect me.

He humiliated me over and over again, and now he even did it in front of an outsider!

"What about Youqian?"

"I don't care. Whatever." Jiang Jun was frustrated beyond belief. He wanted the best for his younger son too, but Jiang Mohan really was as stubborn as a mule!

Qiu Mingyan felt helpless as well. After all, if she had a solution in mind, she wouldn't have wheeled Jiang Jun to come over.

Jiang Mohan isn't the gullible kid anymore.

Snatching something away from him is way too difficult a task!

Sigh. I should've been more strict with him! I shouldn't have let him grow up peacefully! Just look at what happened now!

He stole all the family's assets and now we're even relying on him for sustenance.

"Just ask Youqian to find another job first." Jiang Jun didn't want his son to spend the rest of his life in a daze.

“He doesn’t have any qualifications, so how can he even find a job?” Qiu Mingyan grumbled.

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“Wasn’t it you who pampered him even though he refused to go to school? He couldn’t even get a certificate because of you.”

Jiang Jun was certain that the mother overindulged their son, yet he never reflected on his own mistakes.

Qiu Mingyan sneered, “Am I the only one who owns our son? Don’t you have to bear part of the responsibility too?”

“Are you trying to drive me mad?” I’m already exasperated because I couldn’t get anything from Jiang Mohan, yet you still want to argue with me now. Do you really want to anger me at this moment?

Qiu Mingyan stopped complaining and began to deliberate another plan. It looks like Jiang Jun really can’t make Jiang Mohan reveal it.

Since he tried twice, Jiang Jun was already impatient and had given up.

Miles away, Nan Cheng closed the door of the ward. Then, he came up to Jiang Mohan and asked, “President Jiang, should I change the ward for you?”

The doctor gave Jiang Mohan permission to be discharged and rest at home. Nevertheless, at this moment, he was most concerned about whether Nan Cheng found out where she was now.

Nan Cheng checked the flights and answered, “Thailand.”

Both of them were aware of the reason that she went to Thailand – She had relatives there.

Nan Cheng could tell that Jiang Mohan loved Zong Yanxi. However, he also knew that it was difficult for him to get her back. After all, not only would Zong Yanxi refuse to accept him, but her relatives also probably wouldn't agree to it.

Worried that Jiang Mohan would be hurt indefinitely, he suggested, "President Jiang, I think that sometimes when a decision is made, there is no going back. So, I think you should let go of her."

Jiang Mohan always saw Nan Cheng as his closest and most trustworthy confidant because he was very observant.

It was perhaps the first time Nan Cheng said something like that.

Hence, he was terrified that Nan Cheng's opinion would probably be right.

His relationship with Zong Yanxi was probably all water under the bridge now.

Furthermore, a human's life was at stake between them.

His eyes brimmed with tears as soon as he thought about it.

He was supposed to have a family, yet he destroyed it by himself and even killed his own child.

Lately, he could hardly sleep and would always wake up in the middle of the night.

Even if he could finally fall asleep because he was exhausted, a nightmare would befall him.

"Nan Cheng, don't ever say such things from now on." Jiang Mohan recollected himself and continued, "Please sign the papers so that I can be discharged from the hospital."

Since Nan Cheng wasn't aware of the child, he merely analyzed the situation from an outsider's perspective. He felt that it was extremely difficult for both of them to let go of the past and get back together.

A mirror that was broken couldn't be perfectly restored, just like their relationship.

He believed that they would always recall the unpleasant moments whenever they saw each other. So, the psychological barriers would exist within their relationship forever.

If they were bound to regret it, why didn't they let go of each other to seek their own happiness?

This time, Nan Cheng ignored Jiang Mohan's advice and added, "If Mrs. Jiang knows that you purposely got close to her for revenge, will she ever trust you again? The answer is no. She wouldn't trust someone who hurt her and almost took her life. How could she ever convince herself to accept you again?"

Out of sincerity, he gave Jiang Mohan a piece of advice so that he wouldn't be in pain any longer.

It would probably hurt a lot in the beginning. However, as time passed by, the wound would eventually heal. In the end, only a faint scar would be left, and it wouldn't hurt anymore.

On the contrary, if the two of them got back together, they had to face each other and unknowingly recall the painful past from time to time.

If that is bound to happen, why don't they let go and develop a new and comfortable relationship with their own loved ones?

Jiang Mohan stared at him, fists slowly clenched. In fact, he would have asked Nan Cheng to piss off if he was someone else.

Deep in his heart, he felt that part of what Nan Cheng said was true, yet he wouldn't give up easily.

In reality, she had a place in his heart from the very beginning, yet he wasn't aware of it at first.

He lost his child and her because of his own deeds. His heart wrenched, he wished to make amends and salvage the relationship.

In the past, he always felt that he didn't have a real home. Now, he finally realized that throughout their three years of marriage, he already had a home and enjoyed peaceful and happy moments.

"Don't say such things ever again."

He didn't want to hear it anymore.

"Say it one more time, and you shall leave me."

Nan Cheng was stunned for quite some time before he asked, "Many people wish to get her back, including her elders... Are you really sure about it?"

"I'm sure about it, and so don't say such things anymore." Jiang Mohan was aware that Nan Cheng cared about him. In fact, Nan Cheng never talked to anyone about relationships but made an exception now for the first time.

"Nan Cheng." He asked in a low and slightly hoarse voice, "Do you how it feels when your heart wrenches?"

Nan Cheng shook his head because he had never experienced love that could be deeply inscribed in his heart.

Nevertheless, he understood that to like someone and to love someone were entirely different.

"I know." Jiang Mohan didn't look as cold and distant as before, but there was a sense of gloom in his eyes.

He remembered that he almost became a dad once, yet...

At that moment, he felt that he was suffocated.

The girl, whom he had always been looking for, was actually by his side the whole time.

He realized that the past was precious only after he lost it.

"I'm so selfish. I hurt her before, but I still wish to possess her." He knew that she would have a happier life once he let go of her.

Nevertheless, he couldn't do it.

Instead, he wanted to put her back in the same position by any means necessary.

He wished to enjoy every meal with her and hug her to sleep every day. Also, he wished that she could always smile at him and be lovey-dovey with him.

She used to say, "Mohan, when we have a child in the future, I hope she is a girl."

His heart skipped a beat the moment he heard that she wanted a child. However, he soon hid his feelings and asked blandly, "Why do you like girls?"

She said, "Because I can name her Guo to symbolize that we have a fruitful relationship."

At that time, he didn't respond to it because deep in his heart, he felt that it was totally impossible.

Ever since they were together, they didn't purposely use any contraceptives. However, after they were married for three years, she still wasn't pregnant. So, he opined that she would have been pregnant a long time ago if she were fertile.

Now that Jiang Mohan recalled the past, he knew why he didn't purposely use any contraceptives when he was with her.

Did I ever consider keeping our baby if she was really pregnant?

At that time, he wasn't really sure about what his heart desired.

So, such a subconscious behavior actually reflected his true feelings that were buried deep in his heart.

At that time, I wasn't worried that if she was pregnant, we had to build a family of three. Did it imply that I subconsciously wished to be with her for the rest of our life?

If Jiang Mohan were clear-headed enough, he would make sure that Zong Yanxi wouldn't get pregnant.

Since he didn't really love her but wished to take revenge against her, their child would be the casualty. As such, it wouldn't be difficult for him to deduce the consequences.

Even so, he didn't act based on his supposedly logical reasoning back then.

Came to think of it, he wasn't sure when he began to love her.

It could be the first time they met or any time after their first encounter. Also, it could be sometime when they stayed by each other's side.

Nan Cheng had never seen Jiang Mohan behaving as such. He stopped advising him, considering that Jiang Mohan couldn't possibly be convinced now.

Perhaps due to his upbringing, Jiang Mohan never exposed his weaknesses to anyone. Instead, he always remained composed and cold to conceal his inner gentleness and hidden feelings.

Therefore, when Jiang Mohan openly shared his inner thoughts, Nan Cheng knew that he had changed.

In fact, he changed ever since he knew that Zong Yanxi was still alive.

In the past, Jiang Mohan would never share his happiness and sorrow with anyone, including Nan Cheng, who stayed by his side for so long.

This time, he unexpectedly revealed his vulnerable self.

"I have something to tell you."

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Initially, Nan Cheng wondered if he shouldn't tell Jiang Mohan about what recently happened – Ling Wei escaped. Nevertheless, he realized now that Jiang Mohan kept thinking about Zong Yanxi. The only thing to stop him from looking for her immediately was that he hadn't recovered from his leg injury.

So, Nan Cheng opined that he wouldn't look for Zong Yanxi right away if he knew Ling Wei escaped.

At the same time, Nan Cheng was curious as to why he wanted Ling Wei dead.

Why does he suddenly want to see Ling Wei dead?

Nonetheless, Nan Cheng dared not to ask him about it.

When Jiang Mohan recollected himself, he inquired, "What happened?"

"Well... Ling Wei escaped," Nan Cheng replied.

"What?" Jiang Mohan's eyes narrowed when he continued, "Who did it?"

After all, Ling Wei would not be able to escape by herself.

Given that someone certainly helped her, he didn't ask what transpired but who did it.

"It's Captain Song's man, but I haven't figured out the details. I will go to his office tomorrow."

Jiang Mohan furrowed his eyebrows and added, "I'll go with you tomorrow."

Nan Cheng was shocked because he wasn't supposed to move after the recent surgery.

“Get a wheelchair when I’m discharged.”

Nan Cheng fell silent and nodded.

On the other hand, Zong Yanxi didn’t stay at a hotel.

When she realized that Sorn wasn’t Tawan’s illegitimate child but his adopted daughter, she changed her views on Tawan and even felt pity for Sorn.

As an orphan, Sorn was fortunate that a good foster family adopted her. Otherwise, she would have a hard time surviving in society.

In the morning, Tawan initially wanted to bring Sorn out to walk around. However, he suddenly had an important matter to attend to and couldn’t fulfill his promise to her.

As such, Zong Yanxi had to stay for an extra day too because he couldn’t give her a ride to the hotel.

As she was free, she helped Tawan console Sorn.

Sorn was displeased that Tawan reneged on his promise again.

It wasn’t the first time that he couldn’t deliver his promise to her, after all.

She sat on the European-style couch, hugging her favorite toy. At this moment, she seemed rather tiny compared to the couch.

Besides, she looked pitiful when she hung her head wordlessly.

Zong Yanxi hobbled and sat on the couch carefully. Even though she looked at Sorn for a while, Sorn didn’t utter a word nor look up at her.

She gently pinched and pulled the lace of Sorn’s dress with two fingers. Then, she said, “Sorn.”

“You don’t have to console me. I’m fine. I understand that Daddy is busy.” When Sorn looked up, Zong Yanxi could feel a sense of gloom in her crystal clear eyes.

She was obviously dejected and only acted tough even though she insisted that she didn't mind.

Zong Yanxi was tempted to take Sorn into her arms.

"I'll bring you out after my legs recover, okay?" Zong Yanxi continued to console her, "Since we can't go to the playground today, how about I teach you how to draw?"

Sorn blinked her eyes, yet she didn't seem very excited about it. After a while, she asked, "How can drawing be interesting?"

"Do you love daddy?" She asked.

Sorn nodded forcefully and answered affirmatively, "Of course."

"If you know how to draw, you can draw a picture by yourself and gift it to him. Do you think he will be delighted?"

After pondering over it, she asked hesitantly, "Hmm... Will Daddy be happy?"

"Definitely!" Zong Yanxi answered confidently.

Sorn gave it some thought again and replied, "Okay then."

Immediately, Zong Yanxi gave the maid some money, asking her to buy a set of paints and paintbrushes.

If she were to arouse the young girl's interest in drawing, sketching was definitely not the best option. Instead, the girl would probably feel excited to try drawing once she saw a riot of colors.

Since her leg was injured, she couldn't keep Sorn company while Sorn played games. As such, she chose a static activity to arouse Sorn's interest. By doing so, Sorn could immerse herself in excitement and let go of her negative feelings.

After the maid brought back the paints, they decided to choose the riverside as the venue. The maid even prepared some snacks for them.

"Why did you learn to draw?" Sorn glanced at Zong Yanxi.

While setting up the drawing board with the maid, She answered, "I wasn't interested in it when I was young. However, I began to be fond of it when an aunt drew some pictures with me to keep me company."

"Was it just like what we are doing now?" Sorn let out a slight grin.

Zong Yanxi was a little surprised to see her smile. Then, she answered, "Yup."

Far away from them, they saw frangipani that blossomed by the river. Half of their petals were snowy white yet the other half were pale yellow, thus they looked like boiled eggs.

"I want to draw the frangipani," Sorn pointed at the flower and said.

Zong Yanxi caressed her head lovingly and replied, "Sure."

It was easy to coax the girl. Eventually, Zong Yanxi kept her company for almost the entire day. Since Tawan hadn't come home yet after dinner, Zong Yanxi brought her to the bedroom.

She had to put Sorn to bed by telling her a bedtime story.

After she finished, Sorn looked at her lovingly and blinked her eyes gently. "This is a wonderful story."

Deep in Sorn's heart, she wished that Zong Yanxi was her Mommy.

Zong Yanxi didn't sleep well for a few days. So, after Sorn fell asleep, she unknowingly dozed off too.

It was late at night when Tawan came home.

He asked the maid about what happened at home today.

Sally told him that the two were drawing by the river today. Besides, she even pointed at Sorn's drawing and explained, "See, this is Sorn's drawing. She had a great time today."

Tawan came up to her and took the drawing to take a closer look. Well, it's not bad!

“The lady took good care of Sorn. Besides, Sorn had been a good girl today. She went to bed obediently after I helped her take a shower.”

Tawan raised his eyebrows slightly as if he were surprised to hear that Sorn had been a “good girl.”

Whenever he came home late in the past, this little girl would refuse to go to bed and insist on waiting for him.

Therefore, it was not normal that she was so obedient today.

“I’ll check up on her.”

He walked toward Sorn’s room after telling the maid.

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When he pushed the door open, the room was empty, and she wasn't on the bed.

He wasn't surprised, as if he knew that Sorn surely wouldn't be in her room. He turned around and came up to Zong Yanxi's room. When he wanted to knock on it, it came to his mind that it was rather late now. After leaving his hand in the air for two seconds, he withdrew his hand and decided not to disturb her.

"You're back?"

Once Tawan turned around, Zong Yanxi opened the door and stood next to it.

Since she was in an unfamiliar room, she slept lightly and was easily woken up by any movement.

"Did I wake you up?" Tawan turned around and continued, "Or you couldn't sleep well here?"

She acknowledged what he said by lowering her eyes and remaining silent.

Even if she were tired, she could hardly sleep soundly in an unfamiliar environment.

"Is your leg better now?" He shifted his gaze toward her ankle.

She unknowingly withdrew her leg as she answered, "It's much better now. The swelling has reduced, and it doesn't hurt anymore."

"Thank you for taking care of Sorn for me."

"Don't mention it. Besides, you have taken me in." Zong Yanxi continued smilingly, "Since you came home late, have you had your dinner?"

Tawan replied to her that he hadn't had any food.

Coincidentally, Sally, who had finished preparing the dishes, came over to them and said, "Sir, dinner is ready."

"Would you like to eat something together?" He invited, "It's time to have some supper anyway."

However, she flashed him a smile and rejected tactfully, "There is a saying in our country, 'Don't talk during meals'. It means that when we shouldn't talk when we are chewing food. Also, we should go to bed at the appropriate time and avoid disturbing others. Since it's time for me to go to bed, I'm afraid I can't keep you company while you have dinner."

Tawan let out a smile as he could hardly refute her reasoning.

"Good night, and go to bed early. I will take care of Sorn."

"Good night," Tawan replied softly.

After Zong Yanxi closed the door, Tawan went to the dining room.

Meanwhile, Sorn slept soundly and didn't notice that Zong Yanxi got out of bed just now.

Zong Yanxi stood beside the bed and was deep in thought. She was curious as to why Tawan, as an unmarried man, would adopt Sorn instead of sending her to a charity organization. If he was a married man with a wife and a family, it made sense to adopt a child. However, it was largely unheard of that an unmarried man would adopt a child.

Out of curiosity, she went to the dining room.

Then, she poured a glass of water for herself and sat at the dining table.

When Tawan looked up at her, she said smilingly, "I'm not talking."

After finishing his meal, he wiped his mouth with a napkin and asked, "I think you have something to ask me, am I right?"

She felt that this man was rather smart as he could always read her mind.

"Yes." She pursed her lips and continued, "Since you're not married, why did you adopt Sorn? I mean, most men wouldn't do that, right?"

"There is no specific reason. I just want to raise her," Tawan answered concisely. The first time he saw Sorn, she was kidnapped and sold by human traffickers to Thailand. She was bedraggled and hid in the corner of a shabby room with several kids.

When the kids were rescued, they realized that all of the kids looked like native Thais except her. Unlike the other panic-stricken kids, she composedly expressed her gratitude to her rescuers.

After parents brought their kids home, she was the only one left. When the rescuers asked her about her parents, she explained that she was an orphan because her parents passed away.

As such, the police prepared to send her to a charity organization.

"Didn't your family oppose it?" Zong Yanxi asked curiously.

Came to think of it, she had never seen his family after staying here for two days.

Tawan took a sip of his drink and gently put it down. Then, he said, "They are not here anymore."

No one could ascertain his emotions because he looked extremely calm. After a while, he added, "My mom died because of an illness."

His parents had a very close relationship. Not long after his mom died, his dad passed away as well.

For as long as he could remember, he had never seen his parents argue with each other.

He was born into a happy and loving family. The only flaw in his family was that his parents passed away too early and left him as a child.

He used to stay alone in the big house, yet Sorn added more meaning to his simple and peaceful life.

He looked rather serious, particularly when he kept a straight face and wore a military uniform. Nonetheless, he was a gentleman in real life.

It had to do with the environment in which he grew up, after all.

"I'm sorry. I..."

"It's fine." Tawan didn't mind. He wouldn't be triggered by his sorrowful past anymore because it happened a long time ago. Instead, he would recall the memory whenever it was mentioned.

"Well, I think I should go to bed now." Zong Yanxi stood up after she looked at the clock.

Tawan replied, "Okay."

She nodded in response and headed to her room.

"Ms. Zong," Tawan suddenly stopped her.

Zong Yanxi turned around and asked, "What is it?"

"Your clothes."

Clothes?

She scanned herself but didn't notice anything wrong.

"Your back," Tawan reminded.

Zong Yanxi turned around and noticed that her t-shirt was rolled up unknowingly, revealing part of her skin. She pulled it down nervously and returned to her room embarrassedly.

Since her leg hadn't fully recovered yet, she walked too fast and hurt her ankle. Ouch! She gasped for air in pain. Unknowingly, she reached out her arm to grab the nearest table to stable herself. Unexpectedly, Tawan reached out his arm to grab her wrist in the nick of time.

Because of his help, Zong Yanxi could stand steadily.

“Are you alright?” He asked caringly.

Zong Yanxi shook her head and replied, “I’m fine.”

Immediately, she withdrew her hand and added, “Thank you.”

As soon as she finished, she walked toward the room carefully.

Tawan stood still and looked at her from behind.