

Chapter: 141

Sneaking

The sky had already turned dark. Su Ruan came out of her bedroom and sneaked out of the house. Just as she was about to close the door behind her, Su Ruan saw a shadow moving in the night.

Su Ruan turned around and finally saw the person coming from the garden. Her hand rested on her mouth as she tried to suppress herself from shouting out loud.

"Grandpa," Su Ruan narrowed her eyes and was finally able to get a clear look at the person. She gave him a look over and saw that he was carrying a large cabbage in his arms. "What are you doing?"

"I'm coming out to pick some cabbage," Ma Hao Dong pointed at the cabbage in his hand. "Your grandma said she's going to use them to make some noodles for breakfast. You..." He gave his granddaughter a look over and noticed the way she was dressed. "Why are you dressed like this?"

Su Ruan coughed.

"You're going out?"

Her hand on her bag tightened. Knowing that she could not escape this time, Su Ruan let out a long breath and nodded. "Grandpa, I'll be going out for a while."

Ma Hao Dong's expression turned darker. "With that Young Master Long?"

Su Ruan nodded again. "Oh."

"You..."

Su Ruan held her grandpa's hand tightly before he could finish saying what he wanted to say. "Grandpa, It will only be for an hour." She held up two fingers and smiled brightly. "Ah, maybe two hours top."

"It's already this late," Ma Hao Dong reminded him.

"I know. I'll be back as soon as I can."

Seeing the pleading in her eyes, the words that Ma Hao Dong wanted to say were suddenly stuck in his throat. His heart grew softer even though he did not like his granddaughter meeting a certain Young Master.

"Alright. Just don't forget to come back earlier," Ma Hao Dong said. "Otherwise, I would worry."

Su Ruan's lips stretched up into a wide smile. "Grandpa, thank you." She turned around to leave and stopped herself again. "Grandpa, if my mom asks, you will help me to explain, right?"

Ma Hao Dong heaved a sigh. He suddenly wondered if he had spoiled this granddaughter a little too much.

"I know." He waved his hand. "Go ahead. Otherwise, you won't be able to come back in time."

Su Ruan pecked at her grandfather's cheek and left.

Ma Hao Dong watched his granddaughter and frowned. Although Su Ruan had not said anything, it was not hard for Ma Hao Dong to guess that his granddaughter was romantically involved with Long Fei.

After watching his granddaughter for a while, Ma Hao Dong began to realize that there was something strange about his granddaughter.

The way to the entrance was on the left but his granddaughter was running straight into the orchard...

Or could it be that he was too old that he had seen things wrongly?

Ma Hao Dong rubbed his eyes before he finally decided to go back into the house.

In fact, there was nothing wrong with Ma Hao Dong's eyes. At this time, Su Ruan was indeed walking in the orchard. The further she walked into the orchard, the more that Su Ruan began to wonder why did she agree to meet Long Fei by the lake.

The two of them were being very secretive that Su Ruan began to wonder if she was indeed in an underground relationship. However, sneaking around like this also gave her a sense of excitement.

As she was nearing the lake, Su Ruan finally saw Long Fei's boat by the lake. He saw her coming and waved his hand at her.

Su Ruan looked at the lake water and wondered just how was she supposed to get across. Just then, the boat approached closer. Long Fei stretched his hand and pulled her onto the boat. The momentum caused her to lurch forward until she fell into the man's embrace.

His fresh scent filled her nose and her face turned bright red.

Su Ruan pulled away and spoke, "Have you waited for a long time?"

"Not too long." Long Fei smiled. In fact, he has been waiting for her nearby as soon as the sky had turned darker.

Su Ruan turned to look at the lake water again. "Hey, how did your boat get closer? Isn't the water a bit shallow over here?"

"The water level increased in the nighttime." Long Fei coughed. He could not possibly tell her that he had controlled the water until it was high enough to reach her.

"Really?" Su Ruan did not know much about these things and decided to believe in his words.

"Mhm..." Long Fei nodded. He pointed up and smiled. "Let's go up."

After being on the boat a few times, Su Ruan began to get used to walking on the boat and would no longer get nauseous.

She climbed up the ladder after Long Fei and took in a deep breath.

The place was decorated with fairy lights, giving off a romantic vibe. At the center of the boat, Long Fei had spread out a picnic blanket. There were some snacks and a bottle of chilled wine.

"What do you think?" Long Fei asked. "Do you like it?"

"It looked nice." This man had decorated his boat for this date. It would be a lie to say that she was not touched.

He sat down on the blanket and patted at the empty spot beside him. "Come on. Have a seat."

As soon as she sat down, Long Fei pulled out a couple of glasses and poured the wine them. Long Fei passed a glass to her before he took a sip from his glass.

"Are you sure it would be a good idea for you to drink?" Su Ruan asked. "How are you going to steer the boat back to your place? Mr. Long, drinking and driving is dangerous."

"I won't get drunk," Long Fei said. His body was special and it was easy for him to control his body.

Su Ruan narrowed her eyes as she looked at him.

Seeing that she was worried about him, Long Fei finally put down his glass. "Alright. I won't drink that much. Just one glass."

Hearing his words, Su Ruan finally smiled.

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Preparing To Return

The two of them sat on the boat, enjoying their snack while chatting about this and that.

Earlier, Su Ruan was still too nervous to be around Long Fei. However, the man was a good talking partner and they could talk just about anything without feeling awkward.

Su Ruan began to feel more at ease and gradually lowered her guard against him.

"Is everything alright with your work?" Su Ruan asked. She saw him looking back at her with a puzzled look and explained, "Didn't you say that you would be busy with work today?"

Long Fei was reminded of the event that happened earlier in the morning. As he thought of the elders' faces when he left the dining hall, his mood became a little better.

Moreover, he had also heard that his father has been looking for him everywhere. He could picture how anxious his father would be when he could not find him.

"Mmm... it's alright. The difficult part has now passed. I'm just waiting to see the result."

"That's good."

Su Ruan could not help but worry when Long Fei told her that he had an important business to look after and would not contact her until it was resolved.

Thus, when Long Fei asked to meet her, Su Ruan had agreed to come out as she was worried about him.

Now that she can see that he was in a good mood, Su Ruan could finally breathe in relief.

"Are you worried about me?"

"Well, your voice doesn't sound right when you mentioned that you would be busy." Noticing the way Long Fei was looking at her, Su Ruan cleared her throat and looked away. "After all, you are considered my employer. If something happened to your company, I will have to worry about my paycheck, right?"

Long Fei laughed when he heard her words. He stretched his hand and messed with her hair. "I can assure you that you will have your paycheck as long as you work with my company. I have booked the flight to Capital City. When the time comes, I will pick you up and we will head to the airport together."

Seeing that he had changed the subject, Su Ruan quickly figured that he did not want to probe further on his work matter.

"That's good. Otherwise, I can ask my cousin to send me over to the airport and I will meet you there?"

"We are going in the same direction after all. Don't waste your cousin's gas money."

Since he had said it that way, Su Ruan quickly agreed with his arrangement. However, she then started to worry about how she was going to explain this matter to her grandpa and her mother.

...

In the past few weeks, Su Ruan has been busy with her writing. As she was going back to Capital City to attend Yu Zhi Yi's wedding, Su Ruan decided to stock up her articles so that she would have relaxing days ahead.

When her grandpa and mother heard that she was heading back to Capital City, the two of them began to worry.

Su Ruan has been staying in D Town for a few months and they were starting to enjoy having her around. Their heart was heavy at the thought that Su Ruan would not return to D Town again after she left.

When she saw that their expression did not seem right after her announcement, Su Ruan could immediately guess what was going on in their mind.

"Grandpa, Mom," Su Ruan heaved helplessly. "I will be going back to Capital City for two weeks top. I promise I will come back after the wedding."

"What kind of wedding require you to stay there for two weeks?" Ma Hao Dong asked.

"Grandpa, Yu Zhi Yi is my good friend. I promised him that I will come earlier to help around," Su Ruan said. "The couple were going to have a western-style wedding. I heard that I will have to join some family gathering and stuff."

Ma Hao Dong did not understand this stuff. However, seeing that Su Ruan had said that she will return to D Town after the wedding ended, Ma Hao Dong was more at ease.

He was still not ready to watch Su Ruan leave the town.

It was not easy for her to visit him. Naturally, Ma Hao Dong was a little selfish and wanted her to stay longer.

After talking with her family for a while, Su Ruan headed back to her bedroom to pack up a few stuff.

Just then, someone came and knocked on the door. As the door was wide open, Su Ruan could immediately see her mother.

"Mom, what's wrong?" Su Ruan picked up a shirt and placed it into her bag before she looked up and meet her mother's gaze. Her mother's worried eyes puzzled her.

"Su Ruan, you did not tell me that Yu Zhi Yi is getting married," Ma Zheng Zheng spoke. She walked over to her daughter's side and stared at her face for a long time.

"Mmm... Well, he returned to the country last year and told me that he's getting married. I met his fiance. She seemed like a very nice person."

Hearing her daughter's words, the frown on Ma Zheng Zheng's face deepened.

As the mother, Ma Zheng Zheng often heard her daughter telling her about Yu Zhi Yi. When her daughter was in college, she would mention this boy each time that she called.

It was not hard for Ma Zheng Zheng to figure out that her daughter had a crush on this boy. She liked him very much that her voice would turn softer each time that she talked about him.

However, since her daughter had not said anything about it, Ma Zheng Zheng decided not to ask, lest Su Ruan would be shy.

Ma Zheng Zheng had the opportunity to meet Yu Zhi Yi once. She could see that he was a good man and her daughter was deeply infatuated.

But now that the boy was getting married to another girl, Ma Zheng Zheng could not stop worrying about her daughter.

"I always thought that you like him."

The smile on Su Ruan's face froze.

"I saw the way you look at him and the way you would talk about him," Ma Zheng Zheng spoke. "Mom is also a woman. I know how it is when you like someone."

Su Ruan lowered her head. Lin Qing always said that her feelings were too transparent. It seemed that her mother could also notice this thing. "Hmm... but it was all in the past. He did not like me that way." Su Ruan looked up again and forced a smile.

"Are you... alright?"

"It hurt at the beginning. But I have already chosen to let it go." Su Ruan pursed her lips into a thin line when her mother came to hug her. "Mom, I'm fine. Really. The two of us are meant to stay as friends and I have long accepted that.. As long as he is happy, I will be happy too."

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Taking Advantage

On the day that they were supposed to head to Capital City, Long Fei came over to the orchard to pick her up. While Su Ruan was still in her room to pack up her toiletries when Long Fei came into her room.

Seeing the man standing at the door made her stunned. However, Su Ruan quickly adjusted herself and smiled. "When did you get here?" She looked at the luggage on her bed and continued, "There's only a little bit for me to pack. I'll come out quickly."

"Take your time. I'll help you to carry your luggage later."

Su Ruan nodded. She glanced at the door and asked, "Did my grandmother let you come upstairs again?"

Her grandfather was a little guarded around Long Fei and her mother still thought that the only reason she would meet Long Fei was to discuss work. The only person who would let him come to her room would be her grandmother.

Long Fei chuckled at her answer.

With Long Fei's presence, Su Ruan quickened her pace and threw her toiletries into her luggage. Before the man would have the chance to peek at what was inside.

Once everything was done, Long Fei helped to carry her luggage downstairs.

Ma Zheng Zheng was about to call her daughter when she saw them together. Her eyes shifted to the luggage in Long Fei's hand and a glint appeared in her eyes.

It was only a few days ago that she had talked with her daughter about her love life. Seeing her daughter walking side by side with Long Fei surprised her. The air around them was a little different.

Initially, Ma Zheng Zheng had thought that her daughter was lying when she said that she had moved on. But this...

Ma Zheng Zheng thought that her daughter was telling the truth.

"Mom," Su Ruan called.

Ma Zheng Zheng looked at the person beside her daughter and nodded. "Young Master Long, hello." The two of them exchanged brief greetings. Then, Ma Zheng Zheng turned to her daughter again. "Are you leaving now?"

"Mhm..." Su Ruan nodded. Noticing the way her mother was looking at Long Fei, Su Ruan cleared her throat, wondering how was she supposed to explain why did Long Fei come downstairs with her.

"Then, go ahead," Ma Zheng Zheng said. "You still have to catch your flight."

Su Ruan heaved a breath of relief upon hearing her mother's words. However, when her mother whispered her next words, Su Ruan knew that she could not relax that much.

"We will talk later once you return," Ma Zheng Zheng patted at her shoulder before urging her to leave.

Su Ruan rubbed at the tip of her nose before she followed Long Fei out.

A breath of relief escaped when she was able to leave. However, a few seconds later, Su Ruan began to fidget upon realizing that someone was sitting close to her.

Knowing that the two of them were heading to Capital City together made her anxious. It really felt as if the two of them were going on a trip together.

"What is your plan once you arrive in Capital City?"

"Ah?" Su Ruan stared at him with a dazed look on her face. Her mind took a few seconds to process his question and came out with her answer. "Well, tomorrow, I'm going to meet an editor. Mmm... I told you before about the editor who had introduced the freelance job to me earlier, right? This time she's going to introduce me to a few writing jobs as well. "

Long Fei smiled as he noticed that Su Ruan was finally at ease when she talked about her work.

Although she had agreed to date him, Su Ruan always put on her guard each time that they met. It was the first time that she decided to take a step to move on from her one-sided crush and she was still at loss on what she should do.

It would take her a while before she could adjust herself and get used to his presence.

But once she started to talk about her writing, Su Ruan could talk for a long time. The look in her eyes turned brighter and she seemed to be enjoying her work very much.

The girl had not even noticed that he has been staring at her face for a long time.

His eyes narrowed as he continued to observe her.

It was said that once he found the girl who had fed him with her blood, he would be able to move around with ease. As long as Su Ruan was by his side, he did not have to return to the lake frequently. Su Ruan would be able to make that thirst disappear.

This would be the first time that they are traveling together. Long Fei wanted to use this chance to see just how long he would be to hold on being away from the lake.

Time passed by quickly. Soon, they finally arrived at the airport. Su Ruan followed Long Fei to the departure hall and was surprised that she will be seated in the first class.

"It felt as if I am taking advantage of you now."

Long Fei chuckled. "Don't be. If you're troubled by this you can invite me to a meal. You have been staying in Capital City for a few years. You should know many good restaurants around."

"I won't lie to you," Su Ruan said. "Previously, my boss was very demanding. I spend most of my time in the office, doing research, coordinating the photoshoots, and writing articles. I don't know many good places to eat."

"It seemed that your previous company's treatment was not that good." Hearing Su Ruan talk about her company made his blood boil.

If only he knew how much she had suffered in that company, he would not simply let go of this matter after punishing Director Gao. A lot of them had bullied Su Ruan. He should investigate and punish everyone involved.

"It's not that bad." Su Ruan shrugged. "The management and the higher-ups were terrible, but I've met a few good people like Editor Ji." She flashed him a smile and waved her phone at him. "Don't worry about finding a place to eat.. Since there are still a few hours before we will reach Capital City, I will use this time to do my research."

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Everything Start To Change

Su Ruan had thought that she was going to play with her phone and looked at a few good places to eat. However, after a few minutes of departure, she eventually fell asleep.

When she woke up again, the flight had landed and the stewardess was giving instruction for the passenger to alight safely.

Su Ruan watched the man beside her with a dazed expression before her brain finally figured out what was going on.

She pulled out her mirror and heaved in relief, finding that she did not droop or anything. Then, she went out with Long Fei to retrieve her luggage.

They were on their way out to the arrival hall when Long Fei suddenly received a call. Seeing that the man had a serious look on his face as he listened to the other party, Su Ruan gestured that she would be heading out with their trolley of luggage first.

Su Ruan was finding a spot to wait for Long Fei when she suddenly heard a familiar voice calling out her name.

Turning around, she found that Yu Zhi Yi was waving his hand with a big smile on her face.

The man walked over and spoke, "You're here."

"Yu Zhi Yi?" Su Ruan shot him a puzzled look. "Why are you here?"

"Didn't you tell me that you would be arriving today?" Yu Zhi Yi said. "I knew that your flight would be arriving at this time and decided to come over and pick you up."

It was then that Su Ruan recalled her last conversation with Yu Zhi Yi a couple of days ago. He had asked when she would be arriving in Capital City and she had reported her flight number to him.

Su Ruan had thought that her friend was too worried about his wedding that he would not be at ease until he knew when she was going to arrive.

She had never thought that Yu Zhi Yi would show up at the airport to pick her up.



Yu Zhi Yi chuckled upon seeing that his friend had not spoken a word for a long time. "What? Are you surprised to see me?"

"I thought you would be busy with your wedding preparation." Su Ruan frowned.

"Su Ruan, you're my best friend. No matter how busy I am, I should spend a little time to fetch you," Yu Zhi Yi said. "Especially since you came back especially to attend my wedding."

Her lips pursed into a thin line.

Su Ruan seemed to recall how she would often call Yu Zhi Yi to chat while he was overseas. However, the man was often busy until they both grew apart.

Back then, she often had to comfort herself.

She liked him way too much that she would make excuses for him.

Why didn't he think to spend time with her just to chat?

"Where are you staying?" Yu Zhi Yi asked. "Let me send you to the hotel?"

"No. You don't have to." Su Ruan quickly declined. She came with Long Fei and the man had told her that he had made his arrangement.

"You don't need to be too polite with me," Yu Zhi Yi said. There was a trace of hurt in his expression.

Recently, Yu Zhi Yi realized that the two of them had grown apart and did not like this situation. His heart would hurt each time that he recalled running into Su Ruan and that man in the small town.

Now that Su Ruan was in Capital City, Yu Zhi Yi hoped that he could mend his relationship with his friend.

"Actually, my parents knew that you would be in Capital City," Yu Zhi Yi continued. "They wanted me to invite you over and have a meal with them. Su Ruan, you know that my mom liked you the best."

A faint smile curved on her lips.

When they were studying, Su Ruan had met Yu Zhi Yi's parents a few times. His mother was very nice to her and the two of them had a good relationship. Perhaps, this had given her the illusion that Yu Zhi Yi will someday be together with her. She had thought that with his parents' favor, it would be easier to win his heart. Apparently, she was wrong.

"I'll go and visit your parents another day," Su Ruan said. "But, really. You don't have to send me over to the hotel. I already made my arrangement"

His heart was uncomfortable.

In the past, Su Ruan would agree right away each time he invited her to meet with his parents.

When did everything start to change?

"Zhi Yi, I didn't come alone this time. My boyfriend..."

Just as she spoke, a tall shadow loomed over. Su Ruan turned around and saw that Long Fei was standing beside her.

Long Fei had long noticed Su Ruan and Yu Zhi Yi the moment he walked out. His eyes narrowed as his heart was surrounded with an unhappy feeling.

He walked over and overheard her words just in time. Suddenly, the unhappiness had dissipated. He lowered his head to look at Su Ruan and smiled

"You are..." Yu Zhi Yi saw the way Su Ruan and the man exchanged their glances. His heart soured. Seeing his friend and this man standing too close together make him unhappy.

"Hello." Long Fei turned to Yu Zhi Yi with an amiable smile on his face. "We meet again. You must be Mr. Yu. Thank you for inviting me to your wedding."

His pupil shrunk. Yu Zhi Yi looked at Su Ruan again, as if asking for her explanation.

"Zhi Yi, this is my boyfriend, Long Fei. You have met him before in D Town." Her cheek turned scarlet as this was the first time that she had introduced him as her boyfriend.

However, in Yu Zhi Yi's eyes, Su Ruan was acting bashful. When did Su Ruan know how to be meek?

Long Fei stretched his hand for a handshake and the two men shook hands while giving each other a look over.

The last time he saw Long Fei at the carnival, Yu Zhi Yi was unable to look at his face well as the surrounding was too dark.

He could only figure out that the man was tall and had a good look. Yu Zhi Yi had always thought that the man beside Su Ruan that night seemed a little familiar.

Now that he was able to get a close look at him, Yu Zhi Yi finally realized the man's identity.. He was President Long Fei from Blue Media Group.

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Su Ruan And I

"Long Fei... Could it be that you are President Long Fei of Blue Media Group?" Yu Zhi Yi asked.

"That's right." Long Fei smiled.

His heart jolted.

Yu Zhi Yi looked at the couple back and forth with a complicated feeling in his heart.

He really did not expect that Su Ruan would be dating someone like Long Fei. Deep in his heart, he did not want to believe that this was true.

Su Ruan and Long Fei came from two different worlds. Someone from a prestigious family like Long Fei would not be dating an ordinary girl like Su Ruan, right?

Could it be that Long Fei was playing with Su Ruan?

It was a common thing for someone from a rich family like Long Fei to fool around with girls and dumped them once they found that it was getting boring.

Once he fooled around with Su Ruan once or twice, will he hurt Su Ruan and dump her?

As the thought came to his mind, Yu Zhi Yi started to view Long Fei differently.

In his opinion, Su Ruan was an innocent woman who would easily be fooled. As her best friend, it was his job to warn Su Ruan about these things.

However, with Long Fei's presence at this time, it would be difficult for him to say a few words. Yu Zhi Yi made a note to himself to talk to Su Ruan again when Long Fei was not around.

No. He have to keep his eyes on Long Fei to see what he was planning to do.

Yu Zhi Yi decided to keep his calm. He turned to Su Ruan and spoke, "Su Ruan, I did not expect that President Long would be your boyfriend."

"I know." Su Ruan glanced at Long Fei and chuckled. "I did not expect that he would be my boyfriend as well."

She came to the small town, wanting to take a break from everything while visiting her grandparents as well. Su Ruan had never expected to run into Long Fei and the man would be interested in her.

Long Fei raised his brow at Su Ruan. He looked at Yu Zhi Yi and spoke, "Mr. Yu, we would love to chat with you, but Su Ruan and I still have to check-in our hotel."

Yu Zhi Yi's heart would feel very uncomfortable when he heard those words, 'Su Ruan and I'.

"Where are you staying? Since I'm already here, let me send you over to your hotel," Yu Zhi Yi offered.

Su Ruan was about to reject his offer when she heard Long Fei speak again.

"Won't that be inconvenient?"

Yu Zhi Yi shook his head. "It's not. President Long, please come with me."

"Since you a friend of Su Ruan, then, you don't have to be very polite. Just call me Long Fei."

The smile on his face turned awkward. Yu Zhi Yi turned around and led them to his car in the parking lot.

Meanwhile, Long Fei took out his phone and texted his assistant, Fu Xing that he can go back to the company first. The poor assistant was already waiting outside the airport. He was too dumbfounded upon receiving his boss's instruction.

Yu Zhi Yi helped them both and stuffed their luggage in the cargo space.

Just as he was about to ask Su Ruan to sit in front, the girl had already opened the back passenger's door and instructed Long Fei to sit in front. Yu Zhi Yi could only purse his lips and suppressed his unhappiness.

The journey to the hotel was a little awkward.

Yu Zhi Yi had thought that he would be able to catch up with Su Ruan along the journey but with Long Fei sitting by his side, Yu Zhi Yi could only hold a conversation with him.

Once in a while, Yu Zhi Yi would look at Su Ruan through the rear mirror. The girl did not even bother to join in the conversation and instead, continued to look out the window as if she was playing tourist in the city where she had lived for a few years.

This was the first time that Su Ruan had returned to Capital City after being away for a few months.

The city looked the same as the day she had left, but Su Ruan thought that the city had changed a lot. But perhaps, what had changed was probably the way she felt towards this city.

When she came to Capital City a few years ago to study, she was very full of hope. She had a high expectation that she would achieve everything she had ever dreamed of. Meeting someone she loved, building her own family as well as having a career that she had always wanted.

However, this city was not always kind to her. She had thought that it would be alright as long as she could achieve half of what she had dreamed about. Unfortunately, she had lost everything in this city.

She faced a lot of hardship and later, she decided that it was time to leave.

This was a beautiful city but unfortunately, it was not for her.

It has been a few hours since she left the small town and she was beginning to miss the silence and the peace that the town could give her. The air was fresher and living there was relaxing.

Because of the traffic, it took them almost an hour to arrive at the hotel where Long Fei had booked their stay.

Su Ruan could not hide her surprise when the car pulled over in front of the building. Although she knew that Long Fei was very wealthy, she had never thought that the man would book their room in The Orchid Hotel.

She knew well how expensive spending a night in the hotel could be and this time, she had planned to stay for two weeks to attend Yu Zhi Yi's wedding.

Thinking of how much money that Long Fei had to spend made her heart hurt.

However, Su Ruan did not get to think about this matter for too long.

While she was still in a daze, the bell boy had taken out their luggage from the cargo space and brought everything inside.

Su Ruan followed after Long Fei and the man had quickly checked in and obtained their room keys.

However, Su Ruan was quick to notice that something is wrong when Long Fei handed her the keys.