

Chapter: 36

Had No Memories Of That Incident

After talking with her grandpa for almost an hour, Su Ruan stood up, wanting to return to the house. When she looked up, her father was already standing in front of her.

A hint of surprise crossed her face. Su Ruan kept her calm and flashed a smile. "Dad, when did you get here? Are you looking for me?"

"Mhm..." Su Yu looked at her daughter for a few seconds longer. "Were you talking to your mom earlier?"

He saw his daughter walk out of the house to answer the call. His instinct told him that Su Ruan's mother called and she went out as it would be awkward to talk to her mother with him and the others still around.

"No. It's Grandpa." The smile on her face stretched up when she saw the surprised look on her father's face.

Her father had never prevented her from contacting her mother or the maternal family members. However, her father was aware that her grandpa often called to check on her.

Although her parents were divorced, Su Ruan thought that she was quite lucky to have both sides of her grandparents to dote on her.

"Grandpa... He invited me over to his place," Su Ruan told him.

Su Yu pursed his lips into a thin line. "What did you tell him?"

"I told him that I will visit him soon," Su Ruan said. "Dad, I'm planning to spend some time with my grandpa and grandma in D Town after the festivity."

There was a hesitant look on Su Yu's face. His lips moved as if he was reluctant to say something. "What about your work? Aren't you going back to Capital City?"

Su Ruan remembered that she haven't told any of her family members the news that she was now unemployed.

Previously, everyone had thought that she had returned to F City to accompany her grandfather after the accident. Then, she told everyone that she will be staying until the festivity. No one had suspected anything.

Moreover, Su Ruan had not brought up this matter as she did not want her grandparents to worry. The most important thing was for her grandfather to recuperate.

Su Ruan lowered her head and stared at her shoes. "Dad, there's something that I haven't told you yet."

"What is it?" Su Yu looked at his daughter with worry.

He might not spend a lot of his time with his daughter but that did not mean that he did not care about her.

"Dad, I quit my job." Su Ruan looked at her father's face, wanting to look at his reaction. "I didn't tell you or anyone before because I did not want everyone to worry. Especially Grandfather and Grandmother."

"I thought you liked working for that company."

"Initially I do." She raised her shoulders and sighed. "Eventually, the environment was not for me," Su Ruan said. She had no plan to elaborate on Gao Leng's harassment and how she was bullied at work.

Su Yu thought about her words for a while. "It's fine if you quit your job if you think that it's not for you." He stretched his hand to pat at her shoulder. "I'm still here to support you and we are not lacking money."

"Thank you, Dad."

"What are you planning to do now?" Su Yu asked after a few seconds of silence between them.

"I think going back to my maternal grandparents' place would be a good idea," Su Ruan said. "I just wanted to take a short break and figure out what I wanted to do next."

Su Yu frowned. From the way Su Ruan had phrased it, he could guess that Su Ruan's stay in D Town would not be a one or two days visit.

Thinking of what had happened to Su Ruan when she was still a little girl made him a little hesitant.

A long time has passed since the last time Su Ruan had visited D Town. Su Yu did not know whether his daughter would react the same way again when she came to her maternal grandparents' place.

"Did your mom know about this?" Su Yu asked.

"I haven't talked to her about it."

"It's not that I wanted to stop your visit to your maternal grandparent's place. They are also your grandparents and as their granddaughter, of course, you should visit them," Su Yu spoke. "However, Su Ruan, I am a little worried."

Su Ruan shot her father an inquiring look. "Why?"

A helpless sigh escaped him. "You might not remember this, but when you were four, five years old, your mom and I brought you back to D Town. Your cousins were all there and everyone gathered around for a small barbecue party."

Su Ruan listened to her father attentively. However, she had no memories of that incident. Perhaps, it was because she was too young.

"That night, your cousins wanted to play hide and seek. No one expected you to head into your grandfathers' orchard and hide in there." Su Yu paused. He looked at his daughter worriedly and wondered if she was going to remember something unpleasant. "Later, everyone heard your scream. No one knew what happened to you but we found you on the ground, passed out. When you woke up, you

don't remember anything but each time you look at your grandpa's orchard, you would scream out hysterically."

"I don't remember any of this. But mom often told me that the reason we never go back to D Town was that I would be traumatized each time we stepped into grandpa's place."

"I'm worried if something would happen to you again if you went back to that town," Su Yu admitted.

Su Ruan chuckled. "Dad, this incident happened more than twenty years ago. Perhaps I would be fine now. Besides, I was still a little girl when that incident happened. Perhaps, my cousins told me some horror story and my imagination ran wild when I went into the orchard to hide."

Su Yu thought that her daughter was taking things too lightly about this.

Of course, she did not know how badly she would react when she saw the orchard.

She stretched her hand and patted at her father's arm. "Dad, I'll be fine. I promise. Grandpa is around too. If something happened to me, he will quickly bring me out of the town."

Seeing the stubborn look in Su Ruan's eyes, Su Yu could only heave a long sigh. "Fine. I don't want to stop you from seeing your maternal family as well.. But Su Ruan, you have to promise that you will leave once you feel uncomfortable." He hesitated for a while and added, "Talk to your mom before you head back, alright?"

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Welcome To D Town

After the festivity period ended, Su Ruan packed her bag and headed to D Town. Her flight landed on time and Su Ruan walked to the arrival hall only to find a petit girl, holding a placard with her name written on it.

The girl was dressed yellow dress and blue cropped jacket matched with black sneakers. Her hair was tied into a high ponytail, giving her a little height.

The moment their gazes met, the girl's eyes lit up. She walked over to Su Ruan with a smile and spoke, "Cousin Su Ruan?"

Su Ruan gave the girl a look over and nodded.

"It's me. Ma Yu Xi." She tilted her head to one side and smiled brightly. "Don't you remember me?"

Her eyes narrowed. Su Ruan looked at the girl's smile again and realized that she seemed a little familiar. "It's you? God! You've grown up and taller! Back then, you were only as high as my arms. Now you're at my ears."

"Sister Ruan, it has been five years since the last time we saw each other. Of course, I grew taller." Ma Yu Xi giggled happily.

The two of them were three years apart and Ma Yu Xi would always address Su Ruan as Sister Ruan. They rarely saw each other but whenever they met, Ma Yu Xi liked to stay close to Su Ruan.

"I'm glad that you still remember me," Ma Yu Xi said.

Su Ruan looked around and her gaze went back to Ma Yu Xi. "Did you come here alone?"

"Uh-huh." Ma Yu Xi nodded. "Grandpa send me over to pick you up. Initially, it was my dad who was supposed to come. However, a buyer decided to stop by and they were discussing some business. I'm the only one who is available."

The Ma family had lived in D Town for years and they had a large fruit orchard. As her grandpa was older, it was Ma Yu Xi's father, who was usually in charge of the orchard. The Ma family was big but most of its members lived in a bigger city in pursuit of a better life.

Su Ruan looked at her cousin suspiciously. If she was not mistaken, five years ago, this girl was still in high school. How old was this girl again?

"Don't look at me like that." Ma Yu Xi chuckled. "I promise you that I will bring you back to Grandpa's orchard safely."

"You can drive?"

Ma Yu Xi let out a dramatic sigh. "I have had my license for two years already!"

Su Ruan was doubting her answer and was considering checking on the girl's identification card. However, that doesn't sound very appropriate.

Although Ma Yu Xi is her cousin, Su Ruan was not very familiar with her.

"Do you need me to drive?" Su Ruan suggested.

Ma Yu Xi flashed her a mysterious smile. "Don't worry, I got this." She grabbed the trolley from Su Ruan and waved her hand. "Come on. I'm sure that everyone is excited to see you."

With no other choice, Su Ruan followed her cousin and headed to the parking lot together. The moment she saw the large pickup truck in front of her, Su Ruan began to doubt whether she should climb up the vehicle or not.

As she was still contemplating this problem, Ma Yu Xi had already put her luggage in the car. She helped Su Ruan with the door and laughed. "Come in."

Should she trust this girl with her life?

He gave her cousin another look and almost could not believe that she would be able to drive this pickup truck. However, if Ma Yu Xi had asked her to drive, Su Ruan too did not know if she could do it. She had never driven a pickup truck before.

Even if she wanted to give it a try, Su Ruan was unfamiliar with the road.

Taking a deep breath, Su Ruan finally climbed up the truck. The moment Ma Yu Xi started to drive off and leave the airport, Su Ruan could not help but pray for her life.

Surprisingly, Ma Yu Xi could drive very well. This girl... would even drive with one hand in such a languid manner.

In the beginning, Su Ruan was afraid to ride with this cousin. However, after a while, Su Ruan began to look up to Ma Yu Xi's driving skills.

As Ma Yu Xi drive the pickup truck to D Town, the cousins continued to chat and catch up with their life.

Ma Yu Xi had now finished college and was now helping her father in the orchard while looking for a job. However, their orchard was doing very well and Ma Yu Xi was considering staying and helping to expand their business.

After an hour of driving, they finally left the city and entered a slightly smaller road. Su Ruan watched as Ma Yu Xi took over a few long trucks and thought that she would probably lose a few years of her life due to fear.

Then, they finally entered an area surrounded by tall green trees on their left and right.

Ma Yu Xi rolled down the windows slightly and drove a little slower to let Su Ruan enjoy the scenery.

The wind blew to her face and the air was very clean and refreshing. Su Ruan took a deep breath and thought as if her whole body was energized.

"Sister Ruan." Ma Yu Xi flashed her a smile. "Welcome to D Town."

Su Ruan laughed happily at her words. Somehow, she had this feeling that coming back to D Town was a good move. Perhaps, she could really relax and heal her broken heart. Perhaps, she would be able to figure out what she wanted to do after this.

Something glittering from far away blinded her eyes. Su Run narrowed her eyes to adjust the light and finally saw the lake. The water was so blue and clear. It was the most beautiful lake she had ever seen.

Her breath stuck in her chest. She had often heard her Grandpa mention this lake but Su Ruan did not think that the view would be this breathtaking.

"How is it? Beautiful, right?"

Su Ruan nodded enthusiastically.

"In a few days, I will bring you around the lake and play around," Ma Yu Xi said.. "I'll take you to our town and let you enjoy your stay here."

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The Ma Family

They entered a smaller path.

Su Ruan continued to look around and thought that the scenery around this place was a little familiar. She had this feeling that she had visited this place before.

Suddenly, her thoughts went back to her conversation with her father a few days earlier. Her father had warned her that the moment she felt uncomfortable, she should leave the place immediately.

Su Ruan placed a hand on her chest and took a deep breath.

The feeling she had at this time was only anticipation and not any uncomfortable feeling like her father had mentioned to her before.

At least, she was not experiencing shortening of breath and the world was not spinning around.

"Sister Ruan, are you alright?" Ma Yu Xi asked.

The moment they entered the path, Ma Yu Xi had already noticed her cousin's expression. Before she headed out to pick up Su Ruan, her grandpa had already told her to be cautious of her cousin's mood.

If Su Ruan was feeling uncomfortable, she should turn the car around and get farther away.

Ma Yu Xi did not understand why but later, her father explained that Su Ruan had once got lost in the orchard while they were playing hide and seek. It was dark at night and this event had traumatized her.

This was also the reason why Su Ruan had never returned to D Town.

Until now.

Su Ruan flashed an assuring smile. "I'm fine. Just a little excited about meeting Grandpa and Grandma. It has been a while since I came here."

Ma Yu Xi pursed her lips as she pondered on something. "Grandpa said if you are feeling uncomfortable, I should turn around and send you to the town instead."

"Did Grandpa tell you why?"

Ma Yu Xi shook her head. "But my dad mentioned a little bit about it."

Su Ruan let out a sigh. "It happened when I was still a little kid. Actually, I don't remember much about it. But my mom mentioned it a few times. They said that I might have seen something scary. But perhaps, they were only shadows that I have seen at night."

"Uh-huh." Ma Yu Xi nodded. "It is a bit dark in the orchard during nighttime. Perhaps now that you are grown up, you are no longer afraid."

"Mhmm... I hope so."

Soon the familiar mansion came into view. Su Ruan looked at the view in front of her with her eyes unblinking. In the past, she could only see her grandparents' house in the picture. But now, the house was right in front of her.

It was beautiful and gave off warm feelings. It felt as if she was finally at home.

Her mother had once mentioned that the house was smaller in the past but her grandparents had done some renovation so that his grandchildren would be more comfortable when they come to visit this place.

As the car approached closer, a few men and women came out with an expectant look on their faces.

From the distance, Su Ruan could recognize that they were her grandparents and her mother.

"Sister Ruan, welcome back." Ma Yu Xi spoke as she pulled over at a parking spot. She looked at the group of people who were waiting at the side and laughed. "You see, everyone is excited to see you." She pushed the door open and paused. "Sister Ruan, go ahead and meet everyone. I'll help you unload your luggage."

Su Ruan climbed down from the pickup truck and looked at the family who was waiting for her. Seeing the look on their faces made her heart warm. Her eyes were stinging and the tears pooled in her eyes.

She blinked and wiped her eyes with the back of her hand. She picked up her steps to get closer to them.

It was her mother, Ma Zheng Zheng who rushed over to her side first. "Su Ruan, you're here." She gave her daughter a look over and finally breathe in relief when she could not sense anything wrong with her expression. "How was your flight?"

"It was good." Su Ruan

"Are you feeling any discomfort?" Ma Zheng Zheng asked worriedly.

The day that Su Ruan called to say that she was planning to visit her grandparents, Ma Zheng Zheng could not hide her shock. She recalled the last two times they brought her to the house and each time, Su Ruan would scream out as if she was about to lose her mind.

When she heard that it was her father who had invited Su Ruan over, Ma Zheng Zheng had a few days fight with her father.

However, Su Ruan had already made up her mind and there was nothing she could say to convince the girl to stay away.

Seeing that her daughter standing here, Ma Zheng Zheng tried to block her eyes away from the house she worried that Su Ruan would be traumatized again.

"Mom, I'm fine." Su Ruan laughed. "If I started to feel uncomfortable, I will tell you, alright?"

Ma Zheng Zheng hesitated before she moved away.

Su Ruan lifted her head again and this time, her gazes met with her Grandpa. The joy on his face was transparent. Her Grandpa had invited her to come over to the town over and over again. This was the only time that she had agreed to come. Naturally, Ma Hao Dong could not hide his joy.

He spread his arms and watched as Su Ruan walked over into his embrace. "Su Ruan, welcome home. I'm glad that you can make it to my place this time."

She looked up and giggled happily. "Grandpa, thank you."

"Alright, quickly let me hug my granddaughter next."

Su Ruan turned to the right and saw her grandma, Lan Shi, looking at her with a warm look on her face. She stepped back from her grandpa and walked into his grandma's embrace. "Grandma, I miss you so much."

Lan Shi patted her on the head a few times. "Un. Grandma misses you a lot too. Come inside. Grandma had cooked all your favorite food."

"Mhm... your grandma has been cooped up in the kitchen since early morning to prepare a feast for you," Ma Hao Dong said. "Go and take a rest first. When the food is ready, let's eat together."

Su Ruan nodded. She followed everyone into the house and texted her father that she had safely arrived and that everything was alright.

The moment Su Yu got her message, he gave his daughter a call. It was only when he heard that Su Ruan was no longer feeling uncomfortable around the house that Su Yu felt relieved.

Su Ruan sighed helplessly as everyone around her seemed to be worried about her condition. However, she was also aware that they were concerned about her.

The father and daughter spoke for a while. When she ended the call, her cousin, Ma Yu Xi was standing beside her.

"Sister Ruan, let me show you to your room."

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Long Family's Land

Su Ruan grabbed one of her luggages and followed Ma Yu Xi to her assigned bedroom. They went to the second floor and Ma Yu Xi began to talk to her a little bit about the house. As they walked around the house, Su Ruan could not help but look around.

Her grandparents' place was big and clean. There was a small garden in the middle of the courtyard which Su Ruan thought was pretty interesting. The sounds of water from the manmade pond were relaxing. Just staying here for a few minutes had already made her feel rejuvenated.

After walking for a while, Ma Yu Xi finally stopped in front of the door. She turned around and smiled. "Sister Ruan, this is your room." She pointed to the closed door on the right and said. "This one is second aunt's bedroom. She especially wanted you to stay closer to her."

Ma Yu Xi pushed the door open and went in. She placed the luggage on the floor and said. "What do you think?"

Su Ruan stepped into the room with her mouth slightly agape.

The furniture and decoration in the room were mostly made of sturdy wood. There was a double bed in the center, a large wardrobe as well as a desk. A potted tree was put on the corner of the room, bringing a little color and life.



"It's beautiful." Su Ruan said after a while.

Ma Yu Xi laughed happily. "I'm glad that you like it. Once Grandma heard that you were coming to visit, she began to busy herself to make you comfortable. I helped her to choose the bedding."

Su Ruan shifted her gaze to the soft green and blue bedding. "It's beautiful."

Ma Yu Xi watched as her cousin checked out the room and finally found the bathroom. She walked over to the window and waved her hand at Su Ruan. "If you think that this room is beautiful, then you should look at the scenery."

Su Ruan came out of the bathroom and walked over to her cousin's side.

Her breath stuck in her throat the moment she saw the scenery outside the window.

They were on the second floor and had a wider view of everything outside.

From where she stood, Su Ruan could see the tall trees ahead. In the orchard, a few workers were busy tending after the trees. A little farther ahead was the lake that she had seen earlier.

The sounds of the birds chirping were melodious. The wind blew gently to her face. Su Ruan thought that if she stood in front of the window for a long time, she might as well fall asleep.

For a moment, she almost could not believe that she could witness such a beautiful scene before her. Su Ruan started to wonder just why did she wait for too long to return to this beautiful place.

Su Ruan continued to look around the place while Ma Yu Xi told her a little bit about the place and the orchard.

As she looked around, Su Ruan's gaze fell on a building on top of the hill not too far away from them. She pointed towards that area and asked, "What is that place?"

Ma Yu Xi followed her line of gaze and smiled. "That... is the Long family's old residence." She pointed towards the hill area and continued. "Actually, that whole area was a part of the Long family's residence. You see that fence over there?"

Su Ruan looked at the fence that separated her grandfather's orchard and the forest area. "Uh-huh." She nodded.

"That is the divider that separated Grandpa's orchard from the Long family's land."

"And we're not supposed to walk past the fence and trespass?" Su Ruan guessed.

Ma Yu Xi laughed. "That's not what I was going to say. It's fine if you walked over that area. The Long did not mind it and there were a few spots in the woods that was very pretty. As long as we don't go up to the residential area, it's fine."

Su Ruan raised her brow as if she could not believe her cousin's words.

"Of course, I would not suggest you enter that area alone," Ma Yu Xi said. "I don't want you to get lost in the woods. If you wanted to look around, I will bring you another day." She began to make plans for both of them. "Later, I will take you to the lake to swim. Sister Ruan, you can swim, right?"

Su Ruan was about to reply when her mother appeared at the door.

"Su Ruan, how do you like your room?" Ma Zheng Zheng asked.

"Mom, it's beautiful. I like it very much."

"I'm glad." The smile on Ma Zheng Zheng's face widened. She snapped out of her thoughts as she remember the reason she came to find her daughter. "Lunch is already prepared. Let's go and eat together. Your Grandma and Grandpa are waiting."

The three of them walked together to the dining area.

When they arrived, Su Ruan recognized that there were a few more familiar faces in front of her. Ma Zheng Zheng quickly introduced them as her eldest uncle, Ma Xin Yu, and his wife, Lu Yi.

Su Ruan greeted her uncle and aunt and took a seat around the table.

An older auntie walked into the room to help her grandma serve some food. Soon, the feast began and the family began to eat happily.

Ma Zheng Zheng picked her daughter's favorite vegetable dish and placed it in her bowl. "Come, eat a little bit more. You are too skinny."

Su Ruan had gained a little weight after eating too much during the festivity but seeing that everyone was in a good mood, she began to eat a little bit more.

"That's right, Su Ruan, you haven't told us how long are you planning to stay in this town," Ma Zheng Zheng spoke. "It's rare for you to return. At least, stay around for a week."

Su Ruan bit at her lips and hesitated. "Then, would you mind if I stay longer?"

"Of course, not!" Ma Hao Dong spoke. "This is also your house. You can stay for as long as you wanted to. Grandpa and Grandma would be happy to have you around."

"Thank you, Grandpa."

"But what about your work?" Ma Zheng Zheng finally noticed another problem. "Would your boss not mind if you take a long vacation?"

Her hand tightened around the chopsticks. "Actually, I quit my job before the New Year." Su Ruan explained a little bit about her job but did not get into too much detail.

Everyone around the table looked at her in surprise. They turned to look at each other but in the end, no one asked more about this matter.

"That's fine too." Ma Zheng Zheng said. "Then, you can stay here and accompany us.. Just take your time."

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Further Into The Orchard

After lunch, Ma Yu Xi went back to her house with her father and mother. Before she left, Ma Yu Xi made a plan to come over the next morning and bring Su Ruan to town to look around.

As Su Ruan had just arrived a while ago, her grandparents did not hold her for too long and let her return to her room to rest.

Su Ruan stood at the window to watch the beautiful scenery in front of her and sighed. Thinking of how she would be able to watch this scene for the next few weeks made her feel very happy.

Turning around, Su Ruan began to unpack her belongings. Once everything was set, she lay down on the mattress and eventually fell asleep.

As she took this nap, Su Ruan had a recurring dream.

In this dream, she watched as a boy suddenly grew scales on his body and short horns at both sides of his head. His blue eyes were piercing. The boy's sudden change scare her so much and she started to scream.

However, this time, Su Ruan realized that she could see something in the boy's eyes.

Just like her, the boy was also afraid of this change as well as how she had reacted.

A loud ring woke her up.

Su Ruan sat on the bed and panted. She combed her long hair with her hands and buried her face between the knees.

Her phone on the table continued to ring but Su Ruan did not move to pick it up.

The frown on her face deepened as she recalled that dream. It seemed that it has been a few months since the last time she had this dream.

The boy's face continued to be blurry but this time, she could see his eyes well. In her dream, she could see how afraid the boy must have been.

Su Ruan took a few deep breaths to calm down and realized that her body was sweating all over.

As she was still thinking about that dream, the phone on her table rang again. Su Ruan snapped out of her trance and finally reached to pick up her phone.

A puzzled look appear on her face as she saw the name on her phone.

It was Yu Zhi Yi.

After the last time they wished each other on New Year, Su Ruan had not talked to Yu Zhi Yi again. The call was disconnected again as she had not picked it up for a long time.

She tapped her fingers on the phone and saw that there were three missed calls from Yu Zhi Yi.

Her brow rose, wondering why was she looking for her.

Su Ruan went into the bathroom to wash her face and changed her clothes. When she came out of the bathroom, her phone started to ring again. Su Ruan slid her finger on the screen and pressed the phone to her ear.

"Hello, Su Ruan?" Yu Zhi Yi's voice was heard on the other side of the phone. "What are you doing? Busy?"

"Sorry. I was taking a nap earlier," Su Ruan said. She walked around the room and finally stood in front of the window to watch the beautiful scenery before her. "What's up?"

"Nothing. I just realized that we haven't talked as much as we used to," Yu Zhi Yi said. "Where are you? I went to your house just now and your neighbor said that you were no longer staying there. Did you move out?"

Su Ruan rubbed the space between her brow, wondering just how was she going to break the news that she had quit her job and was planning to stay somewhere else.

"Uh-huh. I moved out a few weeks ago."

"Hello? What did you say? Su Ruan, I can't hear you."

Su Ruan pursed her lips. She looked at her phone screen and saw that the signal was not that good. "Hold on. The line isn't that good over here. I'll call you back in a few minutes."

Before Yu Zhi Yi could say a word, Su Ruan had already hung up.

She picked up her jacket and walked out of her room to look for a place with a better signal.

"Su Ruan, where are you going?"

The voice startled her. Su Ruan turned around and saw that it was her grandma, Lan Shi. "Grandma, The line isn't very clear in my room. I'm going to look for a better place to speak to my friend."

Lan Shi nodded. "Just don't get too far."

Su Ruan waved her hand at her grandmother. Then, she raised the phone in her hand to find a better signal.

Without realizing it, Su Ruan had walked further into the orchard.

A light flashed in her eyes as she finally saw the signal bar goes up. Su Ruan dialed Yu Zhi Yi's number back and the call was picked up almost immediately.

"Su Ruan?" Yu Zhi Yi spoke.

"Mhm... Sorry. The line over here was not so good. I have to walk around to find a better place."

Yu Zhi Yi immediately noticed there was something strange from her words. "Su Ruan, where are you?"

It was supposed to be a working hour but this girl was taking a nap and was out of the signal area.

"I'm at my maternal grandparents' place."

"You're still on holiday?"

"No. I quit my job." After telling a few people this news, Su Ruan realized that it became easier to tell others that she was currently unemployed.

There was a long silence on Yu Zhi Yi's part. "Why? What happened?"

"You know that I always wanted to quit my job. The working environment was not that good."

Yu Zhi Yi heaved a long sigh. "So, that was why your neighbor said that you have moved away. Why didn't you tell me?"

"Sorry." Su Ruan heaved a sigh. "There were too many things happening lately and I was having a hard time coping with everything."

"Are you... alright?"

"Uh-huh." Su Ruan bit her lips before she spoke again. "Zhi Yi, I don't know when I will return to Capital City or if I will return to Capital City again. I think I wanted to stay with my grandparents for a while and figure out what I wanted to do later."

The two of them chatted and catch up with each other's life for a while. As they talked, Su Ruan continued to walk further and further into the orchard until she reached the lake.

After talking for half an hour, the two friends finally said goodbye.

Su Ruan slid her phone into her pocket and crouched down to wash her hand in the water.

"Su Ruan?"

Su Ruan immediately looked up when she heard her name. However, there was no one around when she looked up. She was only surrounded by the trees and the lake.

Her heartbeat accelerated and Su Ruan decided to leave the place as soon as possible.

In a hurry, she twisted her ankle and lose her balance.

Her eyes widened as she fell into the lake.