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Chapter 331 You Will Regret It

Wu Nian told herself to stay strong and not let her emotions get the best of her when she saw Gu Yan. Nevertheless, her heart still clenched painfully when she saw him crying.

"That's not true, Yanny. I'll still be seeing you in the future, just like today. We ran into each other here even though we didn't plan to, didn't we? This is destiny. We'll meet again if we're fated to, won't we?" Wu Nian coaxed.

Her words triggered the boy and he broke down. He opened his mouth wide, bawling his eyes out. "I hate Daddy! He broke my parents' heart when he took me away. And now he's chasing you away! Why is he driving away all the people I like... I hate him!"

"Yanny, if you don't like your Daddy, do you want to stay with Ms. Wu at Oasis Hotel instead? There's a playground behind the hotel," Liu Yan joined in the conversation.

"Yan!" Wu Nian stopped her immediately. "What are you talking about? He's Gu Mingchen's son!"

"But Gu Mingchen has crossed the line!" Liu Yan was clearly unhappy with the situation. "Just look at this child! It's obvious that Gu Mingchen doesn't pay enough attention to him. Else why would he cry his heart out for you when he's only received a little kindness from you? Gu Mingchen must have mistreated him. That's why this boy clings to you!"

What Liu Yan said tugged at her heartstrings.

As a child who suffered abuse when she was young, that period of time was like an endless winter that chilled her heart. Back then, she would have held on desperately to any hint of warmth and love she could find in her life.

Back then, Gu Mingchen was the ray of hope for her.

Looking at the child before her, she was surer than ever that she did not want him to go through the same thing she did. She wanted him to grow up with love and care.

Wu Nian made up her mind. "I'll talk to your father."

Gu Yan slipped his chubby hand into Wu Nian's hand.

His action sent a surge of warmth through her heart.

She squeezed her hand around his and headed back toward the restaurant.

Just as they got out of the elevator, they saw Gu Mingchen looking for the boy frantically. When he saw them, his gaze turned icy cold.

"How could you bring him away without my permission? Do you know I can sue you for kidnapping my son?" he said sternly as he came over.

"I thought you saw me when I left? Was he with me then?" Wu Nian was on the verge of losing her temper.

"Daddy, I went out to look for Ms. Wu on my own," Gu Yan quickly explained himself.

"Go inside, Yanny. I just got some cake," his father ordered.

The boy shot one last look at Wu Nian before walking inside with his head hung low.

Gu Mingchen turned around as well, prepared to follow Gu Yan into the restaurant.

"Mr. Gu, do you have a moment to spare?" Wu Nian called out to him.

"I don't think there's anything to talk about," he replied without even looking at her.

"I want to be Gu Yan's tutor! Could you give me another chance? I promise I'll do my best!" Wu Nian set her ego aside and implored.

Gu Mingchen stopped and looked at her from the corner of his eyes. "Tell me, which one do you like better among my two sons, Yanny or Xin?"

Wu Nian looked him in the eyes. Her sixth sense told her that this was a trap, but she just could not wrap her head around his true intentions.

"I'm their tutor. My job is to cater to their different personalities so they can learn well. Yanny is a bright and obedient kid. As long as I spend time with him and listen to him, he'll open up to me. As for Xin, he's smart but a little rebellious. He has his own opinions about things. I need to allow him space to express himself. Only then can I give him some proper guidance," Wu Nian explained.

Gu Mingchen sneered. "My kids are smart? I think you're the smartest though. You didn't even answer my question. Are you always this evasive?"

"Mr. Gu, teachers are humans as well. It's normal for us to like and dislike someone. But isn't it enough as long as I treat them fairly? How can you be sure that other tutors that you hire won't show favoritism?" Wu Nian retaliated.

"At least I know their records are clean. This is something you can't guarantee, can you?" Gu Mingchen interrogated.

"Is there anything about my record that I should be ashamed of?" Wu Nian questioned in return. Tears were already rolling fiercely in her eyes.

"Just from how you're talking to me right now, I can tell we won't get along well in the future. Why should I take the risk and hire you as my kids' tutor when I know we'll clearly have a fallout? Let me just get this point across clearly. I won't hire you as their tutor. And just in case you didn't hear me the first time, I said, I won't hire you as their tutor!" Gu Mingchen reiterated coldly.

Wu Nian felt like she was about to go crazy from his audacity.

"Why? Why can't I be their tutor?" Wu Nian demanded a reason.

"Well, first, I'm the employer here. I don't actually need a reason to fire you. Second, since your friend dislikes me, you being my kids' tutor is only going to strain your friendship. Third, I don't think it's possible for us to bury the hatchet after a fight. I don't think we can really mend this relationship once we've argued. Are all these reasons enough for you?" Gu Mingchen locked his determined gaze on her. He had made up his mind.

Wu Nian could tell from his attitude that there was no way she could change his mind. Chuckling softly, tears slipped out of her eyes. She quickly wiped them away. "You'll regret this decision one day."

With that said, she turned and went into the elevator.

Gu Yan, who had been eavesdropping all along, leaned against the wall weakly when Wu Nian left. Tears gushed out of his eyes the moment the elevator door closed behind Wu Nian.

"Yanny?" Gu Mingchen noticed the miserable child and came closer.

"I want to go home..." the boy choked out through his tears. His eyes were red and puffy from all the crying. "I want to go home!"

Gu Mingchen held a piece of tissue out toward him. "Alright, let's go home," he said gently as he picked his son up.

"I want to go home!" Yanny kept repeating as he cried.

After bidding goodbye to his friends, Gu Mingchen left with his two sons.

He put Gu Yan in the car's backseat and Gu Ruoxin beside the driver's seat.

After closing the doors behind them, he walked over to the driver's seat from the front of the car. He was about to start the engine when he looked in the rearview mirror and realized Gu Yan was gone.

He turned his head around, horrified. Where's Yanny?

Climbing out of his car, he looked around in distress, but all he could see were cars. He shouted for Gu Yan, "Yanny! Yanny!"

Nobody answered.

He bent his head back into the car, saying, "Xin, stay here. I'm gonna go look for your brother."

"But Daddy, you're never this anxious when I leave. I'm younger than Yanny!" Gu Ruoxin complained.

"That's because I know exactly where to look for you," Gu Mingchen explained. His eyes instantly sparkled at a sudden thought. I know where to look for Yanny! He took out his phone and called Wu Nian.

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Chapter 332 You Are Driving Me Crazy

When Wu Nian's phone screen suddenly lit up, showing Gu Mingchen's number, she rejected his call without the slightest hesitation.

Liu Yan saw her action and decided to talk about something else. "Seems like you're not working in the near future. Why don't we go on a vacation? Since I'll have a long break this time, why don't we do something different? I'm tired of seeing the same old mountains and lakes. We should go to a desert or iceberg or something."

Wu Nian thought that was a good idea. After all, she needed to take time off after what just happened. "What about Corlean? There's a desert over there. It's the closest to the South Pole and it's also close to Astraunia, so we can probably swing by Astraunia as well."

"Astraunia is known for its beef, precious stones, soccer and tango, right?" Liu Yan was elated at the thought of a vacation.

"Yeah. It's a place rich in culture and history," Wu Nian agreed.

She had thought she would never make it out alive when she was receiving treatment. Back then, all she wanted was to live on and do all the things she never got to do previously. She watched a lot of travel channels and that was how she knew a thing or two about every country.

"How about we set out tomorrow? I can bring Bao with me and we can go on a vacation for a few months. I'll pay for everything. Shen Yiyan will be so pissed when he finds out!" Liu Yan burst out laughing as she imagined Shen Yiyan's face.

Liu Yan's laughter brought a smile to Wu Nian's face, but deep down in her heart, a touch of sadness lingered. Yet there was not a single trace of her emotion on her face—she did not want Liu Yan to worry about her—she just wanted her to stay cheerful.

Ring! Her phone rang again. An annoyed frown appeared on her brows and she accepted the call.

"Is Yanny with you?" Gu Mingchen went straight to the point.

Immediately, Wu Nian went on the alert. She exploded in a burst of anger and questioned him, "Did you lose him again?"

"He's not with you? If you're lying to me, I can sue you for kidnap!" Gu Mingchen got defensive.

"Hey! Gu Mingchen! Do you think I would dare to kidnap your child given your status and power?" Wu Nian was so upset she felt like throwing her phone away.

"What's the matter?" Liu Yan leaned closer and asked anxiously.

"Yanny's gone missing. Let's go look for him; we can go to the karaoke later," Wu Nian answered hastily, her gaze darting around worriedly.

"Sure. We should split up and start searching for him. Whoever finds him gives a call," Liu Yan proposed.

Wu Nian nodded and sprinted off toward the restaurant. "Yanny!" she shouted over and over again, searching for him in despair.

"Hi, did you see a boy about seven years old? He's around a hundred and thirty centimeters tall and he's wearing a white shirt," Wu Nian started asking some strangers.

"Nope, don't think so," the passerby answered.

Wu Nian continued her search at the restaurant but to no avail. She ran over to the fishing site and tried her luck, worried that the boy might have fallen into the lake.

"Excuse me, did you see a smart-looking boy about seven years old? He's a hundred and thirty centimeters tall and he's wearing a white shirt," she asked a random person fishing there.

Wu Nian's heart dropped when the person shook his head. She turned and continued looking for the child. Just then, she spotted Gu Mingchen, who had come here in search of Gu Yan as well.

Rolling her eyes at him, she spun around to leave. On second thought, she turned back around and stomped toward him angrily.

"It would be impossible for just two of us to find him. This park is huge! The longer we drag this out, the more danger Yanny could be in. There are a lot of security guards here. Why not show them his photo and ask them to help? That will really speed things up. Call me if anyone finds him," she said coldly.

"You care for him a lot, don't you?" Gu Mingchen peered at her in suspicion, causing a sneer to form on Wu Nian's face.

"Although I've been unfairly dismissed for no good reason, I still care for Yanny very much. I don't want anything to happen to him. I'll call you if I find him. I won't kidnap your child."

Gu Mingchen watched her in silence.

The reason why he laid her off was that she looked too much like Bai Rong.

Her character, her voice, and her life experience all reminded him of her. He was wary of her because someone might have sent her to get close to him.

Yanny was Bai Rong and his son. He did not want anything to happen to him.

Wu Nian was like a ticking time bomb. He did not want to keep someone like her around him.

"Thanks for helping," he said frigidly and walked off after a long pause.

Wu Nian's furious glare bore into his back as he walked away. She grabbed a handful of soil and threw it with full force at his shoulder.

Gu Mingchen halted and looked back at her sternly.

Wu Nian clapped her hands cleaned with her chin held high. "You're not my boss anymore. I don't see why I should tolerate your nasty attitude."

She turned and left to look for Yanny.

Behind her, Gu Mingchen patted his shoulder to get the dirt off. His frown deepened as he thought about what Wu Nian just did.

Her temper was exactly the same as Bai Rong's. She might be gentle and easy-going, but when someone stepped on her toes, she would not hesitate to fight back with all she could. She would also say some really hurtful things.

It was exactly because they were too alike that he found her repulsive, although he had to admit that she had a point. He should get help from the security guards. It was useless to look for Gu Yan alone. At least the guards had access to the surveillance system.

After an hour, Gu Mingchen called Wu Nian and updated her. "Yanny's no longer in the area. You can stop looking for him."

Wu Nian was sick with worry. "So he's outside of this compound? Did you check the surveillance cameras on the outside? There should be some cameras along the road, right? Can't they check where he went?"

"He said he wanted to go home before we left. Now that I think of it, he's probably going back to Horington. That's where his hometown is. I'll look for him on my own. Thanks for helping," Gu Mingchen briefed her before hanging up.

His words gave no peace to Wu Nian. She took out her phone and called Liu Yan. "Yan, you can stop looking for him already. He's not at the park anymore. I'll see you at the entrance."

Liu Yan hurried over right after getting her call. "Where did he go? Did Gu Mingchen find him already?" she asked, panting.

Wu Nian looked at her with her bloodshot eyes, shaking her head. "Yanny said he wanted to go back to Horington, his hometown. He must be really unhappy around Gu Mingchen to want to go back to that place..."

Her voice trailed off as her eyes turned misty.

"It's not like you don't know Gu Mingchen. He's always so cold and reticent. No child will like him," Liu Yan said.

"I'm so sorry, Yan. I don't think I'm in the mood for a vacation before I find Yanny."

Liu Yan pulled her into her arms and comforted her, "I understand. I won't have the heart for a vacation if Bao goes missing either. Come on, let's go back to your hotel."

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Chapter 333 I Finally Found You

A surge of emotions overwhelmed Wu Nian. She felt so blessed to have a friend like Liu Yan.

This outing was supposed to be a getaway for Liu Yan so she could relax a little, but Wu Nian had spoiled it for her.

She could not even go on a holiday now, yet she did not utter a word of complaint.

Having a friend like her was something everyone could only wish for.

Wu Nian tightened her arms around her and choked out tearfully, "I can't thank you enough, Liu Yan."

The latter smiled as she patted Wu Nian on her back. "Come on, don't cry. If I were the one in trouble today, I'm sure you would do the same, or probably even more."

"I'll go with you after I find Yanny," Wu Nian promised.

"Don't pressure yourself. I know you won't be able to enjoy the trip knowing Yanny is not living a happy life. Don't worry about me and go ahead and do what you have to. Let me know if you need any help," Liu Yan assured her.

"What about you then? You finally got some time to yourself," Wu Nian asked.

"I won't feel lonely. Bao is keeping me company."

"I'll go with you after I find Yanny," Wu Nian insisted.

"Alright. We'll see how things go after you find him."

They headed back to the hotel. After seeing Liu Yan off, Wu Nian turned and walked into the hotel lounge.

"I've been waiting for you, Nian!" Gu Yan's voice rang out loud and clear as he ran toward Wu Nian.

Wu Nian felt like a thousand arrows had just pierced through her heart. Her mind went blank before a tide of relief and affection washed over her when she saw the boy.

Wu Nian bent down and opened her arms wide as the boy threw himself into her welcoming embrace.

Joy filled his muffled voice as he exclaimed, "I finally found you, Nian!"

Wu Nian's eyes turned red as tears welled up in her eyes. "How did you get here? Do you know how dangerous it is to come here on your own?" She sounded agitated as tears started falling down uncontrollably.

Gu Yan pushed himself out of her arms and reached for her face, wiping away her tears. "The woman with you said you're staying at Oasis Hotel, so I came over. After Daddy put me in the car, I sneaked out and avoided the surveillance cameras. It so happened that a man was leaving, so I slipped into his car. I got off when he reached Shuiyue International. I asked people for directions from there and reached Oasis Hotel. I didn't know which room you're staying in, so I waited for you here at the lounge."

Wu Nian caressed his pink and chubby cheeks while shaking her head sternly. "I don't want you to do this again. It's really dangerous to just run away without telling your parents. What if a random stranger snatches you away?"

"It's okay. My parents are the ones who raised me before I came to Daddy. My life was pretty good back then. The worst thing that can happen is that I get sold to someone else again.

Who knows, maybe my new parents will love me more?" Gu Yan dismissed her worry with a wide smile on his face.

"Does your father not love you?" Wu Nian asked with concern and pain written all over her face.

The boy shook his head. "Daddy already has Xin. He never asks me what I want, and I don't want to ask him for things either. I want to work for it myself as I don't want to depend on him. That way even if he abandons me, I won't feel sad about it. I'll try my best to get used to a new environment, but if I can't, I'll do everything I can to change it."

His words reminded Wu Nian of herself. She pulled the boy back into her arms and hugged him tightly.

He was exactly like her when she was younger. She wanted to be independent and fend for herself instead of relying on someone else. After all, that was the only way she could protect herself from getting hurt when someone she loved left.

Her son was so much like her, and it pained her beyond words to see him like this. Guilt suffocated her like an unbearable weight on her chest.

She did not want to see her child alone, feeling helpless and hopeless.

"Yanny, your father loves you a lot. Do you know how worried he was after you went missing? He went around looking for you anxiously. If he didn't want you, why would he even care to find you?" Wu Nian said.

Gu Yan avoided her gaze and lowered his head. "He probably felt that it would be difficult to give my mother an explanation if anything happened to me," the boy answered softly.

"That's not true. Do you know what your father said to me previously? He said I should never leave you and Zhou Hailan alone together. I can tell he loves you and cares for you a lot."

"Why are you taking his side? He just fired you without any reason. And he even blamed you for things you didn't do!"

The boy's question put a smile on her face. She felt like he was seeking justice for her. "Things are complicated in the adult world. Sometimes things get so messed up even adults

themselves don't understand them, so children should stay out of it. I'll totally support you if you want to be independent, but it's not the time yet. You're still young," Wu Nian advised.

"Then can I choose who I want to live with?" Gu Yan asked.

Wu Nian ruffled his hair fondly, saying, "Do you think Ms. Zhou is a nice person?"

"No. She's actually very mean. She encouraged Xin to do bad things. That's why Xin always causes trouble. I even saw him stealing last time. Ms. Zhou was the one who taught him that. She told him Daddy would let them stay together if he stole stuff," the boy explained.

"Then do you think Xin wants to stay with Ms. Zhou?" Wu Nian asked patiently.

"Of course! Everything he does is just so that Daddy can go and visit Ms. Zhou. He wants Daddy to feel like he needs her so Daddy will marry her," the smart boy answered.

A proud smile curved Wu Nian's lips as she looked at her child. Despite being young in age, he was observant and wise in reading the people around him.

"This shows children might not know what is best for them. Xin still thinks his mother is the best, but the fact is, his mother is leading him astray. So you have to wait till you turn eighteen if you want to live with whoever you like. You'll be able to make a good decision by then. Even if it turns out to be a wrong move, you can be responsible for your own actions when you're an adult," Wu Nian elucidated.

Gu Yan dipped his head in disappointment before looking up at her with watery eyes. "Does this mean you're informing Daddy to come and pick me up?"

"Yeah," Wu Nian answered honestly.

But the boy still looked confused. "Then can I borrow five hundred from you? I'll return you ten times the money in the future."

Wu Nian knew he wanted the money to go back to his parents in Horington.

There were several possible scenarios if he did that. First, he might end up getting lost. Second, he might get into an accident. Third, his parents might notify Gu Mingchen after he reached Horington.

"Let's go back to my room and rest first, is that okay? I'll get you the money then," Wu Nian tried to persuade him.

Gu Yan nodded obediently and went with her to her room.

She quickly typed a message for Gu Mingchen and sent it off guiltily as she closed the door behind her. Gu Yan is in my room. Come and pick him up. Please pay extra attention to him in the future and care for him more.

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Chapter 334 The Real Family

Wu Nian paced outside the door but did not go in.

She knew Gu Yan would hate her for calling Gu Mingchen over, but things would go out of hand if she did not.

She knew she could not get the best of both worlds. She had to choose the lesser of two evils.

Gu Mingchen happened to be nearby when he got her text. He arrived within ten minutes.

Wu Nian instantly felt an air of smoldering anger when the elevator door opened to Gu Mingchen.

Having felt that sense of foreboding, she raced toward him and tried to calm him down. "Please talk to him nicely."

"That's none of your business," Gu Mingchen answered back harshly as he walked out of the elevator.

"Yanny didn't want to stay with you, to begin with. I bet he won't want to live with you anymore if you're so stern," Wu Nian said.

"Who else is he gonna stay with if not me? You? Who are you to him?" Gu Mingchen bombarded her with questions. He was livid.

"I didn't say he would stay with me. If that was really what I wanted, I won't have told you he was here in the first place," she tried explaining herself.

"Oh, really? Then how did he know you lived here? Stop being so scheming. Things won't end up well for anyone if you keep this up," Gu Mingchen growled scornfully.

"I didn't tell him where I lived. He heard it when my friend was talking to me. Gu Mingchen, you should really calm down. Yanny is still a boy. You'll only break his heart if you behave like this. He won't understand your worry and care for him," Wu Nian spoke faster as they got closer to her room.

"Whether he's heartbroken or not is none of your business. Move aside," Gu Mingchen ordered.

But Wu Nian stayed put. She would not allow Gu Mingchen to bring Gu Yan home if he could not control his anger.

When Gu Yan heard the raised voices outside, he opened the door to check out the noise. When he saw Gu Mingchen, he slammed the door closed again in fright.

Gu Mingchen took a step forward and blocked the door swiftly before it closed.

He glared at the boy in fury. It went without saying that what Gu Yan just did only enraged him further.

Gu Mingchen had called everyone he knew when Gu Yan went missing.

He was not expecting the kid to shut him out when he finally found him.

His anger spiked and he kicked the door open.

Gu Yan leaped backward, hiding behind the bed.

Wu Nian dashed toward Gu Mingchen. "Could you please calm down?"

Gu Mingchen shot a death glare at her. "Get lost! You have no right to tell me how I should discipline my child," he replied coldly as he turned toward Gu Yan. "Get over here!"

The timid boy shook his head over and over again as he crouched in the corner like a tiny rabbit.

What Gu Yan said echoed in Wu Nian's mind. I want to work for it myself as I don't want to depend on him. That way even if he abandons me, I won't feel sad about it. I'll try my best to get used to a new environment, but if I can't, I'll do everything I can to change it.

The boy was only seven, yet he had said something so precociously mature. The pain was just too much for her to bear.

She dashed in front of the boy and protected him with her own body. "Please, Gu Mingchen, just five minutes! Can you give me just five minutes?"

"What's wrong with all of you? Zhou Hailan behaved like this, and now you're doing the same too?" He unbuckled his belt and pointed a finger at Gu Yan. "Get over here right now!"

"No! I want to go home! I want to go home to my parents!" Gu Yan started wailing.

"You want to go home?" Gu Mingchen lost it. He raised his hand and lashed his belt at the boy.

Wu Nian took the blow. Her arm instantly reddened as the belt whipped against her flesh.

But Gu Mingchen's anger showed no sign of diminishing. He lifted his hand again and another stroke landed. "I fed you, sheltered you and paid for your studies. Is this not a home to you? All you kids know is to run away from home when you throw a tantrum. Who do you take me for? Do you think you can barge in and out of my life just like that? If you want to go home, fine! I'll let you go home! I'll send you to your mother!"

Wu Nian's grip did not loosen around Gu Yan. She covered the boy with her body and took the beating in his stead. The belt lashed against her flesh, leaving it raw and painful.

All she could think about was Gu Yan. He was still a boy and she could not bear the thought of him enduring all this.

Yet what hurt Gu Yan and her the most was not what Gu Mingchen was doing, but what he had said.

I'll send you to your mother! Wu Nian could not believe he had actually said that. Does he want to beat Yanny to death so he can join his dead mother?

In Wu Nian's opinion, he should have never said that if he still had Bai Rong in his heart.

He knew just how much Bai Rong cared for her child.

Tears streamed down her cheeks.

In her arms, instead of asking his father for forgiveness, Gu Yan howled tearfully, "Just hit me all you want! I'd rather die! Then I can go and find Mommy! I don't want to stay with you anymore. You can live with Xin and Ms. Zhou happily ever after!"

Gu Mingchen flung his belt out of his hand and shoved Wu Nian out of the way. He grabbed the boy hard by his shoulders and shouted in his face, "Do you still think what you did is right? Do you think it's right to just leave without telling me? Do you know how worried I was?"

"But you're hitting me! Is this how you show your worry? I don't feel your love at all!" Gu Yan screamed back at his father.

"Will you learn from your mistake if I don't teach you a harsh lesson? I might still find you if you run away once or twice, but what if something happens? I'll lose you forever!" Gu Mingchen bellowed at the boy in a fit.

"But nothing happened! Even if something happens, I'll get to see Mommy in heaven. She's all alone over there. I can stay by her side and keep her company."

Gu Mingchen clenched his jaw tight as his eyes bulged and became red. "Who said your mother is in heaven? She's not. She's not dead! I'm still waiting for her to come back. I won't let anything happen to you. If you're gone, you won't get to see her anymore!"

"You're lying." Gu Yan sobbed and shook his head in denial.

"I'm not lying. I know your mother is still alive... She must be!" Gu Mingchen finally broke down.

Tears welled up and dropped from his eyes. The pain and agony of waiting for her to come back had never once weakened him, but he just could not take it anymore.

"If she's still alive, why didn't she come back?" Gu Yan asked.

"I don't know. But I know she'll come back one day. The people she loves are still here. She still has a lot of unfulfilled responsibilities and unrealized dreams. She'll come back," Gu Mingchen stated assuredly.

The little boy could only bow his head and continue crying.

Wu Nian turned aside as tears poured out of her eyes incessantly.

"Let's go home." Gu Mingchen's hoarse voice finally resounded in the silence.

But Gu Yan looked toward Wu Nian instead.

Her shirt was tattered and wet with blood because of the beating.

"Daddy, we need to send Nian to the hospital. She's hurt," Gu Yan said.

Wu Nian cried harder when she heard the boy.

She could not believe her son was still thinking about her when he himself was going through such a difficult time.

She reached out to him and dried his tears tenderly. "I'm fine, Yanny. I'll get better with a few days' rest. You should go home with your father. Promise me you won't ever run away from home again. I want you to grow up into a fine young man."

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Chapter 335 I Am Fine

Gu Yan wailed even louder when Wu Nian asked him to go home.

Wu Nian patted his head gently with a comforting smile on her face. She knew the boy must have understood what she meant.

"No... I want to send you to the hospital..." Gu Yan insisted.

Gu Mingchen eyed Wu Nian, taking in her bleeding arm and back.

He knew he had gone overboard just now. Lost in his rage, he had not controlled his strength at all.

If it had not been for her, Gu Yan might have been seriously injured.

The boy would have stood no chance against the merciless lashing.

"I'll send you to the hospital," Gu Mingchen offered.

Wu Nian wanted to say no, but she finally caved when she saw Gu Yan's worried face.

Her body felt numb at first.

But as she slowly recovered from the shock, the burning sensation throbbed and intensified over time.

Since she had not rested well yesterday, her fatigued body gave in to sleep not long after they got in the car.

With Gu Yan's voice ringing in her ears, she slowly fell into a long and surreal dream.

In her dream, she was stroking her huge tummy as she stood by the window. Some music was playing in the background and she was humming a tune to the baby inside her.

Back then, things had been really bad between her and Su Xuyan. She was lonely and felt helpless. The child became her only support and beacon of hope.

She knew this child would be the end of her and that it would be difficult to raise this child. And yet, she still kept him.

Unfortunately, the child was taken away after she gave birth to him.

She was broken when they took him away. She thought she would rather die if the child was dead.

Then she asked herself, what if the child was alive?

Where would he be?

The dejection and pain in her dream felt so real she was moved to tears. By the time she woke up, the pillow was already soaking wet.

"Nian, are you in pain?" Gu Yan's voice beckoned her back to reality.

Wu Nian blinked her eyes weakly and saw the boy by her hospital bed. Her wet eyes curved in a faint smile. "Yanny, why are you here?"

"Daddy and I brought you to the hospital. You were unconscious when we arrived. The nurse already put on some medication on your wounds. I'm so sorry. And Daddy feels sorry too," Gu Yan apologized as he stood beside her.

"It's okay; you don't have to apologize. I did it because I wanted to. Some things are just not within our control. You just need to do as I said, alright? You must grow up well," Wu Nian answered. She did not even realize she was tearing up again.

"It must be really painful. Let me blow on your wound." The boy leaned forward and lifted the back of her shirt.

The warm breaths from his mouth glided over Wu Nian's wounds. Although it did not alleviate the pain she felt, it made her heart feel warm.

"Yanny, I'm really fine. You should go home, it's late already," Wu Nian reminded him of the time.

"No. I've already told Daddy I'll be staying the night to look after you," the boy insisted. CLICK HERE TO JOIN OUR TELEGRAM CHANNEL FOR FAST UPDATES <u>https://t.me/NovelsFuns</u>

"Speaking of, where is he?" Wu Nian looked around the room but could not find Gu Mingchen.

"He went out to get us dinner. He'll be back in a bit." Gu Mingchen appeared at the door with a bag of food just as his son was speaking.

He walked over with an inexplicable expression on his face. "I just asked a caretaker to come over. I'll pay for all the medical expenses and also compensate you for emotional damages. How much do you want?" he asked, putting down the bag beside her bed.

"You don't have to worry about that. I was the one who went in between the two of you. Also, I don't need a caretaker. I'll call my friend to come over. You can bring Yanny home and rest," Wu Nian replied with a hint of detachment in her voice.

"Alright then. I've bought some fish chowder, some vegetables and an omelet. Rest well," Gu Mingchen answered formally as he reached for Gu Yan's hand.

The boy put his hands behind his back instinctively. "No! I'm staying to take care of Nian. She got hurt because of me."

"So you know it's because of you? Shouldn't you give her time to rest then? I'll bring you here again tomorrow if you want."

"Yes, I want to come tomorrow," the boy replied without losing a moment.

"Then say goodbye to Ms. Wu now," his father demanded.

Gu Yan went closer and looked at her reluctantly. "You know you can tell Daddy if you want me to stay."

A blissful smile lit up Wu Nian's face as she looked at the boy. "You should go home and get some rest, then you'll be all energized to take care of me tomorrow."

"Alright." Gu Yan pouted and went to Gu Mingchen without objecting any further.

Gu Mingchen held his hand and the boy did not fight back this time.

After the two walked out of the ward, Gu Yan tugged on his father's hand. "Daddy, could you be nicer to Nian? I want to marry her when I grow up. She risked her life to protect me. I'm sure she'll love me more when I grow up."

Gu Mingchen looked down at his son before replying coldly, "No way. She's older than you by twenty years. She won't make a suitable wife."

Gu Yan giggled and cocked his head aside. "It's okay. I'm just informing you. It's not like you can stop me when I grow up."

Gu Mingchen did not know what else to say.

Somehow, he felt Gu Yan was not any more obedient than Gu Ruoxin.

•••

Wu Nian did not call Liu Yan after Gu Mingchen and Gu Yan left.

Liu Yan had to take care of Bao at night, so Wu Nian did not want to add to her burden.

After all, it was just some minor wounds. It would heal in no time.

She finished off the food Gu Mingchen bought and went to wash up. After getting ready for bed, she hit the hay and slept through the night.

By the time she woke up, the sun had already risen. The warm rays of sunshine tickled her eyes as her eyelids twitched uncomfortably.

"Look at how serious your injuries are! Why didn't you tell me?" Liu Yan's voice echoed beside her ears.

Wu Nian's eyes flew wide open in shock. "Why are you here?"

"I called you in the morning, but you didn't pick up. The nurse took the call instead, so I rushed over. What happened to you?" Liu Yan asked.

"It's nothing. I fell," Wu Nian gave her a random excuse.

Liu Yan pursed her lips in dismay.

"I saw a piece of news today. A university student killed herself. She's a performing student academically, and she's also optimistic and sociable. She hung out with her friends often and got along well with everyone. Her suicide caught everyone off guard. It wasn't until her mother tidied up her room that she found a piece of paper with the words 'I'm fine' written all over it. The disheartened mother turned the piece of paper around and saw 'save me' on the other side. Wu Nian, the reason why I'm telling you this is because I want to know if you're really fine. Your son went missing and the man you love chased you away without even giving you a chance. Then, someone injured you so badly that you fell unconscious. Are you seriously telling me you're fine?"

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 336

Chapter 336 She Has An Indescribable Relationship With Gu Mingchen

Wu Nian knew that Liu Yan was concerned about her wellbeing. The reason for her harsh words was due to her love for Wu Nian.

"It's not what it looks like. Gu Mingchen was angry with Yanny visiting me yesterday. He hit me by accident when I was trying to protect Yanny," Wu Nian explained softly.

"Such grave injuries can't be caused by accident! Do you think I'm blind—I can't see those wounds on your back?" Liu Yan snapped angrily.

When Wu Nian saw Liu Yan turned agitated, she quickly pushed herself up and clasped Liu Yan's hands. "Trust me. I'm fine," she reassured Liu Yan earnestly.

"Quick, you should check the mirror," Liu Yan nagged and helped Wu Nian to her feet. "Your eyes are red and swollen. You just had an operation on your eyes—crying so much will do nothing but harm."

When Wu Nian entered the washroom, she caught sight of her swollen and bloodshot eyes in the mirror's reflection.

No wonder Liu Yan didn't believe me.

Wu Nian sighed as she brushed her teeth and combed through her tangled hair before emerging from the bathroom.

"What are you going to do next?" Liu Yan sighed. She wasn't in a mood to continue berating Wu Nian.

"I'm going to forget everything and accompany my dearest friend on an exciting vacation," Wu Nian said with a grin.

"When we are back from our holiday, I will ask Shen Yiyan to pull some strings so that you can teach in Yanny's school," Liu Yan added.

Wu Nian looked at Liu Yan with gratitude. Yet, she couldn't help but feel a hint of guilt. "I'm sorry for bothering you," Wu Nian said sheepishly.

"I'm more than happy to help. I'll get mad if you try to do everything alone. If you ever fall sick, don't try to handle it alone." Liu Yan swung her hand over Wu Nian's shoulder. "We can always rely on each other, okay?"

"Don't you want to reconcile with your parents? After all, it wasn't your fault—you didn't have a choice back then," Wu Nian nodded and asked worriedly.

"It's fine. They would get mad if they find out about my relationship with Shen Yiyan. Besides, us being on bad terms would mean Shen Yiyan will not target my parents. Ah, let's not talk about this anymore. I'll go and buy you breakfast." Liu Yan headed towards the exit.

"I think I can be discharged now." Wu Nian clutched Liu Yan's arm and said excitedly, "Let's go together."

"Alright."

Wu Nian exited the room in search of her doctor so that she could obtain a discharge slip.

"Hello, Mr. Gu. It's me, Wu Nian." She made a call to Gu Mingchen.

"What's the matter?" Gu Mingchen replied coldly.

Upon hearing his stoic tone, she could feel her heart turn cold. "You don't have to come here anymore. I'm in the midst of my discharge procedure," she told him lowly.

"I've arrived at the entrance. Tell Yanny yourself." Gu Mingchen hung up the call as soon as he finished speaking.

Wu Nian stared at her phone in disbelief. Gu Mingchen has such a horrible temper!

How dare he behaves so arrogantly when he is the one at fault!

Wu Nian took a deep breath to regain her composure.

"Drink more water when you get home. The wound has started to heal. If it's itchy, try not to scratch it. I have given you some vitamins to relieve the itching. Additionally, don't consume any alcohol or spicy foods. If you experience feverish symptoms, you should visit a doctor immediately," the doctor advised her.

"Alright, thank you." Wu Nian took the discharge slip and returned to her room. On the way back, she caught sight of Gu Mingchen and Yanny walking out of the elevator.

"Nian!" Gu Yan exclaimed happily and rushed towards Wu Nian.

"You should call her Aunt Gu," Gu Mingchen reminded him sternly as he frowned and held Yanny back.

"Huh." The corners of Wu Nian's lips twitched upon Gu Mingchen's remark.

Gu Mingchen remained silent as he looked at Wu Nian.

Wu Nian pulled the corner of her eye down mockingly and met his stare with a provocative gaze.

"Don't you have things to discuss with Yanny?" Gu Mingchen asked in displeasure.

Wu Nian decided to rein her temper. She wouldn't be able to beat him—butting heads with Gu Mingchen would only bring more trouble.

"Yanny, I've recovered already. I will be discharged from the hospital soon. You don't have to worry about me. You will be starting school tomorrow. Remember to study hard, alright?" she fondly said as she squatted in front of Yanny.

"Are you not going to take care of me anymore?" Yanny sniffled and asked Gu Mingchen.

Gu Mingchen rejected his plea coldly. "She's unsuitable. I will find you a better caretaker," he said darkly.

Wu Nian rose to her feet with an empty expression.

"I was wondering why you weren't back yet," Liu Yan sneered, "It seems that you've bumped into a beast."

"Ask your friend to keep her distance from me," Gu Mingchen uttered coldly as his sharp gaze swept towards Liu Yan.

"I should have kept Bai Rong away from you. Letting her close to you is my biggest regret. If it weren't for you, maybe she'd still be alive," Liu Yan spat angrily.

"She is not yet dead in my heart, unlike you," Gu Mingchen retorted icily.

"Soon, you will regret what you did today," Liu Yan warned him profoundly.

"Really?" Gu Mingchen replied sarcastically. He held on to Yanny's hand. "Yanny, let's go."

Gu Yan looked wistfully at Wu Nian, who was smiling back at him warmly.

The boy lowered his head and followed Gu Mingchen into the elevator. Once more, he turned to look at Wu Nian.

Her affectionate gaze was fixed on the boy until the elevator doors slid shut.

"If Gu Mingchen finds out that you are..." Liu Yan began hesitantly.

"Liu Yan," Wu Nian interjected before Liu Yan could finish talking. "Don't harbor such thoughts. Promise me that he should never find out. Even if he does, he shouldn't hear it from you," Wu Nian reminded her.

Liu Yan sighed in defeat. "Let's go get breakfast. I'll send you back to the hotel and go make some preparations. Tomorrow, we can set off to Corlean."

"Let's eat in the hotel. It should have breakfast service," Wu Nian suggested.

The staff at the front desk called out after Wu Nian as they walked past the lobby. "Ms. Wu, your room has already been paid up to Saturday. Are you staying here for the night?" the staff asked.

"Didn't I pay by credit card already? Can't you just charge the additional amount to my card upon check-out?"

"I didn't mean it that way. A man has paid for your stay until Saturday," the staff explained.

Realization dawned upon Wu Nian. Previously, she'd agreed with Gu Mingchen to start work on Sunday. She figured that Gu Mingchen did that because he wanted to gauge her spending capability.

"Alright, I will stay here for one more night. I will check out tomorrow," Wu Nian replied softly.

"Who was the man that helped you settle your bill?" Liu Yan asked curiously.

"Gu Mingchen," Wu Nian replied and glanced at Liu Yan.

"It's him again. I'm not looking forward to this at all," Liu Yan sighed again.

They headed towards the elevator. With a ding, the elevator doors slid open to reveal Su Xuyan. He was accompanied by a beautiful woman.

At the sight of Wu Nian, he jolted in astonishment. What was more shocking was that Liu Yan was at her side. His stare shifted back to Wu Nian again as they locked gazes.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 337

Chapter 337 The Bird Breaks Free Of Its Cage

"Are you shocked? Her voice sounds identical to Bai Rong," Liu Yan beamed as she sized up Su Xuyan.

Su Xuyan looked at Liu Yan as his brain began to race with countless possibilities. "Did Shen Yiyan take Bai Rong away? When Bai Rong disappeared, one of my researchers vanished as well. There is a possibility that Bai Rong might still be alive if she has been taking medications."

"You have a vivid imagination. Don't you dare bother my friend," Liu Yan warned him before she yanked Wu Nian into the elevator.

Su Xuyan's chest heaved breathlessly when he saw Wu Nian's expressionless face. Although he was shocked, he couldn't help but feel a hint of glee as well.

Wu Nian lifted her gaze towards Su Xuyan. Her calm eyes betrayed no emotion as the elevator doors slid shut.

"Su Xuyan is much more capable than Gu Mingchen. I had the shock of my life just now! You should touch my palms—they are covered in sweat."

"There is no use being scared. We should remain firm to avoid any suspicion. I even changed my bone marrow. As long as we do not reveal the truth, he will never be able to prove that I am Bai Rong," Wu Nian advised her thoughtfully.

"You'd better stay away from him. From my perspective, Su Xuyan is much scarier than Gu Mingchen. The latter is willing to hurt himself to avoid hurting Bai Rong. Yet, Su Xuyan is willing to hurt Bai Rong to keep her in his grasps. Besides, you've disappeared for two years. Gu Mingchen has not changed a single bit, and Su Xuyan flirts around with a different girl every day! Wait, Gu Mingchen is no different from Su Xuyan. He has two sons now—one of them belongs to Zhou Hailan. He's not a good man either," Liu Yan grumbled in anger.

"That has nothing to do with him. The child was conceived using in vitro fertilization."

"Why are you still defending Gu Mingchen? He was so rude and fierce towards you in the hospital!" Liu Yan reprimanded Wu Nian.

"I'm only speaking the truth. Let's not talk about these anymore. We should eat breakfast." Wu Nian changed the subject as she looked at the red numbers flashing on the elevator screen.

"You should check out after finishing breakfast. Come stay the night at my house in case Su Xuyan decides to bother you."

Wu Nian nodded in agreement. After her breakfast, she returned to the room to pack her luggage and checked out of the hotel.

She headed to Liu Yan's home.

Liu Yan lived in a mountainous villa. There was a one-kilometer distance from the metal gate to the entrance of the villa. Additionally, ten guards were stationed outside the entrance and rotated on constant shifts to protect the villa. There were also real-time surveillance cameras that recorded every movement within a ten-kilometer radius. Such high security was designed to guarantee the safety of a certain powerful individual when he visited the villa.

This heavily guarded place was nothing more but a big cage to Liu Yan.

"What do you want to eat for lunch? I'll cook it for you," Wu Nian asked her gently.

"I miss the barbequed pork that you always cook. I'm also craving some Koandrian cuisine. You ought to check the fridge later—it should be full of fresh groceries that they bought," Liu Yan replied as she stopped in front of the metal gate.

The soldiers would inspect each vehicle thoroughly for any dangerous goods or individuals before letting it pass.

Liu Yan drove towards the villa.

From afar, Wu Nian could hear Bao's adorable babble. His bright voice made her heart soften affectionately.

There was a butler, chef, two maids, and two nannies that looked after Bao. The two maids were also responsible for managing the garden.

Liu Yan glanced at Wu Nian with raised brows.

Wu Nian nodded her head as she understood Liu Yan's intentions.

Shen Yiyan never permitted Liu Yan to bring Bao far from the villa. The many people working here were Shen Yiyan's staff that he specially hired to keep an eye on both of them.

"Darling, did you miss mommy?" Liu Yan cooed and reached out her hands towards Bao.

Bao raised his hands upwards as he sought Liu Yan's embrace.

Bao was now fifteen months old. He'd already learned to walk, albeit a little clumsily. He even knew how to speak simple greetings such as Mommy, Daddy, Auntie, Granny, and Uncle. Bao could also utter simple words such as eat or play.

He had very tender skin and rosy cheeks. Bao looked like a replica of Liu Yan when she was younger. The only thing different between the two of them was their genders.

Wu Nian's lips curved upwards as she saw Liu Yan playing with Bao.

Unfortunately, she'd missed out on Yanny's childhood. Seeing the scene before her made her heart warm.

Liu Yan coddled Bao for a while before she turned to the chef. "Heng Ni, you don't have to prepare lunch for me today. My friend will cook for me instead. You only have to prepare for Bao and the other staff," she informed him.

Heng Ni nodded in acknowledgment and returned to his work.

"Let's go and check the supplies," Liu Yan said whilst carrying Bao to the fridge.

"There's pork, chicken feet, and chicken breast. Is it okay if I cook some barbequed pork, boiled chicken feet, and curry chicken?" Wu Nian asked as she opened the fridge.

"I would love it! Heng Ni is from A city, but he has stayed in Ferropene for a few years before his return. The dishes that he cooks are all Ferropenian cuisine. I can't get used to his cooking," Liu Yan complained.

"Why don't you ask Shen Yiyan to hire a local cook from A city?" Wu Nian suggested.

"Shen Yiyan likes Heng Ni's cooking. He's very meticulous when it comes to food. I wonder how his wife manages to put up with him," Liu Yan grumbled as she rolled her eyes.

"Eat, eat, eat," Bao's tiny finger pointed towards the fridge. His saliva was nearly pooling out of his mouth.

"Ah, you greedy rascal! I wonder who you take after. Your saliva is dripping out as you speak!" Although Liu Yan chastised Bao, she still patiently wiped the corner of his mouth with a tissue.

Who did he take after? Wu Nian sneaked an amused glance at Liu Yan. Haha, isn't he a perfect copy of her?

She brought the milk out from the fridge.

"You should warm this up before letting him drink it." Aunt Yang quickly snatched away the Yakult in Wu Nian's grasp.

"Let her heat it. I will feed him later." Liu Yan shrugged her shoulders nonchalantly. "Bao, you still like Mummy a little more right?" she cooed at him fondly.

Bao's large eyes remained fixated on the milk. His red tongue darted out to lick his lips adorably.

Liu Yan flicked Bao's nose exasperatedly. "You treat anyone who gives you milk as your mother. Oh dear! What should I do with you?"

"Bao is still young," Wu Nian told her gently.

Liu Yan passed her son to Aunt Zhang before grabbing Wu Nian's hand as she dragged her to a room and closed the door shut. "For safety reasons, I'm buying the plane tickets tonight. We may need to make a stop at Xyperia. That should be fine, right?" Liu Yan told her in a lowered tone to prevent anyone from eavesdropping.

"Understood," Wu Nian nodded her head.

"To prevent rousing the security's suspicion, I stashed my luggage in yours. I will buy more when we get to Xyperia. Then, we will enjoy our trip for a month before coming back," Liu Yan said dreamily as she began to visualize their trip.

"I got it. I'll head towards the kitchen to cook first. We shouldn't act weirdly today to prevent any suspicion," Wu Nian advised Liu Yan.

All of a sudden, her phone rang loudly. She looked down at the screen to see an incoming call from Gu Mingchen.

Why is Gu Mingchen calling me?

Warily, she picked up the call...

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 338

Chapter 338 It Is Normal For Men To Have Their Needs

"Nian! It's me, Yanny! I stole my daddy's phone to call you. He's having a video conference right now!" Yanny's excited voice echoed from the phone.

When Wu Nian heard Gu Yan's voice, her heart warmed immediately. It was as if his bright voice was a sun that melted away her sorrows. Instinctively, her lips curled into a smile.

"What are you doing right now? What did you have for lunch?" Wu Nian asked him with concern.

"I'm talking to you right now. I don't know what I'll be having for lunch. I think daddy will bring us to a restaurant. Nian, can I call you often?" Gu Yan asked hesitantly.

"Of course." Wu Nian thought for a while before she continued, "However, your daddy will find out that you've been using his phone. I'll go to your house and stash a new phone in the shoe rack outside. You can take it secretly and call me when you are free! I'll save my phone number on the phone. That way, we can video call each other."

"Your idea is amazing! I'll put the phone back now," Gu Yan replied happily.

"Alright." Wu Nian bid him farewell and ended the phone call.

"Did that child call you willingly?" Wu Nian asked with a raised brow.

"That's right. I didn't expect it as well. I'm heading out in the afternoon. I'll be using your car later," Wu Nian said with joy gleaming in her eyes.

"The two of you have a strong mother and son bond. He likes you so much even though he just met you," Liu Yan sighed and looked at Bao with a trace of sadness in her eyes as she lowered her gaze.

"You won't be separated from Bao," Wu Nian clutched Liu Yan's hand and reassured her comfortingly.

"I really hope so," Liu Yan sighed again and walked towards Bao. "If possible, I want to give him a stable and happy childhood," she said and caressed his pink cheeks fondly.

Wu Nian chose to remain silent as the room was full of Shen Yiyan's men. If she said too much, Liu Yan's expressive personality would get her into trouble.

Wu Nian turned towards the kitchen and began preparing lunch. After her meal, she drove Liu Yan's car out of the villa. Firstly, she headed to a mobile store to purchase a phone card before buying a new phone and saved her mobile number on the phone.

After she was done, she put the phone on silent mode and placed it in her purse before driving towards Gu Mingchen's house.

She knew that she wouldn't be able to explain her presence at Gu Mingchen's house. Thus, she decided to take the stairs to avoid bumping into him at the elevator.

When she reached the ninth floor, she noticed four suspicious men lingering around Gu Mingchen's residence. A feeling of uneasiness rose in her heart.

She walked over to the unit opposite Gu Mingchen's residence and knocked on the door.

"Can I help you?" a beautiful woman opened the door and asked Wu Nian warily.

"I'm here to collect your parcels for delivery," Wu Nian said.

"No one in my house has parcels to deliver," the woman responded in confusion.

Wu Nian took a step back and craned her neck to look at the unit number. "Ah, I'm so sorry. It seems that I'm at the wrong address," she apologized.

Next, she knocked on Gu Mingchen's unit, and Gu Yan greeted the door.

A bright beam spread across his face at the sight of Wu Nian. Immediately, he opened his mouth but was cut off by Wu Nian, "Hello, I'm here to collect your parcels. Are your parents home?"

"Delivery?" Gu Yan asked her quizzically.

"Close the door," she whispered lowly as she stepped inside.

Gu Yan obeyed her instructions obediently. "Nian, why are you here?"

"Hide this." Wu Nian shoved the phone in Gu Yan's palm.

All of a sudden, Gu Mingchen strode out of his study. Promptly, Wu Nian pushed Gu Yan behind her to block Gu Mingchen's line of sight. The guilt in her turned her face as red as a peach.

"Why are you here?" Gu Mingchen asked her suspiciously.

"I realized that my earrings are missing. I may have dropped them here yesterday, so I came here to look for them. Also, I saw two people lurking around the stairs when I came. They were staring at your door. You should get someone to check them out," Wu Nian stated her reason for knocking on the door.

If only those men weren't loitering outside! She could have left after putting the phone in the shoe rack.

"You climbed nine floors?" Gu Mingchen's eyes narrowed in disbelief.

Wu Nian couldn't help but feel frustrated at his question. He really is a good-for-nothing that doesn't know how to appreciate other's kindness!

"Why are you so surprised? I usually take the stairs as an exercise. The most important point is that your house is under surveillance. It's up to you if you want to check," Wu Nian snapped and prepared to leave. "Call me if you find the earrings. I have things to attend to."

"You're still young, but your temper is short and nasty. Search for it yourself. If you can't find it, it means that your earring isn't here," Gu Mingchen scoffed at her outburst.

"Excuse me. I'm not as young as you think. I'm twenty-eight this year."

Gu Mingchen looked at her silently before he spoke again, "You are aware that you're not young anymore. Yet, your temper is still as reckless as ever. Didn't you learn some lessons from your past experiences and failures?"

Wu Nian pressed her lips together angrily when she heard his response.

She could feel a blazing fire flicker in her gut as angry sparks began to gleam in her eyes. He seemed to berate her at every opportunity. In his gaze, everything that came out of her mouth was wrong. As she grew older, her tolerance waned thinner, and her self-esteem grew.

Although she felt furious, she smothered her anger with a deep breath. Wu Nian could not find a way to vent her frustrations.

She never wore earrings anyway. Asking to search for those earrings was an excuse that she had crafted. In haste to leave this place, she turned towards the kitchen under the pretense of searching for her imaginary earrings.

At the edge of her vision, she saw Gu Mingchen appear at the entrance of the kitchen. "Since you can't find it, you must not have dropped them here," he said coldly.

Gu Mingchen outstretched his hand to pinch her earlobe. Wu Nian felt a brief stab of pain on her ear as she batted his hand away and glared at him with displeasure.

"Yanny found these earrings in my room earlier. The children must have played around with it." Gu Mingchen gave her a pair of earrings in his palm.

Wu Nian couldn't help but scoff in disbelief.

She never wore earrings in the first place. Besides, she didn't think that Gu Mingchen would buy earrings for her as their relationship was rocky and unstable.

Yanny and Ruoxin were both boys. Why would they be interested in earrings? It is impossible that they would play with earrings.

Since he found these earrings in his room, he must be close to that woman. She must have visited his room and dropped them by accident.

"I'm sorry. These earrings do not belong to me." Wu Nian returned the earrings to Gu Mingchen stiffly.

Gu Mingchen's eyebrows furrowed in confusion. If the earrings didn't belong to her, who else would they belong to? Zhou Hailan does not wear earrings due to her sensitive skin.

Wu Nian brushed past him coldly as she prepared to leave. Yet, she halted again. There were some words which she could no longer keep in anymore.

"Mr. Gu, you are young and healthy. It's normal for you to have carnal cravings. However, you live in a small space and have two young kids. I suggest that you move your frivolous activities to the hotel instead of your bedroom."

"How is that any of your business!" Gu Mingchen glared at her as his eyes darkened at her implication.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 339

Chapter 339 We Need Enough Stamina To Flee

It's none of your business.

It's none of your business!

Along the way, these words had been running in Wu Nian's mind. Bitter and maddened, she was rendered speechless. She felt as though she was under the pressure of a mountain and was trembling all over.

Indeed. What does it have to do with me?

Even if she were Bai Rong, Gu Mingchen had divorced her. She had no right to intervene in Gu Mingchen's affairs with other women—no matter who they were. Not to mention, she was not Bai Rong anymore—she was Wu Nian.

Still and all, she could feel the sorrow within and her eyes watering. Why do I feel so much like crying?

It pains me to suppress everything within.

She stopped her car on the roadside and rested her head on the steering wheel, trying to soothe her overwhelming emotions.

Just then, there was someone knocking on the car window.

Wu Nian looked up and realized it was the traffic police so she lowered the window.

The police saw her pale countenance. "Are you alright? Are you drunk driving? You can't stop your car here."

"I didn't drunk drive. I was just feeling a little sick but I'm better now. I'll drive away immediately," Wu Nian answered softly.

Seeing her good attitude, the traffic police let her go.

When Wu Nian reached Liu Yan's place, it was already five o'clock in the afternoon.

"What took you so long? Didn't you go out just to deliver a phone? I almost called the police." Liu Yan was worried.

"I was caught up with something. I'm sorry," Wu Nian replied.

"You're moving out tomorrow, aren't you? Are you sure you don't want to stay for a few more nights? Bao and I are going to miss you," Liu Yan said that in front of the housemaids and the butler deliberately.

Wu Nian bore a faint smile. She understood Liu Yan's purpose in saying that. CLICK HERE TO JOIN OUR TELEGRAM CHANNEL FOR FAST UPDATES <u>https://t.me/NovelsFuns</u>

"I've caused you enough hassle today. Anyway, why don't we bring Bao to the amusement park tomorrow? I know of one which has a very good environment and hygiene," Wu Nian replied cooperatively.

"Sure. That's a good idea." Liu Yan took Bao's hand and jested, "Bao must have been very bored at home. Tomorrow, Ms. Wu will bring us out to have some fun."

"Madam, the weather outside is sweltering. Bao needs to take a nap every afternoon. It's not really appropriate to bring him out," Aunt Zhang cautioned her.

Liu Yan looked at Wu Nian. "Is the amusement park situated indoor or outdoor? If it's outdoor, I'll pass. It's too hot now and Bao is just a baby."

"Outdoor. It's not too far away from the hotel I'm staying in. We can take a rest at the hotel after lunch," Wu Nian suggested.

"The food outside is unhygienic. Bao isn't ready for solid food yet," Aunt Zhang rebuked again.

"We can just prepare more milk powder, puree, and probiotics. After all, Bao is only eating all these at home." Liu Yan was a little irritated.

"Bao is still too young for the games in the amusement park no matter how fun they can be."

Liu Yan was fuming. "Are you done yet? As Bao's mother, I just want to bring him out to have some fun. Who are you to keep advising against everything I've said? If anything happens, I'll bear the responsibility."

"It's not just your responsibility even if you said so. Mr. Shen has made it clear that you're allowed to go out for a day or two but Bao is not allowed to," Aunt Zhang lowered her head and uttered.

Liu Yan understood at once. She took out her phone and made a call to Shen Yiyan.

Shen Yiyan didn't pick up the call. Instead, he declined it.

In response, Liu Yan made another call to him.

She couldn't care less if Shen Yiyan was occupied with anything critical or if he would resent her. She would be over the moon if Shen Yiyan did resent her and boot her out because of this.

She called over and over again and on the fourth time, Shen Yiyan picked it up.

"What's the matter, baby? I'm in a conference." Listening to Shen Yiyan's tone, he seemed to be even-tempered and totally not mad or pissed off.

Liu Yan shuddered. "Who's your baby? Disgusting!"

With a brief laugh, Shen Yiyan asked as though he already knew it, "Who made you angry?"

Liu Yan took in a deep breath and tried to calm herself before she replied, "Tomorrow, I'll bring Bao to the amusement park with Wu Nian and we'll return at night. Let us go out."

"Alright, sure. You bring Aunt Zhang and Aunt Yang along so that they can help you take care of Bao. You'll have more time to spend with your best friend." Shen Yiyan agreed very swiftly.

Liu Yan pursed her lips while listening to his words.

She didn't want to bring Aunt Zhang and Aunt Yang along because they'll be keeping watch on her. She wanted to go travel abroad with Wu Nian for a month.

However, if she mentioned not bringing them along directly, Shen Yiyan would surely suspect her motive.

"Why are you silent? Are you dissatisfied with my arrangement? You can't be having other secret plans, can you?" Shen Yiyan's tone turned frigid at his last sentence.

That sent a shiver down Liu Yan's spine.

Shen Yiyan was vile since young and he didn't change a wee bit after growing up.

"You've already made your mind. Will you change anything to suit my preference even if I don't like it?"

"No." Shen Yiyan turned her down frankly. "Nevertheless, you can ask me for a gift. I'll give it to you when I return to the country."

"Will you give me anything I ask for?" Liu Yan questioned again.

"Of course not. In fact, it's the other way round. You can only take what I give to you. Haha." Shen Yiyan lightened up.

"Ha!" Liu Yan imitated his laughter. It was icy with traces of irony and perfunctoriness.

She hung up the call instantaneously. She spat, "I don't f*cking want your gift."

Wu Nian looked at Liu Yan worriedly. "He didn't agree?"

"He agreed but with the condition of bringing Aunt Zhang and Aunt Yang along." Liu Yan took Wu Nian's hand helplessly and instructed Heng Ni, "Deliver the dinner to my room later."

"Yes."

She took Wu Nian to her room and locked the door as she complained, "What a bandit of a man. Shen Yiyan is exactly a fascist. He's arranging for Aunt Zhang and Aunt Yang to keep us under surveillance. He's such a jack*ss."

"Tomorrow, you bring Bao to the washroom and then escape using the elevator. Wait for me at the airport and I'll come to you with the excuse of looking for you as you've been gone for a long time. We have to try to make it within thirty minutes before boarding as the success rate of escaping is higher that way," Wu Nian revealed her idea.

"That's the only way now. What about the luggage then? Don't you need to check-in at the hotel and then check out later?" Liu Yan asked.

"We'll go to the amusement park first and while I make an excuse to leave for the hotel. I'll take the time to store our luggage in the airport lockers."

"I remember that large baggage is not allowed to be carried on the plane and the checking in has to be done at least an hour earlier." Liu Yan pondered for a while and continued, "Forget it. We'll just bring a carry-on bag each and pack our summer outfits. We can buy new ones once we reach Xyperia. That'll save us the trouble."

"That's a good idea. We should go to bed earlier tonight to boost our energy for the escape tomorrow. Then, we can make waves abroad." Wu Nian lay down beside Liu Yan.

"Making waves abroad. I like this phrase." Grinning from ear to ear, Liu Yan also lay down beside Wu Nian and turned on the television.

It was a newscast on the television.

Taking a gander, Wu Nian sat upright in a jolt. Glints of anxiety and concern flashed across her wide-opened eyes.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 340

Chapter 340 Are You Concerned

"What's the matter?" Liu Yan asked perplexedly.

"901, Wisteria Court 82 is where Gu Mingchen stays," Wu Nian uttered as she felt her own heart racing. In her mind, she suddenly recalled the person she saw at the staircase. Agitated, she got out of bed and called Gu Mingchen instinctively.

She wanted to know if they were safe.

Just as the phone started beeping, she remembered what Gu Mingchen said to her. It's none of your business!

So she hung up right away.

Not only would Gu Mingchen refuse to tell her, but he would also ridicule and suspect her.

Should I call Yanny?

But if Yanny is with Gu Mingchen, he'll find out about it.

Just then, her phone started ringing.

Seeing that it was a call from Gu Mingchen, she was so alarmed that she could even feel her own back stiffened. Before answering it, she swallowed a lump in her throat.

"What is it?" Gu Mingchen asked in a dispassionate tone. His voice was deep and hushed as if he had been suppressing his anger. The atmosphere from over the phone seemed to be exceedingly gloomy.

"Well... Have you found the owner of the earrings?" Wu Nian simply asked a question.

"It belongs to the girl staying opposite. She left it here accidentally when she came visiting last time," Gu Mingchen said in his deep voice.

"I see," Wu Nian answered and looked down as she remembered the pretty girl who stayed opposite Gu Mingchen's house.

It seems like they're very close together since she even visited his room.

"Is there anything else you want to say? I'll hang up if there's none," Gu Mingchen replied coldly and harshly.

Wu Nian could sense the impatience in his voice.

Seeing as she had already gotten on his nerves, she wasn't worried about making him suspicious anymore. "I saw the news of a fire at your house on the television. Is everyone okay?"

"First of all, my house catching fire has nothing to do with you. Secondly, don't you think you've crossed the line by being overly concerned about my family? Even if there's a fire in my house, the safety of my family members is none of your business," Gu Mingchen replied indifferently.

Wu Nian tightened her grip on her phone and took a few deep breaths.

She knew that was the kind of answer she would get by calling Gu Mingchen.

He shouldn't have reacted with such an attitude if he had just thought about her kindness toward him when she told him that he was being surveilled.

Nevertheless, how things were supposed to be didn't matter as much as how one wanted them to be in this world.

"Indeed, talking to you is a waste of time." Wu Nian hung up on him directly and threw her phone on the bed.

Looking at Wu Nian, Liu Yan asked, "Did Gu Mingchen get your goat? It seems that he's still the same old him. When I was in the military base, I would always make a detour when I saw him. He's known for his crankiness, which is why I totally don't get how you would end up in a relationship with such a man. He's nowhere near being gentle."

Wu Nian lowered her gaze as the images of him risking his own life to rescue her and smiling at her flashed across her mind. Thinking of these, her emotion stabilized by degrees.

"He treats me quite well," Wu Nian replied softly as she sat down next to Liu Yan.

"Ha." Liu Yan let out a sardonic laugh as a sign of denial and wrapped her arm on Wu Nian's shoulder as she added bluntly, "That's because you've met Su Xuyan, who was even meaner. Hence, any man who's a wee bit better than Su Xuyan would give you a not-too-bad impression."

Wu Nian's eyes turned misty all of a sudden as she lay down on the bed, staring at the white ceiling.

Is it because I've not seen Gu Mingchen for too long?

So long that I can't even remember how we've fallen for one another.

All these memories and the despairing circumstances agonized her terribly. The tearing pain within her was so anguishing it forced her to close her eyes. As she did that, tears trickled down her cheeks and streamed into her hair.

"Bai, are you crying? Are you still in love with Gu Mingchen?" Liu Yan's heart ached at the sight of her best friend tearing up.

Wu Nian opened her eyes and they were red and swollen.

She curled her lips into a faint smile. "Thinking of the past made me tear up. Within my heart, there's no more room for romance. You know that."

"Don't get overly pessimistic. There are solutions to your disease. You've already improved from having to take injections every month to only taking it once in six months now. The technology is advancing and as with your physique, it would slim down when you're not required to take the medications anymore. I can see that you've lost some weight compared to the last two months." Liu Yan tried to encourage her.

That put a smile on Wu Nian's face. She didn't really care about her physique or appearance. She just wanted to stay healthy. But if she couldn't even attain that, she would still simmer down and take it easy. She wouldn't insist because she had already been to hell and back a few times now and perhaps, she had grown jaded about it.

Her phone chimed again in that instance.

Taking a gander and saw that it was yet another call from Gu Mingchen, she picked it up in puzzlement. "What's the matter?"

"I feel like there is still something I haven't made clear enough," Gu Mingchen uttered in his deep voice.

"Go ahead. I'm not expecting anything pleasant from you." Wu Nian was already mentally prepared this time.

"The girl staying opposite came to visit us today and I was dealing with the person who had been keeping watch on me outside. The girl forgot about the dumplings she was cooking for the children and caused the fire but thankfully, it wasn't very serious. Thank you for telling me that someone was surveilling but let's end it here. You don't need to contact me anymore in the future," Gu Mingchen uttered indifferently.

"Understood." Wu Nian ended the call before him and proceeded with blocking Gu Mingchen's number.

Looking at what Wu Nian was doing on her phone, Liu Yan asked, "Are you sure you're not going to contact him anymore?"

"I came back to take care of Yanny. Not seeing Gu Mingchen anymore might be a good thing for me as well," Wu Nian replied frankly.

Liu Yan held Wu Nian closer and squeezed her shoulder tightly to comfort her. "You'll find a better man. When your suffering is over, there'll definitely be someone gentle who will care for you and protect you."

Wu Nian only smiled at her in silence.

She was so strained that she was no longer interested to be in another romantic relationship. However, she knew that Liu Yan meant well and she didn't want her to be worried either.

Heng Ni delivered the dinner to the room. After the meal, they coaxed and put the Bao to bed and turned in after the baby was asleep.

Nevertheless, after two hours in bed, Wu Nian still couldn't fall asleep.

She didn't want her tossing and turning to disturb Liu Yan, who was already soundly asleep. So, she got up from the bed, walked outside, and sat by the door, gazing at the night sky.

There was no sight of the moon and stars.

It was almost September and there was still some lingering summer warmth in the air. The crickets' whispering sounded as though it was amplified during such a tranquil night. And it sounded lonesome, too.

Even the mosquitoes flying up and down around her chose not to bite her.

Wu Nian lifted the corner of her lips. Of course, with the virus in her blood, even the mosquitoes stayed away. That might be one of the few perks she got from this disease.

Leaning on the doorframe, she looked into the distance in silence.

It was seven in the morning.

Gu Mingchen received a video clip from one of his men from the Shadow Samurais.

He saw Wu Nian sitting quietly at the door and was just staring blankly into space most of the time. Sometimes, as if she had recalled some joyful memories, a faint smile would creep on her face. Still, there were also instances when it seemed as though some sorrowful happenings had flashed across her mind. That was when tears would stream down her face.

Gu Mingchen's gaze deepened and he made a call. "How long has she been sitting at the door?"

"She was there from 11 p.m. to 3:20 a.m. There's something I'm very curious about though," the Shadow Samurai reported.

"What is it?" Gu Mingchen was puzzled.

"Our man was in the hiding for the entire night and he has been bitten by the mosquitoes all over. But she doesn't seem to have been bitten at all."