You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 361 – 370

Chapter 361 Extra Perk

Wu Nian could feel everyone in the room staring at her.

If she were to go, it would make her relationship with Gu Mingchen seem suspiciously intimate.

If she were to refuse, it would also make it seem as if something had happened between the two of them.

"Don't go," Liu Yan said.

Wu Nian nodded. "I'm thinking the same. There's nothing for me to say to him. Let's move Ollie and Lisa to the bed."

"Ms. Wu, can I have a word with you too?" Xia He asked.

"Okay."

"Are you sure that you'll be fine?" Liu Yan looked concerned.

"Yeah," Wu Nian reassured her before following Xia He to the back of the villa, using her phone as a flashlight.

"I want to return with Gu Mingchen this time. I don't want to live like a fugitive any longer. Do you think that's a good idea?" Xia He asked.

"Before I actually met Zhou Hailan, I used to believe that you weren't the spy. You had it tough, after all. After the mission, I had thought that you had gone home. Tangqian Village is such a hellhole, isn't it?"

Sighing deeply, Wu Nian continued, "But after seeing Zhou Hailan, I simply couldn't help but wonder if you had been abandoned by the country because of the failed mission."

"What do you mean?" Xia He's voice became a little shrill as she stared at Wu Nian with a perplexed expression.

"When Zhou Hailan had just returned, she acted as if she had a mental illness and used it as an excuse to cling onto Gu Mingchen. I saw through her lies immediately and began suspecting her to be the spy."

Wu Nian furrowed her brows. "But after learning about me, she willingly left him and told me to take care of her child with Gu Mingchen. She had finally left him after sticking around for all those years. Apart from the shady schemes she conspired out of fear of losing Gu Mingchen, she was not an entirely evil person," she explained.

"That's exactly it! She wouldn't have played those dirty tricks if she were good-natured. She's the spy. I'm sure of it!" Xia He spluttered.

"That's because you're sure of who you are, but everyone else wouldn't be able to know for sure who's telling the truth!" Wu Nian also raised her voice.

"Can't you see the truth? Don't you believe me?" Xia He retorted.

"I believe you because Zhou Hailan is my rival. I don't trust her for personal reasons. Speaking of personal reasons, Zhou Hailan has a son with Gu Mingchen, and his parents have always hoped for them to marry. Who do you think his parents would believe? Him, or you?"

Wu Nian's words had Xia He stumped. Indeed, if Gu Mingchen had any faith in her at all, she would not have lived her life as a fugitive for so long.

Hmph. Gu Mingchen doesn't trust me for "personal reasons" too.

"What am I supposed to do then?" Xia He frowned.

"Run for your life... or..." Wu Nian paused. "Devise a plan to return to A City discreetly."

"Discreetly?" As Xia He stared at Wu Nian with her brows furrowed deeply, countless thoughts flashed across her head. Eventually, she asked, "I want to taste the oranges from Tangqian Village once more."

Memories of the unbearably sour oranges sold to them by a dishonest man at the village came flooding back into Wu Nian's head. The oranges were naturally grown but way too sour, and Gu Mingchen was the one who ate them all in the end.

She could recall exactly how affectionate and exasperated his gaze at that very moment.

Though the oranges tasted sour, there was an unmistakable sweet taste lingering in her heart.

"I guess they do taste pretty unique," Wu Nian replied.

"Have you eaten one before?" Xia He asked.

"They're brutally sour," Wu Nian said, smiling.

Xia He sneaked a glance to a dark corner. I've done the task as you have requested.

"I... I can't believe I didn't realize back then that you and Gu Mingchen had already gotten together. Was I blind? Urgh."

Wu Nian pursed her lips. It was a rather sensitive topic for her. "Gu Mingchen is definitely after you. You should find a chance and run before it's too late." She diverted the topic.

"He told me that he wouldn't as long as I stay on this island."

"That doesn't sound like something that he would do. He's very loyal to his fellow brothers fighting alongside him. Those who died on that mission were very dear to him. You're his number one suspect. There's no way that he'll go easy on you."

"It's possible... It would be possible if there is something more important to him, or maybe he has changed over the years. I heard Stephen talking about paying Mo Xue a visit for his sake. Mo Xue runs a jewelry business. Why would someone like Gu Mingchen be interested in a jewelry business? Believe it or not, he has changed," Xia He said with a genuine expression.

"Expanding his family business is only part of his responsibilities now that he has taken over Gu Group. Anyways, I'm heading back now. My friend must be worried about me." Wu Nian seemed firm about ending their conversation there.

"Thank you, Bai Rong. I'll cook some noodles for you guys in the kitchen. You must be hungry. You guys barely ate just now." Xia He trailed off as she headed toward the kitchen.

Wu Nian began walking back. She barely walked ten meters before Gu Mingchen suddenly appeared before her and blocked her way.

Wu Nian jumped. Retreating a few steps with her hand over her chest, she took a closer look at the man standing before her. "Mr. Gu, jumpscares can very well be deadly, didn't you know?"

"Weren't you trying to seduce me back then? Come, I'll let you do whatever you want now," Gu Mingchen growled.

Wu Nian felt a shiver down her spine. She could not wrap her head around what he was saying and stiffly shone the flashlight of her phone on his face.

His gaze was firm, and his expression was sincere as ever. He was being a hundred percent serious.

"When have I ever said that? Mr. Gu, you're too full of yourself." With that, Wu Nian tried to walk away.

However, Gu Mingchen immediately grabbed her hand, stopping her in her path. "I'm sorry."

Wu Nian raised her eyebrows.

It was rare for him to apologize to others, so she knew just how precious those words were.

"I know that I've been unreasonably mean to you this whole time, but I want to let you know that I just did it to test you. After all, you'll be taking care of my child. If you become part of my life, I'll have to entrust my child with you entirely. Furthermore, your voice sounds like an exact copy of how my ex-wife sounds. Because of that, I simply could not help but suspect that you're working for someone. However, after spending all this time together, I've come to the conclusion that you're not someone I should put my guard up against. I trust you completely, and I'll entrust my child with you from now on."

As Gu Mingchen solemnly said those words, his gaze became more and more passionate.

Wu Nian had to admit that the prospect of spending all of her time with Yanny made her heart skip a beat.

"Let me just say this. My teaching methods may be... extreme." Wu Nian wanted Gu Mingchen to be mentally prepared.

"I've chosen you, so I'll trust you fully and respect the way you teach. By the way, how much did the phone that you gave Yanny cost? Come to me for reimbursement when we get back," he said, pursing his lips.

Wu Nian blinked. Oh, my. He's way too observant.

She was still feeling rather hesitant about the entire matter. "I'll think about this when I get back."

"In that case, let me make my requests very clear. I won't remarry unless my ex-wife returns to me. Hence, you'll have to take care of my son until my ex-wife comes back. If you agree to do this, I'll add one more to the list of perks other than the ones I've already mentioned last time. I'll let your friend have Stephen, should you accept my offer."

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Chapter 362 Reminiscing The Good Times

It was an extremely tempting offer by Gu Mingchen.

It would mean she could simultaneously take care of her child and helped Liu Yan to get away from Shen Yiyan's control.

Liu Yan has helped me so much. I can't bring myself to continue to be a drag on her. Therefore, she agreed, "Okay. I will take good care of your children, sir."

Sir?

Gu Mingchen chuckled at the way she addressed him. She also acted the same way when they were still acquaintances. She would either address him as Chief or sir. Her politeness makes her sound so aloof and unapproachable.

Wu Nian stared bemusedly at Gu Mingchen; she had no idea why he was laughing. What's so funny?

Besides, his laughter sounded somewhat mocking, which made her feel a tad bit uneasy.

"Then, I shall leave the matter in your capable hands. If there's nothing else, Mr. Gu, I'll take my leave first." Wu Nian nodded at him respectfully and left quickly.

She could not bear to stay there longer. His cold and dominating presence was so suppressing that she could hardly breathe.

Watching her retreating figure, his gaze deepened as if he could see through all lies and deceptions.

As soon as Wu Nian returned to the living room, Liu Yan walked towards her and asked, "Nian, are you okay?"

She nodded. "Xia He is an old acquaintance of mine, so I chatted with her for a while. She said she would cook us some noodles later."

"Ms. Wu." Stephen's voice came from their backs.

Wu Nian whirled around and greeted him.

"Thank you so much for your help. If it weren't for you, I would never know the truth behind the death of my children," Stephen remarked.

However, Wu Nian did not think he needed to thank her. After all, it was a matter of life and death. "Not at all. Maybe it was just fate. I'm sorry for your loss, Mr. Stephen. I'm sure the three of them are in a better place now."

Wiping off the tears brimming in his eyes, the man took a candle and beckoned to her. "Come with me."

Wu Nian glanced towards Aaron, and he nodded, motioning her to go.

She followed him and entered one of the studios.

Under the faint light of the candle in his hand, the paintings that filled the walls looked mysteriously enchanting.

"I can't thank you enough for what you have done for me. The paintings here are my most treasured possessions. You can have two of them and consider them a sheer gift from me," Stephen stated.

Shaking her head, Wu Nian rejected him politely, "Everyone has something they hold dear. It would be unkind of me to take away your prized possessions in this moment of sorrow. Besides, you really don't have to thank me. I was just doing what I could do."

"If these are not to your taste, one of my works, Dream Girl, was auctioned for fifteen million. After the deduction of the auction fee and tax, I will give the rest of the money to you."

"Mr. Stephen's paintings are ingenious, and I believe each of them carries profound meaning. They are simply incomparable. Why would I think they're bad?"

"Really? Which one do you like? I'll give it to you," he offered sincerely.

"Mm, I'll have 'Darkness' then." Wu Nian stared at the painting and commented, "In a small, claustrophobic room, the light bulb is broken, and the surroundings are pitch black. Outside the window, the swaying tree branches are silhouetted against the dark stormy sky filled with forked lightning. The light of lightning shone through the window, bringing a short-lived brightness into the room. A little girl in a white dress sits on the ground, looking out of the window with her lips curled into a smile. Around her, there are mice on the ground, bats in the air, and spiders in the corners of the wall. If one looks closely, one can see that the door is not locked. Besides that, there is a book on the bed, and the font on the book looks strange. I think it's Braille. Hence, the girl is probably blind and imprisoned. She's lonely and has gone through a lot of hardships. Despite that, her heart longs for a ray of light in her life. I think this painting resembles the state of mind of Mr. Stephen at that time."

The corners of her mouth turned up as she continued to admire the painting. It also left her misty-eyed.

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"You are right. This piece is indeed my favorite. When I painted this, I was being pressured by my parents into giving up my dream as an artist. They wanted me to be a businessman instead. Along the way of pursuing my dream, I encountered a lot of obstacles and setbacks. I was even betrayed by my girlfriend and my friends. No one could understand my dream. When Gu Mingchen saw this painting, he said the same thing as you. That day, he stood where you are now and stared at it the whole afternoon without saying a word. When I secretly went to check on him, I saw him shedding tears!" Stephen exclaimed.

A drop of tear rolled down Wu Nian's cheek, and more came down until they rolled down like a stream. She turned her face away, trying to compose herself.

The painting brought tears to her eyes because it was a complete portrayal of how her heart had once been.

Back then, she was in a pit of loneliness and despair, suffering from marriage betrayal, her father's oppression, and her mother's worsening condition.

And Gu Mingchen was that lightning that flashed through the sky, short-lived and bright.

When she saw that ray of light, she opened the door and dashed out recklessly.

Unfortunately, she had failed to notice the menacing silhouette of the swaying branches.

Only when she left the house did she realize that there were violent storms and plagues outside. The lightning wasn't the only thing present.

However, her infatuation had touched the heart of the lightning. Thus, in order to illuminate her way back home, the lightning got off track from its original life.

Gu Mingchen probably had the same thought as mine.

"You're crying too?" Stephen asked.

Wu Nian wiped her tears and smiled. "It's a great painting, Mr. Stephen. It is very relatable, and it has the ability to make people think of many things. This is one of those legendary paintings that can make people feel like they are actually there in the art."

"Ms. Wu is such a charismatic person. Later on, I'll get somebody to take it down and give it to you. Now I know why you're Aaron's girlfriend. That boy has high standards in choosing his partner. You're indeed a good match for him and definitely qualified to be a countess."

Hearing that, Wu Nian gave him a faint smile in return. Aaron is a fake companion whom I use to fend off Gu Mingchen. I've never thought of being a countess; I'm happy with who I am now.

"By the way, Mr. Stephen, could you do me a favor? Please don't tell the others about how I cried when I saw the painting," Wu Nian said bashfully. "It's kind of embarrassing."

Stephen nodded in reply. "I have personal matters to attend to now, so I may not be able to send you off tomorrow. Whenever you are free in the future, give me a call. I can bring you all here again and show you around the island."

"That's very kind of you. Thank you, Mr. Stephen."

After that, both of them left the studio. On the way back to his room, Stephen met Gu Mingchen. With a glint of mischief in his eyes, he stepped forward and whispered surreptitiously, "That girl, Wu Nian, took a fancy to the 'Darkness' you liked as well. And she wept, too. But she cried more than you. Her tears were coming out like streams from her eyes."

Perplexed, Gu Mingchen glanced at him with his eyebrows knitted. "How did you know I shed tears?"

"What? Did I say that? You know what? Forgive me. I'm clearly still grieving and spouted nonsense just now." With that, the man went away hurriedly before Gu Mingchen could say anything.

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Chapter 363 Goodbye

Seeing his behavior, Gu Mingchen's frown deepened. After pondering for a second, he went over and abruptly grabbed Stephen's arm.

Before he could speak, Stephen said anxiously, "Uh... She told me not to tell anyone about her crying over the painting. Since I've told you the secret, you shouldn't be upset with me peeking at you in the past."

"I'm not talking about that." Gu Mingchen gave him a solemn look.

"Then, what is it? You scared the crap out of me," Stephen said gaspingly. "Even the earth trembles when you get angry."

"She and her friend came here to see you, too. They're hoping you could help them to get the deal."

"Don't fret. First come, first served. Since I've promised you and you've done your part, I will definitely help you on this matter. I'm a man of my word," Stephen stated, patting his chest.

"No. I want you to help her." Gu Mingchen let go of his arm.

Stephen looked at the man in puzzlement. "This is something that can increase your annual income by a billion. Are you sure you want to give it away?"

"Just do as I say." Gu Mingchen refused to provide any other explanation.

"You like that girl, don't you? She's Aaron's girlfriend, though. Don't forget that he is a nobleman of Ustrana. His family is as powerful as yours. Besides, I think Aaron is infatuated with her," Stephen probed tentatively.

"I don't think such a matter concerns you. Anyway, do you need any assistance for your daughters' funeral?"

Stephen's eyes dimmed as the thought of his two daughters crossed his mind. Shaking his head, he patted Gu Mingchen on the shoulder and went downstairs with his head down.

Later on, after everyone ate the noodles prepared by Xia He, Stephen distributed the rooms among them.

Ollie's husband took their two kids – who had been terror-stricken by the incident that night – to bed first.

Meanwhile, Casey shared a room with her boyfriend. Stephen's security guard was posted in front of her room for safety purposes.

Stephen stayed with the butler while Aaron and Gu Mingchen shared a room. As for Wu Nian and Liu Yan, they slept on makeshift beds in the study.

"I certainly did not expect such a thing to happen. I mean, we're only here to grab a deal." Liu Yan sighed.

Wu Nian pondered for a while before voicing out her opinion, "The incident was not an odd quirk of fate; it was bound to happen. I believe Stephen has struck a deal with Gu Mingchen. And after he successfully sold it last night, he decided to go to A City. That's why he called his daughters back to this island. However, the daughters probably thought they were being called for the division of the inheritance. So, they talked about their brother, Michael, who had been killed by them. With the perfect timing and location, Casey, who befriended Lisa for the sole purpose of avenging the murder of Michael, decided to carry out her plan during this family gathering."

"Yeah, maybe it's all fated." Liu Yan could not help but turn somber as she thought of her own life.

Wu Nian turned around and faced Liu Yan. "I've talked with Gu Mingchen, and he asked me to tutor his kids at his house. Besides, he said he would let Stephen help you."

"Are you serious?" Liu Yan sat up in shock. "Although I'm not really good at business, I believe it's a big project that worth at least a billion."

"I have no idea how much it costs, but I think it's a great opportunity. I'll go to Gu Mingchen's house as a tutor in the future, and he can protect me. In addition, Aaron is already my boyfriend, so I'm safe. Therefore, Yan, you should start thinking for yourself instead of me," Wu Nian whispered cautiously.

"But would it be considered a fraud? Since Gu Mingchen is giving up such a profitable business for you."

"As long as I don't harm him and his loved ones, he will not do anything to me. Of that, I'm sure. He is not an unreasonable person."

"Do you think he knows you're Bai Rong already?" Liu Yan surmised.

"I've changed my appearance and even my DNA. If I never admit that I'm Bai Rong, he will never know my true identity. Don't worry. I'll never admit it." Wu Nian smiled reassuringly.

"Bai Rong," Liu Yan called, looking at Wu Nian doubtfully. "I might be leaving soon. After that, we may not be able to contact each other for the rest of our lives. So, can I ask you something? I want your truthful answer."

Bai Rong gazed at her friend dolefully.

Liu Yan had been her best and only friend. It was saddening to know that they might lose contact forever.

Perhaps, that is our destiny.

Tears started to well up in Wu Nian's eyes. "I'll tell you everything."

"Do you still love Gu Mingchen?"

Wu Nian stared at Liu Yan. "Bai Rong is deeply in love with Gu Mingchen, and her love for him is everlasting. But I am Wu Nian."

"Will Wu Nian fall in love with Gu Mingchen?" Liu Yan questioned immediately.

At that question, Wu Nian fell silent and dropped her gaze, concealing the flicker of emotion in her eyes.

Liu Yan smiled sadly. "It's okay. You don't have to answer. No matter what you do, I hope you're happy."

"Yan, what even is the purpose of life? What are we seeking for?" Wu Nian asked, shedding tears quietly.

When Liu Yan saw her friend crying, tears started to pour down from her eyes as well. She pulled Wu Nian into her embrace. "Rong, I don't want us to part ways. Forever, I want to have heartfelt conversations with you, fight the same enemy with you, work together with you, go shopping with you, eat and sleep together with you."

Wu Nian hugged her back and said nothing, letting the ache in her heart suffocate her.

I can't bring myself to make promises. Seeing each other again in the future means trouble. It'll be incredibly difficult for us.

The two of them cried for a long time as they lay on the bed together and grieved for their eventual separation. With her hand around Wu Nian's waist, Liu Yan said, "I hope we will have a chance to meet again after Shen Yiyan falls for another woman."

"Once Shen Yiyan loses his interest in you, I will find you in Dartan," Wu Nian declared with a hoarse voice.

"Go to Chapel of Drieso and look for Pastor John. He will give you my number."

Wu Nian sniffed. "Sure. I will always be in A City. You know where to find me."

As Liu Yan buried her face in her friend's hair, she put away her usual playful smile and said somberly, "Yes, I know where to find you."

Wu Nian soon fell asleep and had a dream about her parting ways with Liu Yan. She burst into tears in the dream.

I have love, a friend, and family. But at the same time, they all seem to be so far away from me.

When she woke up, she realized her pillow was wet with tears. She rubbed her nose and turned to look at Liu Yan.

The other woman also seemed to be having a bad dream; there were tears at the corner of her eyes.

Wu Nian's heart ached at the sight of her friend.

Therefore, she made a decision. Apart from taking good care of her child, she also had to make preparation for the reunion with Liu Yan in the future.

I can't bear to lose my only friend, Liu Yan.

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Chapter 364 We Are Family

Wu Nian got up from the bed as quietly as she could and crept toward the door.

Since there was no en-suite bathroom, she had to go out of the study to freshen herself up.

When she opened the door, her eyes met the eyes of Gu Mingchen.

She was taken aback, not sure what was going on. "Hello?"

Ignoring her greeting, the man handed her two sets of disposable toothpaste and toothbrushes.

She looked at the toiletries in his hand, and a strange feeling washed over her. Such things should be given to me by Stephen's housekeeper, not him.

"You don't need these?" Gu Mingchen grew a little impatient when she did not take the things in his hand.

His voice was deep and husky, sounding similar to a cello. It was very pleasing to the ears.

She promptly took the toiletries over and said respectfully, "Thank you, Mr. Gu."

"Since you're now hired as my children's home tutor, you're considered a part of the family now. You don't need to be so polite." With that, the man turned around and left.

Family? She looked at his tall and muscular figure. I guess it's good to be family in this way.

After she collected herself, she headed to the bathroom to brush her teeth and shower. By the time she was done, Liu Yan had also gotten up.

The woman's eyes were red and puffy from crying last night. She was clearly still muzzy from sleep.

Wu Nian grinned at her disheveled look as she handed her the toiletries and teased, "Take a look at your hair. It's as messy as a pigpen. Are you sure you're not a boy?"

Guffawing at her joke, Liu Yan seemed to have forgotten their sentimentality last night. "Oh, how I wish I were male! I wouldn't have to worry about taming my mane every day. Hahaha."

"If you were a boy, I'm sure you would be the most sought-after bachelor," Wu Nian said jokingly.

Putting her arm around Wu Nian's shoulder, Liu Yan wagged her eyebrows suggestively. "It's okay, my love. You would be the one I marry."

"Hahaha. Sure." Wu Nian chuckled joyfully. But behind her cheerful facade, sorrow lingered in her heart.

Liu Yan went to the bathroom to wash and tidy up her messy hair while Wu Nian headed downstairs.

When Xia He was bringing out the breakfast, she caught sight of Wu Nian and said, "Stephen has sent someone out, and the ship will be here by the afternoon at the latest."

Wu Nian nodded. "Thank you."

"Come and have your breakfast first. Stephen has told me to take you guys around the island." She put the bowl in front of her.

"He is too kind. Thank you," Wu Nian said courteously.

"He has always been a warm-hearted man."

An hour later, Liu Yan joined Wu Nian for breakfast together.

Glancing around, the former found no one other than the two of them. "How strange! There are only the two of us here. Where are the others?"

"They're probably busy with other things. I bet some are still sleeping," Wu Nian replied.

A moment later, Liu Yan glanced towards the stairs and grinned. "Your boyfriend is here. Oh, he's so dashing. Such a feast for the eyes."

Wu Nian chuckled in response. Before she could turn her head around to look at Aaron, he had leaned in and kissed her on the cheek. "Morning, my dear."

"Uh..." Wu Nian felt a little uncomfortable with the intimacy. Mm, but I guess cheek kissing is nothing but a greeting etiquette for him as a Ustranasion.

However, she was not used to the smell of his cologne. Forcing a smile, she greeted back, "Morning."

Aaron sat down next to her and looked into her eyes. "I didn't sleep well yesterday."

"It's normal to have a bad night sometimes," Wu Nian replied with a laugh.

He lowered his gaze and ate elegantly before saying, "I'll bring you somewhere today after we leave."

Wu Nian and Liu Yan exchanged a look before the latter secretly winked and smiled slyly at her friend.

Sighing inwardly, Wu Nian was left with no choice but to accept it. I've made my bed, and I'll have to lie in it. Besides, I still need him as my boyfriend.

After they finished their meal, Aaron asked Wu Nian, "Do you need me to talk with Stephen regarding the matter you mentioned earlier?"

"Mr. Stephen currently has his personal matters to attend to, so I think it's inconsiderate of us if we talk business with him at the moment. Don't worry about it. Liu Yan will contact Mr. Stephen again later on." She paused briefly before asking, "When will you return to Ustrana?"

His mouth quirked up at her question. Fixing his blazing gaze on her, he softened his tone of voice and asked expectantly, "Do you want to go back with me?"

However, Wu Nian spoke her mind directly, "I need to go back to my country and do what I should do."

Disappointment spread across Aaron's face instantly. Still, he raised a smile. "You're so frank and cute. Anyway, I have some business to do in A City. But I'll have to go back to Ustrana first to deliver the necklace Grandma wants before flying to A City to meet you. I wouldn't want the physical distance between us becomes an obstacle in our relationship."

Touched by his words, she softened her gaze and felt guilty for her bluntness.

"He's so romantic," Liu Yan commented as she held her chin on her hand, utterly in awe of him.

Aaron smiled warmly. "It's not romantic. I'm just doing what a boyfriend should do. A boyfriend who makes his girlfriend sacrifice too much is not a good man."

Leaning towards Wu Nian, Liu Yan whispered in her ear cheekily, "Just marry him, Rong."

"Rong?" He looked at them in surprise.

Realizing her slip of the tongue, Liu Yan quickly corrected her posture and sat upright. She pondered for a while before explaining, "I mean, it's not wrong to marry someone as charming as you."

"Ah, I see." Aaron nodded in agreement and beamed delightfully at Wu Nian. "She's right, you know?"

"You mean she's not wrong?" Wu Nian cracked up at the look on his face.

"Hahaha! You're really a cute one." Liu Yan laughed boisterously, holding her stomach.

Gu Mingchen heard their laughter when he reached the door of the dining room. He frowned instantly, and jealousy surged from his eyes. I rarely hear her laugh so heartily.

The moment he walked into the room, he saw Aaron kiss Wu Nian's forehead, and his expression instantly turned livid. He walked over sullenly.

"It's wonderful to see you laugh. You look more attractive and approachable. Nian, you should laugh more," Aaron said gently.

A wave of warm, fuzzy feeling washed over her as she realized his kind intention to make her laugh just now. She could not help but tease him, "You mean, I don't look good when I don't laugh?"

"Nope. You're always beautiful," Aaron stated hurriedly.

As they were conversing, Gu Mingchen pulled a chair and sat across Wu Nian. Leaning back on his chair, he looked at her with an inscrutable emotion in his eyes. "Now now, what's so funny? Share it with me. I want to join the merriment, too."

"Don't tell me you want to hear their sweet nothings," Liu Yan interrupted in a mocking tone.

"Oh? What kind of sweet nothings?" Gu Mingchen glared hostilely at Aaron and smirked. "Speak them out. Let me learn, too."

"You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear." Liu Yan then said, "Aaron, you're familiar with this island. Let's bring us out for a stroll then. There is an annoying fly here." With that, she stood up and held Wu Nian up as well.

Aaron smiled at Gu Mingchen. "I'm sorry."

"Wu Nian," Gu Mingchen abruptly called out her full name and looked fixedly at her. "Sit down."

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Chapter 365 Keep Her By My Side Forever

With his domineering stare and his commanding tone, it was as if he had something important to tell her now. Thus, she was left with no room for rejection.

Wu Nian hesitated for a moment. He asked Stephen to help Liu Yan. Moreover, we will be seeing each other often once I live at his place. As his employee, I should be on good terms with him.

"How may I help you, Mr. Gu?" Wu Nian inquired patiently.

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He looked at her and responded in a deep voice, "Let's talk privately. Come with me."

Then, he got up and walked straight to the door with his hands in his pockets.

"What a bad-tempered person. Nian, don't follow him," Liu Yan scowled displeasedly and took Wu Nian's hand.

"Let me find out what he has to say. It'll be less than 10 minutes. Wait for me here." Wu Nian then turned to Aaron. "Can you wait for me?"

He nodded with a smile. "Call me if you need anything. My phone is always switched on for you."

"Thanks." With that, she headed out and followed Gu Mingchen at a distance.

He brought her to the garden outside and looked at the blooming honeysuckle in front of him.

Wu Nian stood behind him.

"Do you know the name of this flower?" he questioned.

"It's honeysuckle. We used to have a lot of these in the orphanage. The aunt who took care of us told us that honeysuckle is really good for our health. It can help reduce inflammation and detoxify the blood. They flower four times a year, from May to October. But the duration for each bloom is very short -about a week. She always brought us out to pluck the flowers, and she dried them on bamboo threshing baskets." Wu Nian picked a flower and plucked its petals. "I remember her giving me some honeysuckle tea to drink one time when my gums were swollen and sore. The swelling actually reduced in a day."

Gu Mingchen turned around and gazed at her flawless face as she spoke.

Bai Rong did grow up in an orphanage when she was a child. That's why she feels so real. She looked calm and gentle when she was reminiscing just now.

I know she did not get plastic surgery for aesthetic purposes. Maybe, she did it because she did not want me to recognize her. But... Why?

His heart ached at the thought, but he quickly collected himself.

"Once we're back in A City, you'll have to start working at my house. You need to stay overnight at my place, and you can only rest four days a month. Will this hinder your relationship with your foreign boyfriend, Aaron?" Gu Mingchen probed.

"I will arrange my time reasonably. Besides, Aaron has a business in A City. After he returns to Ustrana and gives the necklace to his grandmother, he will come to A City," Wu Nian explained.

"It sounds like both of you are quite close to one another. But during your previous interview, you said that you had broken up with your ex-boyfriend. So, I assume both of you've just met each other recently?"

Wu Nian gave him a faint smile. "Aaron said that the destiny of a couple does not depend on how long they've known each other. The right person only appears at the right time, in the right place, and on the right occasion."

"The right place, the right time, the right occasion, and the right person? These four points seem to be difficult to achieve," Gu Mingchen commented thoughtfully.

Wu Nian nodded in response and lowered her eyes. Gu Mingchen and I did not meet at the right time, in the right place, and on the right occasion. So, we won't be the right person for each other.

While she was staring at the ground, he plucked a honeysuckle and put it in her hair.

Her heart skipped a beat. Feeling that it was an inappropriate act, she quickly took it down and frowned at him.

But he continued to watch her with a pensive look on his face as if he had not done anything.

"Mr. Gu, if there is nothing else, I'll go first. Liu Yan and my boyfriend are waiting for me." Wu Nian dropped the honeysuckle on the ground and dusted off her hands.

"Wait. I still have something important to say," Gu Mingchen said.

Wu Nian took a big step back, bowed her head, and listened respectfully.

"My family condition is quite different than other ordinary families. I'm a single parent, raising my two sons alone. But I often have to go outstation, accompany clients, attend social events and meetings, and work overtime. Once you start working for me, you'll be the only one at home, taking care of the kids. If it clashes with your date, what will you do?" he asked.

"Rest assured, Mr. Gu. I will arrange my schedule well."

"How well can you arrange it?" he continued to question.

"Aaron has a flexible schedule. He can work around my schedule. Besides, I'll have time after I send the kids to school."

Gu Mingchen's face instantly darkened, and he said sarcastically, "What a good idea. By the way, I'm a single man. Is your boyfriend okay with the fact that you'll be living with me?"

"Aaron is a magnanimous person. He doesn't speculate about others out of pettiness, nor does he sow discord out of jealousy. I'm sure he will respect my job," Wu Nian defended.

"Don't forget that my condition is for you to take care of my children until my wife comes back. And all of the conditions I've stated before will be listed in the contract. Moreover, Aaron is a nobleman from Ustrana. Even if he agrees to your lifestyle, his family won't be happy with it. So, are you sure you want to work with me? Ms. Wu is a smart woman." He examined her expression, trying to see if he had made her give up on the idea of being Aaron's girlfriend.

Wu Nian looked at him in the eyes and said, "For Mr. Gu, the only thing you have to consider is to hire me or not. The rest are my personal matters."

"Your future is also something I need to consider. I don't want to see my sons getting hurt by your abrupt departure by the time you get married. That would be a huge impact on my children's emotional well-being. What do you think, Ms. Wu?" Gu Mingchen said solemnly.

Tears started to well up in her eyes. Is he trying to force me to break up with Aaron?

Blinking her tears away, Wu Nian retaliated, "Don't worry. Since I have promised you, I will definitely keep my word. At the same time, I hope Mr. Gu understands that this contract involves mutual responsibility. Before you marry again, you cannot fire me for no reason. Can Mr. Gu do your part as well?"

"Of course. I will abide by the contract after it's signed. When will you sign the contract?"

"In a week. After returning to A City, I will contact Mr. Gu."

He nodded in response.

"Goodbye." Wu Nian quickly turned around and walked out of the garden.

Gu Mingchen locked his eyes on her retreating figure until she was out of his sight. Then, he bent down and picked up the honeysuckle that she had thrown away. Honeysuckle symbolizes devotion and everlasting bonds.

He did not know why Bai Rong had changed her name, appearance, and DNA, but he would not marry anyone except for Bai Rong. I will keep her by my side forever...

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 366

Chapter 366 Stay With Me

The ship arrived around noontime, and it brought with it a signal transmitter, a new generator, flowers, pastors, and police.

The police interrogated every person in the study and arrested Casey in the end.

After Aaron came out of the study, he seemed down.

Wu Nian went to him and asked, "Are you okay?"

"Nian, Stephen is my friend. I wish to stay here for the time being. Would you like to accompany me?" he asked tactfully.

Wu Nian nodded.

It's inappropriate for Liu Yan to leave her potential business partner at this time as well. If she stays, I'm staying, too.

Her answer made Aaron smile warmly. He held her hand and asked, "Are you hungry? Let's go grab something to eat first. We may be a little busy this afternoon."

"Sure." As she turned around, she almost ran into Gu Mingchen, who was standing right behind her. She jumped out of her skin, staring wide-eyed at him.

The man glanced at her face. "Feeling guilty?"

"Guilty? Look who's talking! You were the one who sneaked up on me. I was frightened, not guilty," Wu Nian retorted, giving him a side-eye.

Gu Mingchen let out a snort and said nothing as if he could not care less.

His attitude, on the contrary, made her seem to be one who felt guilty and tried hard to defend herself.

Looking at his indifferent demeanor, she had no choice but to swallow her anger.

Then, Gu Mingchen glanced away from her and locked his eyes on Aaron. "I've told Stephen I will stay to help him tonight."

Both Aaron and Wu Nian were left speechless.

"I'm here to tell you this. Mm, I'm hungry, too. We should have lunch." After he finished speaking, he went away.

Wu Nian and Aaron looked at each other. Both of them were weirded out by Gu Mingchen's odd behavior

A moment later, Aaron flashed Wu Nian a meaningful smile. "Such an interesting person."

Interesting person, huh? Wu Nian laughed inwardly. Oh, Aaron, you're mistaken; Gu Mingchen is clearly a domineering person.

"I had a big breakfast this morning, so I'm actually not hungry now. Do you want to go to the beach with me to catch some crabs?" Wu Nian asked.

The smile on Aaron's face instantly became brighter. "Sounds great. Grab a bucket. We should be able to catch a lot of crabs on the beach now. We might even find sea urchins, too."

Wu Nian suddenly recalled the time she and Gu Mingchen had been stranded on a deserted island.

She missed everything there – sunset, evening breeze, beach, campfire, crabs, fish, bamboo shoots, and wild boar. I especially missed the sweet bamboo shoots and the juicy wild boar meat. They're so delicious when eaten together.

Even to this day, she had never eaten food as tasty as the one she had back then.

Her lips quirked up as she reminisced the good times she shared with Gu Mingchen. "Let me call Liu Yan. We can all get those crabs together."

Looking adoringly at the gentle smile tugging at her lips, Aaron reached over and held her hand.

Wu Nian turned to him in response, thinking that he had something to say.

Then, he swiftly pulled her towards him and carried her into his arms.

"What ... "

She was about to object when he interrupted, "Time to catch the crabs!"

As soon as he said that, he put her down and beamed at her.

Smiling wryly at his childish behavior, she motioned him to look for Liu Yan together. "Let's go."

Half an hour later, they arrived at the beach with a bucket, two small spades, and rubber gloves.

As they walked on the shore, the crabs immediately scrambled away from them. Those that were near to the sea rushed into the water while the rest burrowed into the sand. Nevertheless, they were able to catch a number of them.

There were a lot of crabs here. Stephen usually did not eat seafood due to gout.

Being here on the beach brought back the memories of her and Gu Mingchen catching crabs at the seashore once again.

Back then, Gu Mingchen had used a fishing net to catch a lot of fish and crabs. The freshly caught crabs were naturally salty and delicious. Thinking of those moments made her yearn to go back in time and enjoy those moments again.

If it weren't for my illness, I would've stayed on that island and lived a simple life with Gu Mingchen forever.

However, it was a dream that would never come true.

Wu Nian was holding a crab with a silly smile when Aaron asked her, "Is it okay for us to skip lunch at Stephen's place and eat the crabs here instead?"

"Sure. But you have asthma. So, I'll be one cooking the crabs while continue to find delicious creatures for us. When they are cooked, I will call you over to enjoy them."

"I like this division of work." He then took out a lighter and handed it to her. "Thanks for cooking the food for us."

"You're welcome," she beamed with a smile.

As Liu Yan searched for dried sticks and branches, Wu Nian went on to gather some stones, arranging them in a circle before putting a bigger stone in the middle. After the former brought back some firewood, she started a fire. Then, she put the crab on a stone and pressed it with a twig for five minutes.

After a while, five cooked crabs sat on big leaves that had been picked out by Liu Yan.

"They look so delicious. Nian, I'm getting hungry." Sitting next to Wu Nian, Liu Yan reached over to grab one of the freshly grilled crabs.

Before she could touch those crabs, Wu Nian stopped her. "Be careful, they're still hot. You can enjoy them once I'm done cooking these crabs here. The crabs won't be that hot by then."

Listening to her words, Liu Yan went to lay down on the sand with her hands behind her head, enjoying the blue sky and the sea breeze. "It feels good to be here."

Wu Nian raised a smile and glanced at her. "When Gu Mingchen and I were on that deserted island, we also had wild boars, wolves, chickens, bamboo shoots, mushrooms, and vegetables. Gu Mingchen had a pistol with him, so we were not afraid of the wild animals. We also built a house on a tree near to the sea. Everything was perfect; I could live my whole life there."

As Liu Yan looked at the smile on her face, she finally understood why Wu Nian was in such a good mood today.

It was because she was reminded of the happy times with Gu Mingchen on that island.

I don't believe Wu Nian doesn't love Gu Mingchen.

With that in mind, Liu Yan grabbed a crab and tore it into two.

"Yan, isn't it hot?" Wu Nian asked worriedly.

Liu Yan put the crab back on the leaf and blew on her red palms. "Nian, sometimes, love is like this hot crab. If you don't let go of it, you will eventually hurt yourself. Sometimes it's better to give up."

"I understand, you silly girl. Wait a moment." Wu Nian walked into the woods, and after a while, she brought out a cactus and placed it on a leaf. Then, she crushed it with a branch and smeared the juice on Liu Yan's hands.

"Aloe vera, cactus, or green tea added with sesame oil can be very effective in treating burns," Wu Nian suggested.

"Many people tend to forget the pain after the wound heals." Liu Yan sighed.

A flicker of emotion flashed through Wu Nian's eyes, but she did not say anything and continued grilling the crabs, lost in thought.

Her thoughts continued to wander until someone sat down beside her, filling her nose with a familiar scent

She immediately looked up and saw Gu Mingchen sitting next to her. Liu Yan was long gone.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 367

Chapter 367 Pull Away In A Relationship

"I miss moments like these." After grabbing a crab, Gu Mingchen cracked it open and blew on it to cool it down.

Wu Nian never thought he would show up suddenly and take the crab she had grilled.

At this moment, her heart was thumping wildly. She licked her dried lips and parted them to say something.

However, her mind went blank as soon as she wanted to say something. Deep down, she actually understood what Gu Mingchen meant. However, strangers wouldn't get him as they didn't know he used to live on a desolate island.

Initially, she tried to think like someone who wasn't aware of his past. However, her mind went blank because she was too nervous. In the end, she couldn't utter a word at all.

The next moment, Gu Mingchen glanced at her.

Feeling his gaze on her, she lowered her eyes and focused on turning the crabs around to conceal her nervousness.

Gu Mingchen chuckled. "Do you know how to make distilled water?"

"I remember learning the methods in textbooks."

"Have you ever experimented it?"

"I tried it in an experiment once," Wu Nian explained with slight embarrassment.

She could feel Gu Mingchen still staring at her as she spoke.

Although both of them were silent, she felt nervous and uncomfortable because his gaze hadn't been shifted away from her.

After a while, she decided to look into his obsidian eyes to ask, "Mr. Gu, is it your habit to stare at someone's girlfriend?"

"I'm just curious about what's on your mind. You haven't taken your crabs out even though they are almost burnt," Gu Mingchen replied blandly.

At his answer, she blushed and immediately took her crabs away from the charcoal burner. Two crabs were burnt, but luckily, the third one was fine.

Then, she used a twig to grab another crab and put it on the stones. However, as the fire was too close to her, she instinctively withdrew her hand.

"Silly girl. Let me help you. Come over here to eat the grilled crabs," Gu Mingchen chided before he took the twig from her.

The next moment, he suddenly held her hand. No one knew if he had done it intentionally or otherwise.

Wu Nian instantly felt that the warmth exuded from his palm was hotter than the fire. She withdrew her hand cautiously and asked, "Did you see Liu Yan?"

"I think she went back to the car to get some water and an umbrella. Look, the one running over should be her," Gu Mingchen pointed out as he glanced toward the right side.

Wu Nian shifted her gaze, indeed seeing Liu Yan running toward them with a plastic bag in her hand.

Deep in her heart, she knew Liu Yan didn't like Gu Mingchen. In fact, the woman had always persuaded her to let go of him.

Hence, Wu Nian guessed that Liu Yan would be anxious the moment she saw Gu Mingchen.

She didn't wish to deepen the conflict between Gu Mingchen and her friend. "Didn't you say you'll be the night watch tonight? In that case, you should get enough rest now."

"I'll go back after grilling the crabs for you," Gu Mingchen stated blandly.

"I've already grilled twelve crabs. With the additional five crabs you grilled, it's more than enough. Besides, it'll be a waste if we can't finish eating everything." Wu Nian was actually indirectly asking him to leave.

Gu Mingchen glanced at her and spat out with slight displeasure, "Are you forcing me to leave?"

The woman immediately put on a wry smile. "This is not my beach, and so, I have no right to ask anyone to leave. Well, I'm not aware of what happened between Mr. Gu and Bai Rong. However, I know clearly that my friend doesn't like you. Since my friend is coming over here, why don't we avoid any possible trouble? Do you agree with me, Mr. Gu?"

Gu Mingchen gazed at her intently and replied, "Well, I really wish to hear the reason that she doesn't like me. After all, spitting it out openly is better than making guesses and sabotaging relationships secretly. What do you think?"

"When did she sabotage your relationship with someone?" Wu Nian smiled helplessly.

Before Gu Mingchen could reply, Liu Yan had arrived. She threw the plastic bag with bottles of water and an umbrella inside at his feet. Then, she put both hands on her wrist and questioned, "Gu Mingchen, why are you here? I told you not to pester my friend anymore."

"Why?" Gu Mingchen asked coldly.

"Wasn't it enough to hurt Bai Rong? Do you want to hurt Wu Nian as well?" Liu Yan cried out exasperatedly.

"I've never hurt Bai Rong. I wouldn't have married her if I didn't love her. Also, she planned our divorce against my wishes," Gu Mingchen said in a deep voice as he rose to his feet. His overbearing voice seemed to shift the atmosphere.

"Since Bai Rong planned the divorce, it means she didn't love you. So, why did you still pester her? In fact, she wouldn't have died if you had stopped earlier," Liu Yan argued emotionally.

"She planned our divorce to rescue me. It wasn't that she didn't love me." Gu Mingchen's eyes looked even colder as those words escaped his lips.

"What's the outcome of falling in love with you? She had to endure the pain, which was worse than anyone could bear. In the end, she died because of it without having a comfortable life when she was alive. Gu Mingchen, please let go of my friend if you still have a little guilty conscience. She will be happy as long as she stays away from you!" Liu Yan yelled.

"I'm confident that I can give her everything as long as she can give me a little more trust," Gu Mingchen replied, tears seemingly welling up in his eyes.

"Yan, stop quarreling," Wu Nian demanded icily.

When Liu Yan saw Aaron come over with a bucket in his hand, she pursed her lips and crossed her arms. Then, she turned around furiously and kicked the sand under her feet.

Wu Nian excused herself politely. "I'm sorry, Mr. Gu. I have to talk to my friend."

Gu Mingchen glanced at her with slight anger. Then, he turned around and walked toward the dock.

Once he left, Liu Yan grabbed Wu Nian's hands and said worriedly, "Did he bully you?"

Wu Nian shook her head and replied, "Yan, I'll go to Gu Mingchen's house as a tutor, and so we'll definitely meet each other many times in the future. So, you don't have to be pissed off just because he talks to me."

"Can you not be his tutor? I mean, Aaron is a nice guy. He's gentle, rich, and cares about you. You can live happily once again," Liu Yan whined.

"Will you bring Bao along when you leave this time?" Wu Nian swiftly changed the subject.

"Of course," Liu Yan answered without hesitation.

"What if Bao can't leave, and you've to leave alone?" Wu Nian asked.

"In that case, I definitely won't leave. Bao is my child. I can't put my mind at ease by leaving him in Shen Yiyan's hands. He will definitely set bad examples for him. If he has children later, he might sideline Bao or even torture him. If that happens, he will have a pitiful life," Liu Yan said dejectedly.

"Well, Gu Yan is my son. He now stays with Zhou Hailan, who's always looking for a chance to scheme against him. Besides, her son Gu Ruoxin is not kind-hearted either. There was a time when Yanny had an upset stomach after having some spicy food, yet Zhou Hailan deliberately persuaded me to make more spicy food for him. As such, I can never put my mind at ease," Wu Nian explained with tears welling up in her eyes.

Liu Yan immediately understood her logic and apologized sobbingly, "I'm sorry, Nian. I shouldn't say or do things that put you in a difficult situation. Also, my heart wrenches to hear it from you."

Wu Nian flashed her friend a faint smile and comforted her, "I know you want me to be happy."

Then, she put her hand on Liu Yan's shoulder, indicating for her to sit down. "Come, let's try the crabs. They're not as hot as before anymore."

Wu Nian was startled when her phone suddenly rang. She took out her phone and realized that it was from an unknown caller. After hesitating for a while, she decided to answer it.

"Bai Rong, I'm Xia He. The signal transmitter has been installed. Also, a man named Su Xuyan has just arrived at the island and seems to be looking for you. Take care. I've to get going now. Keep in touch."

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 368

Chapter 368 All Good Things Come To An End

"Keep in touch," Wu Nian replied in a deep voice. She couldn't help but feel a sense of sorrow as she spoke.

She was unfortunate, but she was still lucky compared to Xia He.

At the very least, she had a friend, a lover, and a child. Even though they were all separated, they all still missed each other.

On the other hand, Xia He had been accused of treason when she was very young. As such, she had to be on the run and couldn't go home nor make friends with others like an ordinary human being.

Therefore, never complain you're in a difficult situation, but adapt and change it. Instead, strive to live a better life. There will always be someone who lives an even bitter life somewhere in the world but preserve nonetheless.

"Nian, Nian," Liu Yan called her name a few times and pushed her gently.

A moment later, Wu Nian recollected herself.

"What's on your mind? You seemed to be at a loss," Liu Yan asked, concern lacing her tone.

"Su Xuyan is also here."

"That wretch!" Liu Yan sneered vehemently. "You should be lovey-dovey with Aaron now to make him give up on you."

However, Wu Nian didn't utter a word. She took out the five crabs Gu Mingchen had grilled and put them on a leaf.

After a while, Aaron arrived at the barbecue fire. He put down the bucket and inhaled deeply. "It smells so good. The food makes me salivate."

"The crabs near Liu Yan were grilled earlier and are not that hot now. You can try those," Wu Nian told him.

At that, he sat in front of her and began to remove the crab meat.

Meanwhile, Liu Yan glanced at the bucket and asked Aaron excitedly, "How could you get many sea urchins?"

"Well, a lot of sea urchins were over there. I grabbed almost all of them, from grandpas and grandmas to their grandchildren," Aaron joked.

Wu Nian burst into laughter. "In that case, should they thank you for the reunion?"

"It's better to die with dignity. They've fulfilled their life goal to become our food. Besides, they've set a good example for other sea urchins to learn from," Aaron replied laughingly.

Wu Nian put on a broad smile on her face and said, "Do you have a knife?"

"Of course I do." He took out a sharp pocketknife to cut open a sea urchin and remove its meat.

Liu Yan googled sea urchins when they were chatting. "Nian, according to Google, sea urchins are poisonous during their breeding season."

"Poisonous sea urchins are colorful and mostly found in tropical areas. The ones I collected are non-poisonous and edible," Aaron reassured them.

"It says sea urchins are good for enhancing stamina, sex, heart, bones, and blood. They are particularly beneficial for men's health, but having too much will lead to..." Liu Yan stopped reading it and gazed at Wu Nian intently.

Wu Nian got what she meant.

After all, she and Gu Mingchen used to have sea urchins at the seaside. After that, the androgens in his body obviously increased a lot and led to an embarrassing physical reaction.

"We should grill the sea urchins. Since we don't have mustard, we might consume a lot of marine bacteria by having raw sea urchins." As Wu Nian spoke, she grabbed a few sea urchins and put them on the stone slate.

Aaron smiled and didn't stop her. "Was Mr. Shen here too? Why did he leave so soon?"

Wu Nian's heart instantly skipped a beat, but she didn't reply to his query. A moment later, Liu Yan explained, "Well, he was just a passer-by. He sat here for a while and left."

"I see," Aaron murmured a response. He was polite enough not to dwell on the subject.

After that, he began sharing what he saw all over the world. He spoke of the Great Wall, geishas, grasslands, pyramids, the Bermuda Triangle, the aurora in the North Pole, Mayan sacrificial altars, and so on.

The man was indeed eloquent and knowledgeable. He vividly introduced the tourist attractions, making everyone curious and look forward to visiting such places.

"You're rather young. How have you been to so many places?" Liu Yan asked in admiration.

"When I was at university, I would visit one to two places every year and stay there for a month. It eventually became a habit to do so. I wish to visit a hundred mysterious places around the world while I'm still alive," he explained gently. He glanced at Wu Nian and added, "From now on, I don't have to travel solo."

Liu Yan gazed at Wu Nian smilingly, understanding Aaron's hint.

A moment later, Wu Nian put her hair behind her ear and glanced at Aaron. "Some love traveling, some love working out, while other love playing games. I prefer attending family parties."

She skillfully shifted the subject of the conversation.

"All good things will come to an end, including parties. We'll feel even more lonely after the bustle," Aaron sighed.

"I'll look forward to the next party exactly because I feel lonely," Wu Nian replied smilingly. Meanwhile, her eyes looked like two beautiful crescent lakes that reflected the moonlight.

Aaron's lips curled into a smile as well.

Given that too many scenic places in the world were well worth a visit, he hadn't felt like visiting the same place twice so far. Instead, he would choose the next destination after every visit.

If he were to describe Wu Nian with scenery, it would be fantasy.

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In the fantasy, he could enjoy watching all sorts of different breathtaking sceneries.

Deep in his heart, she was the only scenery he would always want to look back and enjoy watching.

After getting up, Aaron leaned toward Wu Nian to kiss her forehead and said gently, "I'm willing to organize a family party every week for you. This is my promise. It's not empty talk."

Wu Nian gazed into his eyes, feeling a little touched.

On the other hand, Liu Yan quietly stood up and left, giving them space to spend time with each other.

When she was in the midst of leaving, Wu Nian turned around and gazed at her.

Meanwhile, Aaron sat on the spot where Liu Yan sat earlier and looked at her too. After a while, he asked, "She seems to have a special relationship with Mr. Gu. Were they a couple in the past?"

Wu Nian was at a loss for words.

"No, they knew each other a long time ago," Wu Nian explained.

"They are always at each other's throats, but they look lovely nonetheless. I mean, any outsider can easily sense the special kind of hormone when they look at each other. Besides, Mr. Gu purposely hasn't been harsh to her."

"Really?" Wu Nian let out a chuckle but didn't utter a word anymore. Instead, she gazed at the sea far away from her, enjoying the serenity around her.

Meanwhile, Aaron moved closer to her and wrapped his hand around her shoulder. Then, he gently placed her head on his shoulder.

"Well, well, why would Gu Mingchen be that generous to tell me that you're at the beach? The scenery is breathtakingly beautiful, so much so that I can't stare at it for more than a second," Su Xuyan said coldly as he strolled past them. However, his piercing eyes were fixated on Wu Nian.

Wu Nian wasn't sure why Su Xuyan was irritated. After all, they weren't supposed to be close because she changed her identity.

"You can turn away if this isn't something you want to see. Since you still look at it anyway, can I say that you're a busybody?" Wu Nian spoke bluntly.

"You're still as witty as before. Well, undergoing plastic surgery doesn't change your natural personality."

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 369

Chapter 369 Get Back To The Room In Three Minutes

Although Wu Nian's heart skipped a beat, she forced herself to remain calm and stared at him.

Given that her surgery had been carried out in Shen Yiyan's secret base, there was no way Su Xuyan could have known she was Bai Rong. Therefore, she told herself to stay calm.

"Mr. Su, you must have mistaken me for someone else. I've never undergone plastic surgery," Wu Nian replied as her lips curled into a faint smile.

Su Xuyan sat next to her and scanned her from head to toe. A moment later, he gritted his teeth and said, "Shen Yiyan told me everything. Do you think you still have to go on pretending?"

"I'm genuinely curious about what Mr. Shen told you." Wu Nian kept staring at him squarely.

I cannot get flustered. All of my efforts will go down the drain if I let the cat out of the bag.

"He saved you back then. After that, he poached my main technical staff to develop an antidote for you. Also, you requested to have plastic surgery because you wish to take care of your son, Gu Yan," Su Xuyan asserted.

Wu Nian squinted. "Develop an antidote for me? What does that mean?"

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Su Xuyan paused for a while as he glanced at Wu Nian. Then, he knitted his brows and continued, "Have you lost your memory or hypnotized yourself?

Once he finished, Wu Nian rolled her eyes at him. It looks like Shen Yiyan didn't tell him anything. It's all his own guess.

"I don't have any memory loss, nor have I hypnotized myself. On the contrary, I remember every single thing in my life," Wu Nian rebutted confidently, "Mr. Su, you've obviously mistaken me for someone else."

"In that case, why would you try to get close to Gu Mingchen?" Su Xuyan continued to question her.

"This is a private matter, and I don't think that I'll have to report to you," Wu Nian replied coldly and stood up. After calming herself down, she glanced at Aaron and said, "Let's go."

"Are you really not Bai Rong?" Su Xuyan still couldn't believe her words.

"It's up to you to believe or not." Wu Nian purposely held Aaron's arm.

"Can you swear? If you're lying, you will never be with Gu Mingchen for the rest of your life." After catching up with them, Su Xuyan stopped Wu Nian from leaving. His action made her want to swear harshly.

Irritated, she lifted her hand near her face. "I swear I'm not Bai Rong. If I'm lying, I will never be with Gu Mingchen for the rest of my life."

Then, she put down her hand and asked, "Is that enough? Mr. Su, please don't pester me again as you'll affect the relationship between my boyfriend and I."

Su Xuyan gazed at Aaron disappointedly.

Bai Rong is a narrow-minded woman. Back then, she wouldn't even glance at any other men when she fell in love with Gu Mingchen. Also, since he isn't good at lying, she definitely won't swear against her own will. In this case, perhaps she really isn't Bai Rong.

He had completely failed to sound her out.

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Then, he left and dejectedly sat at the seaside alone.

Bai Rong, where are you?

He promised himself to compensate for Bai Rong and wouldn't hurt her if he could find her.

When Wu Nian and Aaron hopped into the vehicle, Liu Yan was already waiting for them.

Wu Nian had long realized Aaron had a very high EQ. Even though he cared about something, he wouldn't ask if it would become a physical burden that upset others.

She felt relaxed to be with such a man.

He definitely wasn't an idiot just because he didn't ask questions. As he was smart and observant, he would ponder over anything until he could make a convincing judgment.

Hence, when it was time to end a relationship, he would do so resolutely. He wouldn't look back even if his girlfriend begged him to get back together.

In fact, many women would fall for a man like Aaron. He was gentlemanly, generous, tolerant, and gentle; his ex-girlfriends often found it difficult to get a new boyfriend.

Given that he was almost perfect, other men could hardly be on par with him.

Liu Yan glanced at both of them when she was sitting in the rear seat. Aaron kept smiling, while Wu Nian looked rather calm too.

"The longer I look at you guys, the more convinced I am that you're a perfect match," Liu Yan sighed.

Wu Nian didn't reply but only looked out the window. The sunlight perfectly seeped through the gaps of the leaves, forming many flickering spots of light as the wind blew.

Not long after that, they arrived at Stephen's villa. Wu Nian saw some people building wooden boats not far from them.

"What are they doing?" Liu Yan asked bewilderedly.

"I think they're preparing for burial at sea," Aaron explained.

The three of them then entered a room together.

Rosa and Ollie lay on a board silently, looking as though they were sleeping soundly.

Around them were many flowers, and melancholic music filled the room. Besides, Stephen was standing aside and looked at them. Wu Nian came up to Stephen and stood next to him. "For Christians, there is no death but eternal happiness. For Buddhists, death is a form of salvation. The deceased may become immortal in heaven or reincarnate."

Stephen looked at Wu Nian and said, "They were jumping up and down yesterday but are lying here today."

"We always hurt those who are closest to us. After all, we can only hurt those who truly care about us. Why must we give up on ourselves or render ourselves in sorrow to hurt those who truly love us?" Wu Nian stated earnestly as she looked at Stephen.

Tears welled up in Stephen's eyes as he looked at her.

After a while, she put on a faint smile and continued, "Try your best to live a happy life so that your children won't have to worry about you. Perhaps, you should even get a new wife and have a new child. Live a busy but meaningful life so that you can still reminisce about your wonderful past when your life finally comes to an end."

"My daughters don't want me anyway. Why would they be worried about me?" Stephen said dejectedly.

"Since they don't want you, why should you fall to pieces for them? Right now, you've to take good care of yourself. Besides, since you're going to stay up all night today, I think you should get some rest now," Wu Nian proposed.

Stephen nodded and replied, "I'm indeed tired. By the way, I've put the drawing you like on the steamship. My steward will hand it over to you when you're leaving tomorrow."

"Thank you, Mr. Stephen."

"I should thank you for seeking justice for my son and identifying the murderer who killed my daughters," Stephen yawned and continued, "I'm sleepy and should get some rest now. Besides, I don't think I've to pull an all-nighter. Since they didn't wish to see me when they were alive, it will be even more so after they're dead." Stephen turned around and strode out of the room with both hands at his back.

Liu Yan tilted her head to look at the man's retreating figure. "What an unpredictable but decisive old man!"

"Perhaps only he knows how grieving he is deep down. Well, I'm a little tired too. I should get a shower and take a nap in the study," Wu Nian said tiredly.

"Okay, let me accompany you," her friend answered without hesitation.

Wu Nian nodded in response and added, "I'm gonna use a room. Please guard it for me."

Liu Yan gave her an "Ok" gesture.

Wu Nian knocked on Stephen's room while carrying her clothes in her arms. She then asked politely, "Hi, may I use a room with a bathroom to take a shower?"

Stephen nodded and pointed at the room near the staircase.

"Thank you." Wu Nian and Liu Yan entered the room together.

Immediately after the two women left, Stephen called Gu Mingchen and said, "Hey lad, I'm doing you a favor now. Get back to your room in three minutes. Don't be early nor late. You only have three minutes. Got it?"

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 370

Chapter 370 I Will Bring Her Home

"Why?" Gu Mingchen asked solemnly.

"Just do as I say. I'll place the keys on the door handle, so don't blame me if you miss this chance." Stephen hung the phone right after he finished his line.

Gu Mingchen furrowed his brows, looked at his watch, and went up.

Stephen walked to the room he used to stay at and knocked on the door.

It was Liu Yan who opened the door.

"Could you do me a favour?" Stephen asked.

"Sure, but give me ten minutes." Liu Yan agreed easily.

Stephen looked a little uneasy. "To be honest, one of my maids ran away. I need help with getting my daughter changed. But my other maid won't be able to manage, and I can't do it. So if you don't feel like helping, I will just think of another way."

"Sure thing." Liu Yan replied.

"Follow me then." Stephen told her.

Liu Yan looked at Stephen and took another look at the room. She then pulled the door in and locked it.

The sudden bang gave Stephen a jump. He recovered and gave the door a light push. "Why did you lock the door?" Stephen pretended to be puzzled.

"Nian's washing up inside," Liu Yan explained.

"Oh, yeah, sure. Let's go." Stephen pointed to the front.

Liu Yan turned and left, while Stephen followed behind.

He hung a key on the door.

Gu Mingchen knew what Stephen was doing. He took the key and opened the door, but he didn't enter the room. Instead, he stood at the door and lit a cigarette.

He took a puff on the cigarette he was holding onto between his slender fingers and exhaled a thick smoke that covered that cold face of his.

"Yan," Wu Nian called from inside.

Gu Mingchen turned around and stood closer to look at her standing in a blurry mist.

Wu Nian came out from the bathroom, with her hair still wet. She was donning a white shift dress and holding onto a towel drying her hair. The water from the tip of her hair dripped onto her shoulders, back, and chest, which made her white dress turned a little translucent.

Gu Mingchen thought of a poetic sight of a young pretty woman, who was perfect in every way. He was engrossed with the scene before him.

Wu Nian saw it was Gu Mingchen instead of Liu Yan. His fiery gaze made her a little shy. "Were you staying in this room previously?"

Gu Mingchen pursed his lips and nodded his head. His gaze was still fixed on her face.

Wu Nian got flustered and laughed awkwardly. "I'm sorry, we've used your room. Hmm, have you seen my friend?"

"You girls can stay in this room tonight. Stephen took your friend away. He needed help with changing her daughter's clothes," Gu Mingchen explained.

"Oh, I could go lend some help too." Wu Nian wanted to leave. She grabbed her clothes and ran out.

"Hold on," Gu Mingchen stopped her.

Wu Nian paused her steps, took a deep breath, and turned around.

He was holding onto her top that she dropped without knowing.

Wu Nian awkwardly reached out to take it back.

But Gu Mingchen pulled his arm back, and Wu Nian did not manage to get her top.

She paused for a second and her eyes widened in disbelief.

Gu Mingchen returned the top to her and muttered. "You're always so absent-minded. It's okay if you lose your clothing because you can always buy another piece. Just don't lose things that are important to you."

"I did not." Wu Nian wanted to refute. But after some thought, she added, "I just thought it wouldn't be nice if my boyfriend saw it."

Gu Mingchen's gaze deepened. "What are you thinking of? Why would you think it's not nice if your boyfriend saw?"

Wu Nian did not respond to that.

She didn't want to talk to him any further. She figured she was no match to him. Even though Gu Mingchen was normally a man of few words, he was very quick-witted and she was no match for him.

"My opinion doesn't count. What's important is what others think!" Wu Nian hurriedly left once she finished talking.

Gu Mingchen could only look at her back with a covert gaze.

Wu Nian went downstairs.

Stephen was shocked upon seeing her.

"I'm here to help. Where's Liu Yan?" Wu Nian asked.

Stephen pointed to the room downstairs.

Wu Nian went in to help.

Stephen saw Gu Mingchen. He ran over and asked, "Are you a fool? I've created an opportunity for you, but you let her get off so quickly? You should've locked yourselves inside and have some alone time together."

"That's really a lame idea," replied Gu Mingchen with a cool expression.

Stephen drew a sharp gasp. "Now, I finally know why you're still single. How're you gonna win a woman's heart without any tactics?"

"Who said I'm single?" Gu Mingchen took a side glance. He didn't look like he was joking.

Stephen was stunned at that. "So you're two-timing? That's not nice. Then, I won't help you court Ms. Wu anymore."

"I'm not two-timing. It's just that I can't figure out which one is the right one for me. I'll solve my own problem. Thanks," Gu Mingchen responded in a low voice and left.

Stephen froze on the spot.

He knew Gu Mingchen had always had a woman in his mind. And because of her, he had never been interested in any other women.

People who don't know him might think his standards are too high. But in fact, he was just a guy who was very loyal to his feelings.

But why would he be interested in Wu Nian?

What exactly went wrong...

Stephen didn't invite his relatives nor his friends. Perhaps, he wanted to live a quiet life to avoid being laughed at, as both his daughters didn't have an honorable death.

The police took Casey away. Her boyfriend left with them too.

That night, Liu Yan and her stayed at the room Gu Mingchen used to stay in.

As she passed by the living room, she saw Gu Mingchen, Aaron, Stephen, and Su Xuyan playing cards together.

Somehow something felt wrong seeing the four of them together.

Su Xuyan looked at her with a devilish smile. "Ms. Wu, come play a few rounds too. The money is yours if you win, but it's on me if you lose."

"Even if you agree, Mr. Gu and Mr. Stephen wouldn't. Right, Aaron?" Wu Nian looked at him.

"I'm good if they agree. Don't worry, I'll make sure you win," Aaron honestly replied.

"Then, how about you let Ms. Wu stand-in for you?" Stephen asked Aaron.

Aaron looked at Wu Nian affectionately. "Do you want to play? Come over here."

"I don't know how to play. I bet I'll lose a lot of money." Wu Nian didn't want to join them because she felt that tense atmosphere surrounding them.

"I can afford to lose. I'll teach you how to play." Aaron stood up and walked over to pull Wu Nian over.

Wu Nian was at a loss.

She figured it was disrespectful to reject Aaron anymore, but yet she didn't want to face Gu Mingchen and Su Xuyan at the same time.