# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 1068 - 1070

"Oh? Isn't that a good thing? Why are you acting like you're questioning an inmate?" Su Zhan cut in as he glanced at Zong Jinghao. It wasn't easy to find someone as accomplished as Tawan, so he didn't want Zong Jinghao to scare the former away.

"Come, have a seat." Su Zhan ushered Tawan in warmly.

To which the latter nodded and replied, "Thank you."

"You're welcome. We might become a family soon. Don't stand on formalities." Su Zhan gave Qin Ya a slight shove and whispered, "Get him a cup of water."

"You should go get it." Qin Ya refused to budge and gave him a hard stare.

Su Zhan smacked his lips. "Fine. I'll go."

He was used to Qin Ya ordering him around.

If one day she started being gentle to him, he might not get used to that.

When he returned with two glasses of water, both Tawan and Zong Yanxi were still rooted to their spots. He placed the glasses on the table and questioned, "Why won't you sit?"

After asking that, he belatedly realized why they were acting this way. Flashing a grin, he told Zong Jinghao, "Just say yes. You and Tawan are neighbors, aren't you? You can see your daughter every day. Isn't that great?"

Zong Jinghao glared daggers at Su Zhan, causing him to immediately zip his mouth shut and plop onto the couch. "He's being ungrateful," Su Zhan muttered under his breath.

Su Zhan was being this enthusiastic because he didn't want Zong Yanxi to miss out on Tawan.

After Su Zhan's words, Zong Jinghao couldn't bring himself to say what he had in mind. He waved impatiently and told them, "Sit down."

"Dad." Zong Yanxi took the seat beside Zong Jinghao and took his arm. "Does that mean you agree?"

Lin Xinyan glanced at her husband.

Zong Jinghao patted his daughter's hand. He felt reluctant, but she was an adult who should form a family of her own now. He couldn't be by her side forever, so it would be pathetic if she spent her whole life alone.

His wish would be fulfilled if his daughter found someone who would take care of her forever.

"If you don't speak, I'll consider it a silent consent." Lin Xinyan, who had been quiet the whole time, broke the silence.

Immediately, Zong Jinghao murmured in assent.

"That's great!" Su Zhan uttered excitedly. His enthusiasm made it seem like it was his son who was getting married.

That night, after Zong Yanchen left Zhuang Zijin's room, he went out with Tawan.

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Zong Yanchen had previously met the man a few times for work, but they weren't that close.

He didn't say anything after finding out about his sister and Tawan's relationship.

"Did you ask me out so we could talk?" asked Tawan.

Zong Yanchen suggested they should go somewhere else to have this conversation.

Shortly after, the two men arrived at the river.

There was a cool breeze blowing by the river. On both sides of the river were neon lights that flashed over the river, causing the surface of the water to sparkle.

Zong Yanchen rested his arms on the railing and leaned forward, his gaze fixed on the rippling surface as he recalled the past. "We were close back then. After that, I became a soldier, and she started dating other men. We were no longer as close as we used to be. I wasn't home for the past few years, and a lot had happened back home."

"Mm," came Tawan's reply as he stood beside Zong Yanchen. They had served in the military, so their figures were imposing and formidable.

Even though they weren't in their uniforms, they were easily recognizable in a crowd.

Suddenly, Zong Yanchen turned and posed a question. "Why do you like Ruixi?"

Tawan's skin wasn't really fair, but he wasn't that tanned either. He would pass off as a local easily. With his bushy eyebrows and sculptured features, he made a tough man. Now, the tough guy's expression had softened upon recalling Zong Yanxi.

"I don't know." He was telling the truth, for he couldn't pinpoint what he loved about Zong Yanxi exactly.

"Perhaps it's a feeling you can't see or touch. There's no exact reason, but I know I love her."

"Really?" Zong Yanchen arched his brows.

"What makes you doubt? Have you never ever been in a relationship? Have you never fell in love with a girl?" Tawan questioned in disbelief.

Zong Yanchen gazed at him sharply. "Are you looking down on me?"

"No, but it's abnormal for you not to fall in love with someone of the opposite sex at your age—"

"You're the abnormal one." Zong Yanchen had been approachable when he was a kid, but after he became a soldier, he started exuding an imposing aura.

He wasn't at the military base anymore, but the integrity and qualities of a soldier had been carved into his bones.

"I heard you're a high-ranking military officer. Should we enter a friendly duel to see if you're qualified to protect my sister?"

Both men exchanged gazes solemnly. This wasn't a normal duel between them – they were representing their own army.

It soon escalated to the qualities and capabilities of soldiers from two different countries.

Neither of them was willing to lose, so they attacked at the same time.

Both men fought on the lawn right next to the river.

They were evenly matched.

An hour later, they both collapsed onto the lawn, sweating profusely.

Tawan, whose back was wounded, panted heavily on the ground.

Even though the grass poked at his wound, he didn't even moan or frown at the pain.

For a qualified soldier like him, a wound that minor was nothing.

"From now on, be nice to my sister or risk facing my wrath," warned Zong Yanchen as he stared at the sky.

At that remark, Tawan's lips twitched. There was a bruise on the corner of his lips after he got punched by Zong Yanchen.

Grinning, he answered, "Got it."

Tawan had dinner at the villa earlier, but he was staying at the hotel.

Zong Yanxi and he weren't officially married; they had just confirmed their relationship as a couple, so they weren't staying together yet.

After parting with Zong Yanchen, Tawan returned to his hotel.

Unbeknownst to him, Zong Yanxi was waiting for him in his room.

Tawan was surprised to see her in his room. Immediately, he covered the bruise on his face and asked, "Why are you here?"

"The wound on your back hasn't healed yet. I came to give the ointment to you." Zong Yanxi came to him and pushed his hand away to reveal the bruise at the corner of his lips. Frowning, she demanded, "Where did you get this from?"

She was about to reach out to touch it but was afraid of hurting him. "Did you get into a fight?" she asked as her frown deepened.

Tawan strode in and mumbled a "yes."

"Are you still a kid?" Zong Yanxi was both mad and worried at the same time. She got some ice and wrapped them up in a towel to hold it against his bruise.

"What hit you? The bruise looks horrible," she inquired as she pressed the crudely made ice pack against his bruise.

Tawan answered, "A fist."

The woman was dumbfounded by his answer.

After icing his bruise, she proceeded to tend to the wound on his back. Upon seeing the scabs being rubbed away, she couldn't help but chide, "Aren't you aware that you have an injury? Why did you fight with others like a kid?"

Tawan listened to her grumbles without retorting back. Instead, he found her puffy cheeks and angry expression adorable. "I did it on purpose to see you showing concern for me."

"No one is concerned about you!" Zong Yanxi applied force to his wound on purpose, causing him to gasp in pain. He immediately rolled over and grabbed her into his arms. Swiftly, his lips captured hers in a kiss.

It was a deep kiss compared to the gentle pecks Zong Yanxi used to receive from him.

She didn't move an inch and allowed Tawan's warm lips to delve deeper.

Slowly, her body went limp as she took in his handsome face, the heady scent of his sweat combined with the smell of the ointment, and his hot breaths on her skin.

Buzz! Buzz!

Tawan's phone began vibrating out of nowhere.

That snapped Zong Yanxi back to reality, and she shoved him. "Mm, your phone is ringing."

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Tawan didn't want to release her, but his phone kept buzzing insistently.

Left with no choice, he released her and said, "I need to take this call."

Zong Yanxi's cheeks had turned scarlet by now. They had officially started dating, but she felt it was too soon for them to be intimate. She wasn't used to it yet.

"I should go now. Take that call." She stood up and headed toward the door, but Tawan clutched her hand. "I'll give you a ride home later."

"No need. I drove here myself."

As his phone was still buzzing relentlessly, he released his grip on her. "Be careful then. Text me when you get home."

"Alright." Zong Yanxi spun on her heels and left.

After driving back home, she spotted a bruise on the corner of Zong Yanchen's eye before she went upstairs.

"Yanchen!" she greeted him.

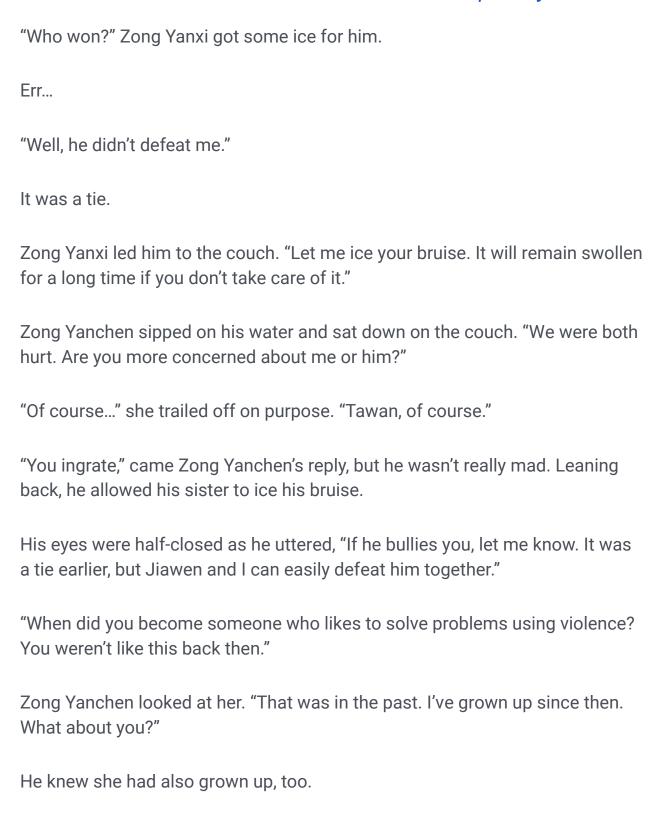
Zong Yanchen glanced at her. "You're back at his hour? Did you go meet Tawan?"

In response to his question, she inclined her head. "Yes."

She made her way to him and asked, "What's with that bruise?" Wait, this looks similar to Tawan's bruise though it isn't in the same spot.

"Did you fight with Tawan?" she asked dubiously.

"Mm," came Zong Yanchen's reply as he poured himself a glass of water. "I didn't want him to bully you, so I gave him a warning in advance."



After all, Jiang Mohan's incident had not dejected her – that proved how strong her mentality was.

"You're just a few minutes older than me." She changed the topic abruptly. "I've been married once. What about you?"

Zong Yanchen fell silent as Mu Yuan'er popped up in his mind.

"It's late. You should sleep soon." With that, he rose to his feet.

"Let the ice sit a little longer so you can heal faster," Zong Yanxi insisted.

"It's just a minor injury. I'm fine." He gave her a dismissive wave and returned to his room.

Upon glancing at her watch, Zong Yanxi realized it was indeed late. She headed to her room and took a shower before going to bed. She had just snuggled into her bed when Tawan's text arrived, asking if she had arrived home safely.

Zong Yanxi hastily replied that she was home. She had forgotten to send him a text.

Tawan: I'll head there tomorrow morning to talk to you.

Staring at his text, she replied: What is it? Can't you say it now?

Tawan: Let's talk when we meet.

At once, her brows knitted up. Is he trying to pique my curiosity?

She pretended to reply in an angry tone: Fine. I'm going to bed now.

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Tawan didn't even realize she was upset. Thinking she was sleepy, he sent her a final text: Alright, sleep tight. I'm going to bed, too.

Zong Yanxi was lying in her bed when she heard her phone buzzing. She grabbed her phone earnestly and immediately saw the text on the screen before she could unlock her phone. Staring at his reply, she burst out in laughter.

He didn't even realize I was upset. Hmm, why is he so insensitive?

She placed her phone aside and fell asleep.

The next morning, Tawan arrived.

Zong Yanxi was going down the stairs when she spotted her soon-to-be husband talking to Zong Jinghao in the living room.

"Are you here for a free meal?" she asked as she walked to them.

It took Tawan a while to understand what she meant. He replied jokingly, "Yes, I'm here for a free meal."

Zong Yanxi rolled her eyes and sat down next to her father.

"Tawan is going back." Zong Jinghao turned to his daughter. "He wants you to return to Thailand with him. What do you think?"

Zong Yanxi couldn't make up her mind, so she didn't reply and instead asked Tawan, "Was that what you meant last night?"

The man nodded. "I need to return to handle something." He paused before adding, "I hope you can come with me."

To his dismay, Zong Yanxi responded, "I don't want to come with you."

"Your grandma isn't doing well, and your mom wants to stay here. We won't be going back, for now, so you should return and clean our house as it has been empty for too long," Zong Jinghao told her.

"Dad, you're trying to force me to leave with him!" That's too obvious!

Zong Jinghao had already made that decision after Tawan told him about what happened in B City.

He didn't want Jiang Mohan to disturb them anymore.

"Grandma isn't doing well, so I want to stay by her side. I won't leave," Zong Yanxi whined as she leaned on her father's shoulder.

No matter how old she was, she was still her parents' daughter.

"Yanchen will be here for some time longer. He can join me and your mom to take care of your grandma. We have enough people here. You don't have to stay."

"But I don't want to laze around there."

I can't idle around and kill time by dating Tawan only, can I?

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"Remember the job I told you about? You can start working anytime you want." Zong Jinghao patted her shoulder. "I recommended you to them, so I hope you won't disappoint me."

"Of course," Zong Yanxi answered firmly. "I'm your daughter! I won't humiliate you."

"So... Should I buy two plane tickets now?" Tawan spoke up.

Zong Yanxi got to her feet and ordered, "Come with me."

Tawan blinked as he pondered about the meaning of her words.

"Go with her." Zong Jinghao waved his hand.

After getting his approval, Tawan trotted after her obediently.

"What's wrong?" he asked.

Instead of replying to his question, Zong Yanxi gazed at him wordlessly. The man was puzzled as he had no idea what he had done wrong.

"Are you upset?" he asked carefully.

"Fine. You won't realize what your problem is if I don't say it out loud." Sighing, Zong Yanxi inquired, "Who are you dating now?"

"Err, you," came Tawan's hesitant reply. Huh? What does she mean?

"If you want to return, shouldn't you have informed me first? Why did you inform my dad first? Are you dating me or my dad?" Zong Yanxi wasn't really mad, but she found his actions amusing. He has a strange mind, doesn't he?

Tawan hurriedly explained, "I've known your father for a long time. I need to inform your family about me leaving, right? I was planning on telling you later..."

"Next time, can you inform me beforehand if it's something about me?" Zong Yanxi shook her head, feeling both exasperated and amused. "Do you get what I mean?"

They had decided to start dating, so she wanted Tawan to know that they should act like a real couple.

Suddenly, she realized how inflexible Tawan was. He wasn't romantic at all.

The man gave her a nod. "I got it."

"Alright. Let's head in now." When she whirled around to leave, he reached out to tug at the corner of her clothes. Turning at her shoulder, she found Tawan tugging the edge of her clothes carefully.

Tawan was an influential and wealthy man, but he was acting like a kid afraid of making a mistake right now.

"What is it?" she asked softly.

He gazed at her earnestly. "I have something to tell you. I need to return to deal with something, so please come with me."

"You've persuaded my dad. Can I say no?" She pretended to be mad, but a smile was already playing on her lips.

Even though he was dating Zong Yanxi, Tawan still felt like he should ask for her parents' approval regarding some things.

"Yanxi, I think your parents should know." He took her hand and gazed at her sincerely. "I lost my parents at an early age, so I wanted a family of my own. Your parents are my parents. Without their approval, even if you agree to leave with me, I won't take you with me."

Pursing his lips, he added, "Every parent loves their child. If they disagree, they must be doing it for their child's sake."

Tawan grew in a loving family, so in his mindset, every parent loved their own child. That was why he had made that statement.

Yet, there were plenty of irresponsible parents in the world.

Zong Yanxi tiptoed and flung her arms around his neck abruptly. In response, Tawan held her waist.

Resting her chin on Tawan's shoulder, she uttered, "I finally understand why my dad trusts you." After a pause, she explained, "You might be insensitive, but you're good at winning the adults over."

As Zong Yanxi had also grown up in a loving family, she wholeheartedly agreed with Tawan's statement.

Tawan knew what she meant by winning someone over.

"What does 'insensitive' mean?" Tawan could converse with them smoothly, but there were still plenty of terms he was unfamiliar with.

Even if he spent a lifetime reading all the ancient poems, idioms, analects, and proverbs, he probably wouldn't finish learning them.

Zong Yanxi flashed a smile. "You don't understand what that means?"

Tawan nodded honestly.

"Hmm, I can't teach you without getting anything in return. If you wish to know, you need to pay a fee..."

"What are you doing? Won't you come to eat breakfast?" Zong Yanchen's voice rang out as he leaned against the door, watching the scene unfold.

Zong Yanxi immediately retracted her hands and glared at her brother. "Why didn't you make a sound?"

"If I had made a sound, I wouldn't have been able to see you swooning over him," teased Zong Yanchen.

What? Hugging Tawan is considered swooning over him?

"If I get a sister-in-law in the future, I shall bully her! Oh, and your child, too!"