

## **Boss Mommy 431**

### Chapter 431 Invitation

After the text was sent, Shen Ruoqing lifted her head and saw Chu Cichen staring at her with a bright gaze. "Jingjing, after acknowledging the Shen Family, you wouldn't despise my background for being inferior, right?"

Shen Ruoqing could sense Chu Cichen's worry ever since Song Chen appeared.

Hence, she intentionally furrowed her brows for a few moments before she smiled and looked at him. "Your words have reminded me. I heard that the people from the four great families always marry each other. Moreover, the Shen Family is the most impressive of them. As for me, the eldest young miss, I probably won't be despised even if I have given birth to three children, right?"

Chu Cichen. "?"

Shen Ruoqing continued. "Hmm, let me think about who the four families are. The Rongs, the Bais, the Xus and the Shens? I'll get my grandpa to help me look around to see if there's anyone of suitable age."

Chu Cichen knew she was joking, so he played along. "In that case, do you think I'm suitable?"

Shen Ruoqing touched her chin and her peach blossom eyes surveyed him. "Your background is a little weak, but you do have a strong point – you are the father of my three children, so I have to give you some face no matter what."

"..." Chu Cichen gritted his teeth in mock anger. He suddenly took a step forward and got close to her. "Just some face?"

Shen Ruoqing sighed. "My maternal grandfather has no son, and my mother has no son either. So, he will definitely want my husband to marry into the Shen Family. Can you accept that?"

Chu Cichen didn't hesitate. "I can."

"You can't!"

No one knew when Chu Qianshu appeared at the entrance. At this moment, she was glaring at Chu Cichen in anger. "Elder bro, you have to be the Chu Family's successor. How can you marry into another family?"

After that, she looked at Shen Ruoqing as her eyes gleamed. "Sis-in-law, my brother isn't suitable for you. You should look for a scientist instead. You must not accept a businessman like him!"

Chu Cichen. "..."

What was going on with people in his family? It was one thing that his cousin didn't assist him, but she was actually making trouble too?

His face turned dark as he walked to the entrance.

Chu Qianshu bypassed him and prepared to enter the room. "Elder brother, are you going out? I just so coincidentally have something to consult sis-in-law on...ahhh~elder brother, what are you doing?"

Before she could finish her words, she was dragged away by her collar by Chu Cichen as he strode out. "Your sis-in-law is already tired and she wants to sleep."

Chu Qianshu. "...It is still early, only 11 p.m. This is the time when the brains of us scientists are the most active!"

However, Chu Cichen directly tossed her outside the room.

Chu Qianshu leaned against the door. "Let me say one last thing. Sis-in-law, many scientists added you via the WeChat contact you gave at the award ceremony. Can you accept a few out of politeness?...Ahh~~!"

Bang!

The door was then slammed shut with no hesitation.

Shen Ruoqing. "..."

Some time after Chu Cichen dragged Chu Qianshu out, Shen Ruoqing returned to her own bedroom.

When she thought of how Shen Yuansong was going to hand the scientific association to her, she felt that her ideal dream of retirement was getting further and further away...she then helplessly logged in her Professor Z's WeChat account.

Since she wanted to fight for the president's seat, it was impossible for her not to have any interactions with these people.

She had originally wanted to casually accept a few people, but after she logged in, Shen Ruoqing discovered that her phone actually froze for one second!

One must know that her phone had been modified by her before and its specs were equivalent to a small computer. She could even use it to hack into systems. So, how would it freeze?

After that, she understood...

The number of friend requests kept increasing at a crazy speed that was visible to the naked eye. It soon reached over 99 people, and it was still refreshing. In the end, there were actually 364 people who added her.

Shen Ruoqing. "..."

There were only a total of 300 people who participated in the scientific award ceremony that day, right?

Her lips twitched and she chose to accept all without looking at their introductory messages.

After doing so, the incoming texts rapidly flooded her inbox.

The majority of the texts were similar to this: [Hi Prof. Z, I'm blahblahblah. I'm very happy that you accepted my request. Let's interact more in the future to exchange knowledge.]

Shen Ruoqing. "!!!"

If she knew about this, she wouldn't have accepted the requests.

But if she didn't reply now, it would seem too cold and arrogant of her. She drew in a deep breath and wrote a sentence before copying it.

As long as the other party's message contained the word 'hi', she would paste the sentence: [It's my honor to know you. Let's interact more in the future.]

After handling all these, she lay down to sleep. However, she didn't know her casual sentences brought great joy to others.

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The next day, in the Rong Manor.

When Rong Rong woke up, she heard the chattering voices of others in the house.

After she wore her clothes and went down, she saw Mother Rong and Rong Yue sitting there happily eating breakfast. Father Rong also had a peaceful look on his face, and the family of three seemed perfectly happy together. She seemed like an outsider standing upstairs.

She then lowered her eyes. After she went down, Mother Rong immediately coughed when she saw her and spoke, "Some people refused to grab onto opportunities, but my Rong Yue is different. If there's no opportunity, she will create one and go for it! You really managed to get acquainted with Miss Shen, well done!"

Rong Yue laughed in a low-profile manner. "Mother, we can't be considered acquaintances yet. We merely exchanged texts on WeChat."

Mother Rong immediately took her phone.

Rong Yue's messages could be seen. [Hi Miss Shen, I'm very happy to know you. I'm Rong Yue from the second house of the Rong Family. I wonder if we can be friends?]

Miss Shen's reply was: [It's my honor to know you. Let's interact more in the future.]

Mother Rong's gaze was filled with pride when she looked at Rong Yue. "Miss Shen is so nice and said that it's her honor to know you. It seems that she has a very high level of regard for you! Yue'er, she must have heard of your name in the capital and know that you are very impressive. You have to grab hold of this opportunity! Don't act like someone who pretends to be elegant and noble but has no such capabilities!"

Rong Rong didn't say anything.

At this moment, the butler suddenly entered. "Sir, Madam, the Shen Family sent an invitation. There will be a banquet two days later, and the person sending the invitation also stated that the eldest young miss of the Shen Family specially instructed that the invitation has to be given to us!"

Upon hearing this, Mother Rong grew excited.

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She abruptly stood up. "Open it quickly!"

She stared at Rong Yue with excitement. "Us from the second house have split from the main family. Logically speaking, no one would issue a banquet at the Shen Manor to us. It must be the eldest young miss of the Shen Family who wants to give you the invitation!"

Rong Yue laughed. "Mother, don't say it like that. Even if they issue the invitation to me, I will still bring you and elder sister there together..."

After she said this, she saw her mother opening the invitation. But after Mother Rong saw the name of the person invited, she was dumbfounded.

#### Chapter 432 The Name On The Invitation Card

The expression of Mother Rong suddenly became abnormal, causing Rong Yue to feel a little puzzled. She asked, "Mother, what's wrong?"

Mother Rong looked at her with a complicated expression. "This...this invitation only invited one person."

However, Rong Yue's expression remained unchanged. "After all, it's the Shen family. This is quite normal!"

With regard to sending invitations for such a banquet, usually only one invitation was sent per family. That was unless that family's status was special. In that case, another invitation would be sent to someone from that family.

Although the Rong family's second house had separated from the main family, Father Rong and the head of the Rong family were brothers after all. Hence, when the others sent invitations to the Rong family, they often showed the Rong family some face and gave the second house of the Rong family an invitation as well.

But this was only valid for an ordinary family.

Like the recognition banquet held by the Shen family, they would only invite close friends. Moreover, the second branch of the Rong family was not qualified to be invited, so only one invitation was sent, and this was normal.

After Rong Yue finished speaking, she stood up. She then walked to Mother Rong and suddenly lowered her eyes. "Mother, it's okay, I have an invitation. I can take you there."

She then looked at Rong Rong. "Sister, shall we go together?"

Before Rong Rong could answer, she bit her lip. "But only my name is written here. If I bring two people, won't that be impolite?"

As soon as she said this, she immediately covered her mouth again. "But if sister really wants to go, that's okay. You should get to know the miss of the Shen family more."

As soon as she said this, Father Rong coldly laughed. "What does she want to go for? If she goes, it will be even more embarrassing! If someone asks, what did she study in the 13 years abroad, how will she answer? That she learned how to sew on a sewing machine?!"

Rong Yue immediately said, "Father, don't say that..."

From the day she returned home, her parents did not welcome her and her younger sister continued to annoy her. This house simply didn't feel like a home.

She lowered her gaze and said softly, "I'm not going."

Before Rong Yue had a chance to say more, her father gently looked at her and said, "Rong Yue, you go with your mother. Let your mother help you more. You're so talented, so you'll definitely find a good young man!"

Rong Yue sighed and nodded. She then reached out to her mother. "Mother, can you give me the invitation? I'll take it."

But after these words were spoken, her mother kept staring at the invitation, as if she wanted to see through the name on it.

Rong Yue walked over and asked, "Mother, what's wrong? Looking at the name again won't change it..."

Before she finished speaking, Rong Yue was stunned and stared at the invitation with disbelief – The invitation stated that it was sincerely inviting Miss Rong Rong to come.

Rong Rong!

How could it be... how could it be possible!?

She tightly clenched her fist and asked, "Is it written wrongly?"

Mother Rong finally snapped out of it and looked at Rong Rong, who was heading to the kitchen. She then asked, "Rong Rong, do you know Miss Shen?"

Rong Rong didn't turn her head. Her voice was faint as she answered, "No."

Mother Rong seemed to finally relax. "It looks like it was written wrongly. Rong Yue, did you reveal to Miss Shen that you are our second child?"

Rong Yue shook her head.

These days, who would go and introduce themselves by saying that they were the older or younger siblings in their family?

Rong Yue bit her lips. "All these years, sister has not been at home, so people outside actually think I am the eldest daughter in our family..."

Mother Rong suddenly understood and nodded. "Yes, and the invitations are usually prepared by the butler. Miss Shen probably mentioned to the butler that it was for Miss Rong of the second house of the Rong family, so the butler misunderstood something..."

After the mother and daughter spoke, they looked at each other, and they thought that they had found the answer.

Rong Yue looked at Rong Rong. "Will elder sister come with us?"

Mother Rong decisively made the decision for her. "No, this invitation was originally for you! And isn't she an aloof person? Since your elder sister doesn't like these banquets, she doesn't have to go."

Rong Yue nodded.

In the kitchen, Rong Rong, who heard the conversation between the two, paused for a moment.

She actually didn't dislike these banquets.

When her grandfather was alive, the two families were not divided. Back then, she was also treated as a daughter of the Rong family. Whenever she participated in the banquets, she also stood out.

She was lively and active at that time, and sometimes she would play the violin for everyone. She was once a famous person in the capital.

(But now, no one will remember me, right?)

As she thought of this, she opened the pot and wanted to have breakfast. However, she found that the pot was empty and had already been cleaned.

At this time, the nanny collected the tableware used by Mother Rong and the others and was ready to wash the dishes. Hence, when she saw Rong Rong, she suddenly said, "Oh, Miss, I forgot that you haven't eaten yet. I've washed the pot... Shall I make something for you to eat now?"

Rong Rong's fingers tightened and she said, "No need."

She then turned and walked out of the kitchen.

Just as she came out, she saw her mother and Rong Yue standing outside. Apparently, they had heard the conversation between Rong Rong and the nanny, but Rong Rong's mother didn't react at all. She only scolded her, "Who told you to wake up so late? You deserve to have no food!"

Rong Rong's mother said sternly, "The rules of the Rong family are clear. You should wake up at 7 in the morning. Since you woke up late, we will punish you by not giving you any breakfast!"

After that, she looked at Rong Yue. "Little Yue, let's go quickly. We have to purchase new dresses for the upcoming banquet."

The mother-and-daughter duo then happily walked away.

At this moment, Rong Rong stood alone in the living room and was at a loss for some time.

She shouldn't be in this world. She shouldn't appear in this home...

Just then, footsteps were heard from outside the door. After that, the butler spoke, "Miss, Doctor Xu has come to see you..."

Rong Rong looked toward the door and saw Doctor Xu slowly walking toward her. He was carrying breakfast in his hand and had a smile on his face. "Little Rong, have you had breakfast? I brought you some dough sticks and soymilk."

Upon seeing this, Rong Rong's heart tightened. She couldn't help but ask, "What if I have eaten?"

Doctor Xu smiled and placed the breakfast next to her. "I just passed by the dough stick store and saw how well it has been fried due to the golden color. I thought it was delicious and wanted you to try it. If you have eaten breakfast, then it will not be needed. Just throw it away if it's a waste..."

On one hand, there was clearly food, but it was thrown away because she woke up late.

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On the other hand, he clearly didn't know if she had eaten breakfast, but he still bought it for her to try.

At this moment, Rong Rong's eyes slightly reddened and she suddenly smiled. "I haven't eaten yet."

She took Doctor Xu's breakfast and walked to the table nearby to sit.

Doctor Xu followed and sat beside her. But seeing that she still had her head lowered and had a somewhat unhappy expression, he gently said, "Earlier, I saw your mother taking your sister to buy a dress for the Shen family's banquet. Do you need me to accompany you to buy a dress?"

Rong Rong stopped her action of eating and then replied, "No need."

Doctor Xu was puzzled. "Why? I know you definitely have a dress, but don't girls all like to wear new dresses?"

Rong Rong's fingers tightened. She lifted her head and said, "Because I was not invited to the party."

When Doctor Xu heard this, his gaze deepened slightly.

A moment later, he chuckled and suddenly pulled out an invitation from his pocket. "I know about your situation at home, and I guess it might not be too great. Hence, I thought of a solution to get an invitation. Little Rong, are you willing to accompany me to this banquet as my female companion?"

Rong Rong was stunned.

Her eyes gradually turned red.

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Doctor Xu smiled and rubbed her head. "Eat quickly. After you finish eating, I'll bring you to shop around. My goddess has to be the most beautiful girl."

Hearing this, Rong Rong lowered her head and her tears fell into her soy milk.

She took a bite out of a dough stick and after swallowing it, she looked at Doctor Xu again. "I think I better not go. A scene like that wouldn't suit me."

"Don't worry." Doctor Xu looked at her. "Little Rong, everyone has a bad side. No one would ask another person about their past. Just let everything go and try things out. You might discover a whole new world."

He held Rong Rong's hand. This time around, Rong Rong didn't push him away.

She suddenly felt that this world was still filled with warmth.

She took a deep breath. "Okay."

She shall go and try then.

Chapter 433 Face Smacking!

The banquet would begin soon.

Shen Yuansong had sent invitations to several big shots in the scientific research field, officially introducing Shen Ruoqing's identity.

Moreover, the old man had become especially energetic in recent days despite his declining health.

At the thought of his granddaughter being Prof. Z, he felt that his back was no longer sore, and even his old legs, which had troubled him for many years, were seemingly cured!

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Shen Yuansong smiled and looked at all the busy people in the Shen family. He then looked at the butler and asked, "Has the room for the young miss been tidied up?"

The butler, Uncle Liu, sighed helplessly. "Old Master, even if you tidy it up, the young miss might not stay!"

Shen Yuansong waved his hand. "She hasn't even gotten married yet, but she lives in the Chu family without reason or clarity. What kind of nonsense is this? I think her father is unreliable! He's not a reliable son-in-law and doesn't take good care of his daughter!"

The butler was silent but still couldn't help but say, "Old Master, is it possible that their family is actually controlled by the young miss's mother?"

After all, he was a small-time celebrity that married into the family. How could he have any authority to speak in their family?

Shen Yuansong was indifferent. "Still, a man should protect his wife and daughter."

The butler looked at Shen Yuansong and held back for a moment before asking, "Master, are you sure you won't send an invitation to Miss Ruoqing's parents?"

Today's recognition banquet recognized Shen Ruoqing as the granddaughter, not Shen Qianhui as the daughter.

That was why Shen Yuansong didn't invite them.

Upon hearing the butler's words, Shen Yuansong fell silent for a moment before saying, "The matter on the other side hasn't been settled yet, so let's not disturb their peaceful life for now."

If it weren't for the fact that his term as the president of the scientific research association was about to expire and the election would take place soon, Shen Yuansong wouldn't even want to recognize Ruoqing temporarily.

Although he knew that all of this was just self-deception, he thought that if he didn't recognize his daughter, he could avoid disturbing their peaceful life. So, for now, he wouldn't acknowledge her.



At this moment, Shen Yuansong abandoned the random thoughts in his mind. "Today is a good day, let's not talk about the unhappy things. Oh, has Ruojing come?"

The butler. "...Not yet."

Shen Yuansong. "?"

He immediately took out his phone and called Shen Ruojing. "Why are you not here yet? You are the big shot of the banquet tonight!"

Shen Ruojing's lazy voice rang out. "Why so anxious? Isn't it just 4 p.m.?"

Shen Yuansong. "!!"

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Chu Manor.

After Shen Ruojing hung up, she pursed her lips and then put on the custom-made dress that Shen Yuansong had sent over earlier.

She didn't put on any makeup, but her natural beauty shone through her fair complexion, which seemed to emit a glow.

When she arrived downstairs, she saw that Matriarch Bai, the female leader of the Bai family, was here and she was chatting with Matriarch Chu and Bai Shanshan.

In an effort to win over Bai Shanshan, Matriarch Bai would visit the Chu Manor once every few days. She would try to win her over with her soft-spoken and sincere words, leaving Bai Shanshan with no choice but to forgive her.

Today, Matriarch Bai came over to keep an appointment with Bai Shanshan.

The two women were chatting along with the others, and Matriarch Bai told Bai Shanshan, "You'll sit in my car later."

Bai Shanshan sighed and said, "Grandma, you don't have to do this."

Matriarch Bai held her hand and said, "Shanshan, you're still too innocent and naive. You don't know what kind of people the wealthy women of the capital are. They're all outwardly refined but inwardly flawed, and they like to look down on others. Although everyone knows that you're my granddaughter, if I don't show you enough respect, those women will think that I don't value you and they'll bully you!"

Bai Shanshan. "...I want no interactions with them."

Matriarch Bai laughed and said, "Silly child, I used to say the same thing when I was young. I didn't like socializing with people. But when you get older and your children are getting married, or you need to make business contacts, it's already too late to start socializing. Of course, you just need to be yourself. We don't need to please anyone, nor do we need to be pleased by anyone. If there are people you like, just make friends with them. If not, just treat it as a meal."

Matriarch Chu, who was beside her, smiled and said, "Shanshan, what Matriarch Bai means is just to go have some fun."

Bai Shanshan sighed helplessly and said, "Okay."

After that, Matriarch Bai said with a smile, "Your grandfather is still complaining at home, saying that he just recognized a granddaughter, and Old Master Shen followed suit. He complains that Old Master Shen is copying him! We don't know who his granddaughter is, but she's so lucky!"

Shen Ruoqing's identity was still under wraps, and her family members didn't know about it.

So when Matriarch Chu heard this, she spoke up and said, "Whoever she is, she's a lucky one! Many people will try to curry favor with Miss Shen from the Shen Family."

Matriarch Bai nodded and then said to Bai Shanshan, "You should go take a look. If that Miss Shen has a good temper, then make friends with her. If not, there's no need to force it. Our Bai family is your backing, and no matter what you do in the future, you have to have confidence!"

Shen Ruoqing listened to their conversation and went downstairs. Just as she arrived, Matriarch Chu stood up and asked, "Where's Cichen?"

Shen Ruoqing turned around in confusion and saw Chu Cichen coming out of the room with a few ties in his hand. "Jingjing, Mother, can you help me choose which one to wear?"

Matriarch Chu. "?"

Her face darkened. "Today is the recognition banquet for the eldest young miss of the Shen Family. Why are you dressed so flamboyantly?"

Chu Cichen glanced at Shen Ruoqing and smiled. "I'm just trying to see if I can catch the eye of Miss Shen."

Hearing this, Matriarch Chu immediately looked at Shen Ruoqing and then angrily scolded Chu Cichen, "Stop talking nonsense!"

She then explained to Shen Ruoqing, "Don't mind him, he's just talking nonsense."

However, Shen Ruoqing only smirked and looked at Chu Cichen. "The blue tie."

"Okay."

Chu Cichen put on the blue tie, and then they all got ready to leave.

Bai Shanshan sat in the Bai family car with Matriarch Bai. On the way, Matriarch Bai couldn't help but sigh. "Shanshan, did you see that? Chu Cichen dared to flirt with the eldest young miss of the Shen Family in front of your sister-in-law, and Shen Ruoqing didn't even complain. She even helped him pick a tie... This is the tragedy of not having a powerful background!"

Bai Shanshan. "..."

She was also a little angry in her heart. She had always felt that Chu Cichen was not that kind of person, but why did he act so frivolously today? Wasn't he afraid of his sister-in-law leaving?

Matriarch Bai suddenly spoke up, "You should keep an appropriate distance from your sister-in-law."

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Bai Shanshan didn't understand. "Why?"

Matriarch Bai said, "It's all about status. Do you remember back when those managers of clothing brands dared to disrespect your sister-in-law? Why? Isn't it because of her background? Because you come from a good background, your sister-in-law will always be overshadowed by you. I'm not saying that your sister-in-law is bad, but this is just how human nature works. Even if there are no conflicts among sisters-in-law, the differential treatment of servants will eventually make people uncomfortable and unbalanced in their mindset."

The wife of the main house's leader definitely had to have a higher status compared to the wife of the second house or how would the former be able to convince the others?

Although these were preconceived notions left behind by the older generations, there was still meaning to them.

Bai Shanshan then thought of the last incident with the dress fitting, and her heart felt heavy.

Her favorite person was her sister-in-law, who was also her savior, but wouldn't it be better if she wasn't from the Bai family?

If that were the case, those people wouldn't treat her differently.

Her eyes became red and she asked, "Grandma, how can we make sure that my sister-in-law is respected?"

Matriarch Bai sighed. "No other way, unless she has a more prestigious status than you."

A status more prestigious than that of a legitimate daughter of the Bai family could only be the legitimate daughter of the Shen family!

But how was that possible?

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As they were speaking, Matriarch Bai's car and the Chu family's car arrived at the Shen family's estate.

As soon as they reached the parking lot, they saw the Shen family's butler respectfully waiting there.

Matriarch Bai was slightly surprised. Everyone knew that this butler's status was akin to the 'matriarch' of the Shen family, so why was he personally waiting here? Was there a VIP guest coming?

Matriarch Bai understood that the Shen family was even more prestigious than the Bai family, so he couldn't be waiting for her.

Just as she was thinking about this, the Chu family's car also pulled up behind her.

Matriarch Bai then saw the butler of the Shen family smiling and walking toward the car behind her.

"Miss, why did you come so late? Many guests have already arrived, and you, as the host, are still nowhere to be seen!"

Matriarch Bai. “?”

Shouldn't the eldest young miss of the Shen Family be in the Shen Manor? Why would she be here?

She then glanced behind her curiously, wanting to take a look at who exactly this mysterious eldest young miss of the Shen Family was...

Chapter 434 Backing Rong Rong Up

Matriarch Bai turned her head and saw the butler of the Shen family standing in front of the Chu family who had just gotten out of the car.

Today, three people from the Chu family came – Matriarch Chu, Chu Cichen, and Shen Ruoqing.

At this time, the butler of the Shen family was respectfully looking at Shen Ruoqing, but she just smiled. “It's too boring to come early and wait.”

The butler was helpless and explained, “Sir has been waiting for you the entire afternoon, you...”

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When he realized that Matriarch Chu and Chu Cichen were also present, he changed his tone and said, “You guys should follow me quickly. The Old Master is already impatient from waiting.”

Shen Ruoqing agreed. “Sure, sure, sure.”

Matriarch Bai. “!!”

She was stunned!

To be honest, although Matriarch Bai appreciated Shen Ruoqing in her heart, she didn't think highly of her.

After all, Shen Ruoqing had a low background, a bad temper, and an overly domineering personality. Even when interacting with Chu Cichen, she never acted demurely. Matriarch Bai thought that it was no wonder Chu Cichen hadn't married her yet.

Especially today, when Chu Cichen was so concerned about his appearance earlier... Although what he said sounded like a joke, saying that he wanted the eldest miss from the Shen Family to like him, when a man dared to make this kind of joke in front of his woman, it meant that he no longer cared about her.

Matriarch Bai and Old Man Bai could be considered a loving couple, and they understood all the tricks.

However, she had never expected that the person they felt sorry for just now was actually the Shen family's eldest young miss?!

Matriarch Bai was dumbfounded.

However, Bai Shanshan's eyes lit up and she felt happy inside. “Sister-in-law, so you are the Shen family's eldest young miss!”

Since her sister-in-law had a better status, Bai Shanshan didn't have to stay away from her and feel afraid of causing her any trouble.

Bai Shanshan's words not only described the shock in Matriarch Bai's heart, but they also revealed the awe in Matriarch Chu's heart.

Matriarch Chu believed that she understood her son well, but on the way there, she was feeling conflicted.

How could Chu Cichen make such an inappropriate joke?

She must find a chance to punish him!

However, she hadn't expected that Shen Ruoqing was the eldest young miss of the Shen Family!

She then stared at Shen Ruoqing in astonishment...

Matriarch Chu, who never paid attention to social status, had always been fond of Shen Ruoqing. Shen Ruoqing had a strong heart and was not moved by external things, nor would she feel self-pity just because of a few words from others.

With this temperament alone, she was already qualified to be the next Matriarch of the Chu family! Now, she had an even stronger status...

Hence, Matriarch Chu smiled widely, and her first reaction was to punch Chu Cichen. "You little brat, you really... made me worry for nothing all the way here!"

After speaking, she glanced at Chu Cichen's tie. "The purple one looks good, it's gorgeous! This one is too low-key. Don't embarrass Jingjing later!"

Chu Cichen. "..."

The mother and son had repaired the cracks in their relationship from when Chu Cichen first returned to the country and had now become much closer.

Chu Cichen coughed. "Mother, please go in first."

The butler was still watching them closely.

Seeing Chu Cichen's embarrassment, Shen Ruoqing laughed softly and supported Matriarch Chu. "Auntie, let's go."

The three of them, along with Matriarch Bai and Bai Shanshan, entered the door and headed toward the nearby lounge.

Upon entering, Shen Ruoqing finally understood why the butler was in a hurry.

Although the Shen family's banquet was scheduled for 6 o'clock, most of the guests had arrived.

At this kind of banquet, usually the higher the guest's status, the more punctual they would be. However, the most distinguished family in the entire capital was the Shen family, so who would dare to be truly punctual for their banquet?

Therefore, it was only 5 o'clock, but most of the guests had arrived.

In the Shen family's reception room, people came and went.

Everyone was drinking and chatting, and only a few elderlies or Shen Yuansong's friends were invited to rest in the lounge.

Shen Ruojing originally followed the butler to enter the lounge, but as soon as she entered, she saw a familiar face in the corner of the banquet hall – Rong Rong!

She immediately stopped walking and said to the butler, "You go ahead. I just saw a friend and I'll go say hello."

The butler smiled and replied, "Yes, miss."

After that, he respectfully led Matriarch Bai and the others to the nearby resting room.

Shen Ruojing then walked toward Rong Rong.

She saw Rong Rong sitting there in a blue formal dress, looking elegant and gentle, like a refined and beautiful lady.

However, she had her head lowered, as if she had done something wrong. She was also constantly touching her hair or adjusting her dress, clearly lacking confidence. Whenever someone looked at her, she immediately clenched her fists and swallowed nervously. She was clearly not used to such occasions.

Shen Ruojing couldn't help but feel sorry for her.

Rong Rong was like an older sister, taking care of her when they were locked up in the cave.

The people who locked them up only gave them one cornbread every day, which led to malnutrition in the long term.

Moreover, Shen Ruojing was locked up half a year earlier than Rong Rong. One night, she suddenly developed a high fever, and she heard Rong Rong shouting for help when she was in a daze.

Those people then came over and told her impatiently to stop shouting.

Rong Rong asked them for fever medicine, but they were furious and threatened to beat her if she continued shouting.

However, Rong Rong was determined to get the medicine and threatened to commit suicide, saying that the group wouldn't be able to sell her for a good price. At that time, she even picked up a sharp stone from the ground and cut her wrist.

Her blood then flowed out, scaring the kidnapers so much that they finally threw a few tablets of fever medicine to her to save Shen Ruojing's life.

During those days, when Shen Ruojing was burning up with fever, Rong Rong would crush the steamed buns given to them by those people and feed them to her.

...

Normally, one steamed bun was never enough and would leave her feeling hungry and anxious.

However, during the time she was sick, she always felt full after eating. She had originally thought that her weakened body and stomach problems were the cause, but she later discovered that Rong Rong had split her own steamed bun in half and given it to her...

At eleven years old, Shen Ruoqing couldn't even feel full with one steamed bun a day, so how could Rong Rong possibly manage?

Yet, she still did her best to help Shen Ruoqing. This gentle elder sister, like the voice of Chu Cichen on the radio, was Shen Ruoqing's light during that time, which was considered the most difficult period of her life.

When Shen Ruoqing thought of this, she saw Mother Rong and another girl walking toward Rong Rong.

The girl had a fake smile on her face and appeared gentle and kind. However, Shen Ruoqing could see through her hypocrisy at a glance. When the two arrived in front of Rong Rong, Mother Rong frowned and scolded her in a low voice, "How did you get in? You said you wouldn't come. Why didn't you say anything beforehand? I replied to the Shen family and said that two people would come, but now that you suddenly showed up. It will make us look impolite!"

For this kind of banquet, after receiving an invitation, people should reply whether they were coming or not.

So when the second house of the Rong family was sent the invitation, Rong Yue replied that there would only be two people coming, and they would arrive on time.

Rong Rong was about to say something, but her arm was pulled by her mother. Mother Rong then continued scolding her, "Didn't I tell you to please the eldest young miss of the Shen Family at the hospital? Didn't you refuse me? Why did you come here then? Hurry up and leave before anyone notices. Don't embarrass the Rong family here!"

Shen Ruoqing's gaze sank!

She took a step forward and her expression was like ice.

...

"Why can't she be here?!"

Chapter 435 Invitation?

Just as Shen Ruoqing was about to speak, a man's voice rang out.

Hence, she turned her head and saw Doctor Xu walking toward them in formal attire.

Shen Ruoqing paused in the crowd and observed them from a distance.

Upon seeing Doctor Xu, Mother Rong was slightly stunned. "Doctor Xu?"

Doctor Xu nodded and then placed his hand on Rong Rong's shoulder. "Auntie, Rong Rong is accompanying me as my companion today. Is there a problem?"

Mother Rong immediately responded, "No problem."

After saying that, she couldn't help but add, "However, she hasn't attended such a banquet in thirteen years. Please take care of her and don't let her embarrass us."

Upon hearing this, Rong Rong's body stiffened.

Thirteen years...that was a sensitive topic for her.

Doctor Xu replied, "Attending banquets is just child's play for Little Rong. She can easily pick it up. Auntie, rest assured, no one will mind."

Doctor Xu then turned to Rong Rong and said, "Do you remember our classmate Xiaoxin? She's here today and wants to say hello to you!"

Before Rong Rong could refuse, Doctor Xu waved at someone in the distance.

A girl with a few friends walked over. "You're Rong Rong, right? I wasn't sure if it was really you."

Xiaoxin was also a young lady from a wealthy family in the capital and was a former classmate of Rong Rong's.

Rong Rong clenched her fists when she saw this familiar face from her past, wanting to run away.

Her body was even trembling slightly. However, Doctor Xu held her hand and said with a smile, "Yes, it's Rong Rong."

Xiaoxin immediately turned to Doctor Xu. "Wow, that's great! You used to have a crush on her, and now you've finally succeeded! Miss Rong used to be the school's beauty. Doctor Xu, how did you manage to win her over?"

Her friends, who were either Rong Rong's ex-classmates or wealthy second-generation friends that often hung out with them, also joined in the teasing.

"That's right, Doctor Xu. You used to follow us around for everything, and Miss Rong didn't even look at you twice. How did you manage to woo her?"

"Hahaha, share some tips with us!"

Rong Rong gazed nervously at Doctor Xu, who smiled at her lovingly as he said, "Just have a thicker skin and persevere!"

Their old friends immediately began teasing and envying them.

"Wow, you were secretly in love with the best girl in school back then!"

"Doctor Xu likes Miss Rong? I had no idea, when did this happen?"

"At the middle school's opening ceremony, Miss Rong's dance shocked the entire school. I remember so many people confessing their love to her back then!"

"Too many people confessed their love to her. They all asked me to bring love letters to Rong Rong, and I took advantage of the situation and extorted a lot of snacks!"

"When did you two get together? You kept us in the dark!"



The group of friends chattered and joked about the past, which gradually helped Rong Rong relax her body, as if those thirteen years had disappeared and she had returned to her normal life.

She smiled, occasionally glancing at Doctor Xu with a tender and affectionate look.

Rong Yue, who was standing next to her, watched the situation unfold. She then focused her gaze on Doctor Xu and Xiaoxin as she clenched her fists.

It was always like this.

As long as her elder sister was around, everyone's attention was always on her. That was why... Rong Yue had done that thing in the past...

Rong Yue took a deep breath and smiled. "Sis, I know that Doctor Xu has always been secretly in love with you! When you suddenly went abroad for your studies, he lost his soul and searched for you everywhere! He even came to my class to ask where you went!"

The words 'study abroad' made Rong Rong stiffen, and her heart skipped a beat.

She tensed and looked nervously at her classmates.

Xiaoxin was puzzled. "Yeah, you were studying in China, so why did you go abroad? Which university did you go to? After I failed the college entrance exam, I went abroad too."

Rong Yue immediately laughed and said, "Oh, so you went abroad too. Did you get your graduation certificate?"

The Rong family had covered up Rong Rong's dark past with the story of her studying abroad, but they could not falsify her graduation certificate.

So the family told others that Rong Rong had gone abroad to study but didn't do well, didn't graduate, and had been delaying her studies.

At this moment, Rong Yue intentionally brought it up, causing Xiaoxin to slightly pause. "Rong Rong, did you not receive your graduation certificate?"

Rong Rong's fingers tightly grasped her clothes, and her mouth opened and closed, wanting to say something but she couldn't find the words.

At this moment, she even felt that breathing was difficult.

Upon seeing this, a faint smile appeared on Rong Yue's face.

She was about to say something else, but Doctor Xu spoke up openly, "Little Rong's mind is not focused on studying. Why do you ask so much?"

Rong Rong's heart and throat tightened.

She thought her friends would ridicule her, but the next moment, she heard Xiaoxin say, "Ha, what's the big deal? I haven't received my graduation certificate either! Before, I was afraid of being ridiculed by others, but now I realize that admitting to being mediocre is also cool!"

The others immediately started talking.

Some unambitious ones spoke, "Speaking of which, so what even if we got the graduation certificate? Wouldn't it also cost \$20 million to start a business? My mother refused to let me go out and just wants me to live off the family's money obediently. She refused to let me risk losing their money. Sigh!"

Another person spoke, "Actually, every one of us is doing pretty well. Do you guys still remember Old Hu? He got cancer last year and passed away. Haiz!"

"..."

Everyone recounted the successes and failures in their lives through these years, and this caused Rong Rong to be dumbfounded for a long time.

Doctor Xu stood beside her and lowered his voice. "Everyone has low points in their life, and they have their own unbearable past. As long as you don't bring it up, no one will know. Everyone won't care about what you did during the thirteen years you disappeared. They will only look at what you will achieve in the future. So there's really no need to feel inferior or sorry for yourself. Little Rong, in my heart, you have always been my goddess."

Rong Rong's eyes turned red.

Finally, her lowered head was slowly lifted.

So, no one would bother to keep drilling her about her past. As long as she didn't mention it, she would be able to return to a normal life.

She truly thirsted for days like this when she could sit down and chat with her friends.

Shen Ruoqing stood not far away, listening to all the words these people said.

In this society, women were always treated with the greatest malice.

Rong Rong was abducted into a mountain village at the age of 15, and in her attempt to escape, she accidentally killed 13 people.

If these things were to be known, people might pity her, but they would also privately speculate about what happened to her during the two months she was captured.

Surely she was violated, right?

And she also killed 13 people, so she must be a serial killer at heart.

That was why some things were better left unsaid. Just let them die down quietly.

Only a few people knew about this, and the Rong family wouldn't expose the scandal themselves. Even Rong Yue, who was now feeling very depressed, couldn't speak the truth. This was because the Rong family's reputation was also her reputation, and they would rise or fall together.

As Shen Ruoqing watched Rong Rong opening up and even joining in the classmates' chat, she relaxed. However, her gaze fell on Doctor Xu.

This doctor gave her a feeling of being inscrutable.

As she was thinking about this, she heard Mother Rong speaking, "There is still a need to study hard. Our Little Yue has good grades and graduated from one of the top ten universities abroad. I heard that Miss Shen is also a scientist, so her education must also be high. Little Yue, there's no wonder Miss Shen appreciates you so much!"

Shen Ruoqing. "?"

When did she ever appreciate Rong Yue?

When the others heard the name 'Miss Shen', they immediately stopped chatting with Rong Rong and focused their attention on Rong Yue.

Xiaoxin asked, "Are you acquainted with the eldest miss of the Shen Family?"

Rong Yue smiled and displayed a humble expression. "We are not very familiar though."

Mother Rong immediately spoke, "If you guys are not familiar, how could Miss Shen specially give you an invitation?"

Shen Ruoqing. "???"

When did she ever send an invitation to Rong Yue?!!

Chapter 436 Face Smacking!

As the sound of her voice rang out, everyone crowded around Rong Yue.

Today was the Shen Family's recognition banquet, and everyone came here because they wanted to meet the legendary eldest miss of the Shen Family. Hence, the majority of people were curious and they started asking.

"Rong Yue, what sort of person is Miss Shen?"

"Have you met her before? How did you guys get to know each other?"

Rong Yue replied, "Don't listen to my mother talking blindly. We are really not familiar with each other. We merely added each other on WeChat and chatted for a bit. Maybe Miss Shen feels that she is fated with me, so she issued me an invitation."

"Wow, you have her WeChat contact?"

"..."

Rong Rong silently retreated out of the circle and looked at Rong Yue who was happily surrounded by the crowd. She didn't say anything, but Doctor Xu spoke, "Little Rong, I still have to entertain some people at the side. Do you think you will be fine being here alone?"

Rong Rong nodded.

Doctor Xu still seemed worried. "Is it true?"

Rong Rong nodded again and her face now was filled with more confidence and charm. "It's true, I adapt very well."

It wasn't difficult at all to return to leading an ordinary life. It was just that she had trapped herself mentally before this.

Only now did Doctor Xu relax. "I'll be heading off then."

"Sure."

After Doctor Xu left, Rong Rong turned and planned to get something to eat. However, she spotted Shen Ruoqing the moment she turned her head. As a result, her eyes brightened and she immediately called out, "Little Jing!"

After that, she walked to Shen Ruoqing's side. "What are you doing here?"

After saying that, she glanced at the surroundings and seemed to have understood something. "You also received the Shen Family's invitation?"

Shen Ruoqing laughed and asked, "Did the Shen Family specially send an invitation to your younger sister? I thought they sent it to you?"

She had to verify whether or not the butler wrote the wrong name.

Rong Rong replied, "The name written was indeed mine, but I'm not acquainted with the eldest young miss of the Shen Family, so how could she have issued an invitation to me? On the contrary, my younger sister said she was very fated with Miss Shen, so Miss Shen probably wrote the wrong name..."

After saying this, Rong Rong seemed to have discovered something. "How did you know?"

Shen Ruoqing's gaze sank and she continued, "The invitation was for you."

Rong Rong was stunned. She didn't understand the meaning of these words.

At this moment, Mother Rong who was in the crowd suddenly spotted the two of them. Hence, her expression turned gloomy. After arriving before them, she looked at Shen Ruoqing and whispered, "Just say it straight, what do you want exactly?"

Shen Ruoqing. "???"

Rong Rong spoke, "Mother, what nonsense are you talking about?"

Mother Rong inhaled deeply. "Ever since you returned to the capital, you kept running into her. I even dare to say that she is intentionally appearing before you. She wants to use that knowledge to threaten us!"

After saying that, she ignored Rong Rong and directly spoke in a low voice to Shen Ruoqing, "How did you enter the banquet and what are you planning to do? If you want money, just tell me the amount. It's fine as long as it is within an acceptable range. If not, I hope you can leave immediately and stop creating disturbance for our Rong Family!"

"..." Shen Ruoqing didn't know how to reply to her.

Her gaze sank and she spoke, "I don't need such a thing."

Mother Rong immediately grew warier. "You don't want anything? In that case, why do you keep following us? You even chase us all the way to the point that you appear at the Shen Family's banquet!"

Shen Ruojing had a half smile on her face. "Because this place is my home."

"..."

Mother Rong was dumbstruck. She looked at Shen Ruojing again and gulped a mouthful of saliva. What did she say? This was her home? Her surname was Shen, so could it be that...she was someone from the Shen Family?

Just when she was pondering, a voice rang out from the side.

"Shen Ruojing, what are you bragging about? Old Master Shen has at most acknowledged you as his god-granddaughter. When has this place become your home?"

Shen Ruojing turned and discovered Wen Yuyi, who hadn't appeared for a long time. She had actually come as well.

Why was she qualified to enter with her identity?

Shen Ruojing subconsciously looked into the distance and discovered Shen Jiayi standing there. Evidently, Shen Jiayi was the one who brought Wen Yuyi in.

Recently, Shen Jiayi had been very down on her luck.

After Shen Yuansong acknowledged his biological granddaughter, he ignored those from the second and third houses. Only Wen Yuyi could make Shen Jiayi feel better by badmouthing Shen Ruojing, so she grew very close to Wen Yuyi during this period.

Hence, she brought Wen Yuyi in for this banquet.

It was just that after Wen Yuyi entered, she heard Shen Ruojing saying that this place was her home. After that, Shen Jiayi didn't even have time to say anything before Wen Yuyi immediately rushed over.

Shen Jiayi immediately felt that it was very embarrassing, so she quickly took two steps back and wanted nothing more than to disappear immediately.

However, Wen Yuyi's words caused everyone to focus their attention on Shen Ruojing. Her words also caused everyone to start pointing their fingers and gossiping about Shen Ruojing.

"Isn't that Miss Shen? She is Chu Cichen's wife. Back then, at the Chu Family's banquet, Old Master Shen acknowledged her as his god-granddaughter..."

"Ah? Isn't her luck too off the charts? She actually gained the favor of Old master Shen. It's very impressive to be his god-granddaughter..."

"However, why does she have the cheek to say that this place is her home? Earlier, I think she came from outside...this means she's basically not staying in the Shen Manor."

"She is just a god-granddaughter, so how can she stay in the Shen Manor? Are you joking?"

“But she actually said earlier that the Shen Manor was her home...isn't she overestimating herself a little too much?”

However, some people also spoke up for Shen Ruoqing, “A god-granddaughter is a granddaughter too. It's the same thing!”

“How can it be the same? In the past, Old Master Shen didn't have a biological granddaughter, so he went to acknowledge a god-granddaughter. We have to be clear about their statuses. Now that he has a biological granddaughter, why would he care about a god-granddaughter?”

Someone guessed the truth. “Miss Shen's surname is also 'Shen'. Could it be that she is the biological granddaughter that Old Master Shen is going to publicly announce?”

As this voice rang out, everyone turned to look at Shen Ruoqing, observing her.

...

A portion of the people here had attended the Chu Family's banquet back then and had personally witnessed how protective Old Master Shen was of Shen Ruoqing. Hence, they felt that this speculation was pretty believable.

However, Wen Yuyi sneered. “How can that be possible? I know their family situation very well. Her father is a small-time actor that married into her mother's family. Also, her paternal grandparents are long dead. Her maternal grandmother is the ex-Yun Family Leader, while her maternal grandfather is a farmer! How can that be Old Master Shen?”

After she said this, she targeted Shen Ruoqing and continued, “You said so brazenly that this was your home so what regard do you have for the eldest young miss of the Shen Family? Does Old Master Shen know how ostentatious you are acting?”

Rong Rong subconsciously stood protectively before Shen Ruoqing. “Little Jing didn't act ostentatiously. We were merely chatting in private and no one heard anything. You are the one who wanted to stir up trouble! Why are you acting so ostentatiously?”

Mother Rong who was at the side was blinded by Wen Yuyi's words.

After the second house of the Rong Family split from the main house, they were marginalized by the capital. So for example, the previous Chu Family banquet would only issue an invitation to the main house. The second house naturally didn't receive one.

Hence, they didn't know of Shen Ruoqing's identity.

Just now, after Mother Rong learned that Shen Ruoqing was Old Master Shen's god-granddaughter, she jumped in fright, feeling afraid that she might have offended Shen Ruoqing and caused the eldest young miss of the Shen Family to be unhappy.

But after hearing Wen Yuyi's words, Mother Rong suddenly felt that this god-granddaughter must not have an amicable relationship with the eldest young miss of the Shen Family.

So, after seeing Rong Rong standing up for Shen Ruoqing, she immediately took a step forward and pulled Rong Rong's arm. “You don't know anything, so why are you talking nonsense here? Shut up!”

Rong Rong spoke, "Mother, you are the one who doubted Little Jing first by asking her why she would appear here, and she merely replied that she was here because this was her home. I need to explain this to everyone. It isn't her who is acting ostentatiously..."

...

Mother Rong wanted nothing more than to shut Rong Rong up. She immediately scolded her in anger, "What has it got to do with you whether she acts ostentatiously or not? You can't even take care of yourself, so why are you standing up for her? You only know how to mix with lousy friends like her every day. Can't you learn from your younger sister and attempt to forge a good relationship with the eldest young miss of the Shen Family if you have time?"

Her voice was very soft, and only Shen Ruoqing and Rong Rong who were near her managed to hear it.

Rong Rong wanted to say something, but Shen Ruoqing sneered. "There's no need for her to attempt to forge such a relationship."

Mother Rong immediately looked at her and wanted to speak. But all of a sudden, the door leading to the resting lounge area opened.

The banquet began at 6 p.m. sharp!

Everyone immediately glanced at the entrance and saw Shen Yuansong being supported out by his butler. He then calmly stood at the entrance. His voice wasn't loud, but everyone held their breaths in as they focused. After that, they heard him saying, "I want to introduce my estranged biological granddaughter to everyone today, so you all will get to know her."

The guests had initially thought that he would step aside after saying this, allowing the mysterious eldest young miss to step out from behind him. However, no one had expected Old Master Shen's gaze to sweep through the crowd. After that, he fixed his gaze in a certain direction as though he had found who he was looking for.

They followed his gaze and saw Shen Ruoqing elegantly standing there.

Everyone was instantly stunned.

At the next moment, they heard Shen Yuansong laughing. "Jingjing, as the main character today, what are you still doing there? You should come over here quickly!"

Chapter 437 Uninvited Guest! (1)

Mother Rong was completely dumbfounded!

Even Wen Yuyi was stunned. She stared at Shen Ruoqing in disbelief and shouted, "A...are you not Old Master Shen's god-granddaughter? How is this..."

Shen Ruoqing ignored her. At the current height she was standing at, she basically didn't place Wen Yuyi in her eyes.

Wen Yuyi was only able to mix with high society because Shen Jiayi gave her face. But from now on, everyone would know that she had offended the young lady of the Shen family, Shen Ruoqing. Even without Shen Ruoqing having to lift a finger, Wen Yuyi would no longer have a place there!

She might even implicate the Wen family.

Many people present, including Wen Yuyi, shared the same thought. So, Old Master Shen laughed and said, "I felt a connection with Ruoqing before, so I recognized her as my god-granddaughter. Later, I discovered that she really is my biological granddaughter! Her mother is my biological daughter that I left estranged outside!"

Wen Yuyi involuntarily exclaimed, "This is impossible. Her mother's father was clearly a poor and destitute farmer! That's why she was abandoned in the first place!"

As soon as she said this, Shen Yuansong's eyes darkened. Now at over seventy years old, he was no longer the hot-headed young man who would get angry at the slightest provocation. Shen Yuansong understood even better that the woman from the Yun family could not have left him because she despised him. It was because she knew his identity and what their daughter would have to face. That was why she chose to leave him...

Shen Yuansong looked directly at her and coldly laughed. "I am that farmer. So what?"

The butler beside him explained, "At that time, my master was conducting experiments on a test field in Ford City, and he brought people there to conduct research."

Shen Yuansong reprimanded him, "Why are you explaining this? What's wrong with being a farmer? If there were no farmers, could you eat? My research was about how to grow more crops in the fields. The farmers near Ford City have a lot of experience growing crops, and they were my teachers! We are in a new society now, and you all have never done any manual labor. It's all because of them that you're not starving! Otherwise, you would all be starving to death!"

After a moment of silence, applause suddenly broke out in the room.

Someone shouted, "The old master is right. We may be doing well now, but a few generations back, who wasn't a farmer? Looking down on farmers is the same as looking down on our own ancestors!"

Shen Yuansong nodded, but he stared at Wen Yuyi and said, "Who invited her? We can't afford such an ill-mannered girl in the Shen family. Please leave!"

His words sounded polite, but as soon as he spoke, several bodyguards rushed in and directly grabbed Wen Yuyi, throwing her out without any courtesy!

In an instant, the whole room fell silent!

Normally, at this kind of banquet, many people who snuck in wouldn't feel too worried. As long as they didn't perform too poorly, the host would not make a big fuss about driving them away.

Shen Yuansong also had no reason to argue with a young girl in her twenties.

But he did it anyway.



Why?

Everyone turned to look at Shen Ruoqing, and in an instant, everyone understood.

The words Wen Yuyi used to insult Miss Shen had been heard by the old man, and he was protecting his granddaughter!

Shen Yuansong had always been highly respected and had never interfered with the affairs of his juniors. But this time, he did... enough to show the position of Miss Shen in his heart.

At this moment, everyone looked at Shen Ruoqing with awe in their eyes.

They understood that from now on, in the capital, the person that they couldn't afford to offend the most was her!

Even Mother Rong was frightened and her face had turned white.

She was even trembling and almost fell to the ground.

When she married into the Rong family, the family had not yet split, and they were a legitimate branch. Hence, Mrs. Rong had attended various banquets and was considered an honorable person.

But thinking back on the words she had just said, they were even more offensive than what the young girl had said...

Would Miss Shen also drive her away?

Mother Rong looked to her second daughter, Rong Yue, for help, hoping that her second daughter could come out and help her. However, she saw that Rong Yue's face was also pale and she even lowered her head when she looked at her.

Mother Rong's heart turned cold.

Her figure swayed and she almost fell onto the ground. But at this moment, Rong Rong supported her by her arm.

Rong Rong looked at Shen Ruoqing and said, "Little Jing, I apologize for what my mother said to you earlier."

Mother Rong stared blankly at Rong Rong.

Rong Rong was also her daughter, so how could she not feel pain by her words?

Chapter 438 Uninvited Guest! (2)

When Rong Rong was young, she was also her mother's pride.

But ever since Rong Rong had that incident, Mother Rong was afraid to speak up and be mocked... However, she still cared for her daughter, which was why she had brought her back home from Ford City and even arranged for her to meet Dr. Xu through a matchmaker.

Perhaps a mother would always be biased.

When one daughter could always bring her glory and another daughter would make her the object of ridicule, it was natural for her to be partial to Rong Yue.

!!

But at this moment, her heart was moved by what she saw. Rong Rong was clearly Miss Shen's friend, and Mother Rong had scolded her before. Even then, Rong Rong was still standing protectively in front of her...

As a result, Mother Rong's eyes turned red as she tightly held Rong Rong's hand. She then looked at Shen Ruoqing and wanted to say something, but she didn't know how to smooth the situation over with Shen Ruoqing.

Just then, Shen Ruoqing spoke up, "Sister Rong, there's no need to be so polite. Auntie was just joking with me. But...I really don't know your younger sister. I had the invitation specifically sent to you by my butler."

With those words, she gave Rong Rong a faint smile and walked toward Shen Yuansong!

However, her words felt like a slap in the face to Rong Yue, leaving her stunned.

The people who had just complimented her and asked her to introduce Miss Shen to them were now looking at her with contemptuous eyes.

Xiaoxin even chuckled, "Oh, so it's the elder Miss Rong who's close with Miss Shen, not you! Weren't you chatting with Miss Shen on WeChat not long ago? Was it all fake? Were you trying to show off and act rich with your swollen ego!?"

Rong Yue. "!!"

She was so angry that her eyes turned red. She felt that everyone around her was looking at her with ridicule in their eyes.

She then lowered her head and suddenly ran out.

However, her situation was just a small episode, and no one paid any attention to her at this point.

Everyone's eyes were on Shen Ruoqing. Some were curious, some hesitant, but all were with a hint of scrutiny and respect.

When Shen Ruoqing approached Shen Yuansong, he smiled and said, "Let me reintroduce her to everyone. This is my granddaughter! She's also the famous Professor Z in the scientific community! I hope everyone will take care of her in the future!"

The last sentence was directed at the people in the scientific community.

Everyone immediately understood what he meant.

Shen Yuansong waved his hand and said, "Okay, we're done introducing the protagonist. Everyone can have fun now!"

With that, everyone surrounded them.

“Old Master Shen, congratulations! In the past, we felt it was a shame you didn’t have any offspring to inherit your good genes, but it turned out that the younger generation has surpassed the older. Miss Shen has achieved more than you did at her age!”

Complimenting Shen Ruojing would make Shen Yuansong happier than complimenting him, and everyone understood that.

As expected, Shen Yuansong began laughing out loud uproariously.

“Miss Shen has a bright future ahead of her! We need young leaders like her in the scientific community. Old Master Shen, you have a worthy successor!”

“In the next election, I’ll definitely vote for Professor Z!”

“I’ve always admired Prof Z, but I never thought she was your granddaughter!”

“...”

Shen Ruojing wasn’t used to this kind of atmosphere, so she quietly slipped out of the crowd.

But before she could leave, Mother Rong stopped her.

Mother Rong lowered her head and looked at Shen Ruojing with a pleading smile. “Miss Shen, I...I have a few words I’d like to say to you.”

“Please go ahead,” Shen Ruojing said.

Mother Rong looked around and saw that no one was paying attention to them, so she sighed. “I know that in your eyes, I’m not a good mother. I’m power-hungry. But the truth is, I’m probably someone who wants Rong Rong to do well the most in this world. I’m really sorry for how I treated you before. But I still want to make a request...”

She lowered her voice a notch and said, “Can you keep the incident from thirteen years ago a secret for Rong Rong? This society is too cruel to girls. Even though we understand that nothing happened to her after she was abducted, outsiders might not think the same way.”

Shen Ruojing sighed.

She wasn’t very angry with Mother Rong because she knew that Mother Rong’s rudeness to her was really for Rong Rong’s sake.

She lowered her eyes and looked at Rong Rong in the crowd.

Rong Rong had already blended back in with the group, and now that she had just shown how close she was with Shen Ruojing, those people were even more eager to please her, and her smile became a little more sincere.

Shen Ruojing said, “Don’t worry, I will keep what happened back then in my heart. This is because I hope that Sister Rong can return to a normal life.”

Hearing this, Mother Rong immediately lowered her head and murmured her thanks.

At this moment, there was suddenly a commotion at the door.

Then, the butler hurriedly walked in and said, "Master, something bad has happened, an unexpected guest has arrived!"

As soon as this sentence fell, a sinister figure walked in and stood at the door. His gaze first locked onto Shen Ruoqing, and then he smiled and said, "Miss Shen, long time no see!"

Shen Ruoqing's pupils shrank when she saw him.

The person who came was actually Dugu Xiao!

The man was wearing a purple suit, with a low-cut shirt inside that revealed a bit of his chest. He looked charming and unrestrained, but his entire aura was not to be underestimated.

Shen Ruoqing narrowed her eyes, but just when she was about to say something, two figures suddenly blocked her path.

One of the figures exuded a steady and reliable aura, making people feel at ease. He was not particularly conspicuous at the banquet, but now, he suddenly burst forth with an aura powerful enough to confront Dugu Xiao. It was Chu Cichen.

The other was an old but straight-backed figure, Shen Yuansong.

Shen Yuansong's experienced eyes swept over, and he immediately understood that this person was probably here to cause trouble for his granddaughter. So he directly said in a domineering tone, "Mr. Dugu, you entered the Shen's residence without an invitation, isn't this considered trespassing?"

Dugu Xiao curled his lips and said, "Miss Shen taught me that when I came to China, I should abide by the law. So how could I knowingly violate it?"

He then glanced at Shen Ruoqing.

Previously, Shen Ruoqing had reported him to the police, saying that he had killed someone with a gun. Because of it, the special department's team led by Captain Cui had been chasing him for a long time, and he had to put in a lot of effort to shake off suspicion. Now, he was finally in the clear.

Dugu Xiao smiled. "I'm here today to help the police investigate a case."

...

After he finished speaking, he turned his body to the side, and two police officers immediately stepped forward and looked directly at Shen Ruoqing. "Miss Shen, are you Professor Z?"

Shen Ruoqing was confused. "Yes."

"Hello, we are the special department law enforcement agency. We received Mr. Dugu's report that you invented the No. 5 Neurotoxin, which violates our country's pharmaceutical law. Please come with us for investigation!"

Making drugs privately, especially such poisonous drugs, was a violation of the law! If caught, the penalty could be life imprisonment!

Chapter 439 Getting Apprehended

As soon as the police spoke, the entire scene erupted in an uproar!

Shen Ruoqing was also taken aback.

At this moment, Shen Yuansong stepped forward and stopped them. "Is there a misunderstanding here?"

The two policemen said, "Whether there is a misunderstanding or not, we just need to investigate it by taking her back with us."

Chu Cichen frowned and stepped forward, saying, "Do you have any evidence? Even if someone reported it, you can't just take her away without evidence!"

"Of course we have. Mr. Dugu provided us with some evidence. Here is the arrest warrant and please cooperate with us!" They had brought the arrest warrant, making it clear that they were well-prepared.

Dugu Xiao sneered at the side and said, "China is a law-abiding country. I don't think Miss Shen will make it difficult for the two policemen, right?" When he smiled, he was very conspicuous. His gaze was fixed on Shen Ruoqing, and it was filled with hatred and also a hint of admiration.

Shen Ruoqing pursed her lips and asked, "Where is Captain Cui?"

Captain Cui from the special department knew all about her past.

The two policemen immediately said, "Captain Cui is currently on a mission, and we will inform him of this matter."

After speaking, the two policemen showed some hesitation. "But Miss Shen, you need to cooperate with our investigation now, please don't make things difficult for us."

They were just running errands, and Shen Ruoqing had some history with the special department. In the previous poisoning case in Sea City, she had crossed paths with a few people there.

So, Shen Ruoqing nodded and said, "Okay, I'll go with you. I believe in China's law, and it will clear me of any wrongdoings."

After saying this, she took a step forward and followed the two policemen.

Shen Yuansong immediately spoke up, "Jingjing..."

"Little Jing!" Rong Rong also exclaimed.

Shen Ruoqing stopped in her tracks and first gave Rong Rong a reassuring smile. She then looked at Shen Yuansong. She seemed to be telling him but also speaking to everyone and Rong Rong at the same time, "Grandpa, don't worry, I won't have any problems. The leader of their team, Captain Cui, knows about this. When he comes back, he will clear my name. I'm just going through the motions."

Chu Cichen frowned and stepped forward as he spoke, "I will have the lawyer come over right away. Before the lawyer arrives, you have the right to remain silent!"

Shen Ruoqing nodded.

She then left with the two police officers in front of everyone.

As they passed by Dugu Xiao, he suddenly lowered his voice and laughed. "Miss Shen, the law in China is really effective. This move was taught by you."

Shen Ruoqing ignored him.

But even when they got out of the door and arrived at the police car, the man was still following her.

Shen Ruoqing frowned when she saw Dugu Xiao still grinning and following her.

He said, "As a witness, I also need to go to the police station to cooperate."

The two police officers didn't stop him, so one of them opened the back door and was about to send Shen Ruoqing into the car.

"Wait a minute."

Dugu Xiao suddenly spoke up and looked at one of them. "The evidence I provided basically proves that she is the one who produced the No. 5 Neurotoxin. She is a suspect now. Don't you need to take some security measures? I remember that Miss Shen's skills are quite remarkable!"

This made the two police officers hesitate for a moment.

Dugu Xiao spoke again, "As a witness, I'm afraid Miss Shen will make a move on me in the car. You are responsible for my personal safety."

His words made the two police officers hesitate again. After that, one of them took out a pair of handcuffs.

"Miss Shen, according to the process, we should have put these on you earlier. Of course, we all believe that you will not escape, but now that he has said this... what do you think?"

Shen Ruoqing took a deep breath and held out her hands.

As the cold handcuffs were put on, Shen Ruoqing's expression became a little dazed.

"Click." The flashlight went off, and Shen Ruoqing just realized that Dugu Xiao had taken a picture of her with his phone.

"Tsk tsk, Shen family's Miss Shen was brought away by the police at her family reunion. This picture will definitely make the headlines, right?"

Shen Ruoqing. "!!"

She felt extremely angry. Dugu Xiao was becoming more and more excessive.

If she hadn't been handcuffed, she would have punched him!

Shen Ruoqing took a deep breath. She suppressed her anger and pursed her lips as she got into the car.

The car started and quickly arrived at the special department in the capital.

After getting off of the car, Shen Ruoqing stared at the place in front of her. Her eyebrows slightly furrowed and her eyes turned cold, "This place isn't the special department, right?"

Years ago, in order to help Captain Cui's team solve a case, she had been to the special department before.

A police officer answered her, "This is the Second Unit of the Special Department."

Suddenly, Shen Ruoqing had a bad feeling. She frowned and asked, "Which unit is Captain Cui's team in?"

"The First Unit."

Shen Ruoqing's heart sank. "I want to go to the First Unit."

Before she could say anything else, a fierce voice interrupted her, "I'm afraid it's not up to you! Mr. Dugu reported to our Second Unit, so this case should be handled by us."

She turned her head and saw a burly, righteous-looking man walking toward her.

He looked like he was under thirty, but his eyes were sharp and filled with intense hatred.

"Who are you?" Shen Ruoqing frowned.

"The captain, Zheng Yi!"

He walked up to her and asked directly, "Are you the one who developed the No. 5 Neurotoxin?"

Shen Ruoqing pursed her lips and felt this person's inexplicable hostility. She then answered, "I won't answer any questions until my lawyer arrives."

...

Zheng Yi stared at her with a cold and piercing gaze. The people around them didn't dare to breathe.

However, Shen Ruoqing stared straight back at him and met his gaze without backing down.

The tension between them was palpable.

Just as it seemed like things were about to explode, Dugu Xiao laughed and spoke up, "Captain Zheng, this is the outside. Even if it's an interrogation, it should be done in the interrogation room, shouldn't it?"

Zheng Yi glared at Shen Ruoqing and said, "Follow me to the interrogation room."

Shen Ruoqing suppressed her dissatisfaction and was about to step forward when Zheng Yi suddenly pushed her hard.

"Hurry up, what's taking so long? Do you think that just because you come from a powerful and privileged family, you can avoid punishment? Let me tell you, here, everyone is equal!"

Shen Ruoqing stumbled but Dugu Xiao caught her arm.

She pushed away Dugu Xiao's hands and looked at Zheng Yi coldly. At this moment, her anger surged and she couldn't suppress it.

"What are you looking at?"

After that, Zheng Yi reached out and pushed her again.

...

Shen Ruoqing's eyes flashed with a sharp light.

Did he think that he could do whatever he wanted just because she was handcuffed?

Chapter 440 Criminal?

Just as Shen Ruoqing was about to make her move, Dugu Xiao grinned and blocked Zheng Yi's path. "Zheng Team, she's still a girl, don't be so aggressive. Have a little bit of compassion and respect for the fairer sex."

Hearing this, Zheng Yi shouted, "There is no distinction between men and women here, only good and bad people! Some women may appear weak, but they kill without blinking an eye and are full-fledged villains!"

After saying this, he glared at his two subordinates who were there to bring Shen Ruoqing in. "Don't take her lightly just because she's a woman. Think about how many people have been killed by the No. 5 Neurotoxin. And how many years ago was it discovered? If she developed it, she would have been only eleven years old at the time! To have such malicious thoughts at such a young age makes her an unforgivable criminal!"

After finishing his tirade, he glared angrily at Shen Ruoqing and said, "Get out of here!"

Shen Ruoqing tightened her jaw and a sharp glint flickered in her eyes.

She was about to speak domineeringly and put a stop to Zheng Yi's arrogance, but then she heard Dugu Xiao's voice in her ear, "Do you know why Zheng Yi hates you so much? It is because his father died from the No. 5 Neurotoxin!"

Shen Ruoqing's pupils contracted slightly and she looked incredulously at Dugu Xiao.

"His father was also a policeman. At that time, the investigation involved the interests of certain people, so they used the colorless, tasteless No. 5 Neurotoxin, which can kill with just a small dose, to kill him!"

The words Shen Ruoqing had planned to say to Zheng Yi were stuck in her throat. She tightly clenched her hands, which were bound together, and a strong sense of self-blame surged up from her heart.

The No. 5 Neurotoxin was indeed her invention, and she was only eleven years old at the time...

When she was arrested and held in the mountain for six months, she didn't waste her time.

The cellar in the mountain was dug deep, about 20 meters. She listened to Chu Cichen's reading every day and kept looking for a way to escape.

Those people would eventually sell her and make her work for them. But she was abused all year round and couldn't even eat enough. As a result, she was completely no match for those people, so she had to think of another way...

She could only eat one cornbread a day, which was not enough for her. So when she was extremely hungry, she dug up tree roots and ate them.



This lasted until she discovered a plant one day. She just touched it lightly and her fingers became numb for the entire day.

At that time, she was already studying medicine and had learned a lot about biology. She researched it for a long time and found that this plant was not commonly found in other places. Moreover, its rhizomes were highly toxic.

Those poisons made her afraid to touch them. But she silently studied them for a few months and then found the most effective way to extract the toxin.

However, she didn't dare to tell anyone.

It was only after Rong Rong was imprisoned with her did that change. She was only locked up for two months before the traffickers found a buyer, and they were ready to sell her that very night...

At that time, Rong Rong picked up a stone and said to her, "I would rather die than let them bully me like this."

Rong Rong had saved Shen Ruoqing's life, and she couldn't just watch Rong Rong die like that. Hence, she grabbed Rong Rong's hand, handed her the extracted toxin, and instructed her on the dosage...

That night, Shen Ruoqing was also very nervous. She heard the sound of the traffickers firing their guns after they pulled Rong Rong up with a rope. For a long, long time, the outside world became silent.

An entire day passed before the police came and Officer Cui personally rescued her from the underground.

Shen Ruoqing then asked about Rong Rong, but Officer Cui said that she had gone too far in self-defense. Not only had she killed five traffickers, but she had also accidentally killed a nearby villager and had been arrested...

...

Shen Ruoqing pursed her lips and didn't resist any further. She followed Zheng Yi into the interrogation room.

She was roughly detained in the interrogation chair, but her handcuffs were not unlocked. Instead, they were tightened even further, causing her wrists to ache.

Zheng Yi sat across from her. His eyes were full of anger as he coldly asked, "What's your name?"

Shen Ruoqing remained silent.

With a loud bang, Zheng Yi smashed the water glass on the ground. "I asked, what's your name!"

Shen Ruoqing looked at him with a calm expression. "Before my lawyer arrives, I have the right to remain silent, Captain Zheng."

"You have the right to remain silent? The people who died from the No. 5 Neurotoxin also had the right to live! But they died! Not just my father, but also my comrades-in-arms. I don't know how many people have died from this toxin over the years! What f\*cking right do you have?!" Zheng Yi raged.

Shen Ruoqing remained silent, her expression still calm.

Zheng Yi squinted his eyes and suddenly said to the person next to him, "Turn on the lamp."

The person immediately spoke up, "Captain Zheng, this is not in accordance with regulations. We cannot use torture on Miss Shen..."

"I told you to turn on the lamp, so turn it on! I'll bear all the consequences!" Zheng Yi spoke up.

As he finished speaking, the door was suddenly pushed open.

Several police officers stood outside with red eyes. "I'll bear it!"

"I'll bear it too!"

"Even if it means being punished and taking off this uniform, I will vent the grievances of my fallen comrades-in-arms!"

Someone brought in a lamp, plugged it in, and then it was turned on with a loud crack. The intense white light shone directly on Shen Ruoqing's face!!!

The powerful beam made it so that she basically couldn't open her eyes.

Even if she shut her eyes, it was still very bright and this felt extremely unbearable...

Shen Ruoqing subconsciously wanted to reach out and stop the light, but when she moved, she realized that her hands were tied and she couldn't move at all...

They were using extralegal means, which was considered illegal and undisciplined behavior!

A surge of anger rose in Shen Ruoqing's heart. She then moved her hands and tried to break free from all of this, but the voices of the people at the door gradually came through.

"You are a criminal of humanity!"

"Inventing that toxin is simply inhumane!"

"My brother died from that poison..."

"So did my mother..."

"That poison has become the best tool for evil people to use against us! She personally handed a sharp knife to the bad people in the world!"

"..."

Shen Ruoqing's struggle gradually disappeared, and she stared blankly at the door of the interrogation room. The young but hateful faces made her feel a little confused for a moment.

A self-mocking smile suddenly appeared on her face and she stopped struggling.

...

In fact, when she passed the toxin to Rong Rong, she understood that this poison couldn't be concealed, and she would become a criminal of humanity.

So, just let them scold and judge her...

—

At the same time, Chu Cichen already rushed over with a lawyer.

He directly said to the staff in front of him, “We need to apply for her to be released on bail while pending trial!”

After seeing the name on the materials they submitted, a hint of hatred flashed in the officer’s eyes. He sneered. “Her? I’m sorry, this case is rather special and cannot be processed!”

The lawyer frowned. “We have followed all the formal procedures.”

“I’m sorry, the procedures are for the police department. We are a special department that handles cases where humanity is in a crisis. We have the highest authority when performing tasks and have the right to refuse you!”

The lawyer looked at Chu Cichen. “Mr. Chu, it is indeed the case. Their special department specializes in handling cases that pose a crisis to humanity, and they have special priority. If they refuse, we cannot follow the formal procedures.”

Chu Cichen’s face was cold, and he suddenly said, “Okay.”

After speaking, he turned and left with the lawyer.

...

Seeing this, the officer at the front desk made a “pfft” sound and muttered, “Why should someone like her be released on bail while pending trial?!”

After speaking, he lowered his head to work.

The person next to him said, “We use some special methods so this matter cannot be exposed. If not, Captain Zheng will be finished!”

“I know, don’t worry.”

As the two were talking, a black figure suddenly flashed in front of them.

Chu Cichen, who was originally about to leave, turned and quickly headed straight for the interrogation room!

The two officers at the front desk were stunned for a moment. Only then did they realize that they had been fooled. They hurriedly chased after him. “No unauthorized people are allowed into the interrogation room!”

But how could their speed compare to Chu Cichen’s?!

With his keen intuition, Chu Cichen directly located Shen Ruojing’s interrogation room!