

Trapped In Paradise

Volume 3 Chapter 24 / Chapter 529: Mother

Although Black Bean was already close to 1.5 meters (about 4'11") tall, Ning Chu still instinctively held the little cat's hand whenever they went out.

She was worried that Black Bean might suddenly get overexcited and start dashing all over the street. If she ran into a pedestrian or got hit by a car, the one who would suffer would definitely be Black Bean.

People said that cats only settled down after reaching adulthood—that their boundless energy and curiosity about everything would finally calm down.

Ning Juan and her boyfriend walked several steps ahead.

She had her arm wrapped around her boyfriend's sturdy arm, smiling as she looked up and chatted with him.

Although she was already well into her forties, whenever she was with her boyfriend, Ning Juan seemed more like a seventeen- or eighteen-year-old girl. Even her footsteps in high heels felt lighter, and a faint blush constantly lingered on her cheeks like someone experiencing her first love.

"I want to eat that."

Ning Juan suddenly stopped and looked toward a nearby cotton candy cart.

Uncle chuckled.

"Too much sugar isn't good for you."

"Pleeease~"

Whenever she was with her boyfriend, all the authority Ning Juan usually displayed in front of Ning Chu and Black Bean completely disappeared.

She would even act spoiled from time to time, her voice becoming softer and sweeter.

Despite being a woman in her forties, it didn't feel awkward at all when she acted cute.

And Uncle doted on her as though she really were a young girl.

"Alright, alright. I'll go buy some."

"Mom! I want some too!"

Black Bean shouted without the slightest awareness of the mood.

"I'll buy some for everyone."

Uncle walked over to the cotton candy cart and bought one for each of the three of them.

"When I wanted some, you always said street food was dirty..."

Ning Chu took a bite of her cotton candy and quietly complained.

"But when *you* want it, suddenly it's not a problem anymore."

There was a hint of jealousy in her voice.

Her heart was already impatiently flying back to Wen Yang's side.

"Sis~ It's good, right?"

"Mm."

Looking down at Black Bean, Ning Chu quietly asked, "What if Mom has another baby? A little brother or sister?"

Judging from Mom's healthy complexion—and the unique physique of a succubus—having one or two more children probably wouldn't be much of a problem.

"That'd be great!"

Black Bean nodded enthusiastically, not minding the idea in the slightest.

Unfortunately for them, Ning Juan overheard the conversation.

She turned around and shot the two of them a glare.

"If I have another child, I'll work myself to death. I've spent half my life raising kids already."

Ning Chu hurried a few steps forward and quietly asked, "Mom, after you two get married, where are you going to live? Is Uncle moving into our house, or are you moving into his?"

"I still have Ning Xin to look after."

"So if it weren't for Ning Xin, you'd move into Uncle's place?"

Ning Juan rolled her eyes at her daughter.

She took another bite of her cotton candy before naturally returning to her boyfriend's side, slipping her arm through his again as the two quietly laughed and chatted together.

Watching her mother reveal such a girlish side in front of Uncle, Ning Chu couldn't help smiling until her eyes curved into crescents.

For so many years, Mom had raised them all by herself.

She had always been strong and independent.

But now...

She finally had someone to belong with.

Someone she could lean on.

In her previous life, her mother's story had ended with a terminal illness.

But in this world...

Ning Chu could personally watch her mother step into a life of happiness.

She was genuinely happy for her.

Their home was located near the city center, so the Civil Affairs Bureau wasn't very far away.

The four of them walked at an unhurried pace for about half an hour before arriving at its entrance.

Her older brother, Ning Yuan, had already been waiting there for quite some time.

"Big Brother! What are you doing here?"

Ning Chu spotted him immediately and pulled Black Bean along as she hurried over.

"Mom's getting married. Of course I'd come."

Ning Yuan yawned with his hands in his pockets.

"I drove here. It'll save us from having to take a taxi to the hotel afterward."

"I don't think I'll go to the hotel..."

"Our relatives have all heard something about what happened to you. It's been years already—you still don't dare show your face?"

Ning Chu answered without the slightest hesitation, "I don't!"

"Heh. Fine. Then you can walk home by yourself later."

She clicked her tongue and stretched her neck to peek inside the Civil Affairs Bureau.

Seeing the bustling crowd inside, she muttered, "There are this many people getting married?"

"Most of them are getting divorced," Ning Juan answered leisurely as she walked over.

"When I came here to divorce that man, just waiting in line and going through all the paperwork took half the day. There was even the mandatory cooling-off period."

"What about getting married?"

"I heard it only takes about half an hour."

She was already eager to head inside.

"You all wait out here."

Ning Juan practically rushed into the Civil Affairs Bureau.

Then she turned around, glared at her boyfriend, and called out,

"Hurry up!"

Uncle clearly had the face of someone who looked intimidating, yet in front of Ning Juan he seemed almost timid and submissive. He quickly picked up his pace and hurried after her.

The rest of them were left waiting outside.

Black Bean focused on eating her snacks.

Ning Chu absentmindedly played with Black Bean's braids.

Meanwhile, Ning Yuan stood off to one side, looking half-asleep as he yawned repeatedly.

"Big Brother, why don't you register your marriage with Sister-in-law while you're at it?"

"Oh, give me a break. I can barely support myself right now. If I got married, Mom would immediately start pressuring me to have kids."

Curious, Ning Chu asked, "If you and Sister-in-law had a daughter, would she be a succubus too?"

"I think it's based on probability or something." Ning Yuan scratched his head with a troubled expression. "I seriously hope not. I'd rather she be a normal kid."

"Yeah..."

Thinking about it logically...

If she ever had a succubus daughter, and after puberty the girl started attending wild orgies every day...

Just imagining that scene made Ning Chu furious.

If she ever really had a succubus daughter, she'd definitely raise her more like Lily.

Playing with toys was far better than playing with men, attending orgies, and fooling around everywhere.

"I heard you're leaving tomorrow."

"Yeah. My train leaves around noon."

"Why the rush? Going to see Wen Yang?"

Ning Chu casually came up with an excuse, "I've arranged a few job interviews online. I need to go check them out the day after tomorrow."

"Big Sis just misses Brother Wen Yang!"

Ning Chu immediately pressed down on Black Bean's restless little head and shot her a fierce glare.

"Quit talking nonsense! I'm in a hurry because I want to make money!"

"Wen Yang hasn't been bullying you, has he?"

"As if he'd dare!"

After successfully suppressing Black Bean, Ning Chu proudly lifted her chin.

"If I tell Wen Yang to go west, he absolutely wouldn't dare go east! Bully me? No way."

Ning Yuan still looked somewhat worried.

"Why don't you just find a job around here? Why go so far away? If something happened, it'd be easier for the family to look after you."

"It's okay. Wen Yang will take good care of me. Mom doesn't have any objections."

"What do you mean she doesn't? She even called me yesterday and asked me to try talking you out of it."

"Really..."

Mom really is stubborn.

The corner of Ning Chu's mouth twitched.

When Mom had first heard she was moving away with Wen Yang for work, she'd practically been delighted and told her to hurry up and leave.

"Sis~ I'm bored~"

Having finished her snack, Black Bean grabbed Ning Chu's arm and began swinging it back and forth.

"Let's go look around!"

"They should be out pretty soon. Just wait."

Just as she finished speaking, the sound of high heels clicking echoed from inside.

Ning Chu turned toward the entrance.

Right on cue, Mom and Uncle emerged from the Civil Affairs Bureau.

Each of them held a marriage certificate in one hand while holding the other's hand with the other.

Seeing the joyful smile covering her mother's face, Ning Chu felt another pang of envy.

I'm so jealous...

When will Wen Yang finally be able to marry me...?

Then again...

Even if he isn't financially ready yet, just registering our marriage first wouldn't be so bad.

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Link for character illustration:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IxOucqi87ss3bmqfO9zI2gYiM1Gy8Hz2>