

Trapped In Paradise

Volume 3 Chapter 6 / Chapter 511: Drunk

By the time Wen Yang received the news and arrived at the little pub, it was already close to noon.

He looked helplessly at the girls sprawled across the table before turning to Zhang Shaoqing.

“What happened here?”

Yan Xinya and Qian Qian were one thing—those two would absolutely drink themselves silly whenever they got the chance—but Ning Chu had always hated alcohol.

So how had Ning Chu ended up this drunk too?

“How would I know?” Zhang Shaoqing sat nearby drinking cola, shrugging innocently. “We were supposed to go shopping together and I’d carry the bags. But I overslept by just one hour, and when I got here they were already like this.”

Wen Yang walked over behind Ning Chu. Perhaps hearing his footsteps, she didn’t even raise her head. Mumbling something incoherent, she suddenly toppled straight into his arms and wrapped herself around his waist.

“Wen Yang~”

Her burning red cheeks rubbed against his stomach, making him awkwardly try to step back, only for Ning Chu to cling tighter around his waist.

He glanced around guiltily, gently rubbing the little succubus's head as he asked,

“Why’d you suddenly start drinking?”

“It’s all Lily’s fault!”

“How is this my fault?!”

Lily, who had been slumped there half-asleep, suddenly sprang to life and lunged at Ning Chu with loud protests.

Watching the two succubi start wrestling around, Wen Yang became even more confused. He retreated a step and stood there awkwardly, unsure what to do.

Still, it was rare to see Lily this lively.

Usually, the girl always wore an icy expression. Even around friends, though she talked a little more, she still maintained her elegant and aloof demeanor. Nothing like now, rolling around with Ning Chu until both of them looked disheveled.

“How about you take Ning Chu home so she can sleep?” Zhang Shaoqing suggested. “I’ll take care of Qian Qian, I’ll notify Xinya’s boyfriend, and the others can just stay here.”

“If we leave, we leave together!”

Xi Xi grabbed tightly onto Ning Chu's arm.

"I already broke up with that guy, so what boyfriend?" Yan Xinya grumbled drunkenly.

"When did that happen?"

Zhang Shaoqing looked at her in surprise.

The moment the topic came up, the wolf girl became righteously indignant. She angrily stood up, grabbed Ning Chu's hand, and pressed it against her chest.

"He touched me like this! And then I just..."

Wen Yang panicked and quickly restrained the wolf girl before she could demonstrate the shoulder throw on Ning Chu.

"I'm not stupid~ I was just demonstrating..."

"Please drink less."

Seeing her demonstration, he silently offered his condolences to the poor guy who had been thrown. He'd met him a few times before—a skinny, scholarly-looking boy. There was no way his body could handle something like that...

For all he knew, the guy might still be lying in a hospital bed.

Laughing helplessly, Wen Yang helped pull Ning Chu's slipped shoulder strap back into place to keep the little succubus from accidentally exposing herself.

He then gathered up all the liquor bottles from the table to stop the girls from drinking themselves into trouble before finally sitting down across from Zhang Shaoqing and shaking his head.

“These girls, seriously...”

“Speaking of which, what are you planning to do about your mom?”

“How should I know?”

Zhang Shaoqing’s playful grin immediately vanished. Lighting a cigarette, he cursed irritably,

“I’ll just keep stalling for now! What else can I do? Run away from home for real?”

“Not like you haven’t done that before.”

“And then my mom freezes my bank card again, and Qian Qian and I live off the northwest wind?” He crossed his legs and shot back, “What about you? Didn’t you say you were going out of town while Ning Chu wanted to stay?”

“Ning Chu’s coming with me.”

“Must be nice~ Her parents don’t mind that you’re broke?”

Well... they *had* minded before.

Fortunately, Ning Chu’s attitude had been firm, and his future mother-in-law wasn’t overly controlling. On top of that, Wen Yang had always behaved decently and left a good impression on her.

Otherwise, he might have ended up facing the same problem as Zhang Shaoqing and Qian Qian.

“They won’t be waking up anytime soon. I’ll go get some food.”

After Zhang Shaoqing went to the bar’s back kitchen, Wen Yang stayed behind to look after the drunks.

Ning Chu took the initiative to move closer and sat beside Wen Yang. She comfortably sprawled out on the small sofa in the bar, resting her head on Wen Yang’s lap.

“Why’d you drink so much?” Wen Yang gently stroked her long hair.

She hadn’t actually drunk that much, but her alcohol tolerance was terrible. Dazed, she slowly opened her eyes and looked up at Wen Yang with unfocused pupils.

After a moment, her eyes reddened as she muttered, “We won’t be able to get together next semester anymore...”

It had to be said that her defenseless state—flushed face, unfocused eyes, and innocent expression—made people want to bully her mercilessly.

Wen Yang pinched Ning Chu’s cheek. “There’ll always be chances in the future.”

As for the upcoming internship graduation and parting ways with friends he had spent years with, he only felt a faint melancholy and sense of loss, unlike Ning Chu, who was much more emotional.

Ning Chu rolled over, pressing her face against Wen Yang's stomach as she mumbled, "By then everyone will have changed. How could we still be as happy as we are now~"

"True enough."

Zhang Shaoqing came back with two packs of peanuts, sat across from them, and glanced at Ning Chu lying on Wen Yang's lap.

"Whoa~ even drunk, you still can't stay away from men, huh?"

Ning Chu raised an arm and casually tossed her phone at him. "I'm not drunk!"

"Holy crap! You're throwing your phone around and you're still saying you're not drunk?"

Zhang Shaoqing carefully caught the phone, thoroughly startled.

"Stop teasing her."

Wen Yang stuffed the phone into his own pocket, worried that Ning Chu would cry over the shattered screen once she sobered up.

"Where's Wang Jie? Haven't seen him in class these past few days."

"After fighting with his girlfriend, he's been gaming every day. Once he starts, he plays the whole day. No way he'd remember to go to class."

The two men sighed helplessly.

Originally, they had planned to each take their own girlfriends home, but aside from Ning Chu and Qian Qian, there were still three girls with no one to pick them up. They couldn't just leave them unattended in the bar.

They didn't even dare leave for a moment, afraid Yan Xinya might start using her best friend for demonstrations again.

"So, are you going to inherit the family business or start your own company in the future?"

The television in the bar had been turned on, adding a bit of lively atmosphere to the room. Wen Yang ate peanuts while asking Zhang Shaoqing.

"Me? I'm just gonna coast through life."

"Then what about your internship certificate..."

"My family owns a company. You think getting one of those is hard?" Zhang Shaoqing said casually. "Anyone who can't find a job can come to me. It's just a matter of stamping a document."

He paused, becoming a little more serious as he turned to look at Qian Qian, resting his chin on his hand.

"Doing anything is fine, I guess? I just don't want to keep hanging around bars and KTVs with my friends every day anymore. I'm sick of it, and Qian Qian won't allow it either."

"You guys have it good~ You can do whatever you want and nobody cares. My mom controls everything, and Qian Qian nags me all day too..."

Wen Yang only smiled without replying.

At least Zhang Shaoqing would never have to worry about money.

Ning Chu's home was in the provincial capital. Even houses in remote areas cost over 20,000 yuan per square meter. A tiny apartment of only forty or fifty square meters would still cost over a million yuan.

Even if work went smoothly, it would probably take until nearly thirty years old to save enough for a down payment—and that would still leave someone buried in debt.

Fortunately, the housing market was bad right now, and prices were slowly falling.

At least there was still some hope.

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Link for character illustration:

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