

## Divine 2651

### Chapter 2651: Mission 37

“I’ll work for you now. When I save enough money, I’ll buy my own medicinal field,” Tian Liu asserted, a hint of embarrassment coloring his words. His genuine fondness for herb cultivation, nurtured over the years, now motivated him to pursue this passion. “You can pay me less; it’s not an issue.”

Gu Chaoyan chuckled, appreciating the simplicity and honesty in the young man.

Coincidentally, the Yan family possessed fifteen acres of farmland that required attention, making it an ideal fit for Tian Liu’s aspirations.

“If you’re willing, that’s wonderful! We have fifteen mu of farmland and five mu of land for you to manage. I’ll hire some villagers to assist with planting, and you can supervise them. Feel free to learn on your own when you’re free. I’m not concerned about the salary; you’ll receive one tael of silver per month here. If you perform well, you can earn additional reward money,” Gu Chaoyan explained. “Tomorrow, we’ll identify suitable helpers.”

Tian Liu happily nodded in agreement.

Auntie Lianhua, thinking the salary might be too generous, considered expressing her concerns. However, Hunter Tian restrained her, prompting her to abandon the idea.

“Then I’ll handle the carriage in the future,” Tian Qi proposed with a smile.

“No, your parents aren’t getting any younger. Aside from managing the wagon, you’ll learn about business operations in the store. When the time is right, you’ll delve into these matters to ensure your parents can enjoy their time,” Gu Chaoyan directed. “Since you’re taking on two responsibilities, I’ll pay you two taels of silver.”

While Gu Chaoyan allowed flexibility, there were aspects she deemed necessary to manage strictly. The two brothers, driven by strong morals and as Tian Jiu’s elder siblings, were willing to contribute.

Auntie Lianhua expressed her reluctance, feeling that the family was gaining too much at the Yan family's expense.

"Auntie Lianhua, if we were to hire someone for these long-term tasks in the city, the cost would be considerably higher. Additionally, I believe that Tian Liu and Tian Qi have promising futures. Wouldn't it be mutually beneficial for our families to support each other in the future? Consider it my narrow-mindedness," Gu Chaoyan responded with a smile.

Auntie Lianhua found herself momentarily unsure of how to respond, torn between accepting or rejecting the generous offers.

"You both must perform your duties diligently. No matter what the future holds, no matter the Yan family's fortunes, you must take the lead, understand?" Hunter Tian asserted with seriousness.

"Understood," the siblings replied solemnly.

Hunter Tian exchanged an embarrassed glance with Gu Chaoyan before lowering his head.

Gu Chaoyan couldn't help but smile, fully comprehending Hunter Tian's unspoken message—it aligned perfectly with her intentions.

The family members were astute, and Gu Chaoyan appreciated her interactions with the Tian family.

On the other hand, Auntie Lianhua, being more straightforward, still harbored reservations about the offered salary.

Eventually, she was convinced.

As darkness settled in, they decided to head back home.

The next day, Tian Liu would resume his work.

As they gathered at home, Gu Chaoyan addressed her siblings before bedtime, "You all know that the Yan family isn't to be easily bullied. Be confident when you're outside, but avoid arrogance.

There's always someone more skilled. Arrogance can lead to consequences like those we witnessed today, understand?"

## Chapter 2652: Mission 38

Gu Chaoyan aimed to instill in her siblings the understanding that they shouldn't fear anyone but also shouldn't bully others. Being good individuals was the key.

The younger ones nodded in agreement, indicating their comprehension, which Gu Chaoyan could discern from their reactions. Life in the Yan Family was gradually stabilizing, and she sensed that her mission was nearing its conclusion. Her only hope was for everything to continue smoothly after her departure.

After putting the kids to bed, Gu Chaoyan retired for the night.

The following morning, Tian Liu arrived early with some food, ready to begin his work. "Danqiu, I'm here to work."

The energetic and positive demeanor of the young man was evident.

However, Gu Chaoyan was still asleep, not being an early riser. Fortunately, Danxia, Dandong, and Tian Jiu were already up and about, engaged in their tasks.

Noticing Tian Liu's arrival, Danxia couldn't help but tease, "Sixth Brother Tian, you might have to wait a bit longer. Sister hasn't woken up yet."

Tian Liu felt a bit surprised and embarrassed, wondering if he had arrived too early. Concerned about being perceived as lazy, he had come early.

Gu Chaoyan soon woke up, alleviating Tian Liu's awkwardness. He greeted her with a smile.

"I don't have any specific plans for today. I'm inviting some villagers who are interested in long-term work to come here. We'll discuss their preferences and capabilities. Since you'll be overseeing things in the future, it's essential to ensure it aligns with your liking," Gu Chaoyan explained.

Tian Liu thought she was giving him too much responsibility, but he appreciated the trust.

He was on the verge of expressing himself when Gu Chaoyan abruptly turned around, causing him to swallow his words.

After breakfast, individuals started arriving one by one. The number was not significant, considering most villagers had their own fields and were occupied with personal work. Those who came tended to be from families with surplus labor, seeking additional earnings. Some might have had ulterior motives, hoping to establish connections and gain advantages by working at Third Yan's house.

Observing the candidates, Gu Chaoyan sensed that most were not genuinely interested in hard work. Consequently, she filtered out those individuals, retaining only those genuinely seeking employment.

As the queue formed, an unexpected visitor, with a scholarly demeanor, bypassed the line and approached Yan Danqiu. Gu Chaoyan glanced up and identified Jiang Caixiu.

So, this was Jiang Caixiu?

It became evident why his mother exuded such confidence. Despite his good looks, his character left much to be desired.

"Those interested in applying for the long-term job, please go to the back of the line," Gu Chaoyan declared with a serious tone.

Laughter erupted among the people in the queue. Though unsure of the reason, their spirits were lifted.

Jiang Caixiu's expression turned ugly, resembling the color of a livid pig's liver, as laughter echoed around him.

"Even a scholar shouldn't cut the line like this," remarked Tian Liu, who harbored a distaste for individuals like Jiang Caixiu. Furthermore, the audacity to behave this way in the Yan family's premises was unacceptable.

“Danqiu, I don’t like this. I won’t stay and work long-term,” declared Tian Liu straightforwardly.

“If you don’t like it, then don’t,” Gu Chaoyan responded indifferently, without lifting her head.

## Chapter 2653: Mission 39

“Who do you think you are to come to the Yan family and criticize them? What does the Yan family have to do with you?” Jiang Caixiu erupted in anger, fueled by humiliation. He resented Yan Danqiu for seemingly listening to Tian Liu, as if Jiang’s possessions were on the verge of being taken away.

In Jiang Caixiu’s view, Yan Danqiu was merely a hunter—a destitute youth with no promising future. In his eyes, someone of such low stature had no right to challenge him.

Ready to confront Jiang Caixiu if needed, Tian Liu stood up, conveying a clear message that he wouldn’t tolerate any aggression.

Scholar Jiang, aware of the presence of a more formidable figure, refrained from any physical altercation. Pointing at Tian Liu, he asserted, “I’m looking for Danqiu. It’s none of your business.”

Adding, “Also, I’m not here to apply for a permanent job. I’m here to find Danqiu. I have something to discuss.”

Jiang Caixiu continued, “Have you ever seen a scholar working as a long-term laborer?” attempting to emphasize his supposed superiority.

However, the villagers present wore expressions of disapproval. They perceived Jiang Caixiu’s attitude as demeaning, particularly since his family had engaged in farming, and his father had undertaken long-term labor in the past. Dismissing the value of such work displayed arrogance. Even if Jiang Caixiu were to become an official in the future, the villagers harbored skepticism about relying on him and anticipated the possibility of being treated with disdain.

The villagers had their own thoughts.

Some people snorted coldly.

No one retorted directly.

After all, he was a scholar. Who would dare to make enemies?

“Tian Liu, kick him out! We don’t welcome such ungrateful people.” Gu Chaoyan said with displeasure. “When his father was young, he was a long-term worker in the field, and now he is saying that long-term workers are lowly? He is insulting his father and dissatisfied with him! Don’t let such a person show up in the Yan Family!”

“...”

“Most of the people in North Village are hardworking and honest people. We only welcome these people.” Gu Chaoyan said controversially.

The people here enjoyed it very much.

Jiang Caixiu was about to be chased out when he realized what he had said.

As for his father, there was indeed such a matter.

“That’s not what I meant. I’m just unhappy with Tian Liu. I just wanted to say a few words. I didn’t mean that,” Jiang Caixiu quickly explained.

Still.

No one listened to his explanation.

The villagers were not fools.

“Danqiu, Danqiu, come here. I have something to tell you,” Jiang Caixiu said.

“Just tell me what you want.” Gu Chaoyan said straightforwardly.

“I want to talk to you alone,” Jiang Caixiu said.

He had a reason for coming here today.

He also knew what happened yesterday.

He would be moved by the county magistrate alone, but there was no need to spend so much effort.

However, Tian Liu, concerned about Gu Chaoyan’s well-being, interjected, “Danqiu.”

Tian Liu strongly disapproved of the idea of her marrying Jiang Caixiu again. He believed that someone as kind and good-hearted as Gu Chaoyan deserved better, and certainly not someone like Jiang Caixiu.

“Danqiu, you’re a good girl. Scum like him isn’t worthy of you. There are definitely better people who can take care of you in the future. It can’t be him. If it is, you’ll be ruined,” Tian Liu expressed his concerns.

Gu Chaoyan reassured Tian Liu, “I am fine.”

Addressing Jiang Caixiu, she said, “What do you want to say? Come and say it.”

#### Chapter 2654: Mission 40

Gu Chaoyan was well-acquainted with the intricacies of Jiang Caixiu’s family and their cunning maneuvers. During the previous banquet, the county magistrate’s mention of the Lord of the Capital had triggered their interest.

The personal appearance of a scholar like Jiang Caixiu indicated the significance of their family’s stature. Despite the visible damage to their reputation, Jiang Caixiu, valuing his pride, remained undeterred, showcasing the determination that brought him to confront the situation.

Given these circumstances, Gu Chaoyan deemed it necessary to clarify matters and persuade them to abandon their pursuits.

She wished for them to relinquish their objectives, freeing herself from further involvement with this family. While she had an affinity for the Yan family, her primary focus remained on completing her mission efficiently and saving time.

Upon hearing Gu Chaoyan's stance, a smile graced Jiang Caixiu's face. It seemed Danqiu's previous confrontation had not fully appeased her, and now, with her anger vented, she was ready for a more civil conversation.

Jiang Caixiu wore a smug expression, glancing at Tian Liu with satisfaction. Tian Liu, basking in Dan Qiu's attention, failed to comprehend the source of his pride. Unbeknownst to him, Jiang Caixiu harbored plans to gradually distance Dan Qiu from the Tian family, ensuring they could no longer revel in their past glory.

As Jiang Caixiu contemplated her schemes, Tian Liu's face betrayed his concern, primarily for Danqiu's well-being at the Elementary Scholar's residence, given her previous hardships.

Gu Chaoyan, cutting through the tension, took a direct approach. "What is it? Tell me," she prompted, gesturing for a private conversation as she walked to the side.

Jiang Caixiu, now adopting a sincere tone, explained, "Danqiu, I led a peaceful life studying in the academy and was unaware of the developments. I only discovered the broken engagement with your family upon returning today. As soon as I learned of it, I apologized to my family and came to apologize to you."

He made it sound like it was a serious matter.

If Gu Chaoyan was not a normal person, she would have believed it very soon.

Did he not know about the annulment?

His mother had echoed similar sentiments just the day before, and Jiang Caixiu's current words did not align with his own thoughts. It seemed that he considered himself exceptionally intelligent, believing others to be fools easily manipulated by his schemes.

Gu Chaoyan sighed, subtly shaking her head in response to Jiang Caixiu's perceived arrogance.



“Let’s not dwell on it any longer; it’s already in the past,” she calmly suggested, expressing no desire to engage in further arguments.

Disregarding Gu Chaoyan’s suggestion, Jiang Caixiu eagerly proposed, “In that case, let’s consider this matter null and void. My family will formally send the betrothal gifts, and once we are married, such issues won’t resurface.”

Gu Chaoyan, maintaining her composure, clarified, “The engagement has already been terminated. There’s no need to revisit the past. You can forge your path, and I’ll forge mine. Whether you understand the reasons or not, it’s evident that you’re unwilling to marry me. Lack of understanding simply signifies your lack of qualification.”

Expressing discontent, Jiang Caixiu retorted, “Why? Am I inferior to Tian Liu?”

Gu Chaoyan, throwing him a discerning look, simply walked away.

This action fueled Jiang Caixiu’s anger, prompting him to give chase, determined to seek clarification. How could he, an esteemed Elementary Scholar, not be considered a suitable match?

Chapter 2655: Mission 41

“There’s a troublemaker causing chaos here, and it’s senseless. Tian Liu, just kick him out. Regardless of who he is, show him the way out,” Gu Chaoyan declared with a cold tone.

Tian Liu, initially concerned, now found joy in the directive. Being tall and robust, he stepped forward to promptly usher Jiang Caixiu away, ignoring any protestations.

Unperturbed by Jiang Caixiu’s discontent, Tian Liu made sure he didn’t linger.

Once the intruder was dealt with, Tian Liu returned to report the resolution.

Given their shared origin in the North Village, distinguishing genuine residents from impostors was straightforward. The matter was swiftly settled as those who didn’t belong departed.

As discussions about schedules and compensation concluded, the Yan family fell into a brief silence.

Tian Liu, preparing to leave, sought clarification from Danqiu, “Why bother engaging with someone like Jiang Caixiu? We could have just driven him away. Otherwise, people might gossip about it in the future.”

Gu Chaoyan responded with a smile, “He’s the only Elementary Scholar in all the villages, so I opted for diplomacy before resorting to force. Granting him some dignity ensures that he won’t be the subject of future rumors. I was reasonable earlier, but he didn’t listen. Whatever happens in the future will be considered normal.”

Tian Liu, initially puzzled, eventually grasped the wisdom in Danqiu’s approach.

“Danqiu is truly clever, just like Third Uncle’s daughter. There’s a lot to learn from her,” Tian Liu thought to himself.

Satisfied with the resolution, Tian Liu departed, leaving Gu Chaoyan to prepare for her visit to the Lin Family’s medicine shop.

And at this moment...

The Jiang family.

The few members of the Jiang family were waiting for Jiang Caixiu to return.

They were quite confident.

Jiang Caixiu, being the sole Elementary Scholar in the neighboring villages, couldn’t fathom encountering resistance, especially from a girl. His accomplishments at a young age hinted at a limitless future, and he viewed himself as an outstanding match.

This sentiment extended to Yan Danqiu.

Despite the current prosperity of the Yan family, he deemed them mere businessmen, an occupation he considered lowly. Jiang Caixiu believed that by aligning himself with the prestigious Jiang family, he could potentially secure a future as the spouse of an official. How could anyone, especially a girl like Yan Danqiu, be unwilling? To him, it seemed inconceivable.

Upon returning home, Jiang Caixiu was met by his mother's anticipation. She eagerly inquired, "Caixiu, are you back? How did it go? Did you agree? If so, we can send the betrothal gifts ahead of time. No rush for the wedding. You're still young. Take your time. Yan Danqiu's background isn't favorable. If you make her a legitimate wife, it might hinder your future prospects."

His mother's advice reflected concerns about potential exploitation by the Yan family.

Jiang Caixiu's response was a firm "No."

Perplexed, Jiang Caixiu's mother intended to continue guiding him, but she was abruptly halted by the unexpected refusal. "What? He didn't agree? What could be the issue with Yan Danqiu? We willingly proposed the match because she's fortunate and suitable. Why would he decline?"

Dissatisfaction etched across her face, Jiang Caixiu's mother pressed for an explanation.

"She refused and even spoke unpleasant words. Let's forget about it. As long as I perform well in the imperial examination, my career won't face significant obstacles. Why should I dwell on this situation?" Jiang Caixiu explained, having exhausted his efforts.

His mother, contemplating his words, found a certain logic in them.

"Let's focus on the exams first."

Concerned about Yan Danqiu's prolonged presence, Jiang Caixiu's mother nodded and advised, "Return to the academy tomorrow and study diligently. The exam is approaching. Don't let this distract you."

"Alright," Jiang Caixiu sighed in relief, accepting his mother's guidance.

The following morning, Gu Chaoyan rose at dawn. Tian Qi had already arrived at the Yan Mansion, ready to escort Yan Danqiu into the city. Tian Qi, primarily responsible for driving the carriage, awaited the departure.

Accompanying Gu Chaoyan this time were Zhixia, Tian Liu, and Yan Dandong. Gu Chaoyan had made a promise to bring the youngest Dandong along on this wagon journey.

Confident in Tian Qi's assistance, Gu Chaoyan had little concern about bringing them into the city. While Danxia, being older, required less attention, Gu Chaoyan trusted Tian Qi to handle any issues that might arise with Dandong and Tian Jiu.

Yan Dandong radiated happiness as the family set out.

Upon reaching the village entrance, the carriage unexpectedly came to a halt.

Puzzled, Gu Chaoyan lifted the curtain and questioned, "Brother Tian Qi, what's happening?"

Tian Qi sighed, explaining, "The Jiang Clan has stopped us."

The Jiang family was causing an obstruction?

Gu Chaoyan, recognizing this as a personal matter with the Jiang family, understood that Tian Qi might not be able to resolve the situation.

Stepping out of the carriage, she cast a disapproving glance at Jiang Caixiu's mother and Jiang Caixiu, clearly displeased with their interference.

Jiang Caixiu's mother approached with a smile. "Danqiu, Caixiu is about to enter the city and head to the academy. Since your carriage is faster, could you send him on his way?"

Gu Chaoyan responded firmly, "You can proceed to Uncle Liu in the city. He has an ox-cart, and our wagon belongs to our family. We are not in the business of transportation, and we have no intention of encroaching on Uncle Liu's trade."

Jiang Caixiu's mother wore a slightly unpleasant expression, her motive for stopping them clear – she wanted Yan Danqiu to do her a favor. Treating Gu Chaoyan as an outsider, she asserted that their family wasn't involved in such transportation businesses.

"We're all from the same village, and the scholar is heading to the academy..." Jiang Caixiu's mother argued.

Gu Chaoyan retorted firmly, "You're asking for a free ride. There's no such rule in the village. Is your Jiang Family lacking money? Why take advantage of such a trivial matter?" Her voice resonated loudly, drawing snickers from a few onlookers.

Jiang Caixiu's mother blushed, caught off guard by Yan Danqiu's apparent refusal and seemingly unable to comprehend the situation. She struggled to articulate her defense.

Gu Chaoyan, unyielding, decided to leave without giving them any face. She instructed Tian Qi, "Let's drive the carriage. They're just taking advantage of us. We can't break the rules and create problems for Uncle Liu."

Tian Qi couldn't help but laugh and resumed driving the carriage.

The audacity of the Jiang family was apparent – quick to break off the engagement before, but now clinging to Yan Danqiu for perceived benefits.

Fortunately, Yan Danqiu proved not to be easily manipulated.

The carriage moved forward, leaving Jiang Caixiu and his companions in a sorry state, forced to seek an ox cart.

For the Yan family, it was a minor inconvenience.

Gu Chaoyan proceeded to the Lin Family's pharmacy, leaving Tian Qi with the children in the wagon. The pharmacy wasn't small, and the children, well-behaved, waited patiently. Gu Chaoyan, mindful of not inconveniencing the Lin Family, kept the children in the carriage to play on the street once everything was sorted.

The children were content, waiting obediently in the carriage.

As Gu Chaoyan arrived at the Lin Family's pharmacy...

Chapter 2657: Mission 43

The Lin Family's pharmacy staff welcomed Gu Chaoyan warmly, guiding her to the backyard where Manager Lin and the young master were present.

Polite greetings were exchanged, and the young master, mentioned by Manager Lin, commenced the examination of the medicinal supplies.

Gu Chaoyan unveiled the contents of her basket, revealing six-hundred-year-old ginsengs and aged dragon roots.

"Take a look, Young Master and Manager Lin, and let me know if you find them satisfactory," Gu Chaoyan offered.

Without uttering much, the two scrutinized the items with a serious focus. The grade and age of the ginseng and dragon root were impeccable, considered among the best in the entire country.

While they examined the goods, Gu Chaoyan candidly shared, "These are the last ones of their kind. Finding such treasures in the mountains has become increasingly difficult due to limited resources. However, we are currently cultivating new ginseng and dragon roots. Although they won't match the age of these, the quantity will be more abundant in the future."

Silence prevailed as they absorbed this information.

"At home, I'm conducting some experiments. If successful, I plan to expand the cultivation of these herbs," Gu Chaoyan continued, providing insight into her future plans.

She then introduced a new addition, saying, "This bead is a recent acquisition. It may lack the age of the old ones, but the quality is commendable, and the quantity is substantial."

Gu Chaoyan's straightforward presentation highlighted the simplicity of the ginseng and dragon root offerings.

The ginseng and dragon root had been nurtured with Gu Chaoyan's holy spring water, ensuring their efficacy surpassed that of mature counterparts.

Intent on leaving a portion for the Yan family, Gu Chaoyan considered it a potential bargaining chip for their future dealings.

Manager Lin, slightly surprised, nodded in agreement and expressed interest in trying the smaller herbs.

“These small ones can be used to make tea or soup. Give it a try,” Gu Chaoyan suggested.

Manager Lin, intrigued, was open to the novel idea of using ginseng for tea or soup, a departure from their usual methods.

“Make tea, make soup, use some at a time, don’t use too much. Daily intake is more beneficial than intense nourishment,” Gu Chaoyan advised earnestly.

Manager Lin grasped the concept and promptly decided to experiment. He instructed someone to prepare tea with the ginseng.

“Let’s try it together later,” Manager Lin proposed.

Gu Chaoyan nodded, and the trio patiently awaited the results.

The Young Master remained silent, not offering much commentary.

Manager Lin, respecting the Young Master’s demeanor, also refrained from excessive conversation.

Gu Chaoyan, equally taciturn, focused on the impending trial.

Fortunately, the tea arrived swiftly.

All three sipped the concoction.

As the Young Master drank, his facial expression shifted subtly, his eyes lighting up. He exchanged a glance with Gu Chaoyan.



“Alright, you can send these directly to the Lin Family’s pharmacy, and the price will not be low. You and Manager Lin can have a good discussion next time,” the Young Master declared.

Unbeknownst to Gu Chaoyan, the Young Master’s countenance had notably improved.

When the deal was done, Manager Lin walked Gu Chaoyan out with a smile on his face.

His decision back then was really right.

Gu Chaoyan came out of the pharmacy at 500 meters.

Then, she brought them out to play.

Manager Lin threw a meaningful look at Gu Chaoyan’s back.

Then he went back.

“Young Master, how is it?”

“It works well, even better than those old ginsengs. As long as they have ginseng to sell, the Lin Family will protect them for a day.”

## Chapter 2658: Mission 44

Earlier, when Miss Danqiu was present, the Young Master had agreed to Manager Lin’s suggestion. Manager Lin had assumed it was due to the absence of old ginseng, and the replacement with these new ones had prompted the agreement.

However, now that Manager Lin sought confirmation once more, he aimed to discern the Young Master’s genuine stance toward these ginseng.

When the Young Master expressed his approval, Manager Lin, though initially slightly surprised, found it to be entirely reasonable. Having tasted the ginseng tea himself, he acknowledged its exceptional quality, likely surpassing the comfort provided by the old ginseng.

The Young Master's commitment to safeguarding Miss Danqiu and her family became evident to Manager Lin, influencing his decisions on pricing and future interactions with the Yan family.

"Yes, Young Master," Manager Lin promptly replied.

The Young Master nodded, smiling appreciatively at Manager Lin. While Manager Lin hadn't made any significant errors or standout achievements at the Lin Family's pharmacy, his recent decisions were commendable.

Expressing gratitude, the Young Master continued, "Manager Lin, you've been handling your responsibilities at the Lin Family's pharmacy excellently. Considering your age and the family responsibilities, it must be tiring for you. With numerous grandchildren at home, the mansion we've provided might not suffice. Therefore, the Lin Family has prepared a new residence for you. You can relocate there with your family and delegate your cabinet responsibilities to others. Your main focus should be ensuring smooth communication with the Yan Family to prevent any issues. If you manage it well, your family's situation will improve."

This unexpected offer left Manager Lin surprised, but he quickly expressed his heartfelt thanks.

"Thank you, Young Master!" Manager Lin exclaimed with excitement.

"Okay," the Young Master replied before taking his leave.

Having spent considerable time in the capital, there were numerous matters that had been neglected. With everything now proceeding smoothly, it was time to return to the capital and attend to those pending issues. He promised to find time to visit in the future.

Feeling relieved, the Young Master made his way back.

Manager Lin swiftly attended to his duties.

As for Danqiu, their collaborative efforts in procuring ginseng and dragon root had proven fruitful, and the Lin Family's pharmacy had compensated them. The current situation was acceptable, but Manager Lin foresaw challenges ahead. Given the quality of his merchandise, he anticipated

potential competitors in the future. Therefore, preparing a contract for safety became imperative, along with the necessary gifts.

Meanwhile, the Yan family wandered the streets.

After purchasing rice, flour, vegetables, and meat, Gu Chaoyan treated them to toys, snacks, and even custom-made clothes. The children enjoyed the outing, and after a few hours of play, they grew tired. Gu Chaoyan then took them to a restaurant for dinner.

Tian Qi, Danxia, and Dandong hadn't experienced dining in the city's restaurants before, and Gu Chaoyan, generous as always, was eager to share the experience with them.

However...

She would not indulge them either.

She would pamper her where she should be pampered, but when it came to serious matters.

Chapter 2659: Mission 45

Gu Chaoyan maintained a strict demeanor as she addressed the children.

"As for us, we'll handle our responsibilities and make necessary purchases. However, once we return home, each of you must focus on your individual tasks. Tian Jiu, be prepared to study diligently and excel in your exams. Danxia and Dandong, as girls, formal studies may not be your focus, but you can learn to read and write from Tian Jiu. This way, you can delve into books and broaden your knowledge. Additionally, manage your individual tasks at home, understood?" Gu Chaoyan questioned.

The three children nodded, displaying obedience and seemingly internalizing Gu Chaoyan's instructions.

Considering they were just children, Gu Chaoyan felt she could guide them as she saw fit.

However, the situation was different with Tian Qi, a member of the Tian Family and older than her. Gu Chaoyan refrained from using the same authoritative tone with him, but she wished him well.

“Brother Tian Qi, good luck!” she expressed.

“Okay,” Tian Qi responded with a genuine smile.

Soon, the restaurant’s dishes were served, featuring a lavish spread of fish and meat. Such a feast was a rarity for the North Village residents.

Despite their limited exposure to such meals, the children maintained proper manners. They sat obediently, eating slowly without any squabbles or snatching.

Observing their well-behaved behavior, Gu Chaoyan found herself in a good mood. She believed that these children had promising futures, ones that could flourish if guided in the right direction. To her, the efforts she put into their education felt worthwhile.

After lunch...

Tian Qi wanted to bring back the unfinished food. His parents had never eaten such good food, so he could try it.

Just as Tian Qi was conflicted about how to say it,

Gu Chaoyan had already asked the waiter to prepare two more servings, one for Ms. Wang at home and one for the Tian Family.

Tian Qi’s initial dilemma had completely dissipated, replaced by a touched smile on his face.

Sister Danqiu had been consistently exceptional in taking care of their family. Her care manifested in subtle details—no explicit explanations or emphasis, just a comfortable and touching presence.

Regardless of his future endeavors, Tian Qi silently pledged to do something for the Yan family.

However, he maintained a stoic expression, concealing his emotions.

As the restaurant preparations concluded, Gu Chaoyan gathered their belongings, readying them for the journey home. The sun was on the brink of setting, and they aimed to return before darkness fell, avoiding potential dangers during nighttime travel.

They arrived home before nightfall.

Gu Chaoyan allocated a portion of the Tian Family's share to Tian Qi before taking her leave.

Ms. Wang awaited their return, overjoyed upon seeing them.

"I'm glad you're back."

"Now that you're back, and everything is going well, Mother, have some food first. I have something important to tell you," Gu Chaoyan said with a smile.

With everything now on the right track, some plans needed to be made for the future. Gu Chaoyan ensured that once she left, the Yan family would continue to function smoothly.

Ms. Wang, eager to share her thoughts, decided to express herself first. Despite her daughter having already prepared a meal, Ms. Wang began eating.

Gu Chaoyan, meanwhile, engaged with the children.

After about 15 minutes, Ms. Wang finished her meal, prompting Gu Chaoyan to gather everyone for a discussion.

Chapter 2660: Mission 46

Gu Chaoyan treated every member of the Yan Family equally, be it the youngest Dandong or the oldest Ms. Wang. They engaged in open discussions and collectively made decisions.

The Yan family operated on a unique principle – if one couldn't shoulder a burden alone, everyone would unite and become the pillars of support. This collective effort aimed to enhance their lives.

"I still have two old ginsengs and the dragon root. I'll retain them for now, keeping them as a trump card. In case of unforeseen incidents, they can be useful."

"..."

"Additionally, what's our next step? We planted a small amount of ginseng, and the Lin Family's medicine shop is pleased with it. If they desire more, we should expand our planting scale. Our five acres of farmland near home is planned to be extended with another five acres nearby. We'll build a protective wall and cultivate within it."

"..."

"The same applies to the small ginsengs. Send batches to the Lin Family's medicine shop, but ensure not to deplete the stock. Reserve some in each batch, drying them in the sun for future use."

"..."

"Our collaboration with the Lin Family's pharmacy is stable. Unless any issues arise, maintain the current arrangement."

"..."

"When we amass enough funds, we'll venture into the city and purchase shops. If Danxia and Dandong are interested in business, we'll dive into it. If not, we can lease the shops for additional income."

"..."

"There's nothing else; just remember these guidelines," Gu Chaoyan concluded with a serious tone.

Ms. Wang and the others pondered the discussed plans carefully. In contrast, Dandong voiced his confusion, questioning, “Sister, why did you provide such detailed arrangements? Are you leaving us? Otherwise, why plan something so distant?”

Dandong sensed that his sister might not return for a long time.

Everyone sensed an underlying issue.

In the past, Ms. Wang might not have given much thought to it, assuming it was related to Danqiu’s marriage. However, given the current circumstances, with Danqiu’s marriage already settled, why was she making such far-reaching plans?

“Danqiu, do you already have someone special in your life?” Ms. Wang inquired.

Gu Chaoyan found it amusing but was unsure how to respond. “No, I just want to clarify things for you. Who knows what tomorrow holds? There’s nothing wrong with planning ahead,” she explained.

Ms. Wang appeared puzzled, uncertain of what Gu Chaoyan intended to convey.

The conversation lapsed into silence, with no one pressing further.

The next day...

Manager Lin arrived early in the morning, wearing a cheerful smile and carrying various items.

This was precisely what Gu Chaoyan expected.

Although they desired the ginseng, the young master hadn’t offered a price, instructing Manager Lin to negotiate it with them. This suggested that the Lin Family’s pharmacy highly valued the ginseng, prompting them to initiate discussions.

Gu Chaoyan prepared tea she had bought the previous day, a relatively high-quality option for North Village standards. It was sufficient for their needs.

“I brought you some meat and other food for your regular consumption. Additionally, I believe you can use the fabric the young master brought from the capital. I brought that along too.”

“...”

“Also....”