Farming in the Mountains: Max Level Jiaojiao Is Three Years Old –

Chapter 101: We're Not Forcing You

When everyone heard this, they began to chatter again.

Many people felt that if they could get good oil from this, they would definitely make a lot more money than before. However, some people felt that Xue Yan's family would not be so kind as to exploit them for nothing, so they asked, "Xua Yan, what will you get from this if you take our pressed oil?"

Before Xua Yan could answer, Chief Lu said in a bad mood, "Who are you in their family? They will work hard to get oil for you, but it also costs firewood to fry the oil. They don't need people to chop the firewood, but it also takes time. Don't always think about this. What's the use of thinking about this? We're all farmers. What you should be thinking is, if the town's people can benefit from this. Do you still want to be bullied by them??"

"No more! No more bullying!!" Everyone was shouting.

Even Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu were shouting.

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan looked at each other.

"Of you really want to care about the final remains pressed oil," Chief Lu continued, "Then there's another way, which was also suggested by Xua Yan himself. His family will help you extract the oil. The oil is yours, and the final remains of the fried oil will be yours, but you have to pay the processing money, which is about one coin for every three bags of rapeseed. Anyway, I've already said what I want to say, and Xua Yan is also here. He hasn't gotten any good oil yet, so you can do as you see fit. No one will force you, no need to get rowdy."

"Yeah, why are you so angry?" An elderly man laughed. "Xua Yan wants to make some money, and we want to make more money too, don't we? We'll just choose the one that can make more money. It's okay if you're unwilling. Just like what the village chief said, no one is forcing us."

When these words came out, everyone was a little undecided.

Chief Lu's prestige in the village was quite high, and many people completely regarded him as the backbone of the village. Someone immediately asked, "Then, chief, are you going to sell the seeds to the town or to Xua Yan?"

"I'll be honest with you," said Chief Lu with a smile. "I've told Xua Yan just now that the good oil hasn't been squeezed out yet, and it's too unconvincing. It's not easy for my family to work hard to grow things, and I don't want to take the risk. I'll make a deal with him. I'll let go of my family's seeds this year, and I'll sell them to the town. If the good oil is really squeezed out, next year's vegetable seeds, as well as the sesame and peanuts from the second half of this year, will all be sent to his oil mill to be extracted."

When everyone heard this, they all felt that this was the safest way. They all said, "Then, Xua Yan, we're in the same situation as the village chief. Don't blame us, we can't afford to take the risk."

"Why would I blame you? It's fine, it's fine." Xua Yan said with a smile. When the village chief told him about it, he knew that everyone would be like this.

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan already knew this would be the result when Xua Yan arrived, and it would be a waste of their breath to say anything more, so they didn't say anything to the villagers.

However, they still had to say it to Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu.

Jiang Yue tugged at Dafu Xue and Erfu's clothes until they bent down to listen to her. Then, she said, "If you can really extract it out, don't sell the vegetable seeds at home. These are all painstakingly grown by you."

"This... "Xue Dafu didn't believe it. However, when he thought about how Jiang Yue had refused to sell the blind bear and ended up being sold for a high price of 100 silver, he hesitated and didn't know what to do.

Chapter 102: Rather Smart

"Jiang Yue, I know you're young and very smart, but this is not a joke. If we don't sell them today, we will offend the oil mill people in town. Not to mention in the future, if his oil mill can't produce good oil, we'll really have to leave these seeds at home to rot. The oil mill people in town won't want them anymore. Are you sure you can extract it out?"

"Yes." Jiang Yue nodded.

Xue Erfu wanted to believe him. Xue Dafu was still hesitating. He wanted to believe it, but he didn't dare to. He was afraid of the consequences.

"Father, you should trust Jiang Yue," Xue Yan said.

"That's right," Xue Erfu chimed in. "Xue Yan never talks nonsense. Jiang Yue has been here for some time. Others might not know, but we know. She's not someone who talks nonsense either. Since Xue Yan and Jiang Yue have said so, we can definitely earn from this."

This was a calming pill that caused Xue Dafu's heart to immediately settled, and he nodded heavily. "Fine, I won't sell it. Let's go to your uncle's house!"

"Wait a moment. I'll go and inform Qingshu and the others first." Xue Erfu said. Qingshu and the others were very close to him. As long as he said something, they would definitely believe him. However, others couldn't do that. Therefore, he didn't want to waste his breath on others.

Jiang Yue and Xue Xiao looked at each other, both feeling that their second brother was really kind to Qingshu and his friends.

Qingshu and the others weren't far away, each with a few bags of their family's rapeseed. Xue Erfu had said that they could really extract them. Xue Erfu had never lied to them, and he was like their gang leader. They immediately believed him without a care, and no matter how their parents scolded them, they all picked the seeds and sent them with Xue Erfu and Xue Dafu to Xua Yan's house.

Xua Yan was very surprised and hurried over to go back with them.

"AreQingshu and the others crazy?!" Everyone's eyes widened.

In their eyes, Xue Dafu was Xua Yan's third uncle, and Xue Erfu was Xua Yan's cousin. They were both too embarrassed to sell the seeds to others, so they sent them to Xua Yan's family. However, Qingshu and the other men did the same, which was equivalent to more than ten families doing the same. Naturally, they were surprised.

They couldn't understand their actions.

From afar, Xue Dagui saw his third brother taking the seeds to his eldest brother's house, so he quickly took the bag of seeds from his house too.

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It was impossible for both of them to be muddleheaded together. So he believed that the oil could be extracted. He was usually lazy, so he only got a load of vegetable seeds this year.

"Fine, another crazy one." Someone saw that Xue Dagui had also followed and immediately called out.

Zhang Meili saw her doing this and immediately became anxious. She quickly stopped him "What are you doing? You're as st*pid as a pig to follow them!" Xue Dagui didn't even bother to explain and just walked around Zhang Meili.

Jiang Yue, who was following behind Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu, turned around when she heard someone calling her. When she saw Xue Dagui grinning cheekily while carrying a load of seeds, she gestured for Xue Yan to take a look as well.

Xue Yan looked at it and sighed in his heart. He then said indifferently, "He's actually quite smart."

Jiang Yue thought so too.

However, she didn't expect that such a muddleheaded person would have such a bright mind.

"Qingshu, you've also sent him here?!" When they saw that Qingshu and the others had also delivered the seeds, Xue Darong and the others were also very surprised.

"Erfu called, and we came," Qing Shu and the others laughed.

"Thank you, thank you." Xue Darong expressed his thanks. "I'll definitely extract the oil well for you."

Once Qingshu and the others left, Xue Dagui immediately pounced over with a sullen face. "Hehe, hello." He then turned to Xue Dafu and smiled.

Xue Dafu couldn't even be bothered to look at Xue Dagui, clearly still angry.

"You're here too?" Xue Darong was surprised.

"Do you think I'm that dense?" Xue Dagui was even drooling. "He already sent the seeds over, so they can definitely be extracted out. Why would I sell them in town?"

"You're smart, but for the wrong reasons." Xue Darong was not in a good mood. "Alright, send it in. As long as you're no longer a cheater, he won't really cut off all contact with you."

"I know, I know," Xue Dagui chuckled again.

After Xue Dagui put the seeds in, he went to Xue Da's room to chat with him. Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu didn't leave either. Instead, they helped to clean up the oil mill so that they could get oil earlier.

Naturally, Jiang Yue and Xue Yan were also helping with the cleaning.

By the time they were done cleaning, it was already noon. Xua Yan's family insisted on having them stay for lunch. Seeing that it was just a simple meal without any special preparations and that they were not outsiders, they said yes.

Before they could finish their lunch, Chief Lu came. He sighed and said that the town's oil mill had already taken away the seeds in the village at four coins per bag. However, there were 20 families selling vegetables less than last year. The town's oil mill could tell with one look at their booklet and said that they would no longer take seeds from these 20 families in the future. In any case, they were very arrogant.

"If you don't want it, then leave!" Xua Yan said immediately. "When our family can extract good oil, it will be difficult for them to get seeds from our village!"

Chief Lu laughed. "I'm actually hoping that your family can really squeeze some money out of us so that we can at least earn more. There's only one oil mill in town, and they're getting more and more outrageous with the price. If it weren't for the fact that everyone almost fought with them just now, they were planning to push it down to three coins per bag. What can that do? It'll be just enough for us to pay taxes, so we might as well not plant it."

"Chief, don't worry. We'll definitely be able to extract out some good oil this time." Xua Yan was also very confident.

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan both wanted to laugh. Sometimes, they really didn't know where their Xua Yan's confidence came from. It was as if as long as he wanted to do something, he would not doubt it at all and would immediately be full of confidence.

After lunch, he was ready to extract the oil.

Jiang Yue had taught them how to extract some oil, so they didn't need Xue Yan, Xue Dafu, and Xue Erfu's help.

Xue Yan went back to look at the blueprint.

In the oil mill, Jiang Yue opened the half bag of seeds when Xua Yan carried it to the pot. She said while looking at it, "There can't be moldy seeds. It will affect the quality and make the oil have a strange smell."

"Alright, alright, alright. I know, I know." Xua Yan nodded. At this time, he was especially humble and remembered everything she said in his heart.

Xue Darong and the others were also nodding their heads, their ears perked up. They were afraid that if they missed a word, it would backfire for them again.

"Pour it in," Jiang Yue said.

Only then did Xua Yan pour the half bag of rapeseed into the big frying pan and stir-fry it slowly on fire.

"Please be careful with the fire. It must be gentle," Jiang Yue said.

Chapter 104: Oil! That's Oil!

"Yes, yes, yes." The first aunt, who was sitting at the entrance of the stove, nodded her head hurriedly. Her eyes were fixed on the flame in the stove, almost obsessed with it.

It was not until the rapeseed was fried to the point that it emitted a fragrant aroma that Jiang Yue hurriedly took the seeds out of the pot and placed them in the millstone that was buried in the ground.

Xua Yan and Xue Darong were pushing the mill. Even though it was tough, the two of them only felt happy.

The smile on his face couldn't stop.

Qian Caiyu and the others were the same.

From time to time, Da Xue would stagger along with Xue Dabao and Xue Xiaobao to take a look. He was also very happy.

He waited until the seeds were ground into fine granules that could be sifted before putting them into the steamer to steam. After it was done, he quickly poured them into the rice straw bags that were fixed with bamboo strips and pressed them into the shape of a cake.

Jiang Yue had already told them that when extracting the oil, they had to pour it out quickly and wrap it up quickly. Xue Darong and Xua Yan had all remembered this, so she didn't need to tell them what to pay attention to during this step.

The sky had also turned dark. Everyone was so busy that they didn't even have time to eat.

The meal was prepared by his big sister-in-law. Xue Da, Xue Dabao, and Xue Xiaobao had eaten, and his big sister-in-law had also eaten. His big aunt had also gone to eat when she was free, but Jiang Yue couldn't leave at all. She had to keep an eye on the whole process, in case the oil she squeezed out would change in quality if she made any mistakes.

Xue Darong and Xua Yan were also too busy to leave, so they didn't eat either.

Xue Yan came again, he walked to Jiang Yue and asked in a low voice, "Mother asked me to come and ask you, when will you be back for dinner?"

Before Jiang Yue could answer, Qian Caiyu immediately said, "No matter what, you should have dinner at our house. She's already prepared dinner. It was too busy here, and Jiang Yue was afraid that something would go wrong, so she personally watched over it. Otherwise, she would have gone home already."

"Yes, yes." Even though Xue Darong was busy wrapping the oil into a pancake and couldn't afford to be distracted, he still subconsciously agreed.

Xua Yan and his wife also agreed, fearing that Jiang Yue might have gone home for dinner after a busy day.

"Go back and tell her that I still need about four hours before I can go back. I won't be going back for dinner and will be eating at uncle's place." Jiang Yue tXue Da Yan.

"That's right. This is more like it." Xue Darong, Qian Caiyu, and the others laughed.

"Okay." Xue Yan nodded and went back.

"Jiang Yue, are you hungry?"

"I'm not hungry yet. I'll eat later. There's no rush," Jiang Yue said with a smile.

"Alright, alright, alright." Qian Caiyu was also afraid that there was something wrong with the oil, just like last year. However, her heart ached for Jiang Yue, who was still young. She couldn't help but ask, "Are you tired?"

Jiang Yue shook her head. "I'm not tired."

"Alright, alright," Qian Caiyu said. Even though she said that her heart still ached. After all, she was still so young and so sensible.

After the oil was wrapped into cakes, they were then put into the press.

After using the baffle to hold it up, he could use the big hammer to hit the wooden wedge and push the baffle to squeeze the seeds.

With two hammers, his eldest uncle hit it once, and Xua Yan hit right after. One after another, they kept going at this pace.

After a while, the oil flowed out and into the hole.

"Oil is coming out! It's oily!" The moment the first aunt shouted, even Xua Da rushed in to take a look.

"That's much oil!" The first sister-in-law also shouted. It was much more oily than when they squeezed it themselves last year.

"Father!" Xua Yan immediately looked at his father in excitement.

Xue Darong was also extremely excited. He said, "Jiang Yue is right, Jiang Yue is right."

Jiang Yue squatted down and sniffed.

Xue Darong and the others immediately tensed up.

"Qhat?" Jiang Yue looked at them and asked, "Did you guys already smell the strange smell?"

Xua Yan continued to swing the hammer and said, "Yes, I smelled a strange smell here, but it wasn't strong. Then, after a few days, when I wanted to sell it in town, the smell became strong, especially the sour smell. I didn't seem to smell the sour smell at first."

Jiang Yue nodded. "There's no strange smell now, but you smelled it back then. It must have been because there were moldy seeds mixed in the vegetable seeds. That's why it smelled like this. After that, the smell became stronger and stronger. It was the wrong way to preserve this oil. I've already told you how to preserve it, so you just have to follow the instructions."

"Now... Is there really, really no strange smell?" Xue Darong's lips trembled, and his hands stopped moving. His mind was filled with this.

Xua Yan also stopped.

"You can't stop hammering!" Jiang Yue said. "You have to squeeze the oil out while it's still hot. If it's cold, the oil won't come out easily."

"Okay, okay." Xue Darong and Xua Yan were so flustered that they didn't dare to be distracted. They hit the wedge with their hammers again and again, and then pushed the board to continue squeezing the fried dough cake.

"If you don't believe me, you can leather smell it," Jiang Yue replied.

Qian Caiyu wanted to smell it, but she was afraid. In the end, she gathered her courage, bent down, and sniffed the oil barrel at a close distance. Then, she patted her thigh with both hands and said, "There's really no strange smell!"

"That's great!" Everyone was overjoyed.

Xue Darong and Xua Yan, in particular, were even more energetic when they swung their hammers. They were full of energy.

No matter how the hammer hammered the wedge, not a single drop of oil could flow out of the press tool. Only then did he take out the dry oil from the press tool, crush it again, and press it for the second time.

After crushing it, he put it in the pot and steamed it. This job was left to the first aunt.

Jiang Yue, Xue Darong, and Xua Yan finally had their meal.

Qian Caiyu brought Jiang Yue a big bowl of boiled lotus-wrapped eggs, each of which was round and smooth. "Jiang Yue, you've worked hard, you must be hungry, quick, eat the eggs."

Xue Darong and the others, on the other hand, were not. Xue Dabao and Xue Xiaobao were still staring at the eggs in her bowl, almost drooling.

"Aunt, I can't eat that much." Jiang Yue used a spoon and gave two eggs to Xue Darong, two to Xua Yan, and two to Xue Dabao and Xue Xiaobao.

She only had two left.

"You..." Qian Caiyu's heart ached even more when she saw this.

Xue Da, who had already eaten, leaned on his walking stick and nodded as he watched. His heart ached, but he was also happy. "Our Jiang Yue is sensible. Eat, enjoy your meal."

"Let's eat some more, huh?" Qian Caiyu was afraid that she wouldn't be full.

"Thank you, but just a little bit of food will do. I don't need much." Jiang Yue said.

"I know," Qian Caiyu went to work and brought some rice to Jiang Yue.

"Jiang Yue, you're so nice." Xue Xiaobao couldn't help but say as he ate the fragrant lotus-wrapped egg.

Xua Yan laughed. "You're not embarrassed at all. You're older than Jiang Yue. You're five years old, don't you know that?"

"But Jiang Yue is nice." Xue Xiaobao said.

"Yes, yes, yes." Xua Yan had put in too much effort today and was starving. He buried his head in his food and said, "Jiang Yue is nice, you must be good to her in the future, understand? Didn't Jiang Yue give you guys candied fruits last time?"

Chapter 106: Thanks to Jiang Yue

"Yes, father, don't worry. We will treat Jiang Yue well." Xue Dabao and Xue Xiaobao said in a serious tone. "We will be good to you too. If you have any tasty sweets, please share them with us."

"That's what a good child should do." Qian Caiyu said with a smile as she laughed.

Xue Darong and his big sister-in-law were all smiles.

Jiang Yue ate her meal in silence. She didn't know what to say to Xue Dabao and Xue Xiaobao. She wasn't good at getting along with children.

After the meal, the double-pressed oil was ready. Xue Darong and the others quickly wrapped the oil into pancakes this time.

Xue Yan came again. Not only did Xue Yan come, Xue Dafu and the others also came.

Seeing that Xue Da was still awake, Xue Dafu quickly strode over and asked with concern, "Father, it's so late, why are you still awake? Come, let's go back."

"That's right, father. Go and rest." Liu Guixia also said.

"I'm happy, ecstatic even." Xue Da chuckled. "I'm happy just by watching them extract oil. Let me watch for a while longer. It's rare to have such a happy moment."

"Father, you're so happy. Is the oil that you've squeezed out not strange anymore?" Xue Dafu chuckled.

"No, no more." Xue Da kept talking and was even happier. "The amount of oil we used is also more than last year. It's really all thanks to Jiang Yue."

Xue Yifu and the others were all curious about the oil and went to take a look at the oil that had already been extracted. Only Xue Yan did not go. Instead, he walked over to Jiang Yue and stood beside her silently.

Jiang Yue glanced at him.

"There's really no strange smell," Xue Erfu shouted excitedly at his father, Xue Dafu. "If we can squeeze out those more from these seeds, we'll definitely make a lot of money!"

"Those people in the village who sold the vegetable seeds will definitely regret it so much tomorrow," Yu Hongyan laughed.

As soon as he said that, everyone laughed.

They were all very happy.

"It's all thanks to Jiang Yue!" The first aunt was so happy that she couldn't close her mouth.

Li Hehua didn't say anything. She just patted her head with a motherly glow. Her eyes were also filled with this kind of radiance. Jiang Yue had a long day and worked really hard.

Jiang Yue was silent for a moment, but she still hugged Li Hehua's leg back. It was an act of intimacy. She liked li Hehua. Li Hehua was also good to her.

Regardless of whether Li Hehua had children or not, she was always willing to take care of Jiang Yue. She was like a mother to her. She didn't have this concept before, but after coming here and having Li Hehua, she actually felt that it felt good to have a motherly figure.

And this time, Li Hehua was overjoyed.

"Jiang Yue... "Li He Hua was so happy that she didn't know what to say. Her eyes were shining as she stared at her and called her name.

Xue Yan looked at this scene and couldn't help but smile. Jiang Yue was becoming more and more like a part of this family.

The second extraction was the same as the first. Xue Darong and the others didn't need Jiang Yue's guidance at all, and they squeezed out oil again.

It was late at night, and Xue Dafu and the others had already left. Xue Da had gone to bed as well. Only Xue Yan was still here with Jiang Yue. He was told to bring Jiang Yue back with him.

The oil had been squeezed out, so it had to be filtered.

The gauze was filtered several times.

Even so, there were still some impurities that even the gauze could not filter out.

Chapter 107: Flint

Seeing that Xue Darong and the others still wanted to filter more, Jiang Yue said, "Forget it, these can't be filtered. Let's leave it for a night. The fine impurities that can't be filtered will settle down. When the time comes, we don't need the settling. We just need the get bright oil below."

"Alright, alright, alright." Xue Darong and the others all nodded. "It's too late. You guys should go back. We know where to store the oil now, don't worry.

"Alright, I'll come back tomorrow morning to take a look." Jiang Yue said.

"Sure, sure, sure. Jiang Yue, you've really worked hard today." Xue Darong and the others were especially grateful.

Jiang Yue replied, "It's not hard on me. I didn't do anything. You guys were the ones who did it. You're the ones who worked hard. I'll be leaving now."

"Send Xue Yan and Jiang Yue off. They're just kids. It's already so late," Xue Darong said to Xua Yan.

Xue Yan smiled, "It's okay, it's not a long way back. We can go on our own."

"Can you guys really do it?" Xue Darong was still worried.

"Sure. The moon is still out today, so we can still see the road. We'll be going then." With that, Xue Yan held Jiang Yue's hand and walked out.

The two children went home under the moonlight.

They had been busy until now, and their family had been working hard to earn money.

The moonlight shone, and it was still faintly visible.

When they got home, everyone was asleep. It was dark. The two of them were not in a hurry to go to their respective rooms. Instead, they lit an oil lamp under the canopy and by the stove to boil water to wash up.

At this time, the hot water in the hanging can and pot had already cooled down and had to be reheated.

Xue Yan was sitting at the entrance of the stove, bending over and burying his head to do something. He kept hitting the firewood with flint, but no firewood was ignited after a long time.

He had never used this thing in his previous life. When he was young, his family did not allow him to make a fire. Later, when he was studying in town, he became the top scholar, entered the academy, and became an official. He used a fire piston, which was much more convenient than this. He only needed to open it and blow it out.

After waiting for a long time, Jiang Yue couldn't help but pat Xue Yan's back.

Xue Yan understood that he was being told to move aside...

After a moment of silence, he went to the side and gave up his seat.

Jiang Yue sat in the seat that he had given up and hit the flint with it. With a sizzling sound, the spark landed on the firewood, and the firewood started burning.

Xue Yan kept silent...

Jiang Yue used a fire stick to stuff the burning firewood into the chamber of the stove, then added some more firewood to make the fire burn bigger. She asked, "Don't you have a fire starter at home?"

"That's something that only those with some family background can afford," Xue Yan said.

Jiang Yue nodded. Although the production of a fire piston was simple, how could the poor people bear to make these things and light them up every day?

"Let's make a fire starter after we sell the moonbelly fungus." Jiang Yue said.

Xue Yan looked at her small face for a long time, and then softly replied, "Okay."

Jiang Yue stopped boiling the water after it was heated up.

Xue Yan opened the lid of the pot and scooped the hot water into the bucket with a ladle.

Jiang Yue carried the hot water in one hand and the cold water in the other with ease and brought them to her room. But after a while, she came out again and asked Xue Yan, "Do you need me to help you carry your water?"

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Chapter 108: Huge Loss!

"...No, I can carry it." It was just that he couldn't carry it all at once as she did.

Suddenly, there was a sound from the room, and soon, Li Hehua came out of the room.

"Are you back?"

Li Hehua's voice wasn't loud, probably because she was afraid of waking up the people sleeping at home.

"Yes." Xue Yan and Jiang Yue also responded in a low voice.

"Look at me, I was planning to wait for you, but I fell asleep." Li Hehua quickly walked over. "It's late. You're boiling water, right? Come, come, I'll do it. I'll do it."

"It's done," said Xue Yan.

"He also helped me bring the water to my room." Jiang Yue added.

Xue Yan's expression was a bit complicated.

Li Hehua didn't notice it either. "I see. That's good, that's good. You guys should go to bed. Don't worry about this place. I'll clean it up."

"Alright," he said. Jiang Yue and Xue Yan both agreed.

. . .

The next day, when Jiang Yue and Xue Yan went to her eldest uncle's house again, there were many people surrounding the door, all looking at the good oil that her eldest uncle's family had squeezed out.

"You really extracted it out?"

"Why didn't you do it out earlier? We've already sold all the seeds!"

"Ah, ah, we've suffered a huge loss!"

"Qingshu, Qingshu, you were right yesterday. This is great, this is great. If it wasn't for you, I would have sold these seeds yesterday and made a loss."

Some people were overjoyed, some were regretful, and some were frustrated. Anyway, the scene was extremely lively.

Only Chief Lu was filled with regret and joy. "We shouldn't have sold it yesterday, but that's great. We don't have to be afraid of the town's oil mill anymore. Xua Yan, you're a kind man. I won't stop you from making money. You can't be as black-hearted as the town's oil mill."

Xua Yan laughed. "Don't worry. We're from the same village. I won't do that."

Xue Darong chuckled. "Don't worry, chief. If he dares to be so evil, I'll break his legs."

As soon as he finished speaking, he noticed Jiang Yue and Xue Yan standing outside the crowd. Xue Darong quickly walked over and said, "Jiang Yue, you're just in time. Go in and take a look. It's been quiet for a night, and there's really a thin layer of sediment. We only took the oil and didn't take the sediment. Now the oil is clear, and I can't see any impurities."

"Alright," she said. Jiang Yue followed Xue Darong in.

Xue Yan followed him.

Chief Lu watched them enter and smiled. "Great, great. I didn't expect Jiang Yue to have such a good brain. It's all thanks to her this time."

"Isn't that so?" A woman echoed. "It's not like we didn't see how badly Xua Yan squeezed the oil last year. It's all thanks to Jiang Yue that the oil mill can open again."

The others also said the same.

"Alright, alright, let's go, let's go. You're all in luck from now on. If you need any oil, just send it here. It's more profitable than selling it to the oil mill in town."

"Yes, yes."

Everyone dispersed just like that.

The place was quiet again.

Xue Darong brought Jiang Yue and Xue Yan to the room next to his. "This room is under the shade of trees. Even if it's summer, it's still cooler than other rooms. There are windows and ventilation. The sun won't be able to shine in. I plan to use this room to store oil. I put a dozen jars of oil I extracted yesterday here. I just showed it to the village chief and the others, but I quickly put it back here."

Chapter 109: Selling Oil

Jiang Yue looked around the room and nodded when she saw that it was indeed suitable for storing oil.

"Jiang Yue, quickly take a look." Xua Yan couldn't wait any longer, and he quickly opened the can that contained more than ten pounds of oil.

Jiang Yue took a closer look. There were no impurities to be seen with the naked eye, and there was no strange smell. It was quite good.

"That's good enough," Jiang Yue said. "You must do the same thing in the future."

"I know, I know," Xue Darong and the others nodded.

"Jiang Yue," the first aunt said with a kind face, "Didn't your family give us more than 300 catties of vegetable seeds? We plan to extract them for your family first."

"Thank you."

"What are you thanking me for? We should thank you!"

When Xue Yan's family's oil mill started to extract the oil again, he was really helping Jiang Yue's family extract oil first.

Naturally, Xua Yan couldn't handle it alone, so he called his two younger brothers to help.

His two younger brothers were Xue Wu and Xue Quan. The two of them also regretted it because they had sold the vegetable seeds yesterday. However, it was useless to regret it. It was their fault for not listening to their elder brother at that time. They were also afraid that they would not be able to extract the good oil.

After two days of hard work, Jiang Yue's family reaped what they sowed.

Xue Dafu had already told his brother, Xue Darong, that if he gave the crumbs to the oil mill, he wouldn't have to pay the workers for the oil. All he had to do was take the oil. However, since Jiang Yue was the one who started the oil mill, Xue Darong and Xua Yan insisted on giving the crumbs to Xue Dafu.

He even secretly told Xue Dafu that the crumbs could fertilize the fields and could be sold to fish farmers for two coins per kilogram.

Even so, Xue Dafu didn't want the crumbs.

Xue Dafu was a little foolish at times, but he had a good heart. Everyone in the village had to admit that, so they wouldn't let his elder brother's family work for nothing. He knew how hard it was to extract oil, and he had seen how hard it was for his elder brother's family. In the end, Xue Darong and Xua Yan couldn't persuade him, and he only took the oil.

The barrels of oil had to be bought. A hundred catties of oil were carried in two large barrels. When Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu brought the oil home, they naturally didn't forget to give their big brother thirty coins as barrel money.

It was also the day they moved home that Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu borrowed an ox cart to go to town and sell the oil.

After deducting the taxes, the money to buy the oil barrels, and the money to borrow the ox cart, the family finally earned 1120 coins, which was more than one silver.

In the past, they had only earned 400 coins. Now, they had earned more than one silver. It was more than double the amount. Xue Dafu and the others were very satisfied and happy.

"Guixia, quickly put it away, put it away." Xue Dafu gave the money to Liu Guixia.

"Okay." Liu Guixia smiled and agreed.

Jiang Yue looked at how happy Dafu Xue and the others were because they had an extra silver at home, and she whispered to Xue Yan, "The moonbelly fungus should have grown well."

Xue Yan nodded and said in a low voice, "Then we'll go to the mountains again tomorrow."

"Okay."

The next day, after breakfast, Xue Yan took out a basket and carried it on his back.

He also took out the small shovels he used to plant strong seedlings and put them in the basket.

"What are you doing, Xue Yan?" Xue Wufu's injury had already recovered and he was jumping around again. Seeing this scene, he immediately ran over like a monkey.

Chapter 110: Difficult

"I want to bring Jiang Yue along to dig up some wild vegetables for the chicken so that Hehua won't have to go."

"Okay, okay, okay, then you can take Jiang Yue. She's a pregnant woman, it's better not to do these things. That's right, we also want to go up the mountain. Yifu is there cutting down a few thick trees and can't get them back himself, so he needs me and Wrfu to help. You are going up the mountain to dig wild vegetables, right? Come with us."

"Alright," he said.

Xue Yan carried his basket and followed behind Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu with Jiang Yue.

As Xue Dafu walked, he couldn't help but turn back. "Just dig on this mountain in front of us. Don't go to other mountains, okay? You all saw that bear before. Now, even Hunter Wu doesn't dare to go hunting anymore. He's thinking of buying some land to grow crops."

"I know." Xue Yan and Jiang Yue both agreed obediently.

However, once they were out of Xue Dafu and Xue Erfu's sight, Jiang Yue immediately pulled Xue Yan to the mountain behind them.

After six days of growth, the moonbelly fungus had already grown to the size that could be picked.

At first, when they were young mushrooms, now they could be completely seen. The cover of each morel was uneven like a honeycomb, like an opened goat's belly, which was why they were called morels.

They were transplanted, so there wouldn't be a second harvest after they were all picked. Therefore, when picking mushrooms, they could just pick them directly from the root. There was no need to pay attention to anything.

"Do you want to dry this?" Xue Yan asked Jiang Yue while picking.

"I won't dry it," Jiang Yue said. "I'll just sell it. It'll save us a lot of trouble."

Xue Yan also knew that no matter if it was dried or fresh, no one would want it, so he nodded, "Okay." He didn't want to go through all that trouble.

They only planted a few here and there. After they finished harvesting one piece, they went to harvest another.

When they had finished harvesting the two areas, their basket was just full.

If it were to dry, it would probably only be able to cover the bottom of the basket.

Jiang Yue looked at the seeds of the precious herbs that she had scattered earlier, but they had not sprouted yet. She left them alone and left the mountains with Xue Yan.

The basket was carried by Xue Yan. Although he had a basket full of morels on his back, it wasn't heavy at all.

"You're more familiar with the town. Who do you think should I sell this moonbelly fungus to?" Jiang Yue asked. She had considered selling it in the county, but it was too far away.

Xue Yan answered, "It's better to sell it to Manager Qiao of Lakshmi Restaurant. I've heard of that Manager Qiao. He has a good reputation in the county."

"The county?"

"Yes, Lakshmi Restaurant is there. A few years ago, he opened a restaurant in the county, also called Lakshmi Restaurant. The restaurant's business is also good. He accepts rare things, so he should accept this as well. The price offered may not be the fairest, but it's still fair in the town and county."

"Alright, then we'll sell it to him."

Seeing that they were going downhill, Jiang Yue went down first and then helped Xue Yan.

Xue Yan was already used to it, so he was helped down by Jiang Yue.

"Do you think... "Xue Yan suddenly spoke after a few steps. His voice was low and hesitant. He didn't even dare to look at Jiang Yue, " If... If I practice while I'm still young, will I be as good as you?"

Jiang Yue looked at his thin body and said, "I don't think so."

"Alright." He would not make things difficult for himself.

Chapter 111: Resentment

He knew what kind of physique he had. Even if he had been out and about these days, it was still not enough for him to have a fit build. If he wanted to train to be as agile and swift as her, it would be as difficult as ascending to the heavens.

"You don't need to practice." Jiang Yue continued to walk forward with her back facing him. "You have me."

Xue Yan looked up at the sky. To be protected by a baby girl was really...

However, they were already a family, so it was fine to be protected. He could protect her in other aspects. He was not a good-for-nothing brother after all.

Thinking of this, Xue Yan became more relieved.

After coming out of the mountains, Jiang Yue and Xue Yan dug up a few wild vegetables and held them in their hands. Then, they went home.

When they passed by Xue Zhuzi's house, because the yard was fenced and not tall, they didn't get to see the situation inside the yard.

In the courtyard, Xue Zhuzi — who had been beaten half to death by Xue Dagui — could barely get out of bed today. Zhang Meili was helping him to a bamboo chair in the courtyard.

When Xue Zhuzi and Zhang Meili saw Jiang Yue and Xue Yan, their eyes were filled with hatred.

Especially more so when they saw Xue Yan, they were reminded of the scene when Xue Yan was holding an ax. Their eyes burned with resentment.

However, Xue Dagui had already made it clear that they were not allowed to cause any more trouble. Plus, they were not allowed to provoke anyone from Xue Dafu's family. He was afraid that Xue Dafu won't acknowledge him as his younger brother and would not want to have contact with him for the rest of his life, so they could only endure it.

The two of them were full of resentment, but Xue Yan didn't seem to sense it and Jiang Yue did not take it to heart.

In their opinion, as long as Xue Dafu was determined, even if the two of them came looking for trouble, it would be easy to deal with them. She won't even need to do anything. Xue Dafu would probably fulfill his promise and beat the two of them up every time he saw them.

Just as they were about to reach the door of their house, Wang Sufen suddenly walked out of their house with a smile on her face. Because her house was in the other direction, she walked in the other direction and did not notice them.

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan exchanged a look. Then, they continued to go home.

"Xue Yan, Jiang Yue, you're back with a basket full of wild vegetables so quickly?"

Under the shed, Li Hehua was helping Xue Yifu move the wood from one side to the other. When she first saw Jiang Yue and Xue Yan, she quickly put down the wood in her hands and walked over quickly to help unload the basket on Xue Yan's back. She was afraid that the contents of the basket would be too for the seven-year-old.

She subconsciously looked down and found that it wasn't a basket of wild vegetables, but a basket of things that looked like mushrooms. It wasn't very heavy, so Li Hehua immediately asked, "What is this?"

Xue Yifu was currently sanding the wood, preparing to make a wheel. The workshop needed a wheel, and the flow from the mountains would bring the wheel along with it to spin. One wheel would drive another wheel, and then the workshop would self-powered. There was no need for human strength to push it, and many wheels of various sizes were needed. Hearing this, he put down his work and strode over to take a look.

Yu Hongyan was sitting at the door of the central room, arranging her needlework. Liu Guixia was standing in the corridor, wearing a straw hat as she was prepared to go out. When she heard them, she came over to take a look.

Jiang Yue was not in a hurry to answer, so she asked, "What was that auntie doing here?"

Yu Hongyan immediately said in a bad mood, "She just thinks that our family is the richest in the village. Last time, she asked if we can chat when we are free, and she really came today. She's always like this, trying to build a relationship with whoever has a good life. She came not long after you left in the morning. If Liu Guixua didn't say that we have to carry feces to the field, she would not have left!"

"What about father and the rest?" Xue Yan asked.

Chapter 112: No Poison

Liu Guixia smiled and said, "After Xue Dafu and Erfu carried those logs home, they brought Wufu to the fields. There are still a few acres of fields that need to be fertilized with manure. I was planning to go over too. Look at what you've dug up with Jiang Yue, this is not wild vegetables, the ones in your hands are. It does look like a mushroom, but many mushrooms on this mountain are poisonous. I've never seen this mushroom before, so it shouldn't be edible. hurry up and throw it away. It'll be bad if it's really poisonous."

"She's right." Xue Yifu, Li Hehua, and Yu Hongyan all agreed.

Jiang Yue then said, "But, Xue Yan, and I saw this when we were digging up wild vegetables. There was a huge patch of them, so we picked them all. Xue Yan said that he had read about them in a book. This is the moonbelly fungus, which is also a type of mushroom. It's edible, not poisonous, and can be sold for money."

"It can be sold for money?" The eyes of Liu Guixia and the others immediately lit up.

"Then quickly dry it. People have been picking a lot of mushrooms recently, they dried them and then went to town to sell them." Liu Guixia said anxiously.

"No need to go through all that trouble. Xue Yan said that the town also accepts fresh ones." Jiang Yue said.

"Hehua, quickly call Xue Dafu and Erfu back. Tell them to go to town and sell this instead."

Before Liu Guixia could finish, Xue Yan interjected, "There's no need for them to go. I'll go with Jiang Yue. I've been in the town for three years, so I'm more familiar with the town than then."

Liu Guixia said, "That's true, but you and Jiang Yue are still children. To go and sell things... how about this? Let Yifu go with you. He is an adult after all. With him accompanying you, I will be at ease."

Xue Yifu was also worried about the two children going to town, so he smiled naively and said, "Xue Yan, Jiang Yue, I'll go with you."

"Good idea." Li Hehua agreed.

Xue Yan smiled, "It's really not necessary. You're already busy enough with your work. We can just take uncle's ox cart there. The ox cart hasn't left today, right? We'll follow him to come back. It'll be fine."

"That's true, why don't we let Xue Yan and Jiang Yue go alone?" Yu Hongyan said. "Although Xue Yan is young, he has more ideas than us. We're not as smart as him. He has seen a lot of things. In the past, his master was very good to him and even took him to the county a few times. With Tian's ox cart going back and forth, we won't have to worry about their journey there."

"Alright, then." Liu Guixia relented.

She walked into the house and took out twenty coins for Xue Yan. "It's one coin per person to take the ox cart, but it'll be four coins for the two of you to go back and forth. No matter how much this moonbelly mushroom can sell for, don't be shy to eat a good lunch in town. Find a noodle stall and order a bowl of meat noodles."

"Thank you."

"Thank you."

Xue Yan put the money away and said, "You can go now. I still need to get my books. I've copied the content. I can sell the rest in town."

"Alright, alright, alright." Liu Guixia smiled and went to carry the manure to the field.

Jiang Yue put down the wild vegetables and the small shovel in her hands.

Xue Yan went to his room to get his books.

Li Hehua was not worried about Xue Yan, who had always been more mature than adults. However, she was a little worried about Jiang Yue. Jiang Yue was only three-and-a-half years old. Li Hehua could not help but squat down and pat Jiang Yue's little head, and whispered, "Jiang Yue, when you reach the town, you must follow your Xue Yan closely."

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Chapter 113: All In Vain

"I know, I won't get lost," Jiang Yue replied.

"That's good, that's good." Li Hehua laughed. She was afraid of this happening. T

The books that Xue Yan copied were wrapped in cloth and put in the basket, right at the top. Finally, he put the basket back on his back.

"Do you need me to send you to the village entrance?" Li Hehua asked. The ox cart was at the village entrance.

"It's okay. You should help Yifu. He can't handle it alone. If you help him, he'll be more relaxed with his work." Xue Yan said.

"I should." Li Hehua responded with a smile.

Xue Yifu, who had already returned to the shed to cut wood, laughed naively when he heard this. He was not good with words, but his younger brother was especially good to him.

In order to reassure Li Hehua, Xue Yan held Jiang Yue's hand and went out.

Everyone in the family felt that as long as he held Jiang Yue's hand, she would never go missing.

The ox cart was parked at the entrance of the village. Usually, if no one wanted to borrow it, Tian would park the ox cart at the entrance of the village. He would go to town once a day, in the morning and back in the afternoon. He would bring a few people along so that he could earn some money.

Tian had spent almost all of his family's savings to buy this cow at the beginning of the year. He raised this cow as if he were raising a treasure.

When Xue Yan and Jiang Yue arrived at the village entrance, Tian was tending to the cattle, and three people were waiting beside the ox cart.

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan walked to Tian and greeted him politely, "Hello."

Tian immediately exclaimed in surprise, "Xue Yan and Jiang Yue, are you taking to x cart to town too?"

"Yes."

"That's good, that's good." Tian chuckled. "But it's just you both? Where are the adults in your family?"

"Just us," Xue Yan said, "They know we're going to town."

"And they're okay with it?"

"We'll be going back and forth. I've stayed in town for three years, so I'm very familiar with it. They can rest assured."

"Alright then," Tian was relieved to hear that. He let the two children sit on his ox cart willingly. Otherwise, if something were to happen, he would not be able to explain himself. "We've finally gathered five people and can go to town. Wait a moment, I'll bring the cow over and latch it on."

One of the three people who had been waiting for a long time immediately joked, "We finally have enough people. Otherwise, we wouldn't have left."

"Right?" Tian was still chuckling. "I just wanted to wait and see if there were still people going to town. There are two more people now, right? I didn't wait for nothing!"

"Yes, you have two more people here. That's four coins more for the round trip." That person teased again.

"Why are you saying this? If your family had an ox cart, you would also want to have more people at a time." Tian had a good temper and was even chuckling. "Alright, alright, the cart is ready. Come, Xue Yan, Jiang Yue, you guys go up too. I'll help you."

"Thank you." Xue Yan and Jiang Yue both thanked him politely.

Since they had to sit down, Xue Yan didn't want to carry the basket anymore, so he took it off and held it in his arms. Jiang Yue sat next to him and held the basket with one hand to help him stabilize it.

"What's in the basket?" Someone was curious.

Tian, who had raised his whip and was about to drive the ox cart, was also curious. He stretched his neck and came over to take a look.

Jiang Yue repeated what she had said to Liu Guixia and the others.

Tian glanced at the contents of the basket and nodded. "It does look like an opened belly. No wonder it's called that."

Chapter 114: Older Brother

"But why are there so many of them?" The other three people on the ox cart asked.

"We found a large patch, so we picked them all." Jiang Yue said.

"Oh interesting." the three of them nodded.

Then, someone said, "I don't know if this is expensive or not. I remember that three years ago, the Zheng family picked up a lot of mushrooms and dried them to sell in town. There wasn't even a catty, probably about half a catty, and they were sold for twenty to thirty coins. You have so many. Although they are fresh, you should be able to sell them for forty to fifty coins."

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan didn't say anything.

Tian laughed as he drove the ox cart, "I don't care how much it costs. I'll sell it for as much as I can. If they picked it up from the mountains, it'll be a waste not to sell it. Why do you think Xue Yan and Jiang Yue are so lucky? They can pick up a basket of mushrooms just by digging up wild vegetables."

The three of them laughed. "It's also because Xue Yan didn't study for nothing. If he hadn't read about it in the books, we wouldn't have known that this thing was called moonbelly mushroom. We would have thought that it was some poisonous mushroom."

"Isn't that so." Tian agreed. "It's better to study, unlike us who are illiterate. We need to find literate people to get documents. I've heard that the village chief even asked Xue Yan to write a family separation document last time. how can he not be good at his studies?"

Jiang Yue and Xue Yan weren't very lively people. They sat on the ox cart, listened to Tian and the other three people talking, and said nothing.

Soon enough, they arrived at the town.

Tian stopped the ox cart at the place where he would rest every time he came to town.

Jiang Yue got off the ox cart first, followed by Xue Yan. Then, she put the basket on her back. The three of them had already left the ox cart and would come back in the afternoon to take the ox cart back.

As they were two children, Tian reminded them again, "Xue Yan, Jiang Yue, I'll be waiting here. Do you know remember the time I told you just now? I'll be leaving at that time. Just remember to come back before that time to go home."

"We will, thank you."

The two children thanked him.

Xue Yan took out two coins and gave them to Tian. This was the money for him and Jiang Yue to take the ox cart to town. One coin per person, so it was two coins overall.

"Let's go," he said. Xue Yan held Jiang Yue's hand and went to Lakshimi Restaurant as planned.

he was really familiar with this town.

the place where Tian parked his ox-cart was a little far from Lakshimi Restaurant. Xue Yan and Jiang Yue walked four streets before they reached the restaurant.

Xue Yan had come here for dinner with his teacher and classmates before, but he didn't pay much attention to the shopkeeper at that time, so he didn't know who Shopkeeper Qiao was. However, Jiang Yue did.

Jiang Yue led him into the restaurant. The little one walked to the counter and tiptoed. She placed her small hands on the counter and shouted at the person who was calculating with his head lowered, "Hello."

"It's you, that baby girl!" Jiang Yue had left a deep impression on Shopkeeper Qiao. He immediately put down his newspaper and stood up, walking out from behind the counter.

"Who is this?" Shopkeeper Qiao noticed Xue Yan. He felt that Xue Yan looked familiar, but he couldn't recall who he was at the moment.

"This is my brother," Jiang Yue said.

"Oh, it's your brother. Why is he here with you? Where are the adults in your family?"

"He is waiting for us at the ox cart." Jiang Yue lied.

"Oh, so why are you looking for me? Did you find something good to sell to me?"

Chapter 115: What Are You Going To Do With That?

"I do have something I want to sell you, take a look." Jiang Yue asked Shopkeeper Qiao to look at the basket on Xue Yan's back.

Shopkeeper Qiao took a casual look, but his eyes were immediately fixed on it. "This! Is this moonbelly mushroom?!"

It was still fresh!

However, how could they have fresh moonbelly mushrooms here? Didn't no one in the entire state capital ever pick fresh moonbelly mushrooms?

In fact, even the dry moonbelly mushrooms had never appeared in their entire state capital.

He was also fortunate enough to have seen the moonbelly mushrooms in other state capitals, but in the end, they had to be sent to the palace as a tribute to the emperor.

Now, these two children actually had a few that were freshly picked!

"Please, please, please, let's go in and talk." Shopkeeper Qiao quickly led Jiang Yue and Xue Yan to an empty private room.

He was being extremely cautious.

When they arrived at the private room, Shopkeeper Qiao ordered tea and snacks for the kids.

Xue Yan and Jiang Yue both sat down.

The mahogany chair was a little too tall for them. Xue Yan was seven years old, so he was fine sitting on it, but Jiang Yue was too young. Her legs drooped and her feet couldn't touch the ground at all, making her look more like a child.

Xue Yan didn't have any intention to speak, so Jiang Yue just went for it. "My brother and I found these by accident when we were digging for wild vegetables this morning, so we picked them all. My brother read about them in books and knew that they were moonbelly mushrooms. He thought that you were being fair, so he didn't go anywhere and came directly to your place to see if you wanted to buy them first. Now that you've invited us to this room, I'm sure you have the intention of buying this basket of moonbelly."

"I've always known you were different." Shopkeeper Qiao sipped his tea and smiled. "This is a rare item, so of course, I would want to buy it."

As for what it would be used for after buying it, there was no need to say; it was his private matter.

"How much do you plan to pay for so many mushrooms?" Jiang Yue asked.

Shopkeeper Qiao looked at the basket of moonbelly mushrooms by Xue Yan's feet and pondered for a while before saying, "Four hundred silver, that's the only price I can offer."

Before Jiang Yue could reply, Shopkeeper Qiao continued, "I remember that the last time you sold the bear, you said something about an older brother saying that it was worth at least eighty silver. This person here must be that older brother."

At this point, Shopkeeper Qiao looked at Xue Yan with a smile, his eyes full of shrewdness.

There was nothing to hide about that, so Jiang Yue acknowledged it.

Xue Yan just smiled politely.

"Do you think four hundred is a suitable price?" asked Shopkeeper Qiao.

"I'm curious to know what you're going to do with it instead." Xue Yan said indifferently. If he bought it and ate it secretly, four hundred silver would be a sky-high price. If he bought it to curry favor with the influential people and secretly offered it to the influential people, then the benefits he would get would not be just four hundred silver. By that means, four hundred was obviously too little.

Shopkeeper Qiao wasn't a fool and could understand the meaning behind his words. He immediately asked, "May I know your name?"

"My surname is Xue."

upon hearing the surname Xue, Shopkeeper Qiao was reminded of something. "So you're the Xue boy from the Hanlin Academy?!" It was no wonder he found the boy familiar. He had come to this place for a meal with his classmates before.

Jiang Yue raised her eyebrows slightly. It seems that Xue Yan was quite famous.

"I'm not a prodigy, and I'm no longer studying in town," Xue Yan said.

"I heard all about it. The people from your academy often come to my place for meals, so I know the latest news. Since it's you, I'll change the price to six hundred silver. No more than that. After all, business is business."