Fat Wife 1001

Chapter 1001 - 1001 I Have Been Wronged!

1001 I Have Been Wronged!

Su Liang was so frightened that he quickly knelt down and said, "Please spare me! I really didn't do anything! She's my woman. Isn't it normal for me to touch her? The thing is I haven't even succeeded yet! I've really been wronged!"

"Oh? But she said that there's no relationship between the two of you. How do you explain that?" Luo Yu asked.

"I... I give her money and feed her every day but I've never even held her hand. I've really been wronged!" Su Liang said fearfully.

Luo Yu stood up and slowly walked to Su Liang's side. He slowly stepped on Su Liang's hand and crushed it. Su Liang lay on the ground in pain and screamed loudly.

"Ah!!!"

"Are you telling the truth? If you tell even one lie, you won't be able to leave here in one piece," Luo Yu threatened.

Su Liang was in so much pain that he broke out in cold sweat. He quickly nodded and said, "I'm telling the truth! If there's even a single lie, I'll be punished by being hacked into multiple pieces! I really didn't touch her tonight. There was so little meat in the meal today, so I asked her where the meat coupons had gone and reached into her pockets to look for them. In the end, she ran out of the door as soon as I went over to her. I really didn't touch her!"

Luo Yu looked at Su Liang and thought that he did not seem to be lying. Luo Yu slowly raised his foot and asked the colleagues behind him to tie Su Liang up. He wanted to go back and rest so that he could report this to his superiors the next day.

Dawn was only just breaking and Qiao Yu was already making a scene in Li Gui's courtyard. She yelled and roared like a crazy woman as she pointed at the main door. People passing by even thought that Qiao Yu was mentally ill.

"Brother... should we report this to the Young Lady?" Xiao An from the guard team asked as he looked at his colleague.

Although Qiao Yu's voice was not loud enough to reach Qiao Mei's house, if anything should happen to this woman, it would be a difficult piece of news for them to report to the Xia family.

They had never seen such a crazy woman. She had been cursing since she arrived last night. At first, her voice was not so loud and she only muttered softly. However, by now, she was getting more and more outrageous and it was almost like she wanted to rush out and eat the two of them alive.

Xiao An had been with the guard team for a while and was waiting for his promotion this year. At this juncture, he could not afford to make any mistakes.

"Better not. It's still so early and Second Miss and the others aren't awake yet. Won't you be asking for a scolding if you go now? If she wants to shout, then let her be. It's even better if the police come over because of the commotion," the colleague said.

They were among those who knew what was going on. Xia He had already told them the gist of the matter. These people were very tight-lipped and would not betray the family.

The Xia family's guard team was made up of a group of people from the troops who had volunteered their services and then had undergone a strict selection process. This was because the Xia family had contributed a great deal to the army. Not only did they have family members in the army, but everyone held a very important position. More importantly, everyone of them was a great contributor and the meritorious awards received by the entire family could fill up an entire wall.

Both the government and the army attached great importance to such families that formed the backbone of the system. They wanted to protect the safety of the Xia family's various households on home ground so that the Xia family members who were at the front line would not have any lingering worries. It was not just the Xia family who enjoyed this treatment, but the Zheng family as well. As long

as a family had made a huge contribution to the army, there would be a private guard team at their disposal.

"Big sister, if you yell anymore, the neighbors around you will call the police. If that happens, you know very well who's the one who'll be at a disadvantage, you or us. You should stop now," Xiao An said helplessly.

It was already a miracle that Qiao Yu had managed to survive that night. The temperature outside was minus 10 degrees Celsius and there was no heater in the house. There was not even a place to start a fire. Li Gui's house used gas for heating instead of stoves.

There were no blankets in the children's rooms either. In order to renovate the house, Qiao Mei had already emptied it of everything. Qiao Yu did not even have a bed and could only sleep on the cold floor.

Xiao An looked at the colleague next to him and then at the crazy woman in the courtyard. It was better for him to stand guard and pretend to be deaf and could not hear anything.

It was not their responsibility if anything happened to Qiao Yu, but if they made Qiao Mei angry, they could forget about working here anymore and would all be sent home to farm.

Chapter 1002 - 1002 Buzzing non-stop

1002 Buzzing non-stop

It was not until noon that Qiao Mei gradually woke up. She lay on the bed and stared blankly at the ceiling, thinking about what had happened in the past two days. There were still many things that she had not done, most of which were related to the Su family.

This trip to the capital made her feel that it might have been better for her to stay put in the village.

Qiao Zhuang's family members were all quite brainless. A few of them were simply just impulsive and reckless. They did not know how to strategize and would fight head-on most times. Qiao Mei just needed to hide from them for a while. Moreover, the villagers took very good care of her and would protect her if anything happened.

However, in the capital, there were both open and covert attacks and it was impossible to guard against everything. Some people would even mock and tease you simply because they were jealous of your good fortune, hoping that you would encounter an accident soon. These people were like wolves which would never have enough to eat. No matter how much benefits you gave them, it was useless. If you gave them too much, they might even counterattack you and question you about where you obtained so many things.

Qiao Mei went to the closet and found a beautiful navy blue dress. She had a dress like that before she became pregnant. Now that she was pregnant and her stomach had grown much bigger, she had made another maternity dress with the same fabric. She liked navy blue the most. Not only did it make her skin look fair, but it also made her look noble and elegant.

Xia He behaved abnormally though. By the time Qiao Mei finished her breakfast, Xia He still showed no signs of getting up. Qiao Mei gently knocked on Xia He's door and slowly walked into the room.

Xia He was curled up like a ball on the huge bed and sleeping motionlessly under the blanket, looking obedient and cute. People who saw her at that moment would not be able to imagine that the woman in front of them actually had a fiery temper when she was awake. Everyone who saw her was usually bewitched by her appearance.

"Wake up! Why are you the one sleeping in today!" Qiao Mei yelled out as she sat by Xia He's bed.

Xia He groaned as she sat up. She had to settle down for a bit before she woke up fully. As Xia He had gone to military school when she was young, she did not have a temper when she woke up in the morning.

"Sigh... I'm almost like your family's helper, yet you don't even give me a salary. What's the point of me working so hard for you?" Xia He rubbed her sore neck and asked with a smile.

Qiao Mei did not hesitate at all and simply blurted out, "How about I give you a house as big as mine?"

"Will you renovate it as well? I'm fine with you if you will also take charge of the renovation," Xia He said.

"No problem. I can even buy you a car!" Qiao Mei said generously.

Xia He waved her hand. She was just joking about this matter and did not want Qiao Mei to take it seriously. Qiao Mei might really end up buying her a house. She would take care of the matter of her own house herself. In the future, when she had money, she would buy a small house that was around 80 square meters and also get a dog for company. She would be quite happy to live alone like that.

If she really bought a house as big as Qiao Mei's, she would be exhausted just from cleaning up the rooms. She did not have that much money to hire a helper.

"There are a lot of things to do today. I have to get up quickly. My pager has been buzzing non-stop since early in the morning. So many people asked me to call them back," Xia He said with a deep sigh.

It was not only Luo Yu, but also Xia Wen and Xia Mao. Even Xu Lan had sent her a message asking her to return a call quickly. Initially, she thought that it was a good thing to have this pager and that she could contact them if there was anything urgent. Now, she felt that it was simply a disaster. There had been no end to it since the morning!

Xia He was so angry that she had to switch off the pager so that she could sleep well.

Qiao Mei had already checked on whether they could be connected to a phone line in their area. It was quite uncertain and would require the agreement of six other neighbors. Moreover, it was not cheap and the cost of repairs in the later stages would be costly too. The pillars supporting the phone line looked unsightly and no one would want them to be erected at the door of their house. She decided to wait for the government to make the arrangements regarding this matter.

"I'll call them back and ask them to come to our house. You can just wait in the main hall. I'll get Xiao An from the backyard to move the rocking chair into the house. Don't even think about having a chance to return to the room for a rest for the rest of the day," Xia He said.

Chapter 1003 - 1003 Brainless

1003 Brainless

Xia He ran to the public phone at the entrance of the alley and returned calls to everyone one by one. Xia Mao was puzzled as to why Xia He had transferred so many guards over to her side overnight. He had thought that something had happened to Qiao Mei and was glad to know that Qiao Mei was safe and sound. Xu Lan had the same concerns as Xia Mao.

Luo Yu wanted to provide a brief report on what happened last night, as well as the conclusion of the interrogation session. Xia He was unable to make a decision, so she asked him to come to Qiao Mei's house in the afternoon to explain the situation in person.

Finally, Xia He called Xia Wen nervously. After a few rings, Xia Wen picked up the phone.

"Hello? Who is this?" Xia Wen asked coldly.

"Big brother... It's Xia He. Why did you call me this morning?" Xia He asked guiltily.

Xia Wen laughed coldly and said, "I'm the person who's in charge of the Xia family's guard team after all. Half the guard team suddenly disappeared overnight, shouldn't I find out more about it? What are you afraid of? Is it because of a guilty conscience that you dare not talk to me? What trouble have you caused outside?"

The person who knew Xia He best in the Xia family was none other than Xia Wen. From a young age, Xia He would never address him as "big brother". She felt that this form of address was too intimate. She would usually call him eldest brother or by his full name. She would only call him "big brother" when she felt guilty or when she was in trouble.

"I just know I shouldn't return your call. Qiao Mei doesn't want me to tell you about this matter. We'll tell you the whole story after we've dealt with it. We're all fine. It's just that Qiao Mei's relative came around," Xia He said with a sigh.

"Qiao Yu?" Xia Wen probed.

"How do you know! Did you send someone to monitor us!" Xia He said in shock.

Xia Wen held on to his forehead. He really could not understand why he had such a silly sister. Even Xia Zhe was not that stupid. Could it be that all the smart genes in their family were only passed down to

the men? However, those female cousins from the families of their Second Aunt-in-law and Third Auntin-law were all very outstanding people. Why was Xia He so... innocent?

The Liang family had always been under the surveillance of the Xia family and there had not been any negative news coming from that side recently. Since the issue did not originate from the Liang family, then the only scourge left was Qiao Yu. If it was not Qiao Yu, as if it could be Li Gui!

There was really nothing he could do about this silly sister of his.

"Your brother is someone with brains. Otherwise, how can I survive in the government sector? I'll go and look for you after work," Xia Wen said.

Xia He quickly refused and said, "Don't come! If you come, how am I going to explain it to Qiao Mei! She must know that I'm the one who tipped you off! You can't come! Besides... besides, if you come by, Eldest Sister-in-law will come looking for trouble again when she finds out. You'd better go home as normal."

The fact was that Xia Wen did not speak to Tan Jing at all yesterday. He did not say a single word to her. After sending her home safely, he went to stay in the dormitory at the workplace. They were living separately for the moment as he was really unable to talk to her calmly. After Tan Jing had time to cool down, Xia Wen would go home and talk to her.

"Don't worry, Qiao Mei won't scold you. You don't have to worry about my family issues. It's settled then. Tell Aunty to count me in when she cooks for tonight," Xia Wen said bluntly.

This was how Xia Wen and Xia He had decided to address Li Gui, as the form of address sounded both friendly and pleasant to the ears.

"Got it. When you come, don't say that I'm the one who asks you to come," Xia He instructed.

"Do you think Qiao Mei is as stupid as you? It's not as if she can't work it out for herself. Alright, I still have other things to do. Let's talk when we meet tonight." After saying that, Xia Wen hurriedly hung up the phone.

She only found out about this when she came back to the capital and chatted with Luo Yu. Otherwise, she would still be kept in the dark!

Chapter 1004 - 1004 Difficult to Make a Comeback

1004 Difficult to Make a Comeback

She was the only one in the family who was all brawn and no brains. It was no wonder that when she was young, Xia Xiu always said that she was like a single-celled organism and was not suitable to enter the services of the army or the government.

Anyone who was trained by Xia Xiu would end up holding an important position in the army. Only Xia He went to the military art troupe halfway through the training. Everyone agreed that Xia He did not belong in the army and should just live a simple life.

By the time it was afternoon, Qiao Mei had settled down on the rocking chair and was falling asleep. In recent days, she found herself feeling sleepy all the time. She could fall asleep anywhere that was warm. She would not even feel anything even if someone came to carry her out to be sold off.

Xia He went into the room and took out a blanket to put over Qiao Mei. It was so warm in the house that it was not a problem for them to wear summer clothes. Qiao Mei would not catch a cold.

"Huh? Did I fall asleep again?" Qiao Mei asked groggily.

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"Yes you did. Aunt says that this is quite normal and there's nothing wrong with the babies and you. Why don't I call the hospital now and get them to send someone to come and take and look at you. Don't tire yourself out just because you're having children," Xia He said worriedly.

Qiao Mei slowly sat up and said, "It's fine. I've just been more tired recently. I will sleep more and get my strength back. It's not a big deal. Have you settled the matters of those people who called? When are they coming?"

Xia He stood nervously beside Qiao Mei and grabbed the corners of her own shirt tightly with both hands as she said, "Um... I'm going to tell you something, but don't be angry! When I returned Xia Wen's call just now, he found out about what's going on and he said that he would come to our place after work.

It was totally within Qiao Mei's expectations that Xia Wen would know about this matter. She just did not want Xia Wen to worry. However, as the eldest brother, it was inevitable that he would have to go through the tiring process of taking care of his younger siblings.

"What about the other stuff?" Qiao Mei asked.

"There's nothing else. Luo Yu will be here soon. He has the result from Su Liang's interrogation session," Xia He said.

As soon as she finished speaking, Luo Yu arrived at the door with a document in his hand. It was filled with information about Su Liang's replies and the details of the interrogation session. Qiao Mei had to sign off on the document so that the team could go back and submit their report.

"Young Madam, please take a look," Luo Yu said solemnly.

Qiao Mei was slightly stunned on the spot. She had only heard this form of address in television dramas which she watched in her other life. She did not expect to become a young madam one day!

It actually felt quite good, but she still felt a little embarrassed to hear others say it out.

Qiao Mei quickly took the document and said, "You can call me Qiao Mei from now on. We're all friends, so there's no need to be so polite. Did any of our people get injured last night?"

"It's more than enough for one person from the guard team to handle a piece of trash like Su Liang! He's not able to hurt any of us at all," Luo Yu said proudly.

Su Liang's recorded statement was completely different from what Qiao Yu had said. Other than the timing being the same, the rest of the details were completely two different versions. However, Qiao

Mei believed that Su Liang's statement was the truth. Luo Yu and his colleagues were professionals, so Su Liang would tell the truth even if it was only for the sake of saving his own life.

After Xia He finished reading it, she flew into a rage. She stood up and wanted to go to Li Gui's house to confront Qiao Yu. Were they so easy to fool! Did she take them for fools!

"Enough! Why are you so agitated? Let Qiao Yu stay there and suffer for a couple of days first. There's no issue as long as she doesn't die. As for Su Liang, I'd have to ask for Brother Luo's help to send him to the police station and report the case based on what Qiao Yu said," Qiao Mei said with a smile.

Qiao Mei folded the blanket and put it away. "Stay and have dinner with us tonight. There's no need to go back right now."

"We still have other missions to complete, so we won't trouble you." After saying that, Luo Yu drove back to deal with Qiao Mei's arrangements.

All this while, he never managed to get a chance to deal with Su Liang. He finally had a chance to vent his anger now. Although Su Yang was also in the wrong, his crime was not that serious and he might still be of great use in the future. Moreover, Su Yang was a greedy and gullible person, so it was also easier to control him. He was not as ruthless as Su Liang.

Given that Su Liang already had a previous criminal record, once they sent him into prison again, it would probably be very difficult for him to be released.

Chapter 1005 - 1005 Endless Arguments

1005 Endless Arguments

The entire police station was currently in an uproar and the voices of the three Su sisters echoed throughout the entire lobby. Not only were the three of them arguing, but even their husbands were in on it as well. It was simply a mess.

There was nothing that Zou Ming could do to this group of people. It was not as if he could open fire in the police station to intimidate them. They would not listen to him even when he shouted at them, or rather, they could not hear him at all. Zou Ming might as well let them continue arguing at the police

station. It would be even better if they started a fight! This way, it would save Zou Ming the trouble of sending police officers to arrest them. It would end up being much more convenient!

"Why should our family pay for this! Your family took a lot of money from Mom! Your family should pay more!" the eldest sister, Su Miao, shouted as she pointed at the second daughter, Su Xiu.

Su Xiu stomped her feet in anger and shouted back quickly, "Bullsh*t! As if Mom is my mother alone! Didn't Mom raise you! Are you talking like a human!"

"That's right! I'm not talking like a human. You're the only one who's a good person! Back then, when you got married, my brother-in-law had given our mother some money. You took the money back from her to pay your own bills! In the end, our mother ended up giving you money to get married. Shouldn't you contribute more! Why are you shouting at me here!" Su Miao roared angrily.

"You are the one who shouted at me first, yet you're also the one who complained first! Mom was the one who willingly gave me all the money. Did I ask for it! Don't talk nonsense!" Su Xiu was so angry that her entire body was trembling.

The third daughter, Su Li, and her husband sat at the side and watched everything silently. Su Miao and Su Xiu had no right to even ask her about such things.

It turned out that their father, Su Guang, had always wanted to have a son. When his first two children turned out to be daughters, Su Guang forced Old Madam Fan to continue giving birth. In their fifth year of marriage, she became pregnant with his third child.

Su Guang originally thought that it would definitely be a boy this time, but when the baby was born and he saw that it was a girl, he left the hospital in anger and left Old Madam Fan and Su Li behind. Su Li had been treated unfairly since she was young and was not even allowed to go to school. When she was 13 years old, he threw her out of the house and asked her to go out and start her own family.

In the beginning, Su Li did not have this name. Su Guang had wanted to name his third child Su Di since he thought that it would definitely be a boy. He did not expect his fourth child to finally be a boy. After the third daughter left home, she changed her name to Su Li. She met her husband and got married on her own and had nothing to do with the Su family. If it was not because the police asked her to come back, Su Li would never have come to see Old Madam Fan. "Third Sister! You should be the judge! Why aren't you saying anything from over there!" Su Miao said aggrievedly.

Su Li sighed. She thought that it would be better to settle this matter quickly. It was a waste of time to stay here. She slowly walked between Su Miao and Su Xiu and said, "Let's split the cost evenly among us. We can get Su Liang and Su Yang to return the money to us later."

"You mean you want our two younger brothers to return us the money?" Su Xiu asked in puzzlement.

"All these years, all the good things in the family had belonged to these two younger brothers. Mom also gave her previous job to Fifth Brother, so now that something has happened, the two of them should take on full responsibility. Or rather, they should pay for it. We're just doing them a favor. If they want to come out, they can borrow money from us. Otherwise, I won't fork out a single cent," Su Li said sternly.

Su Miao and Su Xiu looked at each other. This was such a good idea! This way, none of them would incur any losses and they could even get some interest out of it. Most importantly, if Old Madam Fan really could not fork out the money, she could use the house as collateral. After all, what were her two sons good for?

It was already good enough that Su Li was willing to fork out the money. For the sake of the money in Su Li's hands, they had to agree to this plan.

"Sure, then let's do that!" Su Miao quickly agreed.

Su Xiu looked at Su Li warily and asked, "But they don't have that much money now. When Mom is released, who should she return the money to first?"

Su Xiu still had some brains, unlike Su Miao who did not like to think. The five siblings from the Su family were either extremely smart or extremely stupid and incompetent; either lecherous and greedy or knew how to hide their true colors. Everyone of them had different tempers and personalities, but they had one thing in common, and that was greed and selfishness.

Su Li had traveled extensively in the past two years, made money and had saved up quite a lot. What she wanted was not for Old Madam Fan to return her the money, but for Old Madam Fan to be unable to repay the debt and had to give the house to her as collateral.

Chapter 1006 Loansharking

Su Xiu was very pleased with this answer. The amount of money and interest that Old Madam Fan would pay back to the first family definitely would not be that much, and the last family might not even be able to get back much money at all. It was the best to be in the middle. Not only would she be able to get back the principal amount, but she would also be able to get the bulk of the interest. It was like killing two birds with one stone!

After the three families agreed on this matter, Su Li went to talk to Zou Ming.

"Have you decided?" Zou Ming rubbed his temples and asked tiredly. The loud noise just now had made his ears very uncomfortable.

"We've decided, but I'll have to trouble Officer Zou to ask my mother about her wishes and whether she wants us to bail her out," Su Li said.

Zou Ming looked at Su Li curiously and asked, "Can you tell me what you have in mind? I'll pass the message to your mother."

Su Li did not intend to tell Zou Ming the details of the plan. She only wanted Zou Ming to talk to Old Madam Fan about needing to borrow money from them. The rest of the details were the Su family's personal matter. They could talk about it among themselves when they saw Old Madam Fan in person.

Before Zou Ming could even speak, Old Madam Fan immediately agreed to whatever Su Li and the rest wanted. She found it unbearable to stay in this place for another day. In the detention center, there were people who bullied her, people who spit in her food, and even people who snatched away her blanket. There were also cockroaches and bugs everywhere.

This was simply not a place for humans to live! She had so much retirement pension every month, and coupled with the money that Su Yang had earned, she would definitely be able to pay off the bail money. As long as she could go out, she was willing to pay any amount of money!

Zou Ming handcuffed Old Madam Fan and brought her to the conference room so that the three Su sisters and Old Madam Fan could sit opposite one another. Old Madam Fan looked at Su Li agitatedly. She had not seen this daughter of hers for almost 30 years. Su Li looked completely different from when she was young. If not for the mole on Su Li's face, she would not have dared to call out to Su Li.

"Su Di! You're finally willing to come back and see me! Do you know how much Mom misses you!" Old Madam Fan said with tears in her eyes.

Su Li frowned and said, "I'm not Su Di. My name is Su Li. It's the word that means beautiful."

"Fine, fine, fine. This name Su Li is good, any other name is also fine. It's such happy news that you're back. Our family is finally reunited!" Old Madam Fan said with a smile.

Zou Ming coughed twice and showed Old Madam Fan the document containing the terms which Su Li had drawn up. Zou Ming now understood why Su Li did not tell him about the terms and conditions of the loan earlier. This was completely a case of loansharking.

"I think you might not be able to understand what I wrote, so I'll give you a simple explanation. The first to fourth lines are the amount of money you borrowed, the order in which it should be returned, as well as the final deadline. The last few lines are more important," Su Li cleared her throat and coughed twice before continuing.

"We're not lending you this money for free. The interest will be calculated according to the rate of 'paying 130 for every 90'. Otherwise, we won't lend the money to you. Do you agree with this condition?" Su Li asked sternly.

Zou Ming frowned. He did not know where this Su Li came from. She even knew the phrase "paying 130 for every 90".

In other words, if Old Madam Fan's bail amount was 10,000 dollars, then the interest for 10 months would be as high as 10,000 dollars. Ordinary families could not afford such a high interest rate at all. Moreover, it would not be enough to just pay back the same amount of money every month. In the end, one would need to fork out more interest to fill this huge hole.

This was how many gamblers in the casino went bankrupt. What crushed them was not the capital sum, but the high interest rate.

Su Miao and Su Xiu sat at the side and listened, feeling at a loss. They did not understand what it meant at all, but they were sure that Su Li would definitely not trick them. Since they were all in the same boat, Su Li would definitely help them!

"Whatever you say!" Old Madam Fan said with a smile.

It was obvious that Old Madam Fan did not know what the phrase meant as well. Zou Ming could not help but speak up, "Are you... sure you want to do this?"

"Yes, that's my condition. I won't lend her the money if it's not this interest rate," Su Li said.

Old Madam Fan thought that Zou Ming was being a busybody. Su Li had already agreed to bail her out, so why was he still asking so many questions? Could it be that Zou Ming wanted to get a kickback!

"Why are you questioning my daughter! My daughter is doing this for my own good! Aren't you just eyeing to get more money from us! We won't give you any red packets! We won't give you a single cent!" Old Madam Fan said smugly.

Chapter 1007 - 1007 Each Taking a Step Back

1007 Each Taking a Step Back

In the end, Zou Ming still could not bear to see Old Madam Fan being kept in the dark. Even though Old Madam Fan had insulted him, he still explained to her in detail the principle of "paying 130 for every 90". At the very least, he wanted to be able to live up to his conscience and his police uniform.

Old Madam Fan's initial happiness gradually turned into anger. If not for the handcuffs on her hands, she would have flipped the table and fought with Su Li.

"Su Li! I'm your mother! How can you treat me like this! How do you expect me to gather so much money in such a short period of time! You might as well let me die here!" Old Madam Fan roared.

Su Miao and Su Xiu looked at Su Li with fear in their eyes. They indeed had ill intentions, but they had not thought about getting so much money from Old Madam Fan. To them, getting 100 to 200 dollars in interest was already a big amount.

What Su Li was doing was simply daylight robbery. Loan sharks would get sent to jail! Su Li even wrote this down in front of the police. Was she sick of living!

This Su Li in front of them was no longer the person they used to know... She had changed so much...

"Um... Officer! This is not our families' intention. This is my younger sister's own idea and has nothing to do with us!" Su Miao said fearfully.

"That's right, that's right! We've never even heard of this phrase!" Su Xiu said hurriedly.

Su Li's expression remained unchanged. It was indeed her fault for charging such a high interest rate without explaining it to Old Madam Fan. However, they were discussing it openly now and Old Madam Fan had every right to agree or disagree. She was not forcing Old Madam Fan to sign the agreement against her will.

What was wrong with that? It was a mutually consensual deal. At most, she would not lend out her money.

"Su Yang got into a fight and went to jail. The victims had asked for 7,000 dollars as compensation. In your case, your bail is 10,000 dollars. Now that Su Liang is in jail for rape, we can only protect you and Fifth Brother. When it comes to Su Liang... there's really no way out. It's up to you whether Su Yang can be saved and whether you want to be released," Su Li said.

Zou Ming stared at Su Li intently and did not say anything. When Su Liang was arrested and sent here, he came in through the backyard. There was no news leaked out about this matter at all. How did Su Li know so much? Could it be that... there was someone more powerful behind Su Li?

"Xiao Li... your interest rate is really too high. Can you reduce it!" Old Madam Fan said awkwardly.

"That's not something impossible. You can give each family an additional amount of 2,000 dollars and we'll consider this matter settled. The principal sum plus 2,000 dollars each, not a single cent less," Su Li said.

Su Miao and Su Xiu did not say anything. The interest of 2,000 dollars each was also far beyond their plan. Other than taking the cues from Su Li, they had no other choice now.

"Alright... Then can your younger brother be released!" Old Madam Fan asked anxiously.

Everyone turned to look at Zou Ming. It was up to him to decide whether to let the man go or not. Zou Ming said hesitantly, "You can go back after paying the bail, but not Su Yang. I need to negotiate with the injured parties by bringing along the compensation sum. He won't be able to get out until tomorrow or the day after."

The actual timing would depend on how long it took for the higher-ups to approve it. The release of an offender was not something that could be done just by him nodding his head. Moreover, at that time, Qiao Mei had only mentioned the issue of compensation and did not specify the exact amount. He could not say with confidence that 7,000 dollars could hit the standard that Qiao Mei had in mind.

"I'm not done yet. Mom, if you're unable to return us the money, then we'll take your house. When the time comes, we'll see how much money we can sell it for. We must get back what we're owed," Su Li said smugly with a smile.

Old Madam Fan looked at Su Li agitatedly and said, "What did I do to offend you! For you to want to destroy me like this! Now you don't even want to let me have the house! What exactly do you want!"

"That house is my dowry! It's the house left to me by your grandparents! It doesn't belong to your Su family! You can touch anything but my house! Don't even think about selling my house!" Old Madam Fan shouted.

"As long as it's your belongings and you don't pay your debts by the specified time, you have to use it as collateral. You should think about how to pay us back the money," Su Li said calmly.

Seeing that Su Li was determined not to give in, Old Madam Fan had nothing else to say. There was no other way out for her now.

Chapter 1008 - 1008 Not Even Fully Grown Yet

1008 Not Even Fully Grown Yet

Zou Ming looked at Old Madam Fan and said, "Please give us your solution as soon as possible. We still have other work to do and can't keep dealing with your family's matters."

Old Madam Fan hesitated for a moment. She had no other way out except to agree to Su Li's demands. Su Liang and Su Yang were both in jail. Apart from the three daughters in front of her, she did not have any other relatives, let alone any good friends. No one was willing to be friends with Old Madam Fan.

In the end, Old Madam Fan agreed to what Su Li wanted. Even if her debt ended up being overdue, she reckoned that Su Li would not dare to do anything too overboard. Would Su Li hound her to death simply because she was unable to pay the debt?

If Su Li really went to her house to force her to return the money, she would sue Su Li for being unfilial to her parents! She would definitely have the upper hand! How could this little girl who was not even fully grown dare to pick a fight with her! Impossible!

Zou Ming asked Fatty to come over and follow up with the Su family members as he still had to go and discuss the compensation issue with Qiao Mei. There was also a lot of outstanding work that he had to deal with at the police station. As the year came to an end, there were always many things to do. Su Liang's issue was a prickly one as well. He had no choice but to respect the wishes of his superiors. This matter had to be handled well so that the outcome was satisfactory to everyone.

Just as Zou Ming was about to leave, Old Madam Fan grabbed him and asked, "Officer Zou! What did my son do that caused him to be arrested! Tell me!"

"Your son? Which son are you talking about?" Zou Ming asked as he looked at Old Madam Fan.

"Su Liang! Didn't you just say that Su Liang was also arrested! What happened to my son?" Old Madam Fan asked nervously.

Zou Ming had thought that Old Madam Fan did not hear what he said, but it turned out that she had taken note of it. However, this matter was related to the higher-ups. If he said too much, he may not be able to continue working in the police station.

"This matter is more complicated. Your son hurt a woman. I don't know if you know this woman, her name is Qiao Yu. As your son is a repeat offender, I'm afraid..." Zou Ming paused and sighed deeply.

Old Madam Fan could understand what Zou Ming meant. Su Liang was already a lost cause, but at the very least, one of them could still be saved! At least Su Yang could still come home and there was still hope for their family!

After completing the procedures and making payment, all the family members returned to Old Madam Fan's house in a grand manner. As soon as they entered the house, they could smell the strong scent of alcohol. There were liquor bottles and cracked seed shells all over the floor. If Old Madam Fan had been released a few months later, the entire house would have become a house of rats!

There was still no reaction on Su Li's face and her expression was very calm. Su Miao and Su Xiu stood at the door and did not want to go in. They wondered how Old Madam Fan could live in such a dirty and messy environment. Old Madam Fan had doted on their two younger brothers so much that the two men had become useless bums. They did not know how to do housework nor could they do their jobs well. They were always doing things that were against the law.

The Su family would have to be very blessed for either of them to be able to find a wife.

"Since you're back home now, I'll take my leave. Don't contact me if anything else happens in the future. Return the money to Eldest Sister and Second Sister first and then call me when it's done." After saying that, Su Li prepared to leave.

Old Madam Fan stood at the door and shouted angrily, "You little ingrate! How can I have given birth to someone like you! I should have listened to Su Guang and strangled you to death!"

There was still no expression on Su Li's face. She had long been completely disappointed in Old Madam Fan and no longer expected anything from her. Su Li's husband, Du Nan, hugged her tenderly and said, "Let's go. The children are still waiting for us at home."

"Yes, let's go," Su Li said with a smile.

Old Madam Fan continued to curse from behind, but Su Li did not care at all. She thought that it would have been better if Old Madam Fan had strangled her to death that winter so that she would not have to grow up in such a family. Fortunately, she met Du Nan when she was wandering around. Without Du Nan, she would not have been able to survive.

At the moment, she and Du Nan operated a canteen in a factory in another city. They lived in the factory and had saved a lot of money over the years. They found their lives to be quite enjoyable.

Chapter 1009 - 1009 The Ginseng Becomes a Spirit

1009 The Ginseng Becomes a Spirit

Su Li hoped that her own family's future would not be affected by Old Madam Fan. She did not want to have anything to do with this family anymore.

Qiao Mei was at home listening to Zhang Miao playing the piano when her pager suddenly vibrated a few times. Qiao Mei walked into the courtyard and shouted, "Elder sister! Officer Zou contacted me! Can you help me reply to him! Elder sister! Come quickly!"

Xia He muttered under her breath as she walked over from the front yard and said, "Qiao Mei! Do I owe you something in my previous life! I have to be ordered around by you like this in this life! I must have done something wrong to you in my previous life! Seriously!"

Qiao Mei laughed out loud when she heard what Xia He said. Perhaps there was really some grudge between Xia He and her in their previous lives. Xia He had liked Qiao Mei very much when they first met, so there must be a reason for it.

"I'll buy you a house! Is a house good enough! Don't be angry!" Qiao Mei said.

"I'd rather believe that there are ghosts in this world than believe in what you say!" Xia He said out of exasperation.

Although Xia He was unforgiving with her words, her movements were very gentle. The owner of the phone booth was by now very familiar with Xia He. He thought that he had never seen a person who liked to make phone calls so much.

"Say, young lady, does your family run some sort of business? You seem to need to use the phone every day," the boss asked curiously.

"My family has many relatives who are always on the move. It's not easy to get a phone line in this area, so I have no choice but to come to your place often," Xia He said sadly.

Actually, they could jointly apply to the government for it but the boss did not tell Xia He about this. If every family in the vicinity had a phone, then what about his business? It was better not to say too much.

Xia He read the message on the pager and quickly dialed the number listed in it. Not long after, the other party picked up the phone.

"Hello, Officer Zou. Are there any new developments in the case?" Xia He asked.

"Yes, the Su family has agreed to pay compensation. It's best if we can discuss this matter face to face. Sun Juan and Zhou Shuang must be present, otherwise the negotiations will be invalid. The parties involved must be present," Zou Ming said awkwardly. Every day, Zhou Shuang needed an injection of anti-inflammatory medication. Qiao Mei had even given her some 100-year-old ginseng juice so that she could apply it on her wound every day and it had allowed her to recover well. Sun Juan had already completely recovered. Now, Zhou Shuang was staying over at Sun Juan's house and the clinic staff would come and give her the injection every day. Her two children were still living at Feng Hong's house and she only intended to bring them home when this matter was resolved.

Given that kids were still quite fragile, the adults tried their best not to let the kids feel traumatized.

"Then you can come over to our house when you're free. They've already been discharged from the hospital," Xia He said.

"Alright, then I'll see you tomorrow," Zou Ming said.

Xia He suddenly seemed to have thought of something and asked in a hurry, "Um... Officer Zou, is it a convenient time for you now? Let's deal with this matter as soon as possible. After all, everyone here is not in good health. If we drag it out day after day, it won't be good for everyone's recovery process."

These were people that Zou Ming could not afford to offend. He had no reason to reject Xia He's request and agreed readily. He told her that he would be at Qiao Mei's house in two hours.

Xia He did not want to have something happening every day! They had not had a peaceful life for a long time. Even if the Heavenly Emperor came for a visit tomorrow, they would not entertain him! They must take a good break!

"Qiao Mei! Why are you sleeping again!" Xia He asked with a frown.

Qiao Mei just felt very tired. Perhaps it had something to do with what happened last night. Last night, she felt very angry and could not sleep, so she planted a small ginseng seedling and slowly transferred energy into the flower pot. Not long after, Qiao Mei started to drift off and stare into the distance in a daze. By the time Qiao Mei came back to her senses, the roots of the ginseng were moving around uncontrollably.

Its color was also different from other ginsengs. There was a faint golden glow around it and Qiao Mei could also feel that the energy in her body was about to be sucked dry by this ginseng.

This ginseng could even run around on its own! It was as if it had really become a spirit.

Chapter 1010 - 1010 Bribery

1010 Bribery

Qiao Mei hurriedly closed the door and windows tightly and went back into the room to get a glass bottle to put the golden ginseng inside. The small ginseng was still able to rattle around in the bottle! It knew how to stretch out its roots to try and feel its surroundings.

"This... can this really be a spirit..." Qiao Mei looked at the ginseng in the bottle in shock and said in disbelief.

Out of all the ginsengs that she cultivated, the oldest one was only 1,000 years old. The quality of this ginseng was definitely much better than the 1,000-year-old ginseng. This one was definitely at least 10,000 years old.

Qiao Mei sneaked into the storeroom when no one was looking. She took out the good wine that Xia Jun had given her and filled up the bottle containing the golden ginseng.

All this while, she had been extracting concentrated ginseng juice from the ginsengs. However, she reckoned that she would not be able to cultivate a second golden ginseng. This was something that she had obtained by accident. Even if she extracted the juice from it, she would probably only get one or two drops. It was hard to say if she could cultivate another one in the future. It would be better to soak it in wine. Although the medicinal effects would be inferior to the extracted juice, it was still much stronger than any ordinary medicinal wine.

If He Ning managed to get his hands on this bottle of wine, it would be like having the secret manual of immortality in his hands!

By the time she was done, it was almost dawn. Only then did the exhausted Qiao Mei return to the room to take a quick rest. As she did not get much rest and the past few days had been more tiring than

usual, this had given Xia He an excuse to comment that she was always feeling sleepy. Yet, it was difficult for her to defend herself.

"Elder sister, you're back... Oh, Sister Sun and Sister Zhou are also here. Come and take a seat!" Qiao Mei said groggily as she rubbed her eyes.

Sun Juan and Zhou Shuang felt very worried when they saw Qiao Mei in such a state. Qiao Mei looked much more haggard than before. They felt that Qiao Mei would not be so tired if not for their issue. At the end of the day, it was because the two of them were such a disappointment and their characters were too weak, allowing others to bully them.

"Mei Mei, why don't we just forget about the matter between us and Su Yang? It's alright as long as their family doesn't go overboard in the future. I'm almost fully recovered now and Sister Sun's neighbors will be moving out soon to live with their children. I can move next door to Sister Sun and be neighbors with her and then we'll be able to take care of each other," Zhou Shuang said.

"Don't worry. Officer Zou will be coming here today to resolve this matter. We can't let Su Yang beat us up for nothing. We must make him pay the price. I originally planned to let you stay in my house in the neighboring district but if you want to stay next door to Sister Sun, it's not a bad idea too," Qiao Mei said with a smile.

Qiao Mei still had plans to expand her business. When the time came, she would have to provide benefits like a staff dormitory. If Zhou Shuang did not have a suitable place to stay when her children grew up, Qiao Mei would discuss the matter with her then. The house in the other district was still under renovation and it would take a few months before it was ready for anyone to move in.

For the moment, moving near to Sun Juan's house was indeed the best choice for Zhou Shuang.

More than half an hour later, Zou Ming arrived at Qiao Mei's house with a big bag of fruits that he had paid for out of his own pocket. His goal was to put everyone in a good mood so that the case could be closed quickly and he could settle it properly for the police department.

If he could get Qiao Mei to put in a good word for him with the higher-ups and make his superiors happy, then he would have hope for a promotion and a raise next year.

"Officer Zou, why have you brought so many things with you? Isn't this considered bribery?" Qiao Mei looked at Zou Ming and teased him.

Zou Ming thought fast and he quickly explained, "How can this be bribery? It's only bribery if you're the one giving me something! I'm just showing my concern for the common people, so please accept it."

Qiao Mei did not stand on ceremony with Zou Ming. There was no issue for Zou Ming to bring these things in, but if he brought them back out with him, it would become a different matter. People who knew what was going on would know that it was because Qiao Mei did not accept Zou Ming's gift. However, if there were ignorant people who witnessed it, they would only take it out of context and say that Qiao Mei's family wanted to bribe the police department. When that happened, Zou Ming could forget about continuing to work at the police station.

Zou Ming was well aware of this, thus he was certain that Qiao Mei would accept his gift. Afterll, one would feel obliged to do a favor for others when one received benefits. Once Qiao Mei accepted it, she would probably feel too awkward to reject his request.

"Alright, since Officer Zou has said so, then I won't stand on ceremony. However, these are separate matters. The issue we're discussing today is not a grudge between me and Officer Zou. We must ensure that the law is enforced impartially," Qiao Mei said.