

Fat Wife 1341

Chapter 1341 Be More Ladylike

"Mother, if Qiao Mei likes that photo, just give them to her. Don't tell me you still can't bear to part with my father?" Liang Lan said.

They had already been divorced for so many years. If Liang Shu really could not bear to part with Qiao Qiang, she would not have kicked him out of the Liang family back then and made him leave with nothing. Everything in the family that was related to Qiao Qiang had been destroyed and even that tree had been cut down and burned. How could there be anything that Liang Shu could not bear to part with?

What was the use of pretending to be affectionate now! It was not as if Qiao Qiang could witness it. Even if he could, Qiao Qiang would not feel moved at all. He would only feel extremely disgusted.

Seeing that Liang Lan did not understand what she meant at all, Liang Shu did not want to expend too much energy on her. Liang Shu closed her mouth resignedly and turned her head away to take a rest.

Since those things were already in Qiao Mei's hands, there was nothing she could do now, so she decided to take a good rest. She had exhausted too much energy just now.

Liang Lan stared blankly at the glass bottle in her hand. If this medicine was really so magical, then she would only feed half of it to Liang Shu and stop once Liang Shu could move slowly on her own. Then, she would threaten not to feed the remaining medicine to Liang Shu until she handed over a portion of the family assets.

She could not let Liang Guo's family have all the good things. She must take back what belonged to her!

She did not want to take care of Liang Shu for so many days for nothing! She must get Liang Shu to give her some benefits! She did not want to be at the mercy of others anymore. If she did not take her revenge now, then when?

Qiao Mei skipped her way to Qiao Qiang's backyard. This was the happiest day of her life since the day she gave birth and she was even happier than usual.

"Grandfather! Grandfather, I'm back!" Qiao Mei said with a smile.

"Why are you so gleeful? You look so graceless!" Qiao Qiang pretended to reprimand her.

Qiao Mei patted the dust off her skirt and said, "Grandfather now expects me to be graceful. Why should I be graceful? I'm not a model and don't need to go on stage to perform!"

"A girl can't go around behaving like a boy. Besides, you're already married and also a mother now. Shouldn't you portray a gentle image in front of the children? The Xia family is a prominent family after all. Don't you want to maintain the image of being the Xia family's Third Young Madam?" Qiao Qiang said eloquently.

"Third Young Madam! Grandfather! You can address me that way if you go back 100 years in time, but we're living in modern times now! You can't be so old-fashioned and superstitious!" Qiao Mei said. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

"Do you mean that I don't make sense?" Qiao Qiang looked at Qiao Mei unhappily.

"You make sense! You make sense! I'll definitely listen to Grandfather in the future! Can I just be more ladylike?" Qiao Mei said quickly.

The current Qiao Qiang was like a child. No wonder people used the term "overgrown child" to describe elderly folks! He still needed to be coaxed!

"Why are you looking for me? Isn't this the usual time when you go out to have fun?" Qiao Qiang asked curiously.

Every Wednesday afternoon, Qiao Mei would always ask the Xia family's chauffeur to pick her up and bring her to Antique City so that she could shop around. Many shop owners in Antique City placed their best items on the shelves on Wednesdays, waiting for Qiao Mei to come and make her pick!

The most extravagant thing that Qiao Mei did so far was to buy a small table made of golden cedar wood. Since she could not transport it back using the car, she could only borrow a truck from the Xia family. With a wave of her hand, Qiao Mei asked Luo Yu to send a big military truck, worried that her small table would be damaged during the transportation process.

It went without saying that Qiao Mei had to pay a lot of money for the service. This truck was also a vehicle used exclusively by the guard team and was usually used to transport the team's materials.

"I went to visit Liang Shu today," Qiao Mei said calmly as she sat beside Qiao Qiang.

Qiao Qiang was stunned for a moment before he nodded and said, "Yes, how is she?"

"She's not in a very good condition and actually looks quite bad, but I have already sent her some medicine. The medicine is enough to let her return to her original way of life," Qiao Mei said.

"That's good," Qiao Qiang sighed and said.

Qiao Mei took out Qiao Qiang's photo from her pocket and handed it to him.
"Grandfather, look. I found this at their house. At that time, you were so young and looked completely different from now! There must be many girls who wooed you then!"

"I never expected them to still have my photo!" Qiao Qiang took the photo and suddenly felt a little emotional. It felt as if the photo was taken in another lifetime.

Chapter 1342 My First Wife

"Yes, it's probably a photo which they either forgot to destroy or missed out on. When I went there today, I saw that the cherry tree in the courtyard was already gone," Qiao Mei said regretfully.

"They would not have kept anything related to me. If that house wasn't the Liang family's old house, Liang Shu would have sold it long ago. She wouldn't have kept it until now!" Qiao Qiang said with a smile, as if he did not care about all those things which the Liang family had done.

Qiao Qiang was a little puzzled though. By right, Liang Shu should be recuperating in the current Liang family mansion or staying with either Liang Lan or Liang Guo. He wondered why she ended up at the old house.

Suddenly, he thought of Liang Can and shook his head resignedly with a smile. Liang Can was exactly the same as before and still so petty. Liang Shu must have suffered a lot at his hands both openly and covertly over the years.

"Grandfather, aren't you angry about it? I don't think I've ever seen you angry about anything other than me," Qiao Mei asked.

Qiao Qiang carefully recalled the time when he was chased out of the house by the Liang family. At that time, he did not feel anything. He was neither disappointed nor uncomfortable. He did not even feel angry.

The truth was that he already had a premonition that he would have to leave the Liang family. He and the Liang family were destined to walk on different paths. In the first place, he had been forced to become the Liang family's matrilocal son-in-law, so it was only right for him to be the one to leave.

He did not have any objections to the Liang family asking him to leave with nothing. At that time, he was young and impetuous and was more concerned about his pride. He did not care about money at all. Otherwise, his early days with Qiao Mei would not have been so tough.

What made Qiao Qiang the most upset was that his two children publicly insulted him, reprimanded him and even declared that they felt ashamed of him. This was the thing which shattered his last line of defense.

"Everything else is insignificant, but you're the apple of my eye! If anyone bullies you, I won't let them off! I will turn into a malicious ghost to haunt them if I have to!" Qiao Qiang said.

"Pfft, touch wood, what nonsense are you spouting! Grandfather, you still have to watch Xia Fan and Xia Xing grow up. You must be around when Xia Fan and Xia Xing get married! You must live to be 100 years old!" Qiao Mei said agitatedly.

"Alright, alright, alright. I'll listen to you and live well," Qiao Qiang said with a smile.

As Qiao Qiang spoke, his grip on the photo loosened and it fell to the floor. There was originally only one photo, but now there were two. Such old photos tended to stick together as time passed. No wonder Qiao Mei had felt that it was much thicker than ordinary photos when she first held it in her hand. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

"Eh?" Qiao Mei picked up the photo and looked closely at the people in it. There was a person who looked almost identical to Qiao Mei. The level of similarity was at least 80%.

This woman stood in the middle of the photo with Liang Shu and another man on each side of her. Since Qiao Mei had seen many photos of the Liang family members when she was at the Liang family's old house, she naturally knew what the young Liang Shu looked like.

"Grandfather, do you know this person?" Qiao Mei handed the photo to Qiao Qiang and he subconsciously called out a name.

"Xia Chun..."

"What? Grandfather, who did you say this is?" Qiao Mei asked.

Qiao Qiang slowly stroked the image of the woman in the photo and said, "This is your grandmother, my first wife."

No wonder Liang Shu looked like she had seen a ghost when she first saw Qiao Mei. Could it be that there was some kind of grudge between Liang Shu and Xia Chun? A person who did not do anything wrong would not be afraid of ghosts coming to knock on the door. If they were just normal friends, then there was no reason for Liang Shu to look so frightened.

pandasnovel.com "Grandfather, who's the man on the left?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

"That's Liang Shu's brother, Liang Can. This person is meticulous and ruthless. He's even more canny than He Ning. It's just that he's not as lucky as He Ning and hasn't achieved much even until now. His children are also a disappointment to him," Qiao Qiang said.

This was something that could not be helped. If one wanted to achieve something, one had to do it at the right time, in the right place and with the right people. It involved all three aspects and one would not be able to achieve anything if any of the three were missing. Sometimes, luck was only useful in the hands of a capable person.

"But why haven't I seen any photos of Grandmother at home?" Qiao Mei asked.

Given that Xia Chun was so beautiful and came from the capital, why would she go to live in such a remote mountain village? Li Gui used to be very beautiful when she was young and all the young men in the area wanted to go to her house to propose marriage. With Xia Chun's background and beauty, it was impossible that no one in the village had ever mentioned her.

Chapter 1343 No Marriage Certificate

Qiao Mei really looked very much like Xia Chun. When she first started losing weight, people around would definitely have noticed the similarity. However, even the oldest person in the village, Grandpa Deng, did not seem surprised and only felt that Qiao Mei had become more good-looking. No one seemed to remember anything about her grandmother's looks.

"Your grandmother doesn't like to take photos. She has a very long scar which runs across her entire face. The left side of her face is scratched so badly that it's almost impossible to imagine what she looks like. The right side of her face is still alright but no one can tell what she used to look like. People usually don't talk much to your grandmother," Qiao Qiang explained.

Even though her face was injured only after she took the photo, based on her demeanor and clear eyes, Qiao Qiang could still tell that the person in the photo was his first wife, Xia Chun.

Qiao Qiang and Xia Chun could be considered to have met by accident.

At that time, Qiao Qiang was a farmer in Foshan Village. When he was young, the Qiao family was quite well-to-do and Qiao Qiang could still go to school. He studied in a private school for many years. However, after his parents passed away, he and the young Qiao Zhuang only had each other after that.

The good thing was that they were two strong young men. After they grew up, the two of them would work especially hard during the autumn harvest season and would always rank number one in the village.

However, this also meant that the two of them used up a lot of energy and needed to eat a lot. They only had enough money to feed themselves and could not afford anything else. They did not even have money to fix the roof when it started leaking.

As the days passed, a homeless girl suddenly appeared in the village. All the children in the village were very afraid of her and even nicknamed her "the female ghost." At that time, if any child was not obedient at home, the adults would mention Xia Chun's appearance to scare the children.

Men like Qiao Qiang and Qiao Zhuang could not find a wife at all. No one would dare to let their daughter marry into the poor and unsuccessful Qiao family. At that time, Qiao Zhuang was already a bully in the village and everyone was a little afraid of him.

When Qiao Qiang was around, Qiao Zhuang would still restrain himself. However, whenever Qiao Qiang was not around, one of the families in the village would definitely suffer from his bullying tactics. It was useless even if Qiao Qiang made a trip to apologize. The next time, Qiao Zhuang would just bully them even more. As time passed, everyone avoided the Qiao brothers.

Even if Qiao Qiang was a nice and eligible bachelor, no one would dare to fraternize with the Qiao family because of his younger brother's character. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

Xia Chun just wandered around the village. Some people took pity on her sometimes and would give her some food. Sometimes, when Xia Chun was hungry and no one offered her any food, she would go up the mountain to dig for grass and weeds to eat.

pandasnovel.com One day, Qiao Qiang had gone into the mountains to pick mushrooms when he came across Xia Chun who had fainted. He quickly carried her to the clinic and gave her the last bit of rations at home. She finally woke up after a few hours.

Perhaps it was fated. The next day, Xia Chun put all kinds of weeds at Qiao Qiang's door. Those who did not know better would think that Qiao Qiang's family raised cows and sheep and that the weeds at the door were food for the livestock!

Some of these weeds were edible, but some were not. Xia Chun did not know anything about them at all. She had eaten all kinds while in the wilderness and found some weeds more delicious than others, so what she did was to give Qiao Qiang those which she found nice.

She was lucky not to have eaten any poisonous weeds and grass. Otherwise, all that was left would be Xia Chun's corpse.

"Your grandmother is a very simple person and she's very hardworking. You resemble her a lot. Although she's disfigured, everyone likes your grandmother very much. She always treats people with a lot of sincerity," Qiao Qiang said emotionally.

"Then where did my grandmother come from?" Qiao Mei asked.

"She had never told me about her background. Actually, during the years when we were together, she didn't really say much to me. Even when she spoke, her voice was very hoarse, as if her vocal cords were injured. What I remember most is that she liked to sit under the sun with a bright smile. Also, no matter how late I came home, she would stay up and wait for me," Qiao Qiang said with a smile.

"How did you two decide to get married?" Qiao Mei continued to ask.

"In the beginning, I just could not bear to see a girl wandering around without food. I always gave her my food and as time passed, we ended up together," Qiao Qiang said to Qiao Mei with a smile.

Chapter 1344 Butterfly Mark

"Did you hold a wedding at that time? Was there any ceremony?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

Novel.com "We did not have money to hold a wedding ceremony. Besides, who could we invite to the banquet? At that time, we didn't even have a marriage certificate. The two of us just felt that we could live together and so we did just that," Qiao Qiang said.

One year after Qiao Qiang got married, Qiao Zhuang also found himself a wife. He applied to get a piece of land as the location of his matrimonial home and borrowed money from all the families in the village to build the house. Rather than saying he borrowed money from everyone, it would be more accurate to say that he robbed everyone.

After Qiao Zhuang and Qiao Qiang started their own families, it was as if they had gone their separate ways. One lived at the east end of the village while the other lived at the west end of the village. They rarely interacted with each other.

At that time, a group of people suddenly came to the village to hold a recruitment drive for the army. Any man of the right age could enlist as long as he passed the physical examination. After some careful consideration, Qiao Qiang left the village with them. He wanted to take this chance to work hard so that Xia Chun could live with her head held high and everyone would think highly of the Qiao family.

However, Qiao Qiang did not know that Xia Chun was already pregnant at that time. Even Xia Chun herself did not know that she was pregnant.

It was all the neighbors who helped out when Xia Chun gave birth. However, due to chronic malnutrition, she died not long after giving birth.

As Qiao Qiang's younger brother, Qiao Zhuang should be the one to take good care of Xia Chun and Qiao Qiang's child when Qiao Qiang was not in the village. However, not only did Qiao Zhuang not help out, he even added insult to injury.

Everyone had to chip in to give Xia Chun a funeral. After that, it was Village Chief Zhao Liang who raised Qiao Yue. Zhao Liang definitely could not afford to raise a baby on his own. None of the villagers could. At that time, every family in Foshan Village was so poor that they could not even afford to eat. At the mention of Foshan Village, people from other villages would all run far away.

Qiao Yue ended up being brought up by everyone in the village. By the time Qiao Qiang returned to his hometown, Qiao Yue was already of marriageable age and the grass around Xia Chun's grave had already grown very tall.

"I owe your grandmother a lot. All these years, this is the thing that I find hardest to let go. Even if I can go back in time, I'm still in the wrong no matter what decision I make," Qiao Qiang said guiltily. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

"Grandmother won't blame you. She's such a kind person, so she must understand why you did what you did and still be very proud of you," Qiao Mei said.

Qiao Qiang could only hope that Xia Chun had reincarnated into a good family in her next life and did not have to suffer so much.

Qiao Mei looked down and stared intently at the photo. She still could not understand why Xia Chun would appear in Foshan Village. In the photo, she was dressed very well. At that time, the Liang family should be considered one of the most outstanding families in the capital. To be able to take a photo with Liang Shu and Liang Can, she should be from a family of high status. Why would she suddenly appear in the village?

There were too many questionable points about why this woman with the peerlessly beautiful face turned into the disfigured woman whom her grandfather had mentioned.

When Xia Zhe returned, she would ask him to send an investigator to look into it. Qiao Mei had a feeling that there was something wrong here. Perhaps she would be able to get some dirt on the Liang family after the investigation.

After Qiao Mei helped Qiao Qiang back to his room, she went to the study alone to carefully examine the butterfly ring. If this ring and the photo were placed in the same box, could it also be related to Xia Chun?

Just as Qiao Mei was inspecting the ring closely, she suddenly felt a sharp pain in her palm. No matter how hard she tried, she could not shake off the butterfly ring. The ring began to emit a blood-red light and gradually melted into Qiao Mei's palm while she could only look on in horror.

Her body seemed to be held tightly by someone and she could not move at all. She could only watch as the ring fused with her body and completely disappeared, leaving behind a faint red-colored butterfly-like tattoo on her palm.

The butterfly seemed to have a life of its own and it slowly moved from Qiao Mei's palm to her arm and then to her neck. Finally, it stopped near Qiao Mei's heart and its color changed from light red to black. The light also disappeared at this time.

"What... what exactly is this!" Qiao Mei looked at the butterfly on her chest in fear. No matter how hard she tried, she could not wipe it off. Her skin turned red from all the rubbing she did, but the butterfly remained intact.

Chapter 1345 Test

For a few days in a row, Qiao Mei locked herself in the study. She took out all the ancient books in the room and looked through them carefully, but she did not find any records about this ring. There was not even any drawing of something similar.

She then drew a picture of the ring and the butterfly mark and showed it to each and every shop owner at the Antique City. All of them said they had never seen such a ring.

It was really strange to think that other than the jade pendant left behind by Wu Min, there were still other accessories with magical functions. This ring was only one out of many.

However, if this ring had any magical function, Qiao Mei should have been able to sense it after so many days. Why was it that she did not feel anything at all?

The only difference now was that whenever she activated her energy, the butterfly on her chest would glow red. The more energy she used, the fainter the color of the butterfly.

"Can this be some kind of divine beast? Maybe it'll become a butterfly fairy after nurturing itself with my body and energy for a period of time?" Qiao Mei lay back on the rocking chair and made wild guesses.

She had read many fairy tales in her other life. Perhaps one day, this butterfly mark would take on a human form and become her slave? She could only make unrealistic guesses as she really did not know what the butterfly mark was supposed to do.

Qiao Mei suddenly remembered that in many television dramas she had watched in her other life, the characters would need to say an incantation in order to activate magic. Could it be that this butterfly also needed an incantation?

Qiao Mei stood solemnly in the middle of the study. After thinking for a long time, she decided to do a horse stance. There was a determined and decisive look in her eyes as she stared ahead. Then, she suddenly shouted, "Space-time backpack!"

Even after waiting for five seconds, nothing happened around her. Qiao Mei touched the tip of her nose awkwardly and muttered softly, "Is it the wrong incantation?"

After that, Qiao Mei went through a long period of trial and error.

"Laser sword!"

"Thunderstorm! Snow!"

"Open sesame!"

"Blood guidance! Alliance with butterflies! Elves from afar! Please heed my call! I summon you here! Please appear quickly!!!" I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

"..."

After trying for an entire hour, Qiao Mei had used up every phrase she could think of. There was no change in her surroundings at all.

Xia He and Feng Hua squatted under the windowsill of the study and listened carefully to the movements in the room. Qiao Mei had forgotten to close the window when she was trying to find out the use of the butterfly.

Xia He covered her mouth and whispered, "What's Qiao Mei saying in the room? Sister Feng, can you hear her clearly?"

"I don't know either. Has Qiao Mei been possessed? I don't think Qiao Mei seems well during the past few days after Xia Zhe left. Perhaps... we should ask Xia Zhe to come back. What if Qiao Mei can't hold up anymore?" Feng Hua said as she looked at Xia He fearfully.

"No, Qiao Mei is not that weak. Let's observe further. If Qiao Mei continues to behave like this, then I'll get Father to ask Xia Zhe to come back," Xia He said.

Qiao Mei crouched on the windowsill and looked at the two people squatting below. "Do you think I can't hear anything you say?"

Xia He and Feng Hua raised their heads in shock and looked at Qiao Mei. Then, the two of them smiled awkwardly and walked away from Qiao Mei's study with their arms around each other's shoulders.

As Qiao Mei turned around, she suddenly felt a little dizzy. She quickly held onto the window to support herself. In her mind, she suddenly saw an image of many bugs gnawing at wood. She could even see the texture of the wood clearly.

"Oh! Can this be... the window frame?" Qiao Mei hurriedly lifted her hand and kept a distance away from the window frame. The image in her mind also disappeared at the same time.

She stared blankly at the window frame. It was Xia Wen who carefully selected and bought the wood. There should not be any problems, right? However, where did that image just now come from? She was clearly looking at this window frame.

Qiao Mei took a hammer and a saw from the storeroom and cut out the damaged part of the window frame that she saw. It was true! The damaged part looked exactly the same as the image she had in her mind! Even the number of bugs was the same!

Qiao Mei could not believe that this was happening. She then placed her hand on the closet and slowly activated her energy. The butterfly mark on her chest turned light red and the interior of the closet appeared in her mind. Qiao Mei knew very well how the items inside were arranged and what material the closet was made of.

Chapter 1346 Two Abilities

After Qiao Mei's repeated attempts, she was finally able to confirm the use of this butterfly mark. Not only did it give her x-ray vision, but it could also display all the items in her mind. Just like the VR technology which existed in her other life, she could use her mind to control the items she saw.

She just did not know if she could use this thing to design an item in her mind without touching anything, like making a 3D model. After Qiao Mei tried it out, she realized that it was not possible. Perhaps this was still an undeveloped competency. With her current ability, she still could not fully utilize the power of the butterfly mark.

παΠδαςNovel.com By now, Qiao Mei had already uncovered two functions. The abilities hidden in this ring were definitely not so simple. When she first saw the ring, she had seen many types of gems on it. There were sapphires, pigeon blood rubies, topaz, emeralds, pink diamonds and some pave diamond inlays.

Now that she thought about it carefully, these gems might each represent an ability. Qiao Mei asked all the shop owners in Antique City to show her all their good-quality gems, no matter the price. In the space of an afternoon, Qiao Mei bought four of the six types of gems based on the size and purity so that she could use them for comparison.

The energy of plants and jade alone was not enough to improve the power of the butterfly mark significantly. It was only after she absorbed the energy of these gems that the butterfly mark felt slightly warm. Furthermore, the purer the gems were, the warmer the butterfly mark on her chest became. It seemed that only by absorbing the energy of corresponding gems could the butterfly mark unleash its maximum power.

"Sigh... why is this thing so fussy? It can't do much, but it needs so many things. Just these gems alone will make me bankrupt!" Qiao Mei said as she looked aggrievedly at the dull gems in front of her.

The price of gemstones was much higher than jade. Furthermore, some gemstones could only be obtained through auctions. Qiao Mei needed more money. With the amount of money she had now, it was completely impossible for her to realize her dream of being able to retire comfortably in the future. If this continued, she would not even have enough money to buy gemstones!

However, if Qiao Mei thought about it from another perspective, this ability could be considered a blessing. She could use the butterfly mark's x-ray vision to go to the jade shop in Antique City to buy raw jade stones!

As soon as she touched the stone, she would be able to know the kind of jade that could be found inside the stone. This would save Qiao Mei a lot of money! If she thought about it this way, then the butterfly mark could be considered to pay back for what she was spending on it.

It was almost spring and she needed to hurry up and get the factory in the suburbs built. Then, she needed to find a place to grow seeds in the capital. She must make full use of her time and earn a lot of money. I think you should take a look at paπdasnovel.com

Qiao Mei leaned out of the study's window and shouted, "Xia He!!! Come quickly! I have something to tell you!"

Xia He was carrying Xia Fan at the moment and the shout gave her a fright. Xia Fan did not react at all and continued to look up at Xia He smilingly. Xia Fan held one of Xia He's fingers tightly with his small hand, looking extremely cute.

"Oh my... This loud voice really gave me a shock. Xiao Fan, are you already used to your mother being like this? Little darling~ You're so cute~ I'm going to go and look for your mother. Be good and stay here with your sister and listen to Sister Feng." Xia He handed Xia Fan to Feng Hua and went over to the study.

"You're so impatient. Didn't you chase me away just now? Why are you asking me to come back now?" Xia He entered and sat opposite Qiao Mei brusquely, crossing her arms and looking at Qiao Mei.

Qiao Mei laughed and said, "Did I chase you away just now? You were the one who was eavesdropping and then you left because you were embarrassed after getting caught in the act. It had nothing to do with me."

"Tsk, just spit it out quickly. What do you want?" Xia He asked.

"Has Deng Fan done up the blueprint? I want him to go to the suburbs to start the construction work immediately and it has to be completed within half a month. I can give him a lot of money to hire as many people as he wants. I just want it to be completed within half a month and he can do it in whatever way he wants," Qiao Mei said anxiously.

"I've never asked him about his design work. I think I'll get him to come in later. The two of you can have a chat and set the timeline. He will be coming to pick me up tonight," Xia He said.

Qiao Mei felt a little apologetic. She knew that Deng Fan had intended to renovate his own house, but she had cut in and completely disrupted his plans. There was an urgency to start work on the factory and she needed someone she trusted to design the place. It looked like Xia He would have to wait a little longer before she could get married.

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Chapter 1347 A Huge Battle

Xia He could read Qiao Mei very well by now. Although she did not know where all those whimsical thoughts in Qiao Mei's head came from, and sometimes she did not quite understand Qiao Mei's intentions, she could always get an accurate feel of Qiao Mei's emotions.

"You don't have to think so much. It doesn't matter whether I get married earlier or later. It's not like I've never been married before. If Deng Fan keeps urging me to marry into the Deng family immediately, then I'll wonder if there's something wrong with the family and if they're waiting for me to fall into the trap! So there's no need to blame yourself for doing things that are related to work. I'm completely fine about it," Xia He teased.

"Then I'll really order Deng Fan around this once! You're the one who says I can do whatever I want!" Qiao Mei said to Xia He with a laugh.

"Go ahead and order him around. It's also a good opportunity for me to find out what Deng Fan is like when he's at work and whether he's a reliable man. It'll give me a chance to observe him closely. I can't just throw all caution to the winds and get married so easily. As long as we haven't registered the marriage, I can go back on my word at any time," Xia He said.

Qiao Mei had still wanted to put Deng Fan through a few more tests, but she did not expect Xia He to be so cautious too. It seemed that there was no need for her to be the one to test him anymore. It was good enough that Xia He was being very clear-headed about the whole situation.

Xia He asked Xu Kang to go to the convenience store at the entrance of the alley to make a phone call to Deng Fan. However, there was no sight of Deng Fan after a long time and he still did not turn up when it was time for dinner. Xia He stood at the door and looked around anxiously.

Based on her understanding of Deng Fan, he would not miss an appointment for no reason. He must have run into some kind of trouble. Xia He suddenly heard the roar of a motorcycle, then she saw Deng Fan riding towards her.

Xia He was about to berate Deng Fan when she saw that there were many scratches all over his body. He looked very disheveled, like he had just fought a huge battle with an animal. It looked as if he had been fighting with a tiger.

pandasnovel.com Xia He was at a loss. What exactly happened? Could it be that Deng Fan had fallen into a tigers' den?

"You... what's wrong with you?" Xia He asked.

"Something happened and there was an argument. I must have been injured accidentally. It doesn't hurt at all," Deng Fan said with a smile, as if he was not standing there with injuries all over his body.

There was even a long and thin scratch mark on Deng Fan's face that was still oozing a little bit of blood. For dancers like them, their looks were as important as their lives. Who had beaten up Deng Fan and how could that person be so heavy-handed? I think you should take a look at pantheonovel.com

"Who the hell did this! Tell me! I'll get Eldest Brother to deal with them immediately! It's too much! How can they hurt your face!" Xia He said agitatedly.

Even if it was no problem for Deng Fan to quit being a dancer and become an architect instead, he could not be beaten up like this. There was no issue in this world that could not be discussed peacefully and had to be resolved by force.

Deng Fan was a person who did not fight for anything. It was obvious that the scratch mark was caused by a woman. He probably just stood there in a daze and did not fight back at all. He did not have a habit of hitting women.

"Alright, let's go in and talk about it. This matter is a bit complicated and I also don't know how to handle it." Deng Fan had come to Qiao Mei's place to ask her for help and see if there was any way to resolve his current predicament.

Xia He pulled Deng Fan towards the study to look for Qiao Mei. When Qiao Mei saw what had happened to Deng Fan, she was concerned about Qiao Qiang and Li Gui being worried if they saw him. The two of them had long treated Xia He like one of the family and Xia He's status in their hearts was second only to hers. If they caught a glimpse of Deng Fan in his current state, they might want Xia He to delay her marriage to Deng Fan!

"Sister Xu, please bring our food to the living room at my side. Just set out enough for the three of us. Don't tell Grandfather why so that they don't have to worry," Qiao Mei said.

"Sure." Xu Kang followed Qiao Mei's instructions and replated all the food. It was still too early to bring the food out for Qiao Mei and the others since they were still discussing matters in the study. After Qiao Mei's group finished their discussion, Xu Kang would set the food out for them. For now, she would serve Qiao Qiang and the rest first.

"Why do the two of you look so serious? What happened?" Qiao Mei asked.

Deng Fan looked at Xia He and did not know what to tell Qiao Mei. After all, this was the Deng family's issue, yet he could not handle it on his own and now had to trouble the Xia family members. He felt really incompetent.

"Just say it. Qiao Mei is one of us. It's fine!" Xia He said agitatedly.

Chapter 1348 You Have To Be Responsible For Me

"Just tell me if there's anything I can do to help. This room is soundproof. Other than the three of us, no one else can hear what you say today," Qiao Mei said.

Deng Fan related everything that happened just now.

Jiang Shu used to have a close childhood friend. The two of them grew up together and were like sisters. At that time, the two of them had even made a promise to be friends forever.

If they both had only sons or only daughters in the future, then their kids would be like brothers or sisters. If one of them had a son and the other a daughter, the two of them would become in-laws. They made a promise to be best friends forever.

Later on, Jiang Shu's childhood friend gradually began to disagree with her on many things. She even hung out with bad company outside of school when they were still students and her results plummeted as a result. She even instigated Jiang Shu to pursue this so-called "freedom" together with her. In the end, the two of them did not remain in contact with each other after they graduated.

For some reason, her childhood friend found out that Deng Fan was getting married soon and quickly rushed over with her daughter. That girl had never even seen Deng Fan before, but the moment they met, she threw herself into his arms and even announced in front of everyone around that she was Deng Fan's real fiancée and that Xia He was the third party who ruined their relationship.

No matter how hard Deng Fan tried to explain, no one believed him. People were only interested in scandals and did not care about the truth.

He did not know these two women at all. The mother-and-daughter duo became more and more agitated as they spoke and they even started to curse at Jiang Shu and Deng Fan for not caring about them after they prospered. Deng Fan barely managed to escape after getting beaten up by them. In fact, even up until now, he still did not know what was going on.

No matter whether the marriage pact which the mother-and-daughter duo mentioned was real or not, he knew very well that Xia He was not a third party, but someone he had been thinking of for so many years.

"Does Auntie know about this matter?" Qiao Mei asked as she looked at Deng Fan sternly.

"I don't know. I came over as soon as the whole thing ended and didn't have time to talk to her yet," Deng Fan replied honestly.

Qiao Mei suddenly seemed to have thought of something. She grabbed her coat and walked out of the door. As she walked, she said to Deng Fan and Xia He, "Quickly put on your coats and follow me! Hurry!" I think you should take a look at paπdasnovel.com

"Oh no! They might have gone to your mother's place! We must hurry back!" Xia He immediately thought of the same thing as Qiao Mei.

Deng Fan immediately ran out of the house. It was faster for him to go home on his motorcycle, so he did not go with the two women. It was just as Qiao Mei had said. The mother-and-daughter duo were making a scene at the entrance of the Deng family's house.

The house which Jiang Shu and Deng Rui were currently living in was actually the Jiang family's old house. Most of the neighbors grew up with Jiang Shu or were the older generation who had watched her grow up. They all knew who the woman crying on the ground was and everyone gathered at the Deng family's door while talking among themselves.

"Isn't this Ye Xiang, the daughter of the Ye family who used to live in this alley? Why is she back here?" an elderly female neighbor whispered.

"The person with her must be her daughter. Seriously, a crooked stick will have a crooked shadow. The two of them behave in exactly the same way! How can she still have the cheek to come back? Isn't she worried that others will find out about those dirty things she did back then? Yet she still dares to behave so atrociously here?" another female neighbor said as she put her hand over her mouth.

"That's right! She caused Jiang Shu to get into so much trouble back then, yet she still has the cheek to want her daughter to marry Jiang Shu's son! She's simply shameless! She bullies Jiang Shu because Jiang Shu is too nice!" the elderly female neighbor said.

pandasnovel.com Deng Fan was only concerned for the safety of Jiang Shu and Deng Rui and did not even look at Ye Xiang and her daughter. As he walked straight towards the courtyard, Ye Xiang secretly gave her daughter, Ye Lei, a look.

Ye Lei immediately understood what Ye Xiang meant. She threw herself in front of Deng Fan and hugged his leg as she cried out, "Brother Deng! How can you be so heartless! You can't treat me like this! You must be responsible for me!"

"What nonsense are you spouting!" Deng Fan frowned and looked at Ye Lei, who was on the ground.

"I'm not spouting nonsense! You have to be responsible for me! You and I... both of us... Oh my! Do I have to say it out loud in front of so many people?" Ye Lei said as she looked at Deng Fan with a shy expression.

The neighbors surrounding them all gasped. In this era, such matters were still very taboo. If a couple slept together before they were married, they would be criticized to death! The woman would be locked into a cage and forcibly drowned! The man would be tied to a pillar and beaten to death!

Chapter 1349 Misidentify Someone

"Oh my~ What responsibility? Do I want me to be responsible for you as well? Does any random stranger on this street have to be responsible for you?" Qiao Mei's voice sounded from within the crowd.

The people standing around did not know who Qiao Mei was, but they all knew Xia He, who was with Qiao Mei. They had all met her at Deng Fan's birthday dinner. The crowd made way and opened up a path for them.

Ye Lei stared blankly at the beautiful woman in front of her. Was this Xia He? However, this person looked very different from her mother's description. Did she not say that Xia He was just an ordinary-looking middle-aged woman?

Oh heck. Since this woman was willing to step forward and argue with her, then she must be Xia He!

"Sister Xia He! Please be magnanimous and let Brother Deng Fan and I off! Brother Deng Fan and I are childhood sweethearts and we are already engaged to be married. Please fulfill our wish! If I can't marry Deng Fan, then... then I don't want to live anymore!" Ye Lei said tearfully.

pandasNovel.com Xia He stood behind Qiao Mei and wanted to step forward to argue with this woman. Qiao Mei quickly reached out to stop her and also indicated that Deng Fan should not say anything.

Since this woman had misidentified her, Qiao Mei decided to play along. She had nothing much to do during this period of time and it was good to get a chance to relieve her boredom.

"You want me to fulfill your wish? I'm not your mother, nor am I Deng Fan's mother. How am I supposed to fulfill your wish?" Qiao Mei asked.

"As long as... as long as you leave Brother Deng Fan, I believe Brother Deng Fan will definitely come back to me!" Ye Lei said in a dainty manner.

"You just said that you are in love with each other, but it has become your one-sided crush in the blink of an eye? Are you telling lies?" Qiao Mei looked at Ye Lei teasingly.

Ye Lei had thought that Xia He was just a reckless woman who only knew how to fight. She did not expect her to be so eloquent. It really made her want to relook at her understanding of the phrase "reckless woman".

"Of course not!" Ye Lei said.

"No? If it's not like this, then what is it? In this era, do we still have to choose our partners based on what our parents and the matchmakers say? Even so, Deng Fan's mother likes me very much and all the neighbors here also know it for a fact. Do I have to give him up just because some woman appears out of the blue and says that she and Deng Fan are engaged?" Qiao Mei questioned. I think you should take a look at paπdasnovel.com

"But! Auntie Deng approved of me first! Brother Deng Fan and I are a match made for each other!" Ye Lei still wanted to continue quibbling.

"You don't have to tell me so much. I'm not Xia He. You can't even identify the right person, yet you still say that you and Deng Fan are in love? If you're really in love, how can you not know who your rival is? Do you only have an imaginary enemy in your mind? You only know the person's name, but you don't know what the person looks like," Qiao Mei said slowly as she stared at Ye Lei.

Everything Qiao Mei said was true and the people around her could not help but sigh. They did not expect that after so many years, Ye Xiang had brought up a child who behaved exactly like her when she was young.

Back then, she had gotten the Yin family's brothers in trouble and now she had instigated her daughter to harm the Deng family's son. How shameless of her!

"You! You're not Xia He! You tricked me!" Ye Lei shouted as she looked at Qiao Mei angrily.

"Yes, I'm not Xia He. You targeted me the moment you spoke. Did I have a chance to refute you?" Qiao Mei said aggrievedly, as if she was the victim.

Before Ye Lei could speak, Xia He looked at Deng Fan and said earnestly, "Deng Fan, go in and take a look at your parents first."

Deng Fan was a little worried about leaving them with these two crazy women from the Ye family. After all, he had seen what these two could do. If Xia He's face was injured, her dancing career might just

come to an end today. If anything should happen to Qiao Mei, his life would also come to an end when Xia Zhe returned.

"The two of you should come in with me," Deng Fan said with a frown.

"It's fine. I still have something to ask the two of them. We'll go in later," Xia He said in a gentle manner.

Qiao Mei's hair stood on end when she heard Xia He's gentle tone of voice. The calmer Xia He became, the more furious she was.

Xia He was different from other people. Usually, when a person became angry, the person would either keep quiet or fly into a rage. However, when Xia He was really angry, she would act as if nothing had happened and continued to smile and talk to you.

Chapter 1350 A Life For A Life

Although Xia He usually seemed very bad-tempered, it was all just an act. As long as she was still willing to retort, it meant that there was nothing wrong and she was not really angry.

Qiao Mei silently dodged to one side. She looked at the Ye family's mother- and-daughter duo with pity in her eyes. They were going to suffer in a while!

After hearing what Xia He said, Deng Fan went into the house to check on his parents. Ye Lei wanted to pounce on Deng Fan and stop him from going in, but Xia He suddenly stepped forward and stomped on Ye Lei's hand.

"Ah!!!" Ye Lei let out a heart-wrenching scream. Ye Xiang hurriedly crawled to Ye Lei's side and kept grabbing at Xia He's foot, trying to lift it up.

"How can you do this to my daughter! Lift your foot! Lift it up!" Ye Xiang said anxiously.

Xia He forcefully grinded her foot twice and then pretended to be surprised as she lifted her foot and said, "Oh my, oh my! I'm really sorry. How did I end up stepping on someone? I didn't see you. My apologies."

Ye Xiang thought that Xia He was really apologizing to them. She stood up, pointed at Xia He and said in a pompous manner, "Do you think you can get away with just an apology? No way! My daughter needs her hand to play musical instruments! You must have fractured her hand! This will affect her performance in the future. You have to take responsibility!"

"This is too much. When does any Ye family member know how to play musical instruments? They're so poor that they're still renting a house. They have even sold their old house. As if Ye Xiang has money to pay for her child's music lessons!" the elderly female neighbor yelled out mockingly.

"That's right! Those hands are as thick as radishes. How can they be the hands of someone who knows how to play musical instruments! They look more like the hands of a cook!" the other female neighbor echoed.

Fracture? Then this was a golden opportunity! Qiao Mei's eyes lit up. She walked forward and looked at Ye Lei's fingers excitedly. They indeed looked a little swollen, but as long as she touched them lightly, she would immediately know whether what Ye Xiang said was true.

Without another word, Qiao Mei grabbed hold of Ye Lei's hand. An X-ray image of Ye Lei's body suddenly appeared in Qiao Mei's mind. Ye Lei's hand was not fractured, but something else shocked her. The thing was Ye Lei was pregnant!

Ye Lei quickly shook off Qiao Mei's hand as if she felt guilty. Ye Lei pushed with so much strength that Qiao Mei fell to the ground. Xia He hurriedly went forward to hold onto Qiao Mei. I think you should take a look at pandasnovel.com

pandasnovel.com "How dare you push my sister-in-law! If she hurts even a hair on her head! I'll immediately make you pay with your life!" Xia He roared with bloodshot eyes.

When the Su brothers bullied Qiao Mei back then, she had sworn to herself that she would always make whoever bullied Qiao Mei pay the price. Even if it meant exchanging a life for a life, Xia He would fight to the end!

The Ye family's mother-and-daughter duo could not help but tremble when they saw Xia He's expression. The neighbors around them also felt indignant for Xia He and Qiao Mei. Ye Xiang and Ye Lei were quickly surrounded by people and both sides kept arguing.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Xia He quickly grabbed Qiao Mei and ran into the Deng family's house. However, they only saw Deng Fan and Deng Rui sitting in the living room with very solemn expressions and did not see Jiang Shu.

"Hello, Uncle. Why isn't Auntie here?" Xia He asked as she looked around.

"My wife has high blood pressure and heart illness. She was so agitated that she fainted just now. She has already taken her medicine and will probably feel better after sleeping for a while. It's not a big deal," Deng Rui said as he pretended to be calm.

Deng Fan did not expect the matter to have become so serious and he buried his head in his knees. He did not know why such a thing would happen. He had nothing to do with the two women outside and had never even met them before. This was clearly slander.

Fortunately, the neighbors around here had watched him grow up and knew him and his family very well. No matter how much the Ye family's mother-and-daughter duo wanted to cause trouble, it would not affect their relationship with their neighbors.

However, it was different for the Xia family. The Xia family was a reputable family in the capital. Even though Xia He was divorced, no one dared to say anything bad about her. This was enough proof of the Xia family's prestige.

The news about their impending marriage had long spread throughout the capital. If someone with ulterior motives found out about the matter about the Ye family's mother-and-daughter duo, what would it do to the Xia family's reputation? How could Xia He still get married in the future?