

Fat Wife 1431

Chapter 1431 Recuperate Well

When Liang Lan heard this, she almost jumped up with happiness. If the effect of this medicine was stronger than the previous one, this meant that the quality of this medicine was better! She did not expect the heavens to be on her side!

"Sure, sure, sure! Let's go back together!" Liang Lan said excitedly.

If Qiao Mei saw how miserable Liang Shu looked and took pity on her, perhaps she might give more medicinal wine the next time round!

Qiao Mei and Liang Lan got into the car and headed for the Liang family's old house. This time, there was no stench in the house. Liang Shu was still lying on the bed, unable to get down and walk. She looked no different from the last time.

Qiao Mei stared at Liang Shu in puzzlement and Liang Lan immediately noticed where Qiao Mei was looking. She immediately pointed at Liang Shu and said, "My mother is much better now! She can even move her fingers and hold things like cups and bowls, just not for too long."

Qiao Mei felt that something was wrong. The amount of medicine she gave Liang Shu the last time was enough to enable Liang Shu to eat and talk normally by now. However, looking at Liang Shu's current condition, it was like she had never drunk any medicinal wine before. It did not look as if there was even one-tenth of the medicinal effect.

"Auntie Liang, I'm here to see you," Qiao Mei said with a smile.

Liang Shu raised her hand with great effort and pointed at Qiao Mei as she cursed unintelligibly. Based on seniority, Qiao Mei should address her as Grandma Liang. Although that would make her sound very old, it was the correct form of address. The way Qiao Mei addressed her now made her sound as if she was from the same generation as Qiao Yue and her own children, which would put her one generation behind Qiao Qiang!

Qiao Mei quickly said, "Auntie Liang, don't be angry. I'm just here to visit you. If you don't want me here, I can go."

Liang Lan blocked the door and did not allow Qiao Mei to leave. If they offended Qiao Mei today, it would not be so easy for her to go and look for Qiao Mei again.

"My mother is just muddle-headed. She's old and her mind isn't that sharp. Please don't mind her..." Liang Lan said apologetically.

"It's fine. Since it's getting late, I should head back. I'm just here to take a look at her. Now that I have seen her, I should leave." Qiao Mei turned around and said to Liang Shu, "Take good care of yourself! Eat as much as you can. Otherwise it'll be a pity when you can't eat in the future~"

Without waiting for Liang Shu to scold her, Qiao Mei left the house and got into the Xia family's car to return to her own house. Liang Shu continued cursing while lying on the bed and even threw everything on the bed to the floor.

Liang Lan picked up the things from the floor one by one and arranged them properly. Liang Shu was so angry that she picked up a cup from the side and threw it at Liang Lan's head. A patch of redness instantly appeared on Liang Lan's head. I think you should take a look at

"Are you done with the fussing! If you're done, then take your medicine!" Liang Lan said angrily.

Upon hearing that it was time for medicine, Liang Shu toned down her temper a little. Nothing was more important than her health and she wanted to see improvements every day. Once she recovered, she would definitely teach these people who bullied her a lesson!

Unbeknownst to Liang Shu, Liang Lan secretly poured out three-quarters of the medicine from the original bottle into another small bottle. She then topped up the original bottle with water to make it look exactly the same as before.

"Come! Drink it quickly! You'll recover faster after you drink it!" Liang Lan said sulkily as she brought over the bowl of medicine.

Liang Shu drank the medicine obediently. After she finished it, she grabbed Liang Lan's wrist tightly and whimpered as if she was trying to say something. Liang Lan knew that she wanted to ask about the photo, but Liang Lan dared not tell her what Qiao Mei said. She had only just gotten slightly better, so Liang Lan did not want her to fall sick again from anger.

"I forgot to ask her. I'll do it next time, alright? Take a rest now." Liang Lan casually made up a random excuse to fool Liang Shu.

After that, Liang Lan took the bowl and went to another room where Liang Guo had been waiting for a long time.

"Have you brought the medicine!" Liang Guo said excitedly.

"Here it is!" Liang Lan said smugly as she held up the medicine bottle.

"This is too little. It's even less than the last time! How am I supposed to explain this to them! Is this how you do things! Why can't you even do such a small task well," Liang Guo grumbled.

"It's already good enough that I can get the medicine! Yet you're still so picky. If you don't want it, there are plenty of others who want it," Liang Lan said.

Liang Guo had already found a buyer for the medicine, but what he wanted in return was not money, but status. Money was useless to their family at the moment. How much money would they need to resolve their current predicament? It would probably be like throwing money into a bottomless pit.

Chapter 1432 You Can Talk About It Another Time

Just the day before yesterday, Liang Guo had been framed and accused of embezzling money from his workplace unit. He was blamed for all the recent wrongdoings at the workplace. He was actually innocent though. However, even if he managed to prove that he did not embezzle the funds, there were still many other issues to clarify! Now, he was like the public enemy! Everyone wanted to beat him up!

The rest of his colleagues had backers and only Liang Guo had no one to support him. He was subsequently fired from the workplace unit and given a small sum of compensation. It was as if they were paying him off for taking the rap. However, he had his whole family to take care of and there were so many people counting on him! This amount of money was not even enough to last his family for three months.

Liang Guo was at his wits' end now, so he could only use the "divine medicine" given by Qiao Mei as a tool to seek a way out. There were so many wealthy families in the capital who had elderly people at home or relatives who were seriously ill. These people were all eagerly seeking out Qiao Mei's "divine medicine"!

It did not matter if those people wanted the medicine for the sake of survival or longevity. So long as Liang Guo could provide them with some, they would reward Liang Guo with a lifeline and save him from a dead end.

"I guess the amount is considered sufficient for now. At most, I'll give him more the next time," Liang Guo said resignedly.

Liang Lan leaned forward cautiously and said, "Elder Brother, is the person you found this time reliable? It's not easy to get this medicine. There's no guarantee that we can get more in the future. If this person can't help you, we should find another person!"

"Shoo, shoo, shoo! What does a woman know! The person I found is definitely reliable! I spent so much effort to get a chance to see him in person! Don't talk nonsense!" Liang Guo said disdainfully.

The person he found was the Song family's eldest son, Song Dan. This man was about the same age as Xia Zhe and was already the section chief of the city police department! He was the youngest section chief in the capital!

Song Dan's family was not as distinguished as the Xia family and he was the only promising kid in the entire Song family. Otherwise, Song Dan would already be as outstanding as Xia Zhe by now. The fact that he achieved so much without much help from his family made him an exceptional man among his peers.

Most importantly, Song Dan and the city police department chief's son, Du Miao, were childhood friends. The two of them were so close that it was like they were two peas in a pod. If Song Dan could find Liang Guo a civilian post in the police department, it would be a cushy job for him to live a good life for the rest of his life!

"Elder Brother, don't be angry. I'm just worried about you. Can he help me too?" Liang Lan probed. I think you should take a look at

"One bottle of medicine can only help one person. How can you be so greedy! He won't agree to help with so many requests. Wait for your turn the next time. The next time Qiao Mei gives you the medicine, the favor is yours!" Liang Guo said.

He had thought that the previous bottle of medicine was Qiao Mei's way of compensating Liang Shu on behalf of her family. He did not expect them to be able to get another bottle this time, and that the medicinal effects were even better than the last round!

He did not think that Qiao Mei was the one who was so generous. It must be Qiao Qiang who could not bear to see Liang Shu suffer. Perhaps Qiao Qiang still cared for Liang Shu. In that case, as long as Liang Shu's health did not improve, Qiao Mei would have to keep supplying her with "divine medicine". How could Qiao Mei go against Qiao Qiang's wishes?

Liang Lan swallowed her anger. At this moment, Liang Guo still had the final say in the family. She had no status in the family and it did not matter what she said. Anyway, she did not mind waiting until the next round. If Liang Guo did not succeed this time, then she would ask Liang Guo to find another family to help them. It would still be much better than her going out to ask for help herself.

"Wait upon Mother well. Let me know if Qiao Mei comes around again! I'm going to take care of something important!" Liang Guo carefully put away the "divine medicine" and made to leave.

Liang Lan hurriedly grabbed Liang Guo's arm and said, "Elder Brother! Um... shouldn't you give me the money you promised the last time? Mother and I don't have any money for food."

Liang Shu only had these two children. She had hidden away all her money and no one was allowed to touch it. In order to trick Liang Lan into taking care of Liang Shu, Liang Guo had agreed to pay for the two

women's expenses every month. It sounded like a reasonable arrangement to Liang Lan, that she would put in the hard work while Liang Guo paid for the expenses.

Unexpectedly, Liang Shu had been sick for almost a month but Liang Guo still had not given her a single cent. Liang Lan had to go around the Liang family's old house to search for money that was stashed away and she only had five dollars left now. If Liang Guo did not give them money soon, they would really starve to death.

"I need the money to grease palms and pull some strings! Wait a little longer! I'll give you money when I have extra!" Liang Guo said, trying to brush her off.

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Chapter 1433 Why Not You Wait On Her

Liang Lan grabbed Liang Guo's arm tightly and refused to let him go. She could not let Liang Guo get all the good stuff and leave her with all the hard work! She wanted a taste of the sweetness too!

"No! Otherwise, I'll stop taking care of Mother and go back home. If anything should happen to her, everything you have done will be for nothing!" Liang Lan threatened.

"If anything happens to her, do you get a good life in return?" Liang Guo questioned.

"It's none of your business whether I have a good life or not! You just need to know that if I don't take care of Mother anymore, then all your plans will go to waste!" Liang Lan said.

She had not been home for a month already and Xiao Jing had called her on the phone countless times. Every time he called, he would scold her for not taking care of her own family and would also threaten to divorce her. Xiao Yu also cried at home every day while waiting for her to go back.

Liang Lan had to promise Xiao Jing that she would send 20 dollars home every month before he stopped harassing her. He was happy to get spending money in return for the wife not being at home to nag him.

However, even then, he could only tolerate the current situation for another two months. This was because there was no one at home to do the household chores.

In any case, Liang Lan already had nothing left. As the saying went, one who was down would fear no fall. Even if she just gave up and went home to take care of her child, she would still have a better life than Liang Guo.

After some consideration, Liang Guo took out a few meat coupons and vegetable coupons from his pocket, as well as 40 dollars. All these should be enough for the two of them to survive for a month and a half! Furthermore, Liang Shu did not need to buy medicine so there should not be any other expenses.

"This should be enough for both of you!" Liang Guo said sulkily.

"It's not enough. There's still the expenses from last month. Last month, I bought groceries for Mother out of my own pocket. The total is 34 dollars and you should pay me back," Liang Lan said as she stood at the door.

"She's your mother too! How can it be so hard on you to spend some money on her? Why do you have to kick up such a fuss about taking care of her!" Liang Guo roared.

"Why are you shouting! If you're so great, then why don't you take care of Mother yourself! I've already taken care of her for a month, so it should be your turn! Do you think I care about that little bit of money from you! If you get a helper, you still need to pay a salary of more than 50 dollars a month! Go hire someone to take care of her!" Liang Lan took off the apron she was wearing and threw it to the side, starting to walk off. Liang Guo quickly stopped her. I think you should take a look at

If Liang Lan really stopped caring about Liang Shu, then there was no one else to take care of the old woman. Bai Ming was still hiding in her parents' house now! Liang Guo's own house was already in a mess, so how could he find time to care about Liang Shu!

"Here! Whatever I said just now was just out of anger. How can you stay angry with me? I'm your biological brother!" Liang Guo immediately took out another 25 dollars from his pocket and continued, "I only have this much left but I'll give it all to you. Don't be angry. If you don't care about our mother, then who else can she rely on?"

"Alright, but you have to keep your word next month. Otherwise, I'll go straight home! My own child is still so young and needs me to take care of her!" Liang Lan said as she put the money into her pocket.

"Alright, I'll definitely remember to do it! If I forget, you can remind me. Let's not ruin the harmony between us siblings," Liang Guo said with a smile.

He still had to count on Liang Lan to steal the medicine! He had used the first bottle of medicine to finally get an introduction to Song Dan, so he needed to send this second bottle to Song Dan directly. If Song Dan agreed to his request this time, then he would give Song Dan another bottle. Two bottles should be able to guarantee him a good future!

"Fine..." Liang Lan said sulkily.

After Liang Guo left, Liang Lan hid all the money away. At night, she continued to give Liang Shu steamed buns, watery porridge with only a few grains of rice and homemade pickled radish.

Liang Shu struggled to pick up a steamed bun to throw it to the floor, but Liang Lan quickly said, "If you don't want to eat this, then there's nothing else to eat! The doctor says that you can't eat meat in your current condition! It'll only make your illness worse. Eat these light foods now and you'll recover quickly!"

Liang Lan was not worried that Liang Shu would become malnourished. Back then, Xia Mao was already dying, but he miraculously came back to life after Qiao Mei fed him this medicine. In that case, even if Liang Shu did not eat or drink anything, it was entirely possible for her to stay alive just by eating the medicine.

Liang Shu had not eaten the entire day. She was worried that she would really starve to death if she did not eat something soon. In the end, she could not fight the hunger and put down the steamed bun obediently.

Chapter 1434 Many Times Smaller

Liang Lan picked up the bowl and fed Liang Shu slowly. In Liang Lan's eyes, Liang Shu was her "money" and her "future"! As long as Liang Shu was alive, Qiao Mei would send over a steady stream of nice things and her hard work during this period of time would not be in vain.

Liang Guo did not go home but went straight to Song Dan's house after leaving the Liang family's old house. Song Dan was sitting in his living room, waiting for Liang Guo to appear!

"You're finally here. Mr. Liang. You took so long. I thought that you're not coming today!" Song Dan looked at Liang Guo and said unhappily.

"Section Chief Song, don't be angry. I rush over as soon as I receive the medicine! I'm very mindful of not causing you any delay!" Liang Guo said solicitously.

"There's no need for all these pleasantries. Let me take a look at the medicine," Song Dan said.

Liang Guo slowly unzipped his coat and took out a small medicine bottle from the inner pocket. Song Dan frowned slightly when he saw the actual thing. This was many times smaller than the bottles of "divine medicine" which the Xia family had given out!

He had previously caught a glimpse of the medicine at the Zhong family's house. The Zhong family had two big glass bottles! The color and smell of the "divine medicine" which Liang Guo was giving him seemed to be the same as what he saw, but the size... such a small bottle would be gone in one gulp! How could it be enough for his family!

"This amount is really too little. That's not what you told me earlier. This little bit is not even enough to fill the gaps between my Old Master's teeth!" Song Dan said disdainfully as he placed the small medicine bottle on the coffee table.

Liang Guo had never seen the "divine medicine" in bigger bottles than the bottle he had. He quickly explained, "Qiao Mei gave this to our family personally! There's no mistake about it! My sister told me that the medicinal effect of this batch is better than what other people have. This is a bottle of concentrated essence!"

Song Dan picked up the medicine bottle again and examined it carefully. It was indeed much darker in color than the one he saw at the Zhong family's house. Perhaps what Liang Guo said made some sense.

"Where did you get this medicine? Why would she give it to you?" Song Dan asked cautiously. He would not dare to accept something of unknown origin!

"My mother has been sick recently and she specially came to our house to give it to us! It's definitely the real thing! Section Chief Song, don't worry!" Liang Guo said.

Song Dan looked at Liang Guo in disdain, but he did not really care who Liang Guo had snatched the medicine from. He was only concerned about his family's Old Master being able to get some. It was not his business to care about the lives of others.

If the old lady of the Liang family felt upset, then she should go after her own children! Given that Liang Guo could do such an unfilial thing to his mother, Song Dan did not really want to hire someone like him. He decided to send Liang Guo away for now by finding him an unimportant position. At a later time, he would find a reason to get rid of Liang Guo.

"Alright, I understand. If there's more in the future..." Before Song Dan could finish speaking, Liang Guo quickly said, "In the future, Qiao Mei will still send medicine to my mother! When that happens, I'll send it to you first!"

Song Dan was stunned for a moment before he nodded in satisfaction. He waved his hand to indicate that Liang Guo could leave. However, Liang Guo did not make any move.

"Is there anything else?" Song Dan looked at Liang Guo in confusion.

"It's... it's about my job..." Liang Guo whispered.

"I see. Go and look for my secretary tomorrow. My secretary will make the arrangements for you," Song Dan said impatiently.

"Alright! Thank you, Section Chief Song! Thank you! I'll go off now. I won't disturb your rest!" Liang Guo was so happy that he scrambled out of Song Dan's house like he had forgotten how to walk properly.

After Liang Guo left, Du Miao walked out of the study at the other side. He looked at Song Dan teasingly and said, "Tell me, why do you have to get entangled with such a person? It'll be terrible for you when things get exposed in the future!"

"Is there any other way to get the Xia family's medicine apart from getting it from him?" Song Dan said resignedly.

He had checked with many people and found out that Qiao Mei had only given the medicine to two old men whom Xia Jun was indebted to. She had then sold the remainder to that sickly guy from the He family. He Ning would never share this life-saving medicine with him, so he could only ask around to see if there was any other way.

If the Xia family could order Qiao Mei around, then this matter would be much easier to handle. They could learn from how He Ning made use of Zhou Hua and take control of a random member of the Xia family to help them. However, this little girl was very capable and she even behaved like the head of the Xia family! This was something that was unheard of before!

Chapter 1435 You Do Not Like Women

Song Dan's grandfather had a weak heart and even surgery could not save his grandfather's life now. The doctor said that he probably had only a few years left. At the moment, Song Dan could only count on Qiao Mei's "divine medicine", which could bring the dead back to life, to save his grandfather's life. He had been brought up by his grandfather since he was young, so he could not live without his grandfather!

The Song family and the Xia family did not have much of a relationship. Their family was not as rich as the He family either. He heard that the He family had spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to buy Qiao Mei's "divine medicine"! Even if all the Song family's relatives pooled their money together, it would not even amount to 20,000 dollars, what more hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Song Dan's father was a wastrel who wanted to spend every cent he had and not leave a single cent for Song Dan. His mother was a loose woman who had made his father a cuckold for a long time. If not for Song Dan secretly getting rid of those men who fooled around with his mother, there was no telling what huge trouble she could have caused!

"It isn't easy for me to find out about the underlying relationship between the Liang family and the Qiao family. For the sake of my grandfather, I'll even go through hell if I have to. I can handle it even if it means getting exposed in the future!" Song Dan said seriously.

"This is not a long-term solution. Grandpa Song needs a lot of medicine. Are you just going to wait for the Liang family to send it over bit by bit? As far as I know, the Liang siblings are not decent people. They can even steal their own mother's life-saving medicine without a care for her life. If their mother dies one of these days, Qiao Mei won't give them any medicine anymore," Du Miao said.

How could Song Dan not know about all this! Since he was willing to make contact with the Liang family, he naturally knew all about the grudges between these two families. He just had not thought of any better way yet!

"If you're so smart, then come up with some ideas! Don't just criticize me. Talk is cheap," Song Dan said as he rolled his eyes.

Du Miao walked forward and patted Song Dan's shoulder. "We've been brothers for so many years and Grandpa Song is very nice to me. Do you think I'll just stand by and watch Grandpa Song suffer?"

"You've already thought of a way?" Song Dan looked at Du Miao expectantly.

"Do you still remember our elementary school classmate, Xia He?" Du Miao asked with a smile.

"Xia He... that one who behaved like a tomboy and threatened the boys in our class every day. She transferred to dance school after a few years," Song Dan said as he tried his best to recall.

"That's right! That's the one! She's single now! Do you want to try putting in some hard work?" Du Miao said agitatedly.

"Forget it! What a lousy idea! She's already been married before and you still want me to marry her! If I marry her, it'll be like bringing a tigress home! I won't do it!" Song Dan said unhappily.

Song Dan was an ugly man. Even though he held a high position at work, no woman wanted to marry him. He was not interested in marrying a girl from an ordinary family, but how would those prominent families bear to let their beautiful daughters marry Song Dan!

Just like that, he could not find a partner and ended up still unmarried at this age! However, no one dared to say anything. Everyone was worried that if they made Song Dan angry, he would make life difficult for them.

"How can you just count on the Liang family! It's more important to save your grandfather!" Du Miao said.

"It's not like I don't know what's going on. Xia He is about to marry that kid from the Deng family! If I throw a spanner in her plans now, I'll be behaving in a despicable manner! If you want to do it, you can go ahead. I won't!" Song Dan said in annoyance.

Du Miao had already been married for a long time, so how could he be with Xia He? He stared intently at Song Dan for a long time before asking, "You... don't tell me that you don't like women?"

All these years, he had never seen Song Dan dating a woman. The helpers at home were all men and there were no women in his life at all. Even the cats at home were all male and there was no female presence around him at all. He even just said that he did not have any interest in Xia He. This was not a normal reaction!

Song Dan narrowed his eyes and looked Du Miao up and down. "Hmm... Why do you think so?"

Du Miao was so scared that he had goosebumps all over his body. He quickly took a few steps back and said fearfully, "I'm just joking... just joking! Don't take it to heart! If you're really unwilling, then I'll think of another plan. How can there be no way out? Don't be anxious! I'll definitely help Grandpa Song get the medicine!"

Chapter 1436 Returning To The Art Troupe

"Hahaha!" Song Dan leaned back on the sofa and guffawed. As he laughed, he said, "I'm just scaring you! I like women! It's just that... you know what those women think of me and I'm quite resentful about that. Otherwise, I wouldn't have not thought of getting married for so many years."

"Sigh... Of course I know about these things. Those women just don't know how good a person you are! Why do you have to take their words to heart! All you've done is to waste a big part of your life," Du Miao said indignantly.

"Sigh, it's all in the past. Why do you get so angry about it? Let's not talk about it!" Song Dan said.

"You should reconsider what I said. I'm not saying you must definitely end up with her. Can't you just go and take a look at her first? Perhaps you'll fall in love at first sight and be very fond of her!" Du Miao said.

"We haven't contacted each other for so many years, so how do I get a chance to see her? Besides, we haven't met for so many years, so there's no reason for us to end up together the moment we meet again! This is such a lousy idea!" Song Dan said disdainfully.

"Let me think... and think again... I'll go home and discuss it with your sister-in-law! Wait for my good news! Don't drop the ball though! If you drop the ball, I'll be the first one to come after you!" Du Miao pointed at Song Dan and warned him.

"Fine, fine, fine. I promise you, alright!" Song Dan shook his head helplessly.

Qiao Mei finally managed to get a few days of peace and quiet. Deng Fan had been busy at the factory in the suburbs and did not have any time for Xia He at all. He rarely even called her on the phone. In order to meet the deadline, Deng Fan even moved to stay with the workers. Once he was done with Qiao Mei's project, it would not be long before the date of his wedding!

Xia He had been feeling a little annoyed for the past two days. She had not gone to work for a long time but was still spending a lot of money. She would empty out her savings soon at this rate.

"Stop pacing around. I'm getting dizzy. Tell me what's wrong, don't keep pacing around!" Qiao Mei said as she rubbed her temples.

"I'm thinking about whether I should go back to work," Xia He said as she sat down next to Qiao Mei.

"If you want to go back to work, then go back. If you don't want to go, then just stay here at my house comfortably. It's not as if I can't afford to feed you," Qiao Mei said with a smile.

"As if you can take care of me for the rest of my life!" Xia He said. I think you should take a look at

"Why not! I have all these things. Isn't it enough to support you?" Qiao Mei said generously as she pointed at the few antiques in the room.

"Tsk, I still want to be self-sufficient! It won't be too late for you to support me when I'm too old to dance anymore!" Xia He said with a grin.

"I'm not going to support you! That's not my job now~ With Big Brother Deng around, why should I worry about it? If he's unable to support you, I'll ask Xia Zhe to teach him a lesson!" Qiao Mei said.

"As if I can simply rely on a man! I must be self-sufficient! There's a new performance coming up for trials tomorrow. I'll go for the audition," Xia He said.

"With your ability, you won't face any problem!" Qiao Mei said happily.

The two of them joked around until late at night. Xia He had made an agreement with Qiao Mei that she would move out of Qiao Mei's house after she and Deng Fan got married. After all, she had initially moved in to accompany Qiao Mei during the pregnancy and to help take care of the children after they were born.

The children were now growing up well under Feng Hua's care and Qiao Mei was also recovering well. She stayed around only because she could not bear to leave this place. It was not for the material comforts, but because the children looked different every day. The two children may look tiny today but they would look different when she saw them the next week.

Perhaps the children were just babbling and mumbling today, but no one knew whether they would start humming a tune tomorrow. There was no way to predict anything.

In any case, they would not live too far from Qiao Mei's place after they got married. She could still come back and visit often when she was free. It was still a much better situation from the past when she moved out of town after she got married.

Early the next morning, Xia He went to the art troupe after having breakfast. No one knew how the superiors heard about the incident of Yang Xin slandering Xia He, but they had gotten rid of Bian Ding and replaced him with a new troupe leader. Yang Xin had also left the art troupe without any explanation. Everyone in the troupe thought that it was the Xia family who orchestrated all these!

"Have you heard! Senior Xia He is coming today!" said a newbie, a young girl named Bai Dian.

Chapter 1437 Who Did It

"It's probably because of the upcoming performance. I hear that it's going to be a musical this time. She's the only one in the troupe who can play the lead role!" Huang Li said as she pouted.

"To think that your name 'Huang Li' means 'yellow oriole'. I never expected you to be tone deaf! If you can sing well, perhaps you can still fight it out with Senior Xia He!" Bai Dian said with a smile.

"Me? I'm a person who is totally self-aware! You don't even know how much hardships Senior Xia He went through in the past!" Huang Li said with some heartache.

Most people in the art troupe would choose to work behind the scenes once they turned 30 years old and provide guidance for the younger dancers who joined later. Very few people would be able to appear on stage at that age.

On one hand, they all nursed some form of injuries from being a dancer for a long time. On the other hand, they no longer looked as good as the younger dancers, so they no longer felt confident about going on stage.

However, Xia He seemed to be an exception. It seemed like the older she got, the younger she became, and she was good at everything! Everyone else basically focused on one area. Some people only learned how to sing, while others only learned how to dance. It was really rare to see someone like Xia He who could sing and dance well. She was really cut out for this line of work.

Xia He could be considered to be quite famous in this line. Anyone who was familiar with this industry would know Xia He's name, but she had never had a piece of work that made her famous overnight. Those years of being married was really a hindrance to her career. If she could become famous this time round, she would be able to make it big as a major actress in the future!

"Sister Xia He! You're here!" everyone said as they looked towards the door.

Xia He got a shock. She even thought that she had entered the wrong room! In the past, she had never been greeted so enthusiastically when she came to the art troupe. It seemed that there were many new faces in the crowd.

"Hello... hello everyone..." Xia He said cautiously.

Everyone swarmed forward and surrounded Xia He, trying to find out more about Xia He's latest news, hoping to get some gossip out of her. Xia He did not say anything. It was not that she was putting on airs, but she really did not know anything.

Xia He could be considered to have achieved justice for the troupe. The longer Yang Xin and Bian Ding stayed in the art troupe, the longer the rest of the art troupe members would be suppressed and had to face a tough time. Now that the worst was over for everyone, they all appreciated what Xia He had done!

"Senior, do you know where Senior Yang Xin went? We also have a new troupe leader now!" Bai Dian asked curiously.

"Huh? When did this happen? Why don't I know anything about it?" Xia He said in shock.

"Senior, you don't know? Even the two sisters from the Zhou family have left! Many people who used to be close to Yang Xin have also left the art troupe. We don't know where they went, it's as if they just disappeared into thin air..." Huang Li said.

Looking at Xia He's shocked expression, she did not seem to be faking it.

Xia He frowned slightly. She had not done any of these things. Could it be that Xia Wen had gotten rid of Bian Ding and Yang Xin in order to avenge her?

That was quite unlikely... This sounded like something Xia Zhe would do, but definitely not Xia Wen. Xia Wen was sinister and cunning and would not let Yang Xin and the others leave so quietly. He would only let them off after ruining their reputation.

"Alright, alright, let's practice. Our teachers will come by to make their choices later!" Xia He nudged everyone to practice their dance moves. Once the session at the art troupe ended, she immediately went to seek clarification from Xia Wen. There was nothing that Xia Wen did not know.

After Xia He arrived at Xia Wen's workplace unit, she attracted a lot of attention. She was now different from before. In the past, she had to live in a caustic environment that was the Kong family. Even though she was an extremely young and beautiful bride when she joined the family, she was so antagonized by her mother-in-law and sister-in-law that there were wrinkles all over her face in less than two years!

The current Xia He looked like she had undergone a complete transformation. She was in her early 30s but looked like she was 18 years old. Her complexion and appearance were 10,000 times better than before!

"Eldest Brother, look at the time now. Why are you still working!" Xia He said as she stood at the door.

"Why are you here? Don't you always find it troublesome whenever I ask you to come here?" Xia Wen said with a smile.

"That's because I don't want to disturb you at work! You're so unappreciative of my kindness! If you don't want me here, then I'll leave!" Xia He threatened.

Xia Wen quickly pulled Xia He into the room and closed the office door. There was an uproar outside immediately.

"Hey! Did you see that! Director Xia brought a beautiful woman into the room just now!" a junior colleague whispered.

"Yes! She's so shapely! I've never seen such a beautiful woman!" another colleague said.

Chapter 1438 A Fight Between Colleagues

Mo Zhu looked at everyone unhappily and said, "What are you people looking at? Have you already finished your work?"

The colleague sized up Mo Zhu and said, "Why are you so anxious? We're all colleagues. What right do you have to lecture us? You're not even a supervisor yet and you're already putting on the airs of one. If you really become one in the future, how can we still survive here!"

"That's right! Who do you think you are! Director Xia doesn't even chase us to go back to work, so why are you acting like the boss here! Shoo, shoo, shoo! Stay away from us! Just do your own job well! You're so nosy," the other colleague grumbled.

Xia He could vaguely hear the commotion in the corridor. She looked outside curiously and asked, "As the director, shouldn't you go and take a look?"

"What's there to see? It's just a few subordinates bickering. That girl is already having a difficult time here. If I stand up for her, she will have an even tougher time in the future," Xia Wen said melancholically.

There were already rumors that Mo Zhu was someone sent here by the superiors, but they were not able to find out who these so-called "superiors" were, so they had been observing her in secret. Sometimes, when they were angry, they would even mock Mo Zhu directly. Mo Zhu was actually quite tolerant of them and did not argue with them about these things.

"Isn't that girl from your department?" Xia He asked curiously.

"Yes, she's one of my subordinates," Xia Wen said honestly.

"If she's one of your staff, won't you lose her trust if you don't protect her? Why will she still be loyal to you? If someone takes the chance to fan the flames a little, won't she stop supporting you? If you protect her, you're just a superior protecting his subordinate. What's there to gossip about," Xia He said as she looked at Xia Wen disdainfully.

Xia He was very prone to rashness. In the past, people either gave in to Xia He on account of the Xia family or avoided arguing with her because they could not afford to offend her. The art troupe was also a less complicated workplace. Whoever had good basic skills and was more capable would be liked by everyone.

It was different at Xia Wen's workplace. There were all kinds of people in this place and they all had their own characteristics and abilities. It was not something that could be easily dealt with. Who knew the kind of support each person had behind him or her?

Xia Wen felt a little emotional for a moment. Back then, he should have asked Xia Mao to let Xia He train with him for a few years and learn how to deal with those sly old foxes. Then she would not be as rash as she was today. I think you should take a look at

It would also mean that Xia He would not have been bullied by Yang Xin and the Bian family members at that time.

"If you don't want to go, then let me do it. I saw that girl just now and found her quite beautiful. She seems to be quite an upright person too. I find it unacceptable that such a decent person is being bullied," Xia He lamented.

Before Xia Wen could say anything to stop her, Xia He rushed into the corridor with a whoosh when he was not paying attention. Everyone looked at Xia He in shock. They did not expect the commotion to have disturbed Director Xia's guest.

"Are all of you from Director Xia's department?" Xia He leaned against the door and asked with a smile.

"No, we're from the department next door," the colleague said carefully.

"What about you? What's your name? Are you also from another department?" Xia He said as she pointed at the person standing next to Mo Zhu. Just now, this person had behaved in a very arrogant and domineering manner. People who did not know better would think that she was the one with the final say in this department!

"My name is Cui Fen. I'm also from the department next door. I'm really sorry to have disturbed you. I'll scold her now!" Cui Fen said with a smile. Anyone who did not know better would think that Cui Fen was the boss!

"Are you her superior?" Xia He asked as she stared at Cui Fen and pointed at Mo Zhu.

Cui Fen was stunned for a moment before saying, "No, no, I'm not her superior..."

"Then it must mean that you're dissatisfied with Director Xia's style of working but you dare not bully him, so you're bullying his subordinates and having fun here, right?" Xia He questioned.

"No, no! That's not what we mean! It's just that she keeps rushing us, that's why we're a little annoyed. We're just having an argument. It's not a big deal," Cui Fen quickly explained.

Chapter 1439 Let's Have A Meal Together

"Is that so? I can hear everything clearly inside just now. It's obvious that the two of you are not working and are gossiping in the corridor. It even seems that you're gossiping about me. Do you need me to have a chat with your department head?" Xia He asked.

"No need! No need! We'll go back to work immediately and definitely won't chit chat anymore!" Cui Fen said fearfully.

"Then in the future, when I'm not around, you must still remember to work diligently. If I find out that you people bully Mo Zhu, then don't blame me for taking action!" Xia He threatened.

"We understand!" Cui Fen hurriedly grabbed the other colleague and fled. As she left, she even almost lost her shoes!

Mo Zhu kept looking at Xia He in silence. She knew that Xia He was helping her, but why would Xia He help her for no reason? Could it be that it was inconvenient for Director Xia to resolve the issue, so he asked Xia He to come out and help?

After Xia He chased away those gossipy people, she finally had the chance to size up Mo Zhu. This person looked a little different from what she had imagined. She thought that someone with a name as cultured as "Mo Zhu" would be gentle and mild-mannered and appear more bookish.

"You don't have to be afraid of them in the future! If anyone bullies you again, come and look for me! I'll definitely help you out!" Xia He smiled brightly, looking like the dazzling morning sun that had just risen. Mo Zhu really liked people with this type of personality.

"How do you know my name?" Mo Zhu asked.

This was the first time she and Xia He had met. Logically speaking, Xia He should not know her name. Xia He did not know Cui Fen's name earlier! Therefore, Xia Wen must have mentioned her name to Xia He before.

"Oh... Director Xia mentioned you once," Xia He said as she scratched her head.

"Director Xia? What did he say to you?" Mo Zhu said as she stared at Xia He.

"He just mentioned it in passing, that a capable girl named Mo Zhu had joined his department and that she has a nice name. That's all." Xia He honestly repeated what Xia Wen had said.

Mo Zhu covered her mouth and chuckled. This was the first time she had seen such a frank person!

"Then aren't you afraid of them? What if they take revenge on you behind your back?" Mo Zhu asked worriedly. I think you should take a look at

"I'm not from your workplace unit, so of course I'm not afraid of them coming to find trouble with me. Don't worry. So what if they come to find trouble with me? I won't let them have an easy time!" Xia He said.

"Alright, then I feel more at ease." Mo Zhu heaved a sigh of relief and then asked, "I still don't know your name. It's almost time to get off work. Let me treat you to a meal. There's a very good restaurant nearby."

"My name is Xia He," Xia He said truthfully.

"Xia... your surname is also Xia, so you're Director Xia's..." Mo Zhu said carefully.

"Oh, oh! I forgot to tell you that I'm Xia Wen's younger sister. It must be very difficult for you to work under a blockhead like my eldest brother," Xia He said as she looked at Mo Zhu with some heartache. She did not look hypocritical when she said this, but more like she was revealing her true feelings.

"No, it's not. I learn a lot from working with Director Xia," Mo Zhu said seriously.

"Don't worry! I won't say anything to my brother! You can just speak truthfully. Is my brother really a nice person? I think that he's very rigid. I suffered a lot when I had to report to him previously!" Whenever Xia He thought of the past, she wanted to press Xia Wen to the ground and beat him up.

"Hahahaha, Director Xia is indeed a little stern, but he's serious about his work and I can understand why he behaves like this. Why don't we go for dinner tonight? Take it that I'm thanking you for helping me out." Mo Zhu's sincere expression made Xia He feel a little tempted, but they still had to go to Qiao Mei's place for dinner tonight. She wondered how she could reject the invitation tactfully...

Xia He suddenly had an idea and said, "Oh! Then come with me tonight! I'll bring you somewhere to eat delicious food!"

Just like that, Xia He forgot why she had come to look for Xia Wen in the first place. She grabbed hold of Xia Wen and Mo Zhu and they headed to Qiao Mei's house together.

"Qiao Mei~ Where are you~" Xia He shouted excitedly.

"Why are you so happy? Did something happen?" Qiao Mei was slightly stunned when she saw an unfamiliar face. Then she smiled and asked, "Who is this? Why haven't I met this person before?"

Chapter 1440 Have A Good Eye

"This is Eldest Brother's underling. Her name is Mo Zhu!" Xia He introduced Mo Zhu to Qiao Mei enthusiastically.

Xia Wen held his forehead and said, "What do you mean by my underling..."

She made it sound as if he was a gang leader. If he gave her another two days, she could even come up with a gang name for him! He should not even think about retraining her. Instead, he should send her back to elementary school to relearn her vocabulary!

Qiao Mei sized up Mo Zhu curiously. Mo Zhu looked like a plucky and assertive person, but yet she was gentle and warm. This was the first time Qiao Mei had met such a person.

"Hello, I'm their sister-in-law. You can call me Qiao Mei," Qiao Mei said as she looked at Mo Zhu kindly.

"This is my first time paying a visit to you but I came in a hurry and didn't bring anything with me. It's really rude of me. I'll definitely come back with generous gifts next week," Mo Zhu said with a red face. This was the first time she had behaved so improperly.

"It's fine, you don't have to stand on ceremony. I'm guessing that this elder sister of mine has brought you here by force. Come and visit me when you have time. I really like it when people come to my house. It's more lively with more people around," Qiao Mei said.

Xia He pursed her lips. Qiao Mei did not like crowds at all! It seemed that Mo Zhu was Qiao Mei's type. Otherwise, Qiao Mei would not have said such things.

Mo Zhu immediately saw something in the corner of Qiao Mei's house. Her eyes were drawn to a large water vat. This was the first time she had seen such an exquisite water vat!

"What's wrong with you?" Xia He asked curiously.

"It's nothing. I just saw something rare and couldn't help but take a few more looks," Mo Zhu said.

Xia He hurriedly ran to the water vat and examined it, but she could not see anything special about it. During winter, the most delicious pickled vegetables were those made in water vats like this one!

"I think... there's nothing special about it. It just looks prettier than the water vats at other people's houses," Xia He said as she frowned and looked at the water vat.

Mo Zhu smiled faintly and said, "This water vat is very old and the paintings on it are lifelike. It actually corresponds to the four directions of north, south, east and west. If I'm not wrong, these paintings are the four gentlemen of the flowers, namely plum blossom, orchid, bamboo and chrysanthemum. If you pick some lotus flowers during summer and grow them inside the vat, it will definitely look very nice."

"You have got a good eye. I've placed it there for almost half a year but no one has discovered its true value. If you hadn't come by today, I'm afraid this silly elder sister of mine would still think that it was a water vat meant for making pickled vegetables!" Qiao Mei said as she looked at Xia He resignedly.

Xia He had never paid attention to these things. As long as it was a usable item, it did not matter what era it was from. The most important thing was that it was useful!

Qiao Mei felt further admiration for Mo Zhu. After she invited everyone into the house, Mo Zhu looked at all the treasures inside. However, it was different from how Zhou Luo greedily stared at Qiao Mei's things. Mo Zhu was purely admiring these treasures.

"If you see anything you like, you can take a couple of items," Qiao Mei said generously.

"Oh! You never allow me to take anything. Why are you so generous with Mo Zhu?" Xia He pouted and pretended to be jealous.

"If you can recognize the things in my house, then I'll give them to you too. I can even give you the house!" Qiao Mei said.

Masterpieces must be placed in the hands of people who could appreciate them in order to bring out their greatest value. Otherwise, no matter how good a painting or calligraphy piece was, it would only be a piece of useless paper in the hands of people who did not understand it and they would not treat it with care.

"Forget it, forget it! It's not like you don't know me. Other than dancing, I'm not interested in anything else," Xia He said.

After Mo Zhu had her fill, she sat quietly on the stool beside Qiao Mei and tasted the tea carefully. Her posture and temperament belied a well brought up young lady from a wealthy family. It was definitely not something that could be faked.

Qiao Mei had previously sent Yao Nian to check on these things in the capital, but she had never heard of a prominent family with the surname Mo. Could it be that Yao Nian had missed out on it?

That was impossible. Yao Nian was definitely one of the best investigators in the country. There was no way he would have missed out on anything. There must have been a mistake somewhere.

"Sister Mo, where do you live?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

"My family lives in the suburbs, behind those parks in the north. My father said that there is good feng shui there and he doesn't want to leave that area, so we have always been living there," Mo Zhu said.