

Fat Wife 1531

Chapter 1531 Feeling Unwell

Song Zhi nodded obediently. She could not even speak freely with these women, so why would they give her the chance to get close to Qiao Mei? It probably meant nothing to Qiao Mei to help her that day.

After half a month of hard work, the move was finally complete. Qiao Mei did not see anyone else even after so many days. Perhaps it was because she always woke up later than others, so their schedules were not in sync. She was also very curious about the people living in the apartment building, but there was no hurry. She would get a chance to meet them one day.

For some reason, Qiao Mei had been feeling more tired than usual recently. She never used to feel like that in the past. She even had backaches and was always feeling very sleepy.

"What's wrong?" Xia Zhe asked cautiously.

"I want to go home and see the children. Now that everything has been tidied up, it's time to bring them over here," Qiao Mei said.

The two of them made the trip back to the capital overnight. When Qiao Mei reached home, she forced herself to stay awake and went to the children's room to take a look at them. Once she returned to her room, she fell asleep the moment her head hit the pillow and only woke up in the afternoon. This was something unprecedented.

Qiao Mei sat in the courtyard in deep thought for a long time. Finally, she said to Xia Zhe, "I want to go to the hospital!"

"Go to the hospital? Why do you want to go to the hospital? Are you feeling unwell?" Xia Zhe asked nervously.

Qiao Mei had never been a delicate person. She had always endured all kinds of pain on her own. In addition, her "divine medicine" at home could cure all kinds of illnesses, so there was never any need for her to go to the hospital. If she felt that there was a need to go to the hospital, it could only mean that the problem was too big for her to solve!

"I... I'm sleepy and always hungry. My back is sore and I feel weak," Qiao Mei said.

Before Qiao Mei could even finish speaking, Xia Zhe immediately picked her up and ran towards the main door. He got into the car and drove straight to Xia Fang's hospital. Along the way, he was very nervous, scared of anything happening to Qiao Mei. She was in a daze the whole time and did not seem to know what was happening.

"Hey! Where are you going! Slow down!" Xia He said hurriedly.

During this period of time, Xia He had been staying at Qiao Mei's house to take care of the two babies. She had overheard the conversation between Qiao Mei and Xia Zhe just now and quickly ran to the backyard to look for Li Gui.

"Auntie! Qiao Mei is sick! Xia Zhe just picked her up and ran off! I couldn't even stop him!" Xia He said nervously.

"Sick? What kind of sickness?" Li Gui asked agitatedly.

"Qiao Mei says that she feels weak... and that she's always tired and her back is sore. I can't hear her too clearly but that's probably all. Before Qiao Mei could finish, Xia Zhe already carried her and ran off!" Xia He said as she recalled what happened.

Li Gui thought for a while and then smiled in a relaxed manner. She counted the days and realized that something had indeed happened to Qiao Mei.

"Auntie, what are you smiling at! What's wrong with Qiao Mei!" Xia He asked.

"Sigh, you... Qiao Mei is going to give Xia Fan and Xia Xing a younger brother or sister!" Li Gui said.

"What! How is that possible! Didn't she just give birth? How can it start again..." Xia He said in surprise.

"Think about it. It's been almost half a year since Qiao Mei gave birth. Given that Xia Zhe is back, it's normal for her to get pregnant," Li Gui explained.

Xia He still did not quite believe it. How could Qiao Mei get pregnant again so quickly? Some people took months or even years to get pregnant. She had never heard of anyone getting pregnant as quickly as Qiao Mei. However, it was something too unusual for Qiao Mei and Xia Zhe though. After all, Qiao Mei became pregnant after their first night together.

People always said that the more children one had, the more blessed one was. This meant that Qiao Mei's life was full of blessings! Qiao Mei was really the lucky star of the Xia family.

"What are you thinking about! You should also have a child soon! She's about to give birth to her third child, so you should put in more effort! Since you and Deng Fan are newly married, you should hurry up and have a child now. I'll help you take care of your child!" Li Gui said with a smile.

Xia He blushed. How could they discuss such things so openly? Li Gui did not even seem to feel embarrassed at all. She and Deng Fan did not have such plans yet!

In fact, Deng Fan was not young anymore and he really wanted to have a child with Xia He. However, he was wary of the fact that Xia He was also not young anymore and already at the so-called advanced pregnancy age. If anything should happen during the delivery process, he would regret it. He married Xia He because he loved her and not because he wanted to have a child with her.

The couple had planned to let nature take its course. If they were lucky, they would have a cute baby

Chapter 1532 Confirming the Pregnancy

If fate did not favor them and they were destined not to have children of their own in this life, then they would treat Xia Fan and Xia Xing like their own children.

Xia Zhe rushed to the emergency department to borrow a wheelchair. There were not many people seeing the doctor today, so they were able to see Xia Fang very quickly.

"Aunt! Quick, do a checkup for her!" Xia Zhe said anxiously. Large beads of sweat rolled down his face and he looked as if he had just been fished out of the water. His entire body was drenched with perspiration.

Xia Fang looked at the two of them suspiciously. Between the two of them, she would think that Xia Zhe looked more like a sick person than Qiao Mei. They were in stark contrast with each other. Xia Zhe was so anxious that he looked about to cry. On the other hand, Qiao Mei smiled very happily and looked fine.

"Qiao Mei, where exactly do you feel unwell? Do you feel any specific discomfort? If you really can't describe it, then let's do a full-body examination," Xia Fang said, looking serious and strict.

"Aunt, I think I might be... pregnant..." Qiao Mei scratched her head and said shyly.

"What!" Xia Fang and Xia Zhe said at the same time as they looked at Qiao Mei in shock.

This was also the first time Xia Fang had encountered someone who got pregnant so easily. Qiao Mei had only just given birth to twins half a year ago and now she was pregnant again. Xia Fang wondered if Qiao Mei's body could handle the stress again.

She quickly arranged a comprehensive gynecological examination for Qiao Mei. This was the first time Xia Zhe accompanied Qiao Mei to the hospital for a pregnancy checkup. It was also the first time he heard the news of Qiao Mei's pregnancy in person. It was a completely different feeling from reading about it in a letter.

"Why are you so stunned?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

"I... I... I don't know... you... that..." Xia Zhe said incoherently.

He was feeling at a loss and a little flustered, as if he did not already have Xia Fan and Xia Xing.

"Are you nervous? You're already the father of two children. Why are you still acting like this?" Qiao Mei said.

"That's different!" Xia Zhe retorted. After thinking for a moment, he said, "No, I mean I feel the same way about the children. It's just that it feels completely different to hear about it this time round."

At that time, his relationship with Qiao Mei was still not close because of their embarrassing past. In any case, he did not really look forward to the birth of the two children then and what he felt was more of a sense of responsibility. It was not until his relationship with Qiao Mei gradually warmed up that he began to like the idea of having the two children. This was probably what was meant by one's love for someone would extend to everything related with the person. It was definitely applicable in the case of his own kids.

Xia Fang returned with a pile of medical reports. Qiao Mei had previously donated 20,000 dollars to their hospital. With the money, they were able to buy better and more advanced equipment, which in turn allowed them to save more people.

Qiao Mei was now already a VIP in this hospital. If Qiao Mei came to see the doctor, she would be given priority at all times.

"The reports are out. The child is very healthy and Qiao Mei is also doing very well. Everything is normal. As for everything that Qiao Mei mentioned, they are all just normal symptoms of pregnancy," Xia Fang said.

Xia Zhe nodded stiffly and noted down everything Xia Fang said. He wrote down every word carefully, down to the punctuation marks.

"Xia Zhe, didn't I give you a booklet back then? It's good enough to have that," Xia Fang said as she looked at Xia Zhe in disdain.

Xia Zhe was clearly the smartest child in the Xia family, so why did he always become like a fool when it came to Qiao Mei? Where did all the cleverness go? At moments like this, she did not want to tell anyone that this was her nephew.

"Oh right. Qiao Mei, I heard that you have decided to be a military spouse?" Xia Fang asked.

"That's indeed the plan, but now..." Qiao Mei looked at her stomach helplessly and said, "I guess I can't go now."

She had only been pregnant for less than half a month but she could already feel the child's existence. Most women would normally only realize it after a month, and some women even only realized that they were pregnant after more than two months!

She would think of a way to become a military spouse after the first three months of pregnancy. It was indeed not a good time now.

"It's fine. You can become a military spouse anytime. When you want to go, just let my eldest brother know. I'll call him later and tell him the good news!" Xia Fang said with a smile.

Chapter 1533 Chance Encounter

Without any hesitation, Xia Zhe decided to buy the wheelchair. This was the first time he had spent so much money! He would usually scrimp and save.

On the way home, Xia Zhe was all smiles and greeted everyone he saw. He was just short of writing the words "my wife is pregnant" on his forehead to announce it to the world!

"Why do you have that silly smile on your face?" Sitting in the wheelchair, Qiao Mei looked up at Xia Zhe helplessly.

"I'm feeling happy!" Xia Zhe said excitedly.

He pushed the wheelchair carefully, scared that he would hit stones or rocks on the way or that the road was too bumpy. He wanted to be especially careful. Just now, Xia Fang had reminded him that they must take great care during the first three months of pregnancy and could not afford to be careless.

"If you continue to be so slow, we won't be able to reach home before dark. We will only reach home tomorrow morning," Qiao Mei said disdainfully.

"There's no hurry, there's no hurry. Let's take it slow. It's risky to go too fast. It's so rare for us to have time to take a walk together. Just treat it as you're keeping me company," Xia Zhe said.

When they passed by an alleyway, they suddenly saw two familiar figures, He Mei and He Ning.

Xia Zhe stared fixedly at He Ning, worried that he would do something dangerous and hurt Qiao Mei. At the same time, he glanced instinctively at He Mei's stomach. He wondered if He Mei's plan had succeeded. He Mei's stomach was very flat and she did not look pregnant, but the fact that she kept her hand over her lower abdomen was enough to prove that they had succeeded in their plan.

"Where did the two of you go?" He Ning asked.

"We're just taking a walk. I certainly don't expect to meet Mr. He here. It's such a rare sight since the western suburb is so far from the city. What brings you here? Oh right, how have you been recently?" Qiao Mei said in a hypocritical show of concern.

"Thanks to you, I'm feeling quite good. I even look radiant nowadays," He Ning said with a smile.

Qiao Mei pursed her lips and felt a little angry. If she had known that this would happen, she would not have given him so many ginsengs. Since He Ning dared to appear near their house with He Mei, it was enough to show that he had ulterior motives.

She did not know what He Ning was thinking. What good did he get out of offending her? Without her ginseng, He Ning would not even be able to even stay alive. Could it be that He Ning had some other "life-saving medicine" on the side?

She did not want to speculate or ask him. Even if he had other options, he would not tell her. She might as well find out for herself and let him off for the time being.

After all, there was a "dog" beside him staring at her covetously.

"Then you guys have fun. We'll go off first," Qiao Mei said.

Xia Zhe pushed the wheelchair carefully and even squatted down from time to time to pick up the stones on the road in front of Qiao Mei and throw them aside. He Mei looked on as he did all these.

"What are you looking at? Let's go!" He Ning said fiercely.

He Mei had never seen Xia Zhe so in love with someone. He had never treated her so gently or given her such an affectionate gaze. He Ning also felt a little frustrated as there was something strange about how Xia Zhe was behaving with Qiao Mei. His eyesight was very good and he immediately caught sight of the logo printed on the back of the wheelchair.

"Come! Let's go to the hospital!" He Ning immediately said.

"Go to the hospital? Why are we going to the hospital?" He Mei asked fearfully.

She was scared to end up like Shen Na, getting pregnant out of wedlock and having her reputation ruined. If so, it would be better off if this child and her die together now!

"Don't worry, I'm not going to make you do a checkup!" He Ning could not be bothered to explain himself to He Mei.

All he wanted to do now was to find out why Qiao Mei and Xia Zhe had gone to the hospital. Why did Qiao Mei need to go to the hospital?

Most of the staff in Xia Fang's hospital were relatives of the Xia and Liu families and they all sang the same tune. Fortunately, He Ning had invested a lot of money into this hospital in order to seek treatment in the past. He Mei also worked here for a period of time and still had a few acquaintances.

He Ning gave those people a sum of money and asked them to look into Qiao Mei's file for the records of her visit in the afternoon. In the end, they were shocked to find out that Qiao Mei was pregnant again!

He stood there gloomily. He had thought that he could use He Mei's baby to separate Qiao Mei and Xia Zhe. How could it be coincidental that Qiao Mei was having a baby too!

If Qiao Mei gave birth to this child, then even if the matter was exposed, Qiao Mei would still stay married to Xia Zhe for the sake of the children.

Chapter 1534 Decide to Keep the Child

No, this could not be allowed to happen! He must get hold of Qiao Mei as soon as possible and make her work as his chef. He could no longer stand the food made by the helper at home.

He must get this matter done no longer how difficult it was.

Xia Fang had no intention of hiding the news at all. She even wanted to announce to the world that the Xia family was going to have a new member! There was no need to hide such a joyous matter from everyone. Anyone could find out about Qiao Mei's pregnancy by simply asking around.

Many people came to congratulate Xia Fang. Those who did not know better would think that it was her daughter-in-law or daughter who was pregnant!

The current Xia family was different. After the family split up, they were doing even better than before. The departure of the third son's family allowed everyone to see clearly who was the one holding the family back. Now that the weakest link was removed, the Xia family had become much stronger.

Xia Fang's son was a young adult and was her only child. He was doing quite well and it was very likely that he would also end up in the army. All her colleagues harbored the wish of marrying their daughters to Xiang Chen so that they could be related to the Xia family. Xia Fang only smiled and did not say anything. She kept an open mind when it came to her son's issues.

"Little Uncle! What should we do!" He Mei covered her face and turned towards He Ning anxiously.

She felt that Qiao Mei was such a hindrance. She was pregnant with Xia Zhe's child, but Qiao Mei was also pregnant at the same time! How could it be so coincidental!

What if Xia Zhe refused to bear responsibility for her baby or if someone discovered that she was pregnant? It would be scandalous if word got out that she was pregnant out of wedlock! She would be scolded and mocked by everyone!

He Ning was also trying to think of a solution. At this point, he could only bite the bullet and let He Mei give birth. He Mei had gotten pregnant earlier than Qiao Mei. When the time came, if He Mei gave birth first, it would not be a bad idea to send her and the baby over to make trouble for Xia Zhe.

"Stay at home for the time being and don't go anywhere. You're not allowed to meet anyone without my instructions," He Ning said sternly.

"But... but I still don't look pregnant now. It shouldn't be a problem for me to go out," He Mei said self-consciously.

She was only about two months pregnant and there was no obvious bulge in her belly yet. No one would be suspicious. If she had to stay in the house for 10 months, she would be bored out of her mind.

He Ning looked at her without saying anything. He Mei understood what he meant and lowered her head in silence. She had no right to ask for anything.

He Ning cleared out the small house next to his house in the suburbs for He Mei to live in. He did not want to see her all the time. He Mei did not even dare to breathe loudly and followed behind He Ning cautiously.

He Guo was still in prison and no one knew how he was doing. He Mei also did not know when he would be able to be released. He Wei hated He Guo to the core and did not care about him at all. For He Wei, He Guo's return would only endanger his current status in the He family. He would rather He Guo be locked up forever!

The only person whom He Mei could count on was He Ning. She believed that He Ning would not do anything to her and that he would help her fulfill her wish.

Although the house was not big, it was well-equipped. There was special attention paid to the bed. He Ning had asked his staff to buy a new mattress as he was concerned that He Mei would find a hard mattress uncomfortable since she was pregnant.

"Thank you, Little Uncle..." He Mei said softly.

"You can go in now. There's going to be a helper whose only job is to wait on you. Don't come out unnecessarily. If you need anything, just tell the helper. The helper knows what to do." He Ning left after saying that.

He had more important things to do. After about two to three hours, Jia Zhong walked up to He Ning with a pile of documents in his hand. It was a report of everything that Qiao Mei had done today. It was so detailed to the point that even what she ate was recorded down.

"Good job," He Ning said with a nod of satisfaction.

"Boss, you flatter me," Jia Zhong said.

"Go and protect He Mei during this period of time. This is a critical period and nothing can happen to her," He Ning said.

"Noted," Jia Zhong said.

Other than reporting his work, Jia Zhong did not say much. Compared to Huo Gao, he was like a cold-faced statue. Huo Gao was already standing at the side with a look of disdain and thinking that He Ning was insane. He even wanted to know what that person ate at home. If he was not a pervert, then what was he?

Chapter 1535 Taking Revenge

"Give He Mei one of the ginsengs we have at home. Not the expensive ones. Just take one of those worthless ginsengs," He Ning said.

"Worthless? All the ginseng we have at home are bought from Qiao Mei. We don't have any cheap ginseng, but we do have many other types of medicinal herbs," Huo Gao said.

He Mei's pregnancy was a manufactured one so her body was definitely much weaker than it was a normal pregnancy. The condition of the fetus was also not as good as in a normal pregnancy and there was even a probability of the baby turning out deformed.

He Ning did not care about all this. He just wanted He Mei to be pregnant with Xia Zhe's child and give birth successfully. After a while, he would get a family doctor to come and do a checkup for her. If it was a deformed child, then he would ask her to find another chance to become pregnant with Xia Zhe's child again.

It did not matter even if Qiao Mei did not leave Xia Zhe in the end. He Ning would still have the child and he was sure that Xia Zhe's genes were good enough. He would nurture the child to become his successor. It would be very interesting to watch the child grow up and destroy the Xia family personally in the future. He felt very happy thinking of this.

"Then go and buy some. She's not worthy of eating such expensive ginseng," He Ning said.

After Xia Zhe returned home, he told Qiao Mei the whole back story. Qiao Mei widened her eyes and looked at Xia Zhe. She did not expect her husband to be so ruthless, but she liked it!

Tit for tat was fair play. If He Ning and his gang had already gone to this extent, then what Xia Zhe did was only fair retaliation.

"That person told me that this technique is called..." Xia Zhe tried his best to recall the term used.

Qiao Mei immediately said, "I know! Artificial insemination!"

"I think so. I don't quite understand it. Anyway, it costs a lot of money and it's a very difficult process. It seems that they've put in a lot of effort to do all this," Xia Zhe said.

She did not expect such technology to already exist in this era. Even so, the technology was definitely not very developed yet and was something very new. It was seldom mentioned in books or newspapers and one could probably only find information about it in foreign publications.

It was precisely because very few people knew about this procedure that He Ning made use of it to get He Mei pregnant. The only known way to get pregnant was if a man and a woman slept together. Thus, Xia Zhe would not be able to defend himself when they confronted him with it.

"Then what were you thinking back then?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

"At that time, I didn't really have any plans. I just wanted to take revenge because they had really gone too far. It would be a joke if I didn't fight back! He Ning has set us up so many times, so now it's his turn to suffer the consequences of his own actions," Xia Zhe said.

Qiao Mei nodded in agreement. Xia Zhe was so suave at moments like this! No wonder she liked him so much!

Xia Zhe had already applied to his superiors to end his vacation break early. If he went back on his word now, his superiors would not be happy with him. In the end, he left the capital reluctantly. He would only be able to reunite with Qiao Mei when her pregnancy was stable.

Qiao Mei did not plan to prepare anything this time round. If it turned out to be a boy, he could use Xia Fan's things. If it turned out to be a girl, she could use Xia Xing's things. She had originally wanted to set the things aside for Xia He's children, but she did not expect to have to use them herself.

Qiao Mei wondered what this child would be like. She could clearly feel that the pregnancy this time was more tiring than the previous one. The last time, even though she was pregnant with two babies, it did not affect her at all. She could eat and sleep well and even had very minimal morning sickness. She did not experience most of the normal pregnancy symptoms.

However, this time round, she felt very uncomfortable the moment she was pregnant. Moreover, her morning sickness was very serious and she felt like throwing up whenever she caught a whiff of any smell. When food was placed in front of her, she would throw up even more. In just a few days, she had lost a lot of weight. Xia He's heart ached when she saw this.

"Why is it so bad this time round? Perhaps I should get Auntie to come and give you a checkup again. I'm really worried about you," Xia He said nervously.

"I'm fine. You don't have to be so anxious," Qiao Mei said gently.

"How can you not be anxious! You haven't eaten for so many days! You only eat so little every day. How can you have nutrition? The baby will absorb your nutrition constantly. In the end, the baby is fine, but the mother will fall ill!" Xia He said angrily.

"Isn't it just a loss of appetite? It's alright, I still have ginseng juice. I think things will be better after a while," Qiao Mei said.

She realized that this baby was very sensitive to energy. Whenever she obtained energy from the plants outside, she would feel much better and the baby would also become more settled.

Chapter 1536 - 1534 Decide to Keep the Child

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After Xia Zhe returned home, he told Qiao Mei the whole back story. Qiao Mei widened her eyes and looked at Xia Zhe. She did not expect her husband to be so ruthless, but she liked it!

Tit for tat was fair play. If He Ning and his gang had already gone to this extent, then what Xia Zhe did was only fair retaliation. "That person told me that this technique is called..." Xia Zhe tried his best to recall the term used. Qiao Mei immediately said, "I know! Artificial insemination!" "I think so. I don't quite understand it. Anyway, it costs a lot of money and it's a very difficult process. It seems that they've put in a lot of effort to do all this," Xia Zhe said. She did not expect such technology to already exist in this era. Even so, the technology was definitely not very developed yet and was something very new. It was seldom mentioned in books or newspapers and one could probably only find information about it in foreign publications. It was precisely because very few people knew about this procedure that He Ning made use of it to get He Mei pregnant. The only known way to get pregnant was if a man and a woman slept together. Thus, Xia Zhe would not be able to defend himself when they confronted him with it. "Then what were you thinking back then?" Qiao Mei asked curiously. "At that time, I didn't really have any plans. I just wanted to take revenge because they had really gone too far. It would be a joke if I didn't fight back! He Ning has set us up so many times, so now it's his turn to suffer the consequences of his own actions," Xia Zhe said. Qiao Mei nodded in agreement. Xia Zhe was so suave at moments like this! No wonder she liked him so much! Xia Zhe had already applied to his superiors to end his vacation break early. If he went back on his word now, his superiors would not be happy with him. In the end, he left the capital reluctantly. He would only be able to reunite with Qiao Mei when her pregnancy was stable. Qiao Mei did not plan to prepare anything this time round. If it turned out to be a boy, he could use Xia Fan's things. If it turned out to be a girl, she could use Xia Xing's things. She had originally wanted to set the things aside for Xia He's children, but she did not expect to have to use them herself.

Qiao Mei wondered what this child would be like. She could clearly feel that the pregnancy this time was more tiring than the previous one. The last time, even though she was pregnant with two babies, it did not affect her at all. She could eat and sleep well and even had very minimal morning sickness. She did not experience most of the normal pregnancy symptoms. However, this time round, she felt very uncomfortable the moment she was pregnant. Moreover, her morning sickness was very serious and she felt like throwing up whenever she caught a whiff of any smell. When food was placed in front of her, she would throw up even more. In just a few days, she had lost a lot of weight. Xia He's heart ached when she saw this. "Why is it so bad this time round? Perhaps I should get Auntie to come and give you a checkup again. I'm really worried about you," Xia He said nervously. "I'm fine. You don't have to be so anxious," Qiao Mei said gently. "How can you not be anxious! You haven't eaten for so many days! You only eat so little every day. How can you have nutrition? The baby will absorb your nutrition constantly. In the end, the baby is fine, but the mother will fall ill!" Xia He said angrily. "Isn't it just a loss of appetite? It's alright, I still have ginseng juice. I think things will be better after a while," Qiao Mei said. She realized that this baby was very sensitive to energy. Whenever she obtained energy from the plants outside, she would feel much better and the baby would also become more settled.

Chapter 1538 Decisiveness

In just one morning, four of their corporate partners had already called to ask if the matter was true. They felt that this would in turn affect the reputation of their companies and urged Qiao Mei to give them an explanation.

Qian'e only wanted to help Qiao Mei manage the factory well. She did not expect to drag Qiao Mei into her problems instead.

"This is not your fault! I'll go and look for Qiao Mei now! No... she's pregnant now! I'll go and look for Xia He! Wait for me! I'll go and look for her! She'll have a solution!" After saying that, Yang Mei ran out to look for Deng Fan and asked him to contact Xia He to come to the factory to help out.

When Xia He received the news, she got into the car and headed straight to the factory. She applied for one week's leave from the art troupe to deal with the factory matters. Although it still looked like she could not get along well with Qian'e, she actually supported Qian'e inside her heart. They were both women, so she also knew how difficult everything was.

As soon as she entered the factory courtyard, Xia He could already hear a lot of loose chatter and gossip. There were even some male workers who made rude and lewd comments. Some female workers even spread rumors about the things which happened to Qian'e in the past. Xia He took note of what these people look like so that she could ask Qiao Mei to fire all of them later. No matter how much compensation they had to pay to fire these people, they must do it. There was no way they could keep such gossipy people in their factory.

She did not have an office at the factory, so she used Qiao Mei's office and called the department heads over for a quick meeting.

"How did this matter start spreading?" Xia He asked as she looked at everyone sternly.

"The first person who spread the rumors was said to have picked up many fliers from the ground. The contents include not only photos of Qian'e, but also a lot of information about her past. The key thing is that most of the information is true," Yang Mei said as she handed Xia He a copy of the flier.

Xia He took some time to read it and then asked, "Did it start only last night?"

"We've asked many people. They said that some people threw the fliers in from outside the wall, and it looked to be quite a lot. The wind was strong last night, so the fliers were scattered over the factory grounds," Chi Ze said.

In this era, there were no surveillance cameras yet, so there was no way to identify the people who did this. They could only investigate slowly and search for the truth.

There were not many families in the capital who knew about what happened to Qian'e. In the Xia family, only the eldest son's family knew about this, so Zhou Luo could not be the one making an issue out of it. The Qian family had long lost touch with Qian'e. Moreover, Qian'e being the factory manager was only known to their business partners and it was unlikely that they would deliberately frame her.

In that case... the only ones left were the Ma family, the He family and the Shen family.

"I'll investigate the ins and outs of this matter, but the most important thing now is to get everyone to shut up. I'll go and talk to our business partners. All of you must manage your subordinates well. If you find anyone who keeps gossiping, note down the person's name. No one is allowed to go home this weekend. None of the workers are allowed to leave the factory and we will pay them for the overtime. If they need to leave because of urgent matters at home, they have to produce evidence," Xia He instructed.

"I don't think we have the right to control their personal freedom," Deng Fan said cautiously.

"Just say that we suddenly have a huge new business deal and need everyone to work overtime. The overtime pay will be triple the usual pay," Xia He said.

Money was not the issue at the moment. The main thing was to get through the current crisis. As long as everyone stayed around and remained united, it would make everything easier.

"Then what about Qian'e? She hasn't eaten for a day and Auntie Li is with her now," Wang Fang said worriedly.

Xia He had a strong temper and brash personality. She did not know how to say comforting words and would always settle everything in a direct manner. She was not the best person to talk to Qian'e now, but Qiao Mei had not been feeling well recently and it was too risky to ask her to come to the factory.

"Let's do it this way for now. We have to force her to eat. If she really doesn't want to eat, let's get the doctor to put her on a drip. We have to ensure that she stays alive while we're resolving the matter," Xia He said sternly.

Deng Fan looked at Xia He in admiration. Xia He's decisive manner was very suitable for leading troops into battle. She had the demeanor of a heroine.

After the meeting, Xia He began to learn about the work in the factory. Even when Deng Fan wanted to chat with her, she did not even raise her head and only said a few perfunctory words in reply.

Deng Fan simply returned to his desk to continue working. He would wait for Xia He to compensate him for being patient after everything was over.

Chapter 1539 Go and Ask Her to Come Back

Misfortune would never come singly. By now, the Qian family should also have heard about all this. Ever since Qian'e left the Qian family, Old Madam Qian had no one to torture so she vent her frustrations on Qian Wang and his wife. The few of them often quarreled at home. Recently, for some reason, Old Madam Qian had even asked her other two sons to return to the capital.

"Ask Qian'e to come home for a visit soon. I haven't seen her for a long time. Since her uncles and aunts-in-law are all here, ask her to come home," Old Madam Qian said with a straight face.

"Mother, Qian'e had already cut ties with the family when she left. Even if I give her a phone call, I won't be able to get her to come back," Zhao Ni said fearfully.

Old Madam Qian took the teacup from the coffee table and smashed it on the floor, saying, "What! Can't get her to come back! She's a child of our Qian family! She's a member of the Qian family forever! Where can she run to! Make her come back!"

"That's right~ How can a junior sever ties with the elders? It'll be so embarrassing if word gets out! Eldest Brother and Eldest Sister-in-law, you should ask Qian'e to come back. We haven't seen Qian'e in such a long time~" Huang Meng, the wife of the second son Qian Cai, said sweetly.

Huang Meng was a coquettish woman. She always wriggled her waist when she walked, spoke very coyly and had dated many men before. Qian Cai was a lecherous man and he liked women like Huang Meng. Back then, Old Master Qian refused to let Qian Cai marry Huang Meng, but Qian Cai pressed on like a man possessed and forced Old Master Qian to agree. In the end, Old Master Qian had no choice but to give in to Qian Cai.

Qian Cai and Huang Meng had one son. The neighbors all said that the child did not resemble Qian Cai at all, but looked more like the child of Old Man Liu who lived at the village entrance. Qian Cai and Huang Meng had numerous arguments over this issue. Every time Qian Cai wanted to divorce Huang Meng, Huang Meng would use her foxy ways to make Qian Cai change his mind.

"Shut up, you slutty woman! This is our Qian family's business and you have no right to speak!" Old Madam Qian said angrily.

Huang Meng hid behind Qian Wang aggrievedly. Her eyes were filled with tears and she looked so pitiful.

"Mother! Xiao Meng is just passing a comment. Why are you angry with her? Qian'e is not our child. If you want to scold someone, you should direct your anger at my eldest sister-in-law," Qian Cai said.

Zhao Ni looked at Qian Wang, but he did not say anything and just sat at the side. Even a coward like Qian Cai would stand up for his wife, but Qian Wang did not say anything and even pretended not to hear anything.

"Why doesn't Qian'e want to come home! It's all because the two of you chased her away! You have to get Qian'e to come back this time round! She used to contribute to the family's household expenses in the past. Even if she wants to leave, she still has to contribute her share! I hear that she has caught a big fish and is going to become a rich man's wife again! You have to find her!" Old Madam Qian said.

Zhao Ni lowered her head and remained silent. She knew that she owed Qian'e a lot. Qian'e would definitely not have a good life in such a family. Instead of letting Qian'e sink into a quagmire, it was better for her to suffer on behalf of Qian'e!

"Mother, Qian'e won't be coming back," Zhao Ni said.

Old Madam Qian raised the rattan cane in her hand and hit Zhao Ni. "Don't you know how to think of a way! You're stupider than a pig! Even if you have to get someone to tie Qian'e up and drag her home, do it!"

"Qian'e has even bought a new house! She even set up a big factory! Where did she get so much money? It must be from that rich man! Just tell her that you're sick and need money. Say that you want... 2,000 dollars! No! Each of our families needs 2,000 dollars, so that's 8,000 dollars!" the third son, Qian Sheng, said with a smile.

They were not going to return to the capital for nothing. Someone must pay the price for them making the trip. They were not going to go back empty-handed.

"That's right! Tell her to be filial to our mother again!" Qian Cai said excitedly.

Zhao Ni had no choice but to agree to do it. If she did not agree, she would be beaten to death by this group of people. Old Madam Qian was worried that Zhao Ni could not complete the task, so she asked Qian Wang to go along.

Qian Wang immediately said, "I have a lot of things to do at the hospital and can't go. If I take leave, I'll lose my full attendance bonus."

The hospital gave a full attendance bonus of 20 dollars to staff who did not take any days off! This amount of money would go to Old Madam Qian in the end, so she immediately said, "Then there's no need for you to attend to such a small matter. Huang Meng and Liu Jia can go instead!"

Chapter 1540 Misidentification

Liu Jia was Qian Sheng's wife and a famous shrew in the vicinity. She was very good at arguing and no one had a louder voice than her!

Zhao Ni even tried to inform Qian'e in advance that night, but Qian'e did not pick up the phone. No matter how anxious Zhao Ni was, there was nothing she could do.

Early the next morning, the few women arrived at the entrance of the factory to kick up a fuss.

"Qian'e! Come out here! You heartless thing! You haven't been home for so long! Your parents are waiting for you to come home and take care of them! Your grandmother misses you very much! Get out here!" Liu Jia shouted.

"Oh~ Qian'e~ Quick, come home with us~" Huang Meng shouted weakly. Even the people standing next to her could not hear what she was shouting.

Liu Jia said disdainfully, "Second Sister-in-law, who can hear you like that? How long do we have to shout if we do it at your volume? Even though you're calling out for Qian'e to go home, it sounds more like you're asking those men to go home with you!"

"Don't you know me by now? I'm weak and don't have the strength to shout. I can't even move things around at home~ Stop trying to malign me!" Huang Meng said.

There were many people gathered at the main entrance, mostly the male workers from the factory. They had come to admire Huang Meng's figure. Although Qian'e and Qiao Mei were both beautiful women, they still preferred to ogle coquettish women like Huang Meng.

From time to time, Huang Meng would wink at these men and shake her sexy butt lightly. Qian Cai was a very skinny man who worked as an accountant at the supply and marketing cooperative in the neighboring village. He was well paid, so Huang Meng only needed to stay at home and be a housewife. However, a woman like Huang Meng was not the kind to stay at home obediently. What she liked to do most often was to flirt with muscular men like those men staring at her now.

Zhao Ni stood awkwardly beside the two women. She hoped that Qian'e would not come out. It had not been easy for Qian'e to finally make a good life for herself. Hopefully she had even found a man who liked her.

"Bad news! Bad news! Sister Xia He! There are three women outside clamoring to look for Qian'e. They seem to be her family members," Yang Mei said as she rushed in from outside.

"I see. Tell the workers to return to their posts. Otherwise, they will be fined one day's salary!" Xia He hurriedly rushed out of the office. These people had come at the right time. She had accumulated a lot of anger over the past few days and could vent her frustration on them!

After shouting for almost half an hour, Liu Jia's voice was almost hoarse. All Huang Meng did was flirt with the men around. Zhao Ni did not want to take part and just stood at the side like a piece of decoration.

Liu Jia would not have worked so hard if not for the 2,000 dollars! Given her efforts, it would seem that 2,000 dollars was no longer enough. She must ask Qian'e for 3,000 dollars to be compensated for all the hard work she had put in!

"Why are you shouting here! If you continue shouting, I'll call the police!" Xia He said domineeringly.

When Xia He arrived, all the factory staff had already gone back to work. They were all afraid of getting fired by Xia He.

"This person... Is it Qian'e? Is she so tall?" Liu Jia looked at Xia He for a long time and asked Huang Meng softly.

Huang Meng had never met Qian'e since she married into the Qian family. Even if she did, she had no recollection at all. Zhao Ni knew that the person who came was not Qian'e, but she did not say a word and even avoided eye contact with everyone. In the end, Liu Jia just assumed that the person in front of her was Qian'e.

"Why haven't you gone home to visit your grandmother! Do you know that your grandmother has been hospitalized because she misses you too much!" Liu Jia questioned arrogantly.

Xia He used to stay at Xia Fang's house for a long period of time, so she recognized Zhao Ni. Looking at how Zhao Ni was trying to signal with her eyes, Xia He finally understood what kind of life Qian'e used to live in the Qian family. She also knew now why Qian'e would get cheated by jerks like Ma San and He Mei.

"It's none of your business whether I go back or not! If you know what's good for you, you'd better get lost! Don't appear in front of me!" Xia He roared.

"How dare you! How can you talk to me like that! I'm your third aunt-in-law! I'm your elder! I can discipline you, scold you or even beat you up! How dare you talk back to me!" Liu Jia said angrily.

"Who do you think you are! Just get lost and go back to the Qian family! Or are you the one who spread the rumors recently?" Xia He probed.

"What rumors? What nonsense are you talking about! Don't change the topic! Your grandmother is sick! Give us some money!" Liu Jia said.