

Fat Wife 1621

Chapter 1621 Bear With It

"Go in and do a search!" Zhao Kuo roared.

Everyone rushed into the courtyard and turned Zhao Liu's house upside down. Zhao Kai and Zhao Kun were so scared that they hid in a corner and did not dare to make a sound. They did not know what was going on.

Zhao Ming walked into the house arrogantly and asked, "Where's your father? Where did he go!"

"My father... My father didn't come home last night! We don't know anything! We haven't even left this house!" Zhao Kai said fearfully.

"Can you swear you're telling the truth?" Zhao Ming asked.

"Yes, we swear! It's the truth! If there's any lie, the two of us brothers will be struck by lightning!" Zhao Kun mustered up his courage and swore.

"Second Uncle, if my elder brother didn't come back last night, that must mean he has run off with Li Gui. I don't think the two of them have gone far. Let's search along this road! We'll definitely be able to catch them! Capturing Li Gui is the most important thing now!" Zhao Ming said agitatedly.

All the villagers went out together to look for Zhao Liu and Li Gui. Zhao Liu was usually such a lazy bum, so he definitely would not be able to go far with a frail woman by his side. Moreover, Zhao Liu's intention was to do something shameful, so he would not go too far.

"Ah!!! There's a dead body!!!"

A woman's scream suddenly came from the village entrance and everyone rushed over. Wang Meng had fallen down to the ground and still kept retreating. She pointed at Zhao Liu and said shakily, "He's dead... Zhao Liu is dead... He's dead... Help..."

Everyone stood 2 meters away from Zhao Liu and did not dare to make an approach. The women all stood very far away and were both curious and scared. None of the men dared to go forward to confirm if Zhao Liu was still alive.

"Do you think he's dead? It's been one whole night..."

"I don't know either. Don't scare me. I'm even afraid of slaughtering chickens!"

"Let's call the police. Someone has died. If we don't call the police, then what are we waiting for!"

Zhao Ming's son, Zhao Tu, hurriedly shouted at the group of women, "Shut up! How can we call the police! Don't you know what we've done! If we call the police, the entire village will be arrested! Shut your mouths!"

"Second Uncle... what should we do?" Zhao Ming said fearfully.

"Don't scare yourself! I'll go and take a look." Zhao Kuo took a deep breath to muster up his courage and walked forward carefully. He took Zhao Liu's pulse and then checked his breathing.

Zhao Liu was still alive!

"Send him to the hospital!" Zhao Kuo said agitatedly.

Zhao Kai and Zhao Kun wanted to go forward to carry Zhao Liu. At the same moment, Zhao Tu said, "Do we have the money to treat him?"

Everyone fell silent. Each family did not even have rice now, what more money. For them, seeing a doctor now was a very extravagant thing.

"Zhao Tu! What do you mean by that! You don't intend to save my father?" Zhao Kai said angrily.

"Do you have enough money to pay for his treatment! His head is injured! It's the most difficult part of the body to treat! You might not be able to treat it even if you spend a lot of money! If we give you the money, how are you going to repay us! Every family can't afford to eat now and you don't have anything to use as collateral. Besides, no one wants to accept your things now!" Zhao Tu said.

In the beginning, everyone was still worried about Zhao Liu's safety, but by now, the looks in their eyes had changed. They no longer seemed so anxious when they looked at Zhao Liu. Some people were afraid of being implicated and secretly ran home.

Zhao Kuo stood there and thought for a moment before he sighed and said, "Kai, bring your father home. It must be Li Gui who hit him! Let's ask them for money first. When we have money, we'll send your father for treatment."

"But my father can't wait that long! Second Grandpa, please help our family!" Zhao Kai said sadly.

"It's not that I don't want to help your family, but everyone is in a difficult situation now. Your father won't die yet. Bring him back and take good care of him. He can still survive for a few days." Zhao Kuo left after saying that and everyone else also left with him, leaving Zhao Kai and Zhao Kun with the unconscious Zhao Liu.

"Elder Brother, are we still going to the hospital?" Zhao Kun asked.

"How can we! Let's go home!" An impatient Zhao Kai carried Zhao Liu on his back and walked towards the house.

He had absolutely no intention of bringing Zhao Liu to the hospital at all. He was just putting on an act so that he could cheat the villagers of some money.

Chapter 1622 Illegitimate Children

Zhao Kai was a heartless person. He did not care about Zhao Liu's life or death. According to Zhao Liu, if not for the fact that there were very few single women in the village, Zhao Kai would probably have had more than 10 mothers in his life!

Zhao Liu did not care about Zhao Kai at all. Ever since Zhao Kun was born, Zhao Liu behaved like a man possessed and gave everything good to Zhao Kun. Zhao Liu even gave Zhao Kun all the nice food and drinks at home first. He would rather feed it to the dogs than give it to Zhao Kai.

At first, Zhao Kai thought that the reason why Zhao Liu was so nice to Zhao Kun was because Zhao Kun was smart and likable. In reality, that was not the case at all!

It was Zhao Liu's third wife who told him about it. This woman was a famous widow in the village and her name was Xiu Lian. The villagers used to say that she killed her previous husband! No one dared to go near Xiu Lian.

Zhao Liu did not believe in such rumors. It was not as if anyone had seen Xiu Lian kill someone with their own eyes. Those rumors were completely untrue. In addition, Xiu Lian was quite a flirtatious woman, so the two of them eventually ended up together.

Zhao Kun was Xiu Lian's child. She was already pregnant before she married Zhao Liu. At that time, Zhao Kai was eight years old. Although he was still young, he could already remember things.

After Xiu Lian and Zhao Liu got married, she did not give up her dirty habits. She remained very close to the other men in the village and kept betraying Zhao Liu behind his back. Later on, the young Zhao Kai discovered Xiu Lian's secret and she asked Zhao Kai to promise to keep her secret.

Among all Zhao Kai's "mothers", Xiu Lian was the one who was nicest to him.

In the end, when Xiu Lian passed away, only Zhao Kai was by her side. She told Zhao Kai everything she knew.

One day, when Zhao Liu was drunk, he accidentally revealed Zhao Kai's background. Zhao Kai was actually an illegitimate child. His mother had him with another man. That was why Zhao Liu always ignored Zhao Kai and did not care even if he was sick.

However, Zhao Liu would never have dreamed that his favorite youngest son, Zhao Kun, was also an illegitimate child! There was no difference between the two children!

"Elder Brother, why don't we get a doctor to come to our house to take a look at him? What if he's seriously injured and can't make it through tonight?" Zhao Kun said fearfully.

"If you want, you can go ahead. I don't have any money. Other people have taken all my money," Zhao Kai said impatiently.

Zhao Kun did not have any money either, so he could only silently stay by Zhao Liu's side and pray that Zhao Liu would survive.

Qiao Mei did not sleep the entire night. She was still worried about Li Gui being in Zhao Family Village. As long as she was still there, Qiao Mei would remain worried about her.

"Mei Mei, you have to eat something," Xu Lan said with heartache.

"Mother, I'm fine. You and Second Aunt-in-law can go and eat," Qiao Mei said weakly.

When Liu Fen's family heard that something had happened at Qiao Mei's house, they drove here overnight. Xia You and Lu Huai both stayed over at Xu Lan's house. They were prepared to go forward and render help as long as they were needed.

"Qiao Mei, you will collapse if you don't eat! Qian'e and I will go to the Zhao Family Village today to negotiate with them. I will make sure that I see Auntie," Xia He said sternly.

"Why don't I go instead!" Qiao Mei said.

Once Qiao Mei reached the edge of the village, she could use her superpower to find out Li Gui's approximate location and also see what Li Gui had experienced during this period of time. She could also check if the villagers of Zhao Family Village had made things difficult for Li Gui and if Zhao Liu had bullied

Li Gui. If any of these things had happened, Qiao Mei would definitely make those people pay the price in blood.

She could even use her superpower to save Li Gui, but the price to pay for that action was too high. If her superpower was discovered by other people, she would be treated as a "witch". Moreover, she was pregnant now and did not have enough energy. If she used it forcefully, it would definitely hurt the baby.

She was caught in a dilemma at the moment, her mother on one hand and her child on the other.

"If you don't listen to me, I'll wait for Xia Zhe and Eldest Brother to come back. Last night, Eldest Brother set off for the capital once he received our message. He will reach home tonight. I'm still hiding it from Xia Zhe. I heard from Father that the training is now very intensive and requires Xia Zhe to lead the team at all times. He can't afford to be distracted now," Xia He sighed and said.

Chapter 1623 At Most We Will All Die Together

"That's right, Qiao Mei! There are so many of us! Any one of us can go and reason with those villagers. We can definitely give them what they want. Even if you don't want to think for yourself, you have to think for your mother and your two children! If your mother finds out that you're feeling so down, she will be so worried," Xu Lan said agitatedly.

Qiao Mei looked at Xia Fan and Xia Xing in their cradle. She was responsible for the children now and could not be willful.

"Alright, then I'll have to trouble Elder Sister and Qian'e to make a trip to the Zhao Family Village. Even if they want the stars in the sky, just give them to them! However, I draw the line at the Xia family's assets," Qiao Mei reminded them.

"Look at this situation now! There's no need to differentiate between your family and my family! Without you, our Xia family would have been long gone! My father would not be standing in front of us so healthy and well now. Auntie has always been very nice to us, so her life is the most important thing now. All the Xia family members are perfectly fine. Even if we lose everything, we can just earn it all back," Xia He said.

Qiao Mei looked at everyone gratefully. Qian'e and Xia He set off very early for the Zhao Family Village without even having breakfast, accompanied by Luo Yu. The people from the Zhao Family Village said that they would not allow more than five people to enter the village, otherwise they would not negotiate with Qiao Mei.

Luo Yu had arranged for many experts from the team to protect them in secret. As soon as the villagers of Zhao Family Village had any ill intentions, these men would take action immediately. They had obtained approval for this mission. They just needed to ensure that none of the villagers got killed.

In the Zhao Family Village, there were people patrolling around every day now. They were afraid that those buyers would come looking for them again. There was already nothing left at home for them to sell, but some families still had babies. Those buyers looked vicious and they might kidnap the children and sell them for money.

The arrival of Qian'e and the others alarmed the patrol team. They immediately ran to Zhao Kuo's house and informed the entire village to come to the village entrance to defend against the enemy.

"You... you're the person who came to collect seeds that day! Your name should be... Qian'e! Am I right?" Zhao Kuo said slowly as he came over with his walking stick.

"Yes! I'm Qian'e! I'm the person in charge of the factory! I hear you want to negotiate with us? Name your price," Qian'e said.

"Name a price? How can you have the cheek to say such things! You caused us to be displaced! Some families were even broken up! You think you can use money to settle this!" Zhao Kuo said angrily.

Xia He stood at the side and could not stand it anymore. She said unhappily, "Hey! Old man! Watch your words! What do you mean by we caused that to happen! You're the ones who are greedy! Back then, we had signed an agreement when we collected the seeds! You promised not to keep a single seed. So what happened?"

"You damn woman, what are you saying! You've better drop that attitude! So what if we did it! You're the ones playing tricks! Otherwise, we won't be in such a miserable state! You're the ones who want to negotiate terms now! So let's figure out what exactly is going on! Don't forget that we still have your people in our hands!" Zhao Kai stood up and said smugly.

Xia He and Qian'e clenched their fists tightly. They could not panic now and must hold back their tempers.

"We want to see them first before we negotiate!" Qian'e shouted.

"Impossible! You have to fulfill our request first before we let them go!" Zhao Kai said.

"We can agree to any of your requests, but we have to see them first. Otherwise, we'll leave immediately and let the police surround your village!" Xia He pointed at the villagers and threatened them.

A few villagers were so frightened that they kept retreating, but Zhao Kai did not believe what he heard at all. It was not as if he had really learned nothing from following Zhao Fei around to do business those few months.

"Your Xia family is also involved in the same illegal business as us. Aren't you afraid of being arrested as well if you call the police?" Zhao Kai asked.

"Have you heard of the saying that a starving camel is still bigger than a horse? The factory is mine and I'm the only one involved. It has nothing to do with anyone else. They will only come after me!" Qian'e yelled angrily.

"You don't have any evidence to prove that you're the only one involved! We all saw everything back then!" Zhao Kai said in a panic.

"Hmph, that's nothing. At most, I'll just die together with you! I'm the only one from our side, but it's different for you! More than 100 of you have to die with me! It's not a loss for me!" Qian'e shouted with all her might.

Chapter 1624 She Ran Away

The villagers who were present had an animated discussion. Most of them were uneducated. Everything they knew about the law and how powerful the Xia family was told to them by the Zhao family members. None of them saw anything with their own eyes and there was no real proof.

When they heard Qian'e say that they would all die, all of them became afraid. After all, Qian'e was rich and they were really poor! They still had children to take care of!

"Village Chief... is what she said true?" one of the villagers asked fearfully.

Before Zhao Kuo could speak, Qian'e immediately shouted, "Do you still believe in the Zhao family members now! Look at what they've asked you to do! When you worked with us, all of you earned money! But now? Some families have been broken up and some families can't even afford to eat! I hear that you still need to bring up your children! Do you still believe in the Zhao family members?"

"Don't listen to this b*tch talking nonsense! She's lying to you! If not for the fact that they gave us fake seeds, we wouldn't have had any harvest! It's all their fault now. They're lying to us! Don't believe it!" Zhao Kai shouted to the villagers.

"What right do you have to say that we give you fake seeds? You are the ones who hide the seeds and breach the contract first. I'm guessing that everyone has bought the seeds at a high price from the Zhao family, right? Isn't it clear who's the culprit behind all this?" Xia He said.

Everyone looked at the Zhao family members fiercely. They had nothing now. After today, they would have no food left. It was hard to say if they could survive the entire month.

Zhao Kai waved his hands and said, "How can you believe these outsiders! They just want us to hand over the person to them! Don't believe them!"

"As long as you let me see Li Gui, we can sit down and discuss your conditions. However, if I don't get to see her today! You won't get anything! Let's see if you want her or the money!" Qian'e said.

Xia He said sternly, "If not, you won't get anything! We'll go to the police and ask them to search the village immediately! When the time comes, none of you can even think about staying alive!"

A few villagers were so frightened that they could not take it anymore. They knelt on the ground and shouted, "Li Gui has run away! She's not in the village anymore! Please let us live! I still have two babies to bring up!"

Xia He gave Luo Yu a look and Luo Yu immediately took out 10 dollars from his pocket and gave it to the villager together with a pound of rice.

When the others saw that the villager had benefited from speaking up, they started to tell everything they knew.

"I know that Li Gui was locked up in Zhao Ming's house yesterday!"

"I know that too!"

"There are also many people who came here with Li Gui! They're all locked up in the cellar of the village chief's house!"

"I know the place! I'll bring you there! Just give me more money and rice!"

"..."

Xia He and Qian'e looked at the chaos in front of them and laughed mockingly. These people could do outrageous things for their own benefit and they could also betray their companions for their own benefit.

Qiao Mei was the one who came up with this idea. Everything was under her control, but Li Gui had gone missing.

"Tell me! Where did Li Gui go! Or are you lying to me!" Xia He said agitatedly.

"We're not lying. She really ran away! Before she left, she even beat Zhao Liu to death! We saw it with our own eyes!" a villager said fearfully.

"Traitor! You bunch of traitors! You've confessed everything for such a small benefit!" Zhao Kai said angrily.

Xia He rushed forward and stood in front of Zhao Kai. "Is Li Gui really not in the village anymore? Release the rest of the people you captured!"

When Chi Ze and the others heard the commotion outside, they ran out quietly. When they saw that it was Xia He and the rest, they hurriedly ran over. All of them were dirty all over and some of them even stank!

They would rather carry out missions in the forest and eat rats and insects than stay in such a place for two days!

"Sister Xia He! They're telling the truth! We already checked all the other cellars just now, but we didn't find any trace of Auntie!" Mao Hang said anxiously.

Qian'e felt a chill down her spine when she heard the news. She did not imagine that things would turn out like this. If Li Gui had run away, she was definitely headed in the direction of her own house.

Chapter 1625 Treatment

In that case, looking at the time, Li Gui should have reached home by now.

"Xia He! Keep an eye on this group of people! I'm going to make a phone call!" Qian'e brought Chi Ze with her and drove to the county city. There, she found a convenience store with a phone and made a call to Qiao Mei.

Qiao Mei picked up the phone on the first ring.

"Qiao Mei! It's me! Has Auntie reached home already? They said that Auntie ran away last night!" Qian'e said.

"I'll call and ask now!" Qiao Mei immediately hung up and made a call to the courtyard house.

Although Li Gui had been to Xu Lan's house twice, she was not familiar with this place and would not think of coming there at all. If she wanted to go home, she would definitely go back to the courtyard house.

Xu Kang and Feng Hua were cleaning the courtyard and did not hear the phone ring. Qiao Mei then called Qiao Qiang, who was in the backyard.

Some time ago, Xia Jun missed Qiao Qiang very much, but he did not know when Qiao Qiang would be at home. There was still no phone line in that area, so he asked Xia Mao to make an application in his name for the purpose of making it easier for him to contact his family members. Not long after, a phone line was installed in that area.

"Grandfather! Is my mother at home now?" Qiao Mei asked anxiously.

"No, she's been staying at the factory! We haven't seen her. Is there anything urgent?" Qiao Qiang said.

It was currently the rainy season and Qiao Qiang's old problem of rheumatism had recurred. He rested at home every day and did not ask about anything. He did not know anything about what happened at the factory at all.

"Alright, I understand. It's nothing. I'm just calling to check. I won't be home for a while so you must take care of yourself!" Qiao Mei hung up after saying that.

Qiao Qiang looked at the phone and thought that it was a little strange. Qiao Mei was a military spouse now, was she not? Why did she use Xu Lan's phone to call him?

Li Gui was unfamiliar with the capital and the Zhao Family Village was also very far from the factory. Other than these places, where else could Li Gui go? Qiao Mei wondered how she was now. Had she eaten? Had she drunk water? Had her health suffered after she worked so hard during this period of time?

Given that she was a woman walking around without a penny in her pocket, what if she ran into someone with ulterior motives?

Qiao Mei did not dare to continue thinking about it. She could not take it. She leaned against the wall and took a deep breath. No one knew what to do next.

"Is there any news?" Xia Wen asked as he rushed into the house with his luggage, looking weary from his travels.

Qiao Mei looked at Xia Wen and shook her head helplessly. "My mother has escaped, but her whereabouts are unknown. Qian'e and the others are probably looking for her now."

"I'll get Zou Ming to start searching the city," Xia Wen said with a frown.

"No! If you do that, the Xia family will be destroyed! We can't be so conspicuous! I'll think of another way... There must be another way..." Qiao Mei said nervously.

Xia Wen put down the things in his hand and did not even bother to wash up. He immediately drove out to look for his friends to ask them for help. Xia Mao also quietly asked around for information.

Qian'e and the others did not manage to find any news about Li Gui along the road. The roads in this village were very difficult to navigate and no one would be able to spot a woman walking alone at night at all.

At this moment, Zhao Fei had brought Li Gui to a remote clinic for treatment. The doctor looked very solemn and it seemed that Li Gui's condition was getting worse and worse. Her face was very pale. If Zhao Fei did not see that Li Gui was still panting, he would have thought that Li Gui had already died!

"Doctor! Say something!" Zhao Fei said anxiously.

"She has had a fever for too long. Coupled with the fact that she had been in a dirty environment, it has already affected her lungs. It's fortunate that you send her here in time. Her condition has not worsened and her life is not in danger. I'll bring down her fever first and then treat her after that," the doctor said.

"That's good... That's good... As long as she's alive..." Zhao Fei dropped to the ground. He had felt tense for one day and one night. Now that he had rescued her, he heaved a sigh of relief.

"How are you going to pay?" the doctor asked coldly.

"Can... can we put it on credit? I'll go back and ask my family to come and pay! Just one day! Can you give me one day's grace?" Zhao Fei begged.

The doctor looked at Zhao Fei suspiciously and said disdainfully, "I've seen many people like you! If everyone keeps asking for credit, how can I continue to operate this clinic? If you don't have money, then go elsewhere."

"Doctor! We don't have time! If you don't save her! Then she'll die! Please! I'll definitely pay you! Just give me one day!" Zhao Fei begged.

Chapter 1626 Be A Nice Person For Once

"I can't help you. Go somewhere else," the doctor said coldly as he turned around.

Zhao Fei looked at Li Gui's increasingly weak breath and pale face. If he had to bring her to another clinic for treatment now, she would definitely die!

Li Gui had always been very nice to him and would think about him whenever there was anything good. In the past, when he made deliveries, he always woke up very early and did not have time for breakfast. Breakfast outside was also very expensive and he really could not bear to spend money, so he always went hungry.

After Li Gui found out about it, she started to bring breakfast for Zhao Fei every day and asked him to eat in the car when he had time. She did not miss a single day and every breakfast was different. He

remembered all her kindness in his heart. Li Gui let him know what it was like to have "motherly love" and she was also the person who doted on him the most other than the women in the village.

Zhao Fei looked at the doctor's back and then at the scalpel beside him.

There was only one way to save Li Gui now...

Zhao Fei rushed to the doctor's side and snatched up the scalpel. He knelt on the ground and begged, "Doctor! Please save her! I'm willing to use my hand to exchange for it! You can have any body part you want! I can cut off my limbs to be used as collateral! As long as you can save her! It doesn't matter even if I die! You can even take my life!"

"What are you doing! I'm not running an illegal business. What do I need your hands and feet for?" the doctor said in a panic.

"I really don't have any other way out. I don't have anything valuable on me. Please save her!" Zhao Fei said agitatedly. As he spoke, he pressed the scalpel against his wrist. As he moved, he cut his arm and it started bleeding profusely.

"Alright, alright, alright! I agree! I'll treat her! But I'll only treat her for two days, today and tomorrow. If you don't come back at this time the day after tomorrow, then I have no other choice!" the doctor sighed and said helplessly.

Zhao Fei hurriedly lowered the scalpel and said happily, "Thank you! Thank you! I'll definitely come back! You must save her! I'll go and inform the others now! I'm counting on you!"

With that, Zhao Fei was about to rush out the door when the doctor quickly stopped him and said, "Hey! Leave the scalpel behind!"

Zhao Fei touched his head in embarrassment and placed the scalpel on the table by the door. "I'm sorry! I was so excited that I forgot!"

Looking at Zhao Fei's gradually disappearing figure, the doctor sighed and said, "He's really noble... There aren't many people like him... I'll be kind and be a nice person for once."

Qian'e could not find any trace of Li Gui as she checked along the road. She and Luo Yu hurriedly drove back to the Zhao Family Village to pick up Xia He. When they reached the village entrance, they saw Xia He and more than 10 guard team members fighting with the villagers.

"I want to see which one of you dares to leave today!" Zhao Kai raised a hoe and shouted angrily.

Xia He did not say anything else and just glared fiercely at everyone from the Zhao Family Village. These people were the ones who harmed Qiao Mei and hurt Li Gui. She would remember every single one of their faces and would not let any of them off.

"Xia He! We didn't manage to find Auntie. Let's go home and take a look first," Qian'e said as she ran to Xia He's side.

"Alright, let's go back," Xia He said.

They began to retreat. At this moment, Zhao Kun shouted, "Guys! We definitely can't let them escape! Otherwise, we won't have any hope in the future! My father is still unconscious at home!"

The buyers had threatened them to get the money ready and hand it over to the buyers within a week. Otherwise, all the houses in their village would be burned down. By then, they would really be homeless.

Zhao Kuo immediately realized the severity of the matter. He pointed at Xia He and the others and said, "Stop them! None of them is allowed to leave!"

The men in the village surrounded Xia He and the others with their weapons. If there were only around 10 people, they would be able to deal with the crowd. However, there were more than 50 villagers in front of them, many of them either old and weak or women and children. If a fight really broke out, they would definitely be at a disadvantage even if they had the guard team members with them.

The guard team members had to abide by discipline and rules and could only punish evildoers. They could not bully the weak. Even if it was these people's fault, they could not hurt the women and children.

"With just the few of you? How can you stop so many of us!" Qian'e said.

Chapter 1627 Cannot Wait Any Longer

"We'll know it once we give it a try! My father's head was injured by Li Gui! We need 10,000 dollars! Get someone to bring the money over!" Zhao Kai said.

"Who knows if what you say is true!" Qian'e shouted indignantly. She did not believe that Li Gui would hurt others for no reason.

"If you don't believe me! You can come to my house and take a look!" Zhao Kai said.

"Only a fool will go to your house..." Xia He rolled her eyes and said disdainfully.

"If you don't give us the money! We'll fight you here until the end!" Zhao Kai said angrily.

The sky gradually darkened. There was still no news of Li Gui at the moment. Furthermore, Xia He, Qian'e and the others had not returned yet. Qiao Mei could not sit still at home. She wished she could run out and look for Li Gui.

Xu Lan brought a bowl of silver fungus soup to Qiao Mei and said, "You haven't eaten much for the entire day. Drink some silver fungus soup to nourish your body. If this continues, your body won't be able to take it."

Qiao Mei drank the silver fungus soup obediently. Xia Wen returned in a hurry, his shirt drenched and looking very disheveled. Qiao Mei had never seen Xia Wen like this before. In her memories, Xia Wen was always a person who was able to handle issues with ease.

"Eldest Brother, how is it?" Qiao Mei asked anxiously.

"I have asked around. No one knows anything about Auntie, but Mo Zhu's family has a private investigator and they've already sent him out to check. However, he can only come back tomorrow at noon at the earliest," Xia Wen said.

"No... we can't wait that long... Eldest Brother, drive me to the Zhao Family Village immediately! We'll meet up with Xia He and the others there!" Qiao Mei said as she grabbed Xia Wen's arm.

At this point, Xu Lan already did not know how to dissuade Qiao Mei. She understood how Qiao Mei was feeling very well. If it was her own mother who got into an accident, she would also do everything in her power to find her mother's whereabouts.

"Mother, I have to go and look for my mother. I know my own health. Besides, Eldest Brother will be with me. I'll be fine!" Qiao Mei said seriously.

"Go ahead then. Your second aunt-in-law and I will take care of the children at home. You must take care of yourself and don't tire yourself out!" After saying that, Xu Lan seemed to have thought of something and immediately ran to the study upstairs.

After a while, she ran down with something in her hand and stuffed it into Qiao Mei's hands. "This is the life-saving medicine you gave us back then. Take it. If you encounter any danger, just drink it!"

Qiao Mei looked at the small bottle of golden ginseng juice in her hand and smiled. Then, she looked at Xu Lan and said firmly, "Mother, don't worry. I'll come back safely."

Xia Wen and Qiao Mei drove to the Zhao Family Village. At this moment, Xia He, Qian'e and the others were still dealing with the villagers at the village entrance. However, they were no longer arguing but everyone had sat down to rest

They could not use violence against the villagers, nor could they forcefully rush out in case they hurt the villagers. They could only stay where they were and wait to see who backed down first. Everyone among them was well-trained and it was not a problem for them to last for 48 hours. The villagers' physical fitness was definitely not as good as theirs.

"Qiao Mei? Why are you here?" Qian'e said as she looked at Qiao Mei in shock.

Qiao Mei hurriedly came over Xia He and Qian'e and asked, "Are the two of you alright? It's already so late but you aren't back yet, so Eldest Brother and I are here to look for you."

Although Zhao Kai and the others had seen Qiao Mei a few times before, they had only caught a brief glimpse and did not have a close look. Now that they saw Qiao Mei, everyone was stunned. They did not expect Qiao Mei to be such a beautiful girl!

They had heard from Zhao Fei that Qiao Mei had a very bad temper. That did not seem true. Could it be that Zhao Fei had gotten the wrong person and meant that it was Qian'e who had a bad temper?

"You're finally here! Give us the money!" Zhao Kai said as he pointed at Qiao Mei.

"Give her to me and I'll give you money," Qiao Mei said calmly.

"Sister-in-law, we've secretly done a house-to-house check. Auntie is indeed not in the village anymore, but we don't know where she has gone. These people won't say anything no matter what," Chi Ze came to Qiao Mei's side and whispered.

Qiao Mei patted Chi Ze's shoulder to indicate that she understood. The most important thing for her now was to find an opportunity to communicate with the plants in the village and see where Li Gui had gone.

Chapter 1628 Finding Clues

"Your mother beat my father to death! We want money for his treatment! If you don't give it to us, we'll go to the police!" Zhao Kai threatened.

As long as none of them mentioned anything about Li Gui's kidnapping and stuck to the fact that Li Gui had hurt Zhao Liu, Qiao Mei would have to give them a lot of money.

Qiao Mei was not a fool and would not simply believe whatever other people said. Moreover, she was familiar with the law and knew very well who would be at a disadvantage if this entire matter ended up with the police. She did not care about the nonsense that Zhao Kai was spewing at all. Nothing was more important than Li Gui's life.

"Is it true just because you say it's true? We had been here all afternoon but didn't see anything! Who knows if what you say is true!" Qian'e said angrily.

"If you don't believe me! I'll bring you to the place where my father was injured!" Zhao Kun said.

There were mountains and rivers near this village. If Li Gui really hurt Zhao Liu in order to escape, then the plants in the village would definitely have seen her. Qiao Mei suppressed the excitement in her heart and said, "Bring us there to take a look."

Zhao Kai walked in front while Qiao Mei, Qian'e and Xia He walked behind him. Luo Yu and Xia Wen stood on each side to protect them.

They did not have to walk far before they reached the place where Zhao Liu was attacked last night. There was indeed a pool of blood on the ground and it looked like it was really a lot of blood! Perhaps Zhao Kai was telling the truth.

While they were talking, Qiao Mei gently stroked a big tree at the side and secretly did an exchange of energy with it. Qiao Mei saw the entire process of what happened last night. She saw a man with Li Gui. Looking at that man's figure... it was Zhao Fei!

She did not expect Zhao Fei to have successfully saved Li Gui. Earlier, Qiao Mei had no choice but to seek Zhao Fei's help. She did not expect him to really come through.

"See! Go and get the money!" Zhao Kai said.

"Who knows if what you say is true or not? Maybe you killed a dog and let it bleed out here? We don't even know if it's human blood, so I won't give you money! Even if Zhao Liu is really injured, what evidence do you have to prove that it was my mother who hit him!" Qiao Mei questioned.

Zhao Kai stammered and could not give an answer. Qiao Mei stared at Zhao Kun, who was behind Zhao Kai, and asked, "I'll ask you one last time, is my mother in your hands!"

"She's really not..." Zhao Kun said softly.

Qiao Mei did not continue to question him. Instead, she shouted at the crowd outside, "If you don't want to die, then get lost!"

She took out a big stack of money from her pocket and threw it into the sky. Everyone rushed forward and bent over the ground to pick up the money, not caring if Qiao Mei and the others were still around.

Taking advantage of the chaos, they hurriedly drove away. Xia Wen and the others did not expect Qiao Mei to leave so quickly, but what else could they do except to leave the place? Even Chi Ze and the others said that Li Gui was really not in the village anymore.

Qiao Mei secretly took out a small vine from inside her sleeve and gradually made it grow longer through the gap in the door. Just like that, it dragged on the ground and kept releasing energy.

The surrounding plants all conversed with Qiao Mei and it was extremely noisy. Qiao Mei's face turned paler and paler as she was about to run out of energy.

At this moment, she suddenly heard the voices of Li Gui and Zhao Fei nearby.

"Stop the car!" Qiao Mei suddenly shouted.

Luo Yu was so shocked that he quickly stepped on the brakes. Everyone looked at Qiao Mei in shock and confusion. Qiao Mei did not care less and quickly got out of the car to observe the surrounding terrain.

"Brother Luo Yu! All of you used to be soldiers! See if there are any clues nearby!" Qiao Mei said as she pointed at the grass patch nearby.

The men were all trained in reconnaissance before. Everyone went into the grass to search. In less than 10 minutes, Luo Yu found a small path.

"Here! Come and take a look!" Luo Yu shouted.

The road to get to him was very steep so it was not convenient for Qiao Mei to go over. Qian'e stayed behind to take care of Qiao Mei while Xia He ran to Luo Yu's side to take a look.

"Let's follow this path and look around first. The rest of you can go elsewhere to take a look," Xia He said.

"Alright, I'll bring three people with me. You guys go home first," Luo Yu said sternly.

Xia Wen looked at Qiao Mei suspiciously. Even for ex-soldiers like them, they did not dare to say for sure where they could find clues. How did Qiao Mei determine that there were clues nearby?

Chapter 1629 Finding Zhao Fei

Noticing Xia Wen's suspicious look, Qiao Mei smiled and asked, "Eldest Brother, why are you looking at me like that?"

"I'm just curious about how you know that there might be clues nearby," Xia Wen said.

"Maybe... it's the connection between mother and daughter..." Qiao Mei explained.

This made sense. When Wu Min passed away from illness, Xia Wen was still in the army. At that time, he suddenly felt suffocated and uncomfortable for a long while. He thought that there was something wrong with his health, but after a few minutes, he received the bad news from home.

"I've had this feeling before..." Xia Wen said melancholically.

Qiao Mei was relieved to see that Xia Wen no longer suspected anything. She thought that Xia Wen had spotted something strange about her! It would be a disaster if her powers were exposed!

Luo Yu led three men down the road and saw a village. This village was very small and there were only about 20 families living there. It did not take long for them to ask around and find out that no one had seen Li Gui and Zhao Fei.

However, the traces that they had discovered could not be wrong. Someone had indeed been here before and the evidence of a patch of grass being crushed was clearly from a person lying on the ground.

Could it be that they did not go this way?

Luo Yu and the others quickly ran back to the road to meet up with the rest. Qiao Mei looked at Luo Yu expectantly, but he just shook his head helplessly and said, "I'm sorry, Sister-in-law. We didn't find anything. They didn't go that way..."

"It's fine. Cough, cough, cough..." Qiao Mei suddenly coughed violently. She had used too much energy just now and it was too much for her to take in her current condition. She had to replenish her energy as soon as possible, but she could not expose the situation in front of so many people.

"Qiao Mei, are you alright!" Qian'e asked worriedly.

Xia Wen immediately helped Qiao Mei into the car and everyone returned to Xu Lan's house to take a rest. Their search would have to end here today. Luo Yu and the others took turns sending people to continue looking.

Qiao Mei opened the bottle of medicinal wine at home and took a few sips before her expression relaxed slightly. She felt a little uncomfortable in her stomach and even wanted to throw up. The symptoms from when she first got pregnant were back.

She touched her stomach angrily and said, "You are really a worrisome troublemaker..."

"You still scold the baby! Look at how you scare us today! Now that we know that Auntie is not in the hands of those people from the Zhao Family Village, it means that Auntie will be saved! Don't worry, just leave the rest to us," Xia He said.

Qiao Mei nodded weakly. There was nothing else she could do now. She could only wait patiently for Zhao Fei to return and to send more people to investigate in the meantime.

After walking for an entire day, Zhao Fei finally arrived at Qiao Mei's house. He did not have the strength to even knock on the door. He crouched down on the stone steps and kept crawling towards the main door. In the end, his vision darkened and he fainted.

There was no one on the street and no one noticed him. Xu Kang only discovered Zhao Fei when she went out to lock the door at night. She was so scared that she retreated repeatedly. After confirming that the person at the door was motionless, she mustered her courage and walked up to Zhao Fei to take a closer look.

She seemed to have seen this person before. He looked like the young man who used to do business with Qiao Mei and the others! Why was he crouching at their main door? She quickly went into the house and called for Da Zhuang and Xiao Zhuang, asking them to move Zhao Fei into the house.

"Where can we find a doctor at this hour? Perhaps we should go to the hospital!" Xu Kang said in a panic.

"We don't know if he can go to the hospital. He will need to be registered there. If he had done something wrong, then won't it become our mistake? Let's call Sister-in-law to confirm it first," Xiao Zhuang said cautiously.

"Sure!" Da Zhuang quickly ran to the living room next door to make a call to Xu Lan's house. Xu Kang went to the kitchen to cook some porridge for Zhao Fei so that he could drink some to replenish his strength.

Xu Lan's helper, Wan Wen, picked up the phone and said, "Hello, this is the Xia family."

"I'm the guard at Qiao Mei's house! There's a man here! Is Qiao Mei at home! This person might be related to Auntie's disappearance!" Da Zhuang said loudly.

"Oh, oh! I'll wake them up now!" Wan Wen immediately ran upstairs to wake Xia Wen and Xia He up. Qiao Mei had not been feeling well and she hesitated about waking Qiao Mei up. In the end, she felt that it was better to let Qiao Mei rest well.

Xia He ran downstairs quietly and picked up the phone. "This is Xia He. Who did you find? Describe him to me."

Chapter 1630 Waiting For Him To Regain Consciousness

"He fainted at the door. He's about 20 years old, about 1.8 meters tall, very thin, and has a scar on his wrist..." Da Zhuang carefully described Zhao Fei's appearance.

When Xia He heard this, she knew that it was Zhao Fei. The scar on his wrist was from when he accidentally got cut by the popcorn machine when trying to repair it.

After hanging up the phone, she immediately grabbed Xia Wen and set off for Qiao Mei's courtyard house. Zhao Fei was still unconscious, so even if Qiao Mei went back, she also had to wait patiently for Zhao Fei to wake up. It would be better for them to get the whole story and then bring Qiao Mei to look for Li Gui.

As soon as the car reached the main door of Qiao Mei's house, Xia He jumped out and ran into the room where Zhao Fei was in. It looked like he had been unconscious for a long time. At this rate, he might not wake up even by tomorrow night.

She ran to the room which Qiao Mei had set aside for her and took out the precious 100-year-old ginseng juice. Xia He held the bottle and hesitated. This was what Qiao Mei had given her and there was only one bottle left. If the person lying in front of her was Li Gui, she would definitely let Li Gui drink it without any hesitation. However, she could not bear to let Zhao Fei drink such a precious thing.

However, this was for news about Li Gui! So be it! Just treat it as Li Gui drinking it!

She handed the bottle to Xu Kang and asked Xu Kang to mix the 100-year-old ginseng juice with water and slowly feed it to Zhao Fei, making sure not to spill a single drop. She did not have the patience to wait upon others.

Xia Wen and Xia He sat at the side and waited quietly. As they looked at Zhao Fei's gradually rosy face, hope started to rise in their hearts.

"Eldest Brother, do you think he knows where Auntie is?" Xia He asked.

"I'm not sure, but Qiao Mei said that he knows. Let's just take it that he knows and wait for him to wake up," Xia Wen said wearily.

During his business trip, his days and nights were often reversed. He would often go to bed in the wee hours of the morning and then wake up after a few hours to start the day really early. After receiving the news, he rushed back to the capital, constantly worried about Li Gui.

His body could not take it anymore. It was as if there were two weights hanging from his eyelids and it was getting very strenuous for him to even blink.

"Knock, knock, knock!"

There was a knock on Qiao Mei's main door. Who would come to this house in the middle of the night? Could it be that Li Gui had returned on her own!

Xia He rushed to the door excitedly and opened it. When she saw who it was, she was a little disappointed and the smile on her face disappeared.

"Mo Zhu? Why are you here so late at night? Did something happen?" Xia He asked.

"I called your parents' house just now. They say that you are at Qiao Mei's house, so I rush over. Your eldest brother asked me to check on Li Gui. My private investigator has found some clues," Mo Zhu whispered.

Xia He hurriedly let Mo Zhu in. She stuck her head out to check if there was anyone else around before locking the door. The three of them went to the study together.

Mo Zhu took out a letter from her bag. This was all the information that her family's private investigator had found during this period of time. Mo Zhu did not know any of the information was useful, so she wanted to show it to Xia Wen.

There was a lot of information written on that piece of paper. For people who did not know better, they would think that it contained Li Gui's life history! Even the things that happened to Li Gui when she was young were recorded, but there was very little mention of the recent kidnapping.

Looking at Xia Wen's solemn expression, Mo Zhu asked in embarrassment, "Is there nothing useful here?"

"I'll take a closer look. You've already helped us a lot. Thank you for coming to deliver the letter so late at night," Xia Wen said as he looked at Mo Zhu kindly.

"It's not a big deal. I just want to find Auntie quickly. Our family has lived in the forest area for a long time and doesn't know much about all these things outside, so we might not be able to help you much. If there's anything you need from me, just tell me! I'll definitely think of a way to help you," Mo Zhu said.

"Definitely." Xia Wen put away the letter and looked up at Xia He. "It's already very late. Let Mo Zhu sleep in your room. I'll arrange for someone to send her back tomorrow morning."

"Alright, you can sleep in my room!" Xia He pulled Mo Zhu towards her room.

Ever since she got married, she had not come back to live in this house. The room looked the same as before, even the position of the decorative ornaments had not changed. Xu Kang cleaned Xia He's room every day and the bedsheets and blankets were all freshly washed.