

Fat Wife 2051

Chapter 2051: The Agreement From Back Then

Along the way, Zheng Juan kept singing praises of certain big restaurants in Hu City. Qiao Mei had heard of those places before. These few would become very famous five-star hotels in the coming decades, often charging tens of thousands of dollars for the rooms and meals.

“Fourth Aunt-in-law, let’s just find a random restaurant nearby,” Gao Lin said.

“That won’t do! Only a big restaurant is worthy of your status as an overseas returnee! It’s so rare for you to come back! We must eat something nice! The taste of Hu City!” Zheng Juan yelled loudly.

The people passing by all turned around to look at them. The smug expression on Zheng Juan’s face became even more obvious. Qiao Mei and Gao Lin frowned slightly with displeasure. When Qiao Mei found out that the big restaurant they were headed to was located more than 10 kilometers away, her expression darkened even more.

These people wanted to make them travel so far just to get a free meal. There were not as many taxis in the country as there were overseas, so it would take a long time to flag one down. Even if they could find a taxi to send them there, they might not be lucky enough to find one to bring them back. If they took the bus, they would need to change buses along the way! It was too much effort for a meal.

Qiao Mei and Gao Lin had just arrived in Hu City and were still unfamiliar with the place. They did not know anyone and did not have a house or car locally. At first, Qiao Mei found that to be a little troublesome, but it turned out to be a good thing instead. At least these people would not look at them with covetous eyes!

“Is that restaurant over there where Lao Bian used to sell buns!” Gao Lin asked as he pointed at a small restaurant in the alley.

“Yes, it’s still the same restaurant. It’s now run by Lao Bian’s children. Lao Bian is too old to make buns nowadays,” Gao Hai said.

“Let’s go there then. I want to have a taste of what I used to eat.” After saying that, Gao Lin took big strides to the restaurant with Qiao Mei following closely behind.

Gao Hai was about to take two steps forward when Zheng Juan grabbed him and whispered, “Don’t just think about eating! Don’t forget to ask them how they are doing now!”

“I know! I’ll ask! Stop rushing me!” Gao Hai said.

“If you know, then you should have asked just now!” Zheng Juan said angrily.

There were not many people in the restaurant at this time of the day and it was easy to find a table for the few of them. Gao Lin ordered soup dumplings for everyone, as well as soy milk, tofu pudding and some other items.

While they were waiting for the dishes to be served, Zheng Juan gave Gao Hai a kick. Gao Hai looked at Gao Lin and asked, “Xiao Lin, why are you back this time?”

“I just want to come back and take a look at the old house. I want to buy it,” Gao Lin said honestly.

Zheng Juan’s eyes lit up. If Gao Lin had the money to buy the old house, it meant that the Gao family was not in dire straits! It looked like Gao Lin was still very rich!

Gao Le suddenly stood up and roared, “This old house is our house! What right do you have to buy it!”

“By right, it belongs to our family. There was an agreement back then that if we come back, everyone will return us all our assets. We’re all people who keep our promises, so you can’t be so unreasonable,” Qiao Mei said as she looked at Gao Hai.

This was what Gao Lin had told Qiao Mei when they were in the capital. Back then, Gao Lin’s parents asked everyone from the Gao family to leave with them. However, some of the Gao family’s relatives did not want to leave their hometown, so they stayed back in the end.

Gao Lin's parents agreed to let these relatives manage their assets. If they did not return to the country, the assets would belong to these relatives. However, if they did, then the relatives must return all their assets to them.

"What agreement! Don't try to scare me! I've lived here since I was young and I've never met anyone else! This old house is our house! How can you say whatever you want! Are your words equivalent to an imperial edict?" Gao Le said.

Zheng Juan did not know about all these things from the past, so she also said unhappily, "You can't just spout such irresponsible words. Why does the house need to change ownership the moment you're back?"

Gao Lin looked at Gao Hai and said, "They might not know what happened back then, but Fourth Uncle should know, right?"

In fact, the Gao family's old house was originally handed over to the Gao family's second son. He did not know why it was the fourth son living here now. It seemed that many things had happened after they left back then.

"Back then... there was indeed such an agreement," Gao Hai said..

Chapter 2052: Quote a High Price

"What nonsense are you talking about!" Zheng Juan said as she looked at Gao Hai angrily.

"It's none of your business!" After Gao Hai berated Zheng Juan, he turned to look at Gao Lin with a smile and said, "However, this house does not belong to us now. It belongs to the government. Even if you want to get it back, you might not be able to do it."

“No worries. If it belongs to the government, then I know what to do next. I won’t trouble Fourth Uncle with regard to this matter.” After saying that, Gao Lin invited everyone to start eating.

Zheng Juan had been secretly observing Gao Lin and Qiao Mei. Who exactly were these two people? They even dared to eye things which belonged to the government. It seemed that they were quite influential. Did this mean that her family could also get rich too?

“Xiao Lin, how many children do you have? Why did you only bring your grandniece with you this time?” Zheng Juan asked tentatively.

“My family isn’t doing too well. I only have one son and one grandson left. My son is disabled, so I only brought my grandniece this time. I want to take a look at my hometown. No matter where I go, I must not forget my roots,” Gao Lin said.

“Then what kind of work do you do now? How much money can you earn a month?” Zheng Juan continued to ask.

Qiao Mei put down her bowl and chopsticks and said, “Fourth

Great-grandaunt, why are you asking about this? Don’t tell me you want to go overseas with us?”

“That’s right, that’s right! It will be nice if I can go with you to take a look at the outside world!” Zheng Juan said happily.

Although the country had adopted an open policy now and they could go to other countries to study or for a holiday, the plane tickets were still very expensive and the cost of going overseas was very high. Those who could go overseas were the wealthy people. People like them could not afford to go overseas for a holiday.

Gao Lin looked at Gao Hai and said, “We don’t intend to go back for the time being. We want to stay here for a while longer.”

“Yes, that’s not a bad idea,” Gao Hai said awkwardly.

Zheng Juan could not get any information out of them. After the meal, Gao Lin left with Qiao Mei. Zheng Juan barely put on an act of asking them to stay for a while longer.

When Qiao Mei and Gao Lin were out of their line of sight, Zheng Juan smacked Gao Hai on the back angrily and said, "You useless old man! What's the use of having you around! You didn't even ask a single question I told you to ask! Look at the situation now! He's already gone! It'll be difficult to find out anything now!"

"Look at their expressions! They don't look like they want to talk to us! What's the point of putting pressure on them!" Gao Hai said.

"What pressure! I don't think they feel pressured at all! You are the problem!" Zheng Juan kept venting all her anger on Gao Hai, to the point when the neighbors could not stand it anymore.

"Old Man Gaffs family! Can you all shut up! Why are you arguing in the middle of the afternoon! How unlucky can we be! To run into such a family!" the neighbor stood in the corridor and shouted at them.

"What are you talking about! Be careful or I'll rip your tongue out! This house belongs to our family! Do you believe that I can ask you to get lost! I'll make you homeless!" Zheng Juan stood at the room door with her hands on her hips and shouted at the neighbor.

"Come on then! Let me see how capable your family is! Let me see how capable you are!" the neighbor said disdainfully.

"Just you wait!" After saying that, Zheng Juan slammed the door and went back into the room.

"I'm waiting! We're all waiting! Let's see how your family is going to make us leave this place!" the neighbor shouted mockingly.

After closing the door, Zheng Juan sat on the floor and started crying. As she cried, she kept talking about how difficult it had been for her to stay by Gao Hai's side all these years. It made Gao Hai feel very annoyed.

“Enough already. Isn’t the title deed for this house still in our hands? If Gao Lin wants to buy the house, he has to buy it from us. When the time comes, he will have to accept whatever price you quote. Once we get the money, won’t we be able to do whatever we want?” Gao Hai said.

“Yes! You’re right! But what if they find out about what happened back then?” Zheng Juan asked fearfully.

“What’s there to be afraid of? Don’t tell me those relatives can crawl out from underground and tell Gao Lin about what happened?” Gao Hai said nonchalantly.

“You’re right... Let’s do as you say!” Zheng Juan said.

On the way back, Gao Lin and Qiao Mei discussed the issue of the house. For

Gao Lin, it was more about the memories than anything else. He just wanted to own the house as a keepsake..

Chapter 2053: Ownership of the Property

Along the way, Gao Lin told Qiao Mei about what the Gao family used to do on the surrounding land, pointed out the assets which used to belong to the Gao family and told her about what he remembered of this area. Back then, he had to walk down this road to go to and from school. Gao Tao liked to walk with him and they had a lot of fun together.

Once they reached the hotel, Qiao Mei gave Xia Wen a call immediately. She wanted to know who had ownership of these assets in Hu City as soon as possible.

“Eldest Brother, have you found out everything we need?” Qiao Mei asked anxiously.

“The situation is very complicated. If you want to get back these assets, I’m afraid you’ll need to spend a lot of money. Some of the assets belong to the government and some are in private hands. Either way, you have to be prepared that you might not be able to get everything back,” Xia Wen said.

“Yes, we understand. Eldest Brother, who owns the Gao family’s old house now?” Qiao Mei asked.

“It seems to be in the hands of a person named Gao Hai. You can go to that area and ask around. He probably lives there,” Xia Wen said.

Earlier in the day, Gao Hai had told them that the house was owned by the government, but now she was being told that it belonged to him. It seemed that there was something very fishy with this Gao Hai.

“Eldest Brother, if we want to buy a house from a private owner, is there anything we need to pay special attention to?” Qiao Mei asked.

“It all depends on whether the owner is willing to sell it. There’s nothing particularly important. After all, that house belongs to them. It’s just that it has been rented out and the tenants there are quite difficult to deal with. Even if you manage to buy the house, it will be a very difficult task to get rid of those tenants,” Xia Wen said.

“Yes, I’ve taken notes. Thank you, Eldest Brother,” Qiao Mei said.

“Do you need me to get someone to help you arrange an appointment to

discuss the purchase?” Xia Wen asked.

“There’s no need, Eldest Brother. I’ll think of a way myself,” Qiao Mei said.

“Alright, be careful then. Call me if you need anything.” Xia Wen hung up after saying that.

Qiao Mei told Gao Lin everything she found out. Gao Lin said, “Those people will be homeless if we chase them out. I only want this house as a keepsake. Most of the Gao family’s businesses are overseas

now and it will take some time for us if we want to return to this country. I want to buy that house so that I can give it to you.”

“Actually, there’s another way for us to do this,” Qiao Mei said.

“What other way?” Gao Lin asked curiously.

Qiao Mei intended to set up a real estate company in Hu City. When the time was right, she could buy land to construct a building and then sell it off at a high price. This was a sure-win business, just that the registration process was very troublesome and she would have to deal with a lot of formalities.

She could put Deng Fan in charge of this company. After all, Deng Fan had his own architecture style and any property he designed would definitely be able to sell well.

After that, Qiao Mei could slowly buy back the Gao family's assets in the course of business. It would definitely be much cheaper than going out to buy the assets upfront now, just that it would take a longer time.

“I’ll leave these things to you. You can just tell Gao Ming how much the expenses are and ask him to reimburse you,” Gao Lin said.

“It’s fine, I can still afford this bit of money. I still need Brother Gao Ming to help me with my business overseas. We’re all family, so there’s no need to be so calculative,” Qiao Mei said.

“It’s precisely because we’re a family that we have to do the accounts clearly,” Gao Lin said firmly.

“Alright, then I’ll do what you say. When the time comes, I’ll ask for reimbursement item by item! Not one item less!” Qiao Mei said playfully.

“Your Brother Gao Ming has plenty of money! There’s no need to stand on ceremony with him!” Gao Lin said with a smile.

It was because of Qiao Mei's help that the Gao family had done very well and for their company to become one of the top companies in Sky City within two years. They had set up many subsidiary companies in Country M and increased their assets to the extent that they were now comparable to Xia Zhe's company. Xia Zhe had also invested a lot of money in Gao Ming. The two of them had started off as competitors, but now they had gradually become business partners who trusted each other.

"Granduncle, how many relatives did we leave behind back then? Why are all these assets in the hands of other people?" Qiao Mei asked curiously.

"Back then, we had many relatives, more than 10 families! There are at least four families in the direct descendant lineage, so why is Gao Hai's family the only one left in Hu City?" Gao Lin was also very curious about this..

Chapter 2054: Selling the House

Gao Hai was not part of the Gao family's direct descendant lineage. In fact, he would not even appear in the family tree. The only reason why Gao Lin addressed him as Fourth Uncle was to show him some respect.

"I'll arrange for someone to investigate this matter. Let's go and have a walk around. I've never been to Hu City before," Qiao Mei said.

For the next three to four days, Qiao Mei and Gao Lin went around the city having fun and did not raise the issue of buying the house. Gao Hai was so anxious that he could not sleep at night.

"Where do you think they have gone? Why aren't they coming to buy the house yet?" Zheng Juan asked anxiously.

"Don't ask me. I won't know the answer!" Gao Hai said disdainfully.

After those Gao family members who were part of the direct descendant lineage left back then, he led a very comfortable life. He was also given a few assets which belonged to them, so he had a steady stream of income.

At that time, there was a long line of women who wanted to marry him! In the end, he chose Zheng Juan only because she was beautiful and quite clever. Most importantly, Zheng Juan came from an ordinary family and was easier to control than those women who came from prominent families.

“This won’t do! I have to go and ask around!” Zheng Juan got changed and went out to ask if anyone had come by to buy a house. She even went to the real estate bureau.

The staff at the real estate bureau did not even want to look at Zheng Juan. They were already busy enough at work and did not have the time to deal with her.

Zheng Juan quietly stuffed 10 dollars into one of the staff members’ hands and asked softly, ‘Can you tell me if anyone has asked about that bungalow recently?’

“Yes,” the staff member said impatiently.

“Then do you know who it is? What does that person look like?” Zheng Juan asked excitedly.

The staff member walked off with the money. The amount of 10 dollars was only enough for one question. Zheng Juan would have to figure out the rest herself.

“Tsk! How petty! I just want to know a bit more!” Zheng Juan headed home with the news she received.

Early the next morning, Gao Hai received a call to inform him that Qiao Mei and Gao Lin were coming to buy the house. They dressed up and stood in the courtyard with smiles on their faces, as if they were afraid that the other people would not know that they were selling the house.

“I certainly didn’t expect Fourth Uncle to be the owner of this house.” Gao Lin walked in with a smile.

Since the truth was already out in the open, Gao Hai stopped pretending. He looked at Gao Lin and said, "I'm not aware that the title deed is still valid. It's been so many years that I've long forgotten about it."

"Does that mean that the title deed is no longer valid? If that's the case, then Fourth Great-granduncle should just pass me the title deed," Qiao Mei said.

"How dare this little girl covet the Gao family's property! You have no right to say anything about the Gao family's house!" Zheng Juan said furiously.

"If the title deed is still valid, then don't say all those useless things. It disgusts me," Qiao Mei said sulkily.

"Gao Lin! This is the kind of child you brought up! How can a junior speak to an elder like this! Don't you care about the Gao family's rules anymore!" Zheng Juan pointed at Qiao Mei and questioned Gao Lin.

Gao Lin looked at Gao Hai coldly and said, "That's true. Based on the Gao family's rules, I don't think a mere relative can speak like this in front of those who are part of the direct descendant lineage."

Gao Hai's face paled. He quickly grabbed Zheng Juan and told her to stop talking. The Gao family's rules had always been set by those in the direct descendant lineage. Even though Gao Hai was Gao Lin's fourth uncle, Gao Hai did not have any say in the Gao family. He was not even supposed to speak to Qiao Mei directly since Qiao Mei was also part of the Gao family's direct descendant lineage.

"These are the rules from the old era. We are living in modern times now. Let's not go down that road," Gao Hai said.

"Sure, then tell me. How much do you want to sell it for?" Gao Lin asked.

"Two million!" Zheng Juan said.

"Two million? Why don't you go and commit robbery instead?" Qiao Mei said.

“Otherwise, you can just give me one million dollars in foreign currency! I’m not picky,” Zheng Juan said.

“I think you have no intention to sell it. If you set such a high selling price,

then it’s plainly just extortion,” Qiao Mei said with a dark expression.

“We’re not forcing a sale here. This is just part and parcel of a normal transaction. If you don’t like the selling price, then you don’t have to buy it,” Zheng Juan said smugly.

They knew that this house held special meaning for Gao Lin, so they definitely would not give in so easily.. As long as they kept to this price, Gao Lin would pay no matter how expensive it was!

Chapter 2055: Traitor

“Are you sure this is the price you want?” Qiao Mei questioned.

“Yes! This is the selling price!” Gao Hai said.

Gao Lin and Qiao Mei looked at each other. He turned to look at Gao Hai and asked, “Fourth Uncle, where have all our other relatives gone? Do you still have their contact information?”

“I don’t know. They must have all run away,” Gao Hai said evasively.

Gao Lin and Qiao Mei wanted to give Gao Hai one last chance, but they did not expect Gao Hai to waste it. In that case, he should not blame Qiao Mei for what she was going to do next.

Qiao Mei had asked Yao Nian to investigate not just the ownership details of the Gao family’s assets over the past years, but also to find out how Gao Hai had made a name for himself back then. In the past, Gao Hai did not go by this name. He used the alias, Gao Ying, and colluded with an enemy country,

feeding the enemy information about the other Gao family members. Most of the Gao family members were then murdered, which allowed Gao Hai to take advantage of the situation and take over all the Gao family's assets.

It was such a pity that all the elites from the Gao family had died at the hands of this despicable person! For the sake of the dead Gao family members, Qiao Mei and Gao Lin must teach him a lesson!

"Hey! Everyone, come and take a look! Gao Ying wants to sell this house! This person in front of me! His name is Gao Ying! Why is his name exactly the same as the name of that traitor from back then!" Qiao Mei shouted towards the surroundings.

Everyone opened their windows and looked out. Many people stuck their heads out to take a look at what was going on downstairs. The people passing by also stopped in their tracks. Within a short time, the Gao family's bungalow was surrounded by people.

"Isn't that Gao Hai from the third floor? Why does she say he is Gao Ying?" "Isn't Gao Ying the name of that traitor?"

"Yes! My parents have three children but I'm the only one left now. It's all Gao

Yings fault!"

"Gao Hai is Gao Ying?"

Gao Hai had rarely left the room for many years. Even when he went out, he would wear a cap and a mask. Everyone thought that Gao Hai had some kind of illness, but they never thought that he was actually that traitor from back then.

An old man rushed up to Gao Hai and looked at Gao Hai's face carefully. Back in those days, Gao Ying had led a group of men to capture his daughter and rape her, so he would never forget that face for the rest of his life.

"It's... it's you! It's definitely you!" said the old man as he pointed at Gao Hai with trembling hands.

At that time, Gao Hai had spent a lot of money to “cast off his skin”, having found a scapegoat to die in his place. Very few people knew about this matter and most of the people who participated in the scheme back then had already died. He did not know how Qiao Mei knew about this.

“You’re talking nonsense! I’m not that person!” Gao Hai shouted.

“My husband is not the person you’re talking about! You can’t slander us for the purpose of getting the house!” Zheng Juan said immediately.

The old man pointed at Gao Hai and pressed forward step by step. He said miserably, “I won’t make a mistake about his identity even if you kill me! It’s you! I won’t forget this mole at the corner of your eye! You’re the one who cause my daughter to commit suicide! My poor daughter!”

“Everyone, come and take a look! Take a look and see if the person in front of us is Gao Ying! One person might get it wrong, but if there are more people who can identify him, then it can’t be wrong!” Qiao Mei shouted towards the surroundings again.

During that period, Gao Ying had destroyed many families. Everyone rushed down to the courtyard together. Qiao Mei and Gao Lin took advantage of the chaos to leave the Gao family’s bungalow. Gao Hai’s life would not be peaceful for a while.

Gao Hai and Zheng Juan hurriedly ran back to hide in their room, but the flimsy room door was unable to withstand a fierce kick. It did not take long for the door to be kicked open. Everyone rushed in to beat up Gao Hai. They did not care if Gao Hai was really Gao Ying or not.

Zheng Juan was so frightened that she quickly called the police. The police came and simply went through the motions. There were so many people who beat up Gao Hai. If they had to arrest everyone, it would take them all night!

Moreover, the higher-ups had instructed them not to interfere in matters related to Gao Hai for the moment.

“If this continues, I’ll lose my life! Let’s go and look for your maternal family!” Gao Hai said.

"I've already cut ties with my maternal family because of you! You want me to go back now! Won't that be a slap on my own face?" Zheng Juan said unhappily.

Back when Gao Hai was a traitor, the Zheng family immediately cut ties with Zheng Juan when they heard about it. Even if they could enjoy endless wealth by being related to Gao Hai, they did not want to accept such ill-gotten gains.. They would rather die than eat steamed buns bought with blood money!

Chapter 2056: Robbery

"But we don't have anywhere else to go! Just plead with them and persuade your younger brother to let us hide there for a few days," Gao Hai begged.

"Alright, let's leave tonight then," Zheng Juan said.

In the middle of the night, Gao Hai and Zheng Juan packed their things and were about to leave Hu City with Gao Le when they were stopped by Qiao Mei and her men.

"Fourth Great-granduncle, where are you going?" Qiao Mei asked with a smile.

"Brat! You still have the cheek to ask me! Move aside!" Gao Hai said in a low voice.

"If I yell now, you probably won't be able to leave anymore. Let's have a chat," Qiao Mei said.

"What do you want?" Zheng Juan asked.

Qiao Mei pointed at the Gao family's bungalow behind them and said, "Fairness. Sell the house to us and also hand over everything that belongs to the Gao family. If you do that, I'll let you go."

“This is too much! Do you think you call the shots in Hu City! You’re infringing on our personal freedom! You’re breaking the law!” Zheng Juan said agitatedly.

Qiao Mei shrugged innocently and said, “If you think that I’m breaking the law, then go and ask the police to arrest me. I’m not restricting you in any way. I’m just letting the public see you for who you are.”

Gao Hai and Zheng Juan were already at their wits’ end and knew that they could not stay in Hu City anymore. Rather than waste time with Qiao Mei here, it was better for them to sell the house and get some travel funds in return.

“We’ll sell it! We want 500,000 dollars!” Zheng Juan said.

“The market price is 40,000 dollars,” Qiao Mei said.

“40,000 dollars! One floor will already cost you 40,000 dollars! This is daylight robbery!” Zheng Juan said in shock.

“I’ll give you some time to think about it,” Qiao Mei said.

Gao Hai looked at Zheng Juan helplessly and whispered, “This girl is determined to nail us. Just sell it to her for 40,000 dollars! We need to ensure our survival now! If our past is exposed, we won’t be able to stay alive!”

Zheng Juan gritted her teeth and said, “40,000 dollars then! But it’s too late to go through all the procedures now. Let’s do it tomorrow!”

As long as they could stall for some time, they could leave Hu City quietly and it would be difficult for Qiao Mei to catch hold of them again!

“It’s not late at all. They’re all waiting for us!” Qiao Mei said with a smile.

She had already paid for the professionals to be on standby. All that was needed was for Gao Hai to produce the title deed and sign the transfer documents. Anything that could be solved with money was not a problem at all.

“Asshole! We won’t let you off!” Zheng Juan said angrily.

The transfer procedure went smoothly. After that, Qiao Mei handed the money to Gao Hai and watched them leave. She had no intention of letting them off scot-free.

“Go and contact our people. Let’s begin,” Qiao Mei said coldly.

“Yes.” With that, the bodyguard disappeared into the night.

Qiao Mei was not going to let Gao Hai and his family leave with a single cent. She had already hired some people to rob them. She was not only going to take the money she just gave him, but also his own money as well.

In the dark of the night, a group of people suddenly barged into Gao Hai’s home. They started grabbing everything inside, including the clothes, furniture and even the pots and pans.

At first, the neighbors switched on the lights to take a look at what was going on. When they saw such a big group of people, they simply switched off the lights and pretended not to see or hear anything.

“Help! Help us! Who are you!” Zheng Juan shouted helplessly.

“Call the police! Help!” Gao Hai yelled.

“You still dare to shout so loudly? Beat them up!” a robber shouted as he pointed at Gao Hai and Zheng Juan.

All the robbers kept raining punches on the couple. Although the couple would not die from the beating, it left them bruised and swollen all over, enough to make them feel uncomfortable for a while.

“My money! All my savings! All gone!” Zheng Juan knelt on the ground and wailed.

“It must be that little brat! She must have sent someone to snatch our things!” Gao Hai said fiercely.

“What’s the point of saying all this now! Why did I marry a good-for-nothing like you! How am I going to survive in the future!” Zheng Juan said aggrievedly.

“Why didn’t you say such things when you were enjoying life with me back then! Now, you’re blaming me! If I don’t have such an extravagant wife like you, all my assets will still be intact!” Gao Hai complained..

Chapter 2057: The Gao Family’s Ancestral Home

Zheng Juan used to have a tough life. She was the eldest child at home and had many younger siblings. The Zheng family favored boys over girls, so Zheng Juan had a hard time since she was young.

After she married Gao Hai, she spent money freely every day. She did not care where the money came from. As long as her desires could be fulfilled, she did not care about anything at all.

In order to hide his past identity and stay alive, Gao Hai had to give up many of the Gao family’s assets. The Gao family had so much assets that even after he gave away half of it, the few factories and companies he kept would still make enough money for Gao Hai and Zheng Juan to live comfortably for the rest of their lives.

However, after getting used to a life of extravagance, who would want to return to a simple and austere life? In less than two months, Zheng Juan had squandered all the assets in Gao Hai’s possession. He had to sell them all to pay off the debts she incurred.

“We can’t stay here anymore. Let’s leave since we still have the train tickets,” Gao Hai said.

“Why should we leave! Are we just going to let go of what happened today?”

Zheng Juan said angrily.

“As long as there’s life, there’s hope! Let’s go to your younger brother’s place to lie low for a while first. When we get a chance in the future, we’ll slowly settle the score with them!” Gao Hai said.

After the two of them packed up their scattered belongings on the floor, they left Hu City overnight. When Qiao Mei received the news, she was so happy that there was a wide grin on her face. The next day, she went to see Gao Lin with the property title deed.

“Granduncle, take a look at what this is?” Qiao Mei asked happily.

“The title deed for the house! How did you get it!” Gao Lin said excitedly.

“I guess they suddenly think things through, but I didn’t get it for free though. I bought it for 40,000 dollars,” Qiao Mei said.

“That’s good. My original intention is to give you this house anyway,” Gao Lin said.

“This is the Gao family’s ancestral home, so I’ve put Brother Gao Mings name on the title deed. I’ve already hired professional builders and they can start the renovation work at any time. I’ll have to trouble Granduncle to try and recall what this house used to look like and tell the builders,” Qiao Mei said.

The truth was that Gao Lin did not have much expectations for this house since it had already been messed up to such an extent. Even if it was restored, it would not look the same as before. Moreover, there were so many people living in it now. It was going to take a lot of effort to chase them away.

“Alright. When Gao Ming gets here, I’ll ask him to transfer to you an amount that’s three times the market price! And in foreign exchange!” Gao Lin said excitedly.

“No problem,” Qiao Mei said with a smile.

The hotel they were staying in was near the Gao family’s ancestral home. Through the window, they could see one corner of the house. Gao Lin stood in front of the window and sighed as he said, “But there are so many people inside, How can we make them leave voluntarily? Besides, what if some people become homeless because of the move?”

“Leave this matter to me. I’ve already thought of a solution,” Qiao Mei said.

Qiao Mei started out by pasting the notice of property transfer on the noticeboard at the entrance of the Gao family’s ancestral home. She wanted the residents inside to know that there was a new owner! Everyone gathered around the noticeboard and discussed the issue.

“Why is there a new owner?”

“Can it be that what Gao Hai and his family say is true? That the young lady framed Gao Hai so that she can get their house?”

“She didn’t frame him! Gao Hai is that traitor! It’s absolutely true!”

“They’ve already chased Gao Hai and his family away. Their next step will be

to chase us away!’

“Hmph, the Gao family members are all rotten eggs!’

Qiao Mei stood in the distance and listened to what the residents said. She thought for a long time and returned to the hotel to count the money which her people had snatched from Gao Hai. There was a total of more than 60,000 dollars. This money meant nothing to Qiao Mei. It was better to give it to the people who had been harmed by Gao Hai.

Although it would not erase the pain in their hearts, it could make their lives a little better. Qiao Mei secretly did a check on the number of families in the vicinity who had been persecuted by Gao Hai. She put in some of her own money and topped up the sum to 100,000 dollars. Her intention was to distribute the money evenly to those families.

Due to the large number of people involved, Qiao Mei had no choice but to ask the community office to help her gather these people together. She asked the local news reporters to be in attendance at the meeting so that she could resolve this matter in public..

Chapter 2058: Compensation Sum

Qiao Mei looked at the name list in her hand and then at the people in front of her. She could not fathom how Gao Hai could be so evil back then and did so many unforgivable things.

“Hello everyone! Let me introduce myself! My name is Qiao Mei! I’m a descendant of the Gao family! I have gathered everyone here today to talk about what happened in the past,” Qiao Mei raised the loudspeaker and spoke loudly.

The people below the stage looked at one another. Some of them really hated the Gao family to the core. Those who were the descendants of the actual victims might not know much about what happened back then, but they hated Gao Hai as well.

“It’s about the person who persecuted everyone back then, Gao Ying! I don’t know if everyone still remembers him, but I’m very ashamed to say that he’s a member of the Gao family. My great-grandparents left the country during the war. Our family doesn’t know that Gao Ying had done so many nasty things in the past! Gao Ying is no longer here! He left behind a portion of his assets, totaling 100,000 dollars! This money! I plan to distribute it to all of you!” Qiao Mei said.

“What! 100,000 dollars! Give us so much money!” The people below the stage whispered among themselves.

Everyone was a little suspicious of what Qiao Mei just said. After all, how could such a good thing just fall into one's lap out of the blue? They were all curious about Qiao Mei's motive.

"I don't have any other intention! On behalf of the Gao family, I just want to try my best to make up for what Gao Ying did back then. I know! The money won't be able to make up for whatever happened! But it is a small token from me! I hope you will accept it!" Qiao Mei said.

An old woman slowly walked out from the crowd to the front of the stage, She looked at Qiao Mei kindly and said, "My daughter died because of Gao Ying. Gao Ying is Gao Ying and the Gao family is the Gao family. Back then, Old Master Gao was always very nice to us and we are all very grateful to him. If not for Old Master Gao, this area would not have been so prosperous."

When Gao Lin's father was still alive, he did a lot of charity work. He constructed a building to house the homeless people and did not charge them any rent. He also gave them jobs in the Gao family's factories and shops so that they could earn a living.

The older folks living here were all very grateful to the Gao family. If the Gao family needed any help, they were willing to chip in unconditionally.

"Thank you," Qiao Mei said, feeling touched.

After that, everyone queued up according to the sequence on the name list and collected the money with the help of the community office staff. Qiao Mei had also bought a lot of groceries like rice, noodles, grains and oil to be distributed to everyone.

Gradually, the people here stopped being suspicious of Qiao Mei's motives. They no longer equated Gao Hai with the Gao family.

The procedures to set up Qiao Real Estate Company were completed in an orderly manner. Qiao Mei only bought one shop space for now so that she would have a place to work in for the time being. She would need Deng Fan to come over and help her follow up on the rest of the business matters.

After all these things are done, Qiao Mei posted a notice on the noticeboard titled "Benefits Upon Moving Out". It stated clearly the rewards which Qiao Mei would give everyone if they move out.

For the people who moved out within one day, Qiao Mei would give them a reward of 1,500 dollars. For those who moved out within two days, she would give them a reward of 1,000 dollars. For those who moved out within three days, she would give them a reward of 500 dollars. After the fourth day, there would not be any more rewards. If there were still people who did not move out of the house after five days, she would take coercive measures to move them out.

“Is she fooling around? I’ve lived here for so long. Why is she suddenly asking us to move!”

“We all pay our rent on time! No one can chase us away!”

“Are the stated amounts for real?”

Although it was Gao Hai r s name on the property title deed, everyone paid rent directly to the community office and the community office would hand over the money to the government.

After the economy opened up, life had become better for everyone. The capital and Hu City were the economic centers of the country and the residents’ average annual total income could reach more than 800 dollars per person. Some people could even earn up to 1,000 dollars!

However, each person’s annual income would need to support an entire family. If a family was not very big, they could still have some savings. As for a large family, it was already good enough if they did not owe any debts.

This money was something extraordinary. They could be given 1,500 dollars for free! It was a great temptation for everyone.

“Are you really going to give us money?” a man shouted in Qiao Mei’s direction when he saw her standing at the door.

“Of course! I always mean what I say!” After saying that, Qiao Mei took out a stack of money from her bag and showed it to everyone.. They had never seen so much money!

Chapter 2059: Benefits Upon Moving Out

“I heard that you just gave some compensation to the people who were persecuted by Gao Ying back then. You already gave away 100,000 dollars! Yet you still have so much money! Is your money clean! We don’t want the dirty money that Gao Ying earned back then!” the man shouted.

“This is my own money. I am back from overseas,” Qiao Mei said.

Everyone widened their eyes and looked at Qiao Mei in shock. People who returned from overseas were all very rich. After all, they all came back with foreign currency. In addition, they were all knowledgeable and smart. None of them were simple people!

They now believed that the money in Qiao Mei’s hands was clean. In that case, they did not want to let go of such a good deal. No matter where they lived, they would need to pay rent, so the location did not really matter.

“I’m not leaving! What right do you have to chase me away! I like this place! I want to live here!” an old woman with white hair shouted from inside the crowd. Another old woman soon joined in. The two of them had known each other since they were young and had always lived in this area.

These two women rented the master bedrooms on the second and fourth floors of the Gao family’s ancestral home separately. Their rooms were very big and the furnishings inside were also very exquisite. Just the crystal ceiling lamp alone was very expensive. Yet, their monthly rent was the same as everyone else, at three dollars a month.

If they moved out of this place, they definitely could not get the same type of accommodation for three dollars a month. They were not that stupid to take such a risk.

“Everyone, please consider carefully! The amount of 1,500 dollars is not a small sum! If you’re lucky and work hard to save up, you may be able to buy your own house soon!”

“After living here for so many years, you must all be familiar with all the houses in this area. You should know which houses available for rent are the nicest! Don’t be too slow! Otherwise, there won’t be any more vacant houses in this area!” Qiao Mei shouted.

When some people heard what Qiao Mei said, they quickly ran back to pack their things. They could earn 1,500 dollars if they moved out within a day! That was enough to pay for rent for 10 years!

Seeing that some people were still hesitating, Qiao Mei stood on a platform and shouted, “Everyone, don’t be discouraged! Even if there are no more vacant houses around here! You can still go to the surrounding districts to look around! After all, 1,500 dollars is more than enough money for you to get married!”

Another group of people left. Five minutes later, the crowd dispersed, leaving only the two old women who were determined not to move. They were still throwing a tantrum, but Qiao Mei did not care about that. Once everyone else moved away, the two of them would not be able to hold on for long.

“You want to take back this house! Not unless I’m dead!” one of the old women said.

“Auntie, look carefully. This is my house and I have the title deed! Do I need your permission to take back my own house? I’d advise you to pack your things quickly. If you don’t move out within the stipulated time, I will ask someone to move out all your things. If there’s any damage, don’t come looking for me,” Qiao Mei said.

“Little girl, how can you be so unreasonable! What right do you have to move our things away! You have no right to do this!” the old woman said angrily. “Of course I have the right to do this! If you don’t believe me, just give it a try!”

After saying that, Qiao Mei walked towards the community office, leaving the two of them standing there in a fit of pique.

At first, the staff in the community office did not believe that Qiao Mei could get it done. After all, the people living in that house were all very difficult to deal with. Gao Hai had not been able to do it even after five to six years. How could a little girl do it?

It was soon proven that Qiao Mei could do it and very effectively. She used her own money to encourage the people to move out. This was completely legal and they could not interfere.

However, once Qiao Mei chased these people out, the community office could no longer collect rent from them. The staff in the community office did not look too happy to have lost such a huge income.

Xia Wen came in handy at moments like this. Sometimes, authority was more effective than money. Qiao Mei sat in the main hall of the community office and waited for Xia Wen to do his part.

Not long after, a staff member walked up to Qiao Mei respectfully and said, "We really didn't know that you're Mr. Xia's relative! We must be blind to have neglected you!!

"It's fine, it's fine! We're all friends, there's no need to be so polite," Qiao Mei said happily..

Chapter 2060: My Son Is the Boss

They went into the community director's office and Qiao Mei made a call to Xia Wen. The moment the call went through, Qiao Mei heard a lot of commotion on Xia Wen's end. There was a cacophony of voices in the background and it seemed that there was also a woman crying.

Qiao Mei quickly hung up the phone. There were too many staff members around at the moment. She would call Xia Wen after she returned to the hotel.

"Miss Qiao, if there's anything you need us to do, just let us know. We'll do our best to help you," the community director said with a wide grin.

"There's nothing much to do. It's just that I'm not very good at arithmetic. As you can see, I've pasted a notice outside the house about the benefits they can get if they move out. Just help me give the money to them based on the contents," Qiao Mei said.

“No problem! Leave this small matter to us!” the community director said enthusiastically.

Qiao Mei used her walkie-talkie to call the bodyguards who were outside the community office and asked them to bring up two big bags of money and a bag of gifts for the staff.

Qiao Mei had bought all these things from the imported goods store. There were chocolates and a lot of candy from overseas. One could not even buy these things even if one had money. To get these, one must have foreign exchange coupons.

It was very difficult to get these foreign exchange coupons. The recipient must have made contributions to the country and must have earned foreign currency previously.

These chocolates and candies were a symbol of status. The staff in the community office were all very grateful to Qiao Mei. They all felt that Qiao Mei was a very nice and sincere person, so they were even more willing to help her.

That afternoon, the community office staff moved a few tables and chairs to the courtyard of the Gao family’s house. They sat there and watched those people move out. Once the move was complete, the person could immediately come to the table to sign off and receive the money.

When everyone saw that Qiao Mei had asked the community office staff to come and help out, they were more convinced that the rewards written on the notice were for real. All of them started to pack faster. Many women asked their children to go and get their husbands to come home so that they could finish packing and leave together.

A man rushed down from the upper level and asked Qiao Mei, “Will you really give me money? My family is done with our packing!”

“Of course! As long as you move your things out of this house, I’ll give you money now,” Qiao Mei said.

This man’s family of six was squeezed inside a small room. They had long wanted to move to another house and had been planning it for a while. This benefits scheme was an unexpected bonus for them and they were overjoyed. They had been hesitant about signing the rental agreement for the new house but they went to sign it immediately after hearing of the scheme.

The man's family members carried all their bags downstairs and went up to the community office staff to collect their money. Qiao Mei even gave them an extra 100 dollars.

"This amount of 100 dollars is your family's reward for being the first family to move out," Qiao Mei said.

"Thank you! Thank you so much!" The man took the money and immediately asked his family to leave. If they did it any later and someone else left before them, they would not be able to get this 100 dollars!

When the other families saw that the man had received the money and even a reward, they could not sit still anymore and went out to look for a new house to move out immediately. They did not even want to spend the night here anymore. In one night, 13 families moved out!

Within two days, almost everyone in the entire building had moved out. There were only a few families who had not managed to find a suitable house. Still, after three days, most of them had moved away, except the two old women who insisted on not moving.

"Auntie, do you want us to help you move, or do you want to hire your own people to do it for you?" Qiao Mei asked with a smile.

"Don't even think about making me leave this place! I'm going to look for my son! We'll talk about it when my son gets here! Do you know who my son is!" the old woman shouted arrogantly as she sat in the courtyard.

The old woman's son worked in government services and was just a small team leader who did not have much authority. However, the old woman felt that her son was some big shot. She looked down on everyone and often used her son's job title to threaten others.

"What does your son's identity have to do with me?" Qiao Mei said nonchalantly.

"Just you wait! When my son comes back and sees you bullying me like this! He'll definitely skin you alive!" the old woman said fiercely as she looked at Qiao Mei.

Qiao Mei pretended to look surprised and said, "Goodness! Then I want to take a good look and see how he wants to skin me alive.."