

Fat Wife 51

Chapter 51: Would Not Go Head-on

It was normal for these villagers to have concerns. After all, they still had to live in this village and it was not wise for them to become enemies with Qiao Zhuang's family.

She heard that Qiao Zhuang's wife was snatched home by him and forced to marry him.

She did not know if he had killed anyone, but there was one thing she could be sure of, and that was he definitely did not do as many bad things as the people Qiao Mei had put to trial in her other life.

After Qiao Mei and Qiao Qiang left, the crowd continued walking forward.

However, Third Auntie Qiao, who was in the crowd, took a look at what had happened and quickly ran back to her house.

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Qiao Qiang stood behind Qiao Mei and looked at her basket-carrying back view with a smile in his eyes.

Mei Mei is amazing!

He had never expected his Mei Mei to be able to find out what was going on, but just now, Mei Mei had managed to find out everything by just asking a few questions.

He had initially thought of going to ask Zhao Liang about it. The fact that Qiao Zhuang was involved in the matter would definitely put Zhao Liang in a difficult position.

After all, this matter was about the bullies in the village. It was hard to decide whether to talk about it.

He had completely no intention to make things difficult for Zhao Liang and he also did not want to implicate so many other people in his own affairs.

But now, his Mei Mei had found out everything with just a short conversation.

How impressive!

...

Very quickly, the two of them reached home. Qiao Mei put down everything and went to the kitchen to cook.

After being out for a whole day, even if she was not hungry, Qiao Qiang must be hungry.

She went into the kitchen and picked up a cabbage. With some lard, she made a simple dish of cabbage fried with lard.

Coupled with a bowl of thick porridge, it felt extremely comforting.

After Qiao Qiang comfortably finished drinking a bowl, he sat on the stool and looked at Qiao Mei while trying hard to keep his eyes open. "Mei Mei, don't go to Qiao Zhuang's house alone. When grandfather feels better, grandfather will go with you!"

"Grandfather, don't worry. I won't enter his house!"

Qiao Mei said as she quickly tidied up the things on the table.

There were too many people in his house and she was outnumbered. Even though she was not afraid of this family, she would not go in and argue with them.

She would be at a great disadvantage.

She was not a stupid person and would not do something that would hurt herself.

“Then what do you plan to do?” Qiao Qiang asked as he yawned and forced himself to keep his eyes open.

Qiao Mei wiped the table and continued, “I’ll just walk around the area near their house and see what’s going on!”

“That’s not good either. What if they find out and decide to attack you?” Qiao Qiang said worriedly.

“It’s okay, I’m not someone who will let myself suffer!” Qiao Mei said as she clenched her fists and looked at her strong body.

Her current body was herculean with great strength.

However, Qiao Zhuang had a lot of family members and they were all shameless. Naturally, their behavior could not be predicted using common sense and Qiao Qiang was still afraid that Qiao Mei would be at a disadvantage.

“Grandfather, don’t worry. I’ll just go one round and I won’t force it!”

Qiao Mei packed up the house and turned around to leave.

Qiao Qiang nodded helplessly and did not say anything else. Although his body had recovered a lot, he was also afraid that he would not be able to hold on for long. It was necessary to let Qiao Mei go out and explore by herself.

...

Qiao Mei quietly walked out of the door and walked around Qiao Zhuang’s family house, but she did not enter.

She was pregnant with twins now and her stomach was very precious. She could not go head-on with people like them as her babies were priceless.

If they should bump into her, they would not be able to bear the responsibility in the event that anything went wrong.

After she made a round, Qiao Mei walked to a big tree beside Qiao Zhuang's house. After a round of energy exchange, this tree could finally communicate normally with her.

This tree was a 100-year-old tree with a trunk two to three meters thick.

However, it was not really able to understand what Qiao Mei meant. It could only try its best to describe the things and people it had seen.

Soon, this big tree told Qiao Mei what it had seen.

When it was dark today, Qiao Yu had brought people who drove a truck full of things to her house. Qiao Zhuang and his family were very happy and praised Qiao Yu.

Chapter 52: I Was Bullied!

It also said that the sewing machine, radio and watch was hidden under the bed and placed among the firewood in the east room. It also told Qiao Mei where everything else was hidden.

After Qiao Mei heard everything, she smiled and left.

Now was not the time to fight them head-on. She was much more precious than this group of people.

When Qiao Mei returned, she saw that her grandfather was actually still awake, desperately trying to stay awake just to wait for her.

He only fell into a deep sleep after making sure that Qiao Mei was fine.

The next morning, Qiao Mei carried her basket and went to the city alone.

She had experience now after her grandfather showed her the way yesterday.

Chen Hu, who had been waiting in the office for a long time, heaved a sigh of relief and hurriedly let Xiao Liu take over the basket.

Yesterday, he had already contacted the people he was going to send the produce to. If Qiao Mei did not turn up today, it would be hard for him to explain himself. Others would think that he was hiding these bean sprouts from them.

At least she was here now.

When she got there, the first thing Qiao Mei said was, "Uncle Chen, I was bullied by someone in the village!"

Her voice was righteous and very loud.

Chen Hu was stunned for a moment before he immediately replied, "Who bullied you? Tell uncle quickly so that uncle can stand up for you!"

Behind him, Xiao Liu also nodded hurriedly.

A smile flashed across Qiao Mei's eyes. "This uncle is indeed reliable!"

"My betrothal gifts, including the radio, watch and sewing machine, which cost about 700 to 800 dollars, were robbed by my Second Grandpa's family!" Qiao Mei said.

Chen Hu was stunned for a moment. He originally thought that the type of bullying Qiao Mei meant was something like a simple fight between people of the same age. He did not expect it to involve robbing!

And robbing of betrothal gifts at that!

This was even more unacceptable. He had never heard of anyone robbing betrothal gifts. This was a really wicked thing to do.

“I’ll bring people immediately... No, no, no.” Chen Hu seemed to have thought of something else and continued, “How about this? You bring more than 10 people back with you now and go grab the betrothal gifts back. I want to see who dares to fight back!

“If they dare to fight back, get Xiao Liu to bring them all in!”

At this point, his eyes flared with ferocity.

This was no longer the junior soldier reporting to Qiao Qiang, but the section head of the armed forces department in the city. Whoever dared to provoke him would definitely have to pay the price.

Xiao Liu nodded and went out with the basket of bean sprouts.

“Thank you, Uncle Chen!” Qiao Mei smiled and thanked him.

Chen Hu laughed and then seemed to have thought of something. “Look at the life you’re living now... When you go back, go and persuade your grandfather to look on the bright side of things. Your uncle and auntie didn’t do things on purpose back then. Tell him not to take it to heart.”

“Now... he should be enjoying time with his children and grandchildren. Besides, isn’t the standard of medical care better in the capital now? That’s good news for his illness!”

Qiao Mei was dumbfounded and stunned when she heard this.

What? Uncle and auntie?

In all of Qiao Mei's past memories, there were no uncles or aunts. Where did the uncle and auntie come from?

Her father was an only child. When she was young, her grandmother was killed by bandits on the mountain, which was the reason why Qiao Qiang joined the army in a fit of anger and became a soldier.

Where did these uncle and auntie come from now?

Ever since Qiao Qiang returned to the village, Qiao Mei had never heard Qiao Qiang mention it nor did she have any impression of it.

Although Qiao Mei was very surprised, she quickly adjusted her expression and said in a light manner to Chen Hu, "Grandfather won't go to the capital alone to look for them. Grandfather is worried about me."

"How would he be alone? Your auntie and the others live in a big house in the capital. You're just one more person and they naturally won't mind you joining them. Your grandfather won't be separated from you either."

Chapter 53: Uncle and Auntie?

"Besides, the standard of medical care in the capital is definitely better than what we have here. When the time comes, your grandfather's illness..." Chen Hu continued.

Qiao Qiang's illness...

Although the doctor said that it was incurable, it would be good to be able to enjoy life in the capital at the end of one's life.

"Your grandfather still can't let go of what happened back then." Chen Hu gave a long sigh. "If Qiao Guo and Qiao Lan hadn't cut ties with your grandfather back then, perhaps they would have been dragged down by him. Who can judge right from wrong about things that happened back then?"

At this point, Qiao Mei's eyes lit up!

Qiao Guo and Qiao Lan? Now that she even knew their names, she would have the upper hand on things in the future.

In that chaotic era of self-preservation, such things were quite common.

Moreover, according to Chen Hu, her grandfather was the regiment commander back then. From being regiment commander to returning to the countryside to recuperate, she could imagine how much suffering her grandfather had gone through.

In the face of imminent danger, it was very normal for everyone to protect themselves.

She wondered if Qiao Guo and Qiao Lan were her grandfather's biological or adopted children?

"Grandfather is unwilling to tell me about what happened back then." Qiao Mei asked curiously, "How old are my uncle and auntie? What exactly happened in the past?"

Chen Hu sighed resignedly and recalled what happened at that time.

He really could not bear to see Commander Qiao living alone. Besides, Qiao Mei was now married and would naturally have to leave to be with her husband's family one day. At that time, he could not imagine his old regiment commander being all alone.

Just thinking about that scene of his old regiment commander being all by himself when the time came made him feel terrible.

It would be good to tell Qiao Mei the story about her uncle and auntie now. This way, she would be able to understand the situation at home and it might be easier for Qiao Mei to persuade his old regiment commander.

Thinking of this, Chen Hu explained, "Your uncle and auntie are the children of the second wife that the regiment commander married when he was 35 years old. Now, one of them is 38 years old and the other is 36 years old. Back then, your grandfather and his father-in-law had a quarrel because of different opinions and then later, Commander Qiao came back to our village alone."

"I see!" Qiao Mei nodded.

In that case, her grandfather must have had such a different opinion from them that they could not live together. She wondered how they were doing now.

"What about them now?" Qiao Mei continued to ask.

Since her grandfather had returned home 10 years ago, then that family must have been the victors back then.

However, at this juncture, there was going to be a huge reshuffle in power. In the eyes of Qiao Mei, who came from the future, the ideological winners from ten years ago were going to become really unlucky this time.

Grandfather could not go back to be with them at this juncture.

If her grandfather was thought to be on the same side as them, wouldn't her grandfather have suffered for nothing for the past 10 years?

"The family of your uncle and auntie..." At this point, Chen Hu stopped and did not say anything else.

According to what he heard, Qiao Guo and Qiao Lan had not been doing too well in the past two years. However, he did not want to say it now in case Qiao Mei told Qiao Qiang and made him worried.

"They're all living very well now." Chen Hu thought for a moment and continued, "They're waiting for you two to go over and enjoy life!"

Enjoy life?

It would be good enough if they did not get dragged down together, how could they be able to go over to enjoy life?

A dark glint flashed across Qiao Mei's eyes, but she did not say anything.

At this moment, Xiao Liu pushed open the door and walked in. He handed the 15 dollars in his hand to Qiao Mei and said, "This is the 15 dollars from the sale. Just now, when the people from the supply and marketing cooperative saw me bringing the bean sprouts again, they came to snatch a handful to try and they found these bean sprouts very delicious. They wanted to know where I bought these bean sprouts from as they also wanted to get some!"

Under Chen Hu's angry gaze, he added, "It's just a small handful. They know that this is your bean sprouts and don't dare to grab too much!"

Chapter 54: More Than 1,000 Catties of Bean Sprouts!

Chen Hu continued, "Later, tell them not to care about the origins of these bean sprouts. When I'm done eating, I'll share some with them!"

"Okay!" Little Liu replied happily.

In this manner, there was then no need to always be on guard against those people in the future. These bean sprouts were really in high demand and many people kept thinking about them.

"Also, go out and get a few people now. Get... a dozen people. You guys follow Qiao Mei back to the village and grab her betrothal gifts back for her. If anyone is disobedient, tie them up and bring them in!" Chen Hu gave a fierce stare with the imposing manner of the section head of the armed forces department.

"Yes!" Xiao Liu immediately replied and walked out to gather a group of people.

Seeing this, Qiao Mei also prepared to leave. Since she was already in the city now, she had to go out and look for some green beans. Otherwise, if she did not have enough green beans at home, she would not be able to keep up with the supply of bean sprouts.

Just as she was about to go off, Chen Hu stopped her.

“Xiao Mei!” Chen Hu’s eyes flashed with doubt as he continued, “Didn’t you say last time that you could grow more bean sprouts? Then can you grow ten baskets a day now?”

Anticipation flashed in his eyes.

Qiao Mei replied without any hesitation, “Of course, but I need more green beans. I’ll go buy some green beans now, otherwise there won’t be enough.”

After she said that, she saw Chen Hu turned around and took out a big bag of green beans from under the sofa.

A gunny sack was filled to the brim.

Qiao Mei’s eyes lit up when she saw the bag of green beans. She walked over and opened the bag and discovered that the green beans inside were all extremely plump. One look and she could tell that they were good quality green beans. Naturally, the bean sprouts that grew from these would be of higher quality and tasted better.

“These green beans weigh about 100 catties!” Chen Hu stood at the side and noted Qiao Mei’s expression. He quickly tied up the bag and said proudly, “These green beans are from the best batch that I got the supply and marketing cooperative to keep for me. If you want more in the future, just come and get them!”

“Good, now I can produce about 1,000 catties of bean sprouts.” Qiao Mei nodded happily.

Now that she had green beans and also the type of the highest quality, she could naturally produce better bean sprouts.

Coupled with her energy, the bean sprouts produced would probably be even more delicious.

“Alright, take all of these and grow more bean sprouts. I’m still waiting for them. Bring as much as you have, just bring them over!”

Chen Hu hurriedly said.

The main job of the armed forces department now was to train the militia. Recently, the higher-ups had a mission to train hundreds of militiamen so the meals of these militiamen needed to be taken care of.

These militiamen were all big strong men and could easily eat three bowls of rice each at every meal.

Therefore, Qiao Mei’s bean sprouts were not a problem. No matter how much she sent over, there would be some place to use them.

It was a perfect solution for these bean sprouts.

Besides, the quality of these bean sprouts was so good that the militiamen would probably be very happy to eat them.

This was killing many birds with one stone.

“Okay!” Qiao Mei’s eyes flashed with a smile. “I’ll take all the green beans in this bag. The money for the green beans can be deducted from the money from the sale of bean sprouts tomorrow.”

She would not take the beans for free, she would still pay for them.

When Chen Hu heard this, the smile on his face widened. In the past, he had heard not so good rumors about Qiao Mei, but now that he had interacted with her, he realized that it was not the case.

Although she was fat and had an astonishing figure, she was still quite a capable person.

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Soon, Qiao Mei got into a big truck and took a bumpy ride into the village.

She sat in the front passenger seat given that she was pregnant now. If she squeezed in the back of the truck with a bunch of men, what if an accident should happen?

As soon as the truck entered the village, it attracted the attention of the entire village.

Everyone looked at the truck and wondered about what was going on. Why did a vehicle come in now?

Could it be that there was going to be some new policy in the village?

Chapter 55: What Is It?

Last year, there were also trucks that came by. A group of people got off and said that they were from the lecture troupe, here to tell everyone about the latest policies and they even distributed some food.

“What’s going on?” asked the old man smoking at the village entrance.

The auntie beside him was plucking a withered vegetable leaf but her eyes were sharp enough to see Qiao Mei sitting in the front passenger seat. She exclaimed, “Isn’t that Qiao Mei from Qiao Qiang’s family? Is she sitting in the car?”

“What what? Qiao Mei is in the car?” asked Uncle Niu who was passing by.

“Let’s go over and take a look. I wonder what happened!”

“Let’s go take a look!”

The group of people followed the big truck and more people gathered along the way until they reached Qiao Zhuang's house.

"Wow!"

To everyone's surprise, as soon as the truck stopped, more than 10 men got down and rushed towards Qiao Zhuang's courtyard.

What an aggressive manner!

It was noon now. Qiao Zhuang and his family were resting in the courtyard after work. Big Auntie Qiao was washing vegetables in the courtyard while Third Auntie was burning firewood in the kitchen.

The courtyard was very quiet.

Then about a dozen militiamen rushed into the courtyard, blocked the door and immediately surrounded the entire courtyard. Each of them had a gun strapped to the waist.

It was clear from their imposing manner that these were not ordinary people.

At this moment, even the usually fierce Qiao Zhuang was frightened. His legs were trembling and the cigarette in his hand fell to the ground.

The few men from Qiao Zhuang's family also all huddled against the wall.

"What... what's wrong?" Qiao Zhuang's lips trembled as he asked softly.

He observed the people around him carefully.

The current militia did not have a uniform so what they wore were their own clothes. These clothes were all patched up and did not look new.

They looked no different from ordinary people except that they had guns strapped to their waists.

Other than soldiers, there were also bandits who carried guns, so he could not be sure of the identities of the people in front of him.

The people in the courtyard heard his question but did not speak. Everyone looked at the door.

A person slowly got out of the front passenger seat of the truck at the gate.

It was Qiao Mei!

Qiao Mei got down from the truck and slowly walked to the center of the courtyard. The villagers at the door all exclaimed loudly and craned their heads to look inside.

Now was the time to watch the fun.

After the militiaman at the door saw Qiao Mei get off the truck and walk in, he immediately closed the door to block off the villagers' views.

Now, the villagers could only stand at the door and peep in through the gap.

In the courtyard, Qiao Zhuang was stunned when he saw Qiao Mei coming. After getting over the shock, he immediately reacted to what was going on.

“Second Grandpa, what are you busy with? Are you done with work?”

Qiao Mei walked over slowly with a smile on her face. She looked at the Qiao family members in the courtyard and spoke.

The moment they heard the voice, the terrified members of Qiao Zhuang's family immediately came to attention.

"Yes, yes, work is done!"

Qiao Zhuang quickly replied.

His attitude this time was the best she had even seen. He even looked at her with a little fear.

Qiao Mei smiled and nodded. She continued to ask with a bright smile, "I heard that you took something from my family?"

When Qiao Zhuang heard this, realization flashed across his eyes.

So she was really here to ask for something!

But how did she know that the things were at his house? Furthermore, she had made preparations in advance and brought such a large group of people to the courtyard.

It was obvious that she had come prepared!

However, there was one thing that Qiao Zhuang could not understand. He had heard that Qiao Mei had set off early in the morning, Qiao Qiang was at home alone and neither of them asked anyone in the village for information.

The two people who delivered the items yesterday had also boarded the train earlier and left the village long ago.

Then how did Qiao Mei know that the betrothal gifts were in their house?

“What is it?” Qiao Zhuang pretended not to know what she was talking about even as his eyes flashed with his thoughts.

In this situation, even if these people surrounded his courtyard, he still did not want to hand over the things. Those were all good stuff.

Chapter 56: With A Gun, The Situation Is Always Steady!

Even if his family had money, they might not be able to buy these things.

In this era, one needed the corresponding coupons to buy things like sewing machines, radios and watches. Without coupons, one would not be able to buy them!

“You think I won’t know if you don’t admit it? I would advise you not to refuse to speak now.”

“Those betrothal gifts are due to arrive within these few days. You secretly hide them in your house, do you think I won’t know? If I realize that something was wrong, won’t I ask my man? Even if you don’t tell me now, I can still know!”

Qiao Mei continued speaking.

Qiao Zhuang was at a loss for words. For sure he did not think too much about it when he saw such good stuff.

He had thought that there were so many people in his family, so how could he be afraid of Qiao Mei and Qiao Qiang?

Besides, if the villagers did not say anything and the people who delivered the gifts had left, by the time the two of them found out, there was nothing they could do about it. His family would have been able to use the things for a few months.

Even if they knew and he told them he did not say anything about not returning the things and had only borrowed them, what could they do? Could they sentence him? What relatives did not borrow things from each other?

Therefore, after thinking about it, he did not take the matter seriously at all.

However, he did not expect that not only did Qiao Mei know about the matter, but she even brought so many people to his courtyard.

The people she brought all had guns.

“Are you afraid now? Chen Hu from the armed forces department used to be my grandfather’s subordinate and he has now sent these people here to support me! It’s really disappointing that you people actually did such a thing!” Qiao Mei continued.

“Now you see, if you continue to deny it, the guns of these people in the courtyard won’t agree with you. They’ll take you to jail and convict you of theft!”

She especially emphasized her last few words loudly. After all, this group of people were not nice people. If she did not spell out their crime, none of them would be afraid.

She was a lawyer for many years in her other life, so she naturally knew how unreasonable people like them were.

Now that she had brought up her grandfather’s relationship with her Uncle Chen Hu, she would be able to scare them a little. The title of section head of the armed forces department was not only for show, it really held some real weight.

With guns, there was the power to restrain people.

A trace of fear flashed across Qiao Zhuang’s eyes.

After Qiao Qiang returned from the capital, he had never seen him use his connections. Why did he suddenly appear to know the section head of the armed forces department?

“Now, immediately, at once. Bring out the things in the same manner as you took them in. I’m still waiting to go home!” Qiao Mei said.

Qiao Zhuang felt a huge sense of reluctance. Those things had not even been used yet. After he took them, he only kept them in the house and did not have the time to take them out for a look yet. Was he going to return them now?

“Go! Take them out!” Xiao Liu shouted and glared at him angrily.

When the people in the courtyard heard the shout, they immediately raised their guns and pointed them at Qiao Zhuang, as if they were about to shoot him in the head within the next second.

This action frightened all Qiao Zhuang’s family members in the courtyard.

They immediately hugged their heads and squatted down.

Qiao Zhuang’s body swayed as he also got really shocked. When he regained his senses, he gritted his teeth and said to Big Auntie Qiao who was squatting beside him, “Go get it!”

Big Auntie Qiao hurriedly stood up and rushed into the room. The door slammed shut with a loud bang after her.

“You guys go too!” Qiao Zhuang refused to get it himself as he found it too embarrassing. He said the words to his two sons who were squatting nearest to him.

Qiao Wang and Qiao Gang looked up and saw their father’s gaze. They also stood up reluctantly and walked towards the rooms.

Qiao Wang walked towards the kitchen and looked at the pile of firewood. He took a big stick and poked it into the firewood pile. In a few moments, he flipped the pile open, revealing a brand new sewing machine still in its packaging inside.

Chapter 57: Snatched Back

A ruthless glint flashed across his eyes. He was about to smash the wooden box with the wooden stick when he heard a sweet female voice in the courtyard.

“Everything was fine when you took it. If it’s broken when you take it out, it won’t be as simple as just compensating money to me. When the time comes, the crime of personal property damage will be added to the crime of theft.”

Qiao Mei stood in the courtyard and looked towards the inside of the house.

Her voice was very loud to ensure that everyone in the courtyard could hear her. She had never even used her betrothal gifts before, so she could not bear to let this group of people ruin it!

When Qiao Wang heard these words, his face turned green with anger.

However, he did not dare to say anything and could only turn his back to Qiao Mei with a glare and let out a deep breath.

Qiao Gang had just taken the watch out from under the bed. When he heard Qiao Mei’s words, his hand trembled and he almost dropped the watch on the floor.

Qiao Yu, who was next to him, quickly reached out and caught the watch.

She was so scared that the blood had drained from her face.

She was the one who got the people to deliver these betrothal gifts to their house. Now that she already could not reap any benefits, if she broke the watch instead and had to go to jail, then it was all too terrible!

She would definitely get a beating.

Soon, Qiao Gang and Qiao Wang took out the items. The sewing machine and the watch were brand new and not damaged at all. The radio was also in good condition, as were the other bits and pieces.

Most of the things were not even unwrapped.

Qiao Mei nodded in satisfaction. She stood in front of them smilingly and she prepared to let them off.

Now was not the time to fall out with them. After all, she still had to live in this village. Otherwise, she would not be able to stay in the village in the future and they would really become mortal enemies.

She turned around and took all these things with her. She sat in the truck and left under the surprised gazes of the group of people at Qiao Zhuang's door.

Everyone was extremely surprised!

Qiao Mei had actually snatched back her betrothal gifts from Qiao Zhuang's house. It was the first time something like that happened.

In the past, many people in the village had been bullied by Qiao Zhuang's family, but this was the first time they had seen someone deal with them like Qiao Mei, who looked like she won a battle with no injuries at all.

The villagers looked at the truck Qiao Mei was in with changed expressions.

Qiao Qiang, who was already waiting anxiously at home, heard the sound of a truck. He walked out and saw a group of burly men moving things into the house.

Only then did he know that Qiao Mei had snatched the betrothal gifts back!

Tears welled up in his eyes as he looked at Qiao Mei with mixed feelings.

He never imagined that his Mei Mei would one day be able to rely on her intelligence and wisdom to ride on others' strength to grab back her own things.

Previously, he had been worried that his status would implicate Chen Hu, so he had not allowed himself to have too much contact with him. But now, there was probably no need to do so anymore. Things were going to change in the future and the situation looked to be bright.

"Good, good, good. Come, Mei Mei. Let's take out what we have and prepare a table full of dishes for these good comrades. We have to treat them to a good meal!"

"Don't! We can't let you go through so much trouble. We're militia, so we naturally can't use the things of the commoners!" Xiao Liu waved his hand and quickly declined.

However, before he could get into the car, Qiao Mei grabbed him and he found himself stuck to the spot, unable to move.

"Let's eat together. You're all ordinary people too. Since we're all ordinary people, it doesn't matter if we eat together. Besides, if your Section Head Chen was here, he would also agree!" Qiao Mei said.

The burly men in the truck laughed and immediately felt that Qiao Mei was quite cute.

"None of you is allowed to leave. If you leave, I'll complain to your Section Head Chen!" Qiao Mei threatened.

Xiao Liu really had no choice. Now that he was grabbed by Qiao Mei, he could not move at all, not even to take a step forward. He could only listen to her and let everyone eat before leaving.

"Aye!" Xiao Liu replied resignedly.

Chapter 58: Return My House To Me

Hearing his agreement, Qiao Mei smiled and let go of his arm. She walked to the kitchen to prepare a large table of dishes to serve them.

Her body was now in a much better condition than before. She had no problem entertaining more than ten people and her body was still quite strong.

On an arrangement of bean sprouts, she stewed some cabbage, pork and vermicelli.

She also cooked a few pumpkins!

Although there was only a little bit of pork left from a few days ago, it was already good enough to be able to get some meat in their meals in this era. Furthermore, the portion was big enough to be filling for everyone.

She was sure she could let them have a happy meal together.

After Qiao Mei was done with the dishes and placed them on the table, everyone was tempted by the smell. There was no doubt that Qiao Mei's meal was highly agreeable with everyone.

No one expected this plump girl to be so good at cooking!

In this era, it was already good enough to have sufficient food to eat.

Everyone had food, so they just made do with it. They did not have any extravagant hopes of eating delicious food.

After the dozen or so people finished eating, they did not stay for long. They took the remaining baskets of bean sprouts from Qiao Mei's house and hurried back to the city.

These bean sprouts were supposed to take another two to three days to be ready, but Qiao Mei had the energy to solve this issue.

She took out the bean sprouts. Under the thatch covering were tender bean sprouts.

These people did not suspect anything and carried the bean sprouts up onto the truck. Qiao Qiang also did not feel that anything was wrong.

This way, they could take a few baskets of bean sprouts with them at once and save Qiao Mei a lot of effort.

She would have the time and energy to do other things!

After all, her first task now was to lose weight and become prettier. Naturally, she had to spend more time in the mountains.

“There’s no hurry with the money. Just note it down in the account book and we’ll calculate it later.” Qiao Mei was at the door, sending them off.

She hesitated for a moment before continuing, “Go back and help me ask about this. In the future, I would like to send the bean sprouts by the first train every day. This way, you can just pick up the bean sprouts at a fixed time every day! I don’t have to run around either.”

“No problem, I’ll tell him when I get back.” Xiao Liu sat in the front passenger seat and agreed readily.

After Qiao Mei sent the truck away, she immediately started to soak the green beans and clean up the mess on the table.

This time, it was to produce more than 1,000 catties.

She did not know if Uncle Chen Hu could finish everything at his end, but if he could not, he would probably have a way to get rid of it all. Thinking of this, she went up the mountain in peace.

This time round, she found a lot of good things on the mountain.

Not only were there chestnuts in the basket she was carrying, but there were also some other things. She filled her baskets up with things from the mountain and went on her way home.

When she passed by Qiao Zhuang's house, she could clearly hear Qiao Yu crying as if she had been beaten up.

Serves you right!

It was her fault for not having good intentions and thinking about those crooked thoughts all day long.

When Qiao Mei passed by, the eldest daughter-in-law of the Qiao family happened to come out and was about to go out for a walk.

"Yo, isn't this Mei Mei? Based on how you look, did you go to the mountain to find something good again? Come, let auntie see what's inside!"

As Big Auntie Qiao spoke, she walked towards Qiao Mei. Everyone in the village knew that Qiao Mei had gotten some good stuff from the mountains recently. She wanted to see if she could sneak some stuff home.

However, before she could get close, she had to cover her nose from the smell emanating from Qiao Mei's body and could not help but take a few steps back.

Qiao Mei put down her burden and rested for a while. Suddenly, she thought of something and asked, "Big Auntie Qiao, do you remember what my mother said? When are you going to return this house to me?"

As soon as she said this, a trace of fear flashed across Big Auntie Qiao's eyes before she sorted out her thoughts and replied.

"What house? What are you talking about? How come I don't know anything and isn't your family living well at the end of the village? We don't go to your house to cause trouble now."

Chapter 59: The Original Owner of the Body Can Write?

Qiao Mei looked at her and said word by word, "Don't lie through your teeth. Your family occupied my family house and now you're denying it?"

"Back then, my mother made it very clear that if you take good care of me, the house will belong to you. If you don't take good care of me, she won't give it to you even if she had to return it to the brigade!"

This wretched girl actually remembered all these things!

Now, she actually wanted to take the house back?

Big Auntie Qiao looked at her hatefully and held back her anger as she said, "These things are between adults. You were still young back then. What do you know?"

With that, she went back through the door without looking back.

Back then, there was indeed such a matter. When Qiao Mei's mother left, she even drafted an agreement with the brigade because of this. Everyone in the brigade knew about it back then.

However, over the years, no one dared to find trouble with their family.

This agreement was naturally left unsettled. Otherwise, just based on how skinny Qiao Mei was back then, this house would have been taken away long ago.

This wretched girl could still remember!

It seemed that they had to pay more attention in the future and not let her bring up old matters again. Their family was very used to living in the house by now, so they were naturally unwilling to return it.

Qiao Mei, who was standing on the spot, looked at the closed door in contemplation.

If she asked them for the house directly, they would definitely disagree.

She could only use her wits to get it back, so she would have to make other plans in the future. Anyway, she would definitely get the house back.

When she got home, Qiao Qiang was already used to seeing these two big carrying baskets filled with things. It was spring in the mountains now, so there were naturally many things to find. It all depended on one's luck.

Naturally, his Mei Mei had the best luck.

Qiao Mei took out some small nuts from the basket and prepared to feed them to the chickens, ducks and geese in the backyard. After all, these little guys also had to grow bigger.

Qiao Qiang, who was standing at the side, felt his heart ache.

These were all edible nuts. When there was no food, just eating these things would fill one's stomach.

Qiao Mei saw the look in his eyes and comforted him. "Grandpa, after we sell these baskets of bean sprouts, we can get back our principal sum. When Uncle Chen Hu gives me the money for selling bean sprouts today, our family will have enough money to go to the city to buy more food."

"When the time comes, we can sell the bean sprouts grown from these 100 catties of green beans, then buy green beans, and then sell bean sprouts. This way, we can make a lot of money!"

These words made Qiao Qiang smile until his eyes disappeared.

He naturally knew this logic, but because he had gone hungry before, he naturally cherished food very much.

Thinking of the changes in the family in the past few days, Qiao Qiang looked at Qiao Mei with joy.

Mei Mei... had really changed drastically!

Now, she knew how to grow bean sprouts to earn money and had good culinary skills. All of these were probably thanks to that kid Xia Zhe. If not for that kid's appearance, Mei Mei would not have become like another person.

Perhaps... This was the power of love?

"I wonder how Xia Zhe is doing over there. Write to him when you have time and build some rapport with him. Ask him how he's doing over there!"

Qiao Qiang thought of Xia Zhe and reminded Qiao Mei.

Xia Zhe was such a good catch and she must not let him lose him. As his new wife, Qiao Mei still had to build up her relationship with him.

Write to him?

Qiao Mei was stunned when she heard this and tried her best to recall her past memories.

Does the original owner of the body know how to write?

Under her best efforts to recall her past memories, she remembered that when she was young, her grandfather had tried to teach her to write. Those words that he taught her were the most simple words.

Unfortunately, the original owner of the body had no intention of learning and could not pick it up.

In the end, she did not know many words and her standard was very low.

Chapter 60: Taking the College Entrance Examination

At the thought of this, Qiao Mei's eyes lit up. She looked at her grandfather and said, "Grandfather, I'll write to him, but you have to help me and teach me how to write. I've forgotten most of the words by now!"

"Okay, okay, okay."

As they spoke about this, Qiao Qiang nodded with a smile.

It would be best if Qiao Mei had the inclination to study. All his years of studies would not go to waste and he could impart everything he knew to Mei Mei.

Joy flashed across Qiao Mei's eyes.

Not only would she write to Xia Zhe, but she would learn more words at a reasonable speed. In the near future, she would want to take the college entrance examination and go to university!

She was not willing to be an illiterate person forever.

Besides, looking at the time period, the college entrance examination would be resuming next year. Naturally, she had to prepare early.

The college entrance examination was a good opportunity for upward social mobility!

After all, she had married Xia Zhe. His background was not an ordinary one and he might still be reluctant to accept a countryside woman like her. Perhaps even the children she was carrying would be mocked and ridiculed.

In order for her children and herself not to be looked down upon, she must work hard and get into university.

Qiao Mei took out a few books from the wooden box under Qiao Qiang's bed. These books were left over from Qiao Qiang's school days and they were good options for use as Qiao Mei's beginner books.

Qiao Mei took out the books and flipped through them to get ready for her lessons the next day.

The next morning, the two of them started their lessons after breakfast.

Very quickly, Qiao Mei showed great aptitude for studying. She only needed to go through the words that Qiao Qiang taught her for two or three times before memorizing them well. Moreover, the speed at which she was learning did not cause Qiao Qiang to feel that something was wrong.

After a day of studying, Qiao Qiang nodded with a smile and said in satisfaction, "My Mei Mei is just so smart!"

In one day, he had almost taught her all the words he knew.

...

The next morning, Xiao Liu came again in a car.

He put down the empty basket and said happily to Qiao Mei, "Now we want more bean sprouts, as much as you have! I brought you 1,000 catties of green beans this time!"

After they brought the bean sprouts back yesterday, they all ate to their heart's content.

Even the leader who came by for inspection was happy with it.

The leader said jokingly, "Section Head Chen, when there's such good stuff, don't keep it for yourself. Share with all of us!"

The leader was joking but Chen Hu dared not treat it as a joke. Naturally, he had to try his best to satisfy his leader.

He immediately replied, "We had taken this from a production brigade. If our leaders want it, we definitely have to satisfy them."

The leader smiled but said nothing. Only then was he satisfied.

Of course, these bean sprouts were not given for free. Even if they were taken from a production brigade, they needed to be paid for.

So now, in addition to providing for the armed forces, they also had to give each of these leaders 400 to 500 catties of bean sprouts every day. Based on these calculations, there was a need for production of a lot of bean sprouts every day.

Xiao Liu asked with uncertainty, "How much bean sprouts can you grow in a day? We have a great demand here!"

"Probably about 1,000 catties a day. Anything more than that, the quality might be compromised," Qiao Mei said after some thought.

The maximum amount of bean sprouts that she could grow would be around 1,000 catties, which was about 13 to 14 baskets.

If she were to grow more, it would probably attract attention. There was a limit to what a person could do.

She had to act like a normal person and could not let anyone notice that something was out of the ordinary.

"Alright! Then when can you get the first batch done?" Xiao Liu asked. "At that time, I'll bring the car to collect the bean sprouts!"

It was now 1,000 catties.

In the past, the amount was 100 catties and it could be transported by train. The bean sprouts could be loaded during a train stop. But it was different now as 1,000 catties could not be loaded onto the train in an instant.

Qiao Mei thought for a moment. "In four or five days. By then, 1,000 catties of bean sprouts will be ready and you can come and get them then."

"Okay!" Xiao Liu was quite happy.

Now that there were 1,000 catties of bean sprouts being produced, he could eat bean sprouts every day. These were crisp and good bean sprouts!